PORT HENRY LIBRARY JOINS SYSTEM

Following a meeting between Mr. Ransom and the Board of Trustees of the Sherman Free Library, Port Henry, on Wednesday, February 26th, the Board unanimously voted to join the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System. This brings to twenty-six the number of member libraries in the Tri-County System.

Mrs. Mary Consadine, President of the Board of Trustees, expressed her pleasure at the action of the Board and gave an account of the history of the Sherman Free Library. In 1887, Mr. George R. Sherman, President of the Port Henry Furnace Company and Port Henry Iron Ore Company, gave funds to establish and maintain the library. He stipulated that the Sherman Free Library was to be free to all the people of Port Henry. The handsome stone building, with natural wood finished interior, was opened January 17, 1887, and the library received its charter in 1893.

The library, under the direction of Mrs. Kathleen Brooks, librarian, is chartered to serve the 1,532 residents of Port Henry and is open fifteen hours per week. Sherman Free Library has 14,018 volumes and 68 magazine subscriptions. Their 1974 circulation was 4,930 volumes.

Of particular note are two special reference collections: the Witherbee Collection on iron and steel and the Warner McLaughlin Collection on the Adirondacks, Vermont and Lake Champlain.

The members of the Board of Trustees are Mrs. Mary Consadine, President; Mr. John Mullen, Vice-President; Miss C. Eleanor Hall, Secretary; Mr. Walton Rich, Treasurer; Mr. Burton Searles, Miss Helen McDonald, Port Henry's Mayor Ralph Wojewodzic, and Moriah Township Supervisor William Wheelock.

A very warm welcome to our newest member library!

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Mrs. Waddell, Mrs. Allan Everest and I attended the Annual Meeting of the North Country Three R's Council on February 20 at Canton. The Plans and Projects Committee for the North Country Three R's has also been meeting to plan for the future of the Three R's. A review of sources of information, user surveys and other activities is being scheduled and will help to channel Three R's activities.

On February 24, Mrs. Leggett, Mr. Ward, Mr. Crager and I went to Keene Valley Public Library to assist Miss Trombull, the librarian, in reviewing and weeding the collection. I spent part of the day in Lake Placid discussing the possibility of holding the 1976 New York Library Association Conference in Lake Placid with Mr. Luke Patnode,
Convention Manager. I returned on February 28 to meet with officers of the New York Library Association and convention personnel to review the Lake Placid facilities. Right now things seem to point to a North Country Conference.

A visit by members of the Northern Adirondack Library Association's Legislative Committee to the office of Senator Ronald Stafford on February 27 was most informative and left us with the feeling of excellent cooperation from the Senator.

Dr. Timothy Costello, President of Adelphi University, spoke on February 25 at Columbia University before the Archons of Colophon, an organization of library administrators of which I am a member. Dr. Costello stated, "Libraries should be in the External Degree business, and colleges should help them." He suggested that public libraries might provide a college faculty member in the library who would be available to students engaged in individual research. Libraries should become referral as well as information centers and should interact more with their community.

Dr. Costello also advised that since we now have a generation of people who have learned more from nonprint than print sources, libraries should adjust their relationship to the book to go along with this new aspect of learning. "Libraries," he said, "need an advertising campaign to let people know that the library is the place to obtain information." He suggests we give up "library" for another name. "Infocenter" doesn't sound quite like "library" to me, but Dr. Costello's other advice makes sense.

Stanley A. Ransom

1975 LIBRARY LEGISLATION REPORT

Since January 31st, when the NYLA Legislative Committee met in New York City, there has been much legislative planning and preparation. The Legislative Committee for the Northern Adirondack Library Association has also been formed. Members are Stanley Ransom, Chairman; Jason Carnright, Clinton County Community College Library; Carol Bedore, Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library Staff; Barbara Doh, Northside School Library PAFB and Louise Francis, Saranac Central School Library.

NYLA Legislative Committee will meet in Albany on March 17th to finalize their strategy. Bills are now coming out and are ready to be reviewed, supported and promoted with our legislators.

