Abstract
South Carolina Library Bulletin v.9 n.4 02/1955

Keywords
South Carolina Library Association

This complete issue is available in South Carolina Libraries: https://scholarcommons.sc.edu/scl_journal/vol0/iss35/1
SCLA Meeting

GOALS TO GO IN SOUTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES may sound like past history to those who attended the annual SCLA conference in Charleston on October 30th and 31st. To members who were elected to offices or were named to committees, however, it is still a live topic and the Association is promised further reports and recommendations on the subject.

The Charleston meeting, with the able and inspiring guidance of Dr. Lowell A. Martin, presented an over-all picture of library development in South Carolina, and discussed specific problems with a plan of action as the ultimate goal. While no total program evolved, the sections made plans for concerted action throughout the year.

The college and university section elected Alfred Rawlinson, University of South Carolina librarian, as its chairman for the year. They also elected a committee to examine activities before the next meeting and be ready to recommend a plan of action to the section at that time. Suggestions included:

(1) Investigation of possibilities of exchange of duplicate material.
(2) Possibility of the publication of Index of the 40 volume S. C. Historical and Genealogical Magazine.
(3) Work on a method of gathering statistics at the state level.
(4) Possibility of having a working list of periodical holdings of college libraries in the state.

The public library section elected Mrs. Marguerite G. Thompson, librarian, Colleton County Library, Walterboro, as chairman, and Miss Lorena Miller, librarian, Lexington County Library, Batesburg, as named secretary. After a discussion of problems with possible solutions, the group recommended that a committee on standards be appointed to report at the 1955 annual meeting.

Officers of the school library section will be those of the school library section of the South Carolina Education Association. The chairman is Martha Jones, librarian, St. John's High School, Darlington. Discussion in the section meeting defined the type of service needed in school libraries, and suggested ways and means to achieve such service. The group recommended that a committee be appointed to study the report and make specific recommendations.

Mrs. W. L. Norton of the Oconee County Library Board, Walhalla, was elected chairman of the trustee section. With the exception of a luncheon meeting, trustees met with the public library section.

(Continued on page 2)

Public Library Service Growing

Public library service in South Carolina continues to improve and expand. According to the eleventh report of the South Carolina State Library Board which was recently published 76,486 more people have library facilities, books, periodicals and reference departments than in any previous year.

All but seven counties are served by libraries which give countywide service. The number of books increased by 100,488 during the year and the present number of volumes in the public libraries of the State is 1,356,066.

The total public library income was $919,409 for 1953-54 which is a slight decrease from the previous all time high of $929,557 in 1952-53.

Over five million books were borrowed by the people of South Carolina from their public libraries. Forty-four bookmobiles are operated by the county and regional libraries.

In spite of continued progress, 479,716 South Carolina citizens still have no public library service; book stocks remain at slightly over one-half book per capita; seven counties as yet do not have countywide library service; and existing county library service is of varying degrees of excellence. Per capita expenditure for public library service (43c) is far below the American Library Association's recommended standard for minimum service of $1.50 per capita.

Public libraries of the State work under difficulties because of a lack of adequately trained staff and staff of sufficient number to carry on all of the activities of a modern public library program. Book stocks remain too small to furnish the quantity and variety of book material needed by the readers. Fundamental to both the problem of personnel and book stock is that of library finance which remains far too low to provide the services that the public now expects. The present per capita expenditure of 43c will have to be increased considerably before public libraries are able to give the service their communities need and request.

ALA Midwinter Meeting

The ALA Midwinter meeting was held at the Edgewater Beach Hotel in Chicago January 31-February 5. The Midwinter meeting is a business meeting of the ALA and of its divisions. Three meetings of the council were held and the various sections and divisions and round tables held business meetings. Prior to the conference two workshops, one for library association officers and the other for state agency personnel, were held.

