

LIBRARY COMMISSION NEWSLETTER

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TENTH ANNIVERSARY
NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK
APRIL 16 - 22

Provocative themes have been adopted for this banner observance...."Explore Inner Space.... Read" and "Reading is What's Happening." It's

a wise idea to appoint a Library Week Committee or Council to plan promotion in each community. National Library Week offers a chance to cultivate new borrowers and library friends: Why not have coffee for businessmen one morning during the observance with the Chamber of Commerce as co-sponsor; select unusual locations for posters....where the non-library borrower may chance upon them...bulletin boards in chemical plants and coal mines, laundromats, and bus stations; localize spot announcements so that they ring a familiar bell...using local sports stars or art and music enthusiasts. For those libraries which have not yet ordered display materials..order blanks are enclosed.

Miss June Martin, National Library Week chairman for West Virginia Library Association, asks librarians to report special events to her...Reference Department of the Kanawha County Library.

LIVELY INTEREST
IN
NEW BUILDINGS

Provisional approval for a grant to the Elkins Public Library was given by the W. Va. Library Commission at its March fourth meeting. The proposed building is to be located on Davis Street and cost estimates total \$160,000. Ground was broken for the

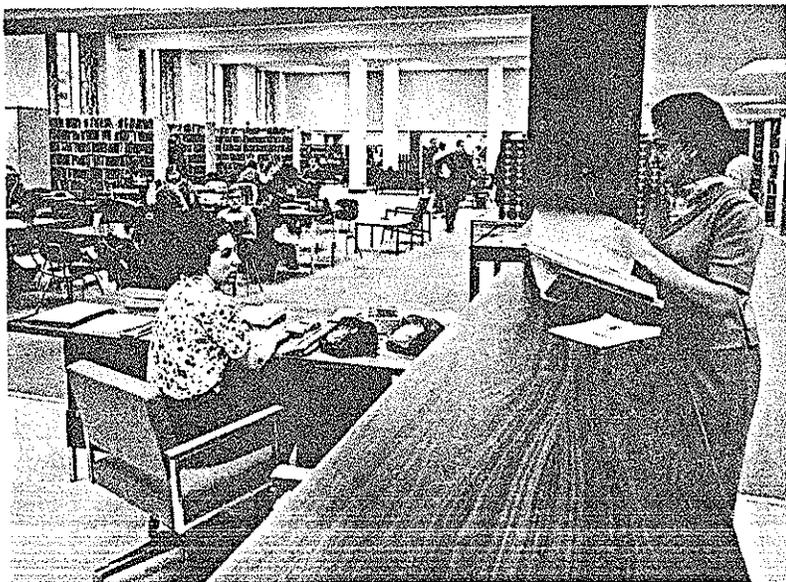
new Barboursville branch of the Huntington-Cabell in January of this year. Bids had exceeded original cost estimates for this building, so construction was delayed for several months.

West Virginia libraries have been fortunate in having five projects designated "Appalachian." This means that eighteen percent of the projects can be funded by the Appalachian Regional Commission, bringing federal support to eighty percent. However, the securing of this supplementary grant often delays the start of the project for almost a year. In February of this year two more libraries received Appalachian grants: Kingwood Public Library (\$35,574) to assist with \$196,000 and Calhoun County Library in Grantsville received \$15,845 to supplement L.S.C.A. funds in a \$87,300 total project.

A large and spacious building with 15,000 square feet provided will be constructed in Martinsburg. Contracts will be awarded in the next sixty days.

TIPS FOR
BUILDING PLANNERS

(1) The bulk of the funds obtained for local matching has been raised through subscription campaigns. The Barboursville branch was made possible through a school levy. Kanawha County sold its old site for \$700,000. Romney received a large gift from a former resident. (2) The location of the library should be within two blocks of the center of town. Nearness to pedestrian traffic is more important than parking since it is an established fact that library patrons combine library visits with errands to the post office, the bank, and shopping. If there is a considerable dispute over site, Joseph Wheeler's "The Effective Location of Library Buildings" is highly recommended. The Dean of Building Consultants can help to clarify thinking on this vital matter. (3) To qualify for Library Services and Construction Act money, a library board must be organized under Chapter X of the W. Va. Code or be authorized to hold title to property under a



The interior photograph (to the left) shows the typically busy area on the main floor providing for adult study. Miss Ruth Figgatt is seated at the Reference Desk.

Kanawha Countians point with pride to this door which welcomes patrons to the new library located in the heart of the business district at Capitol and Quarrier Streets.

With the use of carpeting, pale green drapes, walnut paneling, and a minimum of partitions, a sense of luxury and quiet pervades the interior.

