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# THE OKLAHOMA LIBRARIAN

Official Journal of the Oklahoma Library Association

**PUBLISHED SEMI-ANNUALLY**

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Number 1

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A Message from the OLA President

The partnership of librarians and teachers, one of the subjects we discussed at our last annual meeting, must be more thoroughly explored if we are to be true "merchants of the mind" and effective "dealers in ideas," and if our libraries are to be something more than "morgues of culture."

Cooperation is a distinctly American characteristic. It exists in practically all phases of our life—in government, public welfare, health, schools. Cooperation is not new to librarians who have enjoyed for many years the fruits of cooperative effort expressed in inter-library loans, joint bibliography and indexing projects, cooperative buying and processing programs, and even book storage in the larger cities. Libraries and schools, however, exist side by side in many communities oblivious to the possibilities of cooperative planning. Individually and within our own professions, we librarians and teachers have realized the necessity for cooperation. Yet we continue to feel the pinch of financial strain which could in some instances be lessened by coordinating our programs. The new national emergency, of which by now we are all beginning to be aware in our separate institutions, will certainly bring in its wake many shortages, an increased turnover of employees, greater opportunities for service, and a host of other exceptional conditions which are reminiscent of the recent past.

The cooperation which should exist between every librarian and teacher in a given community, and which does flourish between many representatives of the two sister professions in other states, can become a singular characteristic of our Oklahoma teachers and librarians. Let's share our resources in books, films, and recordings. Let's work out institutional schedules that will mesh, rather than conflict. Let's cooperate in tracing lost materials, share talent, develop projects for the training of clerical and other help. With many of us in some Oklahoma cities and towns it will mean beginning at the most important of all efforts—getting acquainted. Fortunately, with many it will mean strengthening already-formed lines of exchange. Whatever may be the status of your relations with your colleagues in the teaching field, let's consider this just a beginning from which to start anew and with renewed inspiration at meeting the challenge of these uncertain times.

This partnership of teachers and librarians can be immensely profitable. It can also be fun. Let's cooperate!

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How About Our Libraries?

According to the most recent figures from state library agencies, 30 million people in the United States are without access to a local public library. Of these, 1,305,000 live in Oklahoma. (That is 58.4 percent of our population). Four hundred eighty-eight counties in the United States have no library service at all; 13 of these counties are in Oklahoma. (That is approximately 17 percent of our area). The annual per capita expenditure for public library service for the United States averages 73 cents; Oklahoma’s annual per capita expenditure for libraries is 28 cents.

As tension in the world increases and the conflict of ideas grows, it is increasingly important that all channels of information and education be augmented to insure an alert and informed citizenship capable of sound judgment on the critical issues of the day. This is a vital function of the free public library, especially today.

Another important function of the public library is to supplement the work of the schools. Three million five hundred thousand rural boys and girls are getting an inferior education. Since Korea, the equivalent of 14 divisions of men unable to meet the education requirements of Selective Service have been rejected.

The average American spends only about eight and one-half years in school. Another important function of the public library is to help him continue his education during the remaining 7/8 of his life. One-third of the nation’s population is in the $2,000 income bracket. Lack of education limits their opportunity to improve their status.

The national average per capita expenditure for elementary and secondary schools is $33.69, while the per capita income for libraries averages 73 cents. In Oklahoma, the discrepancy is even greater: $188 as opposed to 28 cents.

Of the money spent for public schools, 35.2 percent comes from the states and 62.3 percent from county and local sources. The remaining 2.5 percent comes from the federal government.

In contrast, more than 95 percent of the money spent for public library service comes from local and county sources. The remainder, less than five percent, comes from state funds. None comes from the federal government.

The federal government has recognized responsibility for certain types of informal education through the $200 million postal subsidy to newspapers and magazines, and in the support of agricultural extension programs. These programs, along with federal aid to education, are continuous, while the proposed library service program is an incentive measure for a limited period only. The Library Services Bill asks for a maximum appropriation of $7,500,000 a year for only five years.

Five hundred thousand rural-educated boys and girls annually go to the city for their productive years. Cities do have a direct interest in the quality and quantity of education available to rural families. However, that is not the only migration within the country. Sixty percent of the American people now reside in states other than those of their birth. To be assured that enlightened and informed citizens come into a new community, adequate informal and formal educational opportunities must be provided throughout the country.

There is a growing recognition of the vital services of the free public library in providing the opportunity for continuous education, self-improvement, recreation and culture for people of all ages and circumstances. Inadequate financial support makes the proper fulfillment of this task impossible.

Ultimately a broadened local tax base, together with state aid when necessary, will be needed to provide continuing effective library service for rural areas. The Library Services Bill is designed to stimulate both state and local interest in and

(Continued on Page 20)
The Passing of a Grand Old Lady

The obituary columns had nothing to say about it, but in Oklahoma City this fall a prominent figure expired. She was well past her prime, but was still very active. She lived to serve others, but the consequences of old age were limiting her service.

She was the Carnegie Public Library.

On the familiar corner where she stood, serving the people of the city day after day for 50 years, a new creation has begun. The new Oklahoma City Public Library is under construction.

The decision of the Oklahoma City Library Board to build the new main library building on the site of the old building was a happy solution to an increasingly difficult problem, as suitable available sites in the downtown area became more and more scarce. But to many people the northeast corner of the intersection of NW Third and Robinson is the library corner, and to them it seems only natural that the library has decided to stay put among familiar surroundings and at the same address where mail has been received for the past 50 years.

The original Carnegie building was completed in August, 1901. Constructed of yellow brick and limestone, it was “heated by steam and lighted by electricity,” and the fixtures and appointments were described as “very elegant.” As early as 1908 the building was so overcrowded that an addition to the north was made, and except for minor renovating, this is the form in which the building existed until its recent demolition.

In 1969, when construction was begun, the appearance of this area was of course quite different from that presented by the intersection today. Then the north end of town was bounded by 7th Street. Beyond 7th Street lay open land where families living in town took their cows to pasture. The streets were unpaved, though the following year (1901) the first paving contracts in the city were awarded. The area between Robinson and Broadway on Third was completely residential. The library was erected on a vacant lot where for a time a man in the well-digging business had maintained a small shack to carry on his business. Diagonally across from the site, on the southwest corner of the intersection, was the lumber yard belonging to Alonzo Ketcham, who was a member of the first Board of Directors.

Other residences occupied the surrounding areas, followed in later years by small businesses and churches, and then by imposing structures such as the Braniff Building and Federal Building.

In the early days the library building commanded an imposing view of the surrounding residential area, located as it was almost at the summit of the rise extending from Main Street to Fourth. In later years it had become dwarfed and shabby in comparison with the new, many-storied buildings rising around it. In addition, it actually became unsafe for occupancy, and threatened at any moment to descend about the ears of librarians and readers alike in a cloud of plaster and debris.

