Public libraries bar no one because of race, religion, sex or age. They do bar a large segment of the population because of time. Time is important. In many cases, it can control who uses the library. It can be a restrictive device creating a special class of library patrons: housewives, children, the elderly and the unemployed. They are the people free to come to the library during the day, the time when many small libraries are most often open.

But there are all too many people to whom the library is only the closed and darkened building that they see on their way home from work. A library open weekdays nine to five means nothing to them. They can’t use it. They are the involuntary non-users that time bars from the library.

Do we dismiss these people from library planning? We have broadened the scope of our collections; we have placed emphasis on the diversity of our services. We must now take into consideration the direct correlation between the people who use the library and the time the library is open.

Breaking this time barrier is up to the library. The number of hours a library is open each week is dictated by budget and official regulations - and is intended to allow enough time for maximum use by all people. Enough hours may be scheduled, but are they the right hours? Right for whom? The library or the public? A survey of the community and a look at registration files should tell if all residents have equal opportunity to use the library. If they don’t, it is time for a fresh look at hours of opening in order to reapportion them for the greatest public convenience.

Changing cultural and economic patterns have caused more people than ever to become a part of the nation’s daytime working force. As an institution for all people, can the library afford to overlook them? We note the increasing number of commercial agencies that have initiated regular evening and weekend schedules to meet the needs of people who are employed during the normal daytime hours. Can we do less? For if people are to become library conscious, libraries must be open when they can get there. The library
FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

To Arms! To Arms! Yes, we need your arms to write to legislative leaders in Albany: Governor Hugh Carey, Senator Warren Anderson, Assembly Speaker Stanley Steingut, Senator James Donovan, Senator John Marchi (Finance Committee) and Assemblyman Arthur Kremer (Ways and Means Committee), The State Capitol, Albany, N.Y. 12224.

Ask them to support and pass the Library Intersystem Bill, S8252/A9975, as amended. There is a chance that this bill will pass this Session and your letter, your card or your call does count!

This is an important bill for all library users in New York State. It will help us to locate books and other library materials in all kinds of libraries and distribute them to our library users faster. It will help us to undertake some other mighty important services - a delivery system, better union catalogs and other improvements as well as linking all our libraries together.

Library users, library staff and trustees and the New York Library Association are joining together all over New York State to tell legislators: "We need this bill now!" Let's not end up with J.G. Whittier's lament, "For of all sad words of tongue or pen, The saddest are these: 'It might have been!'" Success is within our grasp. Please act now!

Stanley A. Ransom
Director

THE SPRING IN REVIEW

In April I visited Wead Library in Malone and reviewed their building addition plans with David Minnich, Library Director, and Robert Hanna and Mrs. Ellen Gallagher of the Board of Trustees. The expansion is sorely needed.

Also in April I visited the Akewasance Library and participated with Librarian Margaret Jacobs, Beatrice Cole and others in discussions with representatives of the Seneca and Tonawanda Indian nations who were planning libraries on these reservations. It was also my first opportunity to see the new bookmobile which Carol White of the Akewasance Library staff uses to provide bookmobile service to all parts of the reservation.

On May 9th John Crager and I visited Camp Adirondack at Ray Brook. This minimum security prison is in need of a new library. They are fortunate to have several suitable rooms available, and we expect to assist the volunteers, Mr. and Mrs. Tonks, to set up a library and provide rotating collections, interlibrary loan and other services to Camp Adirondack. On May 12th the Institution Library Workshop in Albany provided some timely information on books, materials and services of interest to inmates of all reading levels.

On May 26 Mr. Lehman and other representatives from the Republican Platform Committee visited Plattsburgh to receive suggestions for the platform. I suggested that they include a
statement on the role of libraries in
our information-oriented society and
the importance of library networks in
bringing information to the library
user. The need for the S8252/A9975
Library bill, presently before the
State Legislature, was also stressed.

