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Abstract
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Keywords
South Carolina Library Association
New Library in Bishopville
Opened to Public

The Lee County Library was officially opened on Monday, March 14 at Bishopville.

The building is of solid masonry construction and has steel casement windows and an attractive entrance portico. The inside dimensions of the library are 22 feet by 44 feet, with the 44 foot dimension running parallel to the street. There is a large main library room, a work room, and two rest rooms.

The floor is of black asphalt tile on a concrete base. The walls are soft green and the shelves are two-tone gray. Indirect fluorescent lighting fixtures have been installed.

At the formal opening, control of the Library was turned over to the newly appointed Lee County Library Commission by the County Legislative Delegation, which is composed of Senator W. P. Baskin and Representatives Hugh Colclough and C. Marion Mimms.

Mrs. John Baskin is Librarian of the Lee County Library and Mrs. J. E. McCutchen, Jr. is Chairman of the Library Commission.

Kernel Kershaw Ssex:

Right to Build and Stock a Library
With Books We Wish is True Democracy

(Copied from the Kershaw News-Era for February 24, 1949)

Kershaw will long remember the occasion of the dedication of its Memorial Library building and the visit of the Governor and Mrs. Thurmond on that occasion. The day was clear, the crowd was large, and everything went off according to schedule. The Governor's address was challenging and fitting for the occasion, and we were happy to hear him say that "no finer nor more fitting memorial could be erected to our service men and women than a free public library".

As the Kernel listened, along with the several hundred there, and observed the raising of our flag, and heard the strains of "The Star Spangled Banner" and "America", he could not help but rejoice that he is an American citizen, permitted to enjoy such an occasion as this, which would be strictly forbidden in many of the countries of the world. For there was observed freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom to congregate, an absence of armed force or censorship, and a dedication of a building to preserve the culture and bed-rock essentials of freedom.

For that library is more than a symbol of gratitude to our service men and women; it is a fundamental agency toward the prevention of another war, and a unique institution of freedom and democracy. It is the expression of the right of every man, regardless of creed or position, to an education and to enjoy the culture and thought of the great writers and thinkers of all ages. It is the challenge to every philosophy of suppression and regimentation of thought in the world today. It is a guarantee that every youth, no matter what his home or circumstance may be, has the right to study and fit himself for any vocation or profession he may choose.

Kershaw Memorial Library
Completed

The Kershaw Memorial Library, a depository of the Lancaster County Library, has been completed and dedication services were held at the library in Kershaw on February 21. Governor J. Strom Thurmond was speaker at the dedication ceremony. The Librarian is Mrs. Mamie S. Rice.

The library is a brick and tile structure in modern design and is completely fireproof. It was designed by G. T. Harmon, Columbia architect.

The library building consists of two large reading rooms, a lobby and two work rooms at the rear of the building. Lighting is the new hidden strip fluorescent.

The interior of the building is done in light green with
matching marbleized asphalt tile. The woodwork and furniture are in natural finish.

The Kershaw Garden Club is responsible for the planting of shrubbery. The lawn is being levelled by the Agriculture class at the Kershaw schools.

Books for Rural Negroes

Negro Home Demonstration Agents throughout the State are cooperating with the State Library Board in a program to build up library service to Negroes. The agents in nine counties where countywide service is not available to Negroes have received collections of books from the State Library Board. The books are housed in the offices of the agents and are circulated through their clubs, and in some instances from their offices on the days they are open to the public. In most cases, initial collections contain one hundred books, adult and juvenile. Exchanges are to be made at regular intervals, and the size and make-up of future deposits will depend on the needs of the particular county.

Negro Home Demonstration Agents in the following counties have received collections: Allendale, Anderson, Bamberg, Berkeley, Hampton, Newberry, Union, York and Williamsburg.

Libraries for Negroes already in operation in Beaufort, Greenwood and Summerville have borrowed collections to supplement their bookstock in order that the agents may borrow books for circulation through their clubs.

Publicity Program for Public Libraries

By Jean Brabham, Head, Circulation Department, Richland County Library, Columbia

Publicity is not only a fascinating subject, it is also an essential part of a successful public library program. It is not enough that the library remain open for the few who chance to find their way across its threshold; it is necessary that figurative direction posts be set up to guide the many to the library doors.

The prime purpose of library publicity is to bring to the attention of the community the services the library is offering in order that more people may avail themselves of the library facilities. There are many branches of publicity, each contributing to the effectiveness of the whole program. The librarian who wants to bring library facilities to the public eye should make use of the newspapers, radio stations, book displays, and opportunities to talk to public gatherings. Contact work should be done with leaders of the community, presidents of book clubs, teachers and students.

There are many possibilities for library publicity in newspapers. Annotated lists of new books are most helpful in guiding the reader to the books that will interest him most. Fiction and non-fiction listed in the order of their popularity such as those found in Publisher’s Weekly, New York Times and Herald Tribune Book Review sections are always of interest to the reader. Articles on authors and their works, bits of news about the library’s exhibits, its activities and its staff are excellent publicity material for the newspapers. Pictures of children during story hour or at parties or other activities sponsored by the library are appealing publicity.