As a result of the May, 1950, bond issue election, funds amounting to a million and a half dollars became available for public library construction in Oklahoma City, and in November this year footings were poured for the new building to be constructed by the J. J. Bollinger Company of Oklahoma City. The library continues to serve the public from temporary quarters in the Roosevelt Junior High School, 912 N. Klein, and from the newly completed Capitol Hill Branch Library at SW 26th and Hudson. By autumn, 1952, the new main building should be ready for occupancy, and in a kind of reincarnation a

(Continued on Page 23)
A.L.A.'s Seventy-Fifth Anniversary Books

The 75th anniversary of the A. L. A. has been celebrated throughout the year with the theme "The Heritage of the U. S. A. in Times of Crisis." According to Mr. Ralph E. Ellsworth, Chairman of the Anniversary Committee, the year was to be devoted to a "restatement of the American heritage in terms of present-day crises." Its objective was "to stimulate general thinking on the problem of how to defend our freedom by understanding its origin and its application to the great problems of today."

To implement this plan, A. L. A. assisted in the creation of two books published by Harper and Brothers in October. The first, *This American People* (New York, Harper and Brothers, 1951. $2.75), by Gerald W. Johnson, takes a new look at the underlying principles on which the United States was founded, and re-examines them in the light of problems facing citizens today. He explores his theme in appropriate chapters on "Free Speech is for Bold People," "Freedom of Conscience is for Reasonable People," "Free Enterprise is for Honest People," "Freedom of Inquiry is for Hopeful People," and concludes with "Freedom of Opportunity is for Great People."

The second volume, *Living Ideas in America* (New York, Harper and Brothers, 1951. $6.00), is in the nature of a companion volume to the first, and illustrates with source materials the topics covered in Mr. Johnson's book. This book of basic writings was compiled and edited by Henry Steel Commager, the well-known historian and author. The writings included are both old and new—as old as William Bradford and as new as David Lilienthal's moving confession of faith, "This I Deeply Believe."

These two books will appropriately and lastingly mark the celebration of an important 75th anniversary. Their publication was made possible by the generosity of Gardner M. Cowles, editor of *Look* magazine, and the cooperation of the authors and Harper and Brothers. In these days of unrest both books should have a prominent place on library shelves throughout America.

Edmon Low Speaks to Librarians' Section, O.E.A.

Miss Eunice Cochrum presided as Chairman at the Librarians' Section of the Oklahoma Education Association which convened in Oklahoma City on October 12, 1951. The program consisted of two speakers and a color film.

Mr. Edmon Low, Librarian, Oklahoma A. & M. College, spoke on the development of school libraries since the war, pointing out that administrators, schools of education and accrediting associations have all shown that they are aware of the importance of the secondary school library. However, far too little attention has been focused on the elementary school library. Mr. Low stated that he felt encouraged about the quality of books now being published for children and young people, and was pleased with the growing membership of school librarians in the American Library Association.

Mrs. Elizabeth Getz, Shawnee, chose the topic "Library Experience for Every Child." Library orientation and helping seventh and eighth grade students feel independent in the library was the theme of her talk.

"What's Bookin'?", a color film made by Miss Viola Jayne, Lee School, Oklahoma City, was shown. Miss Jayne read the script, assisted by some of the students who appeared in the film. The moving picture demonstrates the activities and the importance of the elementary school library.

The nominating committee proposed the following candidates, who were accepted:

Chairman, Mr. Edmon Low; Vice-Chairman, Mrs. Dorothy Hamilton; Secretary, Miss Mary Leach.
Aftermath of Fire at Oklahoma City University

Oklahoma City University Library is recovering from its disastrous fire of June 2. After the smoke and flames had cleared away, we were faced with the smoky, dirty task of sorting our books into those only smoke-damaged, those needing minor repairs, those that could be rebound, and those totally destroyed. With the medical dictionary as a guide, we labeled these groups as first, second, third, and fourth degree burns. At the present time we can report 3,000 catalogued books with fourth degree burns. Progress has been made in removing these books from our records, and many of them have been replaced. Two thousand five hundred books are being rebound, and almost 1,000 have been repaired in our own mending department. All smoke-damaged books have been re-marked and returned to the shelves. Until a complete inventory is taken, an accurate statement of losses cannot be made.

The Library staff is grateful for the generous contributions of books and money which the library has received, largely through an organization sponsored by the Alumni Association, whose slogan is the "Book or Better Club."

With the cooperation of the maintenance department, rebuilding and redecorating were completed before the opening of the fall term. Returning students have assured us that the library looks more attractive than ever, but we cannot recommend this way of obtaining much needed improvements!

There is a moral to this story, and it concerns your library's insurance coverage. All libraries face the danger of underinsurance because of additions constantly being made to collections, and the increased cost of books and labor.

A survey of library literature reveals a dearth of information on fires and the salvaging of books, which seems to indicate that such disasters are not frequent. Some of the questions which merit careful consideration, before a fire, are these: Is your insurance coverage adequate? Has your valuation kept pace with your growth? Are your library's contents and building insured separately? Do you have a co-insurance clause? Are your shelf lists and card catalog insured under a valuable papers policy? Do you have a complete inventory of furniture and equipment?

Dorothy M. Singer's "The Insurance of Libraries" (A. L. A., 1946), is a most helpful manual and a careful reading or re-reading is recommended to every librarian at frequent intervals—before a fire!

State Library Resumes Publication of Bulletin

The Oklahoma State Library is resuming publication of its Bulletin, containing the Checklist of Oklahoma state documents received by the State Library.

The last issue published was volume 2, number 1, Jan.-Mar., 1949. In order to bring the publication up to date as rapidly as possible, volume 2, numbers 2-4, Apr.-Dec., 1949, will be combined in one issue; volume 3, 1950, and volume 4, 1951, will be published as annual volumes, one issue for each year.

Quarterly publication will be resumed with the first quarter of 1952.

PLAN TO ATTEND OUR ANNUAL MEETING

April 18-19, 1952
At Oklahoma College for Women, Chickasha
David H. Clift, ALA's New Executive Secretary Will Be Our Guest
Students Hear Prominent Librarians

Whether or not you feel that you are the most important person in town, your job as librarian is one of the most vital positions in your community. It can be the most important job in town. Because of his importance, it is the librarian's professional duty to attend to minor requests as though they were large ones.

