

THE CLINTON-ESSEX-FRANKLIN LIBRARY

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APRIL LIBRARIANS' MEETING

The first Member Librarians' Meeting will be held on Monday, April 17, at 10:00 a.m. at Plattsburgh Public Library instead of April 10, as originally scheduled on the bi-monthly calendar. Subsequent meetings will be held on Monday, May 15, and Monday, June 12, at 10:00 a.m. at Plattsburgh Public Library.

The first two meetings will be devoted to a discussion and workshop on the use of reference books, bibliographic tools, and the entire collection in reference and reader's advisory work. By reference work we mean the answering of questions from books, magazines and any other sources. The questions may be for a single fact, such as the date Eastern Daylight Saving Time begins, or for information on a subject, such as the effects of the drug LSD. Reader's advisory work involves the recommendation of the most appropriate book or books to meet a reader's need. The reader may want a well-written and interesting historical novel on William the Conqueror or a group of books for home study and self-education on such subjects as current American fiction, appreciation of modern art, the remodelling of a basement, the technique of sailing, etc.

We would appreciate it if you would please note and send us reference and reader's advisory questions for use at these meetings.

We will be using some of the reference books which were on the grant lists last year and are commonly held, such as World Book Encyclopedia, Webster's Third New International Dictionary, Readers Encyclopedia, etc. We will also be using some of the bibliographic tools which were on grant lists such as Fiction Catalog, Standard Catalog, and Children's Catalog.

We expect to make these workshops as practical and as interesting as we can. We urge all member librarians and trustees to attend.

1967 BOOK GRANT PROGRAM

The schedule for the 1967 book grants given by the System library to its member libraries has been announced in a directive sent by Anthony F. Vecchio, Director, to all member librarians and trustees.

In order to qualify for this year's incentive book grant, a library must have spent more of their own funds on books in 1966 than the average of their book expenditures during the previous three years. Figures from each library's annual report have been used as a basis for compiling book grant amounts for libraries that qualify. Libraries meeting this requirement will receive \$1.50 x the amount spent in 1966 that exceeds the average for the years 1963, 1964, 1965.

Last year the System spent more than \$17,000.00 in books given to member libraries under the Book Grant program - one of the System programs designed to strengthen member library book collections and provide better library service throughout the area.

STAFF ASSIGNMENTS

The recruitment of two new librarians in the past few months has made it possible to redistribute staff duties to give coverage in depth of all phases of System work.

Ruth Taylor is working in Adult Services, assisting in book selection and reference.

Richard Ward has been appointed to head the Reference and Interlibrary Loan Department.

We are now able to establish for the first time a separate Young Adult Services Department - a department that has been considered for some time but could not be set up because of lack of personnel. For a long time, Mrs. Doh has been working in both Children's Services and Young Adult Services. She will now be able to give all her attention to Children's Services. John Crager has been placed in charge of Young Adult Services. He will also continue to direct bookmobile services - but will be able to give a large proportion of his time to the Young Adult Services Department.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES Barbara Doh

Before winter descended on the North Country, we visited libraries at Ticonderoga, Crown Point, Essex, Willshoro, Wadhams, AuSable Forks, and Keeseville. Carolyn Comeau, our library trainee, accompanied me on some of these visits.

Miss Comeau is especially interested in work with children and young adults. She is helping with collections, requests, and book selection.

Now that John Crager has been assigned to Young Adult Services, we will be able to concentrate on books for - and work with - children up to the age of thirteen. Naturally there will be a number of books that will straddle the two areas. Those that are "junior high" - with minimal interest or use for senior high students - will be classed as juvenile books but dotted for young adults.

Those of you who ordered the 1966 eleventh edition of the Children's Catalog should know that our order department is still waiting for them to come in.

We hope that no one missed the television presentation of Rabbit Hill on Sunday, March 5. Burl Ives was an excellent narrator and the use of real animals to portray the characters very effective. We hope that the program has stimulated interest in the book at your library.

Winners of the Newbery and Caldecott awards for the most distinguished children's books for 1966 have been announced.

Irene Hunt has received the John Newbery medal for her novel, Up a Road Slowly (Follett), a poignant story that concerns itself with the timeless problems of all young people groping for independence and maturity.

Evaline Ness, author and illustrator of Sam, Bingo & Moonshine (Holt), was the recipient of the Caldecott medal for the year's "most distinguished American picture book."

Runners-up for the Newbery medal were: Scott O'Dell, The King's Fifth (Houghton); Isaac Bashevis Singer, Zlateh the Goat and Other Stories (Harper); Mary Hays Weik, The Jazz Man (Atheneum).

Runner-up for the Caldecott medal was Ed Emberley, One Wide River to Cross (Prentice).

Copies of these books are owned by System. You may wish to examine them.

YOUNG ADULT SERVICES.....John Crager

Now that we have more time to give to Young Adult Services, we hope to expand and develop all aspects of it - with first reference, of course, to the needs of all our member libraries.

With this in mind, we are sending to each library along with the juvenile bi-monthly collection another collection of books selected primarily for the young adult reader.

Composition of this collection will be some "Y" books (those books specifically classified as Young Adult) plus adult books marked with a dot on the spine. This dot alerts the librarian to their suitability for young adult readers. Books so dotted may be pulled at any time from the adult collection and used for this age group.

We hope that you will establish a section for your Young Adult collection in the Adult room where young adults can come each time they visit the library.

In the future we hope to talk about other facets of Young Adult Services.

