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A Message from the O L A President

What shall we make of 1951? Our job was never bigger; our problems and anxieties were never greater. Let us study anew this year of momentous potential, and give ourselves professionally and personally to its glorious and awful demands.

Ahead of us, in every type of library, looms the obligation to develop a coordinated program in civil defense. Our state library agency will suggest emphases and plans of participation, especially for the public libraries of Oklahoma. Let us determine, in this connection, to expend our best creative energies and lend Elizabeth Cooper, as she directs the State Library Commission, all the help possible.

Several members of the O L A Board met informally in San Antonio November 8th and appointed Miss Mary Kennedy, Librarian of Oklahoma City University, Oklahoma's coordinator to keep us informed on library activities of national significance. This information is channeled to the state coordinator by the A L A Office in Washington. Please be ready to listen or act promptly whenever Miss Kennedy writes or wires. She will be relaying very important information.

The O L A Board was grateful to the City of Tulsa for the invitation to hold the 1951 meeting in that city. However, it was decided to return to the north base at the University of Oklahoma again this spring. Economy and central location were the deciding factors, particularly as we hope to interest more teacher-librarians and trustee-members in attending the 1951 meeting. The board expressed appreciation for the gracious assistance rendered by the School of Library Science and the Extension Division in making our past meetings at the north base so successful.

We are aware of the arguments in favor of holding our meetings in different parts of the state. We hope that you will weigh the pros and cons, and come to the meeting to be held at Norman March 16 and 17, prepared to cast your vote on a meeting place for the next year.

We are unprepared to announce details for the coming meeting, but promising plans are under way. Put the dates on your calendar and come for the whole time. Public librarians are urged to bring at least one trustee and a student assistant. School and college librarians may also wish to encourage student participation. The suggestion for a get-together of "Future Librarians" came from a high school assistant in the Enid High School. We are interested!

Details as to arrangements will reach you later. In the meantime, recruit for new members of O L A, and see that your own $1.50 reaches our treasurer, Willard Watson, at the University of Tulsa Library. Thank you!
Now is the Hour

to place in the hands of your deputies in
the state legislature, evidence of strong
support for the library legislation to be
introduced early in this session. Get in
touch with your boards, your trustees,
your influential patrons, and any fellow
librarians who may not be fully informed
on the need for action at this time.

Be sure they understand that a tax for
public library support cannot be levied
except by enacting permissive legislation
to allow an amendment to the Constitu-
tion of the State of Oklahoma to be voted
upon by the electorate.

The gist of the proposition to be in-
troduced is as follows:

"Shall the Constitution of Oklahoma be
amended by adding a Section to Article
X, to be known as Section 9-A, authoriz-
ing an ad valorem tax levy for public
library purposes of not less than one (1)
mill, in addition to all other levies, in
any county by a majority vote of the qual-
ified electors thereof?"

The proposed measure would permit the
voters of the state to adopt, or reject, a
permissive amendment to the Constitu-
tion. Passage by the legislature would allow
the proposed amendment to be voted upon
by the electorate, and if the electorate
adopted the amendment, the tool would
be provided for the citizens of any lo-
cality to support more adequately their
library.

It is important to stress the fact that
the decision for assessing a tax for library
purposes would be placed on the citizens
of each county and that no other group
or agency would have the power to levy the
tax. The State could not do so, nor
could any county government do it. The
measure would not only aid local libraries
but also give local self government mean-
ning and force.

A one mill levy would not entirely suf-
fice for the full support of libraries. It
is expected that the municipalities would
continue to appropriate from their other
funds for library purposes and it is neces-
sary that they do so. The levy would
be an additional source of income for
local libraries. If, however, the munici-
pality does not supplement the levy, then
the levy should be raised by the citizens
concerned to a level that would insure
adequate support.

The fact that we failed to push this
legislation through in 1949 simply means
that we must work unanimously, and
courageously, to enact passage this time.
Be sure that your senators and repre-
sentatives hear from all the librarians
in your locality, all the trustees, and all
patrons whom you can interest in this
vital question. Take this action now. If
we are to have full library service in Ok-
lahoma, then we must help ourselves and
not hope or plead for outside help with
no effort of our own.
Look Ahead with the Library Commission

As incoming Secretary of the Oklahoma Library Commission, I would like my first published words to be in salute to my beloved predecessor. For thirty-one years, Mrs. Dale has given to you her time, her help, her very heart. Unceasingly, she has poured her efforts toward the building of libraries and library service... toward the raising of the standards of that service in order that your professional road might be smoother, that the tools and vehicles you use might be of the finest... so that you, in turn, might serve the people of the state to the fullest.

I have said, in announcement to you, that Mrs. Dale’s retirement leaves an empty space that no one else can fill in just the same way. This is, of course, true. And yet, her influence is everywhere. As long as libraries stand to serve the people of Oklahoma, the dream that she started will continue to grow and develop. Her retirement does not mean that we are without her continued interest and support. It is only that she will have leisure for her planning... time in which to give to us her vast dreaming.

The SWLA pre-conference workshop on extension, held in San Antonio November 6 and 7, stressed a number of points that are necessary to the establishment and maintenance of good extension service:

Know existing conditions in your state. This is of primary importance. Knowledge of the geography, topography and political boundaries is vital. Economic and social conditions in the various communities color the picture of need. What system or combination of systems is best for your state service, depends in large measure on these factors.

Get good financial backing. Ask for enough money, and without apology. Each state is able to afford adequate library service for its people; no state can afford to be without adequate service. The maximum in library service is infinitesimal as compared with other governmental services. State aid (following a plan of terminal legislation) can equalize the service, insuring like service to all communities, leveling economic differences. Federal aid is also a large factor here, and can bolster state planning.

Build a good legal foundation. See that your laws are clear and concise, specific, but not crystallized. The service must grow and develop or it will deteriorate.

