

Mountain-Plains Library Quarterly

PUBLISHED BY THE MOUNTAIN - PLAINS
LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

A LIBRARIAN ON CAPITOL HILL

PROLOGUE TO A PROGRAM
FOR MPLA IN 1957

HERITAGE OF PIONEERS

AWARDS AND CITATIONS

MPLA's EVENTFUL YEAR

1956 BUSINESS MEETING

GENERAL SESSIONS

SECTION HIGHLIGHTS



Fall 1956

MOUNTAIN-PLAINS LIBRARY QUARTERLY

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Advertising Manager: H. Orwin Rush, College of Education, University of Wyoming, Laramie, Wyoming.

PROLOGUE TO A PROGRAM FOR THE MPLA

By **LEONARD H. KIRKPATRICK**, *Librarian*
University of Utah, Salt Lake City,
President, MPLA

Probably the most tangible fruit of membership in MPLA will be the quarterly magazine if we can continue to keep it going. It is an expensive enterprise, but one which most members seem to appreciate. With the approval of the board at its meeting in Logan I invited Orwin Rush to stay on as advertising manager this year. We promised him limited secretarial help if he would do it. My own feeling is that if the President of the association has to take a tremendously active concern in the quarterly, I would rather be on the editorial end instead of the business end. Yet, so long as I am talking about "druthers," I druther not be either.

We need certain committees to keep our work going. I have written the various state association presidents for suggestions, and should have a full committee list to present to the members by the time of the next issue. At this date, I can say that Milt Abrams has agreed to serve as Chairman of the Nominating Committee and Mercedes McKay agreed to serve as Chairman of the Awards Committee. Horace Moses has agreed to remain Chairman of the Membership Committee, and the whole committee will remain intact this year unless I receive indignant resignations immediately.

At the suggestion of the Executive Board, members of the Awards Committee are urged this year to work out nominations and awards for small libraries in the region. Board members are unanimously agreed that the publicity and good will which came to the small libraries are a tremendous asset. This is one way we can help our colleagues.

It has also been suggested that at least one section of our quarterly be devoted to Librarianship as a Career. It would be nice if this could be the type of an insert which could be pulled out and posted on library bulletin boards. If each library in our region could influence one or two youngsters into considering library work as a profession, we would come a long way towards meeting the shortage of librarians.

Very probably there will be a meeting of the board of our group at the time of the Midwinter meeting. Whether or not your president can attend this meeting may in part be determined by the results of the election in Utah. One of our candidates for Governor is strong in his opposition for out of state travel for anyone other than himself.

As many of you know, your officers have agreed in principle that our annual meeting should be in August whenever possible. This will enable school and college librarians to attend. We also agreed to meet jointly with the Pacific Northwest Library Association September 5, 6 and 7, 1957, in Bozeman, Montana. We realize that this will be third time in succession we have met in a Western area of our region. Yet, we feel that those who can not come west should be able to attend the Kansas City meeting of the ALA. As a matter of fact the philosophy of regional groups has been to try to serve areas not served by the annual ALA meeting.

If any readers have criticisms or suggestions of any of these items; your new President just loves to receive and answer letters. Please let me hear from you.

In This Issue

are some of the highlights of the 1956 MPLA Conference at Logan, Utah. Those of us who were there regret the inadequacy of words to tell those of you who were not, the incredible beauty of the site, the friendliness and helpfulness of our Utah hosts, and the lively spirit of the sessions. But we hope that these proceedings will at least give an indication, and to those who were fortunate enough to attend, a reminder.

Special thanks are due to the then MPLA Secretary, Alice E. Paine, Librarian of the State Teachers College, Kearney, Nebraska, for her yeoman work in reporting the business meeting, the general sessions, and many of the section meetings, and for summarizing many of them for publication.

The public and county library section will be reported in a later issue of the Quarterly featuring the "New Public Library Standards," the subject of their meeting.

The newly elected MPLA officers for 1956-57 are announced in the contents page of this issue. In addition to Leonard H. Kirkpatrick, President (Prologue to a Program for MPLA, Page 1) the other officers are: Vice President and President-Elect — Lora Crouch, Librarian, Public Library, Sioux Falls, South Dakota; Secretary — Mrs. Kathryn Gesterfield, Librarian, Public Library, Scottsbluff, Nebraska; and Treasurer: Robert Thomas, Librarian, Public Library, Hutchinson, Kansas. All power to them for an active and successful year!

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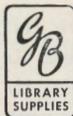
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HERITAGE OF PIONEERS*

By MIRIAM E. McNALLY, Denver, Colorado
Editor of the Mountain-Plains Library Quarterly

The Quarterly is part of a pioneering movement — library cooperation — which in true Western tradition is opening new frontiers for better library service throughout our region.

This spring, announcement was made of a "new" Mountain-Plains Library Quarterly to be a voice for our regional Mountain-Plains Library Association. For a few minutes, let's consider just how "new" the Quarterly really is, perhaps how new the Association is.

Not any newer, perhaps, than the land itself — the vast and varied land of our seven western states. The land of towering mountains, and fertile valleys, and broad plains, and sandhills; flatlands, and high, wide plateaus. It's a land of stretching prairies; a land where sometimes the wind just blows because there's nothing to stop it. This is the land where blue sky and clouds are as important a part of the landscape as the earth itself. It is an incredibly rich land, in the earth, under the earth, and in the over-arching sky.

