



CLINTON-ESSEX-FRANKLIN LIBRARY

A three county Library System serving 24 member libraries

NEWSLETTER

ANTHONY F. VECCHIO
DIRECTOR

TELEPHONE
(518) 563-5190

P. O. BOX 570
PLATTSBURGH, N. Y.
12901

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DEDICATION OF THE WILLIAM CHAPMAN WHITE ROOM AT SARANAC LAKE FREE LIBRARY

On Sunday, August 24, 1969, Mrs. Ruth N. Hecht, President of the Board of Trustees of the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System, Mrs. Allan Everest, Trustee, Mrs. Jacqueline Enequist, Consultant from the Library Development Division in Albany, Mr. Anthony F. Vecchio and Mr. Normand Dumont, Director and Assistant Director respectively of the System were pleased to attend the dedication of the William Chapman White Room at the Saranac Lake Free Library.

The room contains one of the finest and largest collections of Adirondackana extant. Participating in the brief but moving ceremony were D. Mott Chapin, President of the Saranac Lake Free Library Board; Dr. Francis B. Trudeau, Chairman of the White Memorial Fund; John Duquette, Town Historian; Whitelaw Reid, Publisher of the New York Herald Tribune which carried the White column "Just about Everything"; and August Hecksher, Chief editorial writer of the Tribune at the time.

The speakers paid tribute to many for helping to bring the project to completion.

The Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System is happy to have played its part. When the Board of the Saranac Lake Free Library took the initiative in inquiring about the possibility of procuring a Federal Library Services and Construction Act grant to catalog this great collection, the system readily agreed to make the application for which a grant was approved.

In the past year and a half, the system has administered the expenditure of about \$17,000. Personnel was hired, equipment and supplies were purchased, the necessary direction was provided, the administrative paper-work was performed. We were fortunate in procuring the expert services of the professional librarian-in-charge, Miss Dorothy Plum.

As a result of all these efforts, a collection of superb Adirondack material has been organized and made readily available to students and researchers.

This is an example of the kind of special project which the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System is able to foster for its member libraries in addition to its day-to-day services to them.

THIRD ANNUAL STATE AID GRANT FOR CENTRAL LIBRARY

We have just received the third annual state aid grant for the development and strengthening of the Central Library of the System, the Plattsburgh Public

Library. We received \$15,000 yearly in 1967 and 1968; but this year because of the 5% cut in State Aid, we have been cut to \$14,250, a serious blow in these days of rising costs for everything.

Plattsburgh Public Library, as the Central Library for the System, is asked to fill requests for books and information made by the people of the three counties who use the two system bookmobiles or any of the twenty-four member libraries. This is, of course, for the books, information from books, and other library materials which are not available on the bookmobiles or in the member libraries. In order to be better able to fill this function for all of the library users in the three counties, the Central Library receives 3000 non-fiction books yearly and the annual cash grant from the state.

A few examples of the ways in which the state aid grant is spent are:

1. For additional staff to speed service of requests for books and information
2. For books and other library materials such as a twenty volume set of Merit Student Encyclopedia; a large map of the Indians of New York; for the investor, Moody's Investor's Advisory Service and Standard and Poor's Register of Directors; subscriptions to magazines containing informational articles.
3. For needed equipment such as a catalog cabinet to maintain a finding directory of the library's collection; book trucks to move the masses of material; a desk to facilitate the work of the staff; additional library shelving to house the growing collection of books

These are just examples of the many ways in which the state aid grant for the Central Library which is administered by the System is being spent to strengthen the Central Library's service to the people of the three counties.

SUMMER LIBRARY AT SCHROON LAKE

Schroon Lake is a small community with a big natural resource, the beautiful lake of the same name. The people of the town have capitalized on it. By furnishing suitable accommodations and providing a program of recreational and cultural activities, they have attracted large numbers of summer visitors to the point where they have built up a tourist trade of considerable dimensions. It has been "guesstimated" that up to 80,000 people come into the area every year and leave upwards of a million dollars there.

One of the cultural activities they have provided is a summer library. This they have been able to do through the help of the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System. There is no established library in the community which is a system bookmobile stop during the rest of the year.

Each summer, the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System lends them two to three thousand books which are carefully selected by system librarians. The town provides quarters and personnel to operate the library two half-days per week.

The library has been popular with the summer visitors who have borrowed several thousand books each summer. This year, 3518 books were borrowed.

The Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System is happy to be able to make a contribution to the economy and well-being of a community like Schroon Lake.