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South Carolina Library Bulletin v.8 n.3 05/1953

Abstract

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SOUTH CAROLINA LIBRARY BULLETIN

Vol. 8, No. 3

ISSUED QUARTERLY BY THE SOUTH CAROLINA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
AND THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE LIBRARY BOARD

May, 1953

Richland County's New Public Library Building in Columbia, South Carolina



LaFaye, Fair, LaFaye & Associates, Architects

Richland County's New Library Building

Lucy Hampton Bostick, Librarian

Though the money for a new building for the Richland County Public Library was made available by the County Delegation in 1941, it was not until the fall of 1952 that the building was finally completed and library service from it was begun. The delay was occasioned by the war and the resultant shortages in materials and labor.

However, we feel that the eleven years which elapsed between the inception of the plan for a new building and its completion were not wasted for all during those years we were thinking of the future needs of the people of our county and the best means whereby they could be met. We feel that the building as it now stands is much better designed to give good service to the county than one which would have been built in 1941.

In planning the building we tried to get the most for our money in a building which would be designed to render a maximum of service with a minimum of staff. Our objective was to plan the whole as a unit and to make it as convenient and usable as possible. Our architect was patience itself and several plans were drawn and discarded before we settled on the one which we finally used.

The circulation area is planned to be as open as possible. The desk is near the front entrance and immediately adjacent to the browsing area for the casual reader. Here are available magazines and newspapers as well as shelves for new fiction and popular books of various categories. The stack area, which is open to the public, is immediately behind the charging desk and opens directly from the browsing area on one side and the large and spacious main hallway on the other. Directly beyond this is the reference room which is separated from the general circulation department by glass partitions.

The catalog is just outside the reference room and adjacent to the circulation desk. Beyond this is the librarian's office and the general work rooms, where the cataloging and other routine work is performed. To the rear of the

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building is the county department with shelving around the walls and ample space for work tables, desks and files. There is a drive-in garage for the bookmobile, with a door opening into the county department. A raised ramp in the garage makes for easier loading.

The second floor of the building contains the children's library, which occupies the entire southern side of the building. This gives it excellent light and a generally sunny outlook. This room is planned with shelving, tables and chairs of graduated sizes; those for the smaller children being closest to the desk and older children beyond. Low bookstacks divide the age groups and a gold and blue color scheme adds color and a general air of gaiety to the whole room. The children's department has its own stack area and outside entrance but is also connected by a hallway with the rest of the library.

On the western side of the building on the second floor, and opening directly from the children's library, is the meeting room which is used for the story hour and many other meetings. This room will seat 200 persons and has walls covered with beige burlap so that it can be used for exhibits and displays of various kinds.

Also on this floor is the office of the school librarian, which adjoins the children's room. Behind the meeting room is the staff lounge, which is equipped with a small electric range and refrigerator unit. This can be used by the staff for lunches and coffee and is also useful in connection with any meetings where light refreshments are served.

While there are only two main floors there are four floors of stacks which will give the library potential room for over four hundred thousand books. The building is heated by an automatic oil furnace and is air-conditioned. Other conveniences are the self operated elevator, four sound proof listening rooms, equipped with specially built record players, and a 16 mm movie projector.

In planning the furnishings and decoration of the library we have tried to avoid that "institutional" look but rather to create an inviting and restful atmosphere. The circulation and reference rooms are in soft yet light shades of green and gray enlivened with touches of coral and yellow. The furniture carries out this color scheme and is planned for comfort, beauty and utility.

The exterior of the library is of contemporary design,

extremely simple, of soft rose-toned brick with limestone trim. Large windows give light to the interior and character to the exterior of the building.

A.L.A. Los Angeles Conference

Los Angeles becomes the national center of librarianship June 21 to 27 when more than 4,000 librarians from all parts of America will attend the 72nd annual conference of the American Library Association, at the Statler and Biltmore Hotels.

Theme of the conference is: "America Looks West."

