South Carolina Library Bulletin v.8 n.1 09/1952

Abstract
South Carolina Library Bulletin v.8 n.1 09/1952

Keywords
South Carolina Library Association

This complete issue is available in South Carolina Libraries: https://scholarcommons.sc.edu/scl_journal/vol0/iss28/1
State Outbid for Librarians

South Carolina is faced with a crisis in one phase of its cultural life. That is the shortage of librarians. At least 11 and perhaps more South Carolina librarians are leaving the state to take library positions in states which pay them more money.

Nobody can blame a librarian for going where she can do best for herself. She has spent years in preparing for her work; naturally, she prefers to do that work where conditions are most favorable to her. Certainly salary is a primary consideration to a librarian. It is to most people.

A library is not just a luxury for the benefit of a few literary minded people in a community. It is a part of the whole educational and cultural phase of a community's life. To be sure, it does offer recreation in the form of reading for entertainment. It also offers a continuation of educational opportunities to adults who want to keep abreast of the times, who want to read thought-provoking books and who wish to keep their minds alert and active.

Bookmobiles in connection with modern libraries have taken books to every nook and corner of the nation. The library has become an asset to anyone who wants to use it, and figures show that the public generally does want to make use of library opportunities.

To be most useful, libraries must be operated by trained, qualified and capable people. Those who train for library work are not enough to fill all the openings for librarians. With the inevitable law of supply and demand at work, the supply of librarians will go to the highest bidders, in terms of salaries, working conditions and public interest.

Today, South Carolina is being outbid in this field by other states, and the supply of topnotch librarians is running short. In fact, the situation has become acute enough to give South Carolinians reason to give it some serious thought.


State Aid for 1952-53

The purpose of State Aid for County Libraries is to promote the establishment and the development of public library service throughout the State. State Aid serves as a stimulating fund to assist counties and regions in providing improved library service and leads toward the equalization of library opportunities in all counties.

The sum of $92,492.00 was voted by the 1952 Legislature for the program of the State Library Board. Of this total amount, $60,000 will be used for State Aid to county and regional libraries. The allotment of funds will be made on the basis of the State Aid Agreement between the county or regional library boards and the State Library Board, $1,000 is available to each qualifying county library or member of a regional library on a matching basis of local funds appropriated for the purchase of books; an additional $500 is available to each county library or county member of a regional library without any matching requirement.

STATE AID FUNDS – USE

The first $1,000 in State Aid which is available on a matching basis of dollar per dollar of funds locally appropriated for the purchase of books:

1. To purchase books from standard lists.
2. To supplement the salary of a graduate librarian who is chief librarian of the county or regional library.

The additional $500.00 which requires no matching by local funds:

1. To purchase books from standard lists.
2. To supplement the salary of a graduate librarian who is either the chief librarian of the county or regional library or the head of the county department in one of the larger county systems.
4. Rebinding books.
5. To purchase actual library equipment as distinct from furniture or office equipment. Such equipment includes catalog cases, vertical files, dictionary stands, magazine racks, book trucks, metal bookmobile stop signs, library signs (to identify main library and branches). It may also be used to supplement local funds for the purchase of a new bookmobile.

STATE AID FUNDS MAY NOT BE USED

State Aid funds may not be used for:

1. The salary of a worker who is not a graduate librarian.
2. Rent for library buildings; construction or repairs to buildings; office equipment; library furniture such as tables and chairs; operating expenses such as light, heat, etc.
3. Travel.
4. Publicity other than the metal bookmobile stop signs and identifying library signs.
5. Supplies, janitor supplies or cleaning equipment.

Libraries in charge of a trained professional librarian will receive State Aid as a direct cash allotment. County libraries in charge of librarians without the full pro-
fessional training or its equivalent will receive State Aid in the form of books or equipment. This difference is made in State Aid distribution in order to help the sub-professional librarian with book selection and to free her from as much of the technical process of book preparation as possible in order that she may devote more of her time to giving direct service to the people of her county.

