I've been noticing the signs of encroaching age for quite some time now - for the most part, I try to ignore them. There always comes the moment of truth though. For me it was the arrival of a seemingly innocuous white envelope in the mail.

This letter contained the less than glad tidings that my high school class's 20th reunion would be coming up in July. Now, 20th reunions have long been a standard comedy scenario. You've seen it on TV - the formerly good-looking guys are fat and bald and everybody is trying to accept middle-age. Anyway you want to look at it, the 20th high school reunion is a milestone, formally announcing to you (and the rest of the world) that you are officially no spring chicken.

Subconsciously I knew this was coming. My children have been referring to the once-hip sounds of the Beatles, the original Temptations, the Lovin' Spoonful, the Mamas and the Papas and Bob Dylan as "that stone-age music you listen to." I mean they're actually displaying the same scorn that my sister and I leveled at my mother's Bing Crosby and Gisele MacKenzie records.

Besides I have noticed from TV ads, that my bold era is now the stuff of nostalgia movies. That's yet another telling sign - when your teenage years are portrayed as a totally different period in history.

And the worse part is, that I'll have to admit to myself that those years really are beginning to look like a different world.

I graduated from a parochial school in Plattsburgh, New York which means that the full impact of the '60s as a revolutionary period didn't hit me until a year or so later after being away at college. The Counterculture and Woodstock were still in the future. We undoubtedly thought we were pretty cool with our furtively smoked cigarettes and occasional kegs of beer, but actually by today's fast-lane standards, we weren't cool at all. I didn't wear the famous mini-skirt until I was older either. If by some wild stroke of luck I had been able to sneak by my mother wearing one, the nuns would have just sent me home again in disgrace.

I've set the scene, so I'd better get on to the subject of books and libraries. My children will probably be surprised to know that both existed back then; mankind was past the stage of pictures on cavern walls.

I'm not even going to bother to recite the best sellers for that year because, at 17, I wasn't reading many of those. I read a lot of what my elders termed "good books." Sister always provided a mimeographed reading list which was
at least two pages long. I found some of these, such as Ivanhoe and the James Fenimore Cooper books to be extremely boring; getting through them was a real struggle. Sister, however, didn't care whether I thought Natty Bumppo was relevant or not. Sister wanted to know if I had read the book.

If Sister said she wanted us to read a biography you could be sure it had better be one on the life of some worthy, clean living individual.

Because we were so heavily into moral uplift, even some classics couldn't pass muster. The movie, "Tom Jones," came to town and I was bound and determined to see it. Even though it had a shaky Legion of Decency rating, I had managed to do enough fast-talking (OK—lying) to get my mother's permission to see the film. The day I planned to go, however, a prohibition against the movie came over the PA system at school and my sister couldn't wait to get home and inform our mother. Ironically, the following year at college, we studied Henry Fielding and were taught to appreciate his delicious wit and clever satire. Talk about culture shock!

I also found out as a freshman in college that there were living poets after Robert Frost. Of course, the only poems of his that we read were about nature and neighborliness on the theory that no one was ever ruined by a birch tree.

Of course, there were some adventurous excursions. One girl produced a copy of The Prophet and I thought that was the epitome of the avant-garde.

My sister had a copy of Mary McCarthy's The Group which she kept in her room; mother was glad that Susan and I were spending more time together. Actually we were studying Dottie's deflation—the book automatically fell open to Chapter 2 as soon as someone touched it. After a whispered discussion one day in religion class (which also doubled as a facts of life class for Seniors) I discovered that The Group was the prime source of sex education for several of us.

Although, I was idealistic in a very naive way, I certainly was not politically active. Vietnam was a far off place until people I knew were sent there. I was more aware of the Civil Rights Movement because of television coverage and books like Freedom Ride and Black Like Me. The subject was also discussed in school, especially with the young teachers from "The City." Plattsburgh was almost entirely an all-white community at that time, so any view I had of the problems of the outside world was formed by the media and books — and I read voraciously.

I loved libraries solely because they contained books. In those days you whispered if you had to communicate and generally obeyed the rules. This didn't particularly bother me because I was used to dealing with rules. I was quite happy being left to my own devices. I wandered through the stacks and, because my selection was random, I developed a rather eclectic taste in books. I doubt that this situation would have been as good for a kid who wasn't fond of reading, but I'm just as happy that a well-meaning adult didn't interfere with me. The public library was my home away from home. It was someplace to go when I was bored and I liked the way the librarian neatly wrapped the books in old newspapers for me when it was raining.

Books have changed, libraries have changed and in many ways, kids have changed. If the climate is more democratic and less insular on some issues today, we did enjoy the benefits of life moving at a slower pace. I can't say if things are better or worse today, but if someone decides to do a new version of Dylan's "The Times They Are A Changin'," the Class of '66 will probably be among the backward parents of the song this time around. The changes slipped in gradually, but 20 years has made a world of difference.

Mary Shaw Hopkins
Editor
FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Standards for public libraries are a way of assuring that the residents of our communities are receiving at least a minimum of library services. Far too often these standards are taken as maximums or even as goals to be worked toward. Many libraries do exceed standards and their community is much better off for it.

Let’s examine some of these standards. You can compare your library to them. Do you meet or exceed these standards?

The Commissioner of Education's Regulation no. 90.2 lists the standards for registration of a library. These are: (a) Book collection, (b) Income, (c) Librarians and minimum hours, (d) Financial report, (e) Library records, (f) Classification and arrangement, and (g) Building and equipment.

(a) Book collection. According to Wheeler and Goldhor's Practical Administration of Public Libraries (revised by Carlton Rochell. Harper & Row, 1981 p. 405), libraries serving a population of under 10,000 should have a book stock of 3.5 to 5 per capita, with the smaller libraries at 5 per capita. This is to give sufficient size and variety for a local collection. Interlibrary loan through the System should be depended upon heavily. About 15-20% of the budget should be spent on library materials, and weeding should average at least 5% per year.

A library serving 10,000 to 35,000 people should have a book stock of from 2.75 to 3 volumes per capita. For other populations see below.