What of the people who came to live on and with this land? Certainly the Quarterly is no newer than they are. They are here because they match the land. First of all they are pioneers; if they weren't they wouldn't be here. (They would still be huddled in the cramped and overcrowded eastern seaboard.) They are people who like elbow room, literally and figuratively: they like to stretch up and out, to move about, to see the horizon — a long horizon if they want to.

They are a courageous people. They are a vigorous and vital people. And they are tough and determined people, because it takes vigor, toughness, endurance and independence to be a farmer, a rancher, a schoolteacher, a professor, a miner, or a businessman in the Mountain-Plains region.

These mountain-plains people have a way of life as different from that of their fellow-American east of Ohio as

their horizon is different, the land is different, and the very air they breathe is different. These are people incredibly rich — not in mere terms of money, but in terms of breadth of outlook, and the abundance and power of the qualities that make a nation, and a region, great.

And what of the libraries and the librarians in this vast and varied region? Certainly, the Quarterly is no "newer" than they are. They are a part of this land, and of these people. They, too, are pioneers, and they live with the faith and conviction of pioneers. When an earlier generation tamed the wilderness with one hand, they often started libraries with the other. This present library generation, building on these intrepid beginnings, goes forward undaunted by non-existent or shoe-string budgets, meager or inadequate collections, low salaries, and lack of public understanding of the necessity for vigorous and healthy libraries in the life of our region and of our free nation — of library service for *all the people*.

A less resolute and dedicated group might have been discouraged, even downhearted, but not librarians, nor the small group of enlightened citizens equally devoted to libraries and library service for all the people. Like their frontier forefathers who made a desert "to blossom as the rose," these people with faith, vision and unselfish determination have made a victory of what might have been defeat. In a sparsely settled and sparsely librated region, they have marshalled a resistless power — the overwhelming power of cooperation. By this power they have built a cooperative library agency that has been of such practical help to the people of the Mountain-Plains region that it has since become a model of regional library cooperation around the world.

Having established the Bibliograph-

*Report given at the first general session of the Logan Conference.

ical Center, these same librarians — using this same power and these same pioneer qualities, established a regional library association. The purpose was, of course, to carry forward and extend the power of cooperation to other fields. These are the fields dealt with in this conference — education for librarianship in the Mountain-Plains region, library buildings in the region, “toward better cataloging,” special librarianship, university and college librarianship, better library service for young people, extension of library service, trustee organization, and the great, the unparalleled opportunity of the Library Services Act.

It is not accident that the Mountain-Plains Library Quarterly made its appearance in this eventful year. In fact, it was inevitable. The activities of this year were ready to be recorded, to be given wide circulation, to be focused, interpreted, improved, strengthened. In fact, to be uttered with energy and authority, in every corner, and in every library of the region.

To do this, the Association has built the Quarterly cooperatively — as it has done everything. Libraries and librarians in every state have helped create and are increasingly supporting it — through the Executive Committee, the Editorial Board and Committee, through memberships and subscriptions, through articles and ideas, and letters of encouragement and suggestion — not only from every state — but from every type and size of library throughout the region.

The challenge of pioneering is that there are always new frontiers to conquer. None of the activities of our Association — our not yet ten years old Association — are as effective as they should be and can be. But the power of cooperation and library service which brought them into being carries with it the power and the ability to increase, strengthen, and improve them. Because the Library Quarterly is part of our Mountain-Plains land, our Mountain-Plains people, and our Mountain-Plains librarians — it is ready to record the ever-increasing growth and effectiveness of library activities of the Association and the Region.

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A LIBRARIAN ON CAPITOL HILL*

By **JULIA D. BENNETT**, Director
Washington Office of the
American Library Association

A fascinating story of Federal legislation important to libraries, with suggestions as to what we can do to help implement the Library Services Act.

1956 has been a very exciting year for a librarian on Capitol Hill. In this year, the library profession achieved a great victory with the passage of the Library Services Act. Its passage culminated a ten-year effort for major legislation which would give much-needed assistance to the development and extension of public library service to our rural areas. The Library Services Act is the first piece of legislation wholly drafted and supported by the library profession in the U. S. Congress. True, we have worked with other groups in the drafting of legislation and we have seen some of these measures enacted, but the Library Services Act is wholly ours. We took it each step of the way; we selected the sponsors, worked to have it introduced, then to reach committee consideration, and finally floor action in both Houses. This is an achievement, for it is no simple matter to get a measure through the Congress.

Recently I have been asked by a number of people, "What will the Washington Office staff do now that the Library Services Act has passed?" My immediate reply is that we must safeguard what we have won. The passage of the Library Services Act gave us an authorization for \$7,500,000 each year for a five-year period, but it did not provide those funds. This must be done separately and each year. It may take at least two years to insure that the full authorization is appropriated each year.

Besides the Library Services Act, there are numerous other measures which have either direct or indirect implications for libraries. So that you will have a better idea of what a librarian on Capitol Hill does, I would like to mention a few of these measures which

are important to us: postal legislation, internal revenue, customs regulations, copyright laws, libraries here and abroad, government publications and their distribution, civil service regulations, depository libraries, surplus property, Federal appropriations to the Library of Congress, U. S. Office of Education, the State Department and the U. S. Information Agency.

Several of these were important problems to us during the past Congress, and loom ahead as items on which we will be working in the next Congress—the 85th. I would like to tell you about a few of these categories.