The radio offers more and more opportunities for library publicity. “Spot” announcements giving the time of the story hour, information about bookmobile stops and schedule, and some special event taking place at the library are among the many items of public interest that radio can bring home to the listeners. Radio time is usually available for talks, dialogues, story telling and dramatization of children’s plays.

Book displays are made vital and appealing by being tied in with events of local interest. The Richland County Public Library in Columbia ties its exhibits in with the appearance of artists brought to the city by the Columbia Music Festival. The Festival supplies posters and pictures, and selections from the library’s large collection of music books complete the exhibit. The method is followed with the current plays being produced at the Town Theater or with movies based on books found in the library. Radio programs such as The University of the Air featuring the dramatization of classic novels heard over NBC each Sunday afternoon at 2:30 are excellent to tie in with exhibits of the novel itself and books about the author. Posters and other exhibit material on special days or weeks are usually available through addresses listed in the Wilson Library Bulletin.

Attractive posters on display in the library and in places of prominence about town are also helpful in calling to the community’s attention the services offered by the library.

Women’s clubs, service clubs of all sorts, and book clubs all need speakers who will come from the library and give talks on new books, fiction and non-fiction, the classics, children’s literature, questions of current interest and any number of subjects ranging all the way from trends in modern art to cook books for the bride.

It takes a great deal of publicity to awaken the community to the number of services offered by its library and therefore it takes time, energy and originality to do a good job in this field. But public librarians whose duty it is to reach out and help the people who support their institutions will be amply repaid as more and more people find that the public library through its books has solutions to various problems. Publicity in its many phases is fascinating work which can be used to great advantage in the public library whatever its size or location. It is hoped that the librarians of South Carolina will remember that if Mohammed does not come to the mountain, the mountain should go to Mohammed.
For Careful Consideration of SCLA Members

In the general reorganization of the American Library Association, the status of the Southeastern Library Association must be carefully considered by the membership. For this reason the following report made by Mr. Jack Dalton, chairman of the Activities Committee of the Southeastern Library Association, at the business session of the Association held in Louisville deserves careful consideration.

"At the Asheville meeting in 1946 this Association passed resolutions empowering the Executive Committee to appoint an executive secretary and urging the President and incoming officers (a) 'to appoint an activities committee,' (b) 'to appoint a committee on publications which would aim to get papers and articles on library service published as widely as possible and which would issue a quarterly journal of the Southeastern Library Association,' and (c) 'to give careful consideration and study to the . . . future organization and program of the Southeastern Library Association and of its relation to the American Library Association'." The Activities Committee named in response to the Association's wish has sought the advice of scores of members of this group, and with the Asheville resolutions and your individual advice as directives has attempted to set forth in terms of functions and organization a plan for our future.

Functions

In setting forth the functions that seem appropriate to this Association we have not attempted to include everything you may wish to undertake nor have we overlooked the probability that the Southeastern States Survey now nearing completion may point to pressing problems in addition to those enumerated here. Our effort has been to cover in general the areas in which we believe it important for this group to be actively engaged.

1. Coordination. To encourage cooperation among the states in the development of adequate library resources for the whole region.

2. Liaison. To serve as a connecting link between libraries in the region and other agencies serving on a regional level, and to assist in relating the library activities of the region to those of such associations as the American Library Association.

3. Personnel. To improve the quality and increase the number of trained librarians in the region through (a) promoting and supporting efforts for advanced training within the region, (b) stimulating study of regional problems, (c) sponsoring summer conferences, workshops, and institutes, (d) establishing regional internships, and (e) initiating region-wide recruiting programs.

4. Clearing House. To collect and disseminate statistics and other data relating to libraries and library service in the region and in the various states of the region.

5. Standards. To develop and assist in the development of library standards for the region.

6. Bibliographical. To collect and make available through periodicals and other appropriate means information about books, films and other materials relating to the region and the states, their problems and opportunities.

7. Legislation. To provide guidance and assistance to the state library associations in furthering adequate legislative programs.

8. Federal Relations. To assist in giving directions to Federal library activity within the region.

ORGANIZATION

We recommend that the Southeastern Library Association be reorganized to provide for annual meetings, a headquarters office, a full-time executive secretary, and a quarterly journal.

In considering these recommendations, the Committee has not attempted to work out detailed plans because it felt that the Association would wish to consider the proposal in principle before starting to work on the details of reorganization and constitutional revision. Nor has the Committee thought it appropriate to present at this time a financial plan for the proposed program. We believe such a program can be carried on at a cost of about $15,000 a year, and we are encouraged to believe that funds may be found to get it under way, should the Association approve. It cannot be urged too strongly, however, that once we are committed to such a plan we shall have to depend largely upon our own resources.

