THE RIGHT TO BE HEARD

The ordinary man accepts each day as it comes; his private desperations are controlled and his frustrations unarticulated.

It is the dissenter who ruffles the surface calm, who scratches the flimsy veneer of civilization and pricks the national conscience. We may disagree with his premises and disassociate ourselves from his projects—but we do agree on one thing: he has a right to be heard.

Different times reflect different reactions. What was accepted in the culture of a generation ago may no longer be valid. And it is necessary for a nation to have its rebels, its men with causes, to keep us from sinking into apathy and self-satisfaction. Crusaders are seldom universally popular. They upset too many apple carts. They make us uncomfortably aware of our deficiencies. But their function is important: they are catalysts effecting an explosion of emotions and ideas.

The roll call of the dissenters is long. On it we find Thomas Paine, John Stuart Mill, Swift, Darwin, Rousseau, Thoreau, James Baldwin: dissenters all, who have used words as powerful tools to express their deep moral and ethical convictions. Nations have tried to suppress them. Books have been burned by those who equate the different with the dangerous. But ultimately their ideas have reached the public arena of scrutiny and discussion.

Traditionally libraries have played a significant role in presenting the differing ideas of man in his society. Today, in an atmosphere of pressures from many groups attempting to limit free exposition of thought, libraries have reaffirmed through THE LIBRARY BILL OF RIGHTS and THE FREEDOM TO READ STATEMENT their responsibility to provide citizens with books that stimulate the mind, broaden perspective, and help to develop social intelligence. It is the unique privilege of a citizen in a democracy to be exposed to the ideas of philosophical theorists and political heretics as well as to the proponents of established orthodoxies and prevailing ideologies. The right of choice is based upon the availability of many things from which to choose. And libraries hold fast to the principle that no minority or majority group has the right to impose its thinking on everyone; that each person has the right to distinguish and select for himself what is good or bad. To do otherwise is to treat the reasoning adult as a child incapable of exercising mature deliberation and judgment.
At what point does free speech become a menace to society? It is difficult
to say why and when a publication becomes what Justice Holmes called "a clear
and present danger," --but Holmes also noted that the First Amendment to the
Constitution was framed "to prevent restraints except those needed for the
safety of the nation." The greater menace lies in the suppression of free
communication of thought.

The physically limiting factors of space and money make it impossible for
any library to own all books--even all good books. But each library can, through its own
resources and through interchange with other libraries, follow the policy of THE
FREEDOM TO READ STATEMENT by making available "...the widest diversity of views
and expressions, including those which are unorthodox or unpopular with the
majority."

As institutions in a pluralistic society, libraries recognize that one man's
heresy may be another man's dogma. It is not the purpose of libraries to act as
either judges or arbiters: instead they are the advocates of the freedom of the
individual to express himself and the freedom of people to listen.

Mary Leggett

ADULT BOOKS AND SERVICES

ANTHONY VECCHIO, ADULT SERVICES CONSULTANT

Our Greek and human heritage continues to exert a strong influence upon us
and books bearing on it to absorb our interest. There is a long line of distinguished
novels which seek to illuminate and recreate that far-away time. Titles come to
mind: Mary Renault's LAST OF THE WINE, A KING MUST DIE, THE BULL FOR THE SEA;
Robert Graves' I, CLAUDIUS, CLAUDIUS THE GOD; Thornton Wilder's THE IDES OF MARCH;
Marguerite Yourcenar's MEMOIRS OF HADRIAN. The latest is Gore Vidal's JULIAN,
a first person account of the life and times of the Roman Emperor, Julian, known
as the Apostate, who sought to stem the tide of Christianity.

Christianity is again threatened; this time in a suspense story with an
unusual theme: THE Q DOCUMENT, by James Hall Roberts. The document, mentioned
in the title, is one which would, if verified, disprove the truth of the Gospels.

A competently written book of popular interest is that of Lane Kauffmann,
AN HONORABLE ESTATE. A large cast of well-drawn characters is involved in a
set of circumstances attending a young couple's engagement. What happens to
them all during the three months leading to the wedding makes for good reading
entertainment.

The background of a recent important Supreme Court decision is examined in
Anthony Lewis' GIDEON'S TRUMPET. How a handwritten petition by a convicted
down-and-out led to a reversal of earlier writings and established the right
of a criminal defendant to counsel regardless of circumstances is skillfully
told by a competent journalist.
The flood of books on the civil rights issue continues to pour in. In an important one, WHY WE CAN'T WAIT, the foremost Negro exponent of morality and moderation, Martin Luther King, Jr., reviews and explains what is happening.

