

# NEWS

*from*



CLINTON - ESSEX - FRANKLIN LIBRARY  
PLATTSBURGH, NEW YORK

April 1963

## AN AUTHOR AND THE NORTH COUNTRY

The time is the 1870's; the place is a farm about five miles from Malone; the boy is Almanzo Wilder, hero of "Farmer Boy", one of Laura Ingalls Wilder's delightful books for children. "Farmer Boy" has a double charm for North Country readers since it is written about real people, the Wilders, who actually lived in this area so familiar to us. A reissue of the book in 1953, with Garth Williams doing the illustrations, has pointed up the timeless interest of Mrs. Wilder's stories.

We were fortunate enough to be given more background material on the Wilder family by Miss Dorothy B. Smith of Malone who is a relative of the late Mrs. Wilder.

James Wilder, father of Almanzo, was born in Vermont in 1813 and moved to Malone in 1817. The farm which is described in "Farmer Boy" is in the southwest corner of the town of Burke, about five miles from Malone. From the farm, which is thought to be much the same as it was in the 1870's, one can see the distant St. Lawrence River. Nearby is Trout River where Almanzo went fishing with his father. Illustrations in "Farmer Boy" show the Malone Academy, Main Street in Malone, and the Franklin County Fairgrounds.

Laura Ingalls married Almanzo Wilder, the "Farmer Boy", in 1885- and later journeyed by covered wagon with him and their daughter, Rose, to Mansfield, Missouri. She was sixty-five when she wrote her first book "The Little House in the Big Woods"- and was besieged by requests for more of her stories.

There are many memorials to Mrs. Wilder in the west where all of her books except "Farmer Boy" are laid. A state historical marker has been erected in Wilder Park at her birthplace, Peppin, Wisconsin. In De Smet, South Dakota, a marker has been placed at the site of the Ingalls home. In Mansfield, Missouri, where Laura and Almanzo Wilder lived for over fifty years, a museum has been made of their home which will open to the public this summer. It has already had over 3000 unofficial visitors from the United States and many foreign countries.

Although all of Mrs. Wilder's books have had well-deserved and enthusiastic attention, "Farmer Boy" leads them all in the hearts of North Country readers with its expert and nostalgic recapture of a familiar place in a time gone by. And Malone itself is visited frequently by tourists looking for the Wilder home - tourists, who, like us, are captivated by the story of Almanzo's boyhood in an age of simplicity and truth.

For those of you who have not as yet had the pleasure of reading all of Mrs. Wilder's books, we include a list:

By The Shores Of Silver Lake Rev. ed., Harper, 1953. \$2.95  
Farmer Boy Rev. ed., Harper, 1953. \$2.95  
Little House In The Big Woods Rev. ed., Harper, 1953. \$2.95  
Little House On The Prairie Rev. ed., Harper, 1953. \$2.95  
Little Town On The Prairie Rev. ed., Harper, 1953. \$2.95  
The Long Winter Rev. ed., Harper, 1953. \$2.95  
On The Banks Of Plum Creek Rev. ed., Harper, 1953. \$2.95  
On The Way Home Harper, 1962. \$3.50  
These Happy Golden Years Rev. ed., Harper, 1953. \$2.95

#### LIBRARIANS' MEETINGS

The spring Librarians' Meeting will be held Monday, April 8, 1963, at 10:00 a.m. in the auditorium of Plattsburgh Public Library. Miss Marion H. Vedder, Associate Library Supervisor, Library Extension, will talk on "Making Your Annual Report To The State". A number of new announcements will be made at this meeting. We hope to see both member librarians and trustees of member libraries at this meeting.

On May 6, 1963, a book review meeting will be held at the Tupper Lake Public Library. The next meeting will be in Plattsburgh on June 10, 1963. Miss Margaret C. Hannigan, Public Library Adult Services Consultant, Library Extension, will do a follow-up of her earlier workshop on book selection policies. On July 8, 1963, a book review meeting will be held at Keene Valley Library Association. Chateaugay Memorial Library will be the place for the September 9, 1963 meeting. The last session will be at Plattsburgh on October 7, 1963. Mrs. Barbara Doh, Children's Librarian, Headquarters, will be the speaker. We hope this advance schedule will allow you sufficient time to plan to attend each meeting.

#### GUEST SPEAKER FOR AUGUST MEETING

The August 5 luncheon meeting for trustees and librarians will have as its highlight a guest speaker well-known for his literary ability and historical accuracy. Mr. Harrison Bird, author of "Navies In The Mountains", will discuss "Contemporary Sources and the People Who Wrote Them".