The first of a series of three speakers, Mr. Clarence S. Paine, Director of Oklahoma City Libraries, lay stress on these facts in a talk delivered to Library Science students at Oklahoma University. Speaking on the subject "Librarians are People," Mr. Paine explained that when requests are prefixed with "I'm sorry to bother you—", the librarian should take stock of himself. "Where did people get the idea that they are bothering librarians? From the librarians themselves." Libraries acquire and keep customers by good service. The first visit may be the last, Mr. Paine asserts, unless the service rendered is courteous, pleasant, and helpful.

The second scheduled speaker was Mrs. Gertrude Sterba, Librarian, Ponca City Public Library. Discussing problems of the small public library which will soon become as big as life for many of the students, Mrs. Sterba offered the group practical pointers. A number of areas of library administration were discussed, including the budget, the staff, the book collection, service, and relations with the board of directors. When asked what is the most important asset that a librarian should possess in handling problems, Mrs. Sterba replied, "A sense of humor."

The organization and duties of the State Library Commission were explained to the group by the third speaker, Miss Elizabeth Cooper, Secretary of the Oklahoma Library Commission. The three component parts of the Commission are (1) the traveling libraries, furnishing clubs and community groups with books; (2) the individual loan department, circulating books to families, teachers and club leaders; (3) service to the blind, acting as an area library serving Oklahoma, Arkansas, and parts of Kansas and Texas. Miss Cooper demonstrated the talking book, and explained services rendered to the blind.

"Despite its growth, library service is not adequate in Oklahoma," Miss Cooper said. The Commission is available to give assistance and suggestions to communities contemplating a library. If possible, a member of the staff visits the community to get the venture underway. Many locales do not take advantage of this service, or do not follow through to success once it has begun.

"Some say that Oklahoma's library service is near the bottom of the list because we are a new State," Miss Cooper said, "but we are not that new. Our State can offer good service to all areas only by a concerted effort of librarians and laymen, and the opportunity is at hand in the form of the Library Services Bill."

![LIBRARY SUPPLIES](image)

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Library Dedicated at Connors State Agricultural College

The Jacob Johnson Library, named in honor of the president of Connors State Agricultural College, Warner, was dedicated Sunday afternoon, November 11, 1951, in ceremonies that packed the reading room to capacity. More than 400 parents, alumni, and prominent educators were present. Dial Currian, chairman of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, delivered the main address, and Dr. M. A. Nash, Chancellor, gave the dedicatory address. Presidents of a number of the state colleges were also present.

Designed to meet the needs of a growing junior college, the new library is the cultural center of the institution. Construction was begun in October, 1950, and was completed, ready for occupancy, in September, 1951. It occupies the entire second floor of the $290,000 structure which also houses the physical and social sciences, and part of the English department.

The building is centrally located on the oval of the campus and faces north. The main entrance to the building is through the foyer of the lower floor. A control entrance from the east gives direct access to the audio-visual classroom, serving also as an emergency exit. The building is designed in a broad “T”. Architecturally it harmonizes with other buildings on Connors campus. The major exterior walls of the fireproof building are of glass brick construction, providing a maximum of natural light.

The light maple furniture in the central reading room blends with the natural red birch finish of the interior walls. The reading room will seat 129 students. Upholstered corner chairs provide relaxed reading units.

Two conference rooms provide study space for groups and the staff for professional reading. The work room, with built-in cabinet and sink, is set apart from the rest of the library, but supervision of the central area is possible through the partial glass wall. Adjacent to the work room is a large storage area for unbound magazines.

The modern trend of having open book shelves is adhered to in the single-decked book stack area, equipped with switch connections to the overhead fluorescent lights. Four reading tables are provided in the stack area so that research students may be near the books. The library is designed for an ultimate capacity of 30,000 volumes.

The audio-visual unit of the library consists of a sound-proof recording room, a special classroom, and storage space. The recording room may be used by students of English, foreign language, and speech, to study records without disturbing the readers in the library itself. Recently purchased equipment for this unit includes a Keystone Overhead projector, a tape recorder, a filmstrip machine, and a 16 mm film projector. This equipment may be used in the library or checked out to teachers for use in the classroom.

The audio-visual classroom has a seating capacity of 60. The windows are darkened with light-proof shades, and it may be entered from the outside or by a door in the reading room. The ceiling is of acoustic material; the walls are sound-proof, and the room is wired for the convenient use of the A-V equipment. Provision was made for future installment of television.

The college librarian is responsible for the coordination of the audio-visual program as a part of the library routine. The building is so designed that the librarian can supervise all parts of the library at one time. The charging desk is in the central part of the library and within close (Continued on Page 22)
Elizabeth Cooper Attends Washington Meet

The first national meeting for librarians working with the blind was held in Washington, D. C., in November. Miss Elizabeth Cooper, Secretary of the Oklahoma Library Commission, attended the meeting, which was sponsored by the Library of Congress.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss problems peculiar to the service. The present federal law provides for service to adult blind, and there is an increasing demand for service to children. Representatives at the meeting were interested in H. R. 255, which will rectify the situation by removing the word "adult" from the law. This bill, largely an appropriation bill, is now in the House Committee on House Administration.

Other topics discussed included the survey being made to improve and standardize talking book machines, the problem of insufficient personnel, and the selection of Braille and talking books.

While in Washington, Miss Cooper spent time in the ALA Washington office in regard to the Library Services Bill. That office stressed the importance of individual librarians contacting Senators and Representatives from Oklahoma in order to gain their support of the Bill. Miss Cooper also visited Senators Kerr and Monroney in behalf of Oklahoma's interest in the Library Services Bill.

CAREER PAMPHLETS—If you are collecting career pamphlets, you will be interested in *Dietetics As A Profession* (32 p., illus.), published by the American Dietetics Association, 620 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago 11, Illinois.

The Association considers that the booklet represents its most complete brochure on the field of dietetics and the career open to persons who have met the academic and internship requirements. The price is 25 cents a copy, $2.00 for 100, $5.00 for 300.

Southwestern Association To Meet in Mexico City

Mexico City will be the site of the 1952 Southwestern Library Association convention, it was learned from Edmon Low, President. The tentative date is Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday preceding Thanksgiving, pending arrangements yet to be made.

President Low visited the Mexican consul in New Orleans in October to discuss such problems as getting the exhibits across the border duty free, and various local arrangements. The possibility of a chartered bus for Oklahoma librarians has been considered.

The summer issue of the *Oklahoma Librarian* will carry more definite details.

Are you interested in Better Oklahoma Libraries? Your congressman wants to know. Write him of your interest in the *Library Services Bill*.

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NEWS OF OKLAHOMA LIBRARIES

ANADARKO, Public Library — Wallace Kidd, editor and manager of the Anadarko Daily News, and Mrs. Neil Dikeman have been added to the library board.

BETHANY, Bethany-Peniel College—On September 5, Mrs. Elizabeth Willijs, college librarian, was graduated from the University of Michigan with the degree of Master of Arts in Library Science.