In the light of these recommendations, it would appear that the following steps are necessary to our service in Oklahoma:

First, a survey of existing conditions all over the state. Being new to the field of extension work, I need, first of all, to visit the libraries... to know their location and surroundings, their librarians, their boards; to become familiar with the mechanics of their operation and then determine their needs and how we can help from the state level. Transportation (or lack of it) is the major problem here. Travel by bus is too slow for the present need. Personal inconvenience is not a consideration, but the cost to the state in lost time and effort would be tremendous. Existing laws prevent the utilization of other methods.

Second, field librarians and expert consultants to give on-the-spot advice and help. These positions need first to be created, offering adequate salaries. Higher salaries to existing positions are also imperative if we are to have good librarians. Each year, more and more of our trained experienced librarians are leaving the state to accept jobs elsewhere with better pay, and a brighter future.

Third, legislation. Library support in our state is hopelessly tied by the constitutional provision on millage. The last legis-

(Continued on Page 13)
Barbara Smith

A New Biennium Begins for S W L A

"Now, we will turn the calendar ahead to January 1, 1951, at which time the new Southwestern Library Association administration takes over. Mr. Low, it is my great pleasure to place in your very capable hands the leadership of the association... Mr. Edmon Low, Librarian, Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College Library—your new president!"

With these words Helen S. Farrington, President of S W L A during the past biennium, introduced the incoming president to the delegates attending the fourth General Session luncheon, Friday, November 10, at the Hotel Plaza in San Antonio.

Nominations for other officers were approved as follows: First Vice-President and President-Elect, Marvin A. Miller, Librarian, University of Arkansas; Second vice-President, Frederick N. Cromwell, Librarian, University of Arizona; Secretary, Mary C. Rice, Librarian, Austin Public Library, Texas; Treasurer, Ruth Renaud, Head of Adult Department, New Orleans Public Library, Louisiana.

Summing up the S W L A activities of the closing biennium, Miss Farrington expressed her conviction that one of the greatest accomplishments was the actual participation in the 13th Biennial Conference by librarians from Mexico City, due to the efforts of Miss Helen Dugas, Librarian of Mexico City College. She expressed the hope that many more librarians from Mexico will join the association.

Of inspirational interest to Oklahomans, was the successful outcome of a legislative battle in Texas, in which as Miss Farrington recalled, S W L A played a part. "The Texas legislature had cut from the Texas State Library's budget the money for extension service and at the same time they eliminated the position of Director of Library Extension. The Texas Library Association went to bat and as a result the legislature reversed its decision on the designed to extend library service, and that position of director at its special session the first of this year (1950). S W L A loaned T L A $200 toward its publicity campaign which accomplished this.

S W L A has given the Arizona Library Association $100 to help with its campaign to get funds from the state of Arizona for library extension."

Miss Farrington suggested that Executive Board meetings could not conveniently be held during the A L A mid-winter and annual meetings.

She closed her report to the membership by expressing her gratitude to the association's sections, committees and to the participants in the conference meetings who, by their hard work and enthusiasm, made the 13th Biennial S W L A Conference one of the most successful.

Report of the Policy Committee for 1948-50 was read by Mrs. Florrine F. Morton of Louisiana State University Library School, committee chairman. Mrs. Morton mentioned that Alton P. Juhl, former Reference Librarian at Oklahoma A and M, was replaced on the committee by Miss Elizabeth Cooper of the Oklahoma Library Commission.

Recommendations of the Policy Committee were submitted in full, as follows: "That the Executive Board appoint a Membership Committee with special instructions to review the constitutional provisions for personal and institutional membership and to promote in every possible way such membership."

"That the Executive Board study means of encouraging and stimulating Negro membership and participation."

"That the Executive Board, after setting aside sufficient funds to meet anticipated expenses, set up with any surplus moneys a revolving fund to be made available to the states for use with programs of action.

(Continued on Page 15)
Technical Services Circle the Globe

In 1925 local geologists bought the Shepard Geological Library which served as a nucleus for the present-day Technical Department of Tulsa Public Library. From this meager beginning, the Technical Department has grown to 35,000 volumes and occupies most of the basement of the main building. It includes one of the most complete petroleum collections in the world.

Although all fields of engineering are served by this collection, the emphasis has always been on petroleum. The department maintains a complete file of all United States Geological Survey publications. Complementing this file are the geological survey publications of all oil producing states, plus those of such outstanding groups as the American Association of Petroleum Geologists and the American Geological Society. The Tulsa Public Library is a depository for United States Bureau of Mines Publications covering the petroleum industry. It also maintains membership in many technical societies. Current receipt of titles in the technical and business fields numbers over 1,000, of which practically all are bound or microfilmed for the permanent reference file.

The collection is divided into circulating and reference groups, the circulating books totaling 8,500. Inasmuch as the budget permits, current titles in all the five and six hundreds are secured. An effort is being made to build up the business and accounting section which at present is comprised of the economics of the petroleum industry. We have an average circulation of 1,200 per month. Inter-library loan service is extended to all technical libraries within the city, and this service is relied upon heavily by local oil companies.

Another outstanding service rendered by the Technical Department of the Tulsa Public Library is in reproduction of materials. The new Remington Rand Dextograph makes possible speedy and perfect white-on-black reproduction of materials up to 9 1/4 inches x 14 inches in size. This service is provided at cost, amounting to twenty-five cents for each letter-size page as compared to one dollar charged by commercial firms. No responsibility is assumed by the library for the reproduction of any copyrighted material. This service is used by oil company personnel all over the United States.

Perhaps the service of most interest to other librarians is that provided by duplicate exchange. This library is able to provide duplicates of many technical journals in the engineering fields. Dealing primarily with petroleum, these duplicates are picked up regularly from oil company libraries and publishers. Well over five thousand items have been sent out in the past five months, to libraries in the United States, Canada, Mexico, South America, Europe, and Asia. A few libraries such as Seattle Public Library, rely upon this department for their files of the Oil and Gas Journal which has had a limited subscription list for several years.

