5-1955

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President’s Message

Greetings to the members and friends of the South Carolina Library Association. Plans are well under way for our next annual meeting which will be held at the Columbia Hotel, October 29-30, 1955. Circle these dates on your calendar and plan now to attend this convention.

The success of any organization depends upon the concerted efforts of its individual members. We solicit your suggestions, your cooperation, and your enthusiastic support.

We are happy to report to you that the follow-up work from last fall’s meeting is most encouraging. The school library section has had Saturday workshops in five of the judicial districts. Others are planned for the early fall. A committee on standards from the public library group has held several meetings and will continue to study this problem for the rest of the year. The committee from the college group has met and will have an announcement of their plans later.

We are especially anxious to increase our membership. Will you check to see if your dues are paid for 1955 and then urge other librarians with whom you work or whom you know to become members of our association.

Quite a number of our members are officers and committee members of both the Southeastern Library Association and the American Library Association and its divisions. We congratulate all of these and commend them for their professional interest. We are also pleased to observe the number of our group who hold similar appointments in related organizations. We are especially grateful to those of you who have accepted committee appointments in the S.C.L.A. We are looking forward to good reports from all of you.

Nancy Burge, President, S.C.L.A.

ALA to Meet in Philadelphia

More than 4,500 librarians from all parts of America will participate in the 74th Annual Conference of the American Library Association to be held July 3 to 9 in Philadelphia where the ALA was founded and the modern library movement launched in 1876.

Assistant Secretary of State George V. Allen will discuss the role of libraries in government at the first general session on Monday, July 4. Libraries in the field of labor will be discussed by Victor Reuther, Assistant to the President and Director of International Affairs, Congress of Industrial Organizations; and in business and industry by John A. Stephens, Vice-President, Industrial Relations, U. S. Steel Corporation, both at the second general session. Jonathan W. Daniels, author and editor of the Raleigh (N.C.) News and Observer, will speak on libraries in rural life at the third general session on Friday, July 8.

Approximately 250 meetings on all phases of librarianship will be held throughout the Conference by boards and committees of ALA and the seven ALA divisions.

There will be three pre-conference meetings: an Audio Visual Institute, July 2 and 3, jointly sponsored by the Audio-Visual Board, the Audio-Visual Round Table, and the Office for Adult Education; a Book Selection Workshop, July 2 and 3, co-sponsored by the Intellectual Freedom Committee and the Public Libraries Division; and a Personnel Administration Workshop, July 1 and 2, sponsored by the Personnel Administration Board.

The Newbery-Caldecott Dinner, annually a social highlight of the Conference, at which winners of the noted awards for children’s books are feted, will be held on Tuesday, July 5 evening.

The program of the Public Libraries Division membership meeting on Tuesday, July 5 will be highlighted by a report on the revision of Post-War Standards by Dr. Lowell A. Martin, Dean, Graduate School of Library Services, Rutgers University.

The American Association of School Librarians will hold a program on Tuesday afternoon devoted to an overview of the White House Conference on Education.

The ALA Conference, annually one of America’s largest professional gatherings, has not met in Philadelphia since 1897.

State Library Board

The appropriation for the operation of the State Library Board and for State Aid to Public Libraries remains for a second year at the present figure of $101,638.00. The State Library Board made an attempt to have the appropriation increased to $125,000.00 to allow an increase of $500 in State Aid to each county library, but this attempt was unsuccessful. State Aid will remain for 1955-56 at the present figure of $1,500 to each qualifying county library or member of a regional library system. The Regional Maintenance Grants of $500 per participating county in a regional library system will be continued and the $5,000 Regional Establishment Grant will again be offered to new regional library combinations.

The State Library Board will continue its present services to the public libraries of the state and to groups interested in establishing or improving public library service.

The Board’s ultimate objective is good public library
service within easy reach of the citizens of the state. Progress in accomplishing this goal has been rapid since the Board received its first appropriation in 1943. Today 39 counties are served by county or regional library systems; 44 bookmobiles travel the roads of the state bringing books and the opportunity for continuing education to even the most remote rural communities; expenditure for public library service has risen from 14¢ per capita in 1943 to 43¢ in 1955 and library book stock has increased in the most remote public library service; expenditure for public library service has risen from 14¢ per capita in 1943 to 43¢ in 1955 and library book stock has risen from 602,500 volumes in 1943 to 1,556,066 in 1955.