Stanley A. Ransom
Director

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DIARY OF A DISASTER
KEESEVILLE FREE LIBRARY FIRE

Saturday, May 13, 1978

I received a telephone call from
Bill Smith, of Northern Insuring Agen-
cy, informing me that a fire had just
been discovered around 10:00 a.m. by
Elaine Rushford when she went to work
at the Keeseville Free Library. This
was approximately 10:30 a.m. I left
immediately to offer my services and
arrived at the Keeseville Free Library
shortly after 11:00 a.m. The firemen
had put out the fire and were still in
the building, having just cleared out
the smoke by the use of smoke ejectors.
The Bureau of Criminal Investigation
persons and a State Trooper were in
the building and would not allow anyone
else to enter the building until after
they had completed their investigation.

I talked with the librarian, Mrs.
Ann Garcia, and members of the Board
of Trustees who were also there. In a
short while I was allowed to go into
the front entrance and observe the
damage. It was a great shock to see
this once orderly and attractive libra-
ry in such a state of upheaval and
disorder. The library had been vanda-
lized and then set afire.

The first impression was of a
general brown tone on everything, due
to the thick film of smoke which had
deposited sticky soot on everything in
sight. The second object of note was
that catalog cards, hundreds of them,
were strewn all over the first floor.
The cards were underfoot everywhere,
some black with soot, others, white in
places where they had been disturbed
after the fire had been put out. The
next thing which registered was that
the front of the librarian's desk, the
circulation desk, had been spray
painted with enamel paint, a yellow
stream of paint across the front. Most
of the bookshelves had been spray
painted across the backs of the books
with red enamel spray. The children's
books had been sprayed several times in
several rows. The walls were sprayed,
the venetian blinds were spray painted,
the art reproductions belonging to the
Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System
were spray painted with red paint.

Potted plants had been overturned
and apparently kicked around the floor
and mounds of dirt were interspersed
around the small piles of catalog cards.

Books had been pulled from the
shelves and were lying about on the
floor. Both children's and adult section
received the same treatment.

Behind one section of books was the
card catalog. The metal rods holding in
the catalog cards had all been removed
and could not be found. Three/fourths
of the trays of catalog cards in number
about 7000 or 8000 cards had been re-
moved from the trays, both the shelf
list and the main catalog and were
strewn about the floor. The few hundred
cards remaining in the files had been
brutally treated. The card drawers had
been yanked opened and sprayed liberally
with red paint. Just beyond the card
file one could look down the stairs leading
to the basement and see a heavy carpet
of catalog cards as well as occasional
red paint sprayed on the walls.

In addition to the smoke and spray
paint damage there were further evidence
of vicious attacks on the oil painting,
a landscape scene, which was hanging over the fireplace mantel. Eggs had been thrown at the painting. Some had hit the frame, others had hit over it but egg yolk had dribbled down the face of the painting to mingle with the soot deposited there.

Though the smoke had been ejected, the fumes of the burning paper, plastic or other substances, left a sharp and acrid odor in the air. These fumes were so sharp that it very soon attacked the eyes and throat, causing smartness and watering in the eyes and a raspy sore throat. It was not possible to stay inside for very long.

Going around the outside of the library to the basement in the lower rear portion of the building, it was seen that entrance had been gained through the basement door, the lock of which had been broken. Inside was the scene of the fire which had been set over in one corner. Though the firemen had put out the fire fairly quickly and had used water very sparingly, the damage done by the fire and smoke in the basement was generally severe. The backs of leatherbound and local history books were charred beyond recognition. The contents of most of the books were intact, but the backs and edges of all the books were burned and blackened. A fire had been started in the corner, using Christmas ornaments, plastic materials and paper and apparently magazines and other combustibles. Though the fire had apparently started out to be a hot one, eventually lack of oxygen caused the fire to smolder rather than to burn and so the structure of the library was not materially affected by the fire. Smoke had filled the basement and gone through gaps and stairways up to the first floor where the smoke caused the deposit of soot on everything. Also in the basement was a valuable 1858 map of Essex County, now brown with smoke and soot. It also cracked, apparently from the heat.

