South Carolina Library Bulletin v.9 n.2 06/1954

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Abstract
South Carolina Library Bulletin v.9 n.2 06/1954

Keywords
South Carolina Library Association
State Aid for 1954-55

The South Carolina State Library Board was granted an appropriation of $101,638 for the fiscal year 1954-55. Of this amount $73,000 will go back to the counties either as State Aid to county and regional libraries or in book deposits to counties still without countywide service. The General Assembly granted an increase in the appropriation for State Aid to take care of the two new county libraries, Barnwell and Dorchester, but failed to appropriate sufficient funds to make possible a general increase in State Aid to all county and regional libraries. The amount of State Aid available to each county library meeting the requirements remains at $1,500.

The requirements that must be met by county or regional libraries to qualify for State Aid remain unchanged for the coming year. One new requirement and the revision of a present requirement are proposed for the fiscal year 1955-56. Library Boards have been informed of the proposed changes which are as follows:

PROPOSED CHANGES IN STATE AID AGREEMENT FOR 1955-56
(Does not affect Agreement for 1954-55)

County libraries in charge of a professional librarian may receive up to $1,500 in direct allotment of funds provided that at least $1,000 of locally appropriated money is spent for books. County libraries in charge of a subprofessional librarian may submit book orders totaling $1,500 provided that at least $1,000 of locally appropriated funds is spent for books. PROVIDED that in no case shall the State’s participation exceed 1/4 of the total library budget.

To provide that the library shall be administered by a legally appointed board of trustees which shall hold at least four meetings annually to one of which meetings a member of the staff of the State Library Board shall be invited.

* * * * *

County and regional libraries now serve all but seven of the State’s 46 counties. Counties still without countywide service include: Beaufort, Chesterfield, Clarendon, Bamberg, Edgefield, McCormick and Williamsburg. Limited public library service is available in all these counties through municipal or township libraries.

S. C. Welcomes Frances Reid

Miss Frances B. Reid will arrive in South Carolina August 16th to take over the duties of Field Service Librarian on the staff of the State Library Board. Miss Reid is a native of South Carolina. She is a graduate of Erskine and holds a degree in Library Science from Pea-

(Continued on page 2)
sessions during the conference were: 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.

A pre-conference Library Buildings Institute was held in St. Paul June 19 and 20, jointly sponsored by the ALA Buildings Committee, ACRL Buildings Committee, AASL Planning School Library Quarters Committee, DLCYP Design and Equipment Committee, and the PLD Architecture Committee. Miss Emily Sanders, Librarian, and Mrs. Girdler B. Fitch, Chairman of the Board of the Charleston Free Library attended the Institute.

Close to 250 meetings on all phases of librarianship were held throughout the conference, surrounding the general sessions and council meetings.

The Newbery-Caldecott Dinner, annually a social highlight of the conference, at which winners of the noted awards for children's book are feted, was held on Tuesday, June 22. The Friends of Libraries Committee luncheon meeting was held on Tuesday, June 22, with the speaker Harry W. Schacter, originator of the Kentucky Bookmobile project and a panel discussion of Friends' activities in various localities.

Among South Carolina librarians attending the conference were Mrs. Virginia Moody, State Librarian; Nancy Jane Day, Supervisor of School Libraries; Mrs. Ben P. Aiken, librarian of the State Hospital; Estellene Walker, Executive Secretary of the State Library Board; and Mr. J. W. G. Gourlay, librarian of Clemson College.

Author Trustee

Mrs. Grace Fox Perry, a member of the Board of the Allendale-Hampton-Jasper Regional Library, is the author of the new novel "Wall Within the Orbit" which was published in March by the Dial Press. Mrs. Perry is the second member of the regional board to author a book. Mrs. Isabel Patterson, Chairman of the Board, is the author of "Builders of Freedom and Their Descendants" which was published last year by the R. L. Bryan Company.

From the President

The following message from President Eisenhower was read at the opening of the 73rd annual conference of the American Library Association in Minneapolis:

"The first professional concern of the men and women who attend the American Library Association Conference is the increase of sound information and wide knowledge throughout our country. In these days of ideological conflict, the enemies of freedom use every weapon in a relentless war to win domination over men's minds. Ignorance, the prejudices and fears and hates that breed in lack of the truth — these evils facilitate their campaigns on a worldwide front. But free access to knowledge and truth — an essential principle in the American tradition — will thwart their designs of deceit and propaganda.

