



MOBILE SERVICE GETS BIGGER AND BETTER

New County Court Appropriations

Two more counties have granted initial appropriations for extending service to rural areas. Hancock County provided funds to assist the Mary H. Weir Library in providing county library service. \$1,000 was made available this calendar year for administration. A partial service will be inaugurated in this northernmost region of West Virginia starting July first.

A promise of funds from the Wyoming County Court is a cause for much jubilation in southern West Virginia.

A Direct Service from Charleston

A pioneer venture for reaching counties which have no libraries will be launched in the fall with a unique forty-foot trailer dubbed, "The Flying Book Express." This project which will be administered by the State Library Commission will provide library books in the following counties... Boone, Lincoln, Wyoming, Summers, Webster, and Gilmer. At least 4,000 volumes will be carried by this new unit, making the service comparable to that offered by a branch library. Unless there is local assistance, visits from the "Book Express" will be limited to one per county every three weeks.

TWENTY-EIGHT COUNTIES WILL HAVE MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE IN WEST VIRGINIA THIS YEAR!

BANNER ATTENDANCE REPORTED AT SPRING MEETINGS

Providing Quality Service the theme at Keyser

Total attendance of 120 at two regional workshops

Potomac Valley Region, with headquarters at Keyser, reported fifty librarians and trustees at the luncheon meeting held on April 10. Miracle Valley Region, located at Moundsville, attracted seventy for a dinner meeting. Forty-three of those attending regional meetings were trustees, proving that local meetings will bring them out!

Participating in a panel discussion on "What Is Good Library Service?" were the following in the Eastern Panhandle Region: Mr. Rollin Marquis, librarian of the Allegany County Library in Cumberland; Mrs. C. B. Allen, president of the Hardy County Library Board in Moorefield; Mr. Campbell Beall, trustee of the Martinsburg Public Library; and Mrs. Floyd Miller, trustee of the Shepherdstown Public Library.

Mr. Michael Reynolds, assistant librarian at West Virginia University, discussed "Inter-Library Cooperation." He concluded, "We must be aware of educational changes and the importance of expansion in all fields . . . both for the user and the potential user. We must create a structure of high quality which will utilize all the services which we can offer."

Serving the Expanding Economy Moundsville Emphasis

Highlights of the Moundsville conclave included a demonstration of book mending with new materials by John Austin and a report on the new government document depository at the Mary H. Weir Library by William Myers, librarian of Weirton. Other participants in the afternoon discussion on "Building and Organizing the Book Collection" included Virginia Gibson Roberts, former consultant with the Library Commission; Theo Kiger of New Martinsville; Ruth Gilligan of Sistersville; and three members of the City County Library at Moundsville . . . Martha Myers, librarian; Delores Robinson; and Harriet Rittenhouse.

The "Moundsville Daily Echo" in reporting on the meeting reflected the enthusiasm and interest which the dinner speaker generated, "Local people, proud of this county's outstanding new library got a jolt last evening as they heard John A. Jones tell the prophecy of fantastic growth. It cannot be assumed that the library which was adequate in the late fifties will be adequate at the end of this decade."

Speaking of the knowledge explosion, Mr. Jones said, "The world is publishing enough literature in the sciences alone to equal the content of seven Encyclopaedia Britannicas each year. A chemist who wanted to keep up by reading everything new printed in his one field of chemistry, reading eight hours a day would get ten years behind in only twelve months."

Pondering the effects of industrial growth, the Weirton Library trustee commented, "Each one hundred new jobs in Moundsville means not only \$652,000 in new money here per year; but support for 312 persons, 119 more adults, tax money to put 61 more children through schools, 76 other new jobs, and 4 more retail establishments... Attractive as it is, it is terrifying to those like us who attempt to provide adequate library service. As business increases, so must libraries become supermarkets for information."

VARIED PROMOTION ACTIVITIES CENTERED AROUND NLW

Displays PADEN CITY librarian, Mrs. Josie Hartmann reported a flurry of interest over a display of old books in the Weekley drugstore... or particular importance was a handwritten arithmetic dated 1828 and an old German Bible with an 1878 imprint. SHINNSTON also used a drugstore for display purposes. STONEWALL JACKSON REGIONAL LIBRARY featured the recruitment theme and many new books in the windows of James and Law in Clarksburg. LOGAN WOMAN'S CLUB sponsored an exhibit in a bank. (Also Fairmont and Mason County)

Fine Forgiveness Raleigh County in BECKLEY gave this gimmick a new name, "Amnesty Week," reporting 72 overdue books returned. Other libraries using this method of reducing book loss were the Hooverson Heights Library in FOLLANSBEE and VIENNA library in Wood County.