(b) Income. The Federal guideline for those member libraries which are eligible to apply for public library construction aid was $6.50 per capita in 1984. They also require a public library to meet within five years a per capita operating support of $8.50. The average per capita support of libraries in the C-E-F Library System area in 1984 was $10.79. The expenditures of C-E-F member libraries range from about $2 to over $13 per capita. Those who are receiving less than $10 per capita are urged to enter into a campaign to educate community residents and to inform town or village officials of the need for increased financial support.

(c) Librarians and minimum hours.

Librarians. For libraries serving a population of less than 2,500 persons there are no official requirements for librarians. If the position is covered by Civil Service, the librarian must have at least a high school diploma or equivalent.

The librarian’s job is dealing with people. Trustees should choose for a librarian a person who is pleasant, cheerful, smiling, friendly, outgoing and receptive to learning over a person who is better educated but not outgoing, or who is contentious and has problems relating to people. The latter type of person may be better to use as a resource person.

Current personnel standards for LSCA public library construction applications require that the library employ a staff of one full-time employee (or full-time equivalent) for each 2,000 populations served. One-third of these should have an M.L.S. or professional certification. Maintenance staff is not included. For New York State, Civil Service positions requiring the M.L.S. degree also require a Public Librarian's Professional Certificate.

(1) A library which serves a population of 2,500 to 4,999 must employ as a director a person who has completed at least two years of full-time study in an approved college or university.

(2) A library serving a population of 5,000 to 7,499 must employ as a director a person who holds a bachelor's degree from an approved college or university and who has completed four academic years of full-time study.
(3) A library which serves a population of 7,500 or more must employ as a director only persons who hold the public librarian's professional or provisional certificate or a certificate of qualification. (The requirement for these is an M.L.S. degree.)

Library directors whose population increases to the next level may continue without the need to qualify for the next level, but upon their termination the next higher requirements apply.

Minimum hours. The Commissioner's Regulation 90.2 reads, "The library, in charge of a competent staff, must be opened at fixed times as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Minimum Weekly Standard Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Below 500</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500 - 2,499</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,500 - 4,999</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5,000 - 24,999</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25,000 - 99,999</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100,000 plus</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These standards should be revised, in my opinion, for a number of reasons. Where the library is open only 6 or 12 hours per week the public is effectively denied access to the book collection during most of the week. The library should be open a variety of times for school children, for senior citizens and for those who work all week. Evenings and Saturdays, and possibly an occasional Sunday afternoon should be tried to find the times most convenient for borrowers. This is especially true since 50% of women now work outside the home. A library might also need to be open more hours if film and book discussion programs are planned. The library board should consider planning for the future in which the library might be open a minimum of 15-20 hours per week.

The Vermont Library Association, the Vermont Library Trustees Association and the Vermont Department of Libraries has recently revised their access standards to include a minimum opening "for service to all ages throughout the year at least 16 hours a week, including at least 4 hours after 5 p.m. or on weekends." They further advocate posting a clearly legible sign outside each library showing the hours of service when it is accessible to the public. Each library should also have a telephone listed under the library's name.

Seventeen out of twenty-nine of C-E-F member libraries are open 16 or less hours per week. While it may take some additional time for boards of trustees to obtain funding to increase their hours of opening, I would urge that this be given a high priority by our boards of trustees. As a partial solution for the present, libraries in adjacent towns might consider jointly dovetailing their hours. For instance one library might be open Tuesday night and another on Wednesday night so that the library user would not have to drive far to have access to a library which is open.

Planning for increased hours also makes sense in our rural areas, where the population is increasing. In the last census at least two libraries had gained enough increased population to require their boards of trustees to increase their hours of opening from 20 to 30 hours per week. As more people relocate in our rural areas this pattern will be repeated.

(d) Financial report and (e) Library records. The State Regulations require that each library fill out an Annual Report each year. These are due February 1st in Albany. Forms are received in December of the previous year and are distributed promptly to member libraries. Sad to say, we have not been able to send them in by that deadline and in some instances have not received a few until April or May. There are many reasons for this, such as the library treasurer being in Florida for the winter, or being taken ill or an outside official being unavailable or "too busy" to attend to it. We appreciate the difficulties involved in completing these Annual Reports. We would appreciate it if the library boards would appoint an alternate treasurer who could act for the treasurer who is ill or away. We would appreciate any other suggestions library boards or librarians may have.
Needless to say, until every single member library, and the C-E-F Library System itself, has prepared, signed and sent in its annual report, there is no money for the Central Library and no money for the member libraries!

We further suggest that a good way to prepare for the Annual Report is to set up procedures at the start of each year to gather statistics on a monthly basis and to keep monthly track of necessary financial and statistical events needed for the report. Thank you for your cooperation, which we sincerely appreciate.

Other library records are required from time to time of which we plan to keep you advised. The State requires you to keep certain types of financial records for a specified number of years. We will report on this in a later issue.

(f) Classification and arrangement. A library is not just a pile of books, it is a collection of books and other library materials organized for use. This organization may take the form of shelving fiction alphabetically by authors last name or shelving non-fiction books in Dewey Decimal order. Browsing or special collections are also a form of arrangement. The C-E-F staff will help member librarians where there are questions.

(g) Buildings and equipment. This final standard requires that buildings be adequate for use and conform to the building requirements based on size of population served. There should also be an adequate amount of equipment, eg, telephones, desks, chairs, typewriters, and other items.

Below is the Wheeler and Goldhor chart referred to previously:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population size</th>
<th>Book stock vol. per capita</th>
<th>No. of seats per 1,000 population</th>
<th>Total sq. ft. per capita</th>
<th>Desirable 1st floor sq. ft. per capita</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Up to 10,000</td>
<td>3.5-5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>.7-.8</td>
<td>.5-.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10,000-35,000</td>
<td>2.75-3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>.6-.65</td>
<td>.4-.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35,000-100,000</td>
<td>2.5-2.75</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>.5-.6</td>
<td>.25-.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100,000-200,000</td>
<td>1.75-2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>.4-.5</td>
<td>.15-.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200,000-500,000</td>
<td>1.5-1.75</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>.35-.4</td>
<td>.1-.125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500,000 and up</td>
<td>1-1.25</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>.3</td>
<td>.06-.08</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


How does your library measure up?
In addition, libraries facing an expansion should plan to include insulation or plan for further energy conservation.