The first one is the postal field because it affects all of our libraries and it also affects all of us as individuals. Another reason for choosing it is that it will show you the length of time we work on some measure in each Congress and the methods we use to accomplish the ends we seek. Sometimes we are successful and sometimes not.

In the Congress which adjourned at the end of July, the Administration was exceedingly anxious to secure the passage of a postal rate bill. Twice the Postmaster General sent a drafted bill to the Congress with the request that it be introduced. It was—first in January 1955 and again in February 1956. These bills were almost identical. In 1955 no action was taken by either House. In 1956, however, the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee held hearings for almost two months. The bill passed the House in July. The Senate did not seem inclined to pass this rate bill, but did schedule hearings. Just prior to adjournment, the Senate Committee voted to take no action on the bill, but stated that it would take up the postal rate increase

*Given at the banquet meeting of the MPLA Conference at Logan.

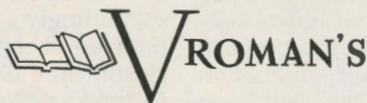
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question as a first item of business in the next Congress. We can surely watch for it, and no doubt the provisions will be similar.

Also in the postal field there was a Postal Classification Bill. This bill was very important to libraries. For several years librarians had hoped that something could be done to rectify the discrepancies in postal classifications as it affected library materials. College and university libraries continually spoke of these which even though bound as a book, had to go first class because they were typewritten. State library agencies and large public libraries felt something should be done about the separate packaging of library materials even though sent to the same person to answer the same request, simply because they covered items which were not recognized under the library book rate as were books and films.

Postal Classification Bill

The ALA had considered drafting a bill to cover these items and did work toward that end in an earlier Congress, but prospects for passage were slight if libraries tackled the problem alone. In 1955 we found others with similar interests and developed a package bill covering a variety of items. There were the music publishers who could mail books of music at the book rate, yet the same music in sheets had to go at a higher rate. There were the educational testing people whose tests, once marked with a pencil or pen either by check mark or written word, had to go first class. And there were authors whose manuscripts must go first class because typewritten. This package bill was designed to readjust the postal classification so that these various additional materials might be allowed to go through the mails at the book rate and the library book rate. Most significant to libraries are the following: bound volumes of periodicals, scholarly bibliography, bound typewritten theses, mounted pictures, clippings. The bill also asked that the present geographical zoning limits be removed and that the permit requirement be eliminated.

Once the bill was drafted, numerous other national organizations joined

forces. The bill was introduced into both Houses of Congress with bipartisan support, and passed the Senate in June 1955. House hearings were held by a five-man Subcommittee which went well, but there the bill hit a snag. Four of the five members were favorable, but the one who was not was the chairman. He refused to call a meeting of the Subcommittee. If we could have gotten that meeting scheduled, the bill would have passed. We finally decided to tie the bill in with the Postal Rate Bill and, therefore, get it out from under that Subcommittee. Here we were successful, and when the House Committee reported the rate bill, the items of the classification were included in the domestic section. Our success was short-lived, for as I told you, the rate bill did not reach the Senate floor. We must now start over on our classification bill in the next Congress.

Now for a quick rundown of a few others which will be before us in 1957.

When the new Internal Revenue Code of 1954 was passed, a new section affecting charitable contributions was added. Under it, contributions of individuals to hospitals, churches, and educational institutions were allowed an extra 10 per cent deduction. While college, university, and school libraries fall within this new category, public libraries are exempt because the definition of an educational institution by the Treasury Department is one having a faculty and a student body. A measure was introduced in the 84th Congress to amend the new section of it by including the words "public library." No action was taken. It will be reintroduced in the next Congress.

Many requests have come to the Washington Office asking that we work for an amendment to the surplus property act to include public libraries and the state library agencies. Here again school libraries and college and university libraries are already eligible. Efforts for this amendment will be made in 1957.

Since I have talked so much about legislation, you may think I spend all my time on specific legislation. But

actually, less than half my time goes into direct work with legislation. Just keeping up with legislation could be a full-time job, but there are ways to simplify this task. I use every shortcut about which I can learn. The daily reading of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD is essential to know what is going on. It would be nice to have the CONGRESSIONAL QUARTERLY, but its cost is too high for our Office, and there are other digests which help a great deal, and we subscribe to those. Also, I belong to several informal luncheon groups of lobbyists which meet once or twice a month to exchange information. These clearing house groups are wonderful, for you pick up not only the facts, but many ways and wherefores which never appear in print.

ALA Representation

Washington is a conference city, and fortunately for our profession, ALA is often asked to be represented. The Director of the Washington Office serves in this capacity whenever possible. There are weeks when this becomes a great burden, especially when a heavy legislative program is underway at the same time.

Our Office serves as liaison for librarians to governmental departments, National organizations located in Washington, and in some instances to Congressional offices and Committees. In turn, we also serve as liaison for these groups to the library profession. Our phone rings constantly and our daily mail is very heavy.

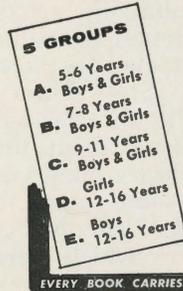
I hope I have been able to show you through words a little of what we do in the Washington Office. We have a big year ahead of us. The passage of the Library Services Act was really our first step. We must see that the money for implementation is provided by the Congress annually, and we must continue to work for the legislation which will be most beneficial to our libraries in their service to the people. For this we will be working in Washington, but you too must work with your Senators and Representatives. Make them library-minded. Keep them informed and we will have their interest and support.