Attending the conference from S. C. were Nancy Jane Day, Supv. of School Lib. Serv.; Nancy Burge, instr. in lib. sc. at the Univ. of S. C.; and Estelline Walker, ALA council member from S. C.
Senator Olin D. Johnston Sponsors Library Services Bill

Senator Olin D. Johnston is sponsoring the Library Services Bill (S205) which was introduced in the Senate on Monday, January 10 by Senator Lister Hill of Alabama. The identical bill introduced in the House on January 24 has the sponsorship of twenty-three members. The unusually early introduction of the bill into Congress is extremely favorable to its passage. Bipartisan support is assured through the active interest of members of both parties.

The Library Services Bill, should it pass, will mean a great deal to South Carolina. Under the terms of the 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 of $171,214 from federal funds. The State Library Board would submit a plan for the use of the funds to the Commissioner of Education and the program would be administered by the State Library Board.

Provisions of the bill are summarized in the following statement issued by the A.L.A. Washington Office:

Purpose: To promote the further development of public library services in rural areas without such services or with inadequate service.

Provisions:
1. This bill is an authorization for an appropriation of $7,500,000 a year for a five-year period.
2. The money is allotted to the states on a matching basis. Each state would receive a basic allotment of $40,000, plus additional funds based on the rural population of the state as compared to the rural population of the United States. This money is matched by the state on the basis of the per capita income of the state as compared to the national per capita income.
3. To receive funds each state must prepare a state plan for the further extension of public library services to be submitted to the Commissioner of Education.

4. The Commissioner of Education shall administer the program under the Library Services Act.
   a. He shall approve the state plans if submitted to him by the authorized state agency and if the plan complies with specifications set forth in the act.
   b. He shall receive such reports from the state library administrative agency as he may from time to time reasonably require to make such studies, investigations and reports as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purpose of this act, including periodic reports for public distribution as to the values, methods and results of various state demonstrations of public library services to rural areas.

**SCLA DUES ARE DUE AGAIN**

Personal dues of $2.00 should be sent to Charles E. Stow, Treasurer, Greenville Public Library, Greenville, South Carolina.

(Continued from page 1)

The Association voted to apply to the A.L.A. for chapter redesignation, and voted to increase personal dues to $2.00 annually. An amendment to the by-laws gives sections the authority to name their officers, a duty formerly of the Executive Committee.

Officers for the calendar year 1955 are president, Nancy Burge, Department of Library Science, School of Education, University of South Carolina; vice-president and president-elect, Robert C. Tucker, librarian, Furman University Library, Greenville; secretary, Mary Grey Withers, librarian, Wardlaw Junior High School, Columbia; and treasurer, Charles E. Stow, librarian, Greenville Public Library, Greenville.
Social Security and State Retirement System

A bill has been introduced in the General Assembly to make federal social security benefits available to all persons under the State Retirement System, and to blend the two plans into one. The combined benefits would affect 75,000 persons, including all public library employees in the state who are now covered by the State Retirement System.

"The proposed coordinated plan, providing the state retirement allowance plus Social Security, would provide an adequate retirement for every member of the State Retirement System — at a nominal additional cost which members and employers could afford," according to Tatum Gressette, director of the State Retirement System. Mr. Gressette initiated the movement to bring Social Security into the retirement picture.

The proposed dual coverage will provide an almost perfect retirement system, since the main features of the present state system will be preserved under the new plan. The main features of the state plan are: (1) refund of contributions, (2) the disability retirement allowance, (3) the deferred annuity allowance and (4) the optional payment plans. Under the dual plan state employees would obtain from Social Security one important provision which the state system lacks — survivor benefits for families, benefits which protect the family should its bread-winner die prior to retirement. Social Security also has an excellent feature for elderly members of the State Retirement System who are approaching retirement age and who have had short service on small salaries.

Persons employed by the state, and by counties and municipalities are eligible for Social Security only after the state has complied with the prescribed federal requirements. One of these requirements is that a referendum be conducted among the members of the retirement system. The bills introduced in the General Assembly provide for such a vote among the members. A majority of them must vote in favor of accepting Social Security before the plan can be put into effect.

