NOTE: We have been given permission by Nathan Berkham, a trustee of the Oregon State Library, to reprint his article, THE ROLE OF THE LIBRARY TRUSTEE, originally appearing in the January, 1964, issue of the Oregon Library News. We feel that Mr. Berkham has defined and appraised acutely the inter-relating problems of both trustees and librarians.

THE ROLE OF THE LIBRARY TRUSTEE

In a recent issue of the Wilson Library Bulletin, the Dean of the School of Library Science Western Reserve University had a thought-provoking article on the role of the library trustee in which he gave as his opinion that libraries would be better off if there were no interference by amateurs serving as a Board of Trustees; for these amateurs do not fully understand what a library is and hence should not be in a position to direct policy. Although I take exception to much of what Dr. Shera stated, I do believe that he raised a question to which all of us interested in libraries in Oregon should give some heed. Are trustees actually a service to the libraries upon whose boards they are named? Do librarians really believe that they could accomplish more and do it more effectively without having the hot breath of a lay board breathing down their necks?

I believe that both trustees and librarians should re-examine carefully their roles to see whether or not the conditions which existed in the 19th century that gave rise to these boards continue to exist in the late 20th century, or whether new conditions have either made it unnecessary to have the boards or have made these board functions more important than formerly. Such an examination calls for objectivity on the part of both the librarian and the trustee. It demands that each truly be informed about his own role and the distinct role of the other party to the agreement.

I have done some personal soul-searching during the past weeks and have tried to re-think carefully the pros and cons of the issue. I realize that in local government more and more communities are turning to the city manager form of government in which a lay group, selected by the citizenry, determines policy
and also selects a professional manager whose duties include the carrying-out of this policy and the recommending to the layman new concepts. I also know that in the business world there is an ever-expanding growth of corporations in which the general manager is not of necessity a stockholder, but who is selected by the Board of Directors who in turn were named by the stockholders to determine corporate policy. I also know that most school systems operate under a similar plan with the Superintendent responsible for administration and the recommendation of policy to a board who makes policy decisions and sets down the group rules. I know that in city government and public school systems boards are consistently upgrading themselves. I further realize that in some cases the holders of these posts are merely political hangers-on who happen to belong to the party in power at the moment or at the place, and who have little knowledge or desire to increase their knowledge of the institutions whose policies they are to determine and uphold to the entire citizenry.

Now if all this is true in business, in education, in government, what makes it so terribly different in libraries? Here, too, we find an ever expanding corps of trained specialists—the professional librarian. Here, we also have the lay-body of citizens who give of themselves in service on boards—unsung, unpaid, and often villified. I believe that libraries are stronger for having this buffer group than if the professional who has been trained in operating a library, but not necessarily in the know-how of pressure politics or of public speaking, stood alone. The professional rarely is on a long-time friendly basis with the community. Seldom does he even intend to live out his days in this community, but rather hopes to go to another and more challenging post in a few years, just as in the case of the city manager. Often he may even belong to a different socio-economic strata from the bulk of the community, who somehow fear one with greater education. On the other hand the board member is one of the community, a member of their peer group. When he asks for funds, when he explains the needs of the library, when he calls upon the officials who may hold their very position through his efforts during their campaigns, his influence is greater than that of the librarian who dares not offend, not only for what may happen to the library, but to him personally.

I believe that trustees owe it to themselves, their community, their library to be firm believers in public libraries. If they are not, they should not serve on such boards. Further, because of this belief, they should want to become as well-informed as possible about the operations of libraries and their financial setting not only in the local community, but in the county, the region, the state and the nation. They should realize that as one of the educational institutions of their community, the people should support it to the utmost of their financial ability and should desire to have the most effective type of library service for their needs. They should also realize that they are not to operate the library. This is the function of the librarian. Their task is to see that it is provided with facilities for operating. Their important function is to determine the policies and to select a person to support who will
bring this policy into fruition. In order to offer the best library service possible, they must be informed of what other libraries are doing. Membership in the trustee's section of the Oregon Library Association, the Pacific Northwest Library Association and the American Library Association, and active participation in the trustee institutes of these associations; on-going reading of new materials about the ever-expanding functions of libraries; and constant working together with the librarian are among those things which will up-grade not only the local libraries but all libraries. Participation of this kind will bring a rich reward in satisfaction at seeing an institution, of which one is a part, flourish.