Back issues of magazines had been at the other end of the basement covered with plastic sheeting. Portion of this plastic sheeting had melted or burned, but in general the magazines were intact.

The first order of business, after the analysis of the situation, was to determine where to start. Since everything was in the same desolate state, this proved to be a difficult decision to make. The card catalog seemed to be the first item of importance to consider. The Clinton-ESSEX-Franklin Library System had microfilmed in June of 1977 the shelf list of all its member libraries, including Keeseville Free Library. In addition, the Clinton-ESSEX-Franklin Library System regularly paid for kits for books cataloged by the Baker & Taylor Company, a principal jobber, and the Brodart Company, which also supplied cataloging cards and processing. If necessary the card catalog could be regenerated from the microfilmed shelf list and the bills for individual books purchased through the two jobbers. The problem of finding a company that would take a microfilm shelf list and regenerate a card catalog was a large one however and also there is a problem of regenerating the cross references. It was eventually decided to pick up all catalog cards available and refile them even though they were black, dirty and almost illegible. It would then be possible, with volunteer or CETA help and typewriters and fresh catalog cards to retype the complete catalog. This was seen as the most practical way of regenerating the card file.

The library contains 5,275 books according to the annual report filed December 31, 1977. There would be then about 5,300 books which might have to be cleaned or treated. Since there was no place to put anything or any working space, any cleaning of the books would have to be accomplished in another place. It would be necessary to rejacket most of the books. Many of the books were covered not only with soot and smoke but also with spray paint, which could not be readily dissolved with water or ammonia or soap. The top edges of the books must be vacuumed and also wiped with a chemically treated dustcloth to remove the accumulated soot. With the rejacketing and also a spray of
deodorizer or other scented materials to offset the smoke odor, it would be possible to save most of the books on the shelves and thus avoid purchasing new ones. This will have to be tried and it is possible that there may be such smoke permeation of the books that some will need to be replaced.

The paintings will need to be restored and cleaned. Contact has been made with the Lapham & Dibble Gallery in Shoreham, Vermont and on May 19th all the oil paintings and maps, as well as some statuary and other works of arts will be taken over to the gallery and left there for a written estimate by the conservators associated with the gallery.

The several framed art reproductions belonging to the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System will need to be replaced, since the spray paint on those could not be removed from the surface of the paintings without more cost one would pay for a new print.

Monday, May 15, 1978

John Crager and I visited the Keeseville Free Library and took a closer look at the damage. I took a number of photographs in order to obtain a record of the pattern of damage for future consideration and possible preventive measures. At this time I suggested that the catalog cards should be picked up and put in cartons and this was done during the day by a community volunteer. The next step will be to interfile these cards and later retype them on clean catalog cards.

The furniture was scheduled to be taken to a refinishers in order to clean and refinish the maple furniture.

Across the street a large first floor empty store had been placed at the disposal of the Keeseville Free Library. Mrs. Garcia had obtained several tables from the local fire department and these would also be set up for workers to use together with folding chairs. The store would then be used to clean and rejuacket the books.

The problems now resolved themselves into three areas. The first was to remove as much as possible of library materials and furniture from the interior of the library so that the building itself could be cleaned and repainted. The second project would be to take all of these library materials and clean them either with ammonia and water or soap and water after vacuuming them and spray them with a deodorizer to remove smoke odors and then set them up in the old library. The third was to restore library service to the community.

On the first score the furniture was taken out of the library starting on Monday, when such furniture could be removed without having to disturb large amounts of library materials. The removal of the library materials would have to wait until CETA or other volunteer help would be available and when the cleaning materials and vacuums were available.

The Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library worked with Mrs. Garcia to establish library service and continue library service as quickly as possible. The Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library bookmobile's schedules allow for occasional Monday and Friday unscheduled time in order for repairs and restocking to be effected. Consequently on Monday afternoon, May 15th, from 1 - 4 p.m. the Clinton-Essex-Franklin bookmobile was taken to the Keeseville Free Library and parked in front of the door of the library, and the bookmobile was open for business that afternoon. Since the decision to offer bookmobile service in front of the library could not be made until Monday morning there was only a short time to publicize the availability of this service. Local radio stations cooperated in issuing public service announcements on the availability of the bookmobile to the residents of Keeseville. While only several books were circulated, it was felt that the provision of temporary service was important to the residents of Keeseville. The bookmobile stop is also to be scheduled from 9:30 to 3:30 on Friday, May 19th and on subsequent Mondays and Fridays as
can be scheduled.

A rotating collection of a 1,000 books will be available to the new Keeseville Free Library quarters as soon as shelving can be arranged. Posters, printed signs and other materials will also be made available by the Library System for the new quarters of the Keeseville Free Library.

Friday, May 19, 1978

Mrs. Garcia and I drove to Shoreham, Vermont and took the valuable paintings and other art objects as well as maps which were damaged by the smoke and fire to the Lapham & Dibble Gallery, where trained art conservators will give an estimate for the cleaning and repair of these art works. We found a duplicate of the Balch 1858 map of Essex County at the gallery and were able to buy it for $200.00 - less than the cost of restoring the damaged map.

Saturday, May 20, 1978

Over the week-end I researched the library literature to determine what were the most effective kinds of cleaning methods to be used for the books and book jackets. I found very little available in our files or literature. I am presently experimenting with ammonia and water as well as soap and water and other cleaners to see which is the best way to clean the book tops and jackets. It does seem necessary to replace most of the book jackets, since so many of them were also affected by the enamel paint spray.

We will continue to give every assistance to the Keeseville Free Library staff and Board of Trustees in order to help them to solve the problems caused by the fire as well as to continue the good library service for which the Keeseville Free Library is well-known.

Mrs. Garcia and Mrs. Rushford, her assistant, have been giving exemplary library service at the Keeseville Free Library. We hope to assist them in every way to continue their fine record of service. The Keeseville community and the outlying areas are outraged at this wanton vandalism and the destruction and interruption of their fine library services. The community is rallying to the support of the library and I feel that within the next few weeks it will be possible to return to the Keeseville Free Library and open its doors for library service.

Monday, May 22, 1978

I was able to present an appeal for volunteer help at the Keeseville Library on the local television station. And at a workshop at Headquarters today I asked member librarians, trustees and staff for their help. The response has been heartening.

The bookmobile is at Keeseville today; we are determined that the community will not lack library service.

Wednesday, May 24, 1978

Volunteers gathered at the store in Keeseville to help librarian Ann Garcia work on cleaning the books. It would have been very discouraging had it not been for the enthusiasm of the volunteers. We cleaned & rejetacked over 75 cartons of books - that's about 3,000 volumes. I found that chemically treated sponges furnished by Oneida Chemical Company were best to use and really removed most of the soot and smoke from the tops of the books.

We set up two assembly lines where-in volunteers removed the old smoke and paint stained jackets, cleaned the tops of books and put fresh plastic covers on. Other volunteers retyped over 600 catalog cards, while yet others sorted and filed shelf list and catalog cards.

My staff - Rose Waddell, Candy LaChat, Debbie Dashnaw, Toni Baker, John Carlton, Elaine Coffin, Pat Blake and John Crager and I emerged at the end of the day, soot-stained but pleased with what had been accomplished. Ann Hobson and Ruth Hill of Moers Free Library, Dorothy Ransom of Plattsburgh Public Library, and Helen Camelo, Mrs. Stone, Mrs. Rousey, Mrs. Santor and Star Colby of Keeseville also worked very hard all day. Altogether it was a most successful day.

-6-
Friday, May 26, 1978

The bookmobile is down at Keeseville again today - it is good to know we are able to provide interim library service in a disaster.