More than 200 meetings on all phases of librarianship surround three general sessions which present outstanding speakers. At the first general session, June 22 at 2:30 p. m., Erle Stanley Gardner, noted best-selling mystery writer, will discuss "The Scope and Function of Escape Fiction." Speakers at the second general session, June 24, 10 a. m., will be Jay Monaghan, distinguished historian and Lincoln scholar who is special consultant for the Wyles Collection of Lincolniana at the University of California Library; and William B. Ready, "Books of the West." At the third general session, June 26, 2:30 p. m., Chet Huntley, one of the best-known radio and TV news commentators, will speak on "The Challenge to Free Reporting."

The seven divisions of the ALA which will hold special sessions during the conference are: American Association of School Librarians, Association of College and Reference Libraries, Division of Cataloging and Classification, Division of Libraries for Children and Young People, Hospital Libraries Division, Library Education Division, and Public Libraries Division.

Library Exemption from S. C. Sales Tax Proposed by Solon

An effort to exempt public libraries from the necessity of paying sales taxes on their books is being made in the General Assembly by Representative William H. Grimball, Jr., of Charleston County.

Under present interpretations of the state's general sales tax law, textbooks are exempted from the tax if they are used in elementary or secondary schools, or in institutions of higher learning. The same exemption applies to such library books at those institutions as are required to be used in pursuing a specified course of study.

Mr. Grimball now is proposing that the exemption be extended to apply to "books used in the libraries of elementary schools, high schools and institutions of higher learning, and in public and eleemosynary libraries".

His bill has been referred to the Ways and Means Committee of the House.

Money-Saver

Librarians all over the United States fought, bled, and all but died to keep the special LIBRARY BOOK RATE. If your library is not using it, ask your post office for a copy of the regulations. The rate is 4 cents for the first pound and 1 cent for each additional pound for delivery within the state in which mailed.

S.C.L.A. to Meet in Columbia

The annual meeting of the South Carolina Library Association will be held October 30th and 31st in Columbia. Headquarters for the meeting will be the Wade Hampton Hotel. Registration will begin at noon on the 30th and the meeting will close with a luncheon on the 31st.

The State Library Board is planning to hold a one-day workshop for public librarians just prior to the S.C.L.A. meeting.

Ann Clark, Lynd Ward Win Newberry Caldecott Awards

Ann Nolan Clark, author of "Secret of the Andes," and Lynd Ward, illustrator for "The Biggest Bear," were announced as winners of the Newberry-Caldecott awards this year.

The awards, to be presented officially at the Newberry-Caldecott dinner in Los Angeles in June during the American Library Association meeting, are given each year to the author and illustrator of children's books adjudged best in the juvenile field during the preceding year.

Runners-up for the Newberry award were E. B. White, author of "Charlotte's Web;" Eloise McGraw, who wrote "Moccasin Trail;" Ann Weil, author of "Red Sails to Capri;" Alice Dalgliesh, writer of "The Bears on Hemlock Mountain" and Genevieve Foster, who wrote "Birthdays of Freedom."

Other finalists in the Caldecott award race were Marcia Brown with "Puss in Boots," Robert McCloskey with "One Morning in Maine," Fritz Eichenberg with "Ape In a Cape," Margaret Bloy Graham, who collaborated with Charlotte Zolotow on "The Storm Book," and Juliet Kepes, who illustrated "Five Little Monkeys."

Libraries Lose Friend

Representative Joseph Raleigh Bryson of Greenville, South Carolina whose death occurred suddenly on March 10th has long been concerned not only officially but also personally with problems concerning books and libraries. He had a lifelong interest in books and literary materials and a deep religious sense which contributed to his interest in his large collection of Bibles.

As Chairman of the Subcommittee on Patents, Trademarks and Copyrights of the House Judiciary Committee during 1952, Mr. Bryson took great personal interest in the problems of the copyright law. In the last session of the 82nd Congress, he played an important part in the passage of Public Law 575, the Act that gave performing and recording rights to authors of literary works. He was appointed by the State Department as one of the Congressional Advisers to the International Copyright Conference held at Geneva, Switzerland in the summer of 1952. At that Conference the Universal Copyright Convention, which has now been signed by 40 nations, including the United States, was completed. He had long been interested in the Library Services Bill and the benefits it would bring not only to rural people in South Carolina but to rural people throughout the United States.