There should also be planning to implement Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 so that libraries will be accessible by the handicapped and so that floor levels and rest rooms can accommodate the handicapped or wheelchair-bound.

Central Libraries have two special requirements, namely that they be open at least 55 hours per week and employ at least two full-time professional librarians other than those paid from Federal or State (Central Library) funds.

If there are other standards which apply to member libraries I would be pleased to add them to the list. The C-E-F Library Board, the Director and the consultant staff are always ready to assist any member library or reading center in planning to meet the above standards. The ultimate goal is to improve library services to your library users. We at the C-E-F Library System look forward to helping you meet that goal.

Stanley A. Ransom
Director

"IMAGINATION CELEBRATION" COMING IN 1987

An Imagination Celebration for Clinton and Essex Counties in the spring of 1987 is now in the planning stages. An Imagination Celebration is a week long festival of learning and the arts, culminating in an art-filled family weekend. Similar celebrations have been successfully held in Albany, Binghamton, Buffalo, Syracuse and other cities in New York State.

A Steering Committee of Stanley Ransom, Leona Salzman, Lola Johnson, Marilyn Gibbons, Debbie Van Mullem, Kathleen Duley and Abby Zito met on May 20th to organize preliminary plans for the celebration.

Marilyn Gibbons, Director of the Youth Arts Festival, Susan Doolittle, from Essex County, will act as Co-Chairs. Stanley Ransom will act as Secretary of the group.

The Imagination Celebration group will be receiving $20,000 for this purpose from the New York State Legislature through the Kennedy Center and The Alliance for the Arts in Albany.

Dr. Vivienne Anderson is the coordinator for the State-wide Imagination Celebration projects.

Stanley A. Ransom

C-E-F TRUSTEE INSTITUTE POSTPONED

The C-E-F Library Trustee Institute originally scheduled for June 5-6 at the Lake Placid Hilton has been re-scheduled for Friday and Saturday, September 5-6, 1986, also at the Lake Placid Hilton. We are expanding it slightly to enable two trustees to attend from each member public library.

Please make plans now to attend this important conference.

The North Country Library System’s trustee program will take place at Alexandria Bay on June 13th and 14th as scheduled.

Stanley A. Ransom
BLACK POETRY DAY, OCTOBER 17th

Though funding under LSCA has not been continued for the celebration of Black Poetry Day, the C-E-F Library System's Black Poetry Day Committee is planning to continue the tradition. Sam Cornish, Boston based Black poet and professor of literature at Emerson College, will be the guest speaker at the Plattsburgh State University College on October 17th. He will read poetry from his new book, "Selected & New Poems," to be published by Unicorn Press.

Stanley A. Ransom

BOARD INCREASES CASH GRANTS TO MEMBER LIBRARIES

At their meeting on May 15th, the C-E-F Board of Trustees voted to raise the cash grant for member public libraries from approximately $637 to $1,000. These funds will go to any member library which spent at least $600 on books in 1985 and who will plan to spend at least $1,000 for books in 1987. The C-E-F Board was able to do this because of the passage of the new Library Omnibus Bill recently passed. This measure was co-sponsored and promoted by all our local legislators.

Stanley A. Ransom

1986 LEGISLATION

We thank the Governor, the Senate and the Assembly for the recently passed 16 million dollar Omnibus Bill for libraries. We thank especially Senator Hugh Farley and Assemblyman Edward C. Sullivan, chairman of the Senate and Assembly subcommittees on Libraries. We thank our own Senator Ronald B. Stafford, and Assemblymen Chris Ortloff, Anthony Casale and Glenn Harris, all co-sponsors of the library bill.

The Omnibus Bill increases the C-E-F Library System's annual state aid by $65,000 and helps to pull us out of our deficit situation. It also offered $47,425 for matching library construction funds, $10,000 additional for Central Library Aid and $8,800 more for Central Book Aid books.

We were pleased especially to receive $20,000 to continue our rural health information delivery service.

Thank you, legislators!

Stanley A. Ransom

PULISDO CONFERENCE

On May 1st-2nd, 130 librarians from 22 public library systems attended the PULISDO Conference at the Howard Johnson's Conference Center in Lake Placid, hosted by the C-E-F Library System. PULISDO is the Public Library System Directors Organization. It meets annually to allow system directors and system consultants and specialists to share ideas and to discuss improvements in library services. Topics covered were State Education Department and Regents Priorities for 1987, microcomputer applications in Public Library Systems, Fund Raising Ideas for Small Public Libraries, and Library legislation was discussed and PULISDO and the library specialists also held meetings.

On Thursday evening, the group heard the spellbinding "Ghost of Phantom Falls" and other Adirondack tales presented by that master Adirondack Storyteller, John Vinton. Later the Connecticut Peddler, Stanley Ransom, played hammered dulcimer and guitar and sang Adirondack and library ballads.
On Friday the group met to discuss the Future Role of Public Library Systems in New York State, Grant and Program Funding Ideas, the Shoffner Report and Advisory Committees for Outreach Programs.

We thank the many speakers who took time to join us and to present their ideas for discussion: Joseph Shubert, Roberta Cade, Florence Denny, Joseph Green, Frank Van Zanten, Christine McDonald, Dick Panz, Mark Evans, Jim Farrell, Abby Zito, Don Linder, Deborah Silverfine, Ellen Parravano, Carol Sheffer, Paul Hutchins and Meg Wright, and the many moderators.

Thanks to Board President Janet Decker and her trustee colleagues, the PULISDO Conference attendees received a tour of the Saranac Lake Free Library, its special collections and its recently completed building addition.

Thanks to Howard Johnson proprietor Ron Butler and staff member Mark Evans for their cooperation and help at the Conference and the preparation of excellent meals.

The Conference ended with a chuckwagon buffet prepared by the staff at the Hotel Saranac. We thank Cindy Jost and the chefs and students at the Hotel Saranac for a most delicious ending to our Conference.