Friday, June 2, 1978

We are down at Keeseville cleaning and re-jacketing books again. What looked like an insurmountable job is almost done. The library has been re-painted; new carpeting will be in next week. And we can continue to provide bookmobile service each week until the library can reopen.

This has been our first encounter with real disaster in a library. While we have learned rapidly some valuable techniques in dealing with destruction by fire and vandalism, we hope there will never be another episode like this in any library. But perhaps other libraries can benefit by our first-hand experience.

Stanley A. Ransom
Director

GOVERNOR’S CONFERENCE ON LIBRARIES 1978

Five delegates to the Governor's Conference on Libraries have been selected from the Clinton-Essex-Franklin area. Stanley A. Ransom (Director, Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System), Mrs. Ellen Parson (Literacy Volunteers), Mrs. Joan Saunders Van Tilburg (Marketing Officer, Keeseville National Bank), Mrs. Eunice Hunter (school librarian, Saranac Lake schools) and Bernard Carman (Editor, Adirondack Life, from Keene) will join other delegates in Albany from June 5 - 7. On Monday, June 5, Governor Carey will address the 300 delegates to the Conference. On the following two days delegates will discuss the direction of library service in New York State for the next ten years, centering their discussion around some 400 resolutions previously submitted to the Conference from all over the state.

One key issue will be the funding of libraries. Another issue is concerned with the linking of all types of libraries into networks in order to allow the borrowing of materials from one library to another for the benefit of waiting patrons.

Another concern is the provision of library services to the handicapped and those not able to travel to a library.

It is expected that resolution of these issues will result in legislation to improve the provision and distribution of library services in New York State. Delegates will also elect representatives to the White House Conference on Libraries, scheduled to take place in 1979. The White House Conference is expected to concentrate on ways of linking library networks together from state to state so that the library users will have the benefit of borrowing books and materials from libraries throughout the nation.

WINKEL SCULPTURE ON DISPLAY

Nina Winkel, internationally known sculptor, has loaned the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library her "Veiled Woman", a sculpture done in hammered copper. The lines and folds of the drapery, the dignity, the lowered head and inscrutable eyes of the woman make it a figure of silent strength. "Veiled Woman" will be on display in the library lobby for an indeterminate time.

Nina Winkel was born in Germany and came to the United States in 1942. She is a Fellow of the National Sculpture Society, a member of the National Academy of Design, the Sculptors Guild, President of the Sculpture Center for 1970 - 1973 and President Emeritus since 1973.
Mrs. Winkel's work has been exhibited at the Metropolitan Museum; American Academy of Arts and Letters; Whitney Museum; Riverside Museum; San Francisco Museum; and many other important museums. She received the E. Watrous Gold Medal in 1945 and in 1978. She was awarded the Samuel F.B. Morse Gold Medal of the National Academy of Design in 1964. She received Bronze Medals of the National Sculpture Society in 1967 and 1971 and was awarded the Founders Prize of the Pen and Brush Club in 1975. Among her commissioned works are: War Memorial for Seward Park High School, New York, 1948; Lassiter Memorial, Charlotte, N.C., 1956; Group of Children for Albert Schweitzer School in Weisbaden, Germany, 1964; Relief for Keene Valley Library, 1965; Historical Panels for Hames Milling Corporation, Penny Building, New York, 1969.

Nina Winkel has been appointed juror for the Olympic Sculpture Competition for Lake Placid. In addition, she is commissioned to design the Commemorative Medals for the upcoming Olympic Winter Games in Lake Placid.

Mrs. Winkel has a deep and abiding interest in libraries. She serves as a trustee of the Keene Valley Library and Chairman of the Library's Bi-Centennial Committee.

We are fortunate indeed to have an artist of her stature willing to lend her work for display at Headquarters.

WORKSHOPS HELD AT HEADQUARTERS

On April 24, Dr. Stanley J. Slote of White Plains taught a workshop on weeding. Mrs. Daniel Manning, Sr., trustee of the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library, greeted member librarians and spoke briefly on the different teaching workshops that have been of benefit to librarians and trustees. In the morning, Dr. Slote discussed weeding techniques; after lunch, everyone participated in a "hands-on" demonstration of weeding.