This is a political year and we can expect to see it reflected in book publishing. The Republicans have kicked off at San Francisco and from what happened, we can expect an even livelier struggle than usual. An embattled Republican, Senator Jacob Javits, gives his ORDER OF BATTLE in one of the first books to appear on the subject. As a persuasive spokesman for the liberal brand of Republicanism, he forcefully states his views on national and international issues. We can confidently expect this to be followed by others reflecting the Goldwater viewpoint.

That old pro of politics is portrayed in a book aptly titled THE PROFESSIONAL: LYNDON B. JOHNSON, by William S. White. While not completely objective, it is the best biography to appear so far about the President. Again, this is but the beginning of what promises to be a steady stream of books on the subject.

To clear the head and lungs, there is nothing like a leap from the smoke-filled rooms of politics to the bracing heights of Everest. It can be done in two ways. One can challenge the mountain using one's own physical and spiritual resources or one can assault the mountain with the help of every piece of scientific and technical equipment available. In the first case, one would follow Woodrow Wilson Sayre in FOUR AGAINST EVEREST; in the latter, James Ramsey Ullman in AMERICANS ON EVEREST. Either way, it is a magnificent achievement.

For a lively and readable account of what gorillas are really like see George B. Schaller's THE YEAR OF THE GORILLA, a summary of his findings as a result of more than a year's careful observation in East and Central Africa.

The observer of human society has a far more difficult time of it. He must not only record the outward manifestations of behavior but he must also try to understand the feelings and thoughts of a much more complicated organism. It is especially important for us to try to get to know those with whom we are in conflict. Of the publishing of books about the Russians, there is no end but Laurens Van Der Post's A VIEW OF ALL THE RUSSIANS deserves shelf-space with other good ones on the subject. These are not the observations and analyses of a political scientist but the reactions and intuitions of a sensitive human being, poetically expressed.

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EVERY library that serves children needs Mother Goose—in a variety of editions. Since Mother Goose rhymes are usually among those sung to infants and small children, they have the ready charm of the familiar for pre-schoolers. Reading these verses to children is an early way to introduce the music and rhythm of poetry—and is also an excellent aid to speech training.

Formats in editions of Mother Goose vary from large comprehensive editions from which parents may select rhymes for reading aloud to small editions children can handle by themselves. Illustrations for editions vary too, and display different techniques and interpretations. But however these editions vary in format, they all have in common the astonishing variety of Mother Goose characters and the marked rhythms that intrigue small listeners.

Small children of every generation always enjoy the brevity and simplicity of Mother Goose, a part of our literary heritage that has been especially theirs.

SOME RECOMMENDED EDITIONS:


  An excellent selection with lovely illustrations in color and in black and white by Harold Jones. Rhymes are arranged in nine sections under special headings. Adults will enjoy sharing this book with children.

- Mother Goose *A POCKET FULL OF POSIES: A MERRY MOTHER GOOSE* edited by Marguerite De Angeli Doubleday 1961 $1.50

  Selections from her book of nursery rhymes and from Mother Goose. 77 of the more familiar rhymes with illustrations taken from her other book. A nice size for children to handle by themselves.

- Mother Goose *MARGUERITE DE ANGELI'S BOOK OF NURSERY AND MOTHER GOOSE RHYMES* Doubleday 1954 $5.00

  A good collection of nearly 400 rhymes, with about 250 illustrations in color and black and white. Very imaginative. For adults to share with children. Large size.
Illustrations are modern in feeling, bright and colorful. Full page illustrations included with small ones scattered throughout. Music for twelve of the rhymes is at the back of the book.

This is a small book with a small number of selections. Illustrations are in Kate Greenaway's inimitable style.

Fresh illustrations in pastels and black and white enhance this rather small book that contains selections not found except in the complete editions.

Runner-up for last spring's Caldecott medal. Wood cuts in the traditional style, done in six colors enhance this collection. Fewer verses than the editions done by Lines and De Angeli. For adults to share and for children to browse in. Over-size book.

A generous size and one of the most popular editions, over 300 verses with colorful pictures on each page.


A large book with illustrations in traditional style--one of the best for children to read from. A must for all libraries.

The long and narrow book contains about 100 familiar rhymes, with about 150 humorous illustrations, some in color. For children to use by themselves.
Opie, Iona, comp. THE OXFORD NURSERY RHYME BOOK; assembled by Iona and Peter Opie Oxford 1955 $6.00

800 rhymes. Illustrations are reproductions and traditional wood engravings. An excellent source book for adults.