Once a majority of the members have voted in favor of the plan and other federal requirements are met, the governor of the state certifies to this and the state-federal agreement can go into effect.

In the event that the bills now in the General Assembly are passed, the ultimate decision will be up to the members of the State Retirement System. They can vote in favor of it and thereby become participants in Social Security, or they can vote against it. That would mean continuance only of the existing state plan. A vote in favor of incorporating Social Security would clear the way for the dual plan, including the state system's benefits plus the benefits of Federal Social Security.

On the evening of January 7, 1955 Winthrop College Library sponsored a panel discussion of the controversial book by Arthur Bestor entitled "Educational Wastelands, the Retreat from Learning in the Public Schools".

Faculty, students, and townspeople composed the audience of approximately 300. Four faculty members were on the panel.

Williamsburg County Interested in Library Service

Under the sponsorship of the Hemingway Parent-Teacher Association, a meeting was held in Hemingway to discuss the possibility of establishing public library service in Williamsburg County. At this meeting Miss Estellene Walker, Executive Secretary of the South Carolina State Library Board, was the guest speaker. Several possibilities of establishing public library service in the county and in Hemingway were explored and at the conclusion of Miss Walker's speech, Mrs. James W. Huggins made the motion that the Association either sponsor or co-sponsor with another civic organization an investigation into the possibilities of specific types of library services that could be made available to both the county and community. Mrs. Huggins' motion was carried.

Williamsburg County has been slow in establishing countywide service because of its low taxable property value, large area and a population which is almost entirely rural.

Book Week in South Carolina

Book Week, November 14-20, was celebrated by public, school and college libraries throughout the State. Special displays of children's books and exhibits of prize-winning adult books, story hours, library open houses, and club programs were part of the celebration made by libraries to commemorate Book Week.

The Aiken County Library celebrated Book Week with displays of picture books, books for young readers, books for intermediate boys and girls and for teen-agers. A special display of books for adults was also exhibited.

At the Anderson Public Library, in addition to book displays, a special election was held by the children to elect the President of the World of Books. The list of candidates included Babar, the elephant, Ferdinand, the bull, King Arthur, Robin Hood and several others.

The Berkeley County Library held an exhibit of the water colors of John M. Waddell, Jr., a local artist. A Mother Goose story hour was held and many of the children who attended came dressed as their favorite story book characters.

New books were on display throughout the Cherokee County Public Library system. A feature of the Book Week celebration was the visit to the library and branches by school classes.

The Colleton County Library celebrated Book Week with displays in the library and in a local store window. Emphasis was put on good reading for children.

The Georgetown County Library had an exhibit of new children's books and books published abroad for children. The library was attractively decorated for the Book Week celebration.

The Newberry-Saluda Regional Library celebrated Book Week with a display of the prize-winning Newberry and Caldecott books. During the week a story hour was initiated which will be a weekly feature of the library's program. The stories are being told by Miss Mary Timberlake, librarian of the Newberry College Library.
Chesterfield County Considers County Library Plan

At the direction of the Chesterfield County Delegation, the County Board of Education is studying the possibilities of establishing county-wide library service in Chesterfield County. On November 8th a meeting was held in Chesterfield which was attended by representatives from each of the larger communities in the county at which time the possibilities of establishing county-wide service were thoroughly explored.

At present there are small libraries in Cheraw and Pageland with another soon to open in Chesterfield. The State Library Board serves these libraries with book deposit collections. Under a county library system, these small libraries would be affiliated with the larger organization and would be able to give better service to their public.

The Chesterfield County Board of Education plans to submit its recommendations to the Chesterfield Delegation prior to the convening of the General Assembly in January. If county-wide service is established in this county, it will reduce the number of counties without such service to six: Edgefield, McCormick, Beaufort, Bamberg, Clarendon and Williamsburg counties.