Contests MORGANTOWN PUBLIC and MCDOWELL COUNTY LIBRARIES sponsored art contests. Morgantown's emphasis was a design to emboss on new books as they were being prepared for their new library building. WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS Woman's Club initiated a "Reading-Writing Contest" for boys and girls during National Library Week, a fifty-word report being required of the child entering on "What I Liked Best About This Book."

Special Programs MARTINSBURG Kiwanis Club has for several years honored the librarians of the region at the special library week program. Speaker for this year's event was Edward B. Hall Director of the Washington Free Library. He discussed the new building under construction in Hagerstown. Open House was observed at Lewis Bennet Library in WESTON, Alexander Quillan Memorial at NEW HAVEN, and Calhoun County Library in GRANTSVILLE.

Book Week Gifts The Elks Lodge in Weirton continued a tradition of providing funds for 112 subscriptions to periodicals for the WEIRTON library. This custom was established back in 1957.

Reading Family of the Year was selected by the staff of the Benedum Library at BRIDGEPORT. This year the Richard G. Millstone family was honored. Mr. Millstone, operator of a travel agency in Clarksburg, has three children, who along with their parents, share an enthusiasm for reading.

AWARDS, ANNIVERSARIES, AND DEDICATIONS

BUCKHANNON Judge Harlan M. Calhoun, member of the State Supreme Court of Appeals, was the principal speaker at the April twelfth presentation of the BOOK OF THE MONTH CLUB AWARD to the Charles W. Gibson Library. Following a Dutch treat luncheon at Jennings Hall on the West Virginia Wesleyan campus, presentation ceremonies were held in the First Baptist Church.

Dora Ruth Parks, Executive Secretary of the State Library Commission, presented the check to Mrs. Rachel Barlow, the librarian. Attorney Perry O'Brien represented the Library Commission. Dr. George Glauner, chairman of the Gibson library board, served as master of ceremonies throughout the day. On accepting the gift, Mrs. Barlow, who has been librarian in the Upshur County Seat since 1947, commented, "I hope that this is only the beginning of finer things for our library."

SISTERSVILLE Dedication of the sparkling new building was held on March 22. Congressman Ken Hechler was the speaker for the occasion. Mayor Harry P. Thaw served as master of ceremonies. The Woman's Club of Sistersville arranged for a lively reception. The construction for this building was started on May 25, 1963. Oliver P. Williamson was given a posthumous citation in the latest edition of "Who's Who in America" for his gift of \$40,000 to the Sistersville Library.

MOOREFIELD Hardy County Library celebrated its twenty-fifth birthday on April 18 with a reception held at the library. Greeting visitors was Mrs. C. B. Allen, president of the board in Moorefield and Mrs. Roscoe Collins, librarian. Attending from Keyser were Mrs. Mary Handlan, Mrs. Mollie Shelton, and Mrs. Dorothy Johnson. Miss Mary Ella MacDonald represented the State Library Commission.

ST. ALBANS Jim Comstock, Editor and Publisher of the Hillbilly, delivered the address for dedication of the new building on April twenty-fourth. C. A. Linn served as master of ceremonies. The St. Albans Advertiser reflected on the days when there was no public library, "Yet it would have been better for us if we had had a St. Albans library. We would have learned a little more and read a wider range of material and researched our assignments a little better. . . . But the library is now a reality, and it is there only because of the enterprise and work of many local people. The city and its people and the children of the city owe them a great debt of gratitude."

SPOTLIGHT ON APPALACHIA (The University and the Federal Approaches)

This geographic area is receiving so much attention that librarians of the state need to be aware of the several projects under "Appalachia."

In a University Bulletin (Series 64 No. 5-12), West Virginia University describes its Center for Appalachian Studies and Development. "It is a device to coordinate those activities which tie West Virginia University to the state and the region." Program units include "Office of Research and Development with John C. Ludlum as Director, the Cooperative Extension Service with Herman Bowers as Associate Director, General Extension and Labor Extension Service under Ernie B. McCue, Mining and Industrial Extension under Charles T. Holland, International Programs under Dr. N. M. Baughman, and six Area Development Centers. The Centers have been located at Weston, the State 4-H camp, Parkersburg (a Branch of the College of Arts and Sciences), Morgantown, Keyser (Potomac State College), Beckley, and Charleston (Kanawha Valley Graduate Center).

