

# NEWSLETTER

of the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library  
(A Three-County Library System)

Anthony F. Vecchio, Director

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## STATE LIBRARY SUPPORT

Everyone is having a hard time these days keeping up with inflation. The library systems of the State are no exception. They are all caught in financial squeeze between rising costs and fixed income.

Library systems receive the greater part of their revenue from the State on a fixed formula which takes into account population, area and political subdivisions. Needless to say, the cost of books, equipment, personnel and everything else which goes into system services has been climbing steadily and the end is nowhere in sight.

Before Governor Rockefeller announced his 5% across-the-board cut in the budget, the library systems of the State supported the initiative of the Chautauqua-Cattaraugus Library System in petitioning for an increase in the State aid formula for library systems. It was pointed out in the petition that the alternative would be an inevitable curtailment in the services provided by the systems. Obviously, a 5% cut in place of an increase in revenue would bring about such curtailment of services sooner rather than later.

It is incumbent upon us all to work for adequate revenue for libraries to enable them to give library service of good quality to their communities.

## NEWBERY AND CALDECOTT AWARDS ANNOUNCED BY AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The American Library Association, Children's Services Division has announced that the 1969 Newbery medal for the most distinguished contribution to literature for American children has been awarded to Lloyd Alexander for The High King. The High King is the fifth and final chronicle written by Lloyd Alexander about the legendary kingdom at Prydain. In this book, Taran, the assistant pigkeeper and hero of the earlier chronicles, vanquishes forever the forces of black magic led by Arawn Death-Lord, and takes Princess Eilonwy for his queen. Romantic epic fantasy at its very best. This book can be read independently but readers will appreciate it more if they read the four other stories first.

The 1969 Caldecott medal has been awarded for The Fool of the World and the Flying Ship written by Arthur Ransome and illustrated by Uri Shulevitz. This award is made annually for the most distinguished American picture book for children.

## NEW CHAIRMAN APPOINTED TO LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

John C. Frantz, Director of the Brooklyn Public Library, has been appointed Chairman of the Legislative Committee of the New York Library Association. All matters relative to library legislation should be referred to this committee. Mr. Frantz's address is: Brooklyn Public Library, Grand Army Plaza, Brooklyn, New York 11238

## NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK - April 20-26, 1969

National Library Week promotional material in the form of posters and bookmarks is being distributed to all member libraries beginning March 14. It is hoped that all member libraries will promote this important nation wide effort. The theme this year is "Be all you can be - Read".

## FILMS WIDELY USED THROUGHOUT SYSTEM IN 1968

Of the 60 films the System had on loan from the State Library in 1968, they were shown 327 times and enjoyed by 11,428 people. The System also has 15 Canadian films and these were shown 60 times to a total audience of 3,301.

## 3 R'S HONORS CONGRESSMAN ROBERT C. McKEWEN

Congressman Robert C. McKewen was presented with an honorary membership in the North Country Reference and Research Resources Council, by Mrs. Elena Horton, Director. The presentation took place in Washington, D.C. The Reference and Research Resources Council maintains headquarters at the State University of New York at Potsdam. It serves Jefferson, Lewis, Oswego, St. Lawrence, as well as our own Clinton, Essex and Franklin counties. It was organized in 1964 to cooperate in improving research and reference services among libraries and educational institutions in the North Country.

## BOOKMOBILE STOP ADDED

The Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library Bookmobile service has been extended to Lapham Mills, bringing the total number of stops to 64. The Bookmobile will stop on Thursdays near Gero's Grocery from 1:30 to 2:15 p.m. Staff members will be on hand to answer questions and locate books for the public.

## CONSULTANT VISITS

### February 18

Mrs. Mary Leggett - spoke to the Champlain Literary Club on the "The Making of a Reader". Mrs. Leggett also reviewed a collection of new fiction and non-fiction titles.

### February 6

John Crager and Richard Ward visited the Wead Library in Malone, and Chateaugay Library.

### March 4

John Crager visited the Wead Library in Malone to assist Dave Minnich in establishing a separate Young Adult book collection.

March 6

Mrs. Barbara Doh spoke to the Beekmantown PTA on encouraging children to become good readers and to learn to enjoy reading. Mrs. Doh recommended starting with a child's interests, and then surrounding him with books at the right level that would have appeal for him. Showing an interest and enthusiasm for a child's reading on the part of the parent is a fine method for developing this very important part of a child's education.

## NEWS OF MEMBER LIBRARIES

### ANNUAL REPORTS

Many thanks to all our member libraries for being so prompt and accurate in their annual reports. Even "bibliographic volumes" are not the big headache they were 2 years ago.

#### Ausable Forks

Ausable Forks library hopes to inaugurate a new policy this year - that of serving local "shut-ins". If you are ill and unable to get to the library, ask a friend or neighbor to pick up some books for you. Lacking this, telephone the library and they will make every effort to get some good reading material to you. Ausable Forks supply of books is being rotated constantly, so readers should be able to find something interesting.

#### Essex

Essex Free Library sponsored a turkey dinner February 27th. The library management and librarian are to be complimented on the increased circulation, the story hours for children, and the many improvements which have been made. Hours of the Essex Free Library have also been increased by using volunteer help and much has been accomplished. A generous gift of Children's records was given by Mrs. Jacqueline Hodges, a summer resident of the area.

#### Saranac Lake

At the annual meeting of the Saranac Lake Free Library, five trustees were renamed to the board for another two year term. These include D. Mott Chapin, John F. Delahant, William Distin, Sr., Miss Esther Mirick and Dr. William Steenken. As Mrs. W. H. N. Brune has resigned, Thomas B. Cantwell, president of the board of trustees has appointed John Duquette to fill her unexpired term. Other members of the board include Mrs. Loring Andrews, Ronald Leahy and Mrs. Jacques De Mattos.

After the formal part of the annual meeting, old movies which had been taken by and preserved by Charles Swasey (Beanie) Barnet were shown by William Harvey with John Duquette identifying the people and places of the 20's and 30's. Among the films shown were the dedication of the NVA Lodge, forerunner of the Will Rogers Memorial Hospital, with Eddie Cantor, William Morris, Sr., Barney Balaban, S. L. "Roxy" Rothafel and other illustrious names of the era; various sporting events including barrel jumping by Ed Lamy and tobogganning at different locations in Saranac Lake. A documentary

on ice-processing at the old Boyce & Roberson plant on Moody Pond was a masterpiece of movie making of the time. Felix Leser, with his dog-sled team and an amusing sequence of Mr. Barnet fishing on Lake Clear ended the evening.

Mrs. Ralph Meagher in the librarian's report showed that adult circulation had increased from 23,982 to 37,779 and juvenile from 13,276 to 25,344 volumes and an increase of 868 new borrowers had been registered.

### Ticonderoga

The Black Watch Library has been cleaned and painted inside. New wall-to-wall carpeting has been installed giving the library a bright, cheerful look, as well as absorbing a great deal of unnecessary sound. The children's room has a new table and low book cases are to be ordered. Beginning soon, the Senior Girl Scouts are going to have a reading program on Saturday afternoons.