1. School Library Contingency Bill
   A. S 518 Caemmerer (R)
      A 839 Margiotta (R), A2502 Landes (D)
   B. S 2475 Burstein (D)
      A 3615 Kremer (D)

2. Blind and Physically Handicapped Bill
   A. S 653 Giuffreda (R), (Effective date April 1, 1975) Best bill
      (moved from Education to Finance Committee).
      S 2259 Giuffreda (R), (Effective date next April 1 after passage - 1976) (in Education Committee).
      A 3102 Landes (D)

3. Public Library System/Central Library Aid Bill
   A. Regent's Bill (Includes same local incentive funds)
      S 1751 Giuffreda (R)
      A 2426 Stavisky (D)
   B. NYLA Bill (Includes double local incentive funds)
      S 3587 Marchi (R)
      A 4595 Landes (D)

4. Schomburg Collection Assistance Bill ($300,000).

5. Public Library Service by American Indians on Reservations
   S 4175 Stafford (R) State
   Council of Churches is also backing this bill
   A 5484 Haley (D)

6. Institutional Library Service
   S 2549 Lombardi (R) State
   Council of Churches is backing this bill also
   A 2421 Stavisky (D)

7. 3 R's Bill (in 2 parts)
   Statutory
      S 3885 B.C. Smith (R)
      A 5123 Frey (D)
Sherman Free Library, Port Henry, our newest member Library.

Interior of Sherman Library showing handsome paneling.

Beldon-Noble Memorial Library, Essex.

Mrs. Leaning, President of the Board, left, consults with Mrs. Hopper, librarian, at Belden-Noble Library.

Carol Bedore of Headquarters celebrates W.C. Fields birthday appropriately with her sweater and Chase's in hand.

Christina Forget, Donnie Pelkey, Albert Brinson pick out books at Champlain Park Bookmobile stop.
8. Other bills of interest

A. A bill to permit libraries to pool their reserve funds to obtain more favorable Certificate of Deposit interest (S 2854 Marino (R), (A 1328 Healey (R)). Another set of bills to do the same has been introduced by Senator Perry (D) and Assemblyman Virgilio (D). (A 4073)

B. A bill to separate School District Public Libraries from Boards of Education entirely including tax and fiscal matters, is being introduced and is being promoted by the New York State School Boards Association. They expect to see it introduced in a few weeks. (Information from their Albany office (518-465-3474).

C. Display of State Civil Service Exams for 3 years at Central Libraries is the subject of a bill by Senator Owen Johnson (R). No bill number yet.

D. Building planning to avoid architectural barriers to the handicapped is the subject of a bill S 2971 introduced by Senator Lewis (D). No money to remove barriers in existing buildings.

E. Powers of School District Public Library Trustees

S 2707 B.C. Smith
A 5195 Flanagan

F. School District Libraries

S 4040 B.C. Smith

9. To obtain copies of bills, call

Senate: 518-472-8800 Document Room (Give number and sponsor)
Assembly: 518-472-3100 Document Room (Give number and sponsor)

10. To find out status of Bills, call

Senate Hot Line 800-342-9860
(Toll free)
NEW LAW ALLOWS TAX-SHELTERED PENSIONS

The Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (also known as the Pension Reform Act) makes tax-sheltered retirement accounts available to library employees who do not participate in employer sponsored pension plans. For the first time employees will be free to establish their own pension plans while receiving a tax advantage.

Under the new law, signed by President Ford this past Labor Day, employees who do not participate in qualified pensions, profit sharing, stock bonus, or annuity plans or a retirement plan established for its employees by the United States government, a state, or any political subdivision, may invest in an Individual Retirement Account. These accounts, which may be established after January 1, 1975, enable the employee to deduct from gross income whatever income is deposited in the account during the year it is earned. Contributions may be made each year up to 15% of compensation earned or $1,500, whichever is less. Both husband and wife, if eligible, may make a deductible contribution to the extent of their individual compensation. A 6% excise tax is levied upon contributions which exceed the above limits.

Employer contributions may be made to an Individual Retirement Account provided that the total yearly payment by the employer and employee does not exceed the 15%/1,500 limitation.

