

C-E-F TRAILBLAZER

Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System News

"First Multi-County Library System in New York State"

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Director

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OUR TWENTIETH YEAR OF SERVICE

In 1955 the System...

Served only two counties with a population of 88,708

Owned 11,152 books

Circulated 10,173 books

Loaned 150 books on special requests

Subscribed to 5 periodicals

Had 35 bookmobile stops with one bookmobile in service

Had 21 member libraries and one service outlet

Total staff of 7

In 1975 the System...

Serves three counties with a population of 151,000

Owns 108,761 books at Headquarters and 47,937 reference books housed at the Central Library

Circulated 142,512 books (1974)

Filled 2,057 requests on specific subjects; and loaned 7,527 books requested by author and title

Subscribes to 192 periodicals

Has 67 bookmobile stops with two bookmobiles in service

Have 25 member libraries and four service outlets

Total staff of 21

> AND IN THE LAST TWENTY YEARS WE'VE ALSO ADDED <

A library of 378 16mm films. Last year 2,425 films were circulated and seen by an audience of 82,902. 423 films are already on reserve for 1975.

A collection of 597 art prints loaned to member libraries for distribution.

Several thousand art and travel slides for loan.

Both cash grants and book grants for member libraries.

131 newspapers and periodicals on microfilm for use by researchers.

Subscriptions to reviewing periodicals for all member libraries as an aid to book selection.

Six consultants to work with member librarians and trustees on specific areas of service.

Rotating collections of approximately seventy books monthly to each library to augment their own collections.

Scheduled delivery service to member libraries.

Bibliotherapy through special services to hospitals and nursing homes.

Service to county jails and state prison.

Teletype link with the State Library and with hundreds of other large libraries.

Workshops and in-training sessions for trustees, member librarians, and staff on all areas of library service.

Photocopying service of needed articles for patrons.

Monthly newsletter to keep both librarians, trustees and the public aware of System services.

Twenty years and we've grown - and we're still growing, in spite of our financial limitations. But can we keep this total pattern of service alive? It takes money to bring all these services to the people - and money is tight. We depend on the State, the three counties and upon you for our survival. In a time of economic crisis and increasing unemployment, people use their libraries more than ever: to learn new skills, to change careers, to adjust life styles, simply to survive. Money spent for System services is a bargain since it helps you to stretch your tax dollars further. The policy of the System Board of Trustees is to give you the best possible library service; our growth depends on you.

During the coming legislative session in Albany when funds to support libraries are discussed, may we count on YOU for your support?

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK.

Continuing my schedule of initial visits to member libraries, on December 9, I visited the libraries of AuSable Forks and Keeseville, accompanied by consultants Mary Leggett and Richard Ward. On December 10, I met with the librarians and trustees of the Wadhams and Westport libraries. The staff and I are reviewing System goals and objectives beginning with the needs of member libraries, and I find visits to member

libraries a very necessary part of System development.

On December 11, I went to Canton to meet with the North Country Three R's Committee on Plans and Projects to which I have recently been appointed. The committee is studying the future library needs of North Country residents and is proposing plans and projects to meet these changing needs.

1955
OUR 20th YEAR
OF SERVICE
1975

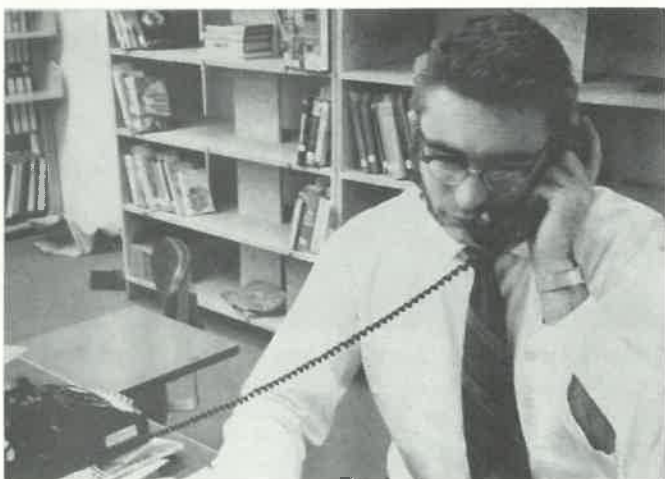
THE CLINTON - ESSEX - FRANKLIN LIBRARY AT WORK



Headquarters - the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library building in Plattsburgh.