My thanks to Lee Salzman, Mary Hopkins, Barbara Deyo, Carol Bedore and Hugh Starke and other staff members and to C-E-F Board member Keela Rogers for their help in planning and implementing the Conference.

Stanley A. Ransom

ALTONA READING CENTER

The Town Board of Altona recently approved an agreement with the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System to establish a reading center. The Board, acting on the recommendation of a committee set up at the last meeting, approved $1,500 for funding.

Although the C-E-F bookmobile comes to Altona every other week, people who support the library feel that the Wednesday afternoon schedule is inconvenient for school children and people who work out of town during the day. Also, students who have library assignments have to stay after school to complete their work unless they have reference books at home.

With Altona's total assessment of about $27 million, a $1,500 library budget would cost each taxpayer about 5½ cents per thousand dollars. For a home valued at $40,000, the owner would pay about $2.20 a year for the library. A group known as Friends of the Library Organization also intends to have fund-raisers to help keep the cost down. The bookmobile service will continue as long as people want to use it.

Also a Board of Trustees for the library was appointed at the May Town Board meeting. They are: Betsy Baker, Bill and Cardy Slocum, Jan Trudo, Ellen Montgomery, Jane Sayah, and Barbara Deyo.

CIRCUIT RIDER PROGRAM

Carolyn Donato has been appointed Circuit Rider for Clinton-Essex-Franklin portion of the Circuit Rider Program.

Ms. Donato was Medical Librarian at the House of the Good Samaritan in Watertown and was previously Circuit Rider for the Central New York 3R's Council's Hospital Program.

She will be working with Chris Ransom at CVPH Medical Center in Plattsburgh and will be visiting hospital libraries in the three county area.
NEWSPAPERS IN EDUCATION

The Newspapers in Education program, sponsored by the Press Republican, has been very active in area schools this past year. Designed to help students learn while having fun, the program highlights the versatility of the newspaper through challenging activities. Bookmobile patrons will be able to sample the program this summer through activity sheets which each of our bookmobiles will carry. The Press Republican and their Newspapers in Education Coordinator, Jody El Reedy, would be happy to see libraries become involved in this interesting program also. Jody does provide consultation services and will be at the C-E-F storytelling workshop on June 9 to give a short presentation at 9:00 a.m. If you can't make the workshop but would like more information, you can reach her at the Press Republican, 561-2300 ext. 80.

Kathie LaBombard

STORYTELLING WORKSHOP

The Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System will present a Storytelling Demonstration and Workshop on Monday, June 9, 1986, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at System Headquarters at 17 Oak Street in Plattsburgh. The public is invited on a first-come, first-serve basis. Admission is free.

During the morning session Fran Yardley, Storyteller, will demonstrate the art of Storytelling. Fran Yardley graduated from the University of Colorado with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Theater. She has performed in a wide range of professional and amateur productions. She has toured northern New York twice with the Prop Trunk Players, a professional acting troupe and also twice as a professional Storyteller. As an active member of the National Association for the Preservation and Perpetuation of Storytelling, she has performed for adults and children from Baltimore to Ontario - in schools, libraries, festivals and hospitals.

Also at the morning session, a summer program for libraries called "Newspapers in Education" will be explained by Judith El Reedy, coordinator of the NIE Program for the Plattsburgh Press Republican.

The afternoon session of the workshop will feature a film, "Reading Aloud: Motivating Children to Make Books into Friends, Not Enemies" by best-selling author Jim Trelease. This noted film was rented especially for the workshop.

Using an anecdotal style that rings with humor and enthusiasm, Trelease traces the need for reading aloud from the cradle to adolescence. He cites dozens of titles and demonstrates the techniques involved in reading aloud.

To register for this workshop or for further information contact Mary Hopkins at C-E-F Headquarters. Phone: 563-5190. Participants should plan to bring their own lunches.

An evening viewing of "Reading Aloud" will also be held at the Plattsburgh Public Library. For further information on the evening program contact Karen Ricketson. Phone: 563-0921.
TRUSTEES IN THE NEWS

C-E-F Board Trustee Dorothy Mendelsohn recently presented a substantial contribution towards a blood pressure monitor for the Intensive Care Unit of the Alice Hyde Hospital in Malone. The gift was given as a memorial to her late husband, Irving Mendelsohn of St. Regis Falls. A plaque in his honor has been affixed to the monitor.

The new unit automatically measures the blood pressure of the ICU patient and provides the staff with a constant reading of this key indicator of patient condition.

The Hospital Board of Directors and Executive Vice-President Norman Gervais expressed their gratitude for the generosity that made the equipment purchase possible.

"Mrs. Mendelsohn has, over the years, contributed to the well-being of our facility and patients through her membership in the Auxiliary and her volunteer work," Gervais said. "Her generous gift shows her continued commitment to helping those who must use the facility," he added.

***********

System Board Trustee Elaine Edmonds of Keene Valley has been appointed to the Essex County Board of Directors of Literacy Volunteers. Elaine will bring a great deal to the Board as a result of years of teaching experience plus her great interest in community affairs relating to education.

RECEPTION AT PAUL SMITH'S COLLEGE TO HONOR WALTER SMALLMAN

A reception for friends, family and former co-workers of the late C. Walter Smallman of Hermon, will be held June 6 at 7:30 p.m. at Paul Smith's College, at Cubley Library.

The occasion will acknowledge the donation of collections of Adirondack and Northern New York materials made over the years by both Mr. and Mrs. Smallman. They will be available to research in future at the library. Among the items are photographs, many books and maps, files on various subjects, hundreds of slides and a few artifacts. Other items have also been donated to the Ft. Covington Reading Center, Wead Library in Malone, the library at Akwesasne and the State Library and Museum in Albany. The extensive genealogical materials and indexes have been put into the library of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Potsdam. All of these are available for research by the public.

The reception will include remarks by Dr. Kelsey Harder, Potsdam College, and former president of the St. Lawrence County Historical Association, and a short slide program of the various aspects of the years of the Smallmans' public service. The public is invited.

C-E-F ANNUAL MEETING

The C-E-F Library System's Annual Meeting will be held at The Hotel Saranac in Saranac Lake, on August 4 this year.