"Through generations, observance of that principle has been characteristic of our way of life. The rewards are manifest on every page of our history. Today, self interest demands that we strive mightily to strengthen at home every source of knowledge, for thereby we strengthen America. Those whose lives are dedicated to the furtherance of knowledge should search all the resources at their command for new means to communicate to the world the truth about America, its purposes and hopes. The cause of freedom among men, of a cooperative peace among nations, will prevail only in the knowledge and the understanding so brought about.

"The members of the American Library Association, guardians and missionaries of knowledge, contribute greatly to this noble cause. My best wishes go to them, gathered in Conference."

Lila Grier Honored

Miss Lila Grier, for many years head librarian at Dreher High School, Columbia, retired in June. She was uniquely honored by the student body at their annual awards program. In appreciation for her services to the school and for her many kindnesses to them, the seniors dedicated their school annual to Miss Grier. The student body presented her a silver tray and a check with which to take a trip. The deep regard which the students felt for Miss Grier was in evidence as they spontaneously rose to their feet and applauded when she spoke her appreciation to them.

Miss Grier was one of the pioneers in the school library movement in South Carolina. She has made many contributions to its development, and her interest will continue as she works on various committees and projects.

S. C. WELCOMES FRANCES REID

(Continued from page 1)
Springs Presents Rare Books to Lancaster Public Library

Elliott Springs has just presented to the Lancaster Public Library five rare and valuable books on behalf of his cousin, Richard Austin Springs, Jr., who requested that the volumes be given to the library as a memorial to his father from whose collection they came.

These books are:

“A Description of the English Province of Carolina” by Daniel Coxe, printed for and sold by Olive Payne, at Horace’s Head in Pope’s-Head Alley, Cornhill, opposite the Royal Exchange, 1741.

“A Description of that Fertile and Pleasant Province of Carolina” by John Archdale, late governor of the same, London, printed in 1707.


A two-volume set of “The Natural History of Carolina, Florida, and The Bahama Islands” by Mark Catesby, bound in elephant hide, and containing many hand painted plates of birds, animals, and fishes, together with maps of the region.

New Department of Archives

Dr. Harold Easterby, Director

The state of South Carolina finally has evolved what gives promise of being a workable system of handling its public records. This system is outlined in an act which was passed during the last hours of the 1954 session of the General Assembly and approved by Governor Byrnes on March 26.

The new law (1) changes the name of the records department from the “Historical Commission of South Carolina” to the “South Carolina Archives Department”, (2) provides that heads of state agencies and properly authorized county officials may offer for transfer to the Archives Department any records in their custody “not needed for the transaction of current business”, (3) automatically transfers to the Archives Department the records of defunct state agencies, and (4) sets up an Archives Council, consisting of the Secretary of State, Attorney General and State Auditor, which will have the final word in deciding whether records shall be permanently preserved or destroyed.

The sponsors of the new records legislation point out that the change of name will serve to make it more generally known that the department is not designed to serve merely as an information center but that its principal function is to aid the state and the counties in handling their records. They also assert that a central depository in which non-current records may be stored, but always made available for reference, will encourage the preservation of many that would otherwise have to be discarded, and will greatly reduce the cost of servicing those records that are selected for preservation.

Finally, they maintain that the new law provides a method of distinguishing between valuable records that ought to be permanently preserved and those that have little, or no value after their original purpose has been served and therefore should be destroyed.

When a department head or county official decides that certain records in his custody should be transferred to the Archives Department, he may suggest that particular groups be destroyed. If the Archives Department feels that destruction would be unwise, it will ask permission either to retain the originals or to preserve microfilm copies of them. If, on the other hand, it agrees that they will have no value in the future, a recommendation to this effect will be submitted to the Archives Council. According to the new law, approval by this body, will be authorization for destruction. This procedure, it is believed, provides sufficient safeguards to prevent the destruction of records that have any value whatsoever but nevertheless make it possible for the state to reduce the ever increasing volume of modern records.

The Archives Department will continue to perform such additional duties as the publication of the older records of the state, the encouragement of the marking of historic sites, and the promotion of research in the fields of South Carolina history, genealogy, and archaeology. It will be administered by the same board which in the past directed the affairs of the Historical Commission.

Pulitzer Prizes Awarded

The thirty-seventh annual Pulitzer Prize awards were announced by the trustees of Columbia University on May 4. There was no award for fiction this year since the board felt that 1953 had produced no novel by an American author that merited the distinction. It was the third time since 1918 that the award for fiction was withheld.

John Patrick’s play, “Teahouse of the August Moon,” based on the Vern Sneider novel, received the drama award. Putnam, the publishers of the novel, will bring out Mr. Patrick’s dramatic version on June 17.


