Abstract
South Carolina Library Bulletin v.7 n.1 07/1951

Keywords
South Carolina Library Association

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New Hope for Public Libraries

The Library Service Bill, S-1452, was introduced into the U. S. Senate on May 9, 1951 by Senator Lister Hill of Alabama. House introduction will follow soon. According to the Office of Education, under this Bill South Carolina would be eligible for the initial allotment of $40,000, plus $131,214 on the basis of rural population, or a total amount of $171,214 from federal funds. To secure the total amount, South Carolina must furnish $77,817. Since current appropriation for library extension on the state level may be counted for matching, South Carolina would immediately qualify for the entire federal allotment.

The Bill provides that the state agency shall submit a plan to the Commissioner of Education for the use of the funds. The state agency, not the Commissioner, determines whether the plan will use the funds to maximum advantage. The Commissioner must make sure the money is spent according to the plan and that the state does not cut its own appropriation because of federal funds.

The Washington Office of the American Library Association urges that all librarians and trustees write to their Senator immediately for a copy of the Bill, not only to become informed as to its provisions, but also to make senators aware of it and aware that you are aware of it.

Frances Gish

Miss Frances Dill Gish, for the past four years Field Service Librarian on the staff of the State Library Board, has resigned to accept the position of Director of the Dalton Regional Library, Dalton, Georgia. Miss Gish's contribution to the development of the public library program in South Carolina has been outstanding. She has aided in the establishment of the Oconee, Lexington, Lee and Horry County Libraries and the Allendale-Hampton-Jasper Regional Library and the Newberry-Saluda Regional Library. Since she began her service in South Carolina, county library service has been generally improved.

Miss Gish has served on a number of committees of the South Carolina Library Association and was chairman of the recruiting committee during the year of its greatest activity. Her resignation is a real loss to the state.

New Executive Secretary for A. L. A.

David H. Clift, Associate Librarian at Yale University, has been appointed Executive Secretary of the American Library Association. He succeeds John MacKenzie Cory,
who announced his resignation at the recent ALA Midwinter Conference.

Mr. Clift was appointed Yale’s Associate Librarian in 1945, after release from the Army where he had served since 1942. In 1945 he went to Germany as a member of the Library of Congress mission to seek books in enemy countries for American research libraries and later served as its deputy chief.

In 1937 Mr. Clift was appointed assistant to the director of libraries at Columbia University, New York. He had previously been reference assistant in the New York Public Library since 1931.

Mr. Clift was born in Mason County, Kentucky, June 16, 1907. He received his B.S. at the University of Kentucky in 1930 and his B.S. from Columbia University School of Library Service in 1931.

Workshop for Public Librarians Held at Clemson

A Workshop for Public Librarians was held at Clemson House, Clemson on May 3 and 4 preceding the annual convention of the S. C. Library Association. The Workshop was sponsored by the S. C. State Library Board and 45 librarians representing 20 counties attended.

Panel discussions, exhibits of library publicity from all parts of the state and exhibits of professional materials, recent children’s books, reading club programs and materials on civilian defense constituted the Workshop.

After registration of all participants, Miss Estellene Walker, Executive Secretary of the State Library Board opened the Workshop at 3 p.m. with a brief welcome and introduction.

Two panel discussions of one hour each followed. The first was on “Bookmobile Practices and Procedures”. Panel members were: Mrs. Vernon Brunson, Librarian, Allendale-Hampton-Jasper Regional Library; Mrs. Elizabeth B. Greene, Librarian, Oconee County Library; and Miss Mary Cox, County Librarian, Greenville Public Library. Miss Frances Gish, Field Service Librarian, S. C. State Library Board, was panel leader. The second panel discussion was on “Developing Negro Library Service”. Panel members were: Mrs. Georgie Adams, Librarian, Orangeburg County Library; Mrs. Clara T. McCabe, Librarian, Calhoun County Library, and Miss Nell Garrard, Librarian, Cherokee County Library. Miss Lois Barbare, Assistant Executive Secretary, S. C. State Library Board, led the panel.

Beginning at 7:30 in the evening there were two panels each lasting one hour. Members of the panel discussion the first were: Miss Nancy Jane Day, School Library Supervisor, S. C. State Department of Education; Miss Jane Ann McGregor, Children’s Librarian, Spartanburg Public Library, and Miss Margaret Mahon, Children’s Librarian, Greenville Public Library.

Miss Gish led the panel, Miss Walker led the panel discussion on “Publicity—Reaching Readers”. Members were: Miss Mary Parham, Librarian, Horry County Library; Mrs. Marguerite G. Thompson, Librarian, Colleton County Library; Miss Lorena Miller, Librarian of the Lexington County Library, and Mr. J. B. Watts, Librarian, Carnegie Library, Sumter.

On Friday morning three group meetings were held on the subjects: Maintenance of a Useful Book Collection, Book Selection, and Recruiting.

A panel discussion on “Budgets, Boards and Appropriations” was led by Miss Walker. Members of this panel were: Mrs. Hagood Bostick, Librarian, Richland County Library; Mrs. E. V. Hinton, Chairman, Cherokee County Library Board, and Miss Nancy C. Blair, Librarian, Spartanburg Public Library.

