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O. L. A.

SUMMER 1952

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Eugenia Maddox

A Message From the O. L. A. President

The following letter appeared in the columns of a metropolitan newspaper recently:

"To the Editor:
"I am one hundred percent in favor of the curtailment of library service. Why? Well, let's face it.

"There are too many interests in the world of entertainment today for people to bother chiefly with books.

"It is obvious that the attendance in libraries has dwindled quite a bit. Especially in this new era of television, who finds much time to read anything but a newspaper?

"Don't get me wrong. I don't condemn literature entirely. But there is such a thing as over-reading and over-studying."

Although this expression of opinion is so biased that it seems absurd to the average person, there is a grain of truth in it. After having followed the national conventions of our two major political parties on television, there are probably many librarians who, for the first time, are aware that television does offer a serious threat to our libraries.

We must be alert in order to counteract this and other dangers. If we expect our libraries to be a vital force in the community, we must miss no opportunity to publicize our institutions and their services. In business there has long been an awareness of the importance of good public relations, but librarians have been slow to make use of this knowledge. However, there have been several encouraging developments in recent years. One of the most heartening of these is the large number of articles about libraries and librarians appearing in magazines having a national circulation. Another point in our favor is that the librarian of today is more articulate than his predecessor. No longer are we characterized as "timid" or "mousey." We are well aware of the importance of our work and we do not hesitate to tell others about it.

In spite of these "signs of progress" there is still much to be done. Here in Oklahoma, where we are far below the national level in library service, we must work especially hard.

Of major importance in strengthening libraries is strengthening our state library association. We are proud of our present membership of 160, but our potential membership is several times this number. The Oklahoma Library Association should include representatives of all libraries of the state; and such representation should include not only staff members, but board members, as well. In addition, every library should have an institutional membership. Such an organization as this would make possible the realization of the ultimate goal of our association, adequate library service for every person in Oklahoma.

Library Work Conference

A very successful work-conference on library services was held at Norman June 2-3, 1952, sponsored jointly by the Oklahoma Library Commission, the State Department of Education and the University of Oklahoma. Dr. Gaston Litton was in charge of program planning, and Miss S. Janice Kees, Public Libraries Specialist of the A.L.A., was the featured speaker. It is planned to make the conference an annual event, to keep state libraries informed of current library developments.
The World of William Random: Librarian

Editor's Note: Mr. Clift's stirring address was delivered at the O.L.A. convention banquet in Chickasha, April 18, 1952.

Before going into the world of William Random, let me introduce Bill. He is the composite librarian of today. He is a product of many schools, many experiences, and many inclinations. He has studied at Columbia and Denver and Chicago and Emory and in Oklahoma, and he has studied only in high schools. He has worked in the ivory towers of Yale and Harvard, in the hurly-burly of Fifth Avenue and 42nd Street, on Michigan Avenue in Chicago, and on West Fifth Street in Los Angeles. He has worked in the country's small libraries where he was all things to all people, and he has served as a specialist in the great libraries of our country. He has been a circuit rider and has driven his bookmobile over the streets in Cleveland, and his made-over book truck through the hills of Kentucky. He is a public librarian, a school librarian, a children's librarian, a college librarian, a special librarian, and he is even that new lodge member—an information specialist. He votes on all tickets and is of all colors and creeds. He believes in the sanctity of town line in New England and is scornful of boundaries in the wide open spaces. He is as normal as blueberry pie and sometimes as corny as Kansas in August. He is a true American product. His building is as much a part of the American scene as the school house, but his canvas is much greater. He is a professional in the truest sense of the word, for he is skilled in special techniques and he operates with a body of knowledge that is peculiarly his own. He has a philosophy of service that is self-effacing, for he serves mankind for its own good. He is without bias, and the Bill of Rights is his Hippocratic Oath. And right now, because he has imagination, he is puzzled, for the times have landed him directly in the middle of the ring.

When Bill takes time off from fighting for his budget, worrying about that leak in the roof, bemoaning the lack of catalogers, wondering how to get money for a few more books and where to put the books after he gets them, when he takes time off to read the morning paper, what kind of a world is his world? Is it one that sustains him or one that depresses him? A little of both, probably. The headlines, the news stories, and the editorials, to say nothing of those indexes of the mores of our times—the cartoons, the sports page and the woman's page put the whole bewildering matter before him.

There is the Korean struggle by which the free nations of the world act jointly to punish an aggressor against freedom. Men are fighting and dying in pursuit of that purpose while there is much doubt and uncertainty and argument here at home over the whole idea, and querulous unhappiness over the extent of support from other countries—truly a stage setting in which understanding of the Korean idea is important.

Further reading will reveal increasing instances of the activities of the Conformity School. There are increasing instances of attempting to impede freedom of inquiry, accompanied by insistent and strident forces loudly denouncing persons who hold contrary opinions. The days take usually includes the consistent smear job by Senator M. If Bill should be reading the Peoria Daily Star he will find it hard to avoid those stories dealing with the heroic efforts of local pressure groups to enforce their opinions on the public library. Further on he may read of Senator V's little bill by which the Library of Congress would be required to list all subversive materials in the great library.

(Continued on Page 16)
A Half-Century of Progress in American Libraries

The largest single collection of books in the world—The Library of Congress—celebrated recently its 150th year of service. The pre-eminence which our national library has attained in size and in service has come in large measure during the past five decades. Many readers of the *Oklahoma Librarian* have used that great repository in the District of Columbia and are aware of the beauty of the twin buildings opposite the capitol plaza.

Did you know, however,

—That 414 miles of book shelves are required to accommodate the million books and pamphlets.
—That the Library houses also one of the largest and most important collections of private manuscripts for the study of American history.
—That it also houses one of the finest music collections in the world.
—That its Rare Book collection, consisting of more than 125,000 items in air-conditioned vaults, covers the entire range of bookmaking from illuminated medieval manuscripts to the fine printing that is being done today.
—That its Chinese, Japanese, Slavic, and Hebraic materials are unique.
—That its holdings of maps represent a universally recognized achievement in the collection of rare and unusual cartographic items.

*Research Libraries Established*

The period which saw the rise of the Library of Congress, not only as the national library but as the preeminent library of the world, saw also the establishment of many fine research libraries throughout the United States.

In sunny California the former railroad magnate and real estate genius, Henry E. Huntington, assembled in his lifetime many art treasures and rarities from the Old World. At his death he left the bulk of his fortune for the subsequent development of his dream of a great public museum, art gallery and library. Now in solitary splendor atop a hill overlooking the little community of San Marino, the Huntington Library is the end of the trail for many research workers who seek from the past signposts to guide us into the future.

