



SPRING BRINGS A BUMPER CROP OF NEW LIBRARY BUILDINGS

Federal Funds Instill Hope

St. Albans Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson flew in from Washington to turn up the first shovel-ful of dirt while a bevy of wet spectators watched in the rain. Community interest was registered with a Color Guard of the Greenbrier Long Rifles, the St. Albans Junior and Senior High School Bands plus over 100 representatives of the Noble Order of Bookworms.

Not to our surprise, we learn that this building is the fruit of several years labor by local citizenry and library officials in the state and the region. A \$2,500 down-payment on a piece of property fronting on Sixth Avenue was made in 1958. Then followed three years of grueling fund raising, primarily securing of pledges. An application was made the day the federal program went into effect. The federal grant is for \$69,000. The building will cost approximately \$120,000, the architectural firm, Wilson & King of St. Albans.

An important step in the process of securing aid was the willingness of the St. Albans Library to become a branch of the Kanawha County Library. Encouragement and enthusiasm generated by Nicholas Winnowich, head of the capital city library, did much to make the merger a reality. The Commission Office has copies of their campaign brochure "Introducing Your New Library."

Sistersville has also been alert in realizing the opportunity which federal aid offered. Several estates had been secured in the past by the city-town library board (a type 4 library). The most notable gift was a \$40,000 bequest from the O. W. Williamson estate. An ideal site across from the post office was made available through the gift of Mrs. Mae Corbitt.

Negotiations had been underway with Architect, Ray Shaw, of Weirton as long ago as 1958. Early this year the city government, led by Mayor William P. Thaw, sought a grant of \$50,000 through the federal government. This was appropriated, but on

opening the bids city officials found that they exceeded the monies available. The city petitioned for \$5,000 additional grant. Again they met success, and the green light was given on construction plans.

Following a gala Alumni Day parade on May 25, ground was broken in the Oil City for the state's second new library building in 1963. Miss Bertha Chadderdon, who has served the local library for many years, was given the honor of using the spade.

Elizabeth The Dora Bea Woodyard Library opened in the summer of 1962. Funds were raised for this \$25,000 structure through sponsorship of the Wirt County Self-Help Self-Study Organization. A gift of \$15,000 was secured from Ronald Woodyard, successful radio executive. Located on the high school campus and sponsored by the schools, Louise Roberts, school librarian, has done yeoman duty to make it a success.

Buildings in the Planning Stage:

Morgantown: In November, 1961, voters approved three to one a \$244,000 levy to be raised over three years. Collections started July 1, 1962, ending June 30, 1965. As funds cumulate, they are being reinvested with the W. Va. Sinking Fund Commission.

Charlestown: A Civic Center-Library Building Fund Campaign is in progress. \$114,000 has been raised toward a projected \$150,000.

Colleges and Universities: Floyd Miller, Librarian at Sheperd College is working with State authorities on a \$650,000 plan for the Eastern Panhandle campus. Marshall University plans expenditures of \$60,000 for alterations and equipment. West Liberty State College in the Northern Panhandle is working toward a \$900,000 structure.

Princeton: This Mercer County Community staged a thorough campaign for a library building. By seeking a levy, they hoped to qualify for a matching grant of \$114,000 from Uncle Sam. Voting Day was June 4. Jim Lord, City Manager, reports a banner turn-out, but a loss of the levy by 190 votes.

Ritchie County Library: Harrisville is requesting matching Federal Funds toward a \$40,000 structure to be located on the courthouse grounds. S. E. Creighton is Finance Chairman, Charles Ross of Parkersburg, the architect.

Special Orchids to the following cities for Improvements: New Martinsville for its neon sign, a gift of the Monarch Builders of that city (constructed by Chandler Sign Company in Charleston). It attracts new residents because it can be seen from the nearby shopping center. Sheperdstown for the fine new Children's Room created on the second floor of their old building. Remodeling of the former Odd Fellows Room started in early February. Over \$1,000 was raised under the leadership of Mrs. Sterling Bradley and Mrs. C. F. Lyne of that city.