On May 22, William Decker of Bro-dart, Inc. taught a workshop on book mending. Mrs. Wayne Byrne, System Trustee, welcomed guests and joined them for the mending session. After a brief discussion, Mr. Decker had everyone utilize his instructions by practical application on books brought in for mending.

About forty-five librarians attended each workshop.

ANNUAL MEETING COMING UP

We are pleased to announce that Barney Fowler, Albany newspaper columnist, author, and raconteur, will be the guest speaker at the Annual Luncheon Meeting of librarians, trustees and friends of the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library.

This should be a very special meeting since our speaker, Mr. Fowler, has a new book coming out in September. Those of us (and we are legion) who enjoyed his Adirondack Album will look forward with anticipation to his new book. Having been a fan of his column for some years, your editor finds it hard to wait until August to listen to Barney Fowler talk to us.

The meeting will be held at 12:00 noon on Monday, August 7, at the Crossroads in Moira, New York. Reservation forms will be sent out in July.

Remember - Save August 7! This promises to be a spectacular Annual Meeting. For any questions, call Mary Leggett at Headquarters.

THREE R'S MEETING

The spring workshop and annual meeting of the North Country Reference and Research Resources Council was held at the new Feinberg Library at State University at Plattsburgh on May 4.

After morning registration, librarians divided into two groups to attend two concurrent workshops. One workshop was on producing your own slide-tape library presentations; the other was on applying statistics to library operations.
After lunch, librarians toured the new library. A special and magnificent display in the art gallery of paintings by Rockwell Kent was a focal point of the tour.

Rose Waddell, Carol Bedore, John Crager, Richard Ward and Mary Leggett attended from Headquarters.

FREEBIES FOR MEMBER LIBRARIES

The Clinton-Essex-Franklin Job Information Center is currently receiving Sunday editions of newspapers from various major U.S. cities. Some examples of these include the Arizona Republic, the Houston Chronicle, the San Francisco Examiner and Chronicle, and the Atlanta Journal and Constitution. Since we do not have storage space for all of the publications, the Center would be pleased to see them put to further good use by contributing back issues (single copies or as many as you want) to member libraries upon their request. If you're interested, please contact Lee Salzman or Linda Fish at the Center (563-8370), or write to us through the System.

DONALD WESTLAKE TALKS AT NALA MEETING

Donald Westlake, author of many mysteries done with humor and aplomb, was the after-dinner speaker at a meeting held at the Holiday Inn, Plattsburgh. Presented by the Northern Adirondack Library Association, the occasion drew about 100 people. Mr. Westlake had attended Champlain College in Plattsburgh in the early fifties and enlivened his talk with anecdotes about his life and hard times in college, the student automobile pilgrimage interrupted by the local police, and other sundry ventures. It is reassuring to know that this North Country library association can furnish audiences large enough to attract quality authors to this area.

SUMMER COURSE IN LIBRARY SCIENCE

The Graduate School of Library and Information Science SUNY/Albany in cooperation with the Northern Adirondack Library Association will use Feinberg Library on the Plattsburgh campus for a course in librarianship from July 17 - August 4. Dr. Richard S. Halsey will teach "Reference Update" for 3 graduate credits.

For further information call Louise Francis at (518) 563-2345.

MEMOS FROM MEMBER LIBRARIES

AKWESASNE LIBRARY AND CULTURAL CENTER

A workshop on Indian Library Services was held here on April 13. Visitors from the Seneca Nation were there to see the library, hear about the programs - so that they could use these ideas in setting up their own library.

Philip Tarbell, Specialist in Indian Culture from the New York State Education Department, spoke on the background on legislation for Indian library service. Stanley Ransom, Director of the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library, talked about the contractual relationship with public library systems and suggested services under contract. Roland Dickson, Assistant in Library Services, New York State Division of Library Development, explained the importance of chartering a library and the Commissioner's regulations. Bernard Finney, Assistant in Library Services, suggested ideas for library programming.