At about the same time Mr. Huntington began his hobby, another American in another part of our nation, selected one of the northern universities to be the seat of a special library which he would assemble and live to enjoy for many years. Among the historians of the United States, the William L. Clements Library at the University of Michigan is widely known and much used.

Long before he became president of the United States, Mr. Herbert Hoover collected from near and far voluminous and diverse materials covering all aspects of war, peace and revolution, and settled these in their bulk in a separate building on the campus of Stanford University. This remarkable Hoover Library is a mecca for many students of that tumultuous period of history lying between the two great world wars.

*The Carnegie Tradition*

No man has yet matched, however, the brilliant contribution to the extension of library service which is associated with the name of Andrew Carnegie. Returning a favor and at the same time fulfilling a promise of his boyhood, Mr. Carnegie began in 1901 the systematic liquidation of his immense fortune. He believed in libraries and he worked incessantly during the last two decades of his life, selecting communities without libraries or those struggling beyond their financial ability to provide library service. These he endowed with funds to fill those needs.

Mr. Carnegie's name is intimately as-

(Continued on Page 21)
The William Bennett Bizzell Collection of O.B.U.

The book stock of the library of Oklahoma Baptist University received a substantial addition when the private library of the late Dr. William Bennett Bizzell was acquired in May, 1952, as a gift from two anonymous donors. Dr. Bizzell, for a number of years President of the University of Oklahoma, was a scholar and bookman of discriminating taste. The approximately 10,000 volumes included in this personal library include many rare and hard-to-find items, in addition to a large number of examples of recent scholarship in several fields of learning.

Several hundred of the rare books and fine editions form the nucleus of the Treasure Room.

The dedication service was held on May 23 in the lobby of the library building, at which time Judge Edgar S. Vaught of the United States District Court, Western District of Oklahoma, and Mr. Jesse L. Rader, Librarian Emeritus and Professor of Library Science at the University of Oklahoma, made the principal addresses. The dedicatory address of Professor Rader, fellow bibliophile of Dr. Bizzell, is worthy of reproduction here:

THE BROTHERHOOD OF BOOK LOVERS

"Milton said that a good book is the precious life blood of a master spirit, and as we stand here today we see that life blood break its crimson tide all about us. The books a man has read reveal the character of the man himself. To those who belong to the brotherhood of books there exists no fear for the future; wealth may disappear, friends may desert us, all may seem lost; yet to such men there remains a residue of thought, of beauty and of culture which neither enemies can deprive us nor thieves break in and steal. There are here the great books on history, biography and literature, the works of the great essayists and the great poets, those gems which reflect back to us all of the thought and beauty of literature, as a whole.

"Culture does not create itself, but we may reach out to touch it through books: the works of the great printers, the artists who created fore edge paintings, the great bookbinders of the world who have given us beauty which flows out to us from their very finger tips, the subtle touch of the past reaching out to us through the signatures of great authors, the work of the greatest of the modern presses, reviving as they do the beauty and skill and artistry of those craftsmen who in the fifteenth century gave us the great art of printing itself. Even the motto of the book plate of that great scholar William Bennett Bizzell gives us a clue to the scholarly character of the library:

'And seeing Ignorance is the curse of God,
Knowledge the wing wherewith we fly to heaven.'

Henry VI, Pt. II, Act IV, Scene 7, line 78

"In contemplating this library one is reminded of the epitaph above the tomb of Sir Christopher Wren: Si monumentum requiris circumspice, i.e. If you would see his monument, look about you.

"In closing it is entirely fitting to express a word of congratulation to Oklahoma Baptist University, to that great scholar and leader, Dr. John W. Raley; to his able assistant, Dr. James Ralph Scales; and your fine librarian, Mr. Lee Spencer. No university is ever greater than its library. This collection will bring scholarly distinction to your university and will add prestige, honor and dignity to your library. Through its very character its scholarly holdings will reflect honor on your university and by its very nature will add stature to your institution and leave a lasting lustre which neither time nor tide can destroy."
The Oral Book Review: Pastime or Pitfall?

Let us face the problem frankly: there are two widely divergent points of view about this enterprise of summarizing vocally the contents of a book. On the one hand are those who would not be caught, living or otherwise, at an affair where such proceedings are going on. They contend, plausibly enough, that if they wish to know what is in a book they will read it. With this point of view there can be no argument. Those who hold it will, however, be lonely, for the crowds will be going to hear the book review.

What has happened to the American public during the past two decades to cause that public to go in droves, to form into clubs, to give parties, in order to hear a book reviewed? True, there may be a cup of tea and a cookie or two. But it is not the tea and cookies which draw the crowd. It is something akin to the story in prose or rhyme with which the bards, scalds, and minstrels of the Middle Ages were wont to entertain nobles and serfs. It is the ancient art of storytelling, which has never once throughout the centuries lost its vast appeal. Book reviewing is the twentieth century version of that art.

An oral book review as we have come to know it is usually an hour-long recounting of a modern novel or a biography. Sometimes a hardier audience will prefer a book of history, psychology, current affairs, or an old classic. By and large, however, modern novels are preferred.

Each reviewer has his or her own methods of preparing and of giving a review. Whatever the method used, the first step is the selection of a book, and this is the step that brings headaches and gray hairs. If you choose the wrong kind of book, no dramatic artistry can disguise the fact. First of all the book, for most audiences, must be worth coming to hear. There are comparatively few that are worth it, and the search for a good one is sometimes long and arduous.

Before deciding on the title to be selected the reviewer must consider his or her audience. Book review audiences are variable, and only after long experience is one able to size them up correctly; not always then. Let us divide them roughly into three categories. The first we may call the sex-and-sin novel group. This audience has come to hear an ultra modern romance, and please don't go giving them any watered down version. Tell all! If you, as reviewer, are allergic to this type of fiction, do not try to review for that kind of audience. In all fairness it must be said that a few of our greatest modern novels just do not lend themselves to oral reviewing. The greatness of these books resides largely in the authors' philosophy of life and in their literary style.

A second type of audience—a comfortable one—is the group which enjoys any worth while book, but does not like salacious details. It is not afraid of frankness, but is just not interested in it.

The third type is the kind that demands only biography, biographical fiction, or factual books and cares nothing for ordinary fiction. This is an easy group to review for as there are many excellent biographies available.

