

CLINTON-ESSEX COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICE SYSTEM
NEWSLETTER

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There will be a Librarians' Meeting on Wednesday, August 7th. The morning session will meet at the Elizabethtown Library at 10:30. Those attending are asked to bring a box lunch. A beverage will be served through the courtesy of Mrs. Stearn, of the Elizabethtown Library, and Mrs. Clark, Librarian of the Westport Free Library. To reach the Elizabethtown Library, turn toward Westport at the junction of Routes 9 and 9N. The Library is the first building on the left, past the intersection. In the afternoon, the meeting will move to the Westport Library, which is in the process of being weeded and reorganized. Trustees are urged to attend this meeting.

Beginning with the August issue, the Newsletter will run a "Swap Column," for the convenience of member libraries. Librarians are asked to send in lists of their wants, and of duplicates they wish to trade.

The Bookmobile will be on display at the Clinton County Fair in Plattsburgh on Thursday, August 1st, and at the Essex County Fair in Westport on Thursday, August 15th.

A pamphlet describing the organization of the System, and the services it offers, is in the process of preparation at the Headquarters. Copies will be distributed as soon as possible after completion of the pamphlet.

Recent visitors to the System Headquarters include Harold Hacker, Director of the Rochester Public and Monroe County Libraries, and Edgar Tompkins of the Library Extension Division.

At the invitation of its Board of Trustees, staff members from the System Headquarters are weeding and reorganizing the Peru Free Library.

The Dannemora Free Library has recently completed the most successful membership drive in its history.

The Plattsburgh Public Library has set up its ninth annual exhibit at the Clinton County Fair, which will run from July 30th through August 3rd. A member of the library staff will be present at all times to explain the Library's services.

Suggestions for August displays: Back-to-school wardrobes; outdoor living; jam and jelly making; late summer and fall vacations.

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BOOK CHATS

LAURA INGALLS

"Life at Happy Knoll," is a new departure for John P. Marquand, and a highly successful one. It is an uproarious satire on the Country Club as the center of American society and culture. Written in the form of letters to and from the Board of Governors of Happy Knoll, it deals with such problems as Benny Muldoon, the golf pro, who threatens to take his talents to the rival club, Hard Hollow, unless he gets a raise; the length of the shorts worn by feminine members; what to do about Ned, who has presided over the men's bar for years and years, and has been the recipient of many confidences afterward regretted by the members, but who is now past his usefulness; there are urgent reasons for keeping Ned on in some capacity; the terribly dull Annual Dinner; and, most important of all, the Annual Deficit.

Today's Air Age had its beginnings more than two thousand years ago, when a young Greek named Hero began toying with a device that turned out to be the first turbine engine. Centuries later, a Chinese lad with imagination and curiosity, evolved the first skyrocket.

In his new book, "The Complete Book of Jets and Rockets," D. N. Hanstrom traces our present day air power from these beginnings, and even ventures a look into the future. It is profusely illustrated, and the text is readable and interesting.

"Where to Go For Help," by Wayne E. Oates, is a little book that fills a long-felt need. It is both a guidance reference in the art of helping people, and a sort of directory for the person in need of help. Part of it is devoted to the "Helping Professions," and their literature, and part to thirteen basic problems which often make it necessary for people to seek trained advisors and helpers.

Pat Kilmer, author of "Dough, Ray and Me," was the most surprised of mortals when her husband Ray, home from a sojourn in Arizona where he had gone to recover from a sinus infection, announced that he planned to change his field of endeavor from tool engineering to baking. It seemed that, bored by inactivity, he had worked as a baker's assistant in Arizona, and the West was still wide open to new business.

The result of all this was that the Kilmer family set out from Detroit with all their possessions packed in and on their car and a second hand trailer. A peculiar set of circumstances caused them to settle in a tiny New Mexico town which took the whole family to its heart. Life was rugged, and Pat and Ray discovered that pioneering is far from being a lost art.

We think, "Keep Listening," by Frances Warfield, is practically required reading for anyone who has a hearing problem. This is the story of Miss Warfield's triumph over a fifty percent loss of hearing which developed while she was still a child. She studied lip reading, tried practically every hearing aid that came on the market, and learned to live gracefully with her handicap. At length, newly developed surgical techniques made it possible for her to hear normally. Although this story book ending can't happen to everyone, most hard-of-hearing people can be helped to overcome their handicap to some degree.

The books reviewed in this article may be borrowed from any member library of the Clinton-Essex County Library Service System, or from the Bookmobile.