In spite of this progress much remains to be accomplished. 479,716 South Carolina citizens still have no public library service. Most of these are rural Negroes or persons living in the seven counties still without countywide library service. Bookstocks remain at slightly over ½ book per capita. Seven counties still do not have countywide library service, and existing public library service is of varying degrees of excellence.

Camden, Kershaw County Libraries May Be Merged

An advisory board to investigate merging the city and county libraries has been formed in Kershaw County. The library board will look into the possibilities of expanding facilities and will make recommendations to the county delegation. A merger of the two libraries may mean that Kershaw County will secure a new public library building to serve city and county people.

The American Legion has set up a fund to use toward building a war memorial library. Several years ago the county made an appropriation for such a memorial, but nothing has been done about it to date.

The advisory board is not to replace the existing city and county library boards, but is an investigating body to make a study of existing conditions in the public libraries in the county and on the basis of this study, make suggestions to the county delegation.

$100,000 Allocated for Colleton County Library

By act of the Legislature a new county Library Commission has been established for Colleton County. Under the terms of the new Act $100,000 has been appropriated from the Colleton County special reserve account to build and equip a new public library building for the county.

The Act establishes a 13 member Library Commission of which the County Superintendent of Education, the Chairman of the County Board of Education, the President of the Colleton County Council of Farm Women and the Mayor of Walterboro will be ex officio members.

Rapid progress has been made towards securing a new public library building for the Colleton County Library since the decision of the Walterboro Library Society to join with the county library and work for a bigger and better public library for city and county. The Walterboro Library Society was an early leader in library development in the state and its decision to join with the Colleton County Library reflects its progressive attitude toward public library service.

The new building will be constructed on property acquired on Hampton Street last year by the Colleton County Library Board. One section of the building will be devoted to the historical reference material now owned by the Walterboro Library Society and the section will be marked appropriately to preserve the name of the Society.

Securing an adequate building for the county library has been the goal of the Colleton County Library Council for several years. The Council has worked untiringly in the extension and improvement of public library service throughout the county and with the accomplishment of an adequate library building for county library service their goal will have been achieved.

Horry County Plans for One Book Per Capita by 1959

The Horry County Memorial Library Commission has made plans to bring the library's book stock up to a minimum standard of one volume per capita within the next four years. Use of the library and demands for service have grown much faster than the book stock with the result that many requests for books have had to go unfilled. A net addition of 40,000 volumes, more than doubling the present book stock, would bring the collection to the recommended one book per person level.

During the four years that the 40,000 books are being added, the library expects to have approximately 1,000 volumes a year wear out. Therefore to achieve a net increase of 40,000 books in four years, 44,000 books will have to be added.

The estimate of the total cost of adding these books was presented to the commission by the librarian, Miss Dorothy Smith. Total cost of the 44,000 volumes would be approximately $132,000. Book supplies would come to approximately $2,000 and extra help necessary to process the books and assist with the expected increase in use of the library would be approximately $10,000.
total cost is estimated to be in the neighborhood of $144,000.

The proposed improvement in the holdings of the Horry County Memorial Library will be of direct benefit to library users throughout the county and will be of particular benefit to the branches and affiliated libraries in Myrtle Beach, Loris and Green Sea.

Smokey Bear Club

Seventy-three public libraries and bookmobiles will participate this summer in the Smokey Bear Vacation Reading Club, a jointly sponsored project of the South Carolina State Library Board and the South Carolina Commission of Forestry. Approximately 10,000 children are expected to take part in the program.

The purpose of the Club is to stimulate interest among the children and young people of the State in conservation and nature through the reading of good books. Its slogan is "Keep South Carolina Green". Suggested reading includes books on animals; birds; forest and waters; forest neighbors; and the earth, sea and sky. To complete the reading program and to qualify for a certificate, club members will read a book from each of five subject groups and five books of his own choice.

