

# NEWS

*from*



CLINTON - ESSEX - FRANKLIN LIBRARY  
PLATTSBURGH, NEW YORK

AUGUST 1963

## STRETCHING YOUR BOOK DOLLAR

A glance at the Publisher's Weekly book price index for the past year tells only too clearly that, in line with the steadily increasing cost of living, the price of books has also gone up.

Since the years 1947-1949, book prices as a whole have risen more than two thirds. Increase seems to be contingent upon the individual category of each book. Although the average price per book as of 1962 was \$5.90, the sharpest rises are shown in books on law, music, and science. The cost of the average fiction title in 1962 was \$3.97, while the average cost of children's books has remained constant since 1961 at \$2.77, and the cost of books on art and agriculture has decreased slightly.

These averages are based on data taken from the Publisher's Weekly yearly tabulation of book prices and do not include paperbacks, textbooks, government documents and encyclopedias.

Librarians with problems of buying books to meet the public's needs without exceeding their budgets would do well to keep this price increase in mind when planning buying for the year. And boards of trustees working on their annual budgets should also be alerted to the fact that books do cost more these days.

In making book selections, member librarians should also be cognizent of the fact that it is wiser not to spend money on trivial and ephemeral books such as mysteries because Headquarters supplies this material on loan. The Headquarters Book Pool contains this material, not because we particularly like this type of book, but because we feel that local fund investments should be in books of a more permanent nature.

The Book Pool also holds titles that are relatively expensive and of a highly specialized use - books whose purchase a small library could not justify on a limited budget. However, the fact that we have these books available for all member libraries and bookmobile patrons does justify their purchase for Headquarters.

Among these books are included fiction of special interest because of content or type of literary treatment and foreign translations of novels that have won prizes abroad, such as the Prix Goncourt. Included too are collections of non-fiction for special or seasonal interests.

These expensive and limited-use items can be borrowed from Headquarters to augment your holdings. In the non-fiction field, in particular, it is possible, and desirable, to include more of these titles in rotating collections. And the number of books loaned to a library in such collections can be increased by request.

Since it is essential for each librarian to buy books with an eye to the maximum future use of each book and the wisest expenditure of each book dollar, three important factors should be taken into consideration:

1. Availability of book on loan from Headquarters.
2. Permanency of book in collection.
3. Cost of book.

#### DIRECTOR OF LIBRARY EXTENSION APPOINTED

Miss Jean L. Connor has been named Director of Library Extension Division to succeed S. Gilbert Prentiss, recently appointed State Librarian and Assistant Commissioner for Libraries.

Miss Connor has been with Library Extension Division since 1954 and has been particularly responsible for the coordination of the New York program for the improvement of rural libraries under the Federal Library Service Act.

#### JUVENILE ROTATING COLLECTIONS

We would welcome suggestions for changes in the make-up of juvenile rotating collections. For some time now, the same patterns of requests for format have been followed in selection. If you would like to make changes, please send information to Mrs. Doh, Headquarters Children's Consultant.

#### ANTIQUÉ SHOW FEATURES BOOK DISPLAY

In conjunction with the Malone Antique Show, July 9, 10, and 11, the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library held an exhibit of books on various types of antiques.

Another exhibit of books on antiques is scheduled for the Saranac Lake Antique Show to be held July 30, 31, and August 1. This display will give more people an opportunity to inspect books on old porcelain, glassware, furniture and many other items that interest collectors. All books are available on loan from the bookmobiles and member libraries in the three counties. A booklist on the subject has been prepared to be given to visitors.

#### BOOK REVIEW MEETING

A book review meeting was held July 8 in the Keene Valley Library. Reviewers were Miss Laura Ingalls, Plattsburgh Public Library; Mrs. Courtney K. Morton, Black Watch Memorial Library, Ticonderoga; and Mr. Berry and Mrs. Leggett from Headquarters. Present were Mrs. Blanche Isham, Librarian; Mrs. Elmore Edmonds, Mrs. Brinton Dulles, and Mrs. Helen Gruen, trustees of Keene Valley, and the Reverend Fredericka Mitchell, also of Keene Valley.