Nathan Berkham
Oregon State Library
Board of Trustees

ADULT BOOKS AND SERVICES

ANTHONY F. VECCHIO, ADULT SERVICES CONSULTANT

Louis Auchincloss has been producing workmanlike novels about Society for years. His latest- and one of his best - is THE RECTOR OF JUSTIN, a retrospective portrait of an eighty-year old headmaster in a New England Episcopal boarding school for boys. The character of the rector as seen through the eyes of those who knew him emerges as a study in depth of a complex and forceful man.

The last of a fine trilogy of novels recreating the story of Moses has just appeared: THE BRONZE SERPENT, by Poul Hoffmann. The other two titles are THE BURNING BUSH and THE ETERNAL FIRE.

Robert Payne's newest non-fiction book, ANCIENT GREECE, is written with narrative skill and is especially suitable for the not-so-knowledgeable layman.

Inevitably after an initial resounding success, an author's earlier works are resurrected-sometimes with painful results. This is not true of THE INCONGRUOUS SPY, by John LeCarre whose THE SPY CAME IN FROM THE COLD received much publicity. In this earlier book, Mr. LeCarre assembles two novels, in which George Smiley - an important but minor character in the later work assumes the major role.

The simultaneous publishing of three works by a new writer is an unusual event. This has been done by Alfred A. Knopf to present Margaret Laurence. Her THE STONE ANGEL, a novel, is the understanding story of the life of a woman - introduced to the reader as a cantankerous ninety year old. The other two are THE TOMORROW TAMER, a compilation of short stories, and NEW WIND IN A DRY LAND, non-fiction. Although they have a common subject, the land and people of Somaliland, each, in its own way, goes beneath the surface to reveal the spirit as well as the appearance.
A number of books have appeared about the CIA, showing that there is considerable interest in its activities. Some time ago, the former director, Allen Dulles, presented one side of the coin in his THE CRAFT OF INTELLIGENCE. Now two reporters, David Wise and Thomas B. Ross, have written a controversial study of the agency—a study that suggests that the CIA has exceeded its powers and is not subject to adequate controls. Consensus of opinion is that the argument is overdrawn but that some important questions are raised for public discussion.

For lively commentary on the American scene, read the ever-provocative Marya Mannes' BUT WILL IT SELL?

It is surprising how often two authors will write and have publish almost that same time books on the same subject. The latest in this case are two books about the Foreign Legion. Geoffrey Bocca's LA LEGION! and Charles Mercer's LEGION OF STRANGERS. Both books are readable accounts that cover more or less the same ground but yet, in some ways, complement each other. Mercer’s is more extensively documented, Bocca’s is based on personal experience and covers recent events more fully.

In Robert Capa’s IMAGES OF WAR will be found some of the best pictures at close range of the wars of our time—from the Spanish Civil War to the French war in Indo-China where the photographer was killed by a land mine.

It's a long way from the coast of Maine to the shores of Brittany. Aside from the sea, they have in common the fact that two good books have been written about them. Charles Child explains how he and his family established ROOTS IN THE ROCK in twenty acres of wild Maine coastland and Eleanor Clark explains the life and customs of the people of Brittany and THE OYSTERS OF LOCMARIAQUER in the book of the same name.

Two good books on Africa with different approaches are Paul Bohannon's AFRICA AND AFRICANS and Emily Hahn's AFRICA TO ME. As the titles suggest, Miss Hahn's is a personal account of a sensitive observer and Mr. Bohannon's is a survey of the African scene. Both are instructive and readable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Publisher</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Auchincloss, Louis</td>
<td>THE RECTOR OF JUSTIN</td>
<td>Houghton</td>
<td>1964</td>
<td>4.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hoffmann, Poul</td>
<td>THE BRAZEN SERPENT</td>
<td>Fortress</td>
<td>1964</td>
<td>4.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hoffmann, Poul</td>
<td>THE BURNING BUSH</td>
<td>Fortress</td>
<td>1961</td>
<td>4.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hoffmann, Poul</td>
<td>THE ETERNAL FIRE</td>
<td>Fortress</td>
<td>1962</td>
<td>5.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laurence, Margaret W</td>
<td>THE STONE ANGEL</td>
<td>Knopf</td>
<td>1964</td>
<td>4.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LeCarre, John, pseud.</td>
<td>THE INCONGRUOUS SPY</td>
<td>Walker</td>
<td>1964</td>
<td>5.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laurence, Margaret W</td>
<td>THE TOMORROW TAMEY</td>
<td>Knopf</td>
<td>1964</td>
<td>4.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wise, David</td>
<td>THE INVISIBLE GOVERNMENT</td>
<td>Random</td>
<td>1964</td>
<td>5.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bocca, Geoffrey</td>
<td>LA LEGION</td>
<td>Crowell</td>
<td>1964</td>
<td>5.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mercer, Charles E</td>
<td>LEGION OF STRANGERS</td>
<td>Holt</td>
<td>1964</td>
<td>5.95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
YOUNG ADULT AND CHILDREN'S BOOKS AND SERVICES