These services are provided in addition to routine reference work in the department where there are approximately 1,000 reference questions answered each month. Indexing services to aid in reference work include the Industrial Arts Index, Engineering Index Service weekly cards and yearly volume, and the Petroleum File. This file was compiled by department personnel over a period of many years, and has been used in compiling petroleum bibliographies. To date this department has published thirty-one petroleum bibliographies, many of which are still available free of charge to libraries or individuals interested.

Research work is not limited to univer-

(Continued on Page 13)
Censorship in Bartlesville

On September 9, 1950, the Executive Board of the Oklahoma Library Association created the Committee on Intellectual Freedom. It is a select committee created in conformity with the provisions of Article VI, Section 1 of the Constitution of the Association.

The Committee was directed to examine the subject of censorship in the Bartlesville Public Library and report thereon to the Executive Board. The Committee was further ordered to deal solely with this one phase of the Bartlesville matter and to consider other factors in the situation only to the extent that they affected censorship of the Library.

The Committee's method of operation was varied. Interviews were held with individuals conversant with the details, newspaper accounts were considered, one member of the Committee made a trip to Bartlesville, and the problem was discussed at length with a number of librarians. The Committee made extensive efforts to get all information available and confined itself to no one source in carrying on its work.

A self-named and self-constituted Citizens' Committee of Bartlesville appears to have instigated the difficulty in Bartlesville. It first objected to a limited inter-racial program carried on by the local Y W C A. The next effort of the Citizens' Committee was directed toward the Public Library.

Miss Ruth Brown, Librarian for over thirty years was accused of keeping subversive literature in the Library. The Citizens' Committee named The Nation, The New Republic and Soviet Russia Today as subversive magazines and objected to their inclusion in the Library's periodical collection.

At this point, the report of the Committee on Intellectual Freedom digresses in order to mention that Miss Brown advocates fair treatment for Negroes and a chance for them to have an even opportunity to advance on their own merits. The thought naturally occurs that this was perhaps the Citizens' Committee's actual reason for the attack on the Public Library, but after the Y W C A episode it adopted the devices of claiming that the library contained subversive writings. This shift of emphasis is of interest in the case.

Limited space does not permit us to give a step-by-step account of the course of action taken by the Citizens' Committee which led to the terminating of Miss Brown's services on July 25, 1950. This data is included in the full text of the report of the O L A Committee on Intellectual Freedom, available from the editorial office of the Oklahoma Librarian.

Closing pages of the report are herewith given in full as follows:

"This Committee concludes that the actions of the Citizens' Committee in Bartlesville, Oklahoma constitute a violation of the Bartlesville Public Library's integrity and are grave infractions of freedom of inquiry, thought and expression. It is an act of intolerance.

"Librarians are among the very first to oppose any form of dictatorship be it communism, fascism or nazism. We know too well that it means the end of any freedom of expression. We remember clearly that Hitler caused the libraries of Germany to be ransacked, gutted and much of their contents destroyed in less than three and one-half months after he became Chancellor on January 30, 1933. We cannot believe that Russian libraries, no matter what Soviet Russia Today may say, contain anything but a collection of laudatory exercises on the Soviet regime, and are totally valueless to serve a people struggling from the deadliness of centuries of oppression. We know well what has happened to libraries in other dictator governed nations. They provide more pap for a cowed and suppressed people. If any good library collections do exist they

(Continued on Page 17)
Library Section, O E A

Two speakers prominent in the fields of education and librarianship, appealed with challenging directness to school librarians attending the O E A meeting in November.

Dr. Paul Misner, Superintendent of Schools, Glencoe, Illinois, addressed the group from the dual viewpoint of parent and education administrator. He outlined the responsibility of the school library in the educational organization, and urged closer cooperation between librarians and teachers. Recognizing the difficulties facing the majority of librarians in this field today, Dr. Misner emphasized the librarian's responsibility to pupils, teachers and parents. He mentioned ways and means of improving library service in the schools. Dr. Misner paid tribute to the fine work done by so many school librarians, too often under difficult circumstances.

Clarence Paine, Director of the Oklahoma City Libraries, endorsed Dr. Misner's recommendations. He spoke forcefully of our shortcomings, laying the blame for many of our difficulties right in our own laps. Librarians as a profession, he said, are prone to ask for too little, with not enough confidence.

Having started all of us into alert defense of our work, he continued with suggestions for improving conditions. Like Dr. Misner, Mr. Paine is fully aware of the problems facing the school librarian today. "Cooperation is the key-note . . . within your profession and with other groups. Draw on the larger libraries for materials not available in your own setup and increase your activities in education and library associations. Contact with others in your profession is bound to help you with your problems. Pull together for better professional conditions, for greater enjoyment in your work, for increased service to those who come within your sphere of responsibility."

At a short business meeting under the direction of Miss Elva Curtis, Ponca City, the following officers were elected: Miss Eunice Cockrum, Classen High School, Oklahoma City, President; and Mrs. Alma Doughty, Central High School, Muskogee, Secretary.

Committees at Work

Copies of the new O L A Constitution, adopted May 2, 1950, have been printed by courtesy of the Motter Bookbinding Company of Muskogee. You will receive your copy by mail very soon, if your name is on the list of paid-up members. Please preserve, peruse and prepare yourselves to be aware of the possibilities of the new Constitution, when you attend the 1951 O L A meeting at Norman, March 16 and 17, 1951.

Under this Constitution the following committees have been appointed:

Program: Eugenia Maddox, University of Tulsa, Chairman; Helen W. Penn, Sapulpa Schools Material Library; Ella Sisler, Claremore Public Library.

Local Arrangements: Gaston Litton, University of Oklahoma.

Membership: Willard Watson, University of Tulsa, Chairman; Mary Ann Wentroth, Oklahoma City Library.

Constitutional By-Laws: Ralph Hudson, State Librarian, Chairman.

Nomination: Edmon Low, Oklahoma A & M College, Chairman.

Awards: J. L. Rader, University of Oklahoma, Chairman; Gaston Litton, University of Oklahoma; Lee Spencer, Oklahoma Baptist University.