Opie, Peter and Iona, comps. THE PUFFIN BOOK OF NURSERY RHYMES Penguin 1963 $1.25 (paperback)

Compiler are authorities in the field and the price makes it a must for small libraries. Useful source book for adults.

There are also a number of individual picture books, each book illustrating only one rhyme, which are very well done—but space does not permit listing them at this time.

HEADQUARTER HIGHLIGHTS

JOINT MEETING OF TRUSTEES

Trustees of Plattsburgh Public Library and trustees of the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library met together on Saturday morning, July 11, to discuss the Central Library program. Trustees attending from Plattsburgh Public Library were: Mr. Thomas Romeo, Mrs. John Colver, Mrs. George Angell, Mrs. Charles M. Burdick, Jr., Mr. Joseph Martina, Dr. Travers Robbins, and Dr. Charles Holt. System trustees present were: Mrs. Daniel T. Manning, Sr., AuSable Forks; Mrs. Lincoln Barnett, Westport; Mrs. Allan Everest, Plattsburgh; Miss Margaret Richards, Brushton; Mrs. James F. Mills, Fort Covington; Mr. Edward G. Hoit, Malone; Mr. William A. Harvey, Saranac Lake; Mr. W. Hustace Hubbard, Elizabethtown; and Mr. Paul Vogan, Mooers. Also present at the meeting were: Miss Marian Vedder, Associate Library Supervisor, Library Extension Division; Miss Emma Walter, Director of Plattsburgh Public Library; and Mr. R. Edwin Berry, System Director.

SYSTEM TRUSTEES PLAN STUDY OF AREA

In response to public concern over changes in bookmobile schedules, the Board of Trustees of the System Library, at a meeting held Saturday afternoon, July 11, assigned four special committees from the Board to make a geographic study of the three county area and to present recommendations for both bookmobile and public library service in each section of the three counties. Tentative plans will take into consideration the distribution of population and distances between centers of population, the demand for library service throughout the area, and the costs of providing total public library service to all residents of Clinton, Essex, and Franklin counties.

Factors complicating the problems facing committee members are the existence of sparsely populated sections separated from each other by distance, plus the rapid growth of suburban areas surrounding Plattsburgh, the one city within the system boundaries. Sharp diversity in terrain, from mountain roads to long, flat stretches of highway, makes accessibility to many places difficult, particularly in winter when weather makes road conditions hazardous.
Also under consideration is the purchase of a new bookmobile. This additional bookmobile would serve two purposes: to be used at regular bookmobile stops; and to visit the 26 member libraries of the system so that librarians could select from the vehicle books to be used for patrons in their communities.

Committee members will consider, too, the possibility of establishing book stations in places where this might seem to be a practical solution to the problem of providing library service. At the completion of this study, the Board of Trustees will re-evaluate schedules and service plans in line with reports from members of the four committees.

Committee members for the area comprising Plattsburgh and its surrounding vicinity are Mrs. A. J. Hecht, Mrs. Allan Everest, Mr. Frank Carpenter, and Mr. Wayne Byrne, all of Plattsburgh.

Members of the committee assigned to study the northern sections of Clinton and Franklin counties are Mrs. James F. Mills, Fort Covington; Miss Margaret Richards, Brushton; Mr. Edward G. Hoyt, Malone; and Mr. Paul Vogan, Mooers.

Mr. Claude H. Clark, Bloomingdale; Mr. William A. Harvey, Saranac Lake; and Miss Grace L. McCarthy, Tupper Lake, will appraise the territory in southern Franklin county and northwestern Essex county.

Lower Essex County will be surveyed by Mrs. Daniel T. Manning, Sr., AuSable Forks; Mrs. Lincoln Barnett, Westport; Mr. W. Hustace Hubbard, and Mr. Richard W. Lawrence, Jr., Elizabethtown.

DIRECTOR TO ATTEND WORKSHOP

Mr. Berry, System Director, will attend a Library Buildings' Workshop to be held in Albany, August 10 to 14. Mr. Joseph Wheeler, former director of Enoch Pratt Library, Baltimore, will head the workshop. Mr. Wheeler is the co-author with Alfred M. Githens of THE AMERICAN PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDING, and has also written, with Herbert Goldhor, PRACTICAL ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES. Mr. Wheeler served on the Advisory Committee of The Small Libraries' Project, sponsored by the Library Administration Division of the American Library Association.