CLAREMORE, Will Rogers Library—A Book Fair, sponsored by the Claremore Book Club, was held in the library November 12-17. The money derived from the book sales will be donated to the library to buy books.

CLINTON, Public Library—Miss Elizabeth Cooper, secretary of the Oklahoma Library Commission, visited the library in October. She was guest speaker at the October meeting of the Library Advisory Council. The program was arranged as an observance of National Library Day. A column entitled “Clinton Library Notes” appears once a week in the local Daily News. Reviews of books, titles added to the Memorial Book Shelf and news items help to keep the public up-to-date on Library activities.

DURANT, Robert L. Williams Public Library—The Library Board is planning to redecorate the library and purchase a museum case.

ELK CITY, Carnegie Library—The library is now open until 8 p.m., on Monday and Tuesday nights as an added service to its patrons.

ENID, Public Library—The Library has recently been repainted. The Carnegie mantles and superfluous decoration were removed, the dome was blocked off, new lighting was installed, furniture was re-

finished and murals by Mrs. Max Nelson were done in the Children’s room.

Enid’s two enthusiastic Great Books groups meet in the Public Library. John Foster, editor of the Enid Events and James Meeks, Library Director, are the co-leaders.

The outstanding recent gift to the Enid Public Library was the original manuscript of “The Cherokee Strip” by Marquis James. Mr. James, a native of Enid, presented the manuscript at the time of the Cherokee Strip Celebration.

The attempt in July to combine the city of Enid Public Library and the Garfield County Public Library—both are housed in the Carnegie building in Enid—was unsuccessful. The city officials were willing but the county commissioners rejected the plan. Efforts are being made to reopen negotiations and to sell the project to the rural readers.

HOBART, Public Library—Eighty-two new gift books were presented to the library on National Library Day.

The library has started an interesting project. Current magazines are donated by the local citizens when they have finished with them. These are placed on a table in the vestibule with a notice that patrons may take any two copies. In the past year approximately 2,000 magazines have been distributed. It is believed that they are going into homes where there is practically no current material.

HENRYETTA, Public Library—The Girl Scouts have started a memorial shelf with a number of gifts of both books and money.

McALESTER, Public Library—Two members of the Library Board were honored
at an open house in July. They were Guy L. Andrews, president of the board since 1924 and a member since 1919; and W. C. Tippit, member since 1924. The Vacation Reading Club was stimulated with book reviews by the staff and reading club members.

With addition of a new roof the library was able to undergo redecoration of the office, reference and stack rooms.

MUSKOGEE, Public Library—During November Miss Gwen Britton, librarian of West High School, brought all English classes to the Public Library. Mrs. Armand Bass, Children's Librarian, briefly reviewed teen-age books. Students from Manual Training Junior High School visited the Wheatley Branch. Miss Gertrude Davis, city librarian, spoke to them on the value of using the library. Miss Davis has been visiting the Home Demonstration clubs in the county, speaking on library service, the possibilities of rural service, and urging that members avail themselves of the service rendered by the Muskogee Public Library through the medium of non-resident cards, which are issued for a fee of $1.00 a year.

NORMAN, Public Library—The children of Norman joined in the display of "New Horizons with Books" when the library observed National Children's Book Week, November 11-17. Boys and girls made puppets from numerous books on the subject in the library. The theme for the display of puppets was Neighborhood Fun. It is hoped that from this small beginning the library will be able to develop a neighborhood project with puppeteers giving shows on Saturdays, the librarian issuing tickets for each performance.

NORMAN, University of Oklahoma Library—The Library Staff Association became active this fall after having been organized during the summer session. The officers are: Ruth Spalding, assistant professor of Library Science, president; Mrs. Lucy Finnerty, librarian, Geology Library, vice-president; and Mary Evelyn Potts, assistant head of Cataloging Department, secretary-treasurer.

NORMAN, University of Oklahoma, School of Library Science—Summer school enrollment was 61, and the fall enrollment is 27. School was dismissed on October 12 so that students and teachers might attend the Librarians' section of the Oklahoma Education Association. Mrs. Mary Hays Marable, associate professor, spoke to the Negro librarians.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Oklahoma City Libraries—The fall, 1951, issue of American Heritage, publication of the American Association for State and Local History, includes an article by Oklahoma City's Bob Duncan, called "Million Dollar Witchery." This is an account of the fabulous history of those unorthodox oil prospectors known as "doodiebugs." In a letter to Duncan, Carl Carmer calls

(Continued on Page 19)
BRISTOW, Public Library—Bobble Craddock has been appointed assistant librarian, replacing her sister Arlene; who resigned in August to attend Draughon’s school of business in Tulsa.

CLINTON, Public Library—Sandra Johnston, sophomore in Clinton High School, is serving for the second consecutive year as student helper in the Public Library and Custer County Library.

DURANT, Oklahoma Presbyterian College Mrs. Lillian Crumpler has recently been appointed librarian. A native of Tennessee, she has taught in church, government and public schools of Oklahoma for a number of years. She holds an A. B. degree from Northeastern State College and an M. S. degree from Oklahoma A. & M. with graduate study at Peabody College, Nashville. Mrs. Crumpler received her library training in the School of Library Service, Columbia University, New York.

ELK CITY, Carnegie Library—Mrs. E. C. Field has been appointed assistant to the librarian by the library board.

ENID, Public Library—Mrs. Max Nelson was appointed Children’s Librarian on August 15, 1951. Mrs. Nelson recently attended Oklahoma A. & M.

LAWTON, Cameron State Agricultural College—Arda E. Frans taught a course in Library Science at Highlands University, Las Vegas, New Mexico, during the past summer.

NORMAN, University of Oklahoma—Jesse L. Bader retired from the position of Librarian July 1, and is now Curator of the Degolyer collection. He continues as Professor of Library Science.

Dr. Arthur M. McAnally was appointed Director of Libraries. He is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma School of Library Science, received his masters degree in English literature from the same institution, and his Ph. D. in librarianship from the University of Chicago. Dr. McAnally was Librarian at the University of New Mexico and Assistant Director of Libraries at the University of Illinois before accepting his present position.

NORMAN, University of Oklahoma School of Library Science—Oklahomans and out of state graduates with jobs in Oklahoma have accepted the following positions:


NORMAN, Public Library—Mrs. Arnold R. Curtis has been appointed assistant librarian to replace Mrs. Mildred Wilson.
Mrs. Curtis has a library degree from the University of Oklahoma and served one year as assistant librarian in Waco, Texas.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Oklahoma City Libraries—Jane Andrews (B. S., M. L. S., Texas, '51) joined the staff on August 1, 1951, as Assistant Boys' and Girls' Librarian.