Publications: Barbara Smith, Oklahoma A & M School of Technical Training, Chairman; Allie Beth Martin, Tulsa Public Library; Louise Townsend, Mangum Public Library; Ruth Spalding, University of Oklahoma; Lee Spencer, Oklahoma Baptist University; Pat Dickerson, Oklahoma City Libraries.
S L A Recruits
Oklahoma Members

Oklahoma librarians working in research libraries and eligible for membership in the Special Libraries Association may be interested in the organization of the association in this region.

The object of the Special Libraries Association is to encourage and promote the collection, organization and dissemination of information, to develop the usefulness and efficiency of special libraries and other research organizations and to encourage the professional welfare of its members.

There are seven types of national membership: Active, Associate, Student, Institutional, Sustaining, Honorary, and Life. Divisions in the association include the following: Advertising, Biological Sciences, Business, Financial, Geography & Map, Hospital & Nursing Librarians, Insurance, Museum, Newspaper, Publishing, Science Technology, Social Science, and Transportation.

Since Oklahoma does not have a chapter in the state, a number of special librarians have become affiliated with the Kansas City Chapter. This chapter includes librarians from Missouri, Kansas and Oklahoma. Kansas City Chapter of SLA holds meetings once a month.

Any librarians in the state desiring membership blanks or additional information concerning the organization should request information from the chairman of the membership committee, Miss Helen Winget, Public Library, Kansas City, Missouri, or the membership committee representative for Oklahoma, Miss Helen Price, V. A. Hospital Library, Muskogee, Oklahoma.

The Oklahoma Library Commission is now compiling a new directory of Oklahoma librarians, which it is hoped will be complete for all salaried positions in all libraries throughout the state. Please keep Elizabeth Cooper posted on all staff changes or additions.

White House Conference

The White House Conference for Children and Youth was held at the Armory, Washington, D. C., December 3 to 7. Fourteen states sent library delegates, as well as Rome and Mexico City. Ralph Hudson represented Oklahoma.

The library delegates drew up the following resolution for presentation to the Recommendations Committee:

"To achieve maturity of personality as responsible citizens in a democratic society, all children and young people and the adults working with them, must have continuing access to new ideas and information, and to the experience of the past. The library, widely recognized for its contribution to wholesome recreation, is the resource center where the best materials on many subjects are collected and where services are provided to groups and individuals of all ages, races, and creeds in an atmosphere of freedom and democracy.

"Since one quarter of our people are without any libraries, we recommend that community library services be provided for all our citizens and that the library as an educational agency and information center be greatly strengthened and extended."

An important part of the conference was the consideration given to what should be done for children and youth in the next ten years. The plans can only be carried out in each state. Delegates went home inspired to transmit the ideas gained to their localities and to carry out the recommendations of the conference.

Office files of Senator Elmer Thomas have been transferred to the Division of Manuscripts in the University of Oklahoma library, according to Gaston Lytton, Archivist.

The materials include correspondence, scrapbooks and mementos collected by Thomas during his 28-year tenure in Congress.
ARDMORE—In the past four years the City of Ardmore has quadrupled its books budget for the city libraries. Ardmore P T A's in the four elementary schools are contributing books each year in an effort to build up the child study collection at Carnegie Library.

CLINTON—The Public Library and Custer County Library are being operated as a unit. Free service is offered all residents of the county. As in the past, residents of adjacent counties are issued membership cards for a small fee.

MIAMI—During the past year the Miami Public Library has been remodeled and redecorated. Many books on Indians have been added until the library now has the beginning of a valuable Indian collection. A children's story hour has proved very popular. The memorial book program was well received, with over 200 books being given in less than a year.

MUSKOGEE—36 librarians from Muskogee, Okmulgee, Pryor, Tulsa and Tahlequah attended a buffet supper at Bacone College October 18, given by Muskogee librarians.

MUSKOGEE—In April, the Public Library was host to the library section of the Northeastern district of O. E. A. 778 boys and girls were members of the Round-up reading club in the summer of 1950. 304 children read at least 15 books. This program was under the supervision of Mrs. Armand Bass, Children's Librarian of the Muskogee Public Library.

Lists of new books at Muskogee Public Library appear weekly in the local papers. One good news story appears weekly in the county paper. Stories relating to the work of Wheatley Branch appear in the Informer and the Independent. Occasional feature stories and regular radio announcements keep the community informed on "What's new at your public library".

OKLAHOMA CITY—The Oklahoma City Libraries are the recipient of a gift in the amount of approximately $6000 from the Junior League of Oklahoma City, underwriting the cost of operation of the Community Workshop, which was established by the Junior League several years ago and as of January 1, 1951, was turned over to the administration of Oklahoma City Libraries. The workshop will be under the direction of Walter Gray, Jr., and will now embrace, in addition to its established program of training youth group leaders, the entire adult education program of Oklahoma City Libraries.

OKLAHOMA CITY — Ground-breaking ceremonies were held at noon Tuesday, November 28, for the new quarter-of-a-million dollar Capitol Hill Branch Library, to be erected at the southeast corner of SW 26 Street and Hudson. Construction should be completed in seven months, and then the main library staff and equipment will move lock, stock, and barrel into the new branch building, while the old main building is being demolished. A new main building will rise on the site of the old as soon thereafter as conditions permit.

OKMULGEE—The Jane Phillips Sorority, the women personnel of the Phillips refinery who assume the sponsorship of some civic project each year, chose as
their project this year the raising of money to buy a projector machine for the Okmulgee Public Library. They set as their goal a half mile to be paved with pennies. The success of their undertaking culminated in the presentation of a check for $187.50 to Mrs. Deane Barnett, Librarian. The use of the projector machine is restricted to those suffering physical or mental handicaps which make the use of regular books impossible or inadvisable.

STILLWATER—The new library at Oklahoma A & M is progressing on schedule. Forms for the fifth floor have been poured and trim on the ground floor is complete. As yet there has been no shortage of materials except cement. Work should be finished by the summer of 1952.