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THE MPLA IN AN EVENTFUL YEAR*

By **JAMES G. HODGSON**, *Librarian*
Colorado A & M College,
Fort Collins, Colorado

The "keynote speech" of the Logan Conference sets forth the worth of our aims, and practical ways to meet the challenge of our opportunities.

This is an eventful year in which we hold the eighth annual meeting of MPLA (or the ninth if you count the 1948 Conference at which we were organized).

First of all, the Association has come of age with the starting of our new Mountain-Plains Library Quarterly. After all, we cannot claim maturity until we do have a regular publication. Secondly, the American Library Association has come up with its new standards for public library service. But most important of all, it has been during this year that the Library Services Act has been passed by Congress, and we should sense some of the reactions of a revival in our attempts to give to every person in each of the states real library service. Nowhere should this revival be more important than in our Mountain-Plains region because of our large proportion of rural population. And in no other area will any progress be the result of overcoming so many obstacles, merely because of the greater distances that we find between larger centers.

What we face in the next few years is an opportunity to give real library service to the rural areas of our region. In the process we will have to face up to the challenge given us by the A.L.A. standards in the development of larger units of service. To get those results we must also work for the reinforcement of our state agencies so that they can provide the leadership that will make these next five years as productive as the opportunity now promises.

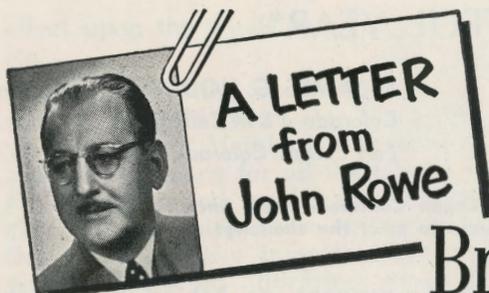
It is logical that we should start our thinking about these next years ahead with a consideration of the new Public Library Standards of the A.L.A. The

*Given at the first general session of the Logan Conference.

basic assumptions behind these new standards are much the same as those behind the old "Post War Standards," but certain of the more specific provisions of the old standards have been left out and certain more general statements substituted. We must also recognize that the central thought here is the necessity for larger units of library service. Library experience has indicated that this is sound reasoning, but it means that we, particularly we librarians of the Mountain-Plains region, must so adjust our own thinking that we do not plan too small. Above all, we must remember that a large unit now means at least 50,000 to 100,000 population, and that the old one dollar per capita support is inadequate.

The Library Services Act was passed because of the concerted activities of librarians over the whole of the United States, under the leadership of the A.L.A. Back of the move was a strong feeling that if we ever are to have good library systems in all of the states we needed just the kind of boost that the new Act will give us. And in the backs of the minds of most librarians, and certainly of the A.L.A. workers, was the strong conviction that good library service, and larger units of service, were inseparable. The Act provides that the funds granted shall apply to rural areas and is a recognition that this is the sore spot of library service in the United States.

In this new challenge, which faces us for the next few years, we are but one section of the United States. What we need to remember is that all of the other sections, and all the individual states that make them up, are working as a unit with us. One of the greatest values of a concerted nation-wide series of demonstrations of library service to



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But perhaps equally important is the feeling that comes to almost any child, in pouring over this topic, of the magnitude of man's creations, their enduring grandeur: rewards of purposeful effort.

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Yours sincerely,

John R. Rowe,
Educational Director

rural areas is its cumulative effect on rural areas as a whole. The mere existence of a great many different demonstration projects in all the separate states will have a greater impact on thinking in rural areas about the benefits of library service than any which could come from single demonstrations, no matter how well carried out. The impact of good library service in parts of any single state, reinforced by the reports carried in magazines and newspapers of what is being done in other states, will have an intensifying effect in opening the eyes of rural people to the fact that they, too, can have the library advantages of the metropolitan areas if they go after them.

Only through such a plan as the "Library Services Act" can such a multiplying of results be obtained.

Efforts to provide good library service to rural areas center around three types of such service:

1. Branch state libraries, or library agencies, for areas which are not likely to develop local libraries of sufficient size.

2. Unified library systems covering enough in population and territory to be effective.

3. Federated library systems in which local libraries keep their own boards and tax levies, but which are federated under a single board (with a central library staff) so that all libraries may work as a unit.

Local Support Necessary

The funds available for the demonstration projects under the Federal Act are limited. As a result, the number of projects must also be limited unless a sufficiently wide basis of local support may be secured. As a matter of fact, it seems evident that a certain measure of local support will be necessary for all projects that might be started. If such support is available from the very beginning, there is more assurance that the people of that area will be likely to carry the project on as their own, after the demonstration period is over. How to help the State agencies in getting that local support early in the game may well be one of

the real problems on which the MPLA and the Regional Library Planning Committee may be able to give help.

This thinking brings up another point. If we are to have adequate library service in all parts of the region, no units should be set up for demonstration purposes which would interfere with the logical development of other needed units. In other words, it seems obvious that a general plan for the states should be worked out in fairly rough form so that any sections selected now for demonstrations would fit into a complete state plan. With a complete plan available it should be easier to select regions that showed enough interest from the very first to provide enough local support so the demonstration library systems would carry their own load after the demonstration is over.