We are delighted to announce that Robert Taylor, author of Saranac: America’s Magic Mountain will be our guest speaker. Mr. Taylor is also chief art and book critic of the Boston Globe.

Copies of Saranac: America's Magic Mountain are available at Headquarters for $14.36 (list price - $17.95). If you wish to reserve a copy to have autographed at the Annual Meeting please contact Carol Bedore at System Headquarters. Copies are also available for purchase by anyone who will not be able to attend the Annual Meeting.

-10-
Editor's Note:

I would like to thank Keene Valley Librarian Nancy Edmonds and Board of Trustees President Peg O'Brien for giving photographer Carol Bedore and me a tour of the library and also for providing me with several articles on the history of the Keene Valley Library; I have drawn heavily on these sources.

The village of Keene Valley, is in the heart of the Adirondack peaks. The beauty of the area has attracted summer visitors for well over a century.

Around 1885 some of these summer residents banded together to do something about the lack of reading material available to the public.

One of this group, a Miss Sarah Dunham of Hartford, Connecticut, had donated $200 from which a collection of 167 books (including works by Dickens, Thackary, and many children's books) were purchased. These books were housed in the living room of the Carlos White home.

In November of 1892 interested citizens met at the Keene Valley Congregational Church to form the Keene Valley Library Association and officers were elected. Dues were set at $1 per year and they have never gone up.

The book collection was growing too large for the White house and so, a room was rented over the Byron Estes store and a reading room was established.

Miss Grace Perry, the pastor's daughter, became the first librarian at a salary of $50 per year.

On December 13, 1893 the library, which now numbered 860 books, was granted its provisional charter by the Regents of the State of New York. It was financially supported by subscription and a Regents appropriation. The permanent charter was granted in 1899.

In 1895, Miss Dunham offered to donate $800 for the building of a library, contingent on the acquisition of a suitable lot; a lot was purchased for $500.

A series of entertainments was held to raise the additional money needed. These included: "A Campfire and Dance," "An Extravangaza" (followed by a dance), "Reminiscences of Keene Valley," and "Scenes from Dickens." Addison Baird also collected between $300 and $400, mostly from summer people and he arranged for the interlining of the new building (for insulation) at his own expense.

The library was completed in 1896 at a cost of $1300. The original building (now the library's main reading room) was built in the charming "Adirondack Style." Today the half-logs have been shingled over. The building was graced by large, diamond-paned windows in the front and a skylight overhead.

In 1921, John T. Loomis, a historian and collector of Adirondack books donated his collection of over 500 books to the library; in 1931 a fireproof room was constructed to house these books.

John Pickard also donated his father's collection of fishing books.

In 1923 a children's room, a gift of Mr. & Mrs. Burton Twitchell - in memory of Susan Twitchell, was added.

In 1948 Mrs. Carroll Hodge started the library's record collection in honor of Mr. James Brown. The music room now holds a substantial collection of records and is a pleasant place in which to listen to good music.

In 1962 it became necessary for the library to expand and a rear addition was built to house the children's and non-fiction collections. Wall-to-wall carpeting was installed.
In 1965 more renovations took place. A circular staircase was added for easier access to the basement and a new circulation desk was installed.

Two more rooms were constructed in the basement area in 1980. The Alpine Room was a gift of well-known mountain climber John Case, in memory of his wife, Anne Taylor Case. The room houses Case's fine collection of books on mountaineering and rock climbing, bound journals and maps, in addition to the library's original collection on these subjects. The walls are adorned with framed photographs of mountains of the world. The Mobil Room, previously an unfinished basement, was also made possible by Case, who was a vice-president of the Mobil Corporation. This is now a community room. Films are shown here and the Girl Scouts and a cooperative play group hold activities here. The library also hosts the fall meeting of the Adirondack Mountain Club.

Yet another expansion of the library took place this past year. An additional children's room was built. Filled with picture books it is the perfect setting for story hour. An extension to the Loomis Room was also built. This provides a work area for archivists and holds a large amount of historical materials pertaining to the Keene Valley area - historical photographs, manuscripts, vertical files and maps. The Loomis Room is run entirely by volunteers, notably Keene Valley Board of Trustees President Peg O'Brien. There will be an official gala opening of the new rooms later this summer to celebrate this newest addition, however, a date has not yet been set.

Librarian Nancy Edmonds succeeded Miss Zaidee Trumbull who served from 1967-1977. Nancy, I must add, was formerly a member of the C-E-F staff; she was the librarian on one of our bookmobiles for several years. Nancy has been extremely successful as librarian. She holds regular library classes for school children and received a Friend of Education award in 1980 in recognition of this work. I am sorry to say that Nancy will be moving on to a new occupation in June. She will be greatly missed.

The new librarian will be Margaret Sheldon, who received her MLS from C.W. Post. Maggie has been working evenings at the Keene Valley Library.

The library has hosted a Lecture/Slide Program series since 1954 which covers a diversity of informative topics including ecology, conservation and travel. The library also holds an Annual Book Fair and the summer story hour and film programs where local kids and summer kids can meet each other.

In 1985, the library’s holdings numbered 20,500 and the circulation had climbed to 17,500.

It is easy to see why the library is so popular. It has a central location near the post office, a grocery store and the country club. The lovely building is most inviting. It is graced by shade trees and, in the summer, patrons can sit on a patio extending from the rear addition. Inside the mellow wood paneling of the original library blends perfectly with the more modern additions. The works of local sculptor Nina Winkel are displayed throughout the building - to stunning effect.

I am sure this library will continue to grow by leaps and bounds and perhaps one day I will be writing on yet another expansion project.

Mary S. Hopkins
Keene Valley Library
Keene Valley, New York

The Keene Valley Library.

Librarian Nancy Edmonds, at the circulation desk.

Trustee Peg O'Brien at work in the Loomis Room extension.

Nina Winkel sculpture at the library entrance.
HUDSON-MOHAWK VALLEY ASSOCIATION

40th ANNIVERSARY

The Hudson-Mohawk Library Association celebrated its 40th anniversary on April 4 with a special dinner in Schenectady. The Association was organized during World War II by Capital District librarians eager to promote quality service and to stimulate professional growth through the exchange of ideas and programs. During the past 40 years, over 100 area librarians have served as officers of the group, and it currently has a membership of over 125, according to Timothy McGowan, Association president.