MRS. BARBARA DOH, YOUNG ADULT AND CHILDREN'S CONSULTANT

PICTURE BOOKS FOR THE YOUNGEST

After MOTHER GOOSE, what books do we select for children? The answer is, of course, picture books. Since most reviews or annotations give broad age recommendations such as pre-school or ages 3-6 or 4-8, we must bear in mind that the capacity of a five year old is usually greater than that of a two or three year old child and choose carefully from among the many picture books designed for children.

This list recommends a few of the simpler books that combine brief text with interesting pictures for the very young child.

E
A

Anglund, Joan

COWBOY'S SECRET LIFE Harcourt 1964

1.95 lib. ed. available.

An engaging story that shows the daily activities of the little cowboy in black and white, while accompanying them with amusingly detailed illustrations in green of what his imagination has him really doing. He waits at the school bus stop and sees a dragon breathing smoke and fire. A plain old goldfish bowl turns into a scene of underwater flora and fauna, complete with divers.

Also recommended by the same author:
THE BRAVE COWBOY 1959
COWBOY AND HIS FRIEND 1961

E
B

Brown, Margaret

GOODNIGHT MOON, PICTURES BY CLEMENT HURD Harper 1947 2.75 lib. ed. available.
Every small child needs a favorite bed-time story and this one is among the best. A little bunny tucked in bed says "Good night, room; good night moon" and good night to all the familiar things around him.

Also recommended by the same author for those who like modern illustrations:

A CHILD'S GOOD NIGHT BOOK, ILLUS. BY JEAN CHARLOT SCOTT. 1950

E Ets, Marie H PLAY WITH ME Viking, 1955 2.50
   lib., ed. available

A little girl sits in the meadow and, as one by one, the small creatures appear, she gaily tries to catch them in order to have them play with her. But they all run from her. But when she sits quietly alone, one by one they come out to see her. Lovely line illustrations in soft browns, grays and yellows.

E F Flack, Marjorie ASK MR. BEAR. Macmillan 1932
   2.00

Danny asks the hen, the duck, and other animals to help him choose a birthday present for his mother - but no one suggests just the right thing until Danny goes bravely alone to see Mr. Bear, who has the perfect suggestion for a wonderful present for any small boy to give his mother. More than two generations of children have enjoyed this one.

Also recommended by the same author:

ANGUS AND THE CAT 1931
ANGUS AND THE DUCKS 1930

E F Françoise MINOU Scribner 1962 2.95 lib., ed.
available

Nenette has lost her white cat, Minou. She searches at the restaurant, the bakery and everywhere in Paris she can think to look. And at last, down by the river she finds Minou. Simple story with gay, colorful illustrations in Françoise's unique, childlike style.

Also recommended by the same author:

JEANNE-MARIE COUNTS HER SHEEP 1951
SPRINGTIME FOR JEANNE-MARIE 1955
JEANNE-MARIE IN GAY PARIS 1956
JEANNE-MARIE AT THE FAIR 1959

E L Langstaff, John OVER IN THE MEADOW; WITH PICTURES
   BY FEODOR ROJANKOVSKY. Harcourt
   1957 3.25 lib., ed. available
Beautifully illustrated version of the old animal counting rhyme which begins "Over in the meadow, in the sand, in the sun, lived an old mother turtle and her little turtle one." Decorative illustrations in vibrant colors.

E
L

Lenski, Lois

PAPA SMALL Walck 1951 2.25

The every day activities of Papa and Mama Small and the three small Smalls through the week. Children love this glimpse of domestic routine. Pictures in bright blue, black and white show interesting details.

Also recommended by the same author:

for boys: POLICEMAN SMALL 1962

for girls: LET'S PLAY HOUSE 1944

E
L

Lionni, Leo

INGI BY INCH McDowell 1960 3.95

lib. ed. available

Gay illustrations help tell the story of a little inchworm who escapes the beaks of the birds who pursue him. Simple story that the very youngest will chuckle over. Perhaps their first exposure to the moral of the hare and the tortoise.