Bruce Catton’s “A Stillness at Appomattox” received the award for United States history. The book, published by Doubleday, is the final volume in the author’s Civil War trilogy.


New Scholarship Fund

The South Carolina High School Library Association which is made up of student library assistants has raised $625 to begin a scholarship fund for college juniors or seniors who are taking library science and plan to be school librarians in South Carolina. The first of these scholarships will be available for the school year 1955-56. The members of S. C. H. S. L. A. hope to add to this fund each year. Dunbar Godbold of Columbia High School is chairman of the committee which will announce regulations governing the scholarships. Miss Nancy Burge is adviser to the committee. It is particularly hoped that former members of S. C. H. S. L. A. will make application for these scholarships.
U. of S. C. Library Science Department

Beginning in September, the University of South Carolina will offer a full time program on the undergraduate level for the training of school librarians. The department in library science will be in the school of education. During the fall semester, courses in school library organization and administration and book selection will be offered. An announcement will be made later about the courses for the spring semester. Miss Nancy Burge who was acting Supervisor of Library Service with the State Department of Education during the past year will teach these classes.

Charleston Plans New Building

Plans for a new building for the Charleston Free Library of Charleston County are being drawn up by Marion B. Halsey, architect, who has been engaged by the Charleston Board to do the preliminary planning.

The site of the new building has not yet been selected, and for this reason, it is difficult to predict when the plans will be completed. At present, a site near the center of the shopping district is being considered.

Miss Emily Sanders, Mrs. Girdler B. Fitch, president of the library board, and Mr. Halsey attended a library-building institute in St. Paul, Minnesota and are holding numerous conferences with librarians who have had recent experience in completing a library building.

Student Loan Fund

The Student Loan Fund, approved by the South Carolina Library Association at the 1953 meeting, is being used this summer. Marvin Lamb, Assistant in the Periodical Room, McKissick Library, University of South Carolina, is attending the School of Library Science at Syracuse University.

Because the first loan was made for a summer term, some funds will be available for study at an A.L.A. accredited library school for the fall term. Applications should be made to John Goodman, Clemson College Library, Clemson.

Librarian of Congress

The Council of the American Library Association, policy-making body of the organization of more than 20,000 librarians, Monday (June 21) adopted a resolution which "enthusiastically commends President Eisenhower's nomination of Lawrence Quincy Mumford to the Librarian of Congress."

The resolution added that ALA "earnestly hopes that the Senate will soon confirm this nomination."

The action was taken at the first Council meeting of the 73rd annual conference of ALA in Minneapolis. Mumford, Librarian of the Cleveland Public Library, was installed as President of ALA at the concluding session of the conference on Friday (June 25). He was named Librarian of Congress by President Eisenhower in April and the Senate is expected to act shortly on confirmation.

New Building for Bishopville

The Lee County Library dedicated its new headquarters building in Bishopville on March 22nd. The building is a memorial to the late Mrs. Blanche Tarrant Woodward. The building and the park in which it stands is a gift from the late Hosea W. Woodward.

The building is located in the very center of Bishopville. The design is modern and the furnishings were selected in keeping. A large parking lot in the rear of the building will be maintained for the convenience of patrons.

So far as is known, the Lee County Library is the first library that ever moved from one new library building into another new building. Four years ago, the county completed a building for the Lee County Library. It had been open only a short time when it was learned that Mr. Woodward had left land and money for a library building. The "old" building, which is also in an excellent location, will probably be used for a youth center.

Point of Order

The Southeastern Library Association will meet at the Atlanta-Biltmore Hotel in Atlanta September 29-October 2.

Miss Jean Brabham, Librarian of the Anderson Public Library, was married on June 12th to Mr. Walter McKinney of Anderson.

Miss Martha Smith, Librarian of the Florence Public Library, was married in April to Mr. John C. Johnson of Marion. The Johnsons are now living in Sheffield, Alabama.

The Aiken County Library will soon open a new branch library in Jackson.

The Dillon County Library has recently completed an addition to the headquarters library in Latta. The whole building has been renovated and air-conditioned.

The Lexington County Library is planning the purchase of a second bookmobile to extend and improve rural service.

Mrs. Joella S. Neel, Librarian of the Newberry-Saluda Regional Library, is attending the graduate library school at Peabody this summer.

Plans are being drawn up for the complete renovation and a large addition to the Rock Hill Public Library.

Flint Norwood, assistant on the bookmobile of the Richland County Library, will enter the graduate library school at Chapel Hill this fall.