Any child who can read is eligible for membership and will be given a Smokey Bear button at the time he enrolls. After he has read five books he is eligible for membership in "Smokey Bear Junior Forest Rangers" and will receive a membership card from that organization. Smokey Bear Reading Club certificates will be awarded each child who completes the reading program.

Activities of the Club will include the showing of conservation and wild life films by local Rangers and library story hours will feature animal and nature stories.

A representative display of Smokey Bear Reading Club posters has been made by Miss Genevieve Chandler, librarian of the Georgetown County Library, and will be exhibited at the State Library Board and in public libraries of the state.

Public Library Standards Committee

The Public Library Standards Committee was appointed immediately following the 1955 meeting of the S. C. Library Association and has been at work since that time on a revision of standards for the public libraries of the state. Three meetings have been held in Columbia at the offices of the State Library Board during the course of which standards of government and administration, of size and area, of finance, of buildings, of book collection and of personnel have been discussed. Still to be covered are standards of technical processes and of public library service to schools.

Mr. Charles E. Stow, Librarian of the Greenville Public Library is the chairman of the Committee and the Consultant is Estellene Walker, Executive Secretary of the State Library Board. Members of the Committee are as follows: Genevieve Chandler, Librarian of the Georgetown County Library; Dorothy Smith, Librarian of the Horry County Library; Josephine Crouch, Librarian of the Aiken County Library; Mrs. Joella Neel, Librarian of the Newberry-Saluda Regional Library; Mrs. Georgia Adams, Librarian of the Orangeburg County Library; Mrs. Marguerite G. Thompson, Librarian of the Colleton County Library and Mrs. Louise Brunson, Librarian of the Allendale-Hampton-Jasper Regional Library.

School Library News

Officers for the School Library Section of the SCEA for 1954-55 are: president, Mrs. Winifred B. Poole, Cross Anchor; vice-president, Mrs. Caroline D. Rice, Carlyle Military Academy; secretary, Mrs. Joyce S. Switzer, Woodruff. These same officers also serve for the School Library Section of the South Carolina Library Association.

The following high school librarians have served on evaluation committees for the Southern Association of Secondary Schools during the year: Miss Carolyn Harper, Mrs. Ruth Grimm, Miss Mary Berry, Miss Elizabeth Morrison, Miss Margia Brissie, Miss Martha Jones, Mrs. Ida A. Wylie, Mrs. Elizabeth Stephens, Mrs. Rosie B. Caldwell.

School librarians have had follow-up workshops to study some of the problems outlined in the fall meeting of SCLA in six of the judicial districts. These meetings were held in Orangeburg, Conway, Hartsville, Bath, Spartanburg, and Charleston. Miss Nancy Jane Day, Miss Nancy Burge, and Miss Irene Marshall served as consultants. Meetings in the other districts are planned for the early fall.

Officers of the South Carolina High School Library Association for 1954-55 are: president, Monnie Cannon, Spartanburg High School; vice-president, Eugene Clancy, Carlyle Military Academy; secretary, Duane Batson, District Five, Duncan; treasurer, Dick Hall, Columbia High School; reporter, Shirley Wallace, Woodruff.

The scholarship fund of the South Carolina High School Library Association will be available beginning September 1955 to qualified college juniors or seniors majoring in library science. For further information write Miss Nancy Jane Day, State Department of Education, Columbia; Miss Nancy Burge, School of Education, University of South Carolina, Columbia; Miss Jane Wright, Library Science Department, Winthrop College, Rock Hill, South Carolina.

Summer School—Library Science

Columbia College

Six-week Term June 27-August 6

Columbia College will offer any of the following courses where registration is sufficient: Administration of the school library; Classification and cataloging; Reference work; Children's literature; Young peoples literature; Book selection; Nonbook materials; Audio-visual education.

All of these courses give three semester hours of credit. Inquiries about the Summer Session may be addressed to the Director of the Summer Session, Columbia College, Columbia, S. C.
Fort Librarian Wins Awards

Miss Maude C. Dowtin, post librarian at Ft. Jackson since 1946, was presented with a $50 check and a Third Army Certificate of Achievement at Post Headquarters by Maj. Gen. R. F. Ennis, Ft. Jackson and 101st Airborne Division commander.