Demonstrations Far-Reaching

Adequate rural library service is an aim worthy of our attention for its own sake. It is even more worthy of our attention, however, when we realize that successful demonstrations in some of the most difficult parts of our region will convince people of even the larger communities, those over 10,000 population, that they too need and can secure exactly the same kind of library service. More and better libraries for the public cannot help but react on our school systems. Not only will the fathers and mothers of the students insist that their children have better library services in their own schools, but the administrative authorities—the superintendents and principals—will have something to compare their own services with as a standard of adequacy. As a college librarian, I can hope that as students come from communities with good public libraries, and from high schools which have benefited from good demonstrations, they will also bring to their college and university life a greater need for adequate library service on the college level. In other words, the results of our demonstrations in rural areas are not going to be confined merely to other rural areas. They will have an infinite

effect upon the whole of library service.

What then is the job of our Association not only this next year but in the years to come? Mainly it is to serve as a unifying agency for all the efforts of all the states and localities in the region. If "in union there is strength" this is particularly important for the widely scattered libraries and librarians of our region. In spite of differences in local conditions, there is too great a similarity in the problems of all of the seven states for even parts of our region to attempt to work alone without the advice and support that comes from larger numbers. Important as our state associations are, the mutual strength that comes from the larger numbers that should belong to a regional association is a factor that we cannot disregard. As part of the whole drive for better local library systems, we should make a conscious effort to promote membership in our regional association so that its support will be more meaningful in all of the local areas. When we, as a unified regional group, can pool our strength and ideas and experience we cannot fail to have better state associations and better and more soundly based local programs.

Libraries Are on Trial

Perhaps the most important thing of all to remember is that the library systems of the Mountain-Plains region, and the individual states, are on trial. It is also a trial period for all librarians in the United States. Either we make good with the funds that have been secured from the Federal Government or the reputation of the whole profession is given a setback. In the Mountain-Plains region it is particularly important that sound, statesmanlike proposals be made and followed up with full cooperation and support of all librarians. This means individuals, library associations of each of the states, and above all the full cooperation and assistance of the Mountain-Plains Library Association. It is an opportunity for us to show what we can do. Let's not fumble the ball!

We know that our region is "different," but this difference is only a challenge to us. Plans adopted for other regions may not suit us, but they may be suggestive of things that we can do. Even plans adopted by one state in our own region may be only suggestive of what is needed in other parts of the same state, or in other states. What we need to do is to recognize that because we do have peculiar conditions, we must use all of our ingenuity, and our ability for working together, to develop plans which will really be adequate for the conditions which we face. As a result, we may develop new approaches which would even be useful to the librarians of other regions than our own.

MPLA in the Job Ahead

During the last year we have seen the beginning of many important movements. During the next year we must begin our job of making the events of this past year mean something real to us. I can only beseech you as individual members of the MPLA to lend your wholehearted support to the MPLA and the state associations so that we can make the most of the great opportunity ahead of us.

In this, as it seems now, my farewell speech to an organization which from its inception has been very close to my heart, I have only one message to leave. The challenge is here. United you can do great things. With a clear understanding of the work that MPLA as a unit can do, you can use the unusual advantages of the next few years to advance the cause of libraries so that in the end we shall have the complete and widespread library service our region deserves.

You can do it if you are willing to accept the responsibility that goes with all these opportunities. We are in the midst of an eventful year. It should be as productive in the future as it has been within the last few months.

Watch for the reports of the Public and County Library Section on the "New Public Library Standards."

AWARDS FOR GOOD LIBRARIANSHIP

Awards were presented by the MPLA Awards Committee, James G. Hodgson, Chairman, at the banquet meeting Friday evening, September 14, 1956. Following are the citations for these awards.

NEBURN I. BUTT

In awarding a cash prize to Neburn I. Butt, research specialist of the Brigham Young University Library at Provo, Utah, the committee took into consideration his efforts in building up a Utah history collection from almost nothing to a total by the end of 1955 of 4,400 books, 17,000 pamphlets, and a great quantity of miscellaneous materials. Included in the collection was the James E. Talmage library with material from the Deseret Museum. In addition he had added transcripts of 225 diaries which ran from a few pages to five typewritten volumes each.

Even more impressive was the number of indexes which he had compiled, covering some 35 different series including the *L.D.S. Improvement Era* from 1897 to 1955, the *Junior Instructor*, v. 1-20, *Utah Public Documents*, 1930 to 1954, *Deseret News* from 1851 to 1859, and the *Contributor*, vols. 1-17. In addition he prepared a special detailed catalog of Utah historical materials, which at last count exceeds 30,000 cards, of which 8,750 are for materials not in the Brigham Young collections.

The Awards Committee was impressed with the wholehearted devotion of Mr. Butt to his work, and the incredible amount of detail which he had been able to set down in bibliographical and index form for the students of Utah history, and felt that his work well deserved the 1956 cash award of \$100.

H. DEAN STALLINGS

The award of a certificate to H. Dean Stallings, Librarian of the North Dakota Agricultural College Library, Fargo, North Dakota, for the work of the North Dakota Institute for Regional Studies and the development of the local history collection in his library was a recognition of the importance of the work of the Institute, which is described in the following statement.

The North Dakota Institute for Regional Studies is a 1950 creation of the faculty of the School of Applied Arts and Sciences, and the Librarian, of the North Dakota Agricultural College. President of the Institute's board of directors since its beginning has been College Librarian Harris Dean Stallings; and a 1952 statement of the director's aims designated "the new North Dakota Agricultural College Library" as "a home for the Institute's growing collection of research materials."