Mr. Ransom, Director, discusses financial reports with Genevieve Blaise, secretary, and Hugh Starke, administrative assistant.



Telephone requests pour into Headquarters. Richard Ward, Reference Consultant, solves a problem for a member librarian.



Mary Leggett, Adult Services Consultant, and John Crager, Young Adult Consultant, select books to be sent to Keene Library.



Cindy Pytlak of Reference sending out a long list of interlibrary loan requests on the teletype.



Filling requests is a major part of Reference Department work. "Bunny" Bell gets a book to be mailed to a bookmobile patron.



Marie Chauvin of Film Services shows how busy that department is as she holds a pile of films already reserved for just one week.



Final steps in book processings completed by John Carlton; with Claudia Cook and Regina Jedrek in the background.



Technical Services is always busy. Senior Clerk Carol Bedore checks work done by Patricia Rock and Debbie Dashnaw; Rose Waddell is cataloging in the background.



Patricia Blake demonstrates the kind of sign she makes at Headquarters for member librarians.



Driver Al Hutchins and bookmobile librarians Mary Hopkins and Madge Mehan in the bookmobile ready to start on a run



Bookmobile driver Bob Harnden readies bookmobile for run to Jay and Wilmington.

DIRECTOR MEETS WITH STATE LEGISLATORS

On December 20, Mr. Ransom discussed library legislation with Assemblyman Andrew W. Ryan, Jr., of the 111th District and on January 7, he met with State Senator Ronald B. Stafford of the 43rd District. Need for increased state aid to all types of libraries was discussed and both legislators are conscious of the needs of people using our upstate libraries.

The proposed 1975 legislation, backed by both the Regents of the State of New York and the New York Library Association, would result in a state aid increase of \$47,000 to the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System, \$27,000 to Plattsburgh Public Library, and \$25,000 for distributing Talking Books to the blind and physically handicapped. These funds are sorely needed to prevent cutting any library services. Without these funds, cuts might occur in 1976.

Another proposal would provide funding for libraries serving American Indians on Indian Reservations.

Other proposals would increase support to the North Country and other Three R's Councils, which presently offer Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System users a rapid interlibrary loan delivery service.

LSCA GRANT FOR ADULT INDEPENDENT LEARNER PROJECT

Want to learn to cook...write a book
...fix a car...find a star...pick up
knowledge...go to college...know the
plants...study ants...build a shelf...
know yourself?

That's what the Adult Independent Learner Project is all about - and the adult independent learner is the focus of a new statewide program designed to train local librarians to assist the adult learner to take full advantage of the many library services available. Notification has just been received by the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System of a Library Services

and Construction Act grant in the amount of \$19,500 to fund this program.

Presently Anne Romans and Annette Kovic from Plattsburgh Public Library and Mary Leggett and Richard Ward, System consultants, are involved in a series of training programs given by the Division of Library Development. These sessions teach how to help librarians help their adult patrons pursue their learning interests, both formal and informal. Later on there will be a series of workshops for member librarians and trustees. The grant will provide for the purchase of books, audiovisual materials and equipment to strengthen the collection.

BICENTENNIAL GRANT APPROVED

The New York State Bicentennial Grants Committee has approved a matching grant of \$500 for the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System. Word was received from Michael V. Barrett, Assistant Program Director, that the next step was approval by the American Revolution Bicentennial Association in Washington, which could be expected by February, 1975.

The funds will assist in the addition of 16mm. Bicentennial or American Revolutionary films to the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library film collection and will also help in the cost of printing a Bicentennial Booklist, now in preparation.