Rexina Hempler (B. A. in L. S., Oklahoma, '41) was appointed Assistant Reference Librarian effective November 16. She came to Oklahoma City from the University of California Library where she was First Assistant to the Head of the Circulation Department. Miss Hempler also served as Library Cataloger, Fitzsimons Army Hospital, Denver; Librarian of the Enid Army Air Field Library, Enid; and Librarian of the Garfield County Library.

Barbara Ballinger, Pauline Cortelyou, and Ellen McCabe are new assistants in the Circulation Department. Mary Catherine Hammond has joined the staff as Assistant in the Production Department.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Oklahoma Historical Library—Mrs. Elise D. Hand was recently appointed Librarian. Previously Mrs. Hand directed the Division for the Blind at the Oklahoma Library Commission.

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma A. & M. School of Technical Training—Mrs. Myrtle Thompson Jones has been appointed librarian to succeed Mrs. Barbara M. Smith who resigned September 1.

PAWHUSKA, Public Library—Mrs. Mildred Wallen has joined the staff as an assistant, replacing Mrs. Jack A. King, who has resigned.

PERRY, Carnegie Library—Mrs. Minnie Keith Bailey who has served as Chairman of the Perry Carnegie Library for the past 26 years has resigned due to ill health. Mrs. Bailey's unstinting service to the library and the town will long be remembered.

PONCA CITY, Public Library—Mrs. Helga Lieber (Oklahoma, '48) has resigned as part-time assistant in order to devote her time to home duties.

Miss Mary Yager has been employed as part-time assistant. She is a student at the Ponca City Business College.

STILLWATER, Oklahoma A. & M. College Miss Helen J. Poulton has joined the library staff as junior assistant reference librarian. She holds a B. A. degree from San Jose State College, San Jose, California; M. A. and Ph. D. from the University of Oregon and an M. A. L. S. from the University of Michigan. Before accepting her position at A. & M. she was assistant professor of History at Westminster College, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Mrs. Lucy Bonner, Agriculture Librarian since 1949, has resigned as of January 1, 1952. She will join her husband who is now employed in Los Angeles, California. Miss Zona Edwards, formerly Documents Cataloger, has been transferred to the Catalog Department.

(Continued on Page 19)

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Capitol Hill Library Opens

The Capitol Hill Branch Library, costing a quarter of a million dollars, was formally opened to the public on Sunday, November 11. Completely air-conditioned, the two-story building comprises some 17,000 square feet, and will house 30,000 volumes.

Constructed along modern lines of concrete and brick, glass doors and large glass windows provide a maximum of natural light. The spacious building, with its comfortable furnishings and acoustical ceiling, conforms with the most recent developments in library construction.

On the first floor is located the adult division. The second floor is devoted to the children's library, with books circulating for children of pre-school age to the twelfth grade. Also on the second floor are the small stage and the auditorium, to be used for meetings of civic clubs and study groups. The auditorium seats 160, and when fully equipped will double as a graphic arts and music lounge.

An open-air reading room and sun deck designed for children and teen-agers opens from the second floor.

Open house was held on the afternoon of the formal opening, and coffee was served by the Business and Professional Women's Club of Capitol Hill. Mrs. Hollis Grimmett, President, presented the library with a check to help furnish the library.

Miss Louise Smith, former head of the Adult Service Department of the Oklahoma City Library, will serve as Librarian of the Capitol Hill Branch. Miss Smith received her library training from the University of Illinois. She has held positions at the University of Illinois, Colorado State College, and at Beloit College, Beloit, Wisconsin.

O.U. Lower Division Library

Dr. Arthur M. McAnally, Director of Libraries at the University of Oklahoma, announces the establishment on November 15 of a lower division library on the campus. Not considered a branch library, the collection of books serves freshmen and sophomores. It is housed in the north end of the stadium.

With an initial collection of 13,000 volumes, an ultimate total of 20,000 to 25,000 volumes is in view. About 100 useful periodical titles and 200 albums of long-playing music records will be included.

"All books except reserves are on open shelves so that students may have the educational advantages offered by a highly selected collection of good, useful books freely available for use," Dr. McAnally said.

The lower division library is under the supervision of a librarian and a reference librarian. Warren B. Wickliffe has been appointed Librarian, and Miss Doris Jean Probst will serve as Reference Librarian. Mr. Wickliffe and Miss Probst are graduates of the University of Chicago. Mrs. Claude Berry was appointed as full-time library assistant.

Library Section O.A.N.T. Holds Fall Meeting

"Functions of the Library in the Process of Integration" was the theme of the annual meeting of the Library Department of the Oklahoma Association of Negro Teachers meeting in Oklahoma City October 12.

The program was opened with remarks by Mrs. Exzetta Gorman, Wewoka, and Mrs. Grace Lockridge, Haskell, on audio-visual aids in the high school library.

The guest speaker was Mrs. Mary Hays Marable, School of Library Science, University of Oklahoma. Following the theme chosen for the meeting, Mrs. Marable's address, "Integration of the Library with the School Curriculum," dealt with the fitting of books into class projects and activities. Graded lists of children's book titles of her own compilation were distributed by Mrs. Marable.

A panel discussion, "The Potential Role
of the Library in the Promotion of Integration", was led by Mrs. Emyra Davis, Langston University. Contributors were Mrs. Dorothy Isaac, Tulsa, and Miss Margaret Hudspeth, Ponca City.

Mrs. Anne Maddux, Muskogee, spoke on "The Teaching of Human Relations through Literature."

A film was followed by a question and answer period led by Mrs. Gorman, in the absence of the chairman, Mrs. Grace Brookfield.

Officers elected for the coming year were: Mrs. Sara E. Bullock, Chairman; Miss Johnetta Watson, Secretary; Miss Anne Maddux, Program Chairman.

Enlist the aid of your friends, civic clubs, and layman groups in behalf of the Library Services Bill. Ask them to write congressmen to support and speak for Better American Libraries. Result: Better American Citizens.

Human Relations Stressed In New Children’s Book List

An annotated list of 50 titles for use with children and young people has been published for national distribution by the New Jersey Library Association. Titled "Accent the Positive in Human Relations," the leaflet is divided into three sections: "For the Youngest," "For Those a Little Older" and "For the Oldest."

Valuable not only as an aid in developing good human relations, advance literature specifies the list as a guide in book selection for "parents, fond relatives, teachers, and librarians."

Individual copies are 10 cents. Larger quantities may be had at the following rates: 50 for $2.50; 100 for $3.00; 300 for $7.00; 500 for $10.00. Requests should be addressed to: Marian C. Manley, Distribution Chairman, The New Jersey Library Association, 34 Commerce Street, Newark 2, New Jersey.