The Institute's aims are: (1) to stimulate research into the region's resources and the human attainments which these resources have sustained; (2) to provide a center and materials for such research; (3) to encourage artistic expression of life on the plains; and (4) to assist in editing, publishing, exhibiting, and disseminating the results of significant scientific, scholarly, and artistic work.

Among the Institute's research materials, above mentioned, are the documents it collects for the history of Northwest families, communities, businesses and institutions.

The Institute's documents for the history of bonanza farming, which in three years have become the largest such collection anywhere brought together, were increased in 1955 by 62 transcripts of interviews with bonanza-farm personnel or persons otherwise specially informed about these operations.

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ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING OF MPLA

Held at the First Session, September 13, 1956

President Orwin Rush called the first session of the MPLA to order. He presented President Daryl Chase of the Utah State Agricultural College who welcomed us to the Campus and to Cache Valley.

A telegram was read from Senator Wallace F. Bennett requesting resolutions to aid Utah library service.

A letter from Eulalia Chapman sent best wishes for a fine conference and her appreciation of the Quarterly.

After reading these messages, President Rush presented:

1. "Librarian of the hour," Julia D. Bennett, Director of the Washington Office of A.L.A.
2. Mrs. Alma S. Jacobs of Great Falls, Montana, President of the Pacific Northwest Library Association. Mrs. Jacobs brought greetings from PNLA and told us of a \$60,000 Ford Foundation grant for a library development project now underway. She invited MPLA to a joint cooperative meeting in Bozeman, Montana, next year.
3. Mrs. Orcena Mahoney, Executive Secretary of the Division of Cataloging and Classification at A.L.A. Mrs. Mahoney brought greetings from the staff at A.L.A. She gave a brief overview of the work at headquarters for all libraries.
4. Mrs. Anne Smith, President of the Utah Library Association, Mr. Milton C. Abrams, conference chairman, and Mrs. Carolyn Keck, chairman of local arrangements.
5. Russell L. Davis, chairman of the exhibits committee, was introduced. He announced the companies who were exhibiting and their representatives.

The minutes of the Jackson meeting were read and approved.

The treasurer's report, given by Sarah Lucille Harris, showed:

Checking Account	\$ 845.31
Savings Account	927.19
Total Assets	\$1,772.50

President Rush said the work of any organization depends on its committees before introducing the following committees:

1. Planning Committee

Leonard Kirkpatrick said that the committee endorsed an August 20-25 convention for next year.

2. Education for Librarianship

The chairman has resigned so Stuart Baillie was appointed acting chairman.

3. Awards Committee

Jim Hodgson suggested that this committee plan next year's award for a librarian of a small library.

4. Membership

Horace Moses said memberships had increased due to the Quarterly. He said that librarians in Saskatchewan and Missouri had expressed interest in MPLA membership, so thought these library associations and the one in Manitoba should be invited to attend our next meeting. He suggested we should try to extend our membership to the lower echelons and not only to head librarians. He also suggested that the MPLA offer membership to associations (as is done in the Southwest and Southeast library associations).

5. Joint Committee of MPLA and PNLA

Ford Rockwell, new chairman, will head the MPLA committee planning next year's meeting with PNLA.

6. Editor of the MPLA Quarterly

Miriam E. McNally presented her report. (See page 3.)

7. Nominating Committee

Mrs. Ruth Tyler said the results of voting were not yet ready to announce.

There was no old business.

A telegram of greeting from the A.L.A. Officers and Staff was read.

Under new business Robert E. Thomas proposed the following changes in the By-Laws to be voted upon at a later session: The words, "in a sealed envelope enclosed within the mailing envelope" be deleted from Article IV, Section 2 of the By-Laws which now reads, "Such ballots shall be returned to the secretary in a sealed envelope enclosed within the mailing envelope." Article IV, Section 3 of the By-Laws which reads, "Members who pay their dues upon registration at the annual meeting shall be given a ballot" be deleted from the By-Laws.

(Action approving these changes was taken at the General Session at 2 p.m. September 13, 1956.)

Horace Moses introduced a motion which was amended to read, "The Missouri Library Association, the Saskatchewan Library Association and the Manitoba Library Association be invited to apply for membership in the Mountain-Plains Library Association and be invited to have representatives at the proposed joint meeting of PNLA and MPLA next year." The motion was seconded and carried.