SELA Meeting

The 15th biennial of the Southeastern Library Association will be held October 30, 31, November 1, 1952 at the Biltmore Hotel, Atlanta, Georgia. Programs dealing with the various problems of public, college and school libraries of the Southeastern region have been planned. The Trustees' Section will hold a special meeting on October 31, at 1:30 o'clock. Other program scheduling will be announced later. Librarians and Trustees planning to attend the conference should make their reservations immediately. The Biltmore Hotel will be the headquarters for the meeting but other hotels in the immediate vicinity of the Atlanta Biltmore are now making reservations for the meeting. These hotels are: the Georgian Terrace Hotel, 659 Peachtree Street, N. E.; Peachtree Manor Hotel, 826 Peachtree Street; Cox Carlton, 683 Peachtree Street, N. E.

Around the State

Mrs. Leon S. Holly, for many years librarian of the Aiken Library retired July 1st. Miss Josephine Crouch has been Acting Librarian for the past few months.

Mrs. Blanch G. Hamer, librarian of the Marlboro County Library retired June 1st. Mrs. Dorothy Morrell has been appointed to the position.

Mrs. Mary King Mitchell, for the past year librarian of the Newberry-Saluda Regional Library, resigned to accept a position at Camp Gordon. Mrs. Joella S. Neal has been appointed librarian.

Mrs. Maude Q. Kelsey, for the past three years librarian of the Chester County Library, has accepted the position of librarian of the Shelby Library, Shelby, North Carolina.

The Florence County Library has purchased and will soon put into operation a new bookmobile. This bookmobile is larger than the present one and carries around 400 additional volumes.

Mrs. John S. Baskin, librarian of the Lee County Library in Bishopville was named South Carolina State Librarian of the year.

Mrs. Elizabeth B. Green, librarian of the Oconee County Library, Walhalla, Mrs. Marguerite Thompson, librarian of the Colleton County Library, Walterboro, and Miss Estellene Walker of the State Library Board attended the Institute for Practicing Librarians held at Emory University early in August.

Mr. James Pickering, a graduate of Emory University, has been appointed librarian of the Sumter Carnegie Library which serves Sumter County. Mr. Pickering was formerly employed at the University of North Carolina.

The new Richland County Library Building will be completed within the next few weeks. Books and equipment are already being moved into the building and the grand opening is planned sometime in early November.

Mr. O. Ray Clement has joined the staff of the University of South Carolina as Periodicals Librarian. Mr. Clement is a graduate of the University of South Carolina and holds a M.L.S. degree from Columbia University.

Mrs. Thomas R. Jackson, a graduate of the Library School at Emory University, has joined the staff of the Education Library at the University of South Carolina.

Miss Mary Kent Seagle, a graduate of the Library School at the University of North Carolina, and Mrs. William Bryson, also a North Carolina graduate, have joined the staff of the Greenville Library. Miss Seagle will be Assistant Cataloger and Young People's Librarian and Mrs. Bryson will fill the position of Reference Librarian.

The Charleston Free Library and the Horry County Memorial Library are each having new and larger bookmobiles built. The Charleston bookmobile is similar to the Chester model and the Horry bookmobile is being constructed by a new design.

Miss Day at U.C.L.A.

By Nancy Jane Day

Supervisor of Library Services
S. C. State Department of Education

It was my good fortune to teach at the University of Southern California during the post session this summer. A group of school librarians met in a seminar to study, discuss and work out school library problems. While the majority came from California, Arizona and Colorado were represented. It was interesting to see what problems were of concern to school librarians in other sections of the country and to get their viewpoints on and understandings of school libraries in general. The group was a stimulating one.

Visits to some of the schools afforded an opportunity for seeing new school libraries. Three school libraries were visited in Long Beach, an elementary school, a technical high school and a junior high school. The elementary and high school were new. They have much the same ideas that we have concerning quarters for
school libraries and what makes these quarters functional.

In Los Angeles a visit with a number of the school librarians who were in town for the summer was most enjoyable and worth-while, while a visit to the central office, where the purchasing and cataloging of school library materials for all schools is done, proved most profitable as to ideas and methods of procedure.

