State Library Board Requests $75,000 for Year 1948-49

The State Library Board is requesting an appropriation of $75,000 for 1948-49. This is a small amount in view of the great need present in South Carolina for public library development in rural areas. It represents only .04 per capita investment by the State for library service and is one instance where the returns on the investment will be so large as to be immeasurable. The granting of this appropriation will enable the State Library Board to maintain its present services and to improve them. In addition it will allow the State Library Board to:

1. Increase the allotment of direct State Aid to County Libraries from the present $500.00 to $1,000.00 per county.

2. Encourage the development of Regional Libraries— the voluntary combination of two or more counties for library service— by making a Regional establishment grant of $4,000.00 to each of four such combinations. For small counties this is the only solution for supporting library service.

3. Increase the book stock of the State Library Board so that more deposit collections may be lent to communities and to state institutions with small libraries or no libraries at all.

4. Enable staff members of the State Library Board to make more field trips and to give more direct on the spot service to librarians of small libraries and to all library boards.

Public library development has been rapid during the past year. The increase of State Aid made possible by the last year’s appropriation has encouraged the establishment of library service in three additional counties—Horry, Jasper and Spartanburg and the general improvement of library service in all counties. All libraries are spending more on books than ever before because State Aid to County Libraries has been put on a matching basis. Never before has there been so much interest in establishing libraries and in improving existing libraries. At this time there are only 14 counties without county-wide library service. The State Board believes that with the requested appropriation granted, it will be only a short time until every county in the state will have county-wide library service.

Statement to South Carolina Librarians from the New President of S. C. L. A.

“First get your books, then get them read and discussed,” says Emily Sanders, 1948 president of the South Carolina Library Association.

Her statement continues: “Libraries in South Carolina must have more books. Librarians in South Carolina should see that these books are read and discussed.”

“Larger appropriations for our school, public, college, and other libraries mean more books and more librarians to service and interpret the books. You should make every effort to get an adequate budget for your library, for the State Library Board, and for the school library services of the State Department of Education.”

“Many libraries today hold public Book Discussions on current books of importance, and these should be especially emphasized as a part of the community service of public libraries. Also South Carolina is contemplating taking part in the nation-wide Great Books group study program and if this materializes your South Carolina Library Association will have a large share in its development. With younger people, story hours and school library clubs are means of discussing and appreciating books.”

“By using these methods, public Book Discussions, Great Books study groups, story hours, and library clubs, librarians can get the best of old and new books discussed.”

Report on S. C. L. A. Meeting in Charleston

The twenty-sixth annual meeting of the South Carolina Library Association was held in Charleston at the Francis Marion Hotel on October 31-November 1. Two hundred librarians and library trustees attended the meeting.

Mrs. Frances Lander Spain presided as President. Miss Emily Sanders was Vice-President; Miss Nancy Jane Day, Secretary; and Mrs. Ella Sue Smith, Treasurer.

At the first general session Mr. Marion A. Milczewski, director of the Southeastern States Cooperative Library Survey, explained the methods and purposes of the survey. He emphasized the importance of obtaining replies from the questionnaires sent out by his committee so that a true picture of the library resources and activities of each state may be given.

From the data thus collected the state and central committees of the Southeastern States Cooperative Li-
library Survey will make recommendations for enlarging and improving library service in the nine Southeastern states included in the survey.

At the dinner meeting, held on the evening of October 31, Dr. William R. Randall, director of libraries, University of Georgia, spoke on the subject "Building Tomorrow's Libraries".

Dr. Randall emphasized the changing needs and evolving uses of library buildings in the modern world and stressed the importance of functional planning. He said that library buildings should be planned from the inside out with a consideration of the clientele and functions of each particular library. Dr. Randall warned against "pattern thinking" and stressed the importance of thinking in terms of the individual needs and functions of each library building.

Section meetings were held at informal breakfasts on November 1. Mrs. V. M. Salley presided over the college libraries section; Mrs. Leon Holley over the public libraries and trustees section; and Miss Leonora Long over the school libraries.

Mrs. Spain conducted the business session held on November 1. After the reading of the minutes, the committee reports, and the election of officers Miss Emily Sanders, librarian of the Charleston County Library, was appointed representative of the S. C. L. A. on a committee which will sponsor a Great Books Program throughout the state.