Social Security

Librarians and trustees will be interested in the extension of Social Security coverage to include many libraries not previously eligible. The following paragraph is quoted in its entirety from the publication of the ALA Board of Personnel Administration:

"Another important action of the 83rd Congress was the extension of Social Security to the employees of state and local government units already under a retirement system (83rd Congress, 2d session; PL 761, Chap. 1206, sec. 101 (h) (2); approved Sept. 1, 1954) (68 Stat. 1056). State and local government employees not now under a retirement plan were already eligible for Old-Age and Survivors Insurance, and a number of libraries have thus come under Social Security. But now Congress has said that Social Security may be extended to state and local government employees already under a retirement plan if 3 major qualifications are observed: (1) that a secret vote be taken of all the members of the retirement plan in question as to whether they shall or shall not come under OASI, (2) that a majority of those eligible vote in favor of the proposition, and (3) that there be no impairment of the existing retirement plan after (or in anticipation of) the vote on whether to join OASI. Police and firemen's retirement systems are specifically not eligible for inclusion under OASI, but the state legislature may authorize the employees of individual colleges or universities (or of individual units of local government) who are already under a retirement plan, to vote on joining OASI. This is a tremendously important development for public libraries and for publicly-controlled institutions of higher education. Another change made by this bill raises the Social Security tax base from $3,600 of annual income to $4,200. Consult your local Social Security office for other changes and for details."

Around the State

A committee of the Public Library Section, South Carolina Library Association, is making a study of standards with the objective of proposing a set of standards for South Carolina public libraries. The committee will report at the next annual meeting of the Association. Charles Stow of the Greenville Public Library is serving as chairman.

Héroines of Dixie — Confederate Women Tell Their Story of the War, by Katherine M. Jones is scheduled for publication in March by Bobbs-Merrill. Miss Jones is reference librarian, Greenville Public Library, and is editor of New Confederate Short Stories and co-editor of South Carolina in the Short Story.

Mrs. Geddle Brabham Young is serving as acting librarian, School of Education, University of South Carolina.

Miss Jean Ellis, formerly assistant librarian, Spartanburg Public Library, is now librarian of the public library at Leesburg, Florida.

Mrs. Shirley Walker Boone is librarian, Chapin Memorial Library, Myrtle Beach.

J. Chapman Milling, Jr. has been appointed librarian of the Carnegie Public Library, Sumter.

The Columbia Bible College Library is offering, as an experiment, an introduction to library science as a part of the Graduate School of Missions. The course is designed to prepare missionaries and teachers for organizing libraries in their institutions.

Members of the South Carolina High School Library Association are looking forward to the annual meeting at Winthrop College March 5-6. John R. Tunis will be the guest speaker for the Friday evening meeting. This organization has established a scholarship fund which will be available beginning September 1955 for juniors or seniors majoring in library science and planning to be school librarians in South Carolina.

A workshop in school library supervision will be held at the University of South Carolina July 11-29. Miss Cora Paul Bomar, School Library Adviser, State Department of Public Instruction, Raleigh, North Carolina will direct the workshop. Miss Nancy Jane Day, State School Library Supervisor, State Department of Education, Columbia, South Carolina and members of the Education faculty will serve as consultants. Six other courses in library science will be offered during the regular summer term June 14-August 12. Miss Nancy Burge will be assisted in teaching these by Miss Lila Grier, librarian Dreher High School, Columbia.

Miss Mary Helen Mahar, Executive Secretary, American Association of School Librarians, will be the guest speaker for the School Library Section of the SCEA at their annual meeting in Columbia March 25.

Mrs. Mary P. Marchman Marion is the new librarian at Eau Claire High School, Columbia.

Elementary Libraries have been organized in two of the Darlington Elementary Schools, St. John's Elementary and Brunson-Dargan Elementary. To date 694 volumes have been accessioned and catalogued for these two schools. The County Library has placed a deposit of 1,000 books in these libraries. Student assistants from the high school Library Club serve as student librarians.
SCLA School Library Section

Elizabeth G. Stephens

The School Library Section of the South Carolina Library Association held a discussion Friday, October 29, 1954 at the Gibbs Art Gallery, Charleston. Questions suggested by Dr. Martin and others suggested by the group were examined.