A first and second prize for the best publicity displays at the Workshop were awarded to Horry and Oconee Counties respectively.

Carnival of Books Rebroadcast by WIS Columbia

The first rebroadcast of a weekly radio feature known as “The Carnival of Books” was presented by WIS, Columbia at 3 o’clock on Sunday, June 17 and will be rebroadcast each Sunday afternoon at 3 if interest in the program justifies its continuation.

The “Carnival of Books” is a radio Book of the Week Club for Children which has been broadcast over Station WMAQ of Chicago since 1946. The program is now being rebroadcast over the network of the National Broadcasting Company.

The program features Mrs. Ruth Harshaw, creator of “Carnival of Books” and a successful author in her own right, who presents children’s writers from all over the world. Jack Lester, versatile dialectician, narrates dramatic excerpts from the book reviewed. The guest author is present during the broadcast period and answers questions concerning the book in a panel discussion with appropriate-age school children.

“Carnival of Books” stimulates the interest of children, parents and teachers in good literature and entertains while it educates.

Current and best children’s books are selected by a committee of school librarians in cooperation with Mrs. Harshaw. A copy of the book to be reviewed is sent to children selected in advance to appear on the program. “Carnival of Books” is officially recognized by the Chicago Board of Education, the American Library Association and other educational groups.

School and public librarians who live within the radius of WIS, Columbia, can assure the success of the rebroadcast in South Carolina by giving the program wide publicity and by encouraging all listeners to inform WIS of their interest in the program.
Historical Commission Publishes Colonial Records

The Historical Commission of South Carolina has published the first volume in the new series "The Colonial Records of South Carolina" edited by Dr. J. H. Easterby, Director of the Commission.

The published volume is entitled "The Journal of the Commons House of Assembly, 1736-1739". A second volume will be issued before the end of the year. Later volumes will be announced as they are published.

The price of the first volume is $12.50. That of the later volumes will be the same unless an increase in the cost of printing compels a change. In view of the fact that this price is actually less than the cost of manufacture, the customary library discount cannot be allowed.

South Carolina High School Library Association

The high school library assistants held their annual meeting at Winthrop April 6 and 7. Approximately 250 members of the association were present.

The program included recreational activities and a panel discussion centered around Hot Rod by Henry Gregor Felsen. The group adopted a constitution and a state pin.

Officers elected for next year are: President, Jimmie O'Hear, Rivers High School, Charleston; Vice-President, Barbara Helderman, Pauline; Secretary, Barbara Kerr, Bishopville; Treasurer, Elizabeth Coggeshall, Darlington; Reporter, Bobbie Mealing, North Augusta.

School Librarians

The school librarians held a luncheon meeting at the annual conference of the South Carolina Education Association in March. The librarians invited their principals and superintendents as guests for this meeting.

Reports on committee activities of the year were made by the chairman. Miss Irene Marshall of Charleston reported on the work of the student library assistants, Miss Leonora Long of Greenville told of the work of the Committee on State Aid, and Miss Mary Berry reported on the work of the Committee studying the role of the librarian in the Guidance Program. This committee is preparing a brochure on guidance which it hopes to distribute to all school librarians in the fall.

After the reports, Mrs. Harvey Stephens, the president, turned the meeting over to Miss Nancy Jane Day, Supervisor of Library Services, State Department of Education, who served as moderator for a panel discussion, "The School Administrator Looks At the Library".

Officers elected for the coming year are: Mrs. Ida E. Wylie, Librarian, Chester High School, President; Miss Irene Marshall, Librarian, Rivers High School, Charleston, Vice-President; and Miss Myra Boozer, Librarian, Newberry High School, Secretary.

State Library Board Gets Increased Appropriation

The State Library Board received an appropriation of $79,917 for the fiscal year 1951-52. $55,500 was appropriated for State Aid in books and by direct allotments to county and regional libraries. State Aid will continue to be given on a matching basis of dollar for dollar up to $1,000 of funds locally appropriated for the purchase of books.

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obligation of librarians to stimulate their clientele in thinking soberly in this time of national crisis.

Informal discussions were held in connection with the breakfast meetings on Saturday morning. Miss Jane Flener presided at the college section; Mrs. Georgie Adams at the public library section; Mrs. Ambrose Wylie, Jr. at the school library section and Mrs. C. A. Dufford at the trustee section.

Miss Nancy Blair, president of the South Carolina Library Association, presided at the business meeting. The adoption of a new constitution was the highlight of this session. Mr. Mitchell Reames, chairman of the committee on revision of the constitution, presented the proposed changes. He explained that the idea of the committee who worked on this was to provide a legal framework for the Association as it is now operating.

Miss Naomi Derrick, chairman of the nominating committee, presented the following slate of officers for 1952:

President - Mr. Herbert Hucks, Jr., Associate Librarian, Wofford College Library
Vice-President - Miss Desmond Koster, Librarian, Medical College of the State of South Carolina, Charleston
Secretary - Miss Margaret Wright, Librarian, Orangeburg High School, Orangeburg
Treasurer - Mr. John Goodman, Assistant Librarian, Clemson College Library, Clemson

Mr. Carl Julien was guest speaker at the luncheon. In his address he disclosed some secrets in publishing a pictorial history. He also described in an entertaining way how he first began his career in photography and some of the unique experiences he had in securing photographs for his two books, BENEATH SO KIND A SKY and NINETY SIX.