Attending from the Seneca Nation were: Winifred Kettle, Tessel Snow, Martha Symes, and Rae Synder. Representing the Akwesasne Library were: Margaret Jacobs, Beatrice Cole, Corinne White, Nancy Terrance, Gail Cook and Carol White. Also attending were Martha LaFrance, Director of the Akwesasne Museum, and Minerva White, Director of NASSP.

CHAPELAIN FREE LIBRARY

The Friends of the Library met April 25. The group is in need of male participants to join the Friends. Members were asked to bring books or records to donate to the library.

CHAZY PUBLIC LIBRARY
Two new trustees have been appointed to the board of this library. Mrs. Emily Castine replaced Mrs. Janice Parker who has moved to Vermont. Mr. J. Walter Laramie has replaced Mr. Leo J. Trahan who died last year. Mr. Trahan was a trustee for 23 years.

KEESVILLE FREE LIBRARY
(Editor's Note: This was written before the fire at the library)

In April, members of Girl Scout troop 29 visited the library for a review of the library's history, its workings and policies. It was pleasing to note that every Girl Scout already had a library card and was an active reader. Also in April, Ann Garcia spoke to the United Methodist Women in Keeseville regarding the early history of the library, its services, its needs and future development. The library's connection to Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library was explained and "ironed out" along with its many research connections. (The latter impressed the group) In response to the statement "we take all types of donations - let me see it before you throw it out", the library received a bag full of patterns, 30 record albums and several lovely children's books.

In the closing of the home of Jim McAlloon, a long time citizen of Keeseville, the library received his personal library. Among these books was a signed limited edition of "Northwest Passage" by Kenneth Roberts.

The library has received a sizable donation from the Kiwanis for several refurbishing projects.

WEAD LIBRARY, MALONE

Voters of Malone School District were to be commended for their continued support of good library service when they voted approval of the budget in an election held May 9. Theresa Gagnon was also voted another term as library trustee at this same election.

Director Dave Minnich was the speaker at a meeting of the Malone Rotary Club. He discussed the new addition to the library building and how they obtained the federal grant of $208,000. "The art of grantsmanship pays off", says Dave Minnich. "Just ask trustee Bob Hanna about that and the virtue of persistence!"

MINERVA LIBRARY

Librarian Claudia Ball tells us that the Open House held recently at this library was a great success.

A musical extravaganza was held at the Mountain View Hotel in Minerva on Sunday, May 21. Admission was $1.00 for adults and fifty cents for children. Proceeds went to the Minerva Library for books and materials.

MOOERS FREE LIBRARY

We regret to announce the sudden death of Miss Evelyn Matthews, long a trustee of this library. Miss Matthews had been President of the Board since 1949. She will be missed.

BLACK WATCH MEMORIAL LIBRARY, TICONDEROGA

Story Time on Saturdays, twice a month, is proving popular. The Story Time Ladies are conducting a drive for funds to enrich the 4 to 7 year old section of the library. So far they have collected over $200.00.

Five groups of nursery school children have made field trips to the library this spring. After an introduction to the library and its services, plus a tour of the building, the children listened to a story told by one of the Story Time Ladies.

The grounds around the building are being completely landscaped, thanks to the Ticonderoga Garden Club and to Harold Foster, retired horticulturist.
GOFF-NELSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY
TUPPER LAKE

Goff-Nelson Memorial Library once again celebrated National Library Week. The Library was decorated with posters and mobiles. Chalice DeChene, our librarian, has been interviewed by the Tupper Lake Free Press and the Saranac Lake Daily Enterprise. The Free Press gave us a 4 page spread, complete with pictures, and covering both past and present history.

A local family, Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Martin, who run an antique shop during the summer months, has contributed an assortment of antique glass for both our large and small display cases. Mr. Martin has been collecting shaving mugs and moustache cups for 9 years and has an interesting variety. His wife’s accumulation consists of unique paperweights, exceptionally delicate and fragile-seeming. The people who have viewed both collections show much interest and curiosity about these appealing displays.

