

# Mountain-Plains Library Quarterly

PUBLISHED BY THE MOUNTAIN - PLAINS  
LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

## THIS IS THE YEAR

MOUNTAIN PLAINES LIBRARY ASSOCIATION, 1948-1958  
LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST  
BOOKS AND LIBRARIES IN OUR REGION: MEMBERSHIP IN THE PNLA  
THE LIBRARY POTENTIAL IN THE MPLA REGION

IT'S ALL IN THE FAMILY

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK



Fall 1957

# MOUNTAIN-PLAINS LIBRARY QUARTERLY

Volume II

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Number 3

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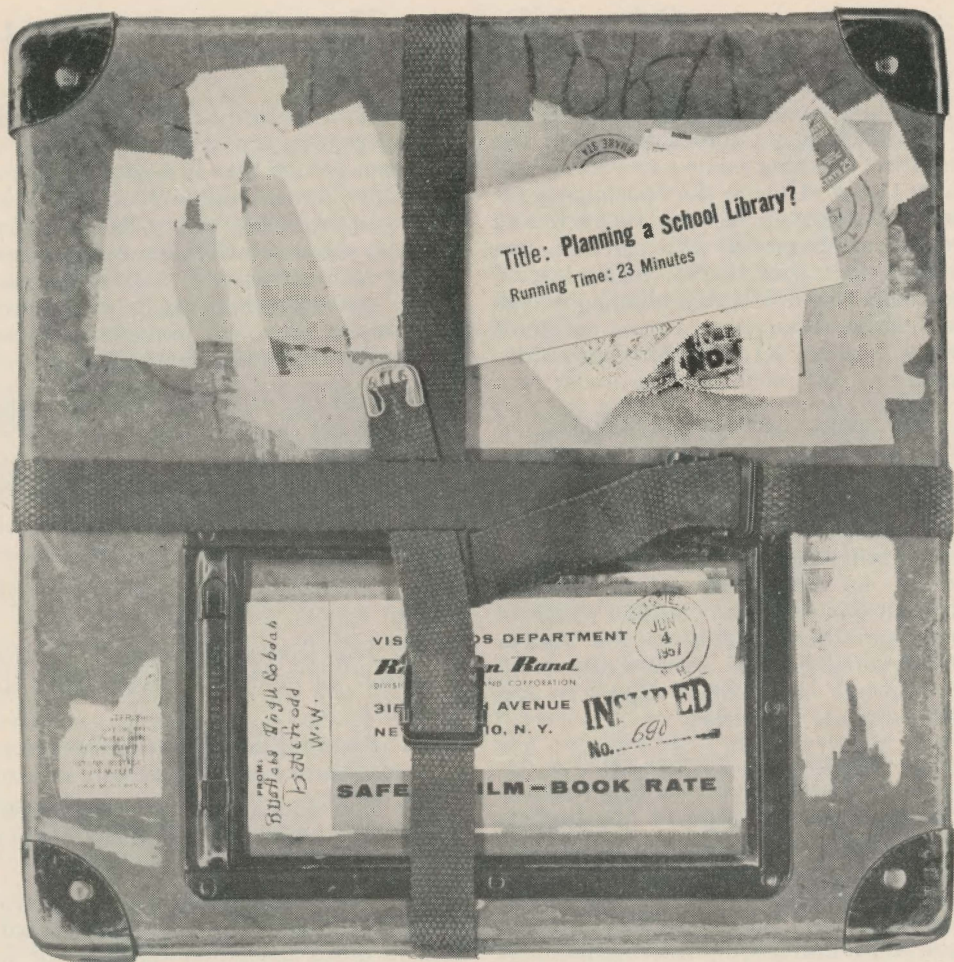
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## *It's All in the Family*

Like a ten-year-old boy, the MPLA is approaching its adolescence, and the resulting growing pains sometimes lead us to the conclusion that perhaps a regional association has no reason for its existence. Some of this feeling, too much in fact, spearheaded by a negative approach to all MPLA problems, reared its ugly head too often during our joint meeting with PNLA at Bozeman, Montana.