TAHLEQUAH—A new system of circulating books has been inaugurated at Northeastern State College Library to assist in reducing the number of overdues. At Northeastern, "Wednesday is B-Day". All books are due on Wednesday. The average time a book is allowed to circulate is 14 days (17 days if charged out Monday; 12 days if charged out Saturday). Publicity used to install the new system included cartoons and curiosity-arousing posters prior to the announcement of the change. The circulation department announces proudly that the number of overdues has been reduced approximately 40%.

TULSA—Two new book trailers, the gift of a civic leader to Tulsa Public Library, are in service covering 11 schools. In addition to school service, two evening stops are being tried, and proving very successful.

The new Brookside Branch of Tulsa Public Library will open January 29. Modern furniture and decor will be used.

Early in December the Mabee Foundation presented $2500 to Tulsa Public Library, matched by the city to make a total of $5000 for the purchase of children’s books.

The Library in Civilian Defense

We quote from the A L A Washington Newsletter, December 14, 1950:

"The increasingly ominous war news is accelerating action in all agencies of government. Libraries must be alert to their responsibilities in quickly reestablishing and improving the services rendered in the last war and in investigating new functions they can perform. We must be thinking how we can distribute materials on rationing, retraining for war jobs, and knowledge to meet disasters, because for the first time our civilian population is threatened with attack.

"The A L A Executive Board recently authorized a grant from endowment capital for an expanded Washington office to develop liaison with federal agencies engaged in war mobilization activities. Responsibility for liaison with the executive agencies has been assigned to Miss M. Alice Dunlap, who will serve as Associate Director of the Washington Office in addition to retaining her duties as Editor of the A L A Bulletin. Miss Dunlap will come to Washington in January, it is hoped. Additional staff will be added to the Washington Office and the executive liaison functions as well as the legislative work will be carried on under policies established by the A L A Federal Relations Committee, of which Mr. L. Quincy Mumford, Director of the Cleveland Public Library, is Chairman."

Questions regarding civilian defense materials should be referred to the Oklahoma Library Commission, or write to the Public Information Service of the Civilian Defense Administration to have your name placed on their mailing list.

The much-publicized pamphlet, "Survival under Atomic Attack," is now available from the office of the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C., for 10 cents. Essential protective measures are explained in lay language without unnecessary technical detail.
ARDMORE—Richard Vernon, veteran of World War I and II, joined the Carnegie Library staff as Assistant Librarian in September.

CLINTON—Mrs. Eugene Hayden has been added to the staff as cataloger of the Public Libraries of Clinton and Custer County.

GUTHRIE—Sister Mary Joachim, O. S. B. succeeds Sister Mary Rose, O. S. B. as Librarian at Benedictine Heights College. Sister Mary Rose has retired because of ill health.

LAWTON—Miss Arda E. Frans, Librarian of Cameron State Agricultural College, is serving a second term as chairman of the junior college section of the southwest region of Association of College and Reference Librarians of the American Library Association.

MIAMI—Miss Daisy L. Fisher, formerly of Salem, Ohio, is now Librarian at the Miami Public Library. She succeeded Alberta Waters, who had served for one year as interim librarian at the public library, in addition to her regular position as librarian at Northeastern Oklahoma A and M College.

OKLAHOMA CITY—Miss Frances Beattie, since 1943 manager of the Book Center in Oklahoma City, has joined the staff of the Oklahoma City Libraries as an Assistant Reference Librarian.

OKLAHOMA CITY—Miss Elizabeth Cooper is the new Secretary of the Oklahoma Library Commission, replacing Mrs. J. R. Dale who has retired after 31 years service. Miss Cooper was formerly Reference Librarian at the State Library.

OKLAHOMA CITY—Mrs. Mary Jeanne Hansen succeeds Mrs. Ruth Craig as librarian of the Oklahoma Historical Society. Mrs. Hansen, formerly Mary Jeanne Keiger, was previously assistant librarian at Fairmont State College, Fairmont, West Virginia.

OKLAHOMA CITY—Miss Juanita Means has been Reference Librarian of Oklahoma City University since September 1, 1950. Miss Means was formerly with the Oklahoma City Libraries.

Mrs. Dorothy Clark Fleet, a 1950 graduate of the University of Oklahoma, is now Circulation Librarian at Oklahoma City University.

STILLWATER—Miss Hollis C. Haney (B. A. in L. S., O. U. '48) has recently been appointed junior catalog librarian at Oklahoma A & M. She held the same position at Columbia University from 1948 to 1950.

Miss Elizabeth Thomas, Assistant Professor of Library Science, has been named acting Reference Librarian. She succeeds Alton P. Juhlin who resigned to become head of library science courses at the University of Missouri.

John Stratton, Order Librarian, will take a leave of absence beginning the last of January to start work on a doctorate degree at Columbia University.

Edwin J. Pattee returns from the University of Michigan where he has been working on an A.M.L.S. He will be acting Order Librarian in the absence of Mr. Stratton.

Miss Helen Bush, Loan Librarian, was married to Richard Barron, December 22. She leaves A & M January 31 to make her home in Orange, Texas.

TONKAWA—Mrs. Geraldine Fleetwood succeeds Mrs. Lulu Doenges as Librarian of Northern Oklahoma Junior College. Mrs. Doenges retired after 25 years of
service at the college. Mrs. Fleetwood was previously head of the circulation department at the Tulsa Public Library.

TULSA—Mrs. Florence Lundell Braly of Shreveport succeeded Miss Mary E. Gallaher as Reference Librarian of Tulsa Public Library on December 1, 1950. Miss Gallaher has resigned to go to the Library of the District of Columbia.

Sam P. Smoot has been appointed Head of the Technical Department, succeeding Joe Templeton, now head of the Circulation Department of Tulsa Public Library.

TULSA—Mrs. Myrtle Griffith, formerly head of the Reference and Circulation Departments of the Tulsa Public Library is acting head of the Circulation Department of the University of Tulsa Library. Mrs. Griffith succeeds Mrs. Carrie Eagon.

TULSA—Miss Gretchen Britton who has been working as Serials Librarian of the University of Tulsa Library returned to the University of Denver School of Librarianship January 2. She expects to complete the work for the M A degree in library science in August.