The Third Army Certificate and the check were presented to Miss Dowtin for the Post Library's third place selection in the Third Army Library Publicity Scrapbook contest.

The check will be used for purchasing library publicity material.

Summer School

The 1955 Summer Session in the School of Library Science, University of North Carolina, will be divided into two terms, June 9 to July 16 and July 18 to August 24. Courses will be offered for those students interested in obtaining a degree in library science and for those who wish to meet certification requirements for school library positions.

A full program for an individual student will be two 3-semester hour courses a term. In planning the summer courses, the needs of students previously enrolled have been considered, while new students will find it possible to begin work on any of the four programs which the School offers.

The chief requirement for admission to work towards a degree in library science is a bachelor's degree based on a good general education in an approved college or university. Persons with college majors in fields as varied as chemistry and English are needed to prepare for work in different types of libraries. A reading knowledge of at least one modern foreign language is an asset, when not a requirement.

Newbery-Caldecott Winners

On March 7th announcement was made of the Newbery-Caldecott award winners for 1955. Presentation of the medals to the winners will take place during the Philadelphia Conference of the American Library Association in July.

Meindert De Jong received the Newbery Award honoring him as author of the "Wheel on the School", selected as the most distinguished title written for children by an American author in 1954. The book was published by Harper & Brothers.

Runners-up

Alice Dalgliesh — "The Courage of Sarah Noble" — Scribner
James R. Ullman — "Banner in the Sky" — Lippincott

The Caldecott medal, awarded annually for the most distinguished picture book of the year, went to Marcia Brown, American illustrator and author of "Cinderella". The volume was published by Charles Scribner's Sons.

Runners-up

Marguerite De Angeli — "Book of Nursery and Mother Goose Rhymes" — Doubleday
Tibor Gergely; illus. — "Wheel on the Chimney", by Margaret W. Brown — Doubleday
Helen Sewell; illus. — "The Thanksgiving Story", by Alice Dalgliesh — Scribner

Art Exhibits

The Studio Guild Traveling Art Exhibits under the direction of Miss Guild, Studio Guild, Redding, Connecticut, is making available exhibits of original paintings and sculpture to public libraries. The only cost to the participating library is the transportation from the preceding place of exhibit.

These exhibits have been used at the Rock Hill Public Library and the Spartanburg Public Library very successfully in the past. Interested libraries should write immediately to Miss Pickett for further information.

Coker Appoints Librarian

Miss Roberta McKinnon of Hartsville has been appointed head librarian of the Coker College library and will commence her new duties at the college in September 1955. Miss McKinnon is a graduate of Coker College and holds a B.S. degree in library science from the University of North Carolina. At one time she served on the staff of the Richland County Public Library in Columbia. For the past few years she has been serving as assistant in public relations at the college.

Miss McKinnon succeeds Miss Helen Hagan, Coker's head librarian for fourteen years until her resignation last summer to accept a teaching post at Emory University. Mrs. H. A. C. Walker, assistant librarian, has been serving as acting librarian for the past year.


COUNCIL

Estellene P. Walker, representing SCLA

COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

Board of Education for Librarianship
Membership Committee
John David Marshall, Clemson College Library
Committee on Library Work as a Career
Mrs. Elizabeth C. Williams, Chester County Library

DIVISIONS AND ROUND TABLES

American Association of School Librarians
President, Nancy Jane Day, S. C. State School Library Supervisor
Budget Committee
Elementary Libraries Committee
Susan Caldwell, Winthrop
Magazine Evaluation Committee
Madeliene Mosimann, Charleston City Schools
Professional Relations Committee
Nancy Burge, Head, Library Science Department, University of South Carolina
Recruitment Committee
Irene Marshall, Charleston City Schools
CLA Newbery-Caldecott Awards Committee
Nancy Jane Day
Library Services Bill Hearings Scheduled

The Special Subcommittee of the House Education and Labor Committee on the Library Services Bill has scheduled hearings for May 25, 26 and 27.