Mr. Bird, who is a lifetime resident of Bluff Head, Huletts Landing, has had a deep interest in the Lake George-Lake Champlain region to which his own ancestors came over one hundred and fifty years ago. He is a trustee of the Crown Point Foundation, historian of the Fort Edward Development Company, and since 1935 has been associated with the Fort Ticonderoga Museum, where he was trained in history, archaeology and museum work by the late Stephen H. P. Pell, founder and creator of the museum at Fort Ticonderoga.

A second book by Mr. Bird is to be published this spring by Oxford. "March To Saratoga" describes General Burgoyne's American campaign in 1777.

We are fortunate indeed to have Mr. Bird as guest speaker, with his intimate and detailed knowledge of our historical background.

#### TRAINING GRANTS

Announcement has been made by Library Extension Division concerning public librarians' training grants. The maximum award is \$2000. To be eligible for one of these awards, the candidate for examination must be a U. S. citizen, a resident of New York State for one year, and have completed a program of higher education satisfactory for admission to an approved library school in this state. Deadline on filing is April 13, 1963. Further details may be obtained from the New York State Library, Library Extension Division, Albany 1, New York, or by calling Mr. R. Edwin Berry, Director of the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library.

#### MOSHIER AWARD FOR LIBRARIANS

Library trustees are invited to nominate their librarian or a librarian elsewhere in this state for the L. Marion Moshier Award for Distinguished Librarianship, which honors each year a librarian who has served in a rural area or a small community library in New York State. Nominations and qualifying statements of accomplishments should be sent before May 15, 1963 to Miss Caroline Hieber, Librarian, Corning Public Library, Corning, New York. This is an opportunity for you, as trustees, to recognize outstanding work done by your librarian. We have sent application blanks to each board president.

#### COURSE FOR COMMUNITY LIBRARIANS

The training course for community librarians offered by Library Extension will start on Monday, April 15, 1963, at the Lake Placid Club. The workshop this year will be on Children's Services. Mrs. Lillian Orsini, Assistant Professor, School of Library Science, State University of New York at Albany, will be the instructor. We hope you have mailed in your registration cards to Library Extension, and we look forward to a good representation from the member librarians in our three county area. Mrs. Barbara Doh and Mrs. Mary Leggett will be attending from Headquarters. As in former years, we will not be able to reimburse librarians for mileage and travel.

FROM NYLA

The New York Library Association has announced it will be happy to receive dues for this year. Mr. Berry, Director of Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library, has been appointed to the membership committee of the state organization as the representative from this area.

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

National Library Week will be celebrated April 21-27 of this year. We have posters and bookmarks for each member library and have prepared sample radio and newspaper releases for each librarian to use in his or her community. Our goal is to make everyone library-conscious; we can do this by making the people in each community aware of how much their library offers to them.

Headquarter's plans for National Library Week include exhibits at each of three Plattsburgh business establishments through the courtesy of the managers of Montgomery Ward, Frederick's Department Store, and Booth's Insurance Agency. Displays will have individual themes designed to promote interest in books. Dr. M. Frances Breen, Librarian at the Benjamin F. Feinberg Library, State University College at Plattsburgh, and Mr. Berry, System Director, will discuss library cooperation in acquisitions on television station WPTZ, Plattsburgh, on April 23, at 1:15 p.m. On the same station, Thursday, April 25, Mrs. Barbara Doh will demonstrate the art of story-telling to young children.

CHANGES IN BOOKMOBILE SCHEDULES

Due to a directive issued by the Superintendent of Highways, Franklin County, prohibiting the use of vehicles over a specific weight on posted roads, the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library Bookmobile will not be able to make the following stops:

St. Regis Falls and Dickinson Center for April 1, 15 and 29.  
Chasm Falls and Burke for April 3 and 17.  
Onchiota for March 28, April 11 and 25.

Service will be resumed for these stops as soon as the Franklin County Highway Department is able to lift the ban on the use of these roads. Residents of these communities will be welcome at any other bookmobile stop during this period.

MEMOS FROM MEMBER LIBRARIES

KEENE VALLEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION The Keene Valley Library will be closed temporarily while construction of the addition is underway.