Individual Retirement Accounts may take one of three forms. Annuity contracts that will pay a fixed monthly income for the life of the employee past retirement. The federal government will also issue retirement bonds similar to present savings bonds.

In addition to deferring taxes on compensation contributed to the account, the taxpayer also defers tax on income (interest) earned by the account. Taxes are imposed only when the taxpayer withdraws money from the account, and then only on the amount received. The greatest benefit is derived if the money is not withdrawn until the employee retires, and enters a lower tax bracket.

Because the Individual Retirement Account is intended to provide retirement income, Congress has provided for 10% penalty tax to be levied against withdrawals made before age 59 1/2. In addition, the amount of such withdrawals must be included in gross income for tax purposes in the year the withdrawal is made.

EXAMPLE: An unmarried public library employee not required to participate in any pension plan other than Social Security earns $15,000 in 1975. Of this amount, $1,500 is used to purchase a retirement annuity contract with an insurance company. Assuming the employee has no other reportable income and there are no changes to the present (1974) tax laws, the employee reports an adjusted income of $13,500. After subtracting the standard deduction (15% of $13,500 = $2,025) and taking one personal exemption ($750), the employee has a taxable income of $10,725 and pays Federal income tax of $2,285.75 (Sec. 1, Internal Revenue Code as amended by P.L. 91-172). Without the tax shelter, the employee's tax would total $2,630. At age 65 the employee, then retired, would begin to receive a fixed monthly income, which would be taxed at a lower rate according to the amount received.

For further information about pensions and tax sheltered annuities, contact the Office of Library Personnel Resources. See also "A Pension Primer," AMERICAN LIBRARIES 4:113-115. (by Barry Simon, from PLA Newsletter, January, 1975)

TRUSTEES IN THE NEWS

Mrs. Elaine Dwyer of North Bangor who was appointed last year to the Board of the Library Trustees Foundation of New York State has just been re-elected to a three year term as trustee of this State organization. Mrs. Dwyer has been a member of the Board of Trustees of the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library for eight years and is an active supporter of good library service in the three county area.

TWO DATES TO REMEMBER

April 13-19 is National Library Week.
Its purpose is to create a better-informed America by encouraging lifetime reading habits and stimulating greater use of libraries. This year the emphasis is on the library as an information center—a place for all people, for all seasons!

We are sending materials to all member libraries for this week and encourage all librarians to make a special effort to involve their library with the community it serves.

April 30 is School Library Media Day. This day is designed to serve as a consciousness-raising event presenting to the public a capsule version of the day-to-day educational programs and activities that are typical of our media centers. School libraries—on April 30, we salute you!

HEADQUARTER HIGHLIGHTS

The last workshop sponsored by Library Development Division on the Adult Independent Learner was held at the Twin Towers in Albany on February 21. This session, presented in part by Margaret Monroe on video tape, was primarily concerned with resources to be used and ways in which to use them. Video tapes of this session and a few of the earlier sessions will be available for this project. Anne Romans, Annette Kovic, Dick Ward and Mary Leggett attended the workshop.

Luke Patnode, Publicity Director for Essex County, has given the System a copy of the film, COUNTY IN THE CLOUDS. In color, design and narration, this film shows Essex County in all its natural aspects of beauty: lakes, rivers, mountains, forests. It emphasizes the wide variety of recreation and facilities available to the visitor and resident of Essex County and provides a charming introduction to enjoy all seasons of the year in the County in the Clouds. We are very pleased to add this film to our collection—our congratulations to Luke Patnode and his committee for an excellent job of both filmmaking and promoting Essex County.

The Newbery and Caldecott Award Winners have just been announced. M.C. HIGGINS THE GREAT, by Virginia Hamilton, is the Newbery Medal Award Winner for 1975. It is published by Macmillan at $5.21. The 1975 Caldecott Medal Award book is ARROW TO THE SUN: A PUEBLO INDIAN TALE, by Gerald McDermott, published by Viking at $5.21. These books and the honor books in each category are available at Headquarters for member librarians to look over.