Compton’s Pictured Encyclopedia

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

In the 469 new and revised articles in the '52 edition, as in all Compton materials, carefully selected teaching pictures combine with stimulating text to present the full factual story that meets the reference needs of all boys and girls.

Compton's, with the handy Fact-Index at the back of each volume, is a time-saving quick reference source for the busy librarian.

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ARIZONA

Mrs. Gertrude R. James, Supervisor, Elementary School Libraries, Phoenix, has been appointed membership chairman in Arizona for the American Library Association.

Donald M. Powell writes that the finding of yellowed manuscripts in a box at Malahide Castle was only slightly more important to Arizona librarians than would be the finding of some old records, minutes and programs of the Arizona State Library Association. Since 1940 the Association records are complete, but previous records are marked with gaps that he would like to see filled. Mr. Powell sends out a plea to all state librarians, especially to former office holders, to look for papers which would be important for the ASLA "archives", and send them to the University Library at Tucson.

Tucson Senior High School Library is offering a course in library science designed for student assistants. Still in the experimental stages, the instruction is intended to improve the service rendered by the library.

The Children's and Young People's Section of ASLA met at Tucson for the annual Arizona Education Association convention. A panel discussion held by the Section was titled "What Are Librarians Doing to Aid Teachers?"

The Executive Board of ASLA met in Phoenix on October 6. Topics under discussion included the publication of the Arizona Highways index and the forthcoming joint meeting of ASLA with the New Mexico Library Association.

ARKANSAS

The Arkansas Library Association held its annual meeting at Hotel Marion, Little Rock, October 25 and 26. At an important meeting of county and public librarians, proposed revisions of the rules and regulations governing distribution of state aid to county and regional libraries were discussed. Dr. Rupert Vance was the speaker at the first general session.

KANSAS

The Kansas Library Bulletin reports the establishment of a master's degree program at Kansas State Teachers College, Emporia. A prerequisite of eight hours of Library Science is necessary for entrance, and Library Science may be combined with work from any other department in the college offering a master's program. When the work for the degree is finished, the student will have a total of 24 hours of Library Science. The Library School faculty consists of five members.

Governor Arn appointed a committee to collect books and funds for rehabilitating the libraries in Kansas which were damag-
ed during the flood. A number of libraries suffered nearly total loss.

LOUISIANA

After six years of service, Margaret Herdman (L. S. U. Library School) has resigned as editor of the Louisiana Library Association Bulletin. The new editor will be John Hall Jacobs of the New Orleans Public Library.

L. S. U. has instituted a graduate program of library science. A minimum of 12 semestert hours in library science is required for admission. This requirement may be met by (1) completion of one of the undergraduate curricula offered by the school, (2) by transfer of acceptable and comparable credit earned at other colleges, (3) by examination, in the case of students with considerable library experience. Degree requirements in brief: “The satisfactory completion of 36 hours beyond the preliminary work required for admission to the graduate program, a minimum residence of two semesters, a reading knowledge of one modern foreign language, and successful performance on a comprehensive final examination.”

At its second annual convention at L. S. U., the Louisiana Teen-Age Librarians Association voted to participate in the UNESCO-CARE Children’s Book Fund program as a project for the year. The purpose of the program is to share American children’s books in order to promote international understanding.

NEW MEXICO

The October, 1951, issue of the New Mexico Library Bulletin (“Published quarterly by the State Library Commission, State Library Association, through the State Library Extension Service”) is devoted to the school library. Articles of exceptional interest bear such arresting titles as “How Important is the School Library?”, “The Stimulation of Student Reading,” and “Orientation is One of Those Things.”

TEXAS

Texas' new Poet Laureate is also one of Texas' outstanding librarians. This title was recently bestowed on Dr. Arthur Sampley, Librarian of North Texas State College at Denton. Dr. Sampley is also a past president of the Texas Library Association.

Article eight of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Texas Library Association requires that the Texas Library and Historical Commission be the depository of all minutes, papers, and archives of the T. L. A. The State Librarian will be the custodian of these materials. After each meeting of T. L. A., the outgoing secretary is to send to the State Librarian for deposit all original minutes, and the papers presented at the meeting.

YOUR support is needed. Oklahoma congressmen in Washington have asked if Oklahoma librarians are interested in the Library Services Bill. A letter expressing your interest should be addressed to: The Hon. Graham A. Barden, House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.
HOLLIS C. HANEY is Reference Librarian at the Oklahoma State Library. Upon graduation from Oklahoma City University, she worked for Curtiss-Wright in Buffalo, N. Y., as junior draftsman and writer of educational material, until her enlistment in the Marine Corps Women’s Reserve. Following her military service, Miss Haney worked as a professional assistant in the O. C. U. Library, before attending the Oklahoma University School of Library Science. She served as Junior Cataloger at Columbia University for two years, and held the same position at Oklahoma A. & M. College before coming to the State Library. Miss Haney is currently serving as Oklahoma Coordinator for ALA.

MRS. LULA K. PRATT, Librarian of Connors State Agricultural College, Warner, is a graduate of Oklahoma College for Women, and holds the B. A. and M. A. degrees from the University of Oklahoma. She has held several teacher-librarian positions in the State, and for four years was Librarian of the Oklahoma Planning and Resources Board. For eight years she served as Librarian at Northeastern Oklahoma A. & M. College, Miami. Mrs. Pratt has had articles published in *Educational Screen*, *The Oklahoma Teacher*, and *Library Journal*. She is the author of *Scholarship Handbook for Colleges in Oklahoma*, published in 1947 while serving as Education Chairman of the Oklahoma Division of A. A. U. W.

During the past summer Mrs. Pratt assisted in the compilation of data for a supplement to Morhard’s *List of Books for Junior College Libraries*. Her biographical sketch will appear in the 1952 edition of *Who’s Who in American Education*. Mrs. Pratt is the wife of Dr. T. W. Pratt, Muskogee, and has a son serving in the U. S. Air Force.

RUTH COX has been for four years head of the Catalog Department at Oklahoma City University. She has a B. A. from the University of Oklahoma, and a B. S. in L. S. and a M. S. from the University of Illinois.

JUANITA MEANS is Reference Librarian at Oklahoma City University. Before coming to O. C. U. she was employed in the circulation and reference departments of the Oklahoma City Public Li-

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Meet the Authors
(Continued from Page 18)

libraries. Miss Means has a B. S. from the University of Oklahoma and expects to complete work for an M. A. in Librarian-ship at the University of Denver in the summer of 1952.

FRANCES KENNEDY has been librar-
ian at Oklahoma City University since 1947. For a number of years she was Reference Librarian at Carnegie Library of Oklahoma City. Miss Kennedy has a B. A. from the University of Oklahoma, and a B. S. and M. S. from the University of Illinois Library School.