Anderson Considering New Library Plan

The Boards of the Anderson Public Library, the Anderson County Library, and the Belton Public Library and the Carnegie Library in Honea Path are considering a consolidation in order to secure more adequate public library service in Anderson County. With four separate library agencies in the county, the overhead and operational costs for the libraries is cutting down on the amount of service available to the people of the county. A consolidation in which none of the participating libraries would lose their identity but in which all would share in the larger services of a county library is being carefully considered. If the plan should go through, Anderson will have one of the best county libraries in the state. The county is being rapidly industrialized and new industry coming into the area makes it imperative that public library service in the entire county be improved.

Sea Island Library

The Laura E. Towne Memorial Library was formally opened on the afternoon of April 5th. The opening was attended by about one hundred residents of St. Helena and Lady Islands in Beaufort County. The library is housed in a separate building on the campus of the old Penn School which was founded in 1862 on the Island of St. Helena. Since the state and county have taken over the school obligations, the Penn School has become the Penn Community Services, continuing to offer encouragement and guidance towards a well integrated, self-reliant rural Negro community.

The library is in charge of a library board made up of leaders in the community. The librarian, Mrs. Y. W. Bailey, the former Penn School librarian and a graduate of Atlanta University, is in charge of developing and extending the services of the library.

The library has an excellent collection of books and in addition a loan of books of special interest to the rural Negro community from the State Library Board. The Penn Community Services has financed the library for the first year but through a bill which has recently been introduced in the South Carolina General Assembly, a certain tax income will be assured for the support of the library.

The library is painted in bright attractive colors and is furnished attractively. One feature of the library is a room devoted to a museum collection on Negro life and culture in other parts of the world.

Wonderful World of Books

The Wonderful World of Books, a collection of seventy-two articles on the joys of reading, has just been published by Houghton Mifflin Company. The book is the outgrowth of the Conference on Rural Reading held by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, September 24th through 26th, 1951. The articles are of varying degrees of excellence and are grouped under various headings such as "Books are Friends." Miss Nancy Jane Day, State Supervisor of School Libraries, is one of the contributors to the volume.

Around the State

The Berkeley County Library in Moncks Corner now has some additional library equipment made possible through the increase in State Aid for 1952-53.

Mrs. Elizabeth C. Williams, Librarian, and Mr. L. C. Berry, Chairman of the Board of the Chester County Library; Mrs. Joella S. Neel, Librarian and Mrs. C. A. Dufford, Chairman of the Board of the Newberry-Saluda Regional Library were among those attending the workshop for Trustees and Public Librarians held by the North Carolina Library Association in Asheville.

Dorchester County has ordered a new bookmobile which will be part of the equipment of the new Dorchester County Library to be established this coming summer.

Equipment and furnishings have been ordered for the new library building of the Georgetown County Library. The best available furniture for librarians was selected for Georgetown and this library bids fair to be one of the most handsomely equipped in the state.

Plans are being made for the Oconee County Library headquarters in Walhalla to be moved into more commodious quarters. The Chicopee Manufacturing Company has offered a rent free building situated in an attractive setting on their property to be used by the Oconee County Library.

The Ellore Public Library, an affiliate of the Orangeburg County Library, was opened in March. This library is the result of civic interest and serves a long felt need in the town.

Senator Bruce White of Union County has appointed a new seven member board to administer the Union County Library. This board will hold its first meeting on May 4th.

The board and librarian of the Kingstree Public Library spent a day at the headquarters of the State Library Board in Columbia selecting a collection of books for long term deposit in that library.

The Fort Mill women's clubs have taken as one of their projects the establishment of public library service for Fort Mill. A public meeting was held in March to discuss plans and methods of securing public library service.

Miss Sarah Margaret Taylor, Children's Librarian of the Chester County Library, has returned to her duties after an absence of two and a half months spent attending the Graduate Library School at Emory University.