After the audience is accounted for and the title is selected, comes the first reading of the book—a rather quick perusal to gain an idea of its dramatic possibilities. To be reviewable it must have action, either physical or of the spirit. A second more careful reading follows, during which passages for presentation to the audience may be marked for consideration. More lines will be indicated than can possibly be used, but some may be discarded later. The amount of material read aloud to an audience should be as little as possible. The reason for this is that not many adults enjoy being read to.
An accepted way of beginning a book review is to give a brief account of the author's life. This information may be gleaned from the book jacket or some other source. The next step in the preparation is to make the "long notes." These consist of a chronological retelling, either in one's own words or in the author's words, of the entire book. This may seem to the beginning reviewer as a tremendous task. It is; but it will help fix events, characters, and sequence in one's mind as nothing else will. Then, too, if the same book is to be reviewed for various organizations, the "long notes" will be of inestimable help in refreshing one's memory from time to time.

It is quite permissible to change the order of events in the book if to do so serves the cause of clarity. Often a novelist uses the scheme of "flash-backs" in presenting his story, and these are difficult to handle in a review. A straightforward chronological account is much easier for hearers to follow.

From these notes the "short notes" are made. The latter are simply key words or sentences, which may be written on cards, numbered, and clipped to the pages of the book to be used if needed when the review is given. It is wise to have the sequence of events so well in mind that if one loses one's place in the notes, the review will not be interrupted by the struggle to find a particular card.

In the long notes the reviewer may indicate pages from which a paragraph—or three or four—is to be read. These pages may be indicated by a book mark—a folded strip of paper with the page number and an identifying label on it. Too many such book marks discourage the audience. The idea may prevail that the review will be a series of excerpts from the book. Four or five such passages for reading should ordinarily be sufficient.

It cannot be stressed too strongly that a good deal of memorizing is involved in book reviewing. Whenever the reviewer's eyes must leave the audience to glance at notes, something is lost. It is that intimate feeling of sharing a pleasure that exists between audience and speaker as long as the latter "sees" the former. If possible, the entire commentary should be organized in such a way that there are only a few of these interruptions.

Criticism of book reviews such as are discussed here abounds and is in many ways justified. Those who condemn them say, truthfully enough, that they seldom induce the audience to read the book. The purpose they do serve, however, is to enable good readers to be acquainted with more books than they otherwise would, and to entertain non-readers with a story. Many people like to read the book first and then have the reviewer's interpretation of it. If the book reviewed is a serious work of non-fiction, other values are gleaned. If the reviewer has a good background in the field of the book selected.

(Continued on Page 15)
O.L.A. Convention, 1952

"Plans and Progress" was the theme of the convention held in Chickasha on the campus of the Oklahoma College for Women, April 18-19, 1952, with Dr. Gaston Litton, President of the Association, presiding. All sessions were held in the new library, and luncheon and dinner meetings were in the Student Union building. Dr. Mary Bell and Miss Mabel Murphy of O.C.W. were in charge of arrangements.

The keynote address was made by Mr. David Clift, Executive Secretary of the American Library Association. The complete text of his speech, "The World of William Random, Librarian," appears in this issue. The first general session was a symposium on "Libraries Overseas," with Dr. Charles Ritcheson, Mr. James Meeks, Miss Elizabeth Cooper, and Professor Carlos Moseley participating. A symposium on "My Library—Plans and Progress" featured the second general session, where building plans of their respective libraries were discussed by Mr. James E. Gourley, Tulsa Public Library; Miss Virginia Owen, Oklahoma City Libraries; Mr. Phillip Wilbur, Oklahoma A. and M. College; and Dr. Arthur McAnally, University of Oklahoma.

The third general session was a symposium on the library professional associations and their publications. Mr. Clift, Mr. Ranson L. Richardson, editor of the ALA Bulletin, and Miss Alice Dunlap, former editor, participated in this discussion.

Featured speakers at the luncheon meetings were Mr. Paul Hoheisel, who spoke on library publicity, and Professor Walter S. Campbell, with his enlightening talk on "How Books Are Written." Sectional meetings were held for public and special libraries, junior college libraries, school libraries, and college and university libraries.

At the business meeting on Saturday morning officers for this year were elected. Their names appear elsewhere in this issue. Total registration at the convention was 145.

Elizabeth Cooper Resigns

Miss Elizabeth C. Cooper has resigned as Secretary of the Oklahoma Library Commission to accept a position with the U. S. Navy as librarian of the NATTC at Norman, Oklahoma. She is in charge of all library services at the base. Miss Cooper has had extensive experience as a military service librarian. In the course of World War II she served as an Army librarian in this country and in continental Europe.

During her tenure as Secretary of the Oklahoma Library Commission she devoted much time to encouraging local public libraries. She had much to do with initiating the library workshop held at the University of Oklahoma last April.

The Oklahoma Library Commission has appointed Ralph Hudson, State Librarian, as Acting Secretary. Mr. Hudson has been State Librarian since 1936.

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Mexico Bound!

The first issue of the S.W.L.A. Newsletter announces the 1952 biennial meeting of the Southwestern Library Association, to be held in Mexico City, November 24-30, 1952. Oklahomans have an especial interest in this regional meeting, since Edmon Low is President of Southwestern. Governor Murray has tentatively accepted an invitation to attend, to give the response, in Spanish, to the welcoming address on the first day of the convention.

The formal program is confined to the first three days, leaving the latter part of the week free for sightseeing. The first general session is scheduled for Monday evening, November 24, and the last general session Wednesday afternoon, November 26. Headquarters of the convention will be the Del Prado Hotel. The next issue of the S.W.L.A. Newsletter will give a detailed program and full information concerning entry, customs, tours, reservations, etc.

Many Oklahoma librarians are planning to combine their vacations with this professional meeting, to give added time for sightseeing.

SEE YOU IN MEXICO CITY, NOVEMBER 24-30, 1952!

Editor Resigns

Mr. Roscoe Rouse, Editor of the Oklahoma Librarian, resigned in June 1952. Mr. Rouse received his masters degree in English from the University of Oklahoma in June, and has accepted a position at Baylor University Library, Waco, Texas. The Winter 1952 issue which Mr. Rouse edited is a testament to his exceptional ability, and his loss to Texas will be keenly felt by the Association. Continuity in editorship seems to be an impossibility, but this publication will continue and improve to the extent that you, its readers, give it your whole-hearted support by replying to requests for information and sending in your contributions for publication.

Library Co-operation

The University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma A. and M. Libraries have just completed a successful four months period of unusual cooperation. A mobile bi-weekly interlibrary loan and passenger service for scholars was inaugurated during the second semester of the past school year. During its trial operation 210 volumes were exchanged between the two schools. The service has been suspended for the summer, but plans have been made for its continuation and expansion in the fall. A more complete exchange of information about resources is planned for the future, to make scholars more fully aware of the combined resources of the two universities, and to reduce the need for duplication.