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.....Richard Ward

An experimental project set up by the New York State Library introduces to library patrons in this area facsimile transmission of library materials.

The facsimile transmitter, located in large reference libraries such as the State Library, can send copies of book or periodical pages by wire using a high speed electronic transmission process. The receiver, which for this area is located at Potsdam State College, receives these electronic impulses and transmits them into photographic copies of the material being sent.

This new project opens up the resources of large collections to other libraries in the State and speeds up the transmission of material from days to hours.

Requests involving this service may be sent to System Headquarters. The following guidelines are set up for the project:

1. Must be a serious request.
2. Patron must be over 18 years old.
3. Length of material is limited to 12 pages.
4. Book or periodical must be cited accurately.

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The North Country Reference and Research Resources Council has inaugurated a telephone credit card service for requests. We may now call the State University College at Potsdam and other North Country libraries to locate books. Calls will be charged to the Three R's Council. We have already started to make use of this service.

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A special collection is available to North Country researchers at St. Lawrence University Library. The National Municipal League, under a grant from the Carl and Lily Pforzheimer Foundation, is establishing several Constitutional Revision Reference Centers in colleges and universities in New York State. The center designed to serve this area is located in the St. Lawrence University Library. The "Con-Con" shelf already holds some National Municipal League publications. Eventually the collection will also include:

The Legislative Drafting Research Fund's Index Digest of State Constitutions and the compilation of State Constitutions.

Official commission reports on the New York Constitution (reports of past commissions insofar as available) and all the reports currently being produced.

Selected publications from other states on state constitutions.

Statements, position papers, etc. of New York State organizations interested in constitutional revision.

This collection should be of interest to North Country researchers in view of the forthcoming Constitutional Convention.

SYSTEM STAFF VISITS MEMBER LIBRARIES

Mr. Vecchio, Richard Ward and Mary Leggett visited the libraries at Keene and Keene Valley on Thursday, March 9.

Barbara Doh, John Crager, Carolyn Comeau, and Mary Leggett visited the Elizabethtown library on Monday, March 13. Mrs. Doh and Mr. Crager also visited the Rouses Point library on the same day.

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

We have ordered posters and bookmarks for National Library Week, April 16-22. They will be distributed to member libraries as soon as they are received. If you plan anything at your library during this week, please let us know at Headquarters.

Spot announcements for radio and color television on libraries and what they offer are being sent out to all radio and television stations in the State by the Public Libraries of New York State under the sponsorship of Library Development Division.

LIBRARY HISTORIES BEING COMPILED

We have completed histories of member libraries in Clinton County and are now working on those in Essex and Franklin counties. Mary Leggett will eventually visit each of the libraries in those two counties. It would be very helpful if each librarian could search her records and get them together. Trustees may be able to offer advice and information on background material.

TWO AREA BOOKS NOW AVAILABLE

Librarians will probably be interested in two books on this area that are for sale.

Crockett, Walter Hill A HISTORY OF LAKE CHAMPLAIN: A RECORD OF MORE THAN THREE CENTURIES, 1609-1936. McAuliffe, 1936 \$3.50
This is a rev. ed. with two new chapters added.

Hill, Ralph Nading SIDEWHEELER SAGA: A CHRONICALE OF STEAMBOATING
Rinehart, 1953. \$5.00
Much information on steamboats in general and The Ticonderoga in particular. Many in this area will remember her and the steamboat excursions on Lake Champlain.

You may order these titles direct from:

McAuliffe Paper Company
Book Department
Corner of Church & College Street
Burlington, Vermont

NEMOS FROM MEMBER LIBRARIES

CHAZY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Mrs. Wendell Castine became the librarian in August, 1966. Mrs. Castine has a column in the weekly North Countryman called "Billie the Bookworm's Library News - circulation has increased since the column began. The library also holds a Saturday morning Story Hour which has been extremely well-attended.

Friends of the Library held their annual Christmas tea - proceeds amounted to \$85.00.

A new desk chair has been donated to the library.

KEENE VALLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Mrs. William H. Isham retired from her position as librarian in December. She was the librarian for many years and will be missed, both by System staff and her friends in Keene Valley. Miss Zaidee Trumbull has been appointed librarian. Miss Trumbull is a graduate of the Syracuse School of Library Science and is a native of this area.

PERU FREE LIBRARY

Mrs. Patrick F. Fitzpatrick who was librarian here for many years retired in December. A farewell party was held for her so that her trustees and friends had an opportunity to express their appreciation for the help she had given them. Mrs. Mildred Bromley is the new librarian.

WEAD LIBRARY, MALONE

Questions! Questions! Questions! A man from the Malone radio station asked David Minnich, the librarian, why mistletoe berries were considered poisonous. David did much searching everywhere and finally came upon a reference to this in Brewer's Dictionary of Phrase and Fable that stated that this was just folklore. David then sent on the question to Richard Ward at Headquarters Reference Department who sent for and received a photocopy of information taken from the U. S. Dispensatory which stated that mistletoe contained a derivative of a powerful heart stimulant.

Mr. Minnich then wrote Cassell's - the publishers of Brewer's - commenting on the inaccuracy of the entry in the Dictionary of Phrase and Fable. And in due course he received an answer from the London editor saying it would be changed in the new edition.

Note: Hang your mistletoe, please! Don't eat it!

We would be very happy to get news of what's going on at our member libraries. Please address your notes to Mary Leggett at Headquarters.

Anthony F. Vecchio, Director

Mary G. Leggett, Editor