Miss Marv Gray Withers, librarian of Wardlaw Junior High School, Columbia, has recently been elected president of the Columbia Teachers' Council.

South Carolina High School Library Association

The South Carolina High School Library Association held its annual meeting at Winthrop College the week-end of February 27-28. More than 500 high school young men and young women attended the meeting representing approximately 70 schools. Mrs. John Freeman spoke on the subject, "Pen in Hand" and discussed writing from the point of view of poetry. She read selections from her collection **Children Are Poetry**. A number of schools also presented skits depicting some of the problems of student assistants in carrying out a school library program.

Barnwell to Have County Library

Mr. C. G. Fuller of Barnwell and Miami Beach, Florida has given to Barnwell County a handsome modern residence to serve as headquarters for a county library. The house is well located in the business section and near the schools and is so planned that it will easily be turned into a functional library.

A bill has already been introduced in the General Assembly to establish a library board and a county library for Barnwell County.

College Library News

Cornelia Graham, Librarian, Clemson College

Bob Jones University Library was able to procure from abroad one thousand art catalogues of numerous famous European collections.

The Clemson College Library has doubled its number of volumes in the past ten years, and in keeping with this growth, the staff has realized the need for more space. Consequently, the Librarian, Miss Cornelia Graham, and the Library Committee have made plans for renovation of five extra rooms vacated in the present library building. Mr. Bailey, library architect, made a survey of needs of the library and possible changes to enlarge its capacity. Now, plans complete, they are waiting for funds to furnish these five available rooms.

Several members of the Clemson Library staff helped with a tea at the Clemson House honoring Mrs. Pearl Smith McFall, author of *SO LIVES THE DREAM*. Documents from the Clemson Library used by Mrs. McFall were on display at the tea.

At Converse College each Wednesday afternoon there is a short program of recordings, of some special significance usually; for instance, on Ash Wednesday a record of T. S. Eliot reading his *ASH WEDNESDAY* was played, preceded by a short talk on Mr. Eliot and his poetry by Dr. Hunter of Wofford College. In addition, art exhibits by alumni or South Carolina artists are displayed at intervals during the year. Another activity is the bringing of several English films to the campus during the year. The library is proud of the gift from Dr. Reginald A. Daly, emeritus professor of geology at Harvard, of more than three hundred books on art and poetry, which belonged to his wife, the former Louise Porter Haskell of Columbia.

Furman University is anticipating their new campus, and along with this, come plans for construction of a new library. President Plyler has appointed a Library Building Committee of which Robert C. Tucker, Librarian, is chairman. Two of the library staff, Misses Adams and Flenner, also are committee members.

The Limestone College Library would like to announce that the following pamphlets, issued by Limestone College in connection with the Gaffney Chamber of Commerce, are available:

Johnson: "A Brief History of Cherokee County"

Johnson: "A Brief Biographical Sketch of Dr. Thomas Curtis, Founder of Limestone College"

Gaffney: The Journal of Michael Gaffney
Requests may be directed to E. D. Johnson, Librarian, or to the Gaffney Chamber of Commerce.

Library Bill of Rights

Adopted by Council of American Library Association
at Atlantic City on June 18, 1948

The Council of the American Library Association reaffirms its belief in the following basic policies which should govern the services of all libraries:

1. As a responsibility of library service, books and other reading matter selected should be chosen for values of interest, information and enlightenment of all the people of the community. In no case should any book be excluded because of the race or nationality, or the political or religious views of the writer.

2. There should be the fullest practicable provision of material presenting all points of view concerning the problems and issues of our times, international, national, and local; and books or other reading matter of sound factual authority should not be proscribed or removed from library shelves because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.

3. Censorship of books, urged or practiced by volunteer arbiters of morals or political opinion or by organizations that would establish a coercive concept of Americanism, must be challenged by libraries in maintenance of their responsibility to provide public information and enlightenment through the printed word.