Notable Books of 1962: A Selected List

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| Amado, Jorge                             | GABRIELA, CLOVE AND CINNAMON; A NOVEL Knopf  |
| Asimov, Isaac                            | LIFE AND ENERGY Doubleday  |
| Bolt, Robert                             | A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS; A PLAY IN TWO ACTS Random   |
| Calisher, Hortense                       | TALE FOR THE MIRROR, A NOVELLA AND OTHER STORIES<br>Little   |
| Canaday, John Edwin                      | EMBATTLED CRITIC Farrar  |
| Carson, Rachel Louise                    | SILENT SPRING Houghton   |
| Clavell, James                           | KING RAT, A NOVEL Little   |
| Clemens, Samuel Langhorne                | LETTERS FROM THE EARTH Harper  |
| Clurman, Harold, ed.                     | SEVEN PLAYS OF THE MODERN THEATRE Grove  |
| Coon, Carelton Stevens                   | THE ORIGIN OF RACES Knopf  |
| Daniels, Robert Vincent                  | THE NATURE OF COMMUNISM Random   |
| De Grazia, Sebastian                     | OF TIME, WORK AND LEISURE Twentieth Century Fund   |
| Dyson, James Lindsay                     | THE WORLD OF ICE Knopf   |
| Edel, Leon Joseph                        | HENRY JAMES: V. II THE CONQUEST OF LONDON, 1870-1881;<br>V. III THE MIDDLE YEARS, 1882-1895 Lippincott |
| Faulkner, William                        | THE REIVERS, A REMINISCENCE Random   |
| Frost, Robert                            | IN THE CLEARING Holt   |
| Harrington, Michael                      | THE OTHER AMERICA; POVERTY IN THE UNITED STATES<br>Macmillan   |
| Hayter, Stanley William                  | ABOUT PRINTS Oxford  |
| Heidegger, Martin                        | BEING AND TIME Harper  |
| Hughes, Richard Arthur W.                | THE FOX IN THE ATTIC Harper  |
| Hyman, Stanley Edgar                     | THE TANGLED BANK; DARWIN, MARX, FRAZER AND FREUD AS<br>IMAGINATIVE WRITERS Atheneum                    |
| Kazin, Alfred                            | CONTEMPORARIES Little  |
| Kuh, Katharine                           | THE ARTIST'S VOICE; TALKS WITH SEVENTEEN ARTISTS<br>Harper   |
| Kung, Hans                               | THE COUNCIL, REFORM, AND REUNION Sheed and Ward  |
| Lefever, Ernest W., ed.                  | ARMS AND ARMS CONTROL; A SYMPOSIUM Praeger   |
| Luthuli, Albert John                     | LET MY PEOPLE GO McGraw-Hill   |
| MacDonald, Dwight                        | AGAINST THE AMERICAN GRAIN Random  |
| Madariaga, Salvadore De                  | LATIN AMERICA BETWEEN THE EAGLE AND THE BEAR<br>Praeger  |
| Milne, Lorus Johnson and<br>Margery Joan | THE SENSES OF ANIMALS AND MEN Atheneum   |
| Nabokov, Vladimir V                      | PALE FIRE Putnam   |
| Porter, Katherine Anne                   | SHIP OF FOOLS; A NOVEL Little  |
| Powers, James Farl                       | MORTE D'URBAN Doubleday  |
| Price, Reynolds                          | A LONG AND HAPPY LIFE; A NOVEL Atheneum  |
| Pritchett, Victor Sawdon                 | LONDON PERCEIVED Harcourt  |
| Raughley, Ralph C., ed.                  | NEW FRONTIERS OF CHRISTIANITY Association  |
| Renoir, Jean                             | RENOIR MY FATHER Little  |
| Riessman, Frank                          | THE CULTURALLY DEPRIVED CHILD Harper   |

Saarinen, Eero	EERO SAARINEN ON HIS WORK	Yale
Schreiber, William Ildephonse	OUR AMISH NEIGHBORS	University of Chicago
Singer, Isaac Bashevis	THE SLAVE; A NOVEL	Farrar
Smith, Page	JOHN ADAMS, 2 VOLS. V. 1, 1735-1784 V. 2, 1784-1826	Doubleday
Stegner, Wallace Earle	WOLF WILLOW; A HISTORY, A STORY AND A MEMORY OF THE LAST PLAINS FRONTIER	Viking
Taper, Bernard	GOMILLION VERUS LIGHTFOOT; THE TUSKEGEE GERRYMANDER CASE	McGraw-Hill
Trier, Eduard	FORM AND SPACE; SCULPTURE OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY	Praeger
Tuchman, Barbara W.	THE GUNS OF AUGUST	Macmillan
Turnbull, Andrew	SCOTT FITZGERALD	Scribner
Ward, Barbara J.	THE RICH NATIONS AND THE POOR NATIONS	Norton
Wells, Donald A.	GOD, MAN AND THE THINKER; PHILOSOPHIES OF RELIGION	Random
White, Elwyn Brooks	THE POINTS OF MY COMPASS; LETTERS FROM THE EAST, THE WEST, THE NORTH, THE SOUTH	Harper
Wilde, Oscar	LETTERS	Harcourt
Williams, Edward Bennett	ONE MAN'S FREEDOM	Atheneum
Williams, Emyln	GEORGE; AN EARLY AUTOBIOGRAPHY	Random
Wilson, Edmund	PATRIOTIC GORE; STUDIES IN THE LITERATURE OF THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR	Oxford
Wohlstetter, Roberta	PEARL HARBOR; WARNING AND DECISION	Stanford