Speaking of "display" we have a new display rack for our ever-popular paperbacks. It is an island unit with 4 rotating towers, 6 tiers high, capable of holding 600 paperbacks. We also have several new turntables to display new books or special sets of books.

With the return of Spring our permanent volunteer Nell McGregor has returned from California. She was warmly welcomed by the staff – and by disarranged shelves.

A new volunteer assisted us this past winter – Mrs. Maureen Root. She has been a great help. Our volunteers free us for so many of the other chores we must get done; they are an important part of a smooth-running library. Several other people have contributed time to us in the past few months. Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Howard have straightened shelves several times, & Mr. & Mrs. Al Meier decorated our library beautifully at Christmas time.

We are steadily making plans to move our Branch Library to its new facilities at the Aaron Maddox Memorial Hall. We have consulted with library architects, and of course have our own ideas on the new layout, and hopefully by Fall we’ll make the "big move.”

DODGE LIBRARY, WEST CHAZY

The Board of Trustees and librarian Eleanor Graton held an Open House at this library on May 18. Talented George Graton amused guests by making balloon creatures. Your editor cherishes her pink and white parrot. Thanks, George.

Prepublication orders were taken at the Open House for the soon-to-be-published Hurd's History of Clinton and Franklin Counties.

Stanley A. Ransom, Director
Mary Gordon Leggett, Editor

Editor's Note: Plattsburgh finally made the big time – in the nationally circulated Kirkus reviews. Discussing Gordon Pape's new novel, Chain Reaction, about assassination in an increasingly separatist Quebec and the exploits of an intrepid Montreal journalist, the reviewer ends with these lines: "North of the border this may fan some anti-separatist flames; here the hottest news will be the incidental info that adulterous Montrealers slip away for sin to .... Plattsburgh, New York."

What – Plattsburgh as Sin City? Surely only on St. Patrick's Day!

Mary Gordon Leggett

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TO: All library users, staff and trustees

SUBJECT: A9975, Regional Library Service Bill sponsored by Assemblyman Sullivan awaiting action in the present New York State Legislature

The 1978 New York State Legislature will recess shortly. Immediate action is needed, by telephone, telegram and letter to ensure increased library funds this year.

A9975, in an amended version, moved to the Assembly Ways and Means Committee on May 25th. While this version differs in several ways from the original Bill, it represents a giant step forward for library service in New York. Passage is within reach if prompt action is taken by all who are interested in better library service.

Amended A9975 provides $7,571,000 additional state aid (an increase in overall state aid to libraries of 36%) for the following:

1. Increased aid to public library systems ($3,440,000)
   A. Including systems and central libraries (increase of $1,578,000)
   B. Local Sponsor Incentive Aid, based on all local tax money received by libraries, not on increased support, as presently (increase of $1,540,000)
   C. A guaranteed minimum of $450,000 state aid for each public library system (increase of $332,000)

2. Statutory recognition of Reference and Research Library Resources Councils and increased state aid. ($150,000 annually for Councils less than 3 million population; $200,000 annually for those serving over 3 million population).

3. For the first time, state aid for the planning of school library systems ($1,604,000) representing $.50 per pupil double the original recommendation.

4. Creation of Regional Library Networks to provide cooperative services for all types of libraries; public, academic, school, institution and special. The nine networks created by A9975 are coterminous with present 3R's coordinated by councils representative of all types of libraries. To avoid establishing a new bureaucracy councils are empowered to contract out administration and program activities to existing systems ($150,000 base grant to each region, plus per capita grants of $.05 provided for regional library services--$2,267,500).

A9975 must receive the total support of all library interests. We may not have a chance like this again soon.

Act now!

Contact: The Governor
Your Legislators
Assembly and Senate Leadership

Stanley A. Ransom
Vice-Chairperson
NYLA Legislative Committee