With hearings definitely scheduled for this month and a Subcommittee which is anxious to secure action, the prospects for the bill are excellent. The Subcommittee will undoubtedly report the bill soon after the hearings are completed. The next big step is to secure a favorable report by the full House Education and Labor Committee. A good majority of this thirty man Committee supporting the Library Services Bill is required to get the bill out of Committee.

Library Services Bill

The Library Services Bill is designed to aid the improvement and development of public library service to the rural areas of the United States now without such service or with inadequate service.

Significance of the Public Library

The public library is basic to the process of education, culture and dissemination of information. Every citizen needs to have access all his life to sources of information upon which to base sound judgments and wise actions.

The public library assists in providing books for children and teachers in the elementary and secondary schools. It supplements and complements the school's educational task.

The Problem

Almost 27 million people in the United States are without access to local public library service. Most of these people are in the rural areas, the fringe areas around large cities, and areas affected by defense activities and other Federal projects. 479,716 of these people without service live in South Carolina.

Of the approximately 3,000 counties in the United States, 404 do not have a single public library within their borders.

After careful study, the American Library Association determined that at least $1.50 per capita is required to render "minimum" public library service. At present, the national per capita operating expenditure is 96 cents. South Carolina public libraries spend only 43 cents per capita.

One Proposed Solution of the Problem

Since States and local efforts have failed to achieve the goal of universal adequate library service and since the national interest has a stake in the matter, the American Library Association has been supporting the legislation introduced in the 84th Congress by fifteen Senators and twenty-seven Representatives. The legislation, known as the Library Services Bill, will not remedy all the deficiencies, but it will stimulate the States to greater action, just as Federal funds have done in the case of vocational education, highways, agriculture, control of disease, etc.

In essence, the Library Services Bill will provide:

An authorization of $7,500,000 per year (about 1/100 of 1 per cent of the total Federal budget or 5 cents per capita) for a period of five years, thus setting a definite termination date. South Carolina would be eligible for approximately $173,000.00 per year for a five-year period.

All funds granted must be matched by the States on an ability to pay formula.

Allocations are made on the basis of $40,000 allotted to each State and the remainder allotted to each on the basis of its ratio of its rural population to the total rural population of the United States.

The formulation of plans to use the money and the operation of the program is vested solely in each official State library extension agency.

There are no Federal controls except the routine ones necessary for safeguarding Federal money and the prohibition against using any of the funds for lands or buildings.

The results of the programs carried on by the States are to be reported to the Congress and to the Nation by the Commissioner of Education.

Allendale Golden Anniversary

The 50th anniversary of the Allendale County Library was observed with an afternoon tea and reception for the general public, held recently in the foyer and library rooms in the War Memorial building in Allendale.

Mrs. James M. Patterson, chairman of the County Library Association and of the Allendale-Hampton-Jasper Regional Library Board, received at the door. Members of the Board and friends assisted in serving and in receiving guests.

Visitors to the library received miniature golden books as favors and the refreshments carried out the motif of the golden anniversary. Approximately 300 guests called during the afternoon and evening.

Juvenile Delinquency Program

The Children's Bureau of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare received $75,000 in the Supplemental Appropriations Bill of 1955 to provide increased assistance to the states and local communities in improving services and facilities dealing with delinquent children.

The Children's Bureau expects to have ready for distribution a portfolio of suggested guides and sources of materials for use by planning groups. Address requests to:

Bertram M. Beck, Director
Special Juvenile Delinquency Project
U. S. Children's Bureau
Department of Health, Education and Welfare
Washington 25, D. C.

If you have not requested a copy of the Senate Report 1064, you may wish to do so at once. This is the interim report made by the Hendrickson (R., N.J.) Sub-committee of the Senate Judiciary Committee which has been investigating the problems of Juvenile Delinquency. Address your requests for this item to your Senator. The final report of this subcommittee is due January 31, 1955.

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Around the State

The Aiken County Public Library has recently opened three new branches to serve Jackson, Wagner and New Ellenton.

The Anderson County Library has recently purchased a new bookmobile. This is the third bookmobile that the county library has had.

The Laura M. Towne Library, on St. Helena Island, has established book outposts to serve rural people. About ten of these are located in remote rural homes on the island and are being well used by both children and adults.