VIRGINIA OWENS is assistant to the Director of the Oklahoma City Libraries, and has been associated with the public library since 1947. Miss Owens received a B. A. degree from Oklahoma City University, and has had experience in teaching and personnel work.

Who’s Where
(Continued from Page 13)

OUT OF STATE—Robert Wood (Okla., '51) and Norman Jean (Wode) Wood (Okla., '48) are connected with the Portland, Oregon, Public Library.

Jerry James (Wisconsin) and family have arrived in Bangkok, Siam, where Mr. James is Librarian at the Department of State American Library. Mr. James is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma, and for a period held a position with the University Extension Division.

Philip Farish (Oklahoma) is Reference Assistant and Documents Librarian at the Omaha Public Library.

Neal Austin (Okla., '48) is Librarian of the Union County Public Library, Monroe, N. C. Mr. Austin was formerly Librarian of the School of Journalism at the University of Oklahoma, and served as the first editor of the Oklahoma li-

From the Four Corners
(Continued from Page 11)

his article “the freshest and most fasci-
nating folklore contribution I have read in some time.”

Construction has begun on Oklahoma City's new main building which is expected to be completed late in 1952. The building will comprise 65,000 square feet and five stories. Architects are Winkler and Reid of Oklahoma City. The J. J. Bollinger Company was awarded the construction contract.

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma A. & M. School of Technical Training—The expansion program now underway at the Rehabilitation Center on the campus has brought a new challenge to the library staff. The Rehabilitation Center for severely disabled persons was begun last July and has had an enrollment of 12 to 15 patients. The expansion will probably be held to about 50 patients. Further expansion will depend mostly on the demand from various public and private groups throughout the Southwest.

A picture of the Creek Indian Orphanage, which formerly stood on the grounds now occupied by the school, was presented to the college by Mrs. E. L. Sporleder and the Creek Indian Museum and has been hung in the Reading Room of the library.

PONCA CITY, Public Library—The Library has been left the paintings and investments of the late R. Gordon Mat-
zene, a well-known photographer, paint-
er and art collector. The paintings are to be hung sometime during December. The Indian pottery has already been placed. Income from his stocks and bonds will be used for the care and preservation of the art collection and the purchase of books. This income will average $2,500 to $3,000 a year.

SHAWNEE, Oklahoma Baptist University Mary Long, Catalog Librarian, was ser-
iously injured in an automobile accident October 26, near Shawnee. Her full recovery was assured after a major operation in a Shawnee hospital. Two student assistants who were riding with her were uninjured.

STILLWATER, Oklahoma A. & M. College
The library staff honored Charles Bunsen Shaw, librarian of Swathmore College, Swarthmore, Pennsylvania, with a dinner at the Student Union on November 8. Ninety-three guests from various parts of the state attended.

Mr. Shaw, perhaps best known for his bibliographies “Shaw’s List of Books for High School Libraries” and “List of Books for College Libraries,” delivered an interesting talk on typography entitled “Printer’s Pleasantries.” During his three day stay in Stillwater Mr. Shaw spoke to the Humanities classes and visited the University of Oklahoma accompanied by Edmon Low, Librarian at A. & M.

TULSA. Tulsa Libraries—Tulsa’s newest library branch was dedicated September 8 when the Red Fork Branch Library opened for business in a colorfully decorated, brick and stone building. The branch is furnished with natural oak fixtures with green and flame predominating in the color scheme. This building replaces former inadequate quarters in the Red Fork city hall.

A gardener’s reference library—the first unit of the proposed Tulsa Garden Center—opened June 18 in the Brookside Branch Library. The center is staffed by members from all the garden clubs of the city. A collection of approximately 200 books on all phases of gardening has been assembled. Distinctive flower arrangements prepared weekly by various club members for display in the Brookside library have attracted a great deal of attention.

Twenty-six of the garden clubs cooperating in the Tulsa Garden Center contributed floral arrangements for all of the departments of the main library throughout the spring and fall. Plans are under way to display another series of arrangements next spring and summer.

A series of five weekly book reviews, jointly sponsored by the Tulsa Public Library and the Y. W. C. A., has just been completed. Books of general interest were reviewed by well-known local speakers. Plans are being made to continue these reviews on a monthly basis. The Tulsa Public Library is the first in Oklahoma to inaugurate the McNaughton Rental Service. Beginning with an initial collection of 500 titles—current popular fiction and non-fiction—new titles will be added monthly. Sufficient copies of books in popular demand will be included to meet requests while books are of interest. Rental rates are somewhat lower than rates charged by other rental collections. Revenue realized from the project will be spent on books which the library budget could not cover.

The Great Books Foundation started its second discussion group in Tulsa at the Brockside Branch Library in October. About 40 members have enrolled in the group.

Expanded library service was announced in five of the branch libraries Nov. 1 when all of the branches opened full time daily except Sunday from 1 to 8 p.m. The branches had previously been open on a staggered schedule five days a week.

TULSA. The University of Tulsa—The University Library has received as a gift from the Newspaper Printing Corporation of Tulsa complete files of the Tulsa Tribune and the Tulsa World on microfilm.

The Library has also received a valuable gift of books on English history. These volumes, which had been collected by the late Phil Kates, were presented by his son, Mr. Henry Kates.
How About Our Libraries?
(Continued from Page 3)

support of constructive programs of statewide library service. A relatively small expenditure of funds by the federal government now can provide the foundation for a locally-supported state-wide system of libraries.

Under the provisions of the proposed legislation, each state will control its own plan for extending library services to areas without service or with limited service. Further, each state will profit from its own and other states' experience in the program.

The Library Services Bill in the Senate (S. 1452) is on the Senate calendar and can be called up for action at any time. Do Senators Kerr and Monroney know how you and your community feel about it?

The seven identical bills in the House of Representatives are in the House Committee on Education and Labor (Graham A. Barden, chairman). No action will be taken by the House until the Committee has held hearings and reported the bill favorably. Have you and your community written to Representative Barden and to your own Representative urging that hearings on the bill be held?

Sisters Publish Articles

Miss Eugenia Maddox and her sister, Miss Trean Maddox, both Tulsa librarians, are authors of articles which appeared recently in national magazines.

Miss Eugenia Maddox, librarian of the University of Tulsa, has an article in the November, 1951, Wilson Library Bulletin, titled "Filing in the Card Catalog." The author relates the experience of the University of Tulsa in revising their filing system, adopting the simplified method.

"School Library Supervising Programs in City School Libraries" is the title of an article by Miss Trean Maddox, librarian, Wilson Junior High School, Tulsa, which was published in The Journal of Experimental Education, September, 1951.