We have added two important new items to the collection at our Central Library, Plattsburgh Public Library. The first is EMPIRE STATE REPORT, a monthly magazine on politics and government in New York State. The second is THE KNICKERBOCKER NEWS, a daily newspaper published in Albany that gives excellent coverage of capitol people, events, and legislation.

May we suggest for purchase for your reference collection the PHYSICIAN'S DESK REFERENCE, more popularly referred to as the PDR. It is published by Medical Economics and can be ordered by writing: Physician's Desk Reference, Box 58, Oradell, New Jersey 07649 and sells for $12.50.

This book shows how to identify prescription drugs by brand name, generic name, manufacturer and also has a product identification index in color. Once the drug is located, one can read the indications for its use, the contraindications and adverse effects to be watched for. The PDR comes out yearly and orders should be placed early in the year or in December, if possible, to ensure delivery of the book.

MEMOS FROM MEMBER LIBRARIES

CHAMPLAIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Mrs. Ruth Smith, Librarian, reports that the library has a new revolving paperback rack and a collection of over 1,000 paperback children's books.

CHATEAUGAY MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Mrs. Jane Pearl, President of the Board
of Trustees, is writing a weekly column in the Chateaugay Record in which she is high-lighting books of varied appeal to interest a broader spectrum of library users. Reviews cover adult, young adult and juvenile books, and judging from the sample copy we received at Headquarters, should prove of value to any reader.

The library received a check for $500 from the estate of the late Mrs. Judy Hammond. Mrs. Hammond was one of the earliest and most conscientious supporters of the library.

The annual meeting of the library was held on January 29 at which time the annual report was presented. President Jane Pearl presided. Also present were Vice President Dorothy LaBelle, Secretary Edith Lopardo, Treasurer Sandra Reynolds, Trustee Fanny Dowd and Librarian Frances Jarvis. Present plans for the library include the purchase of new shelving and an open house, a tea, along with various displays, tentatively scheduled for May.

BELDEN-NOBLE MEMORIAL LIBRARY, ESSEX

This is the second year that this library has had a "Winter Doldrums Film Festival" for children on Saturday nights at the library. Films are provided by Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library Headquarters and selected by Betsy McCamic. Peter Cross and Harry Fine are the projectionists. Usually about twenty children attend. The librarian, Mrs. Nancy Hopper, and the Board would like to thank Marie Chauvin of Film Services at Headquarters for help she has given them in arranging for films for this festival.

KEENE VALLEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The children from grades one to three come to the library every Thursday morning to see films and to borrow books.

A display of crayon transparencies done by fourth grade students under the supervision of Mrs. Pauline Dumas, art teacher, is on display in the library. Another interesting display is an old fashioned winter scene of skaters, a horse-drawn sleigh, all done in miniature metal figures. Three sculptures done by Nina Winkel, nationally recognized for her artistry, are on display at the library.

Dr. John Nason built a new set of wood shelves especially designed for pocket books for the library.

Mrs. Elmore Edmonds, Trustee of this library as well as of the System library, is on an extended trip to New Orleans and then on to the west coast.

Zaidee Trumbull was amused by two Brownies who came in and offered to help put away the books. They claimed one of their duties was to help "older people."

LAKE PLACID PUBLIC LIBRARY

Lake Placid, - The newly established Adirondack Oral Biographical Library, which is functioning as part of the Lake Placid Public Library, has acquired the first series of cassette tapes.

The tapes, just like books belonging to the library, may be borrowed without charge.

One of the available tapes contains a conversation with Robert Peacock, Mayor of the Village of Lake Placid. Mr. Peacock reminisces about his family, one of the early settlers in this community, about his own political career, and reflects on the future of Lake Placid.

On another tape Jack Shea, Supervisor of the Town of North Elba, recalls the 1932 Winter Olympics and tells about his personal experiences as a world speedskating champion.

A unique interview with James Baldwin, one of America's foremost black writers, is preserved on yet another tape. Mr. Baldwin talks about John Brown, the abolitionist, and the historical role he played. The thirty minute tape is packed with provocative statements of a fiery black intellectual.