Miss Ellen Perry, librarian of the Greenville Public Library, reported on the A. L. A. Council meeting in San Francisco. She brought out the point that requests came to the Council for regional offices of the A. L. A. She also said that smaller state associations are obtaining a more prominent part on the A. L. A. Council.

The closing meeting of the association was a luncheon at which Miss Emily Sanders presided. Mr. Samuel Gaillard Stoney spoke on the contributions which the middle and upcountry have made to Charleston; and Mr. Chapman G. Milling talked about the contributions which Charleston has made to the rest of the State.

After the luncheon the 28th meeting of the S. C. L. A. was adjourned; but many members of the association remained in Charleston for a most interesting tour of the city, sponsored by the Charleston Museum.

A tea, held in the Book Basement with the proprietors of the Book Basement serving as hosts, was a delightful culmination to a S. C. L. A. convention which evidenced much thought and preparation on the part of the officers of the association and the librarians of Charleston.

New S. C. L. A. Officers Elected at Charleston Convention

New officers elected at the business session of the South Carolina Library Association, November 1st, were:

President: Miss Emily Sanders, Librarian of the Charleston County Library.
Vice-President: Mr. J. Mitchell Reames, Reference Librarian, Clemson College.
Secretary: Miss Virginia Rugheimer, Librarian, Memminger High School, Charleston.
Treasurer: Mrs. Ella Sue Smith, Librarian, Anderson Public Library.
A. L. A. Councilor: Miss Ellen Perry, Librarian, Greenville Public Library.

Brief History of the South Carolina Library Association

By Alfred Rawlinson, Librarian, McKissick Memorial Library, University of South Carolina, Columbia

The South Carolina Library Association was organized and held its first meeting in the library of the University of South Carolina on October 27, 1915. Fourteen of the twenty-four charter members were present and elected Mr. R. M. Kennedy as first president. The original statement of purpose was that the Association should be "an effort to arouse and stimulate an interest in the building and development of libraries and to bring together those laboring for the cause that they might gain new strength and inspiration". Following the six meetings held at irregular intervals during the first twelve years of its existence, the Association has had regular annual meetings since 1927. By its twenty-sixth meeting, held in Charleston on October 31-November 1, 1947, the attendance had grown from the original fourteen to close to two hundred.

Twelve meetings have been held in Columbia; four in Charleston; three in Greenville; and one each in Darlington, Florence, Summerville, Rock Hill, Beaufort, Sumter, and Asheville, N. C. A two-day meeting has generally been held with a dinner on the evening of the first day at which event programs of literary and cultural interest have been presented. Among the persons of high standing in the library profession who have addressed the Association have been: Miss Mary U. Rothrock, President, American Library Association; Miss Julia Wright Merrill, A. L. A., Extension Director; Miss Tommie Dora Barker, as A. L. A. Field Agent for the South; Miss Marjorie Beal, of the North Carolina Library Association; Miss Nora Beust, of the U. S. Office of Education; Mr. Archibald MacLeish, Librarian of Congress; Dr. Louis Round Wilson, President of the A. L. A.; and Mr. Paul Howard, A. L. A. Washington Representative.

The fields of interest of the Association as demonstrated by the emphases of its programs and the activities of its committees have been varied. Among those stressed most consistently have been the following: since its first meeting the Association has been active in the establishment of the State Library Board and gaining funds for its support; library extension and legislation in the state have been consistently promoted; federal aid to libraries of a temporary nature as expressed in the C.W.A., W.P.A., and P.W.A. and on a permanent basis has been a vital interest; the development of permanent agencies for li-
Library training and the holding of institutes for this purpose has been considered in general meetings and by active committees. Other topics include: enlisting support for library work of the Women's Clubs of the state and through publicity; school library development; adult education; state aid; libraries and the war effort; regional meetings in the state; and cooperation with the Tennessee Valley Library Council survey. On October 13, 1944 the South Carolina Library Association became a chapter of the American Library Association.