The Chester County Library in cooperation with the Chester County Board of Education Art Department is holding a countywide annual art exhibit at the county library May 12-May 26. The exhibit is open to adult residents of the county who may exhibit two pieces in each of the following categories—painting or any graphic art, ceramics, and sculpture. High school art students from three county high schools will also exhibit their work.

The South Carolina General Assembly has authorized a referendum on a $100,000 bond issue for the construction of an adequate public library building for Sumter County.

Plans for the construction of a large new addition to the Rock Hill Public Library are nearing completion. This addition will triple the size of the present library and give adequate space for reference, circulation, and special service to children and young people.

Mr. J. W. Gordon Gourlay, Director of the Clemson College Library, spoke to a group of 94 high school student library assistants in Spartanburg on “Librarianship as a Career”.


Miss Nancy Blair, librarian of the Spartanburg Public Library, spoke to the students of Newberry College on “Librarianship as a Career”.

Miss Frances B. Reid, Field Service Librarian on the staff of the State Library Board, is planning to visit and study county and regional libraries in North Carolina and Georgia early in June.

The Spartanburg Public Library is having a new bookmobile built by the Rock Hill Body Works which will be one of the largest and best planned bookmobiles put into service in South Carolina.

Miss Jane Ann McGregor, for the past several years children’s librarian at the Spartanburg Public Library, has resigned in order to accept a position in the children’s department of the Cincinnati Public Library.

Mrs. Mary W. Shipp (M.L.S., Emory, ’48) has joined the staff of the McKissick Library as rare books librarian.

The Lander College Library expects to move sometime in May into their new building. This building consists of a first floor and mezzanine around three sides with a room at each end. The interior is of red unpainted brick, with trimmings of Dutch blue. The shelving will be gray.

Miss Martha Jones who has been librarian of St. John’s High School, Darlington will join the Dreher High School staff in September.

Miss Susan Caldwell who has been librarian at Winthrop Training School is to be married June 10 to Harper Higgins of Charlotte, North Carolina.

Mrs. Mary Glenn Groover (B.S. in L.S., University of North Carolina) joined the library staff in the School of Education, University of South Carolina in April.

On May 9 the Pine Needle Book Shop, Greenville, held an autograph party for Katherine Jones whose new book, Heroines of Dixie is receiving favorable reviews. Miss Jones is reference librarian of Greenville Public Library.

Mr. John Goodman, Agricultural Reference Librarian at Clemson College, recently visited the Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies Library to study the various aspects of library work conducted there.

Uncle Sam Can Help

The American Library Association, Chicago, announced the publication of Federal Services to Libraries, prepared for the Federal Relations Committee of the ALA by Phillips Temple, librarian, Riggs Memorial Library, Georgetown University, Washington, D. C.

Federal libraries and agencies do not exist to serve nonfederal libraries. Nevertheless, they do serve them, within certain necessary limitations. The scores of services they can provide and the materials they can make accessible are listed in this handbook. They will be a revelation to many librarians and scholars.

Audio-Visual Aids, Catalog Cards—Distribution, Exhibits, Extension Services, Interlibrary Loans, Microfilm Projects and Services, and Translation Services—these are a few of the (more than 50) alphabetically arranged subject headings in the book that identify the diverse services provided. Under each heading are detailed descriptions of the many books, nonbook materials, collections, reports, or services available. Cross-references—both in the headings and within annotations—are abundant to help the reader locate information on material in closely related subject areas.

The preface clarifies the use of such terms as “Federal agencies” and “service.” Bibliographic notes give a summary of the existing literature on Federal services and resources. Part I explains the broad policies and practices of the U. S. government as they relate to libraries. An index provides further access to the book’s contents.

The author interviewed dozens of government agency librarians and other officials in the course of preparing this work. The material is derived primarily from those interviews. The book will open the door to a storehouse of materials and facilities not only for librarians but for scholars and others engaged in research.

Old Order Changeth . . .

The fifty year old Dixie Library Club in Orangeburg has sold its building on Church Street and turned over its book collection to the Orangeburg Historical Association and to the Orangeburg County Free Library.

The Dixie Club will continue as a book club, but it has decided to cooperate with Orangeburg County in building a bigger and better library for the entire community.