Finally a tape in this series is a fifty minute conversation with former Ambassador Roger Tubby of Saranac Lake, who
was President Truman's press secretary. The firsthand recollections of Mr. Tubby on how General of the Army McArthur was fired, what Winston Churchill said to President Truman at a private dinner party, and other episodes are part of a fascinating story from the life of a public servant who spent a good part of it at the centers of power.

It is pointed out that tapes of this nature may serve as a core for group discussions in schools, service organization meetings, or at private gatherings.

The Lake Placid Public Library hopes that schools, organizations and individuals will take advantage of the availability of the Oral Library tapes.

WEAD LIBRARY, MALONE

Mrs. Donald Paye has been named to the Wead Library Board of Trustees to replace Mrs. Frederica Passino who has resigned.

The library has received 27 art prints as a gift from the John Hancock Company. They have been framed by the North Franklin Education Center. Fabric for carriers for these pictures was supplied by McRann Associates.

There will be a special election for Wead Library both for trustees and for the annual appropriation. The election will be held in the library on May 6.

MOOERS FREE LIBRARY

The February meeting of the Mooers Free Library Board of Trustees was held at the home of the librarian Betty Vogan because the Village Board was using the library. The possibility of having a Story Hour for preschoolers was discussed. Finances are a problem and suggestions for raising money were considered.

Mrs. Mary Hogle's second graders spent about an hour at the library Thursday afternoon, February 27. Mrs. Vogan told them how libraries operate, showed them several books and read two stories aloud.

PLATTSBURGH PUBLIC LIBRARY

The library is participating in a fair being sponsored by Cooperative Extension of Clinton County on April 4 and 5. Their booth will feature films (borrowed from the State) and books indicating the types of information available through the library to help the gardener, homemaker, farmer, amateur craftsman, etc.

Plattsburgh Public Library has been added to the list of agencies being provided with volunteers from the Retired Senior Volunteer Program. Federally funded, RSVP is a part of VISTA. Mrs. Pauline Pfund, our children's story hour volunteer, is featured in this month's RSVP "Senior Sentinel" publication.

The Clinton County Council of the Arts has been granted permission to set up a box office in the library to distribute tickets for the Medallion Tour, coming to the local area in May. The tour is partially funded by the State Council on the Arts and features performances of "Member of the Wedding" and The Bill Baird Puppet Theatre. Granting space to the Arts Council is an experimental first step in an attempt at closer cooperation and involvement with other local cultural organizations. It is hoped that the library's image as a focal point and information center for community activities will be strengthened.

Circulation is booming! On each of the first two Saturdays in February, the library's circulation topped 1,000. The February circulation was up by 3,000 items over that of February 1974.

Anne Romans, Reference and Young Adult Librarian, was invited to speak to the Peru Cooperative Nursery on March 11 on the topic "What makes a good children's book?" While studying at SUNY in Albany, Anne specialized in children's work.

In February the Public Library Players, under the guidance of Children's Librarian Peggy Shepard presented several short plays at an evening performance for friends and relatives. The drama club for grades three through six meets weekly at the library. Peggy is also being kept busy with the pre-
school story hours. Attendance increased so much that it became necessary to divide the children into four separate groups which meet on Thursdays.

Donations to the Children's Room are still coming in. Roland St. Pierre, Mayor of Plattsburgh, personally donated one hundred dollars. The Friends of the Library have raised approximately $5,000 so far and the equipment trust fund (donations and book sale revenues) totals another $5,300. The money will be used for furniture and equipment, primarily for the Lower Level Children's Library. The City Council has promised to start work on completion of the Lower Level this year.

The library's bi-monthly public information lecture series is off to a good start. A February 20 Karate demonstration conducted by John Bassett and other members of the Karate Academy drew an audience of over 80 people. On March 6, 30 people came to hear Dr. Raymond Peterson, psychology professor at PSUC, discuss Extrasensory Perception. Anne Romans of the library's reference staff is planner-coordinator of the lecture series.

The Board of Trustees elected new officers for 1975. They are: Robert Carroll, President; Mrs. H. Wyatt Laws, Vice-President; and Mrs. Walter Demane, Secretary.