Dr. John Farley, Dean Emeritus, SUNY at Albany, School of Information and Library Science, reflected on the controversial life of Melvil Dewey. There was also a panel discussion on the changes that have taken place in the local library profession over the past 40 years. The panelists were: Rev. Mason Tolman, former director, New York State Library; Barbara Rau, former director, Bethlehem Public Library; and, Dorothea Brown, former branch librarian, Schenectady County Public Library.

The Association's annual Recognition Award for outstanding achievement and service to local libraries was presented to the SUNY at Albany School of Information and Library Science, and accepted by Dr. Richard Halsey, Dean of the Library School.

Joseph Shubert, Assistant New York State Commissioner for Libraries, and Ruth Fraley, President of the New York Library Association, extended their best wishes to the Association during the program. Congratulatory messages were also received from New York State Senator Hugh Farley, New York State Assemblyman Edward Sullivan, and Beverly Lynch, President, American Library Association.

ON ACQUIRING A READING HABIT

Here are six helpful hints suggested by Mary Burgan, Chair of the Department of English at Indiana University:

1. Don't be afraid to browse. It's good to waste some time in a bookstore (especially second-hand bookstores). Pick up a book. Try out a couple of pages. If you don't like what you read, pick up something else.

2. Buy books even if you can't read them right away; you will read whatever is on your shelf during a blizzard or on a long weekend when you're feeling too lazy to move.

3. Subscribe to a magazine, and don't worry about having issues pile up.

4. Read everything you can—cereal boxes, the National Enquirer at the supermarket lines, graffiti, song lyrics, the Yellow Pages, the comics. Keep reading matter in convenient places—in the bathroom, under the bed, on the front seat of your car.

5. Don't think that you have to finish everything you start. If you let your puritan conscience forbid your starting another book until you've read every page of Proust's Remembrance of Things Past, you may never read again!

6. Don't feel guilty about what you read. Do feel guilty if you never read at all.

From: Indiana University Arts & Sciences, Winter, 1986
ESSEX HUMANITIES SERIES

SUMMER SCHEDULE, 1986

"America as an Emerging Nation": Lecture series at the Elizabethtown Library. Five lectures by historians on four books and a film on the Constitutional Era. Funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Tuesday evenings at 7:30. For information contact Nancy Dawson at 873-6843 or Sylvia Kurtenbach at the Elizabethtown Library or Abby Zito at Essex Humanities Series, 963-7352.

June 3  Film: "The Adams Chronicles" - lecture by John McCordell, Professor of History, Middlebury College
June 17 John C. Miller, Crisis in Freedom: the Alien and Sedition Acts - lecture by Eric Davis, Professor of History, Middlebury College*
July 1 Gore Vidal, Burr - lecture by Marshall True, Professor of History, the University of Vermont*
July 15 Roger H. Brown, The Republic in Peril: 1812 - lecture by Mark Stoler, Professor of History, the University of Vermont*

"Another World" - Four lectures on the literature of the American character. A part of the year-long series "American Dreams" funded by the New York Council for the Humanities and by private donations. For information contact Marilyn Triemens at 962-4801 or the Westport Library, 962-8219 or Abby Zito at Essex Humanities Series, 963-7352. Tuesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. at the Westport Library.

July 8  Mark Twain, A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court - lecture by Murry Dry, Professor of Political Science, Middlebury College*
July 22 Henry Roth, Call It Sleep - lecture by Stephen Donadio, Professor of American Literature and Civilization, Middlebury College*
Aug. 5 Henry James, The Europeans - lecture by novelist Allan Gurganus, writing faculty, Sarah Lawrence college*
Aug. 19 Alice Walker, The Color Purple - lecture by Rennie Simson, Department of Afro-American Studies, Syracuse University*

"Whale of a Summer" in Essex at Persell Hall, St. John's Church. Various evenings at 7:30 p.m. Funded by the New York Council for the Humanities, by private donations and by the New York State Council on the Arts. For information contact Abby Zito at Essex Humanities Series, 963-7352.

June 24  Poetry Reading by Jill Hoffman, author of Mink Coat and Other Poems and editor of "Mudfish." Funded by Poets & Writers.
July 17  "Jazz as American Anecdote" - lecture with jazz quotations on records by Albert Murray, author of Good Morning Blues: the Autobiography of Count Basie as Told to Albert Murray, Stomping the Blues, South to the Very Old Place.
July 31 Ethan Allen, The Narrative of Ethan Allen's Captivity - lecture by John McWilliams, Professor of English, Middlebury College*
Aug. 14  "Building a National Image" slide lecture by Bates Lowry, Director, the National Building Museum
Aug. 16  Concert: "18th Century Musical Soundings and Echoes: from the Courts and Cathedrals of Europe to the Shores of the New World" Maplewood Music Festival, Jorie Garrigue, Director ($4 admission charge)
Sept. 11-12 "Moby-Dick Marathon" - Back to back lectures on Moby-Dick by Herman Melville, Daniel Kaiser, Professor of Literature, Sarah Lawrence College*

*Texts available on loan before the lectures

ADMISSION FREE FOR ALL PROGRAMS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

The Essex Humanities Series is sponsored by the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System.
NOTICE: C-E-F has been the recipient of a donation of National Geographic magazines. We have the complete run of 1958-1978, available to any member library. These are unbound issues.

Please contact, Elizabeth Rogers at Headquarters if you are interested.

REMINDER

THE DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES FOR THE JULY/AUGUST ISSUE OF THE TRAILBLAZER IS WEDNESDAY, JULY 9, 1986

HEADQUARTERS HIGHLIGHTS

OUTREACH NEWS

The North Country is very fortunate to now have a Vocational Rehabilitation counselor from the Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped (CBVH) stationed in Tupper Lake. Meg Wright, through the cooperation of Sunmount Developmental Center, has office space at their facility. On May 7th, Ann Hobson, Mary Hopkins and Lee Salzman had the pleasure of attending a reception at Sunmount to welcome Meg and to hear about programs and services offered by CBVH. Meg is not a newcomer to C-E-F, though. She has served on our Outreach Advisory Council for over a year, and is one of our strongest advocates for the NYS Library for the Blind and Visually Handicapped program.