AN HISTORIC OCCASION

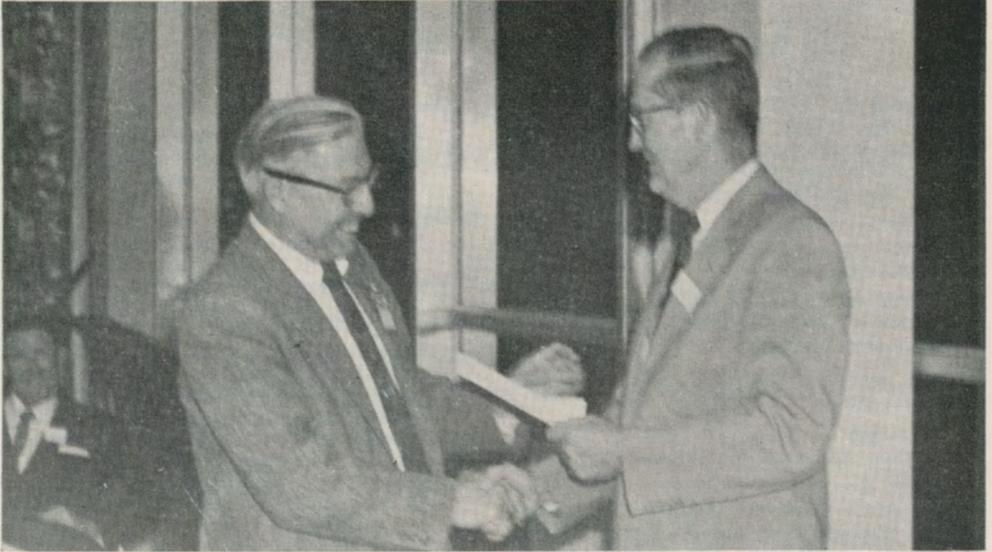


Photo NOT by Hodgson

James G. Hodgson receiving Life Membership from N. Orwin Rush

By action of the executive board, "James G. Hodgson, official MPLA photographer and one of our guiding lights" was awarded a Life Membership for "services rendered the Association." The awarding of this membership posed a problem. For nine years, Jim has photographed official and unofficial MPLA sessions, but obviously this was one occasion in which the tables had to be turned. Here is presented for the first time in history a photo of a conference event NOT taken by Hodgson, accompanied by hearty congratulations on his well-deserved honor.

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GENERAL SESSIONS

Reported by Alice E. Paine, Secretary

EDUCATION FOR LIBRARIANSHIP IN THE MPLA REGION

Stuart Baillie, Director of the School of Librarianship, University of Denver, led the panel discussion. Other participants were: Jerome Cushman, Public Library, Salina, Kansas; Paul Winkler, University of Denver School of Librarianship; Jim Ranz, Director of Libraries, University of Wyoming; Mary Lee Keath, Director of Library Service, Denver Public Schools. Questions to be considered were: Where is library education today? Where is it going? What can we do about it? How can it serve the Library Services Act?

There are 35 accredited library schools. The University of Denver is the one in the MPLA region. These schools vary in requiring from 30 to 70 semester hours credit for a degree. Denver requires 40 hours. There are 500 other schools offering training in teacher librarianship which are not accredited by ALA.

Miss Keath said library science courses are considered the most difficult on the campus and suggested that they need to be made more inspirational. Students must be made to like their curriculums.

Mr. Winkler said we can help in recruiting by identifying the right person — the kind that makes the teacher's heart glow — and bringing that person to library school. A librarian:

1. Must be interested in people and have skill working with them.
2. Must be skilled in technical processes — have a keen mind.
3. Must have emotional stability.
4. Must have a broad general knowledge with competency in some field.

Jerry Cushman said the public library wants a good librarian. He gave these characteristics of one:

1. Attitudes
 - Philosophy of librarianship
 - Sense of direction
 - Sense of mission
 - Appreciation of the role of the

library in the community

A positive role

A resource center

A depository of information

A moral role

Personality quotient — leadership

2. Knowledges

Broad cultural education

Social psychology

Communication

3. Skills

Books - Bibliography

Audio-visual aids

Interpreting collections to community

Stuart Baillie closed the discussion when he stated that at Denver:

1. Scholarships are needed to help recruit students for new work to be created by the Library Services Act.

2. Students need larger amounts in loans because costs have gone up at least \$500.

3. Students working in the University library full time receive \$180 per month and a waiver of tuition or a portion of it.

LIBRARY BUILDING PROBLEMS

H. Dean Stallings, Librarian of the North Dakota Agricultural College in Fargo, led a panel discussion on "Library Building Problems." Discussants were: Russell L. Davis, Utah; Wayne R. Collings, Nebraska; Eli M. Oboler, Idaho; Jim Ranz, Wyoming. Mr. Stallings said that the ACRL Monograph, no. 10 on the 1953 building institute plans, had a good bibliography on college and university library buildings built between 1945 and 1953. He stated that the library must be planned by the librarian, but the plans drawn up by the architect. An outline, "Essentials in Library Planning," was given to members of the audience, and was used as a basis for the discussion.

Colored slides of the new Idaho State College and North Dakota Agricultural libraries were shown and explained by the librarians of these colleges.

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HIGHLIGHTS OF SECTION MEETINGS

CATALOG SECTION

*(Reported by Robert Trefz,
Denver Public Library
Secretary-Treasurer)*

The 1956 annual meeting of the Catalogers Section was held on Friday, September 14, 1956, from 10:00 A.M. until 12:00 noon. Presiding was Mrs. Irene Bogan, Catalog Librarian, Colorado State College Library, Greeley, Colorado.

Mrs. Bogan introduced the guest speaker, Mrs. Orcena Mahoney, Executive Secretary, Division of Cataloging and Classification, American Library Association, who spoke to the group on various recent developments in the cataloging field. To begin, Mrs. Mahoney emphasized the importance of code revision, which had been the subject of the G.L.S. annual conference, and told in some detail about the work of the Catalog Code Revision Committee of D.C.C. under the general chairmanship of Wyllis Wright. She described the arrangements made by ALA with the Library of Congress for publication of a new code, under the editorship of Seymour Lubetzky.

For the remainder of her talk, Mrs. Mahoney spoke informally about other recent developments of interest to catalogers, covering such things as: (1) the work on the 16th edition of the decimal classification; (2) the soon-to-be-published 6th edition of the L.C. subject heading list; (3) the subject heading code which David Haykin is writing; (4) the D.C.C. meetings at the recent Miami Beach conference of ALA; and, finally, (5) some of the problems of reorganization which face the D.C.C. in light of the Management Survey.