The School of Education at the University of Southern California presented a number of panel discussions, two of which dealt with problems familiar to school librarians, one on pre-service and in-service training of teachers and another on status of the teacher. In school situations school librarians are considered teachers, so these are our problems also. Again the problems in California on these two subjects seem to be much the same as those we have here in South Carolina.

One of the most delightful features of the summer was working with Mrs. Frances Lander Spain who is Assistant Director of the School of Library Science. She was just back from nine months in Thailand on a Fulbright Grant. As you know, Mrs. Spain was at one time librarian and Head of the Library Science Department at Winthrop College.

Do Librarians Need Trustees?

"Do Librarians need Trustees" will be the subject of the panel discussion at the Trustees' Section, Southeastern Library Association meeting in Atlanta on October 30, 31 and November 1. The Trustees' Session will take place in the Biltmore Hotel on Friday, October 31, at 1:30 o'clock. On the panel will be

MR. BRADFORD ANSLEY, Public Relations, Emory University
MISS JANICE KEE, Public Libraries Division, A.L.A.
MR. JAMES McCAIN, Trustee, Guntersville Public Library
MISS HELEN HARRIS, Librarian, Lawson McGhee Library, Knoxville

Trustees from several South Carolina public libraries are planning to attend and participate in the meeting.

Great Books

Mr. Sterling Smith of Greenville, Great Books Leader, will present a plan at a public meeting in the Browsing Room of the Clemson College Library on September 30th for the organization of a Great Books discussion group at Clemson. The meeting is being sponsored by the local Chapter of the A.A.U.W.

The Public Librarian

By Alice I. Bryan

What kind of people are attracted to the library profession? What social and economic problems face the profession and how might they be solved?

Dr. Bryan, in her survey on material submitted by more than 3,000 public librarians throughout the country, first looks at the librarians themselves—examining in detail their characteristics, attitudes, rewards and dissatisfactions, working conditions and backgrounds in library training.

Compared with the standards adopted by the library profession, Dr. Bryan finds the educational background of many librarians to be inadequate—only 58% of the professional librarians surveyed were college graduates, only 40% had graduated from library school.

She goes on to examine public library personnel administration from the point of view of modern practices in the personnel field and finds in general that libraries are lagging seriously in the establishment of effective personnel administration machinery.

Dr. Leigh, in his section on the education of librarians, presents a picture of present educational programs, the students, and the faculty and instructional resources of the 34 accredited library schools in this country. Although he finds healthy new patterns and concepts of library training emerging, there remains a disquieting lack of uniformity in standards. Equally serious is the inadequacy of student enrollment due in part to the lack of an effective recruiting program.

The conclusions of the survey leave little doubt that inadequate salaries and lack of opportunity for advancement are the chief causes for the present widespread shortages in qualified public library personnel. A constructive program for meeting the major problems facing the profession is given in the final section of the book.

Librarians and trustees of public libraries will be interested in reading and discussing this book. If it is not available in the local library it may be borrowed from the South Carolina State Library Board, 1001 Main Street, Columbia, South Carolina.

S. C. Newspapers on Microfilm

The South Caroliniana Library of the University of South Carolina has microfilmed the following South Carolina newspapers, copies of which are available to other institutions:

Anderson Gazette, Nov. 11, 1843 - Feb. 24, 1848. Partial reel.
Columbia Daily Record, Oct. 3, 1855 - Dec. 28, 1906; June 1911; Aug. 2-12, 1912. 3 reels.
Columbia Record, June 1 - July 18, 1923.
Edgefield Advertiser, Feb. 11, 1836 - Feb. 1, 1839; Nov. 22, 1843 - Apr. 12, 1868. 7 reels.
71st Annual Conference ALA

A round dozen South Carolina Librarians and Trustees attended the Annual Conference of the American Library Association held in New York June 29 to July 5. The outstanding feature of the Convention were the excellent General Session Programs on one of which Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt was the featured speaker.