I. What Kind of Service Do We Want?
A. Full time trained librarians in every high school and in all elementary schools with twelve or more teachers.
B. Better understanding and use of all our library facilities by teachers and pupils. To extend use through summer months.
C. Teacher training institutions to teach teachers and administrators the function of libraries and the use of materials.
D. Librarians to have a broader understanding of curriculum from the first grade through the twelfth.
E. Central libraries in all of our schools—elementary through high.

II. What Kind of Standards or Goals Do We Have?
A. Definite standards for high schools stating minimum expenditures, books per pupil, training of librarians, time spent by librarian in library, etc.
B. Recommendations for elementary schools.

III. What is the Level or Quality of Our Service?
A. It is determined by the quality of our personnel.
B. We need more and better trained librarians.
C. Clerical assistance in libraries having less than 1,000 pupils.
D. We need trained supervision in many of our city and county systems.
E. Supervision from the state level has promoted a strong bond of unity among librarians.

IV. What is the Structure of Our Library Service?
A. It is a part of our total school program and that is the way we want it.
B. Cooperation on the local level between school and public has in most places been good. The better our school libraries are the better use is made of public libraries has been our general observation.

V. How Much Money Do We Need to Improve Our Program?
A. We need to raise our minimum standards in this area.
B. We need money for elementary as well as high school libraries.

VI. What Are We Doing to Study and Improve Our Situation?
A. We have committees which work continuously on our problems. We now have committees on building, South Carolina authors, elementary libraries, certification and training of librarians.
B. We need to extend our professional interests beyond the local and state levels to greater participation in regional and national organizations.

VII. What Do We Need to Stress to Improve Our Situation?
A. More and better trained personnel.
B. Supervision on city and county level.
C. Increased financial support.
D. Conferences and workshops.
E. Extension of professional membership and participation.
F. Better use of all facilities.

VIII. Final Recommendation
A committee to study this report and make specific recommendations.

From the Chester County Library Report

Elizabeth C. Williams, Librarian

"... The non-fiction collection for adults had 738 volumes of new and important old books added during the year. This collection is now being checked for titles of notable and good books of the past twenty years by a list provided by the University of California Graduate Library School. This check will serve as a partial guide for future purchases. The plan is, also, to complete the recataloging of old holdings during the coming year, and make a beginning in processing old and rare books. With this last plan in mind, the librarian visited the Curators of Rare Books at the universities of South Carolina and Virginia for instruction in cataloging this special material.

The Young People have taken increasing advantage of the audio-visual equipment purchased last year. Speech classes used the tape recorder frequently, and informal groups have enjoyed it and the record player. Reference work with high school students is constant throughout the school months, and intensified at term paper time. The school cooperated in allowing bus students to use the library during school hours. After three o'clock the Reference Room seems to be another study hall.

... Inter-library loans are made for Main Library and extension patrons, if a book or books are needed that cannot be supplied by the library's collection. Requests are also filled for books not carried on the bookmobile, either from the Main Library, a Branch, or through inter-library loan.

... The Mid-Century Club and the library have cooperated in giving book service at the Chester County Hospital. A hospital book cart was purchased by the library, and the work begun in January 1954. This service is popular with patients and staff. The circulation averages about 40 books and magazines a week."

SELA DUES

Southeastern Library Association dues for the calendar year are due. They should be mailed to the Association at the Price Gilbert Library, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia. Dues include a subscription to the Southeastern Librarian.