Mr. H. L. Watson of the Greenwood Index-Journal, in a paper read by Mr. Herbert Hucks, expressed his deep concern over the fact that some of our rare and valuable Caroliniana is being lost to us through purchases by other states. He urged librarians to do whatever they could to keep this sort of material in our own libraries. He told of his long-time interest in collecting data used in writing the introduction to NINETY SIX.

It seems that everything—the weather and the season of the year included—conspired to make this meeting a very happy and successful affair.
Library Board Members, 
Correspondence Course

The Home-Study Department of the University of Chicago with the assistance of the American Library Association is offering a course of approximately 10 lessons for library board members. The course is designed to help board members carry out their responsibilities more effectively. The course will be suitable for an individual or as a basis of a group discussion by an entire library board. The tuition fee is $25.00 including all required reading, the syllabus and complete instructional service. A certificate of completion will be awarded to each individual who completes the course, which carries no formal academic credit. Registrations will be accepted, starting in September, 1951 by the Home-Study Department, University of Chicago, 1375 East 60th Street, Chicago 37, Illinois.

Personals

MISS JEAN BRABHAM, a graduate of the University of North Carolina Library School, who has been employed at the Enoch Pratt Library until recently, has been appointed librarian of the Anderson Library since the past January, has been recalled to the Army Air Force. He will leave Sumter on July 9 to report for duty.

MRS. ELIZABETH B. GREENE, Librarian of the Oconee County Library, is attending the summer session of the graduate library school at Emory University.

MISS LORENA MILLER, Librarian of the Lexington County Library, will continue her library studies at the summer school of Western Carolina Teachers College, Boone, North Carolina.

MISS LURA DEANE MANNING, Children’s Librarian of the Chester County Library, has been accepted in the graduate school at Emory University which she will enter in September.

For Immediate Action!

Are you having a hard time stretching the “library dollar” to meet current needs for books and services? If the Postal Bill (H. R. 2982) now before the House passes without amendment, your dollar is going to be even less elastic. Book postage will go up and the penny postal will jump to 2c plus a 10% surcharge on government cards in lots of 100 or more. The time to do something about this is now. Write to your own member of the House of Representatives immediately urging his support of the Murray Amendment which freezes the book rate at the current level and the amendment which will eliminate the 10% surcharge on purchase of postal cards in lots of 100 or more by non-profit institutions.

IN THE SENATE

The Senate Post Office and Civil Service Committee will take final action on the Postal Rate Bill after July 10th. In the Senate, libraries want parity for books with the reading matter in second class. There is discrimination in the rate on books. Write to Senator Olin D. Johnston, Chairman of the Senate Post Office and Civil Service Committee right now. Urge his support of an Amendment to give books parity with reading matter in the second class.

Write yourself! And get your trustees and other people interested in libraries to write. Don’t put this off! Tomorrow will be too late!

S. C. Library Association
Federal Relations Committee

A.L.A. 75th Conference

Among South Carolina librarians who will participate in the 75th Anniversary Conference of the American Library Association in Chicago, July 8th to 14th are Mrs. Virginia Moody, State Librarian; Nancy Jane Day, State School Library Supervisor; Gladys Smith, Librarian, Winthrop College; Nancy C. Blair, Librarian, Spartanburg Public Library; Ellen Perry, Librarian, Greenville Public Library; Mrs. E. V. Hinton, Chairman of the Cherokee County Library Board, and Estellene Walker, Executive Secretary of the State Library Board. More than 5,000 librarians are expected to attend the annual meeting which will launch a year-long nationwide program to stimulate public study and discussion of “The Heritage of the U. S. A. in Times of Crisis”.

Southeastern Needs Your Support

The Southeastern Library Association needs your support. This association which is concerned with the problems of libraries in the Southeastern area was reorganized in October 1930. All Trustees, librarians and staff members in South Carolina are eligible for membership upon payment of dues. Annual dues are as follows: $2.00 for members of SCLA or ALA; $3.00 for persons not members of either state or national library association. Pay your dues immediately so that you will have a vote for the South Carolina representative on the Southeastern Library Association’s Executive Committee.

State Board to Get New Offices

The Caughman building located on the corner of Lower Main and Pendleton Streets is being completely remodeled to house several state agencies now occupying rented quarters. The State Library Board will be one of the agencies accommodated in this building.

The State Library Board will occupy a section of the building on the Pendleton Street side. The offices are being carefully planned to house the work of the Board. Bookmobiles will be able to drive into the building where special loading platforms will facilitate the loading and unloading of books. A stack section will furnish shelving for 25,000 books. A large work room, planned to speed up the preparation of books, is a feature of the plan. Office space for the professional staff adjoins the stack area and the workroom. The offices will be completely air-conditioned. The renovation is in charge of the architectural firm of Lyles, Bissett, Carlisle and Wolff.