4. Libraries should enlist the cooperation of allied groups in the fields of science, of education, and of book publishing in resisting all abridgment of the free access to ideas and full freedom of expression that are the tradition and heritage of Americans.

5. As an institution of education for democratic living, the library should welcome the use of its meeting rooms for socially useful and cultural activities and discussion of current public questions. Such meeting places should be available on equal terms to all groups in the community regardless of the beliefs and affiliations of their members.

By official action of Council on 3 February 1951, the Library Bill of Rights shall be interpreted as applying to all materials and media of communications used or collected by libraries.

SCEA School Libraries

At the luncheon meeting of the School Librarians' Section of the South Carolina Education Association in Spartanburg on March 27, the president, Miss Irene Marshall, Librarian at Rivers High School, Charleston presided. This meeting centered around a discussion of "School Library Quarters". The American Library Association filmstrip on "School Library Quarters" was shown and discussed. Then Mr. W. B. Southerlin, Supervisor, Schoolhouse Planning of the South Carolina Educational Finance Commission, led a discussion on the problems involved in obtaining adequate quarters for school libraries.

The following officers were elected for 1953-1954:
President — Miss Monteen Manning, Librarian, Hand Junior High School, Columbia, South Carolina
Vice-President — Mrs. Regina D. Rollings, Librarian, Summerville High School, Summerville, South Carolina
Secretary — Mrs. Anna King, Librarian, A. C. Moore School, Columbia, South Carolina

Self-Rating Sheet*

Check Your Library on Pressure,
Propaganda, and Policy

To be alert to the problems of propaganda, have you

Yes No

- | | | |
|-------|-------|---|
| ----- | ----- | 1. Read and considered thoughtfully the Library Bill of Rights? |
| ----- | ----- | 2. Clarified your own thinking? |
| ----- | ----- | 3. Kept informed on current controversies? |
| ----- | ----- | 4. Studied propaganda techniques and learned to recognize slanted materials? |
| ----- | ----- | 5. Become familiar with the view-points of organizations, especially those that send free material? |

To be prepared to meet individually and group pressures, have you

- | | | |
|-------|-------|---|
| ----- | ----- | 1. A written book selection policy? |
| ----- | ----- | 2. The Board's official approval of the policy? |
| ----- | ----- | 3. The support of citizen groups and the local press? |

To help your community to read critically, have you

- | | | |
|-------|-------|--|
| ----- | ----- | 1. Made available materials on all points of view, in balanced quantities? |
| ----- | ----- | 2. Stimulated your staff to know the book collection? |
| ----- | ----- | 3. Included varying views in booklists and exhibits? |
| ----- | ----- | 4. Encouraged or initiated film forums, discussion groups, etc.? |
| ----- | ----- | 5. Assisted individual readers in purposeful reading? |

*Compiled by the American Library Association Committee on Intellectual Freedom, 1951.

Another Colonial Volume Published

The third volume in the series of books on the Colonial records of South Carolina has been published by the Historical Commission of South Carolina.

The new publication carries the proceedings of the Commons House of Assembly down to July 10, 1742. The two previous volumes covered the proceedings from 1736 to 1741.

Over-Dues

The State Library Board has "over-due problems," too, but in this case the problems are with librarians who will not renew or return interlibrary loans. The use of postal cards can prevent the problems. The loan period is generous, and so are renewal privileges.

It will be necessary to withhold interlibrary loans in the absence of an explanation of why overdue books have not been returned.

American Heritage Project

The American Library Association has accepted a grant of \$200,000 from the Fund for Adult Education to continue and to expand a nation-wide program in public libraries of adult discussion on the American heritage and its contemporary application.

This grant, to be expended in a year, renews a grant of \$150,000 which initiated the ALA American Heritage Project on an experimental basis last year.

Jack B. Spear who will be on leave from the Library Extension Division, New York State Library, Albany, N. Y. has been appointed the new director for the project to succeed Mrs. Grace Thomas Stevenson, formerly of the Seattle (Wash.) Public Library, who directed the program during its initial year and who recently accepted the post of Associate Executive Secretary of ALA.