STEPS IN GETTING FEDERAL AID FOR A PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDING

1. Be sure that your library is an official part of city or county government. Contact the West Virginia Library Commission for clarification.
2. Plan for some method of finding matching funds... either through encouraging gifts, a campaign for individual pledges, a three-year tax levy, or the courting of philanthropy from business and industry.
3. Make formal application through:

Mr. John Hey
Community Facilities Administration
W. Va. Field Office, Region II
Federal Building, Room 3401
Charleston I, West Virginia
Phone: Charleston 343-6181

Mr. C. J. Daly, Director
Community Facilities Administration
Widener Building
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

4. If none of the first two steps seem immediately feasible, ask the Library Commission for literature on forming a Friends of the Library Groups. Everyone in town must get into the act to promote a building.
5. Once a library has the promise of federal money, actual construction must start within 70 days.

TALKING BOOK REPAIR PROJECT

Telstar is not the sole contribution to humanity made by telephone workers. The Telephone Pioneers provide free state-wide repair service for "Talking Book" machines. The Pioneers, an organization of telephone service men, staff centers in Beckley, Charleston, Fairmont, Huntington, Parkersburg, and Wheeling. A backlog still awaits checking to determine whether they need a new stylus or a modified motor.

When a little boy was due home from the School for the Blind in Romney at Christmas time, his mother discovered his book machine wasn't functioning. She dialed "0" and asked for a Pioneer... one little fellow had a brighter Christmas because he could 'read' his favorite Christmas story.

COOPERATION DOES PAY OFF

Keyser-Mineral Library celebrates its good fortune

This progressive library was one of nine in the nation to receive the Honorable Mention Award of \$1,500. Mary Berry, Consultant for the Commission, was in Keyser on April 21 to present a check and a framed plaque to Edwin Jordan, President of the local library board. This award has been given since 1958 by the Book of the Month Club. A total of \$56,500 was given to libraries in 48 states. Beaufort, South Carolina, took the top award of \$5,000.

James Comstock, Editor of the WEST VIRGINIA HILLBILLY, was guest speaker at the Award Dinner in the Rosemont Restaurant in Keyser. He was introduced by Walter D. Tetrick, publisher of the NEWS-TRIBUNE. C. Reeves Taylor, a member of the local board, presented a plaque to the Farmers and Merchants Bank, inscription reading as follows: "For devotion to the needs of the community, foresight and initiative in providing a beautiful permanent home for the Keyser-Mineral Public Library."

Keyser deserves this credit because the whole town put forth a community effort to make the new library in the remodeled bank a rousing success. The City voted a three-year levy which would produce an annual income of \$3,333 and County Courts appropriated \$6,666 boosting the library budget from \$600 to \$10,000. The Board also agreed to serve as a Headquarters for a Regional Library for the Eastern Panhandle. Service will start with adjoining Grant County July 1.

David Nuzum, Chairman of the Library Advisory Committee, served as Master of Ceremonies. . . appreciation was also given to the fine staff which serves the library: Mrs. Mary Handlan, Area Librarian; Mrs. Oscar Johnson, town librarian for seven years, and Mrs. Molly Shelton, bookmobile librarian. Miss Mary Ella MacDonald was an official delegate of the State Library Commission to the dinner.

Ravenswood Garden Club Received \$300

The Ravenswood Library will benefit from the Sears Award which the local Garden Club received for its efforts at the library. Mrs. Brent Harrah, President of the Group, accepted the award given in competition with other W. Va. Clubs. She reports that the Friends of the Library had done such a fine job in face lifting the old jail that the Garden Club was inspired by their enthusiasm. Their members have given. . not only \$150 in nursery plantings and 300 spring bulbs, but members are responsible for weeding, fertilizing, and general maintenance!

Colonel Beville of Huntington Sounds Off

Writing a guest editorial in the ADVERTISER, N. Patrick Beville, President of the Friends of the Regional Library, mentioned that the library had only 24 of the 47 books that a large university recommended for high school seniors to read before entering college. Mrs. Carleton Mabley Jr., a lover of books, realized that this was a genuine need and mailed the library a check for \$200 to hasten their purchase.