The next book review meeting will be held at Chateaugay Memorial Library on September 9.

#### LIBRARIANS' MEETING

The August librarians' meeting will be held at the Royal Savage Inn, Plattsburgh, on August 5 at 12:30 p.m. The speaker at this luncheon meeting will be Harrison Bird of Hulett's Landing, New York. Mr. Bird has just published his second book March to Saratoga, an accurate and vivid re-creation of both the revolutionary war and New York State history. His earlier Navies in the Mountains told the dramatic story of naval engagements on Lake Champlain and Lake George.

Mr. Bird has been both Curator and Adviser to the Fort Ticonderoga Museum, and recently President of the Company of Military Collectors and Historians. Currently he is chairman of the committee on history for the Lake George Park Commission.

#### STATE SERIAL HOLDINGS MICROFILMED

The file of serial holdings of the New York State Library has been placed on microfilm and will be available at the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library. In addition to the 15,000 titles listed, there is also a record of monographs issued in series.

Class marks are indicated so material may be requested by shelf symbol rather than by title alone.

This unique experimental project will be a valuable bibliographic tool since plans are to continue subscriptions to serials being received currently and to microfilm the serial catalog at four or five year intervals.

Most of the serials listed will be lent freely - or, if only a few pages are needed, a Xerox copy will be furnished. Non-circulating serials may, of course, always be used in the State Library. Serials in the Medical and Law Libraries have not been included.

#### STATE RULING ON "TROPIC OF CANCER"

The New York State Court of Appeals has ruled Tropic of Cancer, by Henry Miller, to be obscene.

The ruling, dated July 11, 1963, clearly states that, within New York State, it is now a misdemeanor to sell, advertise, give, lend or distribute the book or to possess the book with the intent of selling, lending or distributing it.

## MEMOS FROM MEMBER LIBRARIES

### AU SABLE FORKS LIBRARY

Mr. John Richards of Au Sable Forks has arranged to have a new book return box made for the library.

A book sale was held July 27 at the library.

### DANNEMORA FREE LIBRARY

The provisional charter for this library has been extended for a three year period.

### KEENE VALLEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The annual concert for the benefit of the library was held in the Keene Valley Congregational Church, July 31, at 8:30 p.m. Artists in this thirteenth annual concert included Dorothy Polk, violinist; Muriel Sabina, pianist; Anita Knight, violinist; Eleanor Troemel, pianist; and Alfred Troemel, violinist.

### KEESEVILLE FREE LIBRARY

Roberta Thompson, Senior Girl Scout, is assisting at the library to earn credit for her "Library Aid" bar.

### WEAD LIBRARY, MALONE

Summer hours are in force at the library: Monday through Thursday, 12 to 6; Friday, 10 to 4, 6 to 9; closed on Saturdays.

### PLATTSBURGH PUBLIC LIBRARY

The library has planned its fifteenth annual exhibit at the Clinton County Fair, to be held at the fairgrounds, Morrisonville, July 30 through August 3. The setting is to resemble a typical home. Fireplace, rugs, chairs, and books selected with the whole family in mind make up the display. Special posters which carry the theme were designed by Kenneth Malpass, Plattsburgh.

### DODGE MEMORIAL LIBRARY, ROUSES POINT

Historical documents, land grants of 1790, have been restored, framed, and presented to the library.

Mrs. Tremblay, Librarian, is currently re-arranging the juvenile section.

SARANAC LAKE FREE LIBRARY

Mrs. Worthington, Librarian, has planned a series of reading programs for children at ten o'clock each Monday morning. Marta Byer and Joan Frank of the Saranac Lake Summer Theatre will be the readers.

TUPPER LAKE PUBLIC LIBRARY

On June 28, the Regents of the State of New York approved an absolute charter for the library.

DODGE LIBRARY, WEST CHAZY

The Dodge Library is in process of being re-registered. Mr. Duane H. Dewan is president of the board of trustees.

R. Edwin Berry, Director

Mary G. Leggett, Editor