Objective of the project, is to stimulate general thinking on our freedoms by understanding their origins and their application to the great problems of today. The approach is to help the American adult to examine his heritage and to decide what he stands for.

The first year's experimental programs of demonstration were conducted in six areas to provide experience in libraries representing a variety of geographical and population situations. They were: Athens, Ga., Regional Library; Denver, Colo., Public Library; La Crosse, Wis., Public Library; Los Angeles, Calif., County Public Library; New York Public Library; and Vermont Free Public Library Commission. Mississippi and Alabama came into the project as partial demonstration areas; additionally, 20 libraries participated spontaneously, and many other libraries conducted American Heritage adult programs with the assistance of the project office.

The project provided training of community discussion leaders, additional library staff personnel, and discussion materials in the various areas.

On the basis of the first year's experience, and with the advice of consultants of the Fund for Adult Education, expansion of project activities in the second year will be on a regional and state-wide basis where programs have already been initiated with some other areas added. Present plans are to include the following areas in the second year: Eastern Colorado, Wisconsin, Georgia, Vermont, Mississippi, Alabama, New York City, Los Angeles County, Missouri, and North Carolina.

Any public library anywhere may receive assistance in conducting adult discussion programs on the American Heritage from the project office in the form of materials and guidance.

University Offers Summer Courses in Library Science

The University of South Carolina will offer the following courses in Library Science during the Summer School, June 9-August 11, 1953: Reference Books and Bibliography; Classification and Cataloging; Young People's Literature; School Library Organization and Administration; Library Guidance for Teachers. The Courses will be taught by Mrs. V. M. Salley, Librarian of Columbia College, Mrs. M. M. Richardson, an instructor at Columbia College and Mr. Alfred Rawlinson, Librarian of McKisick Memorial Library of the University.

S. C. Library Legislation, 1953

OCONEE COUNTY

S.73. A bill to amend Section 45-562 of the Code of 1952 to increase the number of members on the Oconee County Library Commission from 3 to 6 members. The Superintendent of Education is ex officio and the three additional members are to be elected for three year staggered terms.

GEORGETOWN COUNTY

S.182. A bill to create the Georgetown County Memorial Library and to provide for a governing board of 5, composed of the County Superintendent of Education ex officio, the Chairman of the County Board of Commissioners, ex officio, and 3 citizens to be selected by the legislative delegation, the senator to serve for 4 year terms.

BEAUFORT COUNTY

S.211. A bill to abolish St. Helena Township Drainage Commission in Beaufort County and to transfer its funds to the St. Helena Township Library Association and also to transfer the proceeds of the one-quarter mill tax levy for the same purpose.

BARNWELL COUNTY

H.1422. A bill to create the Barnwell County Library Board to be composed of 5 members, appointed by the Governor on recommendation of the County Legislative Delegation, for 4 year overlapping terms. Such board shall manage and operate the County Library and all activities relating thereto.

ROCK HILL

H.1430. A bill designating the territory to be served by the Rock Hill City Library as all of the territory of Consolidated School District No. 3 lying west of the Catawba River. The tax now levied shall be levied over such territory and the present trustees shall remain in office until their terms expire.

COLLETON COUNTY

H.1553. A bill to establish the Colleton County Library Commission to consist of 9 members including the county superintendent of education, the chairman of the board of education, the president of the council of farm women, all ex officio, and 6 members to be appointed by the Governor upon the recommendation of the Senator and at least one-half of the house members in the county delegation. Terms are 6 years and are overlapping. The board is to operate the county library and the bill abolishes the Colleton County Rural Library Board.

HORRY COUNTY

H.1568. A bill to amend Section 42-462 of the Code of 1952 relating to the terms of office of the members of the county memorial library commission as to provide for the creation of vacancies when a member fails to attend four consecutive meetings.

ORANGEBURG COUNTY

S.296. A bill to create a library building commission for Orangeburg County to be composed of 9 members to be appointed by a majority of the Legislative Delegation to serve until June 30, 1955 unless the renovating of the present county library building and the construction of the new building is accomplished by that time.