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Ann Hobson and Lee Salzman traveled to Elizabethtown on May 9th to meet with staff from the Essex County Office for the Aging. The staff, and in particular the outreach workers, were provided with an orientation session on the services of the NYS Library for the Blind and Visually Handicapped. C-E-F is looking forward to working with the Office for the Aging in expanding the scope of these services to older adults in Essex County.

C-E-F has been involved in several activities lately as a cooperating agency with the Clinton County Coalition for Families and Children. Marge Wachtmeister, working under the Rural Health Information Delivery segment of our outreach services, prepared displays of bibliographies and booklets for Child Safety Week and the Clinton County Youth Fair, both conducted in April. The most recent activity has been a poetry contest with the theme "It Shouldn't Hurt to Be a Child." Over 180 students from 10 Clinton County schools participated. Marge, who is a member of the Education Committee and the Publicity Committee for the Coalition, is now in the process of producing bookmarks which feature the winning entries.

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Many of the services/programs planned under C-E-F's outreach program for this year concentrate on the needs of the hearing impaired. As part of our effort to build public awareness of the deaf and deaf culture, we have purchased part of the videocassette series entitled American Culture: The Deaf Perspective. The three programs cover the topics of deaf heritage, deaf folklore and deaf literature. They are both signed and spoken, and can therefore be viewed by multiple
audiences. The use of a telecaption adapter also allows for close-captioning for the hearing impaired. These are presently available for loan to member libraries and community organizations, and will be available to individuals in the near future.

Leona Salzman  
Assistant Director/Head of Outreach

ACQUISITIONS

July 1, 1986, a date that will live in infamy; that is the day we go live with the Gaylord Circulation System. So grab your library card (barcoded, of course) and come to the Clinton-Essex-Franklin-Bookmobile and see progress in action. Automatic overdues (patron take heed), transaction reports, monthly statistics, all will be ours with this new system. Acquisitions has been working long and hard toward the goal of an automated system. Let's hope that July 2 will dawn with our sanity in tact and no mass resignations from this department.

Carol Bedore  
Head of Acquisitions

REFERENCE/INTERLIBRARY LOAN NEWS

We're busy with several automation projects these days, working with member libraries and other library systems. We've recently installed a microcomputer, modem and printer at the Saranac Lake Library, and plans are underway for Keene Valley and Tupper Lake to join the ranks of the automated. These micro systems will be used to transmit interlibrary loan messages using an electronic mail network. They come to C-E-F libraries as part of the state's automation grant, administered by the North Country 3R's Council.

We're fortunate to have the help, support and programming skills of Tom Blauvelt from NC3R's — he is great at training library staff and is willing to make the trip from Canton to install the systems.

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In addition to our C-E-F projects, we've been expanding our use of a state-wide system using the capabilities offered by the New York State Interlibrary Loan network (NYSILL). Through direct contact with other public library systems, we can participate in a point-to-point process allowing us to request materials directly from other libraries. This is fast (we usually receive a reply and/or the material within a few days) and inexpensive (virtually free to us).

I am currently working with members of other library systems to compile a directory of those participating in point-to-point transactions. I met with a number of librarians at the recent PULISDO conference, and there is a great deal of enthusiasm for an organized point-to-point program.

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Locally, our work with the school library systems continues. We've established successful procedures for sending and receiving interlibrary loan messages via NYLINE, a statewide electronic mail network. The two systems we are working with are busy building their electronic data bases. When this project is completed, all schools within the two systems will have access to holdings information, and we will also be able to tap this valuable resource.

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On May 9, Stan Ransom and I attended "Library Media Day" at Beekmantown High School, along with Frank Sutliff—Frank is the Coordinator of the school library system here in Plattsburgh. The librarian at Beekmantown, Sara Brenizer, puts on quite a show. This is an annual event, in which students research a topic and set up informational exhibits, give demonstrations, and present their information to other students and visitors. It was great to see the library promoted so enthusiastically, and we learned new things about new topics (no, we didn't touch the python or pick up the teddy bear hamsters—But we did watch the knitting
machine, check out the computer games, and admire coin collections. Sara did a wonderful job organizing the event, and the cake wasn't bad, either!

Elizabeth S. Rogers
Head of Reference and Interlibrary Loan

JEIC NEWS

Among the new titles at the JEIC are Calling It Quits; Turning Career Setbacks to Success by Judith K. Sprankle, Knock 'Em Dead with Great Answers to Tough Interview Questions by Martin John Yate, Choosing Elites by Robert Klitgaard, and Paper Tiger; Resume Strategies That Get Your Foot in the Door, by David V. Hizer and Arthur D. Rosenberg.

An interview can be a very tense experience, so the more preparation you can do, the better! Knock 'Em Dead by Martin John Yate, the Director of Training for the Dunhill Personnel System, provides winning answers for such difficult questions as "How much money do you want?" and "Why were you fired?" It also gives many pointers on how to secure the interview and what to do if you don't get the job.

If you're in the early stages of the job hunt, then Paper Tiger by Hizer and Rosenberg may be the book for you. Interesting sections of this new book include "The 25 Best Resumes We've Ever Seen," sections on layout and design, cover letters and a section entitled "The 5 Worse Resumes We've Ever Seen." There is also a list of dull resume statements paired with the same information presented with impact.

In the same vein as the two books already cited, Calling It Quits by Judith Sprankle gives case studies of people who, for various reasons, became tired of their careers and dared to strike out in a new direction. To quote one of the examples from the book, Barbara, who went from teacher to corporate trainer and back to teacher again, "If you could try something different once every five years, you'd be better at any job, knowing that the skills you have are transferable, that you're not trapped. Once I got back to teaching I had a whole different outlook."