VISITORS TO HEADQUARTERS

Mrs. Patricia Narode, Assistant in Public Library Services, Library Development Division, Albany, met with Mr. Ransom and members of the team working on the Adult Independent Learner on January 7 at Headquarters. Mrs. Narode discussed the developments to date in this program with Anne Romans and Annette Kovic of Plattsburgh Public Library and Richard Ward and Mary Leggett, System consultants. She also offered suggestions for implementing the training sessions that the four team members will be offering member librarians and trustees at a later date.

Mrs. Terry Sarli, Director of Adult Education, and Mr. Jerry Byce, Director of Institutional Services at the Raybrook Rehabilitation

Center met with Mr. Ransom and System consultants Richard Ward, John Crager, Rose Waddell, and Mary Leggett at Headquarters on December 16. They discussed ways that the System could help the Raybrook Rehabilitation Center and planned a visit to that facility in the near future.

CONSULTANT VISIT

Richard Ward, Reference Consultant, and Mary Leggett, Adult Services Consultant, worked with Mrs. Betty Mero, Trustee of the Dodge Memorial Library, Rouses Point, and Mrs. Phyllis Sutton, the librarian, on Thursday, January 9. Some of the topics covered were the weeding of the library, replacement buying of older titles needed in the collection and board policy on materials in the historical collection.

CHASE'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS

We are sending on your weekly delivery schedule our New Year's gift to each member library: a copy of the 1975 Chase's Calendar of Annual Events. It lists special days, weeks and months in the year, more than 2,000 entries which give you something to celebrate or recognize on each day of the year, a great peg on which to plan library programs or displays. And when you plan something, be sure to let Mary Leggett know about it for inclusion in The Trailblazer. Happy New Year to you all!

CHANGE IN BOOK SELECTION MATERIAL

For some time now we have been sending member librarians a Current Book Guide published by the Mid York Library System as an aid for book selection. Unfortunately we have been informed by that System that they will no longer be publishing this list and we have met with no success in trying to locate a similar one for sale elsewhere. Therefore we are offering in its place one free subscription to either Kirkus or Publishers' Weekly, to be mailed directly to your library. Kirkus usually gives recommendations as well as descriptions of current books. Publishers' Weekly has a smaller

"Forecast" section which reviews current books and contains both announcements and advertisements of new books in many fields. Whichever you select, the copies themselves can be checked and information noted as to which books are purchased. Librarians and interested Trustees will accordingly need to work out procedures so that Kirkus or Publishers' Weekly is available in the library to those who need to see it. The marked copies should be kept on file in the library to show what is ordered and for reference on new titles being published.

We have asked you in an earlier memo to state your preference. If you have not let us know your choice of the two periodicals, please do so immediately so that your subscription can be coming to you.

FROM THE REFERENCE DEPARTMENT

Help! We received a member library request for material on the Beach family but with nothing on the slip to indicate for whom it is intended. If you are the one who needs this information, please let us know.

CETA MANPOWER PROGRAM

From Robert Flores, Division of Library Development, we have a message about the implications of new federal legislation providing funds under The Comprehensive Education and Training Act (CETA) for "public service employment." Approximately one billion dollars will be allocated under this program for temporary (not to exceed one year) help, limited to \$10,000 salary with benefits. Librarians can contact the following Manpower Directors in their county for information:

Clinton County - Mr. Donald Cosgrove
563-5750

Essex County - Mr. John Mulholland
873-6388

Franklin County - Mr. Stanley Rockhill
483-2730

MEMOS FROM MEMBER LIBRARIES

AUSABLE FORKS FREE LIBRARY

Fifteen children aged 3 to 5 attended the first story hour at the library on December 4. Mrs. Flannagan of AuSable Acres is the chairman for this program and her experience and enthusiasm for working with small children show in the success of this project. After the story hour, Mrs. Flannagan, who is also President of the Friends of the Library, gave a "coffee hour" for mothers and officers of the club. They plan another story hour in early January and are also planning to establish in the future, if feasible, a separate story hour for school age children. Another story hour was scheduled in early January for preschoolers.

The Friends of the Library are also working on an unusual project: serving "shut-ins" with reading materials. Anyone who cannot get to the library because of illness has only to notify the librarian who in turn will let the Friends know so that books can be taken to the home. In line with this, the Friends have asked for donations of books, particularly best sellers, to be added to the current best sellers in the library, for use in this program.