There followed a brief business meeting. The minutes of the previous annual meeting and the financial report were read by the Secretary-Treasurer

and both were approved. Mrs. Bogan then presented the report of the Nominating Committee, which, for the current year, had been the Executive Board. The nominations of Mrs. Louise Critchlow, Assistant Librarian, Salt Lake County Library, Midvale, Utah, for Chairman, and of Mrs. Jacqueline W. Lakey, Salt Lake County Library, Midvale, Utah, for Vice-Chairman were accepted; and Mrs. Critchlow and Mrs. Lakey were elected unanimously. Nominations for Secretary-Treasurer were entertained from the floor, and the present Secretary-Treasurer was duly elected to continue in office for another year.

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY SECTION

*(Reported by
Alice E. Paine, Secretary, MPLA)
Charles Baumann, Chairman,
University of Wyoming*

At the business meeting Milton Abrams, Librarian of Utah State Agricultural College was elected as the new chairman of this section. It was decided that he could appoint his own secretary.

Forrest F. Carhart, Jr., Librarian of the U.S. Air Force Academy, spoke to us on "The U.S. Air Force Academy Library and its role in a military institution."

Slides were presented showing courses of study. The men are picked from select groups. The library is used for recreational reading, but its main purpose is to supplement the classroom work.

Location and plans for the new library building on the U.S. Air Force grounds in Colorado Springs were shown. This library is to seat one-third of the expected enrollment.

SCHOOL, CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SECTION

Madge M. Jewett, Chairman
High School Librarian
School District No. 25
Riverton, Wyoming

On Friday morning the first hour was a teen-age panel on *What we read and why*. The moderator was Mrs. Leone Harris, Librarian at South Cache High School in Logan, and panel members were Geraldine Rosine, Robert Olson, David Perry, Anne Reading, Lionel Benson and Kay Bernhisel.

These young people answered questions posed by their moderator and later some asked by section attendants. The boys and girls had many interesting comments: take time and make time to read; suggested a class or classes for reading speed and comprehension . . . Interest of high school people varies and changes from year to year, with junior high interest in mystery and animal stories gradually giving way to romance (at sophomore level) and then to biography and religious novels . . . these teen-agers want attractive exhibits and covers for travel books and think that such a book is "next best to going," and they'd like a library to have two or three copies of many books, for they get discouraged waiting.

These boys and girls, when asked about their ideal library, answered that it would have plenty of many different types of materials, especially audio-visual, and that it would have good lighting and comfortable chairs.

Miss Edith Goates, library consultant for the Salt Lake City School libraries, was elected chairman for the coming year.

TRUSTEES SECTION

Utah Library Association

At the meeting for the organization of a Trustee Section of the Utah Library Association, those present considered a tentative Constitution and By-Laws. The Constitution and By-Laws as adopted will be submitted to each Board of Library Trustees in the state and membership in the new organization will be solicited. Officers for

the new Trustee Section were elected by those present and are as follows:

Calvin S. Smith, Murray, Utah, President; Mrs. Paul Thompson, Davis County, Kaysville, Utah, Vice-President; Mrs. Ada Marie Van Orden, Lewiston, Utah, Secretary-Treasurer; and Executive Board Members — Mr. Gail Plummer, Salt Lake City, Utah; Mr. W. W. McAllister, Spanish Fork, Utah, and Mr. Arthur Grotigut, Spanish Fork, Utah.

Action was taken by the new Trustee Section to acquaint each library trustee in the state with the proposed legislation to implement the Library Services Act. Each trustee will be solicited to contact the representative and senator from his district and inform him of the Act and its significance to the state.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL CENTER NEWS

The progress report covering 1955-1956 of the Bibliographical Center's activities will be printed soon and it will carry human interest pictures and stories of the Old and New Look. It will be "The New Challenge, a Greater Bibliographical Center."

Sincere appreciation is sent to all members and friends for the excellent cooperation in the part each played in helping the Center "move smoothly." Not only have you carried shoe boxes, made charts for the location and arrangement of the catalog, but you have answered technical requests during the period. The beautiful quarters on the third floor in the new Denver Public Library will now aid in greater efficiency.

The staff asks for additional coordination until the Center's holdings are in place on the shelves. The major file of the Union Catalog is in order and no ladders are necessary. We hope to reach up in other directions and give more time to the true purpose of the Bibliographical Center — to assist with scholarly investigations and give service to rural libraries.



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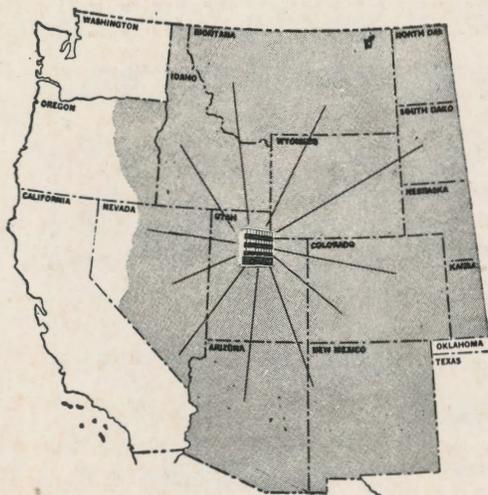
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