Mrs. Rachael Wingfield De Angelo, Yonkers, New York, has been appointed as the first full time executive secretary of the American Association of School Librarians.

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Library Services Bill

One again action on the Library Services Bill has been postponed by the adjournment of the 82nd Congress on July 7. The ALA Washington News Letter of July 11, 1952 carries the following summary of action on the bill, and the status at adjournment time:

"In the Senate, S1452 was on the Calendar and ready for Floor action at any time. The Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare favorably reported the bill in the fall of 1951. It was then placed on the Calendar. Because of an objection by two members, the bill would not go through on the Consent Calendar. The Senate would not schedule the bill for Floor debate until the House had shown favorable interest since the library bill in 1950 had been defeated in the House by three votes. A move by the Senate sponsors would have been made for scheduling the bill for Senate Floor action immediately following a favorable report by the full House Education and Labor Committee.

"In the House, H.R.5195 was pending in the Education and Labor Committee. Hearings had been held on April 1 and 2 by a subcommittee which favorably reported the bill on April 8 to the full committee. Several things happened to prevent action by the full committee on the library legislation. The Easter recess lasted ten days. Almost immediately upon the return of the House, the steel seizure occurred and this brought forth a siege of labor legislation. One piece of this labor legislation, namely the Allen Resolution to investigate the Wage Stabilization Board, had hearings which lasted eight weeks. Because of the number of labor bills before the committee, legislation dealing with education was held up in committee. Thus the second session ended with the Library Services Bill still in committee.

"Rumor has it that there is a possibility that the President will call a special session of the Congress this fall. If this does happen, the Library Services Bill will be given one more chance before the end of this year. If a special session is not called, the ALA Washington Office will begin immediately in January 1953 in the 83rd Congress to push for passage of a new Library Services Bill."

Tulsa U. Receives Gift

A rare book room, the gift of the Tulsa Bibliophiles, has recently been completed at the University of Tulsa Library. It will house not only the University's rare books, but also the Walt Whitman collection of the Tulsa Bibliophiles. This collection of Whitman materials, one of the largest in the United States, is valued at about $9,000. Included among the many rare and interesting items are a first edition of Leaves of Grass, several Whitman manuscripts, and Franklin Evans, the only novel written by Whitman.

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From the Four Corners

• NEWS OF OKLAHOMA LIBRARIES

ADA, Public Library—The summer reading program this year has as its theme, “Give Me My Books and Saddles.” Over 900 books were checked out the first day of the project.

EL RENO, Carnegie Library—The library’s vacation reading club is continuing to best its record of previous summers. Mrs Richard Horton, librarian, reported a total of 395 children enrolled.

HOBART, Public Library—Hobart is in the midst of its fifth annual vacation reading club and story hour project. Programs are held each Monday and Friday mornings, with both children and adults invited.

MEDFORD, Public Library—Eighty-five children are enrolled in the vacation reading course, “Fun With Books,” sponsored by the Medford Progress Club. A story hour for children from the ages of 4 to 13 was held each Tuesday and Thursday mornings during July, sponsored jointly by the Progress Club and the Mother’s Study Club.

MIDWEST CITY, Public Library—A civic movement to promote the establishment of a public library in this community has resulted in the organization of a Friends of the Library group, with Mrs. May Kline as president. A recent book drive netted 3,500 books to form the nucleus of a public library.

NORMAN, University of Oklahoma—O. U. will adopt McBee Keysort cards for its circulation and acquisitions departments this fall, as well as a multiple order form to simplify and streamline its technical processes and circulation routines. Substantial savings in clerical time is anticipated with the adoption of these new forms.

A group of 88 rare volumes was added to the DeGolyer Collection on the history of science and technology through a recent gift by Mr. E. L. DeGolyer. Most of the items were early treatises on electricity and the collection includes one incunabula, Scholastica Historia, by Petrus Comesta, 1485.

A collection of long playing records has been added to the new Lower Division Library and has proven to be a very popular attraction. Orchestral, vocal, operatic, and instrumental works from Bach to the most modern works are represented. Records are loaned for one week to students and faculty members for use on their own record players.

OILTON, Public Library—Serving a community of approximately 1,500 population, the library checked out 2,051 books during the past fiscal year. Over 350 new books were added to the shelves, and Mrs. Effie Johnson, Librarian, reports an increased interest in the library.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Oklahoma City Libraries—Summer fun with books via television is provided for boys and girls throughout the state who watch TALK ABOUT BOOKS, new quiz program presented by WKY-TV on Thursday mornings at 9:00. Each week’s show features a panel of young “experts” who answer questions about books sent in by viewers, with Oklahoma City Libraries’ Mary Ann Wensworth serving as moderator. Members of the panel are not given the answers to the questions before program time, yet do answer correctly a high percentage of them. Each child sending in a question with its correct answer receives a handsome certificate of membership in the TAB club, complete with
embossed gold seal and ribbons. Libraries in the WKY-TV reception area are invited to sponsor the program locally, and a supply of certificates for distribution direct by the local library will be sent upon request to the Oklahoma City Libraries.

Mechanization of library services continues in Oklahoma City. The City Council has just awarded a contract to the Dictaphone Company for installation of dictating and transcribing machines, which will make it possible to put into operation a secretarial pool.

Contracts for compact storage stacks to be installed in the new main library building was recently awarded to the Art Metal Company. Construction of the new building at 3rd and Robinson is proceeding according to schedule. With all scarce materials purchased and stored, it is anticipated that there will be no delays to prevent moving into the new building as planned sometime in December, 1952.

OKMULGEE, Public Library—A bond election on August 5 will determine improvements in the physical plant. A new roof, new furnace, and general renovating are on the agenda if the bonds pass.

Reading interest of the children of Okmulgee has been increased by a radio program, supervised by the children’s librarian. Stories are often told by the librarian, but more often by the children themselves.

PONCA CITY, Public Library—Ponca City recently honored Mrs. Gertrude K. Sterba on the completion of her twenty-fifth year as librarian. Newspaper articles, gifts, and teas marked the anniversary. The Library Board held a special meeting and coffee in her honor, passed a resolution commending her for leadership in and service to the community, and presented her with a silver bowl. During this twenty-five year period under Mrs. Sterba’s direction the library has more than tripled its book collection, has greatly increased library use, and completed a building program. Mrs. Sterba has always been active in O.L.A., having served as both president and vice-president.