The Board of Trustees invited the community to a social evening at the library on December 11 at 7:30 p.m. Two films, Temples of Time and 1776, a Bicentennial film, were shown and refreshments served at the conclusion of the evening.

The annual meeting of the Trustees of this library was held January 6. The new constitution was read, amended and voted upon.

CHAZY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Mrs. Patricia Neverett, President of the Friends of the Library, and Mrs. Helen Sweet, the librarian, tell us that a Christmas Coffee and Open House

were held here on December 15 to celebrate the completion of the new Ralph McCuen Children's Room. Although the building has been completed and carpeted, the Friends have expressed the hope that donations would come from the community for other items needed, such as a projector or a book drop. The committee for the Open House included Mrs. Neverett, Mrs. Polly Egan and Mrs. Gloria West.

The next meeting of the Friends of the Library will be on February 3 at 10:00 a.m. in the library.

HAMMOND LIBRARY, CROWN POINT

Volunteer workers held a food sale for the benefit of this library on December 3. Proceeds were used to buy some badly needed children's books. Volunteering their services on a regular basis to the library are Mrs. Carl De Long, Mrs. Donald Bishop and Mrs. Roland Gibbs.

Each month a newsletter is sent out by the school that reaches every home in the town of Crown Point. A page of information and news about the Hammond Library is written by the librarian, Thyra Burrows, and included in each issue. This way, as Mrs. Burrows reports, parents and children are kept aware of the services provided them through their local library and the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System. This is an excellent way for the library to reach its public.

ELLENBURG DEPOT LIBRARY

The Ellenburg Depot Community Library will be open to the public every Monday, Tuesday and Friday from 3 to 5 and Saturday from 1 to 5. The library is closed on Wednesday and Thursday and on all legal holidays.

Several new books have been given to the library in memory of the late Gary Norton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Norton of Ellenburg Depot. Gary's sixth grade class made the generous contribution to the Nortons who in turn gave the money to the library to purchase books.

KEENE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Keene Public Library has received several books in memory of Dr. William Hammond, former editor of the New York State Journal of Medicine and a summer resident for many years; and Francis P. Hickey, who was Town Clerk for thirty-six years and also ran an insurance and real estate business.

KEENE VALLEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The library had two film showings on December 5. In the morning the film was on life in a Japanese community which tied in with the audience of students from the ninth grade social studies class studying about Japan. In the afternoon, smaller children saw the film Snowy Day. To celebrate Children's Book Week, the library had a film festival for grades K-4.

Zaidee Trumbull, the librarian, had a noteworthy display during the holiday season of both Christmas books and Christmas music. Miss Trumbull also reported that there had been a 2,000 increase in circulation in 1974 over the previous year.

Mr. Hal Burton who has been so generous in his gifts to the library gave another magnificent gift: a beautiful facsimile copy of the Book of Kells for the art collection.

The library was also given a new set of Dickens figures to replace the faded ones that had been in the library many years.

MOOERS FREE LIBRARY

Mrs. Vogan, the librarian, tells us that the recent library association membership drive brought in a total of \$355.

WEAD LIBRARY, MALONE

Maitland De Sormo gave more than \$800 to the Wead Library as the result of the book-signing party held there to announce his new book Heydays of the

Adirondacks. He donated the usual dealer commission to the library, a very generous gesture to what Mait refers to as "his hometown", Malone. (Editor's note: We reviewed Maitland's book in our last newsletter. We've enjoyed every one of his books - collector's and reader's items all - but this is the best. We look forward to more from him in the future.)

A local business has made a contribution to the library as the result of a letter circulated by the librarian, David Minnich, urging people of Malone to remember the library with gifts, bequests and endowments.

A film program was presented at this library on January 4. Films were Olympic Elk, a Disney film, and Railrodder, a comedy starring classic comedy actor Buster Keaton.

PLATTSBURGH PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Plattsburgh State College Faculty Wives Club held a benefit auction for the Children's Department. The Christmas sale netted \$380. The money will be spent for furniture or equipment.