Also recommended by the same author:

SWIMMY 1963

E
P

Potter, Beatrix

THE TALE OF PETER RABBIT Warne 1.25 lib. ed. available

Parents are familiar with this universally popular nursery tale... of the first real "story" that children hear. Many editions are available but none are recommended except the one with Miss Potter's original illustrations. It needs no editing either - for small children love the part where the friendly sparrows "implored" Peter "to exert himself."

HEADQUARTER HIGHLIGHTS

DIRECTOR ATTENDS ALBANY WORKSHOP

Mr. Berry, System Director, attended a Library Buildings' Workshop held in Albany, August 10 to 14. Mr. Joseph Wheeler, former director of Enoch Pratt Library, Baltimore, headed the workshop which demonstrated the design and uses of modern library buildings. Mr. Wheeler has received national recognition for his work in this field - and is the author of books and articles on both library design and administration.
ADIRONDACK AUTHOR SPEAKS AT LIBRARIANS’ MEETING

Maitland De Serra, Lake Placid, New York, was the speaker at the August luncheon meeting of librarians and trustees from Clinton, Essex and Franklin counties. Mr. De Serra has just completed a biography of Seneca Ray Stoddard, Adirondack writer and photographer and told an audience of eighty people about the research involved in gathering material for his book. He also showed slides of original Stoddard photographs of people and places in the Adirondacks. Mr. De Serra has also written articles for North Country Life, York State Tradition, Adirondack Life, and Adirondac.

OCTOBER MEETING SCHEDULED

The October 5 librarians’ meeting will be held in the auditorium of Plattsburgh Public Library at 10:00 A.M. Mrs. Barbara Doh, Young Adult and Children’s Consultant, will discuss planning library programs for children, techniques of story telling, reading aloud and selecting materials for these groups. We hope that librarians and trustees will plan to attend this meeting.

NEW REFERENCE SERVICE AT CENTRAL LIBRARY

Headquarters has received the New York Times Index from 1930 through 1940 - an invaluable reference guide. Eventually all issues of these indices will be on file.

We have also received the Congressional Record on microfilm: v. 1 - v. 102, the 13th through the 92nd Congress, 1875 - 1956.

Both the New York Times Index and the Congressional Record are available to all residents of Clinton, Essex and Franklin counties at the Plattsburgh Public Library for the system.

STAFF VISITS

Mr. Vergilio visited the Harry Moore Memorial Library, Willsboro, on August 10. He also attended a tea at the Harry Moore Library given by the Friends of the Library on August 13.

SEPTEMBER TELEVISION PROGRAM

The next in the series of television programs scheduled by Headquarters will be presented on television at 10:40 P.M. on WPTZ's program on THE LOCAL SCENE. Mrs. Doh will read Maurice Sendak’s WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE - a Caldecott award winning picture book. She will also read some of A.A. Milne's poetry for children.

On August 6, Mrs. Doh presented a book discussion with area children Mark Glassberg, Lisa Booth, Jeff Farrell, Alice and Winslow Ladue.
STATE ASSOCIATION MEETS IN OCTOBER

The New York Library Association hold its annual convention in New York City, October 7-10. The program planned for trustees will be held on Friday, October 9. It is hoped that librarians and trustees in the three county system will plan on attending this conference.

TRUSTEE APPOINTED TO OGdensburg BOARD

Mr. Ralph E. Berry, Sr., has been appointed a member of the Board of Trustees of the Ogdensburg Public Library, co-central library of the North Country Library System. Members of this board also serve as trustees for the Remington Art Museum.

Mr. Berry, Sr., is the father of the Director of the Clinton—Essex—Franklin Library System.

STAFF CHANGES

We are sorry to announce the resignation of Mrs. Jean McIver, Senior Stenographer. Mrs. McIver will be leaving for Texas in September. She is being replaced by Mrs. Genevieve Blaise of Willsboro.

MEMOS FROM MEMBER LIBRARIES

SARANAC LAKE FREE LIBRARY

An interesting series of articles on the Adirondack Collection of the Saranac Lake Library has appeared in the Adirondack Enterprise. Written by John Duquette, President of the Board of Trustees of this library, these articles point up the value and extensive variety of material to be found in this collection.

On August 23, Maitland De Sorno showed slides from his collection of Stoddard photographs at a program scheduled for the benefit of the William Chapman White Memorial Fund of the Saranac Lake Library.

BLACK WATCH MEMORIAL LIBRARY, TICONDEROGA

The exterior of this library has been repainted during the summer months.

R. Edwin Berry, Director

Mary G. Leggett, Editor