WOODWARD, Carnegie Library—A new plaque, designed and lettered by high school students, has been placed in the library. The lettering reads, “Woodward Carnegie Library, Established May 1911.” Below are the words, “Information with Friendly Service,” which is the motto chosen by library patrons in January 1952.

Miss Metta Woodward, librarian, reports a great deal of interest and enthusiasm in the vacation reading project, Round-Up Reading Club. The club is being sponsored by the Elks Rodeo Association, the Carnegie Library, and the Oklahoma Library Commission.

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12
ENID, Vance Air Base—Alice Dunlap, formerly editor of the ALA Bulletin, has returned to her home in Enid and is librarian of the Vance Air Base.

MANGUM, Public Library—Miss Myrna Taylor has been appointed library assistant starting August 1. Miss Taylor, a high school senior, takes this work as a student of Diversified Occupations.

MIAMI, Miami Junior College—Alberta Waters, librarian, has resigned to be married. Laura Catlin has been appointed to succeed Miss Waters.

NORMAN, University of Oklahoma—Stanley Mc Elderry joined the staff of the University of Oklahoma Library in April 1952 as Assistant Director and Associate Professor of Library Science. Mr. Mc Elderry attended the University of Southern California (B.A., B.A., in L.S.), and the University of Chicago Graduate Library School. His former positions include Head of Circulation at the University of Minnesota Library; librarian of the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation, Los Angeles; and Administrative Assistant to the Director of Libraries of the University of Chicago.

Mrs. Ann Petty Brazile has been appointed Library School reviser beginning September 1952.

Miss Mary Elizabeth Browne has been chosen to receive the Herrick Award as the outstanding student in Library School during the year 1951-52.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Oklahoma City Libraries—Robert Schmidt, alumnus of the Oklahoma City Libraries staff as part-time stacks assistant during his under-graduate days, received the B.A. in L.S. degree from O. U. this spring and has returned to the library staff as an Assistant Reference Librarian.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Oklahoma City Libraries—Mrs. Frances Watkins Penfold has returned to the staff while her husband is overseas.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Oklahoma City University—Juanita Means, Reference Librarian, is attending the summer quarter of the University of Denver Library School.

PONCA CITY, Public Library—Mrs. Caroline Siler has been employed as assistant, starting May 1, 1952.

Miss Shirley Stangeland, part-time assistant for five years while attending high school, received a $500.00 scholarship from the Continental Oil Company. She will attend college at Bethany.

SHAWNEE, Oklahoma Baptist University—Lee Spencer, Librarian, is attending the University of Oklahoma this summer, where he is studying toward a doctor's degree.

Granville Mays, a 1949 graduate of the University of Oklahoma School of Library Science, has been appointed reference librarian at O.B.U.

STILLWATER, Oklahoma A. and M. College—Edmon Lew, Librarian, is spending the summer at Ann Arbor, Michigan, where he is a member of the faculty of the University of Michigan Library School.

WEATHERFORD, Southwestern State College—Miss Joanne Thompson, of Pa-
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from Peabody in June 1952.
OUT OF STATE, Mr. and Mrs. Marcel C.
Carol, and Vera Jane Godown, all O. U.
graduates, are now members of the Kan­
sas City Public Library Staff.
Mrs. Doris Alexander Wheeler (Okla.,
'45) is working in the S.M.U. Library
while her husband is overseas.
S/Sgt. Henry D. Moorman (Okla., '51) is
stationed at the Rapid City Air Force
Base in Weaver, South Dakota, where
he is assistant librarian.
Chester H. Linscheid (Okla., '34) is Presi­
dent-Elect of the New Mexico Library
Association. Mr. Linscheid is librarian
of the New Mexico A. and M. College.

Mary Hays Marable
Receives Service Award

Mrs. Mary Hays Marable, Assoc . iate Pro­
fessor of Library Science at the University
of Oklahoma, was presented the Distin­
guished Service Award of the Oklahoma
Library Association at the annual meeting
in Chickasha on April 18, 1952. Miss Esther
McRuer, Chairman of the Awards Com­
mittee, introduced Mr. Jesse L. Rader who
presented the citation to Mrs. Marable.
This award is the highest the state asso­
ciation grants, and is given “to the indi­
vidual professional librarian who has effec­
tively demonstrated for a period of ten
years or more a valid, thorough and imagi­
native concept of librarianship and library
service, and has expressed that concept in
actual practice.” Mrs. Marable was hon­
ored for her work as a teacher of library
science, her contributions to library litera­
ture, and her outstanding personality in
the field of librarianship.

O.L.A. Officers

Officers of the Oklahoma Library Asso­
ciation for the year 1952-1953 were elect­
ed at the annual meeting in Chickasha, April
19, 1952. They are as follows:
President—Miss Eugenia Maddox, Lib­
brarian, University of Tulsa Library.
1st Vice President and President-Elect—
Miss Virginia LaGrave, Librarian, Tinker
Air Force Base, Oklahoma City.
2nd Vice President—Mrs. Leta Dover,
Librarian, Bacone College.
Secretary—Miss Lucy Ann Babcock,
Oklahoma Library Commission.
Treasurer—Mr. Joe Templeton, Tulsa
Public Library.
ALA Councilor—Mr. Ralph Hudson, Li­
brarian, State Library, Oklahoma City.

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MEET THE AUTHORS
BRIEF NOTES ON OUR CONTRIBUTORS

DAVID CLIFT has been ALA Executive Secretary since September 1951. He is a native of Kentucky, and is a graduate of the Columbia University School of Library Service. Prior to his present position he was associated with the New York Public Library and Columbia University. He served in the U. S. Army from 1942 to 1945. In 1945 he was a member of the Library of Congress mission to Germany in search of foreign books for American research. He came to ALA from his position as Associate Librarian of Yale University.

MARY HAYS MARABLE has been a member of the faculty of the University of Oklahoma School of Library Science since 1937. She has a B. S. and M. S. in Library Science from the University of Illinois. Mrs. Marable was librarian of Oklahoma City University from 1926 to 1937, and has had numerous articles published in the professional journals.

LEE B. SPENCER has been librarian of Oklahoma Baptist University since 1938. He is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma and the University of Illinois Library School. He was on the staff of the Carnegie Library, Shawnee, and was an instructor at O. B. U. before becoming librarian. Recently he has assumed the added responsibility of Dean of Men.

GASTON LITTON is Archivist of the University of Oklahoma, and served as president of the Oklahoma Library Association during the past year. Dr. Litton received his B.A. in L.S. from the University of Oklahoma. Before returning to Oklahoma he was assistant archivist of the U. S. National Archives, and librarian of the University of Panama. He is a frequent contributor to historical periodicals, and is co-author, with Dr. E. E. Dale, of "Cherokee Cavaliers."

