

THE CLINTON-ESSEX-FRANKLIN LIBRARY

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NOTICE

The date of the next librarians' meeting, previously scheduled for June 12, has been changed to Monday, June 19. Please mark this change on your calendars. We hope that all member librarians and trustees will be able to attend.

SPRING LIBRARIANS' MEETINGS HELD

Two meetings have been held so far this spring for member librarians and trustees on April 17 and May 15.

Several staff members participated in these meetings. Mr. Vecchio demonstrated the uses of various reference tools in tracking down information about specific people or places - showing the natural progression from one type of reference book to another in searching more definitive information. He also indicated how the librarian relates the amount and kind of information desired to the patron's needs.

Richard Ward spoke of the use of periodicals in the library and the necessity for subscribing to the Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature, either in the abridged or unabridged form, as an index to current material. He cited the advantages of periodicals in giving access to the latest information available in many fields. At the second meeting, he described both the uses of and the differences between atlases that should be considered for library purchase.

Barbara Doh talked about specific titles for children and also discussed the uses of the Children's Catalog and the Children's Booklist for Small Public Libraries in building up juvenile collections. John Crager presented a series of short book reviews of titles suitable for Young Adult collections. At the April meeting, Ruth Taylor reviewed current books on Vietnam, and in May she reviewed a number of books on travel: how to, where to go, and what to see when you get there - along with personal travel narratives and places now vanished.

About seventeen member libraries were represented at each of these meetings.

A GIFT FOR TEN MEMBER LIBRARIES

The System has received a gift of 10 copies of JOHN BURROUGH'S AMERICA: SELECTIONS FROM THE WRITINGS OF THE HUDSON RIVER NATURALIST. It is edited by Farida A. Wiley and illustrated by Francis Lee Jacques. The gift was presented by the John Burroughs Memorial Association and will be in turn distributed to member libraries on a first come, first served basis. Send in your request to Mary Leggett at Headquarters immediately - you may be one of the lucky ten. Be sure to date your request.

WHY?

Sometimes the closer you are to something, the less you see of it - or, as the expression goes, you don't see the forest for the trees. Whenever that happens, the thing to do is to rear back so that you can get the whole view. I think that the principle applies to almost any aspect of our lives in which we are very much involved: our home life or our work life. We seem to get so tangled up in what must be done and how it must be done that we don't take enough time to ask why it is being done.

Why do we have public libraries? I suppose if one answered quickly with the first reason which came to mind, many of us would say - to lend out books. This is because it is the main activity in which we engage. But as soon as you stop a moment to think about it, the next question is why do we lend out books? We must feel that books are important in our lives. It all goes back to the usefulness of having some way of recording whatever it is we have learned through experience to be interesting, stimulating, informative, or inspirational. And so far the book seems to be the most effective means of doing this which we have devised.

We have decided that it is important for all of us to have books and since it is impossible for all of us to have as many books as we would like, we have hit upon the device of publicly supporting a collection of books for everyone's use: a public library. We hope in this way to improve the tone of the individual's life and the quality of community life.

All of this is basic and general. It is meant to be introductory to a series of articles on why we do the things that we do in libraries.

*Anthony F. Vecchio
Director*

YOUNG ADULT SERVICES.....John Crager

"The task of making enthusiastic readers of young people is a difficult one for the adult who assumes this responsibility. But the second task, that of guiding young people into increased maturity through reading, is even more difficult."

Geneva R. Hanna and Mariana K. McAllister, in their book, BOOKS, YOUNG PEOPLE AND READING GUIDANCE, set out to help with the twin tasks. They present hundreds of titles that will supply the answer to a wide variety of teenage reading needs. Since the authors discuss both teenagers and potentially useful books for them, reading their book should substantially increase the librarian's working knowledge.

The book's wide range is shown by the chapter headings: Literature for Young People; Growth factors and Characteristics of Adolescents; Reading Interests of Young People; Books and the Needs of Youth; Book Selection for Young People.

A copy of this book may be borrowed from the system book pool or purchased. I heartily recommend both the authors' facts and philosophy.