Dues for personal members are $2.00 for members of a state association or the A.L.A., or $3.00 for those who are members of neither.
Archives Commission

Recognizing the fact that many libraries will not have sufficient use for the multi-volume edition of *The Colonial Records of South Carolina* (now in progress) to justify a subscription to the whole series, the South Carolina Archives Commission is trying the experiment of reprinting those individual documents that have the greatest degree of unity, significance, and general interest. The first selection for this purpose is "The Report of the Committee of Both Houses of Assembly of the Province of South Carolina Appointed to Enquire into the Causes of the Disappointment of Success in the Late Expedition against St. Augustine under the Command of General Oglethorpe."

The reprint contains the full texts of the Report and its elaborate Appendix as they appeared in the Colonial Records Series. The book is a well arranged and thoroughly documented account of the great effort of the combined forces of England, Georgia, and South Carolina to reduce the Spanish stronghold in Florida.


Orders should be addressed to South Carolina Archives Department, World War Memorial, Columbia 1, S. C.

Columbia Library Club

The Columbia Library Club has had two authors as guest speakers during the year. At a fall meeting Mrs. Elizabeth B. Reynolds of Hartsville, an instructor in the History Department at Coker College, discussed her book *A Fire Mist - A Planet*. The book is an account for children of the world's first two billion years and grew out of the author's experience in teaching courses in general science. It was a prize winner in the Thomas Nelson Sons Centennial contest and was published in 1954.

The February meeting of the club heard Glenn Scott, author of *Sound of Voices Dying*, discuss his approach to writing. Mr. Scott is from Virginia and is stationed at Fort Jackson.

Miss Sara Leverette, law librarian at the University of South Carolina, is president of the club, and Miss Margaret Givens of the McKissick Library staff, is program chairman.

206th Annual Meeting

The Charleston Library Society held its 206th annual meeting on January 18th. Miss Virginia Rugheimer, librarian, reported that during the past year the Society had a total book circulation of 23,758. The total number of volumes now in the collection is 66,357.

During the year the chief activity of the library has been the preparation for filming of the library's file of colonial newspapers. The files have been collated and missing issues wherever possible have been obtained. A test film has been made and is now being criticized by experts. It is hoped that the filming will be completed in 1955 and that the Library Society will be in a position to offer the film for sale.

Smokey Bear Vacation Reading Club

Plans for the Smokey Bear Vacation Reading Club are rapidly nearing completion. The Club is a joint project of the State Library Board and the State Commission of Forestry and is designed to teach children and young people more about conservation.

Twenty-one public library systems in the State have asked to participate in the Club this summer. An estimated 10,000 children will join the Club throughout the State.

Bibliographies on the five subject groupings have been prepared and sent to the libraries which will take part in the Club. A plan for the operation of the Club will be mailed to the libraries in March and supplies, which are to be furnished by the State Commission of Forestry, will be distributed sometime in May.

New Library Building for Charleston

A $750,000 bond issue for a new Charleston County Free Library building carried more than a two-to-one majority at the polls on November 2.

According to unofficial tabulations, the total vote for the issue in the 46 Charleston County precincts was 6,377 for and 2,780 against.

The success of the bond issue reflects the need for better housing for the library in Charleston County and the willingness of the people of the county to support better library service. The successful vote followed a whirlwind six-months campaign for a better building in which all civic organizations in Charleston County took an active part.

ALA Gets Grant

The American Library Association has received a $200,000 grant from the Fund for Adult Education for development of long range adult education programs in libraries.

The grant is for a two-year Library-Community Project to enable libraries "to develop long term adult education programs based on analysis of community needs". The American Library Association is presently conducting two projects under grants from the Fund for Adult Education – the American Heritage Project, a program of discussion groups in 12 demonstration areas; and the Adult Education Project which enables 20 libraries, under sub-grants, to conduct a variety of special experimental programs.

Summer Program at Winthrop

The Department of Library Science will offer the following courses during the summer of 1955:

**Six-week Term – June 8-July 19:** Administration of the School Library; Classification and Cataloging; Practice Work; Book Selection; Children's Literature.

**Three-week Term – July 20-August 9:** Organization of Materials for School Libraries; Reference Work.