

CLINTON-ESSEX COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICE SYSTEM  
NEWSLETTER

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Volume 4, No. 10

Fifteen libraries were represented at the Librarians' Meeting held at the Headquarters on October 10th. Mrs. Charles Carey, Remedial Reading Teacher in the Plattsburgh Public Schools, spoke on the Library's Place in the Remedial Reading Program.

Miss Emma Walter, Director of the System and the Plattsburgh Public Library, Mrs. Everett Manwell, Senior Librarian, Mrs. Frederick Tuttle, Senior Library Clerk, and Miss Laura Ingalls, System Secretary and Administrative Assistant in the Plattsburgh Public Library, attended the Annual Conference of the New York Library Association at the Hotel Ten Eyck in Albany, October 16th to 19th. Mrs. Manwell and Mrs. Tuttle represented the Clinton-Essex System, while Miss Walter and Miss Ingalls represented the Plattsburgh Public Library.

They will report on the Conference at future Librarians' Meetings.

Miss Madella Buck, Librarian of the Wells Memorial Library in Upper Jay, is completing her fiftieth year of service. Our congratulations to Miss Buck and to Upper Jay.

Miss Gertrude E. Cone, Assistant College Librarian at State University Teachers' College, at Plattsburgh, has been awarded a two-year research grant by the State University Research Foundation. Miss Cone spoke at our Librarians' Meeting on February 16th, 1956, and prepared a bibliography to supplement her speech. The research grant is to cover necessary travel and secretarial expenses for the expansion of this bibliography. Miss Cone hopes to complete her research in Albany and New York City, and to have the bibliography of the Champlain Valley in Literature ready for the Hudson Valley-Lake Champlain Celebration in 1959.

Copies of Miss Cone's bibliography may be obtained from the System Headquarters.

Miss Laura Ingalls was the speaker at a dinner held by the Clinton County Schoolmasters Association on October 24, at the Saranac Central School. Miss Ingalls' topic was, "Services the Clinton-Essex System Offers to Schools."

Copies of a booklist, "Books for Parents," may be obtained from the Headquarters by member librarians, for distribution to parents' groups in their communities. All of the books listed are available from the Book Pool.

We hope to set up a "Swap Column" in the next Newsletter. Please send us lists of replacements and out-of-print books wanted, and lists of duplicates to exchange.

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BOOK NOTES

LAURA INGALLS

Good short story collections don't grow on trees. They come from the red-hot typewriters of highly skilled craftsmen like Daniel Curley, author of, "That Marriage Bed of Procrustes." Each of the twelve stories is a little masterpiece with its characters so clearly drawn that one can almost see them.

Mr. Curley, who teaches creative writing at the University of Illinois, was, a few years ago, a resident of Plattsburgh and a member of the faculty at Teachers' College.

"Just One More," a book for the family and friends of the problem drinker, is an authoritative book written by James Lamb Free, a man who knows whereof he speaks. A rehabilitated alcoholic, Mr. Free discusses informally the signs which betray incipient or established alcoholism, and suggests means by which family and friends can help the unfortunate victim of the disease become and stay sober. Equally important, he puts a great deal of emphasis on the things not to do.

"Russia Revisited," by Louis Fischer, is the account of a new look at Russia and the satellite countries. Since Mr. Fischer lived in Moscow for sixteen years as a foreign correspondent, he has many contacts with people on all levels. He is most interested, though, in what casual acquaintances think and say. This, he feels, is the real measure of what is going on from the point of view of the average citizen.

Mr. Fischer also visited Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia and Poland. In the second part of the book, he describes these visits and analyzes the sudden and dramatic uprisings in these countries last year. Since he is a gifted and skilled reporter, he takes his readers right along with him.

"The American Heritage Book of Great Historic Places," is a beautifully illustrated pictorial history of America, divided by geographical sections which make using it a pleasure for both the casual reader and the scholar interested in one particular section.

More than seven hundred illustrations and a well-written text help to bring history alive for readers of all ages and interests. This is very well indexed, which cannot always be said of books of this type.

"By Love Possessed," James Gould Cozzens first novel since 1948, is outstanding in many ways. The story covers two days and one hour in the life of Arthur Winner, a lawyer and leading citizen in the small city of Brocton. During the two days, Mr. Winner encountered a number of critical situations, all of which he dealt with capably and, outwardly at least, calmly. These crises in the lives of his clients and associates, while vital to the people concerned, were still commonplace enough so that any of us might be faced with them. Therein, we think, lies Mr. Cozzens' artistry.

In the last hour of the story, the revelations that came to Arthur brought him face to face with a decision involving the profoundest truth of his world and his life.

As the title implies, the theme of the book is love, sacred and profane, wise and unwise, selfish and unselfish. In our opinion, this may well become a minor classic.