The Presidents of the Association, in the order in which they have served, have been: Mr. R. M. Kennedy; Miss Louise McMaster; Mr. John Peyre Thomas, Jr.; Miss Charlotte Templeton; Mrs. Henry Buck; Mr. R. Beverley Herbert; Miss Ellen Perry; Mrs. Lucy Hampton Bostick; Miss Ora Willis; Miss Parmalee Cheves; Miss Fanny Taber; Miss Cornelia Graham; Mr. Williard Jones; Mr. Fant Thornley; Miss Annie Porter; Mrs. Maude Q. Kelsey; Mrs. Alfred Rawlinson; Mr. J. Isaac Copeland; Mr. Lewis C. Branscomb; Miss Mary Cox; Dr. Frances Lander Spain; and Miss Emily Sanders, who at present holds the office.

Lancaster County Selected for Study by Members of the Public Library Inquiry

Lancaster County, South Carolina, has been selected as one of the forty-nine representative American communities, ranging from metropolitan to rural, where an intensive cross-sectional study of the country's library facilities will be made, according to Dr. Robert D. Leigh, director of the Public Library Inquiry. The Inquiry is financed by a grant of $175,000 from the Carnegie Corporation of New York. It is conducted by the Social Science Research Council for the purpose of making a comprehensive survey of the adequacy of the public library as a source of citizen information.

In each of the forty-nine communities selected for study, the character of the library facilities and their relation to the needs of the population will be analyzed. One or more staff members from the Public Library Inquiry will visit each community.

The Inquiry will study eight population groups ranging from metropolitan centers to rural areas such as Lancaster County. These communities were selected from all parts of the United States.

County, regional, or state library services for the rural population will be surveyed in Telfair County, Georgia; Posey County, Indiana; Portage County, Ohio; Lancaster County, South Carolina; and in various areas in Delaware, Florida, Kansas, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oregon, North Dakota, and Wyoming.

Federal Relations News

Hearings on the Library Demonstration Bill were held on December 9th and 10th before the House Subcommittee on Education.

Some very convincing arguments for the bill were presented. Sallie Farrell's description of the effectiveness of the demonstration system in the Louisiana parishes caused some of the Committee members to sit up and take notice. The Alabama movie, Books and People, was in itself a splendid witness for H.R. 2465. Through it the Committee saw the practical application of the bill's provisions.

Other witnesses presented pertinent factual and statistical information emphasizing the need for the Library Demonstration Bill.

Before the hearings it had been estimated that the Committee's votes would be 7 to 4 in favor of the bill. Now there is a possibility of one or two more votes in favor of the bill.

Members of the S. C. L. A. are urged to contact individual congressmen to get their assurance of support when the bill comes up for a vote in the House and Senate.

College and University Library Section

J. Mitchell Reames, Editor

Much of the news from South Carolina college and university libraries these days has to do with new buildings or expansion of present ones. Wofford College plans to add two wings to its present structure which will include a Reference Room, Reserve Book Room, Projection Room, Treasure Room, Carlisle Memorial Room; eight carrels, and additional stack space for $50,000 volumes. Construction will begin as early in 1948 as is practicable.

Clemson College has been planning for a number of years to erect a completely new library building. Coker College has completed plans for a new library building.

Morris College in Sumter has recently completed a new building. It will be noticed that a very commendable job has been done with limited funds for the undertaking.

Clemson College and Furman University both report recent acquisition of Recordak Film Reading Machines, Model C., for reading 35-mm and 16-mm microfilm. These instruments will greatly facilitate research work. Clemson is now purchasing the Microfilm Edition of the New York Times.

Limestone College Library opened a Music Room in September with a record collection of 750 and seating capacity for a dozen listeners. They have also purchased the reprint of the Gesellschaft edition of Bach's works, issued by Edwards Brothers, for their Music Score Collection.

This year Clemson College Library has organized a group known as Friends of Clemson College Library and this organization has recently purchased the five volume edition of John Edwards Holbrook's "North American Herpetology," Philadelphia, J. Dodson, 1842. This is a rare set from the standpoint of South Caroliniana as well as for its value as a scientific work. Only sixteen other sets are known to exist; the University of South Carolina and the College of Charleston own this also.

Jaycees Contribute to Library Building Fund in Charleston

At a recent meeting of the North Charleston Chapter of the Jaycees, Vice-President Perry Taylor presented a check for $9,161.33 to Mr. Gordon Garrett, Trustee of the Charleston County Library Board. This money was collected by the Jaycees and represents the public contribution of funds toward the building of a library in the Cooper River District.
Columbia Library Club

The Columbia Library Club elected officers at the November meeting which was held on the second Thursday of the month in the Williams Building of the State Hospital with Mrs. Ben Aiken, librarian of the State Hospital serving as hostess.