Finally, we believe the membership of the Southeastern Library Association is nearly unanimous in its desire to maintain and strengthen its relationship with the American Library Association. We recommend, accordingly, that this intent be kept in view when and as the reorganization is undertaken.

Books on the Ceiling

Sponsored by Lions International and A.L.A., the ceiling projector provides the library with yet another means of giving service. Splendid for shut-ins and suitable for home or hospital use, this recently developed equipment makes possible the projection of books, a page at a time, on the ceiling above the reader's head so that the shut-in may read easily and comfortably. He turns the pages by means of a conveniently located switch which can be operated by finger or toe pressure or by a nod of the head.

Four hundred titles on microfilm are available in such subject fields as: picture books for adults, mystery, western and detective stories, humor, sports, biography, short stories, travel and adventure. There is also a lengthy list of titles for children and teen-agers.

Lions International and other service clubs are taking an active part in providing these machines and microfilmed books to public libraries, which will act as depositories, making them available to those in need of them.

To insure the maximum use of the machines, many Lions Clubs and similar organizations have volunteered to assist the library in placing them in service and giving operating instructions to the users. This is an important factor in the success of the plan, as most libraries have no facilities or staff for rendering a service to shut-ins at home.

Libraries are urged to take the initiative in starting this service by contacting their local Lions Club or other service organizations in the community.

Information about the "Books on the Ceiling" program can be obtained from Lions International, 332 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago 4, Illinois or from the A.L.A. Committee on Projected Books. This Committee welcomes inquiries. It is suggested that these inquiries be directed to Projected Books, Inc., 313 N. First Street, Ann Arbor, Michigan.
The School Library Section of the South Carolina Education Association met at 2:30 p. m., Thursday, March 17, at Columbia High School, with Miss Madeleine Mossimann presiding. During a short business meeting prior to the introduction of the speaker, Miss Naomi Derrick, Chicora High School, Charleston, and Miss Leonora Long, Greenville High School, reported on the library clinics which were held during the past year. The purpose of these clinics was to discuss the place of the school library in the instructional program and both were considered very successful. The group also discussed the proposed plan for departmental meetings of the SCEA to be held at other times of the year rather than at the General Meeting and voted to consider the matter after more information is at hand.

Officers elected by the Section for the coming year are: Miss Susan Caldwell, Winthrop Training School, president; Mrs. H. O. Stephens, Spartanburg High School, vice-president; Miss Jane Wright, Anderson Boys' High School, secretary.

The speaker for the meeting was Miss Evalene Jackson of the Emory University Division of Librarianship, whose subject was "Education for Librarianship". Miss Jackson, who is a member of the Southern committee to study the library school curriculum, described the two programs of education for librarianship at Emory and the present trend in education for librarianship in general. At the conclusion of Miss Jackson's very interesting talk a general discussion was held. Miss Nancy Jane Day, School Library Supervisor, stated that, in her opinion, South Carolina school librarians who hold the professional bachelor's degree in Library Science would not suffer from the change in the graduate program because of a ruling by the S. C. State Department of Education which recognizes such degrees as the equivalent of the Master's degree.

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S. C. Recruiting Committee Solicits Cooperation of All Librarians

A folder entitled "Open Door to Library Careers" prepared by the Recruiting Committee of the South Carolina Library Association has been published. Copies of the folder have been sent to head librarians of college, county, and public libraries in South Carolina as well as to school librarians, counselors and vocational directors in high schools and colleges.

Additional copies of these folders are available for use with young people who are interested in librarianship as a career. Folders can be obtained from the S. C. State Library Board, 1207 Calhoun St., Columbia, S. C.

Individual librarians are urged by members of the Recruiting Committee to make use of these recruiting folders and to call the attention of promising young people to the opportunities now open in all fields of library work.

A Speakers Bureau of librarians has been established. Members of the Bureau are located throughout the state and are available for talks to groups of high school and college youths.

Twenty-two public, college, and school librarians have consented to serve on the Bureau. The Recruiting Committee urges all librarians to take advantage of this service and to consult with superintendents of high schools and with vocational directors in schools and colleges to arrange for members of the Bureau to talk with groups of young people about library work as a career.

Arrangements for speakers can be made through the S. C. State Library Board and the School Library Supervisor, State Department of Education, Columbia.

Members of the Recruiting Committee are: Chairman, Miss Frances D. Gish, Field Service Librarian, South Carolina State Library Board, Columbia; Miss Nancy Jane Day, School Library Supervisor, State Department of Education, Columbia; Miss Helen I. Hagan, Librarian, Coker College Library, Hartsville; and Miss Estellene P. Walker, Executive Secretary, South Carolina State Library Board, Columbia.

What So Soon?

Yes, your SCLA dues are due again! Those that you paid last fall at the Convention were for 1948. Another year requires another dollar. SCLA needs the support of librarians, trustees and friends of libraries. Your membership means a more active association and more progress for library development in the state.

Send your dues to Miss Theodora Woods, Treasurer, SCLA, Darlington County Library, Darlington, S. C.