SHERMAN FREE LIBRARY, PORT HENRY

The annual meeting of the Board of Trustees was held recently. The following officers were re-elected to serve another year: Mrs. Mary R. Considine, President; John Mullen, Vice President; Walton O. Rich, Treasurer; C. Eleanor Hall, Secretary; Burton Searles, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer. Walton Rich was reappointed chairman of the finance committee, and C. Eleanor Hall was reappointed chairman of the library committee.

Mr. Mullen continues to represent the interests of the Sherman family who gave the library to the people of Port Henry 88 years ago. Ralph Wojewodzic, Mayor of Port Henry, and William Wheelock, Supervisor of the Town of Moriah, continue as trustees.

There were 334 books donated to the library this year, about twice the number given last year. The personal library of Violet H. Smart of Elizabethtown was presented to the library by her brother Edwin Smart of Essex. Miss Smart was the librarian at Moriah Central School for many years.

The library plans another book sale this summer. During the month of March all overdue books may be returned to the Sherman Free Library without any fine.

SARANAC LAKE FREE LIBRARY

The library presented a film program in February in the Community Room. One film was "James Thurber: Reflections on his Boyhood." The second film was "The Legacy of Anne Frank."

GOFF-NELSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY, TUPPER LAKE

Sixty elementary classroom teachers, remedial specialists, administrators, reading consultants, school nurses and members of the BOCES diagnostic-prescriptive team under the direction of Paul Goodrow, met in the Goff-Nelson Memorial Library and the L.P. Quinn Elementary School on Thursday, February 17, for the second of a series of prepared workshops in the area of special education.

Using the Goff-Nelson Memorial Library as a conference center with the cooperation of librarians Carolyn Dening and Chalice Deschene, the Quadri Lakes area educators from Long Lake, Saranac Lake, Lake Placid and Tupper Lake explored new and better ways to discover and correct various forms of learning disabilities in the classroom.

The library has received the gift of a museum display case from a friend of the library. It is equipped with a lighting unit. This type of case has been on the library's "most-wanted" list for many years and librarians, staff and board members are most happy with this gift. They hope for the first exhibit to display a collection of antique fans belonging to Mrs. John Whalen of Tupper Lake.
Circulation has taken a jump at this library too, up to 50,718 over last year's 45,640 at the main library. The downtown branch reports a total of 6,435 for 1974 as compared to 5,278 for the previous year.

Three more years of the Tupper Lake Free Press files have been microfilmed and are available to the public at this library. The files cover the period January 1972 to January 1975. For those interested in local history research, the Tupper Lake Herald and Tupper Lake Free Press files from 1911 to 1975, with only a few breaks, are available on microfilm at the local library.

WADHAMS FREE LIBRARY

The annual meeting of the Wadhams Free Library was held on January 23. The same officers were reinstated and the past year reviewed, one important development being the activating of the restroom facilities by connecting with the Wadhams water supply.

A showcase that had once been part of the general store in Wadhams is being donated to the library by its present owners, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Bond, Jr. This case will highlight important books of both special and local interest.

The annual Easter Food Sale will be held at the library on March 9 and the annual rummage sale on October 4 at the Grange Hall.

AKWESASNE LIBRARY AND CULTURAL CENTER

Three classes start off the Special Museum Craft Classes at the Akwesasne Library and Cultural Center. Beadwork classes will be held every Monday from 7 to 10 p.m. for students of all ages. Reading and writing in Mohawk classes will be held every Thursday from 7 to 10 p.m. for adults only. Other classes in basketmaking, woodcarving, drawing and painting will be held as soon as teachers are found.

FLASH!

Tuesday, April 15, during National Library Week, has been named Library Legislation Day by NYLA. Save the date and plan to journey to Albany to call upon the leadership and our legislators after a briefing session. Visits are important!

Stanley A. Ransom, Director
Mary Gordon Leggett, Editor

Child! do not throw this book about!
Refrain from the unholy pleasure
Of cutting all the pictures out!
Preserve it as your chiefest treasure.

Hilaire Belloc