Mrs. Kate Mellichamp Gaillard (Mrs. Watson L. Gail- lard) died at her home in Charleston, Sunday, May 23, 1954. She was born May 26, 1886 at Florence, and had been Assistant Librarian of The Citadel since 1924.

Retirements

Miss Tommie Dora Barker will retire at the end of August, 1954, as Director of the Division of Librarian-ship of Emory University. Miss Evalene Parsons Jackson, Associate Professor and member of the faculty since 1936, has been appointed Director of the Division to replace Miss Barker, and will assume her new duties on September 1, 1954.

Miss Susan Gray Akers, for many years Dean of the Library School at the University of North Carolina, is retiring this summer. Her successor has not been appointed.
Public Libraries in S. C.
Estellene P. Walker, Executive Secretary
S. C. State Library Board, Columbia

South Carolina is proud of its present system of county and regional libraries which now serve all but seven of the State's 46 counties. The establishment of public libraries on a county or region wide basis goes back to the early days of the Colony when the Charlestown Commissioners wrote in their library rules in 1698: "Books should be carried into the home. Standing libraries signify little in this country where persons must ride miles to look into a book. There should be lending libraries which come home to them without charge." The early history of public libraries in South Carolina is fascinating. Recorded in the Journals of the Commons House of Assembly of South Carolina during two sessions in 1698 are numerous mentions of public libraries, among them the appropriation of fifty-three pounds to be paid in London for "books belonging to ye Library of Charles Towne in Carolina." In November of 1698 Jonathan Amory was ordered to "lay out in Drest Skinnys to ye value of Seventy Pounds Current Money . . . for ye payment of fifty three pounds yet due on a Public Library . . . the surplus to be Lay out in such books for ye Library that are not alreadly Mentioned in the Catalogue of ye said Library."

As in the other colonies, the early public libraries were mainly subscription libraries. The libraries in Beaufort, Charleston, Walterboro and Georgetown were outstanding for the period. Libraries continued to flourish up to the time of the War Between the States. Only the libraries in Charleston and Georgetown survived the conflict. The library in Beaufort was shipped by the Northern Army to New York as confiscated Rebel property where it was subsequently advertised for public auction. This sale was stopped and the library moved for safe keeping to the Smithsonian in Washington where it was subsequently burned. It is a matter of interest that Beaufort only recently was reimbursed by the Federal Government for the loss of this library. After the War there was no money for libraries. Not until the early nineteen hundreds when the Federated Womens Clubs took up the project was any progress made. The present public library program started in the 1920's and is the direct result of the interest, energy and determination of Miss Mary E. Frayser who spared no effort to make possible books and reading for the people of the State. Miss Frayser, a rural sociologist engaged in the Agricultural Extension Program, left no stone unturned until the State had a good public library law and had authorized the establishment of a library extension agency.

During the depression in the 1930's, the WPA established and maintained an excellent public library program. Bookmobiles were put on the road, county libraries established and thousands of new books poured into the public libraries. The present library extension program owes much to the pioneering work done under the WPA Program. At the close of that program, the Legislature appropriated a small amount of money to establish and maintain a state library extension agency known as the State Library Board. In the ten years since the establishment of the State Library Board, public library income has increased 339%, library service has been extended to some 743,628 persons, the bookstock of all public libraries has more than doubled, and the annual circulation of books has been increased by over a million and a half. The greatest accomplishment has been the establishment or maintenance of county or regional libraries which serve 39 counties through headquarters, branches, stations and bookmobiles.

American Library Association's Minimum Salary Standards (1952)

BECAUSE of continued requests for salary statistics to help public libraries in bringing their salaries into line with increased living costs, A.L.A.'s revised minimum library salary standards are given below.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE (Grades 1-8)

<table>
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<th>Grade</th>
<th>Step 1</th>
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<th>Step 3</th>
<th>Step 4</th>
<th>Step 5</th>
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<td>420</td>
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</table>

The minimum annual beginning salary for the lowest class of professional library position should be not less than $3,294.

The minimum annual entering salary for subprofessional, clerical, and other classes of nonprofessional positions should be at least equal to the average prevailing entering rates for similar positions in government, in business, in industry, or in other institutions in the same community or economic region.

Minimum entering salaries for all other classes of positions in the professional service in libraries should be not less than the minimum rates adopted by the ALA Council for positions of these grades.

New Aid

The long awaited County and Regional Library Development by Gretchen K. Schenk was released by the American Library Association, Chicago, on January 2.