Necrology

Mrs. Amy Cosette Gottry, 87, pioneer Sand Springs resident, died at her home on January 16, 1952 after a long illness. Sand Springs had been her home since 1919. Mrs. Gottry had been librarian of the Page Memorial Library from 1924 until her retirement in 1946. Friends have said that the happiest event in Mrs. Gottry's long service as a librarian was the day she opened the doors of the beautiful Page Memorial Library to the public in March 1930.

Mrs. Ruth Fuller Tolson, 81, died in Pawhuska on June 30, 1952. Mrs. Tolson was librarian of the Pawhuska Public Library for seventeen years until her retirement in June 1947.

The Oral Book Review

(Continued from Page 7)

he may add to and interpret the author's ideas.

The ideal way to review any book is to tell just enough about it to whet the hearers' interest so that they will be determined to read it. That must be the point of view of the librarian, as he is not interested in mere entertainment, but in inducing people to read more and better books. But the fact is that not many people will come to hear such a review. For the large part of a typical book review audience is composed of non-readers. We must keep in mind that only one in four people in the United States uses the public library,
The only justification for the giving of reviews in which the entire book is discussed is that many non-readers will know something of the trends in modern literature.

Some audiences prefer only the latest books; they want to know the books that “everyone” is talking about. To others the date of publication makes little difference; it is the quality of the book that is important.

A book review may be sheer entertainment or it may be a form of adult education. In either case the reviewer should have his material well-in-hand; he should also have himself well-in-hand so that he does not appear nervous or in any way show that he has stage fright (remember the old saying, “The audience did not come here to watch you suffer”); and he should bear in mind that one hour is as long as most audiences will listen at one sitting without becoming restless.

William Random: Librarian

(Continued from Page 3)

Reaching for a second cup of coffee, Bill really considers this one—What would they do, for instance, with the works of Thomas Jefferson. Going on through the morning’s paper he finds arguments in favor of strengthening the Welfare State, and loud arguments from the supporters of rugged individualism. He finds new items of scientific progress—all with the accent upon destruction. Will we harness the forces of the atomic age, or is this where the world wipes the slate clear once more, including us in the process? The global outlook includes much about NATO, by which the free world tries in a patriotic way to remain free. Will it work or won’t it? And again, which one of all the presidential candidates is doing the straightest thinking? The pages that morning were particularly full of the current arguments relating to military men.

Compton’s Pictured Encyclopedia

In its 1952 edition Compton’s continues the dynamic growth that has made it an indispensable library and classroom tool.

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in the White House. Bill finds himself wondering with J. Wesley Smith, that admirable teacher of history, if someone must not have remarked concerning Thomas Jefferson's candidacy, "I have nothing against Mr. Jefferson personally, but I am not sure we want a civilian in the White House."

Such in brief is a sampling of the activities headlined in Bill's world. But to the thoughtful librarian, while the world may be troubled it is also at its exciting best in its challenges and opportunities to us as citizens of the community, state, nation and the world.

The world of today's librarian is not a world of books for the sake of books, but a world of ideas and issues in which the books and the skills of librarians is an effective and sought after agency for the betterment of man and man's estate. That was really always the aim, but now it is imperative.

I think that with all of the grave matters with which we are faced, perhaps because of them, this is the time of all times in our country's history when one would choose to be a librarian, for there are conflicts abroad in our world, conflicts of many kinds, and librarians are, whether they choose it or not, right there on the battleground.

While the times and the issues may confuse us, we do not have to be quite as frightened as we probably are. But confusion is a champion begetter of fear, and the first and enduring approach to our problems—an approach without which we will never make a lasting success of any adventures which may come to us on the field of battle—lies in straight thinking and a purposeful reliance upon values.

"Never before has it been so hard for the people to think," said President Clarence R. Graham of the A.L.A. last year, "and never before in history has it been so vitally important that people do think. Never before have libraries had the unique opportunity which faces them at the present time."

There was never a time before when truth was so anxiously sought or so desperately needed by the average man and woman whose world this is. This historical moment, in which men are so in search of facts and knowledge in order to understand and be reassured and spiritually uplifted, leads straight to the library, for to no other community agency can the citizen ever turn with such certainty of unbiased assistance. We often refer to libraries as storehouses of knowledge. They are in truth that, but today, by virtue of man's search for information and the skill of librarians, libraries are no longer warehouses in which supplies are stored, but are department stores in the market place of ideas. Gone, happily, are the days when libraries were museums and librarians were custodians. We might still occasionally pride ourselves on being custodians of the past, but so must we remind ourselves is the keeper of the local cemetery. The point is that libraries are great agencies of information and their form, as
such, is the process of determination by
the customers. Mr. Ford put out a con-
traption on wheels called the Model T,
but it was the needs of the customers,
added to the producer's ingenuity, that
eventually produced today's Fordomatic
Drive.

I would like to venture the firm opinion
that the issues of the day will be decided
well, and in a way that will give hope not
alone to the people of this country, but
hope to all of the world for all future time
—if—the solutions are built upon freedom
of opinion and an informed citizenry.

If those terms sound old-fashioned—
and they do—it is but another measure of
the crisis of our times, for the times seem
to demand that we hearken back to old
phrases and to older understandings.

The American tradition of free inquiry,
of freedom of information free from cen-
sorship—in short the right of any man or
woman to have information and to hold
opinions on all subjects and to discuss
these subjects freely is increasingly chal-
lenged today. This American tradition is
threatened today—more, it appears, from
within our country than from the forces
behind the Iron Curtains of the world.

As pointed out by Mr. Claude M. Fuess
in a recent article in the Saturday Review
of Literature, the threat to the American
way of life that we seem to find within
our borders today takes the form of an
increasing insistence upon conformity in
thought and action. It is disturbing to find
groups insisting that to think differently
from them is an evidence of disloyalty. As
a result of this we may be in danger of
developing a tolerance for the orthodox
view only, an intolerance for the fullest
and freest discussion and for honest and
questioning examination.

These advocates of conformity are
strong in lung power and skilled in the
techniques of fear. They take forceful
steps to see to it that we believe only what
they believe, that we teach only what they
think should be taught, and that we read
and have in our libraries only the books
they have approved. These groups are

vocal and persuasive in fighting free
opinion and expression, and have made
their views prevail in more than one
school or one library in this country.