Technical Services

(Continued from Page 6) University students and oil company personnel. From our files, materials have been gathered to provide script for a local radio program covering aspects of petroleum production. Writers of technical journals and authors of books on the history of oil have spent many profitable hours in the use of our facilities. The most recent accomplishment of which we are justly proud is the aid given an independent driller. Drilling on a hunch and information gathered from some of our geological bulletins, and without the aid of professional geologists, he struck pay dirt which from all indications will amount to a five-hundred barrel well.

Library Commission

(Continued from Page 4) Mature saw the defeat of the resolution that might have alleviated this situation. It is hoped that the coming session will loosen the bonds. Until more money be allocated for library use, the problems that we face will continue.

Federal aid is not our answer at present. Until we are prepared to help ourselves, we cannot expect to be helped. The library service bill that is before Congress now is a good one, and should pass. But until Oklahomans are willing to work for their own plan, to make an effort toward expanding their own service, we have no right to ask outside assistance.

So far, I have spoken of library needs from the view point of the state agency; the things that would help the agency aid the local library.

But there is much that each of you can do to help yourself. Cooperate with your fellow librarians through inter-library loan, by publicizing library service and by supporting your library associations. Pull together with other librarians to make the library an integral part of your community and to make your community service an integral part of the whole state library system.

Trustees and board members can help you to the fullest extent only if you keep them informed of developments in library fields, and aware of library services. See that they are an interested part of your library mechanism, not an outside force of which to be frightened . . . or a figure-head body that is wholly decorative. Their purpose is to advise and to help you. They can do this only if they are aware of your service and the problems it entails.

I have touched on those issues which seem to me to loom up largest at the present time. I hope you will let me have your ideas on steps which need to be taken by Oklahoma librarians working individually and collectively. The Oklahoma Library Commission is your state agency; it needs your advice and active assistance in order to serve you better.
Have You Paid Your O L A Dues?

Is Your Library an Institutional Member of O L A?

Are You Entitled to a Vote in the Affairs of Your State Assn.?

The Oklahoma Library Association solicits support of its work and purposes by offering libraries throughout the state opportunity to subscribe to institutional memberships in the association. This offer of membership was made possible at O L A 1950 convention through adoption of a new constitution. Not only will these memberships furnish a source of needed income, but they will unite libraries and librarians into a closer pattern of cooperation—always the primary objective of O L A.

Quoted for your information from the new constitution:

"(a) All dues are annual and are payable in January of each year. Delinquent members shall be notified once in writing not later than the first day of March, of their delinquency and if said dues are not paid within 30 days after such notice they shall be dropped from the roster of active members.

(b) Library membership dues shall be the amount stated hereafter based on the total annual income of the library for its last fiscal period:

An income not exceeding $20,000 ................................................................. $1.50
An income of $20,000 to $40,000 ................................................................. 2.50
An income larger than $40,000 ........................................................................ 4.00

(c) Non-library association, institution and organization dues shall be $4.00.

(d) Life membership dues (limited to individuals) shall be $25.00.

(e) Sustaining membership dues (limited to individuals) shall be $7.50.

(f) Honorary membership shall be assessed no dues, and shall not vote in the affairs of the Association.

(g) Individual membership dues shall be $1.50.

(h) The memberships listed in sections (b) and (c) of this By-Law shall be entitled to one vote in the affairs of the Association which shall be cast by the duly appointed representative of the body."

We urge your cooperation in attaining a full representation of libraries and librarians in our current drive for 1951 memberships. Please let us hear from you. Dues should be sent to Willard Watson, Treasurer of the Association, at University of Tulsa Library.

—WILLARD WATSON
—MARY ANN WENTROTH
Membership Committee

*This represents a minimum assessment and libraries are urged to support the association to whatever extent their budgets provide.
New S W L A Biennium

(Continued from Page 5)

hereafter, as surplus funds become available, these be added to the revolving fund.

"That the incoming Policy Committee be instructed to make further study to determine the conditions and procedures under which such funds will be made available, the maximum amounts to be granted to any one state, or expended by the association during any one biennium, and other administrative and policy details.

"That that provision be made not only for loans, but for outright gifts where the need justifies.

"That the By-Laws and Constitution Committee prepare and submit an amendment in 1952 to give librarians from Mexico an equal voice in the offices of the association.

"That in the interim the Executive Board appoint a Select Committee on Mexican Library Affairs, such committee to be composed of librarians from Mexico for the purpose of advising with the President and Executive Board."

Report of the Resolutions Committee was submitted by Ralph Hudson, Oklahoma State Librarian, acting in behalf of Miss Jennie Welcome, chairman. Ralph Hudson and Edmon Low represented Oklahoma on the committee.

General Sessions of the conference presented author, publisher, librarian and layman in action. Papers read ran the gamut from technical processes to public relations, from Southwest grassroots problems to international cultural relations.

Since we do not have space to mention each of the papers individually, we confine ourselves to a brief note on those read by Oklahoma delegates.

Miss Elizabeth Cooper discussed plans of the Oklahoma Library Commission at the pre-conference Extension Institute, and a full statement on this will be found in her article in this issue.

Miss Eugenia Maddox, Librarian, University of Tulsa, addressed the Cataloging and Reference Section on "Filing in the Card Catalog." She pointed out that the so-called "dictionary file" is a fallacy, with arbitrary filing rules making the catalog incomprehensible to the average patron.

"After making a careful study of student approach to the card catalog at the University of Tulsa," Miss Maddox recalled, "we decided to convert to a strictly alphabetical arrangement. This project was carried to completion between May 15 and September 15 of this year."

Miss Louise Smith, Acting Reference Librarian, Oklahoma City Libraries, read a paper to the Cataloging and Reference Section. She explained in detail the operation of Addressograph and Graphtype duplicating equipment, and explained the reason for installation of these machines at Oklahoma City Libraries as follows:

"We were faced with the prospect of processing $100,000 worth of books for the new branch, in addition to the purchases made through the annual $23,000 book budget, with no additional staff. This prompted our decision to purchase the machines as a means of speeding up acquisi-
tion processes. Through a revision of routine, we hope to cut costs and to provide for fast duplication of cards.”