EDITOR OF HORNBOOK SPEAKER AT PLATTSBURGH COLLEGE

Mrs. Ruth Viguers, editor of Hornbook magazine, was the guest speaker at an assembly held July 23 at the State University College at Plattsburgh. The program was a part of the Workshop on Children's and Adolescent Literature directed by Dr. M. Frances Breen and Mrs. Barbara Doh.

Mrs. Viguers spoke of the necessity for children to be exposed to books that stir the imagination and emphasized the harmony of words, their beauty and dignity as used in the best of children's books. She also commented on the exploitation of the child as a consumer through the merchandising of "packaged books" with controlled vocabularies and limited value.

After luncheon held at the Royal Savage Inn, Plattsburgh, Mrs. Viguers spoke briefly on the Hornbook, and answered questions from the audience on the magazine, the writers who have contributed to it, and what the editor looked for in material submitted.

Mr. Berry, Mrs. Waddell, and Mrs. Leggett attended from Headquarters.
SUMMER PUBLIC RELATIONS ACTIVITIES

As part of the system's public relations program, the CEFL bookmobile took part in the parade celebrating the Plattsburgh Sesqui-Centennial. It will also be on display at the Adirondack Festival in Elizabethtown, August 8 and 9. The system also scheduled two exhibits of books on antiques at shows held July 7, 8 and 9 in Malone and in Saranac Lake on July 28, 29 and 30. Book lists were available for people attending these community events.

SYSTEM STAFF VISITS MEMBER LIBRARIES


AUGUST TELEVISION PROGRAM

On Thursday, August 6, at 1:40 p.m., Mrs. Doh, Young Adult and Children's Consultant, will present the third in a series of tv programs on Plattsburgh station WPTZ's ON THE LOCAL SCENE, with Bird Berdan. Mrs. Doh will talk with a group of children, ages 9 and 10, on what they are reading.

On the July ninth program, Mrs. Doh discussed books that young adults have been reading with area teen-agers Mary Anne Walter, Chris Christman, Ellen Edwards, Sandra Ricketson and Eric Austin.

LIBRARY JOURNAL RENEWALS

Member librarians may disregard renewal notices coming to their libraries for Library Journal and other professional periodicals. The system has taken care of renewals for all member libraries.

AUGUST LIBRARIANS MEETING

Arrangements have been completed for the August 3 luncheon meeting of the librarians and trustees of the system and member libraries. This meeting, to be held at the Royal Savage Inn, Plattsburgh, will feature as speaker Mr. Maitland DeSormo of Tarrytown, New York. Mr. DeSormo is a writer and authority on the Adirondack area.

Mr. Bird Berdan of television station WPTZ will interview Mr. DeSormo on Tuesday afternoon at 1:40 as part of the program scheduled for ON THE LOCAL SCENE.

SYSTEM ARTICLE IN CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR

An article on bookmobile service in Clinton, Essex, and Franklin counties written by the editor of the system newsletter appeared in the July 15 issue of the Christian Science Monitor. A reprint of the article in the June system newsletter was used in the Mid-York Library System Newsletter and a request to use the July CEFL newsletter article for reprint has also been received.
KEESEVILLE FREE LIBRARY

The staff at Headquarters as well as residents of Keeseville regret to hear of the resignation of Mrs. Helga Peterson, librarian at this library. Mrs. Peterson will be moving with her family to Montreal, Canada. The new librarian will be Mrs. Richard Garcia of Keeseville.

KEESE VALLEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The fourteenth annual benefit concert for the Keene Valley Library Association took place on July 29 at the Keene Valley Congregational Church. Appearing on the program were Walter Brewus and Alfred Troemel, violinists, Anita Knight, violist, and Eleanor Eglinton Troemel, pianist.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Crandall, Mrs. Allen V. Heely, Mrs. Brinton Dulles and Mr. Jonathan Miller have been acting as volunteer assistants to Mrs. Isham, the librarian, during the summer.

LAKE PLACID PUBLIC LIBRARY

Mrs. William B. Lamb, librarian, was the speaker at the June 30 meeting of the Lake Placid Kiwanis Club.

PLATTSBURGH PUBLIC LIBRARY

Miss Emma Walter, director, has arranged an exhibit on the Plattsburgh library for the Clinton County Fair, August 3 to 8.

WEAD LIBRARY, MALONE

Christine Tackley and Linda Paquin, high school students from Franklin Academy, are working as volunteer helpers during the summer months.

R. Edwin Berry, Director

Mary G. Leggett, Editor