Mr. M. G. Patton, member of the State Library Board, attended the pre-conference workshop for trustees and remained in New York for the duration of the Conference. Among the public librarians attending the conference were Miss Nancy Blair, librarian of the Spartanburg Public Library, Mr. Charles Stow, librarian of the Greenville Public Library, Miss Margaret Mosimann and Mrs. Carl Koopman of the Charleston County Library. School Librarians attending the conference included Mrs. Jessie Cannon of Greenville. The Colleges of the state were represented by Miss Cornelia Graham and Miss Sidell Ellis of the Clemson College Library, and Mr. Carl Koopman of The Citadel Library. Mrs. Virginia Moody of the State Library and Miss Lois Barbare, Assistant Executive Secretary of the State Library Board, represented libraries at state level. Miss Virginia Rugheimer attended for the Charleston Library Society.

New Building for the Calhoun County Library

The Calhoun County Library which for many years has been housed in a county office building will move early in 1953 into new quarters. A handsome old residence in St. Matthews, one of the oldest houses in the town, has been purchased and sufficient money appropriated to completely restore it and make the necessary alterations to turn it into a library building designed for county library service. The building will also house the Calhoun County Historical Commission which will occupy separate quarters in the building. There will be a small auditorium which will seat around one hundred people and will provide a meeting place for clubs and groups.

The building is being planned for economy in administration. The children's room, young people's reading room, adult reading room and reference room can all be easily supervised from a central desk. A bookmobile loading platform with immediate access to the book area is being provided to simplify the administration of the rural service. The Calhoun County Library Board is planning to make the interior of the building attractive by using furniture and color in keeping with the period of the building.

School Librarians Please Note

This Fall, the Department of Library Science, through the Extension Division, will offer Saturday classes on the campus to enable the librarians of our State to earn credit in their highly specialized field.

LIBRARY GUIDANCE FOR TEACHERS. Library Science 111, will be offered with meetings on Saturdays only. The class will meet from 9 A.M. to 11 A.M. First meeting, September 18, 1953. Three hours residence credit may be earned.

S. C. Federation of Women's Clubs

REPORT OF LIBRARY DIVISION 1951-52

Mary E. Frayer, Chairman

Enrich your community through library progress is the slogan of the Library Division. Sixty-six clubs reported having done so in 1951-52.

Some helped in establishing libraries in communities without and others gave regional and county libraries intelligent support. For the best library promotional work in communities with little or no library service awards were made to:

FIRST: THE HOLLY HILL BOOK CLUB, Holly Hill, Mrs. T. B. Bull, President. This club works with its county library. It sponsors the only library in Holly Hill including the salary of a librarian to operate it two days a week.

SECOND: CONGENIAL STUDY CLUB, Pageland, Mrs. C. M. Tucker, Jr., President. In working out a Youth Program the club realized one of the great needs of their community was a library. It appealed to the State Library Board and to local citizens for a place from which to circulate the books loaned by the Board. A Club member gave a corner in her florist shop and agreed to oversee the loan of books for which the club had book cases made.

THIRD: ESTILL READING CLUB, Estill, Mrs. F. W. Ellis, President. The club is responsible for the existence of the Estill Library. It cooperates with the Allendale-Hampton-Jasper Regional Library which makes loan book deposits to it monthly. The club holds two meetings annually to which the public is invited.

Reports from clubs working with well-established county libraries were also received.

To the LANCASTER STUDY CLUB, Mrs. J. U. Bell, Jr., President, first award for work of this type is due: "Promotion of Lancaster County Library has been one of the most interesting projects of the year. The club has an active Library Chairman and other committee chairmen have participated in work at the library and for the library". Exhibits covering vital questions were sponsored, photographed, and publicized in the Lancaster News: public discussions were promoted and the resources of the library kept constantly before the public through club effort.

In 1952-53 two awards will be offered: One to clubs working with small community libraries, the other to clubs cooperating with county and regional libraries.

Mitchell Reames

Mr. J. Mitchell Reames, for several years Reference Librarian at Clemson College, has accepted the position of Assistant Librarian at the Russell Library, Northwestern State College, Natchitoches, Louisiana. As Assistant Librarian he will be in charge of the Public Service Division of the Library.

Mr. Reames is a native of South Carolina. He graduated from the Library School of the University of North Carolina and has done graduate library work at the University of Michigan. While in South Carolina he held several offices in the State Library Association and was president of that organization for one year. At the time of his leaving he was the ALA Councillor for South Carolina.