The Children and Young People’s Division honored Lois Lenski, distinguished writer of children’s books, at a luncheon November 9. Miss Lenski discussed her most recent book, “Texas Tomboy,” which exemplifies her belief that material for children’s books should be drawn from life. Mary Ann Wentroth, Librarian of Boys’ and Girl’s Department, Oklahoma City Libraries, presided at the luncheon meeting.

At another meeting of the Children and Young People’s Division, the nomination of Mary Ann Wentroth as section chairman was approved.

Miss Eugenia Maddox, Librarian, University of Tulsa, was elected at a meeting of the College and University Section to serve as secretary of the section during the 1951-52 biennium.

The Oklahoma breakfast on Friday morning, November 10, honored Edmon Low as incoming president of SWLA. Introduced by Lee Spencer of OBU, Mr. Low spoke of the many pleasant years which he has experienced working with librarians in Oklahoma.

Miss Esther McRuer, President of the Oklahoma Library Association, presided at the breakfast meeting. She expressed her pleasure that the 34 Oklahoma delegates had participated so actively in the conference. She spoke of the need to maintain the same enthusiasm and courageous idealism in the home community.

Guest speaker at the breakfast was Marjorie S. Malmberg, Director of the Washington Office of the American Library Association. She discussed the federal legislative program and the part Oklahomans can play in putting it through.

“The Library Service Bill is designed,” Mrs. Malmberg explained, “to accelerate each state’s library program according to the pattern found by that state to be most effective. As a result of a survey made of all states, a variable matching formula will be used and the program would be effective for five years, after and during which evaluations should be made. No standards will be written into the bill and extension to an area will be written into the language of the bill to permit the strengthening of existing libraries to serve larger areas.

“In other words our legislative program would give funds to Oklahoma to more rapidly implement its soundly planned program. The importance of access to information in these critical times is self evident and your responsibility to the total library program is to alert individuals and organizations to library needs and how they can help attain them.

“The farm organizations have all endorsed our program but that endorsement will only be effective if local members express themselves to their elected representatives in Congress. You Oklahomans have an unique opportunity to secure national American Legion support since Mrs. Willis Reid of Vinita is the President of the American Legion Auxiliary. We all know that the Legion and Auxiliary have helped with some local and state programs, and help from them on the national level should be available. The League of Women Voters in Oklahoma, one of the strong state organizations, could give valuable help both on the state and the federal level. Jaycee National headquarters are located at Tulsa.

“The General Federation of Women’s Clubs, the A A U W, Business and Professional Women, Amvets, are other organizations who might help us.

“Never underestimate what your trustees can do for your program. Enlist their support and never underestimate the power of the individual who expresses his wishes to the governing agency. Those of us who believe in libraries have a responsibility to interest others in their value.”

As we go to press, we learn that Mr. Low plans to confer with Mr. Louis Shores, President of Southeast Library Association, while attending the A LA midwinter meeting in Chicago, January 30 to February 3. Matters of mutual interest will be discussed, and a joint committee representing both SWLA and SELA may be appointed.
Censorship in Bartlesville

(Continued from Page 7)

are closed to all but the elite of the governing power.

"Knowing this we realize that such a political creed means our extinction and we oppose it completely. We know this because we were born and we live in a nation of free public libraries. We have seen the clash of ideas, we have had access to free inquiry. We are well aware that we must have the opportunity to discover who is our enemy, to know his beliefs and his tactics in order to oppose him successfully. The Citizens' Committee would deny this to the citizens of Bartlesville. It would require them to read only that which it considered proper. It would leave them in ignorance.

"We can only infer, in view of the published record, that Miss Ruth Brown was unjustly and cavalierly discharged because of her private beliefs and because of her professional belief in free libraries. Had she been professionally unfit to be the librarian then Bartlesville is somewhat tardy in discovering it only after thirty years. We feel that the Public Library of Bartlesville was made the scapegoat for a misguided group, that the reading matter in the library was not the primary cause for the complaint, and that censorship of the Library was used as a weapon against Miss Brown. She has suffered the loss of her position, but the City of Bartlesville has suffered more. It has transgressed against the freedom of its Library and thereby transgressed upon its distinction as an institution for free public information. It has denied its patrons free access to reading matter and the free acquisition of these materials by the Library.

"We know that our protests cannot remedy the situation, and that this is properly a matter that Bartlesville should rectify itself. But we do and shall state our objections to censorship of libraries clearly and straightforwardly for we are a part of the whole and if a library anywhere is harmed we are harmed. These beliefs we shall hold with faith and fortitude or we lose our integrity as representatives of a scholarly profession and our standing as free persons. Many of our liberties rest on freedom of expression and these liberties we must retain else we are lost."

Frances Kennedy, Chairman
Mary Hayes Marable
Ralph Hudson
Esther M. McRuer, President, Ex Officio
O L A Committee on Intellectual Freedom

Jury on Citation of Trustees

J. Cunningham, Chairman, Jury on Citation of Trustees, A L A, has requested that we publish the following announcement:

"The jury wishes to receive nominations of outstanding trustees for the 1951 citations for distinguished service awarded by the A L A.

"Nominations, with a full record of the candidates' achievements, should be mailed to the Jury on Citation of Trustees, A L A Headquarters, 50 East Huron St., Chicago, Illinois, not later than March 15, 1951.

"Recommendations for citations may be submitted by any library board, individual library trustee, state library extension agency, state library association, or state trustee organization, or by the Trustees Division of the A L A.

"Citations are limited to trustees in actual service during at least part of the calendar year preceding the annual conference of the A L A at which the award is made. Equal consideration is given to trustees of small and large libraries, but the jury may also take into consideration state or national library activities as well as services to the local library."
Most of the nations of the civilized world preceded us in establishing repositories for the care and preservation of their official records. Brazil, to find an example in the Western Hemisphere, had set up its national archives exactly one hundred years before—in 1834. Most of the nations in Latin America got their start as independent republics two or three decades after we threw off the yoke of our mother country; yet most of these nations had set up repositories for their official documents before we were fighting our Civil War. The United States, therefore, got off to a very late start but we have moved ahead with great rapidity.