Some of the greatest of our statesmen
might fare badly indeed if they were living
and writing in 1952. Thomas Jefferson
might especially be in trouble if he were
here to repeat his words that "a little re-
bellion now and then is a good thing." Some of our Senators would regard that
statement as subversive talk to be
promptly suppressed by force if necessary.
Yet the monument to Thomas Jefferson
still stands in Washington, and today we
quote with pride what he said of the
university which he founded: "This institu-
tion will be based on the illimitable
freedom of the human mind. For here we
are not afraid to follow truth wherever
it may lead, nor to tolerate error so long
as reason is left free to combat it."

And up in Framingham, Massachusetts,
on Independence Day in 1854, William

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Lloyd Garrison was speaking at a gathering of abolitionists. After describing the Constitution of the United States as "a covenant with death and an agreement with hell" he publicly burned a copy of that document crying "so perish all compromises with tyranny!"

Mr. Garrison's act was a foolish one. He acted as a misguided fanatic which only discredited him and accomplished nothing towards the freedom of the Negro, but the interesting fact is that although Garrison was denounced by some of the conservative newspapers he was in no way officially called to account for his remarks either by the courts or by a Congressional committee. Nobody seems to have been afraid that Mr. Garrison would be able to abrogate the Constitution. What would happen today if any so called "liberal" committed a similar absurdity may be left to the imagination. It is certain that he would be brought before a loyalty board and that his position would be precarious.

The nation was not then afraid of difference of opinion and thought, but today, when the nation is actually and relatively far stronger, we are dominated by fear so pervasive that in some areas it approached hysteria. It is common place now for attacks to be made by frightened men upon independence of thought, nonconformity, and dissent.

Justice Douglas, in a recent article, wrote that we weaken ourselves when we become afraid of new ideas and when we are controlled by the opinions of others. "The great danger of this period," he wrote, "is not inflation, nor the national debt, nor atomic warfare. The great, the critical danger is that we will so limit or narrow the range of permissible discussion and permissible thought that we will become victims of the orthodox school. Once we narrow the range of discussion and thought, we will surrender a great deal of our power. We will become like the man on the toboggan who can ride it but can neither steer it nor stop it."

He went on to say, "The mind of man must always be free. The strong society is one that encourages freedom of thought and expression . . . When there is that freedom, a nation will have resiliency and adaptability . . . and . . . will keep its balance and stability."

If these dangers exist today—if it is true that there are real and not imaginary forces at work in our country to cause people to be fearful of discussing openly all questions and freely expressing opinions on them—and if these forces strive to control our thinking and reading through the censorship of ideas—then a great measure of responsibility and duty and opportunity comes to rest with us as librarians. For the library can be a real force in seeing to it that opinions are freely formed by providing information on all sides of controversial questions, and by stimulating reading and study and the fullest discussion of these questions.

And here is the great challenge and opportunity which the public library faces today. Its job is to help people form...
opinions by providing them with access to all the information and all the viewpoints. Its job is to assist us, in this complex society in which we live, to bring an informed judgment to bear upon many perplexing problems . . . and its job is to fight, through the free availability of information, those forces that seek to make up our opinions for us—or to restrict our opinions—through a technique of fear and a dependence upon apathy.

How can the public library best meet these challenges?

In no way can it better serve the community than to dedicate its resources and responsibilities to the idea of an informed and enlightened citizenry. It has the chance now, as never before, to awaken interest in and stimulate reading and discussion on crucial problems, to lend its community provided resources to the improvement of our ability to participate usefully in the activities in which we are involved as citizens of the community, of the U. S., and of the world. It can actively help us develop a constructively critical attitude toward all the public issues in which we are so greatly concerned today.

Hemingway's great novel about the Spanish Civil War has made popular a passage from John Donne which applies today—"No man is an Island, intire of it selfe; every man is a peace of the Continent, a part of the maine; if a Clod bee washed away by the Sea, Europe is the lesse, as well as if a Promontorie were, as well as if a Manor of thy friends or of Thine owne were; any mans death diminishes me, because I am involved in Mankind; And therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls: It tolls for thee."

Stanley Pargellis, Director of the Newberry Library in Chicago, said in an article in the American Heritage, "The bell can be said to toll whenever the man on the street does not know what America means to him; or the boy in Korea has no answer for why he fights. Any man's ignorance in such matters diminishes the democracy to which he belongs, an increase of ignorance means the eventual washing away of democracy itself. Only an informed citizenry can preserve the citadel of liberty."

That all of these problems exist—of that there is no doubt. That it is our plain duty as responsible men and women to bend our main energies toward a solution—there can be no question. That we need to work together with all the agencies interested in the common good—:with that there can be no quarrel. That the libraries and librarians of our country have a task of utmost importance, a task given to them by virtue of performance and embraced by them through conviction and a sense of service—that there is such a task and such an acceptance is abundantly clear.

Libraries on the public square and those in schools and colleges share alike in this.

The college and university libraries have special tasks of great importance—for they are to a large degree the arsenals of scholarly investigation and research, the laboratories for the kind of education that makes continuing adult education possible and likely. Here in the college library we need to face up to the need for college reading to play a more active part in the educational process—to be a force of its own and not alone the agent of the instructor. In our university and research libraries, we are at a period when the highest kind of statesmanship is going to be required of us. The printing presses not only outrun the library's financial ability and its shelving space, but they have just about made our bibliographical controls inadequate. Unless the signs are all misleading, the next decade should bring much that is exciting and constructive in regional and cooperative planning among our college and university libraries.

The public library has before it the imperative need for a more positive program to allow it to become much more of an effective community agency, to build up what it has in resources and to carry these resources to the community, to take the library outside the walls. Especially do we face one pioneering and singularly
important need upon which much constructive planning and education must be done: the extension of library service to the rural areas and the 30,000,000 Americans who have access to books only through the medium of the mail order catalog. I believe that Oklahoma, like my native state of Kentucky, had a star in the Confederate flag—and I do not know the temper of either state today on state’s rights and Federal money, but I will venture the hope that both will support the Library Services Bill soon to come before the Congress, which will enable the country to take important strides in bringing information and books to all the people.

Such is one man’s view of the world of William Randorn, Librarian—and I am glad and happy to be a librarian in Bill’s world.

A Half-Century of Progress

(Continued from Page 4)

associated with our own libraries. Oklahoma was not yet a state, its strength and destiny were not yet known, its poverty of library resources was at once apparent.