The front entrance is enhanced by a landscaped terrace, benches, and a modernistic fountain which were provided by the Loewenstein Foundation.



An unusual service in the lower photograph is the Drive-In Window. Sara Meadows, library clerk, accepts returned books here. Patrons may call ahead and pick up a special book without going inside.



special state statute and be managed by a board appointed by a governing authority.

The first library building construction assisted with L.S.C.A. funds was Kanawha County Library, which opened for service in January. Photographs are on the reverse of this page.

WELCOME
TO
NEW LIBRARY
BOARDS

Though some public libraries have been established for a long time, some are just now organizing legal library boards. The Carnegie Library of Parkersburg and Wood County had until February operated entirely under the management of the Board of Education. This new board will have five members appointed through approval of the Board of Education, the County Court, and the City. The president is Joel Stern, the secretary Joseph Handlan, with William Poe, Don Northrup, and Mrs. Randall Murrill completing the roster.

The new board at Kingwood is headed by Dr. John Trenton, Mrs. J. Wayne Schwab, Mrs. Harry Bowers, W. K. Hawkins, and Mrs. Keith Griffin.

The Elkins Building Project brought about the appointment of a new board headed by Merritt Wilson, Milford Gibson, Stanley Bosworth, George Myles, and James Dow. Other new boards in process of organization are located in Vienna, Grafton, and Mullens.

A testimony to the sincerity of these new trustees is their adoption of a good set of By-Laws. This should serve as an inspiration to older groups which may not have adopted By-Laws...Remember spring is a good time for turning over a new leaf! The Library Commission Field Office will supply samples of By-Laws.

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES
RETIREMENT SYSTEM
P.E.R.S.

An inducement in hiring and keeping top quality personnel in a public library is the W. Va. Retirement System for public employees. It is a new state agency established in 1961. Since it developed recently, most of its regulations are modern: 3½%

is deducted from the employee and 6% from the employer. In 1965 a reciprocity was established through state statute with the Teachers Retirement System: meaning that a person formerly employed as a school librarian can transfer to public library work without loss of seniority and with equivalent payments. Write the Library Commission, or George Duffield, Executive-Secretary of the Retirement System, 804 East, Kanawha Boulevard, Charleston, W. Va.

WHAT ARE BOOK
CREDITS?

The Traveling Library System which exchanged older books between the Library Commission Headquarters and local libraries is being modernized. Libraries which are part of the Book Express Area have been offered the chance to select new books...the number being based on the size of the community which the library serves. This year selections will be made from the American Library Association's Booklist. The following communities have filed certificates meeting minimum requirements to qualify for book credits: Green Bank, White Sulphur Springs, Lewisburg, Union, Fayetteville, Beckley, Princeton, Richwood, Summersville, Logan. Acceptance of this new plan implies that libraries must serve free any resident in their county.

VISTA
BOOK KITS

William Byrd, Education Director of OEO Projects for the Mental Health Department would like to deposit most of the paperback kits for teaching reading in local public libraries. These are new materials made possible through the Ford Foundation. Mental Health will deliver these kits to public libraries...let the W.V.L.C. Field Office know if your library would be willing to serve as a depository.

PERSONNEL NOTES

Two new professional librarians have arrived in the Mountain State since our last publication: Jim Nelson, most recently from Ft. Madison, Iowa, is the new director at Huntington-Cabell Library. A native of

Minnesota who has worked at Brooklyn Public Library and the Mayo Clinic Library. In the Eastern Panhandle Joanne Kunstman is the new librarian of the Charles Town Library. Miss Kunstman most recently served as children's librarian at the Arlington Public Library and is a graduate of the library school at Catholic University.

Mrs. Rachel Barlow who served for nineteen years as librarian at the Public Library in Buckhannon died in January after a long illness. Virginia Ebeling, for many years head of the Ohio County Library, passed away late last year. West Virginians owe much to each of these highly respected librarians.

NEW CHILDREN'S
BOOKS

A PUBLISHER'S
EXHIBIT

Public Libraries are once again invited to request a display of the latest in Children's Books from over fifty publishers. The W.Va.

Library Commission will supply 100 brochures with an author title listing. Each display consists of 300 books which will be shipped from Charleston for one month loan. The library using the display is responsible for return shipment costs. This display is available to both public and college libraries, courtesy of the Children's Book Council.

PRIZE WINNING
JUVENILES

Irene Hunt, author of the novel Up a Road Slowly and Evaline Ness, author and illustrator of Sam, Bangs, and Moonshine have been named winners of the American Library Association's Newberry and Caldecott Awards for the most distinguished children's books in 1966. The medals will be presented at the Newberry-Caldecott dinner scheduled for June twenty-seventh at the American Library Association Conference to be held in San Francisco.