NEW FACES IN LIBRARIES AROUND THE STATE

Huntington Kenneth Brown, native of Richwood, returns to his home state after an absence of seven years. Most recently he has been serving as Director of a system of 30 libraries near Jamestown, N. Y. His experience includes five years in charge of extension services in Allegheny County in Pittsburgh, and he worked from 1952 to 1956 for the West Virginia Library Commission. Welcome home, Ken! Good luck in filling the big shoes which Bob McClarren created in Huntington. Bob left October first to become State Librarian for Indiana.

State Department of Education, Charleston Virginia Dober of Columbus, Ohio, is the first to serve as State Supervisor of School Libraries. She started work here March first after a long convalescence from an accident. Be ready to extend her a helping hand, for she has 389 libraries to watch.

John J. Clopine, assistant director of the U. S. Veterans Administration Library Service, Washington, D. C. will become librarian of Bethany College, August 1. Robert H. Yockey, head librarian since 1958, has resigned to accept another position.

Concord College Effective July first, Miss Julia L. Dees will become Assistant Librarian in charge of reference services and instructor in library science. She is a graduate of the University of Denver School of Librarianship, most recently on the staff of Denver Public Library.

CHANGES AT THE LIBRARY COMMISSION OFFICE

Cecil Reid left a big gap in the staff here when he resigned in January to become Head of Readers Services in the Public Library at Columbus, Georgia. He had worked with us for more than eight years, in charge of Inter-Library Loans at the Annex Building and also the management of the Traveling Library. Mrs. Donna Harlan has taken over much of this work.

Mary Berry has been up to her ears with surveys in the Eastern Panhandle, and now she is working intensively with Mingo County. A month long bookmobile demonstration is planned for Hancock County in July.

Frances Jones joins the staff to serve as Consultant with established regions and editor of the NEWSLETTER. A native of Parkersburg who obtained her library training at Western Reserve, she started work May 19. She served 39 months with the army and almost 20 years with Ohio libraries.

Pennsylvania Recruiter on a Selling Spree Miss Carol Vogel, Library Career Consultant on the staff of the Graduate Library School at the University of Pittsburgh paid a flying visit to Charleston. She was featured in Jackie Oblinger's program over WCHS TV. Miss Vogel succeeded in showing the variety of positions and wide opportunity in the library field for young people.

READING---THE FIFTH FREEDOM...ENJOY IT!

Promotions for National Library Week of 1963

Mountaineer librarians deserve bouquets for the way in which they used this observance to get folks into their libraries. Acres of newspaper space which came across our desk testify to their labors.

Blue Ribbon again for Beckley: Mrs. Graham used a general chairman, Miss Madge Richardson, to coordinate a multitude of activities. Most outstanding were the TV panel featuring Judge Norman Knapp, Attorney James M. Henderson, and Mrs. Richard Starr discussing Reading; a unique inclusion was a Workshop on Organizing Church and Hospital Libraries; and a group of Brownie Scouts who pooled their pennies to buy a book for the library.

Open House Observances: Greenbrier Public at Lewisburg had a tea and tour of the museum. Receptions were also enjoyed at Pikeville, Sheperdstown, Kingwood, New Haven, and Morgantown. A screening of that excellent film, "The Impressionable Years" was part of the program at the Waitman-Barbe Library in the University City. This is a State Department production showing a child's eye-view of the library.

A parade at Hedgesville in Berkeley County had all the earmarks of really good fun. Members of the volunteer fire department led the parade in the fire truck, costumed as Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn. Other officials followed in antique cars. One participant dressed as Ben Hur, was selling balloons from his tractor drawn chariot; and he was assisted by Penrod. Fifty children followed in costume, dressed as their favorite story book characters. All of this revelry was to honor J. O. Naylor, just 102 years old and chief donor and patron of the Hedgesville Library. This Berkeley County Library is a worthy monument to the gentleman. It is an old church building attractively rejuvenated.

Window Displays emphasizing the practical values of books were used as a device to attract new readers during National Library Week: Beckley appointed a special chairman, featuring five separate windows on government, the professions, business, West Virginia history, health, and home. New Martinsville and several libraries in Alpha and Stonewall Jackson regions took their wares to the busy sections of town.

Memo for Members of the State Employees Retirement System: The last Session of the West Virginia Legislature passed some amendments to the present regulations. A new handbook is in preparation.