

CLINTON-ESSEX COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICE SYSTEM
NEWSLETTER

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There will be a Librarians' Meeting on Thursday, December 12, at 10:30 at the Headquarters. Miss Verna Tobias, Librarian at Plattsburgh Air Force Base, will be the speaker. The new motion picture, "Books For All," will also be shown. Following the morning session, a buffet lunch will be served by the Headquarters staff. Trustees are urged to attend this meeting if possible. Will trustees who plan to attend, notify their librarians at once, so that she can send in the reservation card for the library? All cards must reach Miss Walter by December 7th.

On November 7, Miss Jane Ellstrom, Mrs. Elizabeth Lockhart, Robert Carter and Silas Townsend of the Library Extension Division, and Miss Mary Stewart of the Regional Center at Watertown, visited the System Headquarters. This group also visited the Keeseville Free Library.

Librarians are reminded that they may bring duplicate books or lists of titles for the "Swap Shop" to the meeting.

WITH BEST WISHES FROM ALL OF THE HEADQUARTERS STAFF FOR
A VERY HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON

CLINTON-ESSEX COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICE SYSTEM

BOOK CHATS

LAURA INGALLS

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

We never knew much about Greenland, except that it's a cold, forbidding, desolate Arctic Island, and it came as a surprise to us that it was the scene of one of the most dramatic operations of World War II.

Seven men, completely isolated from the rest of the world except for radio contact, had the far from easy assignment of patrolling five hundred miles of coast, and protecting the Greenland weather stations in the event of German invasion.

Some of them weren't too convinced that such an invasion could happen, but they learned the hard way that it could; that a German weather station was set up and operating in a particularly isolated spot.

This unfortunate state of affairs couldn't be allowed to last, and a strange and bitter battle lasting three months and ranging over four hundred miles of ice and snow decided the issue.

In "The Sledge Patrol," David Howarth, author of "We Die Alone," tells in vivid detail the story of this almost unknown war within a war. He also tells most interestingly some of the history of Greenland.

"Atlas Shrugged," by Ayn Rand, is a monumental book in both a literal and a figurative sense. It is the story of the degeneration of a great and powerful country from the peak of its productiveness to the point where the weak and unfit wielded far more power than their strong, brilliant and creative predecessors had ever dreamed of doing. Principal characters in the book are Dagny Taggart, woman vice-president of a huge railroad, Hank Reardon, inventor of a revolutionary new metal, and Francisco d'Anconia, copper king of the world, and its wealthiest man.

In their own way, each of these fought gamely against the spiritual and physical deterioration of their country. The story of their struggle makes a dramatic, fast-moving novel with a tremendous impact.

Joseph Lister Rutledge's "Century of Conflict," brings alive the century preceding the American Revolution when England and France, the two great powers of the day, struggled to gain and hold possession of Canada. Written in vivid, dramatic style, this is the story of many heroic men of both nations: Frontenac, Montcalm, Wolfe, George Washington, Sir William Johnson, the fabulous LeMoyne family, and a host of others.

This is the second of the Canadian History series being edited by Thomas B. Costain.

Why do cars keep getting longer and longer? Why are women in supermarkets attracted to red packages? Why are people afraid of banks? Why do children like cereals that crackle and crunch?

For the answers to these and many other pertinent and impertinent questions, read Vance Packard's "The Hidden Persuaders." This is an introduction to a new world, the world of Motivational Research and Symbol Manipulation, a species of witchcraft that might well give one a slightly creepy feeling. These new techniques of research are manipulating our lives to a surprising degree. Read and be warned.

Josephine Lawrence's new book, "The Prodigal," is the story of a mother and her two adult sons, one of whom exploited her to the nth degree, while the other cared for and supported her, even though he knew all her interest and affection were for his brother. We don't like to think that many men are as completely selfish and degraded as Alric Dowell, nor that many women are as blind and obstinate as Mrs. Dowell, Senior.

Admittedly, Miss Lawrence's characters are always overdrawn, but all of us have seen traces of similar situations.