

1957

CLINTON-ESSEX COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICE SYSTEM
NEWSLETTER

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There will be a Librarians' Meeting on Wednesday, February 6th, at the Headquarters. This meeting will begin at ten-thirty, and there will be only a morning session, due to the uncertainty of the weather. Miss Phyllis L. Wells, Bookmobile Librarian, will be the speaker. Following Miss Wells' talk, there will be a demonstration of book repair techniques.

The Board of Trustees held its Annual Meeting on Saturday, January 19, at the Headquarters. Newly elected officers are: President, Wayne H. Byrne, Plattsburgh; Vice-President, Claude R. Clark, Bloomingdale; Treasurer, Frank L. Carpenter, Plattsburgh. Miss Ingalls will continue as Secretary.

Librarians who have not sent in their Annual Reports are urged to do so as soon as possible. State Aid for the System can not be computed until all reports are in and evaluated by the Library Extension Division.

We are most grateful to the Librarians who have sent in the list of organizations in their communities as we requested, and would appreciate it if those who have not yet done so would send in their lists when it is convenient. We need this information for our mailing list.

The Program Committee met at the Headquarters on January 5th to draw up final plans for the year's meetings. Members of this committee are: Mrs. Marian Mason, Willsboro, chairman; Mrs. Keeton Lobdell, Wadhams; Mrs. Paul Vogan, Mooers; Mrs. Homer Labare, Chazy. Miss Walter, Mrs. Manwell and Miss Ingalls also attended the meeting.

The schedule of meetings for the year is as follows:

- February 6 Chairman, Mrs. Manwell
- April 11 Chairman, Mrs. Vogan. Two sessions.
Panel discussion, Work with Children. Speakers will be four school librarians.
Display techniques and materials. Speaker to be announced.
- June 12 Weeding demonstration at Wadhams Free Library, with consultant from Library Extension Division.
Hostess, Mrs. Lobdell. Box lunch.
- August 7 Visits to Elizabethtown and Westport Libraries, to observe rearrangement for space and attractiveness.
Hostesses, Mrs. Stearn and Mrs. Clark. Box lunch.
- October 10 Chairman, Mrs. Mason. Two sessions.
Remedial reading programs, speaker, Mrs. Carey.
Pamphlet, picture and map files.
- December 12 Chairman, Mrs. Labare. Morning Meeting.
Speaker, Air Base Librarian.
Buffet lunch at Headquarters.

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Book Notes

Laura Ingalls

"Reprieve," the story of a man's rehabilitation in prison, would be an important book under any circumstances, but since its setting is Clinton Prison at Dannemora, it has a special interest for all of us.

John Resko's reprieve came only a few hours before his scheduled electrocution at Sing Sing Prison. Transferred to Dannemora, he began an eighteen year struggle against the deadly boredom that apparently is synonymous with imprisonment.

It wasn't easy, and there were many setbacks, but eventually the day came when Mr. Resko's work as an artist and teacher in the prison school earned the attention of influential people on the outside, among them Carl Carmer, who believed in him, worked in his behalf, and were influential in securing his release.

Mr. Resko and his wife, a former violinist with several symphony orchestras, now lives in New York City, where he works as an illustrator.

Reading between the lines, it seems to us that the things left unsaid in "Reprieve," are even more significant than the crisp, incisive sentences in which Mr. Resko tells his story.

Another outstanding novel is Guy Endore's "King of Paris," based on the life of Alexandre Dumas.

The fabulous M. Dumas, grandson of a Marquis, son of a General of the French Army, came to Paris in his youth with no possessions except his clothes and a very small sum of money. Fifty years later, he left Paris with exactly the same assets.

In the interim, he had made and spent several millions of francs, living like the King he considered himself. He was undoubtedly the most talked of figure of his day, and deservedly so. His appearance as well as his genius made him conspicuous, while his way of life was not that of the shrinking violet.

It's a shocking thought that since 1948, juvenile delinquency has increased by more than fifty percent.

Why, in a single year, are more than one million young people under twenty-one involved in crimes serious enough to cause them to be picked up by the police?

To find an answer to this question, Benjamin Fine, Education Editor of the New York Times, has interviewed hundreds of juvenile delinquents, and hundreds of the adults, teachers, parents, social workers, law enforcement officers and psychiatrists who work with these misguided children and adolescents.

He has done more than write a report on this very important subject. He has explored and explained its causes, and suggested a practical solution to a problem that is of vital importance to everyone.

We really feel that every adult, especially those who are parents or who work with young people, should read this book carefully. The title is, "1,000,000 Juvenile Delinquents."

One of the most beautiful books that has come out way recently is "Two Hundred Years of American Blown Glass," written by Helen and George McKearin. It is profusely illustrated with stunning photographs, both color and black and white, which are most interesting. The book traces the development of blown glass from colonial times to the present day, and includes new material that has never been published elsewhere. It is considered the definitive book on the subject.