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.....Richard Ward

The State Library has contracted with other large libraries in the State in order to make their collections, as well as that of the State Library, available to patrons with serious requests.

For example: if the State Library is unable to fill a serious request by an eligible borrower, they are forwarding the request to the Buffalo Erie County Library.

The Buffalo Erie County Library is using the ALA Standard Inter-Library Loan Form for the requests they fill and they are sending copies of the form to the borrowing library for each title they supply. Since some librarians in the system are unfamiliar with this form, I would like to explain how to use it.

Each form has four parts. Part A is retained by Buffalo. Parts B and C you will keep for your records, holding them for about a year so that you can refer to them if a question arises - perhaps whether you had received the title or if you had returned it. Part D you will return to Buffalo after filling in the required information. Mail this to Buffalo separately from the package containing the book.

On the right hand side of this form, you will see a column titled "Reports." Here you will find the following information:

1. Date book was mailed from Buffalo.
2. Length of loan period.
3. Amount of insurance. (Please insure book for same amount when returning)

The major part of the form with which you will be concerned is the section at the bottom of the right hand column. It is duplicated here and a sample filled in:

SAMPLE

RECORDS (Borrowing library fills in)

Date vol. received March 4, 1967

Date vol. returned March 22, 1967

By Book Rate Express Prepaid

Other _____ Insured for \$10.00

The form includes carbons so that filling it in on Part B records it also on C and D. D is then returned, separately from the book, as instructed above.

If you have any questions about this, please contact Headquarters reference department.

Here is a select list of atlases recommended for purchase, all of which were discussed at the last librarians' meeting:

RAND McNALLY NEW COSMOPOLITAN WORLD ATLAS Rand McNally. Regular ed. 16.95
There are other eds. with the same text but they are more expensive.
This particular atlas appeared on a 1966 Book Grant list.

GOODE'S WORLD ATLAS	Rand McNally	\$9.95
WORLD BOOK ATLAS	Field Enterprises	\$29.95
ODYSSEY WORLD ATLAS	Odyssey	\$19.95
This was new in 1966.		
HAMMOND MEDALLION WORLD ATLAS	C.S. Hammond	\$19.95
HAMMOND CITATION WORLD ATLAS	C.S. Hammond	\$ 7.95

These were new in 1966. The only difference between these two is that the Citation edition is smaller in size and has a slightly shorter index...it is part of the New Perspective Series.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES.....Barbara Doh

In the April issue of the Newsletter we omitted mention of a winter visit to the Westport library.

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We were very pleased to have Miss Virginia Heffernan, State Public Library Children's Consultant, here for our April librarians' meeting. We were delighted that she could accompany us on library visits to West Chazy and Mooers the following morning.

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We trust that by this time all of you who ordered the 1967 edition of the Children's Catalog have received it. We are sure that it will be helpful to you, both in ordering and weeding.

And speaking of ordering, we would like to encourage you to set aside a sizeable portion of the juvenile budget for purchase of standard titles, replacement of worn copies, and/or additional copies of worthwhile titles in heavy demand. A good guide (for juvenile collections) is to spend one-third of the money allocated on current titles and two-thirds on standard titles.

The green pamphlet, CHILDREN'S BOOKLIST FOR SMALL PUBLIC LIBRARIES, which we hope you all use regularly, is an annotated list of the "must" books that even the smallest library needs to own. There are additional copies of this list at the System, available for the asking.

MEMOS FROM MEMBER LIBRARIES

WEAD LIBRARY, MALONE

David Minnich, librarian, reports that 36,722 items were circulated during 1966 and that 324 books, 32 films, and 12 recordings were borrowed through inter-library loan.

PLATTSBURGH PUBLIC LIBRARY

Notices are being sent to teachers of grades three through five in all elementary schools in the city to tell them of the summer reading club to be held at this library. Attractive posters for each child enrolling show an apple tree to which stickers of apples and apple blossoms will be affixed for each book the child reads. Award ribbons will complete the child's poster. Each year the Plattsburgh library attracts many children through their summer reading program which winds up with a party for all children participating.

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Mary G. Leggett, Editor