As the Editor Sees It

Stepping into shoes which fit the preceding occupant so well, and were so ably worn by her, the present editor lends for support on the Membership in taking his first steps. You are the publishers of this journal: it is for you that it is published. Your assistance in getting it ready for the press is needed, requested, urged.

Replying to the appeal of the news editor for general library and staff news is important. Your reply should be returned to him as soon as possible so that he may make it ready for the printer by the deadline.

If you are willing to contribute to the journal and feel unsure as to how you should go about it, please notify one of the staff members. A number of topics are on file which need studying and developing. Or perhaps you have a subject of your own which is better. Whether you write on a topic of your own choice or select one suggested by a member of the staff, articles are being solicited. Of course, the Oklahoma Librarian is unable to pay for manuscript. The Association takes pride in the fact that the magazine is self-sustaining, and is no cost to OLA.

You may do your bit by supplying the staff with the name of someone whom you think might submit a piece for publication. Let us hear from you. All types and sizes of libraries should be represented in the journal in order to serve the Membership well.

The Oklahoma Librarian is one medium serving to make OLA membership more homogeneous by disseminating organization news and advising independent or concurrent action when it is needed. Your official publication needs your assistance in helping OLA to grow.

Sharing your ideas is not boasting. We are cooperating. The increase in quantity and intensity of that valuable commodity, cooperation, develops the sinews of the Association.
Letters to the Editor

The following letter was addressed to Mr. Ralph Hudson, State Librarian, and passed on to the Editor so that Oklahoma librarians might share it. It is dated December 3, 1951, and signed by W. L. Morin, Public Library Supervisor, New York State Library, Albany:

"Many of the systems of large units of library service in New York State are rather recent, and being recent they appreciate having visitors . . . We hope that many interested individuals on their way to, during or from American Library Association Convention in New York City this summer will plan to visit some of these centers.

"Right now we are planning train and pullman schedules so that those interested may have stop-overs at either Albany, Schenectady and Elmira, Watertown or Buffalo. We are also getting out road maps and local directional maps for those planning to come by automobile. Key people in the organizing of these systems will be on hand at the centers and we hope at New York City to answer questions. There will also be conducted tours and exhibits of evaluation materials.

"We hope that you will give this invitation the widest publicity you can and include some mention in your publication so that all who are coming to A. L. A. may know what we are planning . . . "

Connors Library Dedicated

(Continued from Page 8)

range of the main entrance, the reading room, and the stack area. Partial glass walls aid in the supervision of the adjacent areas. In planning the library, an effort was made to conserve costly time and unnecessary physical effort for the staff, yet allowing supervision of all the areas.

The Jacob Johnson Library is a friendly place with an atmosphere preserving its note of dedication for a purpose. It is a building intended for continuous use, designed to make up-keep and operation as simple as possible. The plan of the interior with all rooms sweeping from a central point meets the most exacting demands. It is indeed the focal point of a modern college, and one that will be a monument to the training of future citizens.

Passing of Grand Old Lady

(Continued from Page 4)

new plant will immortalize the spirit of public service which characterized the Oklahoma City library for so many years.

The following, written as early as 1930 by Rex F. Harlow and appearing in Harlow’s Weekly for that year, expresses the influence shed on the metropolis by this landmark:

"For approximately the last quarter of a century the yellow brick building, which today in comparison to the larger, more modern buildings which surround it appears both small and inconspicuous, has held open its inviting doors to those who desired to pause for a moment in the hurly-burly of city building and business excitement to commune in a sheltered nook with the master minds of all time. The men and women who have made Oklahoma have passed by and through these inviting doors . . . It has been the constant and sympathetic companion of the whole city and a considerable part of the state during the most important and formative years of Oklahoma’s growth."

A grand old lady has been removed from the Oklahoma City scene. Those who felt a pang of pathos as they saw the ancient walls crashing down are reassured by the thought that it is, as the highway signs phrase it, a “sign of progress.”

The shortage of professional librarians is asserted by the Association of American Colleges Bulletin in its “Editorial Notes” (October, 1951, p. 315). A.L.A. estimates that 10,000 additional librarians will be needed within the next few years. “Placement is not a problem.”
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Robert F. Motter: Friend of Libraries

Reference librarians are frequently asked for a copy of Berton Braley’s oft quoted poem, “Do It Now!” A recent request and a re-reading of the lines, “If with pleasure you are viewing any work a man is doing,” prompted this tribute to a man who has been a friend of Oklahoma libraries and librarians for over 30 years. In his quiet, unobtrusive way he has won the respect, confidence, and friendship of librarians in schools, colleges, and public libraries throughout the state.

Robert T. Motter was born in a tiny Swiss village near Geneva, and came with his family to settle in Fremont, Nebraska, when he was five. As a high school lad he worked in his father’s printing shop, but the lure of gold and adventure led him to Alaska in 1905, when he was 22. Gold kept him in that outpost for ten years, but in 1915, with still not enough of the precious metal to plan an early retirement, he joined his brother Fred as a partner in the Motter Bookbinding Company which had been established during his absence from the country. Following his brother’s death he assumed full ownership of a firm which lives up to its slogan—“service and superior workmanship.”

The Motter Bookbinding Company is a family affair, and it is perhaps because of this that the commercialism (in its derogatory sense) which so often characterizes a successful business enterprise, is entirely lacking in this family undertaking. Mrs. Motter, their daughter Ruth, and son Bob, who is now in Korea, are Mr. Motter’s co-workers. Their work needs no testimonial; evidence of it may be found on library shelves throughout Oklahoma.

Oklahoma has been fortunate to have a Grade A library binder located in the State, but it has been still more fortunate in the personality of that binder. Mr. Motter has been a familiar figure at O. L. A. conventions—his attendance has been much more regular than many in the profession. For librarians in the eastern section of the State he has often arranged transportation; he has been an exhibitor and in charge of exhibits on numerous occasions. Each printing of the O. L. A. Constitution has carried the words, “Compliments of the Motter Bookbinding Company.” Good advertising? Perhaps; but for a firm which operates at capacity without formal advertising, such service symbolizes the thoughtfulness which has brought Mr. Motter to his present place of esteem in the library profession.

He has become one of us through his long years of willing service in many capacities. He speaks our language and shares our problems. Robert T. Motter is one of the true friends of libraries whose praises too often go unsung.

Mrs. Marable Author
Of Two Recent Articles

Mrs. Mary H. Marable and Dr. W. B. Ragan, University of Oklahoma, are co-authors of an article appearing in the 30th Yearbook, Department of Elementary School Principals, N.E.A. Titled “The Librarian — Teaching Assistant Extraordinary,” the article is an explication of the advantages of the cooperation of teachers and librarians in choosing and utilizing library materials.

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