The most distinguished archivist in America was selected to head up the new establishment in 1934. The late Dr. R. D. W. Connor, who had been busy for many years in his native state of North Carolina at a similar job on a smaller scale, was called to Washington by the President to direct the new work of assembling the archives of our nation. With consummate skill, both in the selection of men and in the determination of basic policies, Dr. Connor met the challenge which lay before him. Success was not long in crowning his efforts. The innovations, techniques, and processes which Dr. Connor and his staff developed and put into practice began to be adopted and applied here and there over the nation.

The middle Nineteen Thirties, still remembered by all adults as a period of privation and poverty, are remembered among archivists as the days of the nationwide surveys of county archives and of the records scattered throughout the United States in the numerous field offices of the federal bureaus. These two nation-wide attempts to inventory records situated in almost every community in every state of the Union aroused the interest of people in all walks of life who learned then of the many types of materials which are included in the word “archives.”

Basically this word “archives” applies to all records which reflect the day-to-day business of any organization or institution. A family could likewise keep its archives, and many families do. Originally these archives were written by hand and those are correctly called “manuscripts.” More recently we “write” by light on sensitized glass plates and films since the birth of photography, and by sound since the development of the phonograph. These sound recordings and photographs must likewise take their place among our historical materials. Essentially, archives include files of correspondence, records of meetings, files of reports and surveys, published and unpublished writings, and a host of other materials so diverse in nature and irregular in size and format that they...
require a variety of skills and equipment for their proper handling.

Another recent addition to this archival field is a group of more than 80 American colleges and universities which have appointed archivists. Beginning quite naturally with Harvard, which is our oldest institution of higher learning, this widening circle now includes many midwestern universities and colleges founded in the past half-century.

A feeling is gaining wider acceptance with each passing season that we have yet much progress to make in our understanding of the problems of man in society and the difficulties of communities in their relation to the rest of the world. No one would doubt that we have made great technological progress in the previous half-century. Surely no one who has lived through the past fifty years with its two great world wars and gathering clouds of another international conflict, can assert that we have achieved success in human relations.

If it is true, then, that we know all too little about ourselves and about the difficulties which plague our lives, certainly we should assemble those records which will perhaps hold the germ of our many problems.

In the past half-century much progress has been made by numerous institutions over the state in assembling archival materials for a study of our history and contemporary life. The Oklahoma Historical Society has brought together in that handsome building on the capitol grounds a vast assemblage of records on our several Indian tribes. Studies of these materials by our most capable writers have revealed with unmistakable clearness the guilt of our forefathers in the treatment of the Indians. The greatness of these same ancestors in other aspects of their conquest of the wilderness, of course, is evident in other records there preserved. The University of Tulsa and the Gilcrease Foundation, also located in Tulsa, have likewise pointed the way by their efforts in collecting these records of the past. Other institutions which have made similar contributions might also be mentioned.

It would not be quite correct to point to the archival work recently begun at the University of Oklahoma and call it progress. After only about two years of activity in hardly more than two dozen of the counties of Oklahoma, we are probably correct in saying that we are merely at the end of the beginning of our work. Certainly it is little more than a beginning that we have made in assembling archival materials of Oklahoma and the southwest.

If our efforts are to succeed, if the collection of historical materials at O. U. is to be truly representative of all aspects of life before and since statehood, then there is a place for everyone to help in the harvest of these historical records. Surely this article will be read in many offices and homes where materials exist which in jigsaw fashion would complete parts of the larger mosaic of state history.

Your family papers might include packets of letters kept in trunks and in old chests of your home, preserved by you be-
cause they were your aunt's or grandfather's or because they once had some sentimental value to someone. Perhaps your family papers include an old diary kept by some other relative who recorded the events of the first trip to Oklahoma or the trying conditions on the homestead during that first winter and spring. It may be that you yourself have kept for years a box of programs of the concerts you have attended or the playbills of other theatrical entertainment. Possible the patriotic posters of a past war captured your fancy when they were being distributed and you have kept them. It may possibly be that you have in some hidden-away place the old albums of photographs showing that first homestead, the first car you owned, the big house on the hill, main street or the new park. All of these pictures, and those of thousands of other events and places which might have been enumerated, would give in the aggregate a sequence or panorama of history which nothing else could do so well.

All Oklahoma librarians can participate in this statewide effort to assemble at O. U. the materials which reflect some aspect of the history and contemporary life of Oklahoma. You are most cordially invited to avail yourself of these facilities for the preservation of your materials, which one day you may no longer be able personally to preserve. Send me a post card in care of the Faculty Exchange, University of Oklahoma at Norman—describing your records and indicating your desire to place them at the University for permanent preservation; it will receive immediate attention. At no expense to you, we can both fulfill our responsibility to posterity.

We like to think that this is a partnership in which you as the owners of the material and we as the archivists jointly share a responsibility to provide our children and grandchildren with the materials reflecting the world in which we live and which we will one day pass on to them. In this way all of us who are native Oklahomans, or who have sentimental and other attachments to the State, can have a part in the advancement of our cultural heritage in the next half-century.

"On recommendation of the American Library Association Executive Board and by mail vote of Council in August 1950, the Trustees Division of A L A is being merged with the former Division of Public Libraries and the Library Extension Division.

The principal objective of the Trustees Division is to promote and foster the development of libraries and library service and to provide for the exchange of ideas and experience among library board members through conferences and library publications, by the formation of local and state associations of trustees, and by such other means as may from time to time be determined.

Any person who is or has been a duly accredited library trustee or member of a governing board of a library or of a state library agency may be a member of this division by becoming a member of the American Library Association and by complying with the other conditions prescribed in its by-laws. Each member shall be entitled to one vote on any question presented to the members."

—A L A Bulletin, Nov., 1950

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