Plattsburgh Public Library has opened its 7th book station at Meadowbrook Nursing Home. Four of the seven stations were opened in 1974.

Lakeview Towers, a senior citizens' residence, has housed Plattsburgh Public Library book collections for 3 years. An unsolicited petition signed by 88 residents was recently presented to the City urging financial support of the Library's services.

In the first eleven months of 1974, the library's statistics on public use of the enlarged facility showed an increase of over 20 per cent. Circulation rose to 155,034 items; an increase of 26,248 from the previous year. 3,819 more reference questions were answered; 1,913 more borrowers were registered; and 587 more books were reserved than in 1973. The increase in business is even more impressive in view of the fact that the library is open only 56 hours a week this year, compared with 63 hours last year.

SARANAC LAKE FREE LIBRARY

Mrs. Ralph Meagher, Director of the Saranac Lake Free Library, has announced that Kenneth Truse will present his newly published children's book, BENNY'S MAGIC BAKING PAN, to the library during the children's story hour on Thursday, January 9, 1975 at 10:30 a.m. Mr. Truse will read his book which will be accompanied by slides.

There will be a limited number of copies of the book which can be purchased after the reading. Mr. Truse will donate the author's discount to the library to help purchase materials for the children's collection. He will be glad to autograph copies of his book.

Mr. Truse was born in Chicago and received a B.A. in English from DePaul University in Chicago. He completed a M.A. in English at the University of Wisconsin (Madison) where he studied creative writing with the well-known poet Gwendolyn Brooks - poet laureate of Illinois. After teaching English at the University of Hawaii for a year, he joined the Communications Division at North Country Community College.

WESTPORT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The Children's Room of the library is a busy, lively place Tuesday mornings when Mrs. Dawn Gebo has a story hour for preschool children. There are between sixteen and twenty children each Tuesday and they enjoy hearing stories and playing quiet games. December 10th they watched Christmas films, and December 17th Santa Claus visited them. Mrs. Nancy Decker, Mrs. Patti Moran and Mrs. Electa Vaughan helped with the program.

On November 20th Mr. Ray Bender presented a color slide show for the benefit of the Library on the trip he and Mrs. Bender took to Costa Rica. Mr. Bender told about the slides which

made the presentation informative and amusing and gave a picture of a country we might not otherwise know. Refreshments were served during intermission giving everyone a chance to meet the Benders. It was a successful evening for the library.

PAINE MEMORIAL LIBRARY, WILLSBORO

The library was decorated in a festive holiday manner during December. Patrons enjoyed it so much that they spent more time at the library just browsing.

Several new children's books have been added to the children's corner by the Kimberley Sue Choate Memorial. The librarian has had a very successful story time on Wednesday mornings since September. The preschool story time now has between 15 and 20 children coming on a regular basis. The library held a Christmas party for the children. Several mothers helped with refreshments.

The library is so close to the local school that Mrs. Allen, the librarian, has found that giving instruction on library usage is making students more aware of the importance of libraries in a community. Mrs. Allen gave half hour classes once a week to the 5th and 6th grades.

Mrs. Janet Tucker has joined the staff, working four hours each Tuesday and Thursday.

AKWESASNE LIBRARY AND CULTURAL CENTER

Mrs. Anna Rourke, librarian, and Harry Cook, museum director, attended a two day Title IV conference in Syracuse on January 10 and 11. They displayed some of the specific Indian items found in the Akwesasne Library and Museum.

NOTES TO ALL LIBRARIANS AND TRUSTEES

We don't always see all articles that you release to your local newspapers despite diligent clipping - and we do

want to carry news of your library in The Trailblazer. Perhaps you could appoint one person to see that duplicates of any releases

sent out could also be sent to us, along with any other news you may have.

Stanley A. Ransom, Director

Mary G. Leggett, Editor

The world of books is the most remarkable creation of man; nothing else that he builds ever lasts. Monuments fall, nations perish, civilizations grow old and die out. After an era of darkness new races build others; but in the world of books are volumes that live on, still as young and fresh as the day they were written - still telling men's hearts of the hearts of men centuries dead.

Clarence Day