Important cultural beginnings had already been made by the people of the Five Civilized Tribes through the libraries of their seminaries and academies and through the private book collections of many of their leading men and chiefs. Subsequently, with the settlement of Oklahoma Territory and the development of its schools further impetus was given to the library movement. Libraries were started in our Oklahoma towns which in some instances have brilliant records of service in community development. This page in our early cultural history is, however, an obscure one. Light is thrown on it here and there by known diaries and letters of our pioneer citizens already assembled and available for research. Other diaries, letters and other records of our distinguished first families should be collected and permanently preserved if we are to have a faithful and true picture of those days beyond recall.

Early Library Service in Oklahoma

No state benefitted more from Mr. Carnegie’s benevolence than Oklahoma. Beginning before we were yet a state, Mr. Carnegie made the first of his numerous contributions which eventually totalled nearly a half million dollars. In the purchasing power of that period, this represents quite a substantial sum to be received from one individual. Twenty-four buildings were erected in Oklahoma with Carnegie funds. The University of Oklahoma itself received $30,000. In this state, therefore, the great steelmaker will be forever remembered as the man who knew the power of books and wished others to share in that strength.

In that period immediately following statehood the Oklahoma Federation of Women’s Clubs found ways to reach many readers in the rural areas through travelling libraries. It is perhaps equally im
portant to remember that these clubs were active in keeping constantly before the state legislature the public's library needs and in securing legislation to provide those services.

Finally, a dozen years after statehood, the Oklahoma Library Commission was created by legislative action. Under Mrs. J. R. Dale who filled the secretaryship of the Commission from 1919 until her retirement in the fall of 1950, the Commission found innumerable ways to serve readers beyond the reach of local libraries, to provide books also for the blind, and to direct home reading courses for other adults who wished to "read with a purpose."

Our state library, located in the Capitol and for the past fifteen years under the energetic leadership of Mr. Ralph Hudson, has found new horizons for its excellent service.

Seven months before statehood, the librarians of the Twin Territories met to form the Oklahoma Library Association which has worked consistently for the improvement of library standards, the creation of libraries in our schools and other public institutions, and in the general interest of culture and progress. This state professional group soon affiliated with the American Library Association and began to partake of the benefits of this new national tieup. In time members of the Oklahoma Library Association assumed their place in the councils of the national association, helping to form its policies, furnishing its officers and committeemen.

In the 1930s, when federal funds became available for much local construction, many towns and cities over the state secured handsome new library buildings. Built with native labor, and often with native stone, these new structures are landmarks in beauty and in service.

The year 1930 saw the completion and occupation of the new library building at O.U. With appropriate ceremonies this new structure was dedicated as "Oklahoma's Crown Jewel," truly a thing of beauty.

Twenty years have now gone by—the student body has tripled and the book collection for these multiple readers now numbers over 300,000 volumes, in addition to countless government documents, bound periodicals, and the several special collections. The donations of patriotic citizens of their treasures have greatly enriched the holdings of the O.U. Library. A most notable special library of western materials has been assembled at the University through funds provided by Mr. Frank Phillips during his lifetime.

A Library School was established at O.U. in 1929 under the direction of Professor J. L. Rader, who also served as University librarian during much of the past half-century. Already the Library School has sent forth nearly 500 young men and women to occupy library posts of responsibility and trust throughout Oklahoma. Many of the graduates have gone out of the state to take library positions and a few of these have likewise been selected to go abroad on special missions where the technical know-how of Americans in the field of library science is also known, appreciated, and sought.

**Growth and Aspirations**

In a survey of library progress during the past half-century, there is much which merits the pride of our citizens. Our collections of books have grown in number and suitability to our vast reading public of diversified interests. Methods of library service have also been perfected to a point where they are representative of the finest in man's technical accomplishments. Some of the recently constructed buildings represent functional architecture in its highest plane of usefulness combined with beauty. It may also be reported that the personnel of the library profession in the United States has improved immeasurably. Rarely does the deserving taxpayer now find a pensioner or a drone in the library position of responsibility. Furthermore, one cannot fail to admire the valiant efforts of already overworked librarians to adjust their schedules to allow partici-
pation in civic activities and to extend library service to all members of the community in ratio with their needs.

Much remains to be done. The next few months see the completion at the Oklahoma A. and M. College of a long-overdue new library building. Plans for this building, painstakingly developed by Mr. Edmon Low, give every indication that it will be the finest library structure in the Southwest. This will, indeed, make all Oklahomans proud. Perhaps it will arrest the attention of administrative officials in every section of the state where crowded reading quarters and inadequate space for books have long been a deterrent to good service.

Our responsibility to conserve our cultural and social heritage through books and libraries should be a constant challenge to greater effort. The educational value which libraries have should always enlist the aid of the great legion of school men and women everywhere. The recreational value which libraries have should elicit the support of countless others.

Our long-range objectives for the next half-century, based on the precept of a public enlightened and entertained by reading, should call for libraries in all counties of the state, in all towns and villages where now no public reading rooms exist. These objectives should call for more adequate facilities in all other places where boys and girls, young men and women, are training and preparing themselves for the places which soon they will assume in a democracy.

To paraphrase the words of the dean of Oklahoma libraries uttered at the dedication of the library at the Oklahoma Baptist University, libraries may be the means of inspiring some as yet unborn Milton, Newton, or Michelangelo. Libraries will raise the level of literacy, perhaps they may direct some youthful mind away from crime and vice, make the wheels of industry spin more freely, unlock the hidden mysteries of science, literature, art, and even life itself. In this responsible role

Oklahoma libraries, with the thousands of others in this land of ours, will in the course of the next half-century aid in the dissemination of knowledge and truth throughout the world.

Library Trends: A New Quarterly

The first issue of a new professional journal in librarianship, Library Trends, has been announced for July, 1952 by the University of Illinois Library School.

According to the publisher "each issue will be built around a particular topic, and will be edited by a guest issue editor, chosen because of his or her authoritative-ness on the central topic of the issue. All articles will be by invitation. Each issue will contain about 100 printed pages. There will be no news notes, no book reviews, nor other regular departments."

The first issue will be devoted to "Current Trends in College and University Library Development," with Robert B. Downs as issue editor. Dr. Arthur B. McNally, Director of Libraries at the University of Oklahoma, is a contributor to this issue with an article on "Organization of College and University Libraries." The three issues to follow will cover current trends in special library development, school library development, and public library development.

Inquiries and subscriptions should be directed to Library Trends, University of Illinois, Library School, Urbana, Illinois. The price is $5.00 a year, with single issues priced at $2.00.

A.L.A.'s newly created position of associate executive secretary has been filled by the appointment of Mrs. Grace Thomas Stevenson. Mrs. Stevenson has been at A.L.A. headquarters for the past year directing the American Heritage project.
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