A copy of this bulletin can be secured from the University's Cooperative Extension Office in your local county courthouse.

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On April 9, 1963, President Kennedy established the President's Appalachian Region Commission to recommend a comprehensive program for developing the area. Undersecretary of State for Commerce, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., was named chairman of the Commission. Initial proposals have included the following: 2,150 miles of new highways and upgrading of 500 miles of the present roads; developing the region's water, timber, and recreation potential; expanding its cattle industry, and improving health, welfare, and educational programs on a modest scale. The president's program covers portions of a ten-state area... Pennsylvania, Maryland, Ohio, West Virginia, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, Alabama, and Georgia.

A study was prepared in April, 1964, by Henry T. Drennan, Coordinator of Public Library Services of the Library Services Branch, Office of Education, titled, "The Library's Participation in the Attack on Poverty."

"Problems of Poverty" is a selected list of twenty books published recently by Westchester Library System in Mount Vernon, N. Y. The selected list of twenty books relating to poverty in housing, race relations, education, or economics includes: "Night Comes to the Cumberland" by Harry M. Caudill, "Let Us Now Praise Famous Men" by James Agee, "The Other America, Poverty in the United States" by Michael Harrington, "Rich Man, Poor Man" by Herman P. Miller, "The Wasted Americans" by Edgar May, and "Challenge to Affluence" by Gunnar Myrdal.

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION NEWS

Annual Conference will be held in St. Louis, June 28 to July 4. Of particular interest to trustees and staff of public libraries are the two advance meetings:

"American Library Trustee Association Workshop" June 27 and 28

Goal: "To provide an understanding of the major needs for library development and to charge trustees with their responsibilities for personnel, financial support, and public relations."

Registration for the workshop is \$7.50 and there is a package price of \$22.00 which includes workshop, registration fee, regional luncheon (buffet), a Night at the Opera, and Recognition luncheon. Check or money order are payable to Donald E. Wright at the ALTA office.

Group discussions on Saturday morning will include the following:

- Selling librarianship and recruiting
- Extending all library science education
- Selecting an administrator
- Developing attitudes
- Policies attractive to a competent staff

"Equipment Institute" June 26 and 27

These meetings will be held at the Coronado Hotel. The following topics will be discussed: "Informal Furnishings for the Library," "Lighting the Library," and "Listening Facilities in the Library."

REPORT FROM ALASKA

Yes, the books did fall off the shelves! In Anchorage, in Seward and Moose Pass... complete reshelving was required after the earthquake. The Seward library lost its chimney, and the stacks at Moose Pass fell over, damaging several pieces of furniture. Helen Dirtadian, librarian at the Alaska State Library, indicates that book losses are not so great, but operating money will be severely hampered due to heavy business losses.

LIBRARIANS-----TRAFFIC COPS?

"A friend of librarians once suggested that librarians are unusual kinds of traffic engineers, because they try to arrange collisions, collisions between ideas and people. It is these collisions which give librarians a sense of excitement and sometimes turmoil."

"If we agree with Socrates that the unexamined life is not worth living, we shall want to ask ourselves some searching questions regarding our service. Public service librarians might ask themselves such questions as these:

- (1) Am I diligent in serving each reader completely and in presenting a friendly helpful manner?
- (2) Do I encourage the spirit of inquiry, or do I make the inquirer feel that his question is uninteresting or stupid?
- (3) Do I cultivate my imagination and initiative to learn the reader's real needs or am I content simply to repeat the rehearsed response? Librarians in the "hidden services" might ask themselves such questions as these:

- (a) Do I take such care in my work that a minimum number of books are lost due to typing errors, wrong labeling, or inaccurate cataloging?
- (b) Am I trying to keep the proper division of my time between socializing with my fellow workers and doing my job? Are too many books or periodicals not reaching the shelves because I have wasted time?
- (c) Am I engaged in a systematic study program in order to improve my skills?

"Of course, examination will show that we often fail to be faithful servants. But fortunately we need not be overcome by despair. Power to amend life is available, as the Alcoholics Anonymous and countless men of God have demonstrated.

Sometimes as we examine the reasons we are librarians, we are able to rise above the details of our daily work and see it in a larger perspective. Our work will always have its painful moments, but this need not kill our spirits, if we find meaning and purpose in what we do."

Note: Above quotation from "Library Service in Perspective" by James R. Kennedy, Business and Social Science Dept., Drexel Institute