As most people laboring the extension vineyard know, Miss Schenk is an authority with a wide scope of grassroots experience in the work. Her book discusses the administration and operation of county and regional libraries, the basis for large unit libraries, their place in the community and their relation to local government. She tells how to conduct campaigns for the establishment of these library systems and points out dangers to avoid based on past experiences. The book contains excellent chapters on bookmobile and special services, personnel, and public relations. It has an appendix and a selected bibliography.

An eminently practical volume.
Oconee County Library Opens Reading Room for Negroes

The Oconee County Library recently opened its new reading room for colored residents of the county at the Walhalla headquarters of the library. The opening of the new service was attended by colored residents from the entire county.

The service to colored residents will be under the direction of Mrs. Elizabeth B. Green, librarian of the Oconee County Library. The book collection is carefully selected and is made up of books purchased with local funds and a large loan collection from the State Library Board.

City-County Cooperation

The Anderson County Library Board has authorized the use of its bookmobile to serve mill communities within the corporate limits of Anderson. The mills to be served include the Orr and Textron Mills.

Mrs. Jean Brabham McKinney, librarian of the Anderson Public Library, said that the county bookmobile would be used once a week for service to these places and to the Gluck Mill schoolhouse where a new circulation center is to be started.

Mrs. Emma S. Cole, county librarian, will accompany Mrs. McKinney on the bookmobile for this city service.

Institute on County and Regional Library Services

An Institute on County and Regional Library Service was held by the Graduate School of Library Service of Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey, June 7 through 11.

Primary attention was given in the Institute to practical, constructive means for improving county and regional libraries, from questions of government and management to service out in rural areas. Formal presentations by experts from inside and outside the library profession were followed by brief prepared statements by selected participants in the Institute and then by organized group discussion.

Mrs. Elizabeth B. Williams, librarian of the Chester County Library, was among the sixty librarians who attended the Institute. Mrs. Williams found the programs of the Institute most helpful and enjoyed her contacts with other librarians interested in county and regional service.

“Keep Colleton County Green” Reading Club

Four hundred and eighty-four youngsters are helping to “Keep Colleton County Green” this summer. They are doing so as members of the Smokey Bear reading club at the County Library.

These young people are having fun with their reading and, at the same time, are absorbing facts about forestry and forest fire prevention. These facts they are taking home with them to all sections of the town and the county.

Most of the 484 boys and girls have read the two booklets, “Smokey Bear’s Story of the Forest” and “A Visit to the Forest with Woody.” Each reader ties a green leaf on a tree after he has read and reported on five books. Some readers have placed one leaf on the tree, while others have tied on many leaves.

According to Forester J. H. McLees, the activities of this reading club are being watched by the State Forestry Service and the South Carolina Library Board. Its success here means possibly its recommendation as a state wide project for South Carolina next year.

Mrs. Marguerite G. Thompson, Librarian, states that the County Library decided to use the idea because of its sure-fire appeal to the youngsters. The incentive was the organization of an active “Keep Colleton County Green” committee. Enthusiastic response was given by representatives of the State Forestry Department and the South Carolina Library Board. They cooperated in securing materials for reading and exhibits.

The Smokey Bear Reading Club closes at the County Library on July 30, with a program planned to be held at a local theater.

From: The Press and Standard, Walterboro, S. C.

New Book for Trustees

The Trustees Section of the Public Library Division of A.L.A. announces that they will publish a new manual for trustees at an early date. The manual is tentatively entitled “The Challenge of Public Library Trusteeship.” It will be published by the R. R. Bowker Company.

Who? Me?

Oh, yes, it’s a lovely new building.
And there is a lot of new stuff about the place,
But what did the man mean,
When he came to the desk and said,
It’s nice to see an Old Face?
Napier.

Federal Aid Programs Studied in S. C.

A six-man team studying “the impact and reaction” to federal grants-in-aid in South Carolina finished its report the last of May.

Dr. Robert S. Rankin, chairman of Duke University’s political science department who is in charge of the project, said the study concerns welfare, health, education, roads, labor and housing grants. It began March 1 under the Governmental Affairs Institute.

The institute, an affiliate of the American Political Science Assn., made the study on a contractual basis with the commission on inter-governmental affairs.

The commission, which was appointed by President Eisenhower, originally chose South Carolina as one of five states for the check into federal-state relations.

Rankin said the report on South Carolina contains no recommendations “but we will express opinions.” He added that the study progressed smoothly because “we’ve had nothing but real cooperation in South Carolina.”

Political science teachers from Duke and the University of South Carolina make up the remainder of the group.