Mrs. Aiken was elected chairman of the club and Miss Estellene Walker was chosen vice-chairman in charge of programs. Mrs. Aiken explained her work as librarian in the State Hospital, and Miss Walker gave a report on the S. C. L. A. meeting in Charleston.

The December meeting of the Columbia Library Club was held on December 11th at the Richland County Library. The staff of the Richland Library entertained the club with a buffet supper after which members went to visit the Freedom Train.

All librarians in the Columbia area are invited to attend meetings of the Club which are held on the second Thursday of each month.

Personals

MRS. FRANCES LANDER SPAIN has been nominated for A. L. A. Councilor. Her name will appear on the official ballot. All South Carolina members of A. L. A. will have an opportunity to vote for Mrs. Spain.

MRS. CARRIE BELL ELKINS has been appointed custodian of the Jasper Branch of the Allendale-Hampton-Jasper Regional Library.

MRS. MAUDE Q. KELSEY has been appointed librarian of the Chester County Library. She was formerly librarian of the Lancaster County Library.

MISS JANE ANNE McGR EGOR, University of North Carolina Library School, 1947, is the new children's librarian of the Spartanburg County Library.

MISS BESS GLENN, formerly in charge of the South Carolina Room, University of South Carolina, who is now Assistant Chief, General Reference Division, National Archives, Washington, D. C., played an important part in selecting and arranging the documents on the Freedom Train which recently visited several cities in South Carolina. Miss Glenn wrote the descriptive bulletin which is being distributed on the train.

Newcomers to the state are: MRS. MARY HOGAN, in charge of Science Room, McKissick Memorial Library, University of South Carolina; MRS. ROGER H. CROOK, Assistant Librarian, Limestone College; and MRS. HELEN B. ALLEN, Documents Librarian, Clemson College Library, filling the position formerly held by MRS. SARAH SHIRLEY LANDER, now instructor in library science at the School of Library Science, University of North Carolina.

MRS. CHARLES M. TAYLOR, JR. has replaced Mrs. A. E. Van Houten, who, because of ill health, had to resign as librarian of the Manning Public Library. Mrs. Van Houten served for many years as librarian in Manning and her resignation was received with regret by the people of the community. Mrs. Taylor received her education and instruction in library science at Winthrop College. She is a native of Marion but has made her home in Manning for the past eight years with her husband, Charles M. Taylor, Jr. and her daughter, Ann Guerry.

Committee Recommends Program for Improving School Library Service to Children and Young People

The joint committee of the National Education Association and the American Library Association held a two-day meeting in Chicago, November 16-17. Representatives of the two organizations discussed the value of school library services in children's education and the problems involved in bringing the benefits of library service to the majority of children and young people. To achieve this end, the committee recommended a three-point program:

1. Every teacher to have instruction in the knowledge and use of library materials.
2. One librarian or library consultant to be appointed for every 1,000 school children to give all elementary and secondary students access to special library services.
3. Every state to make specialized library consultative service available through at least one library adviser in each state education department.

The committee also planned several cooperative research studies and service studies.

Miss Frayser Reappointed to State Library Board

Governor J. Strom Thurmond has reappointed Miss Mary E. Frayser, Winthrop College, Rock Hill, to the South Carolina State Library Board. Her term will expire on April 26, 1949.

Miss Frayser has been active in library development in South Carolina since coming to the state in 1915. She is at the present time Chairman of the State Library Board.

Censorship

Mr. Marion A. Milczewski, director of the Southeastern States Cooperative Library Survey, has made the following statement regarding censorship:

“One of the general observations made in attending state meetings is what seems to be a strong tendency by librarians, particularly in small public libraries, to strictly censor all materials coming into their libraries to eliminate 'propaganda.' While the librarian certainly is justified in screening materials, the rigid exclusion of all except the strictly orthodox presents a problem. That kind of attitude towards the library's position in the community is a doubtful one if the library is to be considered as a democratic institution. Such censorship places the library in the position of telling its patrons what their ideas should be on issues rather than in the position of pointing out what the issues are and letting the reader decide.”