Robert Klitgaard's study, Choosing Elites, is concerned with life in the academic world, and, in particular, how the prestigious colleges select their candidates for admission. It should be of interest to prospective students and their parents, giving them some indication of both the academic and non-academic indicators of future life success. It is especially useful for anyone considering Harvard, as Mr. Klitgaard is a Special Assistant to the President of Harvard University and has served as Admissions Chairman for Harvard's Public Policy Program.

These new titles and many more are available by request from the Job and Education Information Center.

Kathie LaBombard
JEIC Librarian

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STAFF CHANGE

John Brisbin, C-E-F Outreach Librarian will be leaving the System to head the Amsterdam Free Library, as of June 2. His resignation was accepted with regret.

C-E-F now has a vacancy for the Outreach Librarian position.
AKWESASNE LIBRARY
AND CULTURAL CENTER

The 1986 summer session of Project Challenge will be held at the Akwesasne Library in Hogansburg, from May 5 to June 13.

Project Challenge is part of the Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP) and is offered to assist educationally and economically disadvantaged individuals to prepare for college level study. Project Challenge is an intensified program of instruction with courses offered in Writing Skills, Study Techniques, Math Skills, Career Planning, Personal Development and English.

FT. COVINGTON READING CENTER
AND MUSEUM

The Ft. Covington Reading Center and Museum held a Bake & Book Sale on Saturday, May 10. The Sale featured a local Arts & Crafts display, homemade foods and lots of books. The event celebrated the reopening of the Fort Reading Center-Museum which was closed for a while because of building insurance problems.

WEAD LIBRARY, MALONE

Director Dave Minnic reports:

If repeat performances indicate success, perhaps we are. Six or eight weeks ago a teacher brought in an enrichment group from an area school, and all of the participants seemed duly impressed. Awhile ago, the same instructor arranged for a similar tour for another enrichment group from another area school. Therefore, something in the first sentence applies, or that teacher is a glutton for punishment.

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It's a pleasure to report that after six years of being chilled while in the library's new stack area, we "book-vintners" now have the heating problem corrected so that area now can have a temperature in balance with the rest of the library during cold weather, rather than barely above 60 degrees F. It should improve the living conditions!

Trustee Jackie Shields was unopposed for reelection to a five-year term and the increase in tax funds in the budget is only $257.

The Board of Trustees, meeting May 5, approved an appropriation for 1986-87 in tax funds of $106,350, just $257 more than the current appropriations.

The Trustees said that while the library's expenses such as salaries, utilities, insurance, book costs and magazine subscription costs, have all increased, the library's tax income is being kept minimal. This is being done, they said, with income from funds, which have been given to the library over the past 10-15 years in the form of gifts or bequests.

PLATTSBURGH PUBLIC LIBRARY

Welcome to a new staff member at Plattsburgh Public Library. Violet Feazelle comes to us from Monty Street school. She is replacing Connie Millar as the technical services clerk/typist. Violet is also a new face at the circulation desk.

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Plattsburgh Public Library also has another two vacancies. We would like to hire a part-time librarian permanently, and a part-time librarian temporarily. The temporary Librarian will fill Kathy Cayea's position until a new Director is chosen. Anyone interested please call Kathy Cayea at 563-0921. Applicants must be City residents.

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Dr. Richard Sudds has a set of National Geographic magazines he would like to donate to someone. The set starts in Jan. 1958 and continues through 1985. Anyone interested please call Kathy Cayea at 563-0921.

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Two more lectures remain in the History Humanities Series, part of the Essex Humanities Series which are being held
at Plattsburgh Public on alternate Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.:

June 4 - Gore Vidal, Burr, - lecture by Professor Marshall True, University of Vermont.

June 18 - The Republic in Peril - lecture by Professor Mark Stoler, University of Vermont.

To register call Kathy Cayea at 563-0921.

SARANAC LAKE FREE LIBRARY

"The world is so full of a number of things, I'm sure we should all be as happy as kings," The children from the Bloomingdale, Lake Clear, Lake Colby, and Petrova Schools have illustrated this poem, "Happy Thought," by Robert Louis Stevenson, in the 16th Annual Children's Art Exhibit. The show, representing pre-first through fifth grades, opened Monday, May 12, in the Cantwell Community Room of the Saranac Lake Free Library.

Mrs. Virginia Jakobe, Special Teacher of Elementary Art, coordinated the show. She explains that the purpose of this theme has been to make children more aware of the wonderful things they have grown accustomed to in their everyday lives. The exhibit should be enjoyed by the entire family, and will be open during regular library hours through June 13.

GOFF-NELSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY
TUPPER LAKE

By a 97-3 vote, Tupper Lake residents approved $61,100 in school district funds be given by the local school district to the Goff-Nelson Memorial Library for 1986-87.

Traditionally, voters here have approved funding for the public library. Although very few of the registered voters turned out for this election, those who did were overwhelming in their decision to increase the funding from $56,800 to $61,000.

The library vote was once included in the overall school budget vote. It was given a separate voting day when the school budget was getting voter veto a few years ago but residents were agreeable to continued library funding. The separate votes have continued since that time.

WILMINGTON E.M. COOPER MEMORIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY

What is a "Dolly Day" you ask? Well, it's a chance for Wilmington residents of all ages to bring a favorite doll or stuffed toy to the library for all who visit the library to see.

Remember how your own favorite doll or stuffed toy made you feel? If you were in need of a friend, weren't they there to soothe your troubled mind? Bring that "special friend" to the Library for others to find out just what that toy meant to you.

Participants are asked to print their names, and name of their doll or stuffed boy, on one side of a 3" x 5" index card, then on the reverse jot down some notes telling others about your doll. A special story, where and when you received the toy, or any other facts that you think make your "friend" special to you.

The month of May will be split up according to age groups. The week from May 10 to May 17 will be the time for youngsters aged 5-11 to bring in their "friends." From May 17 to May 24, those from 12 to 19 years of age are encouraged to part with their toys for a week until May 24. From May 24 until May 31, persons 20 and over can bring an "old-time" favorite.

A combined effort of the Wilmington Library and the Whiteface Mountain Chamber of Commerce, these "Dolly Days" may turn out to be an annual event for all residents to enjoy while they are downtown getting their fill of this beautiful spring weather!
Stanley A. Ransom, Director
Mary S. Hopkins, Editor