Once again each of us should consider and reconsider the true reasons which created the MPLA. First of all, on a regional basis, we should all be interested in furthering the increase of good library service for all people. We should be interested in doing this through our state associations which in turn lend their vitality to the region. Today we should be interested in helping through the Library Services Act and our State Libraries.

Any increase in library service demands planning, money and personnel. It demands cooperation on the highest level. On a regional basis we should plan on a broad scale; we should seek out foundation funds to help create new ideas and lead the way. MPLA must have a Planning Committee that does more than list itself on paper. A new committee, to seek out foundation help, has just been formed and is certainly a step in the right direction.

Any growth in the amount of library service in our MPLA region will be directly related to available personnel. Librarians, young and old, have been hard to find these last few years and will continue to be in short supply for some time to come. A real sincere effort at recruiting by our total profession could change this gloomy picture overnight. Our MPLA region is not sending enough librarians to school to meet our needs, and many of our students are not staying in the region after graduation.

This brings us to the heart of the problem — money. To give good library

service and to bring it to every citizen in our region, we must be willing to convince others that it is worth paying for. Our greatest single problem in the library profession today is still low salaries. Low salaries lies at the heart of our failure to recruit, and the vanishing graduate of today looks for the best salary, with the best climate, and he usually finds them both.

What do we of MPLA have in common? What problems do we share? How can we work together? The answer is simple, but the results do not often live up to the answer.

MPLA should work together for:

- (1) Increased library service for our region.
- (2) The Bibliographical Center for Research (a model of cooperative enterprise).
- (3) Planning for the future development of library service in our region.
- (4) The education and recruitment of personnel who are the "heart" of our libraries.
- (5) The development of library systems, cooperatives, and all means available to more efficiently operate our libraries, thereby producing the maximum of service for each dollar spent.
- (6) A publication like the MPLA Quarterly, to keep us informed and to lead us on each year to greater achievement.

### FAST MAIL

LORA CROUCH, Pres.  
Mt. Plains Library Assn.

Dear Lora:

How about establishing an annual award for the librarian in your group with the most effective "shh"?

— *The Sioux-sayer.*



# THIS IS THE YEAR

By LORA CROUCH, President,  
MPLA, and Librarian, Public Library,  
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

*"This is the Year"* is the title of a novel written in 1947 by my good friend Feike Feikema. From the dust jacket of the novel, quote the following: "Each spring, no matter how bad it has been the year before, the farmer stands at the window, plans for the year to come, and says, 'This is the year. This time I'll do 'er.'" This expression of undying, perennial hope which is the theme of the novel is one I want to borrow and use for my theme of hope for this year in MPLA while I am your president.

There are many things I hope we can do this year — probably more than we will be able to accomplish in what is now left of the year. A few of them are in the planning stage or are underway, and I shall be calling on many of you for help in the next month or two. Remember this is your MPLA and I am only your co-ordinator. I need help — lots of help from all of you.

## A Project

*This is the year* I hope we can secure funds from a foundation for a project for MPLA. I asked you at Bozeman to send me your suggestions, and a few of you did so. The majority of the suggestions were for some expansion of the services of the Bibliographical Center for Research. One or two suggestions were for added features in the MPLA Quarterly. I hope we can combine both suggestions into one project. I have a fine committee at work on this with John Eastlick of the Denver Public Library as Chairman. There will be a proposal for a project ready for us to consider at the Executive Board meeting at the A.L.A. Mid-Winter meeting.

## A General Meeting of MPLA at Mid-Winter

*This is the year* I would like to have a general meeting of the MPLA people at Mid-Winter. I have made plans and

I have asked for a meeting room for one day — all day on Friday, Jan. 31st — during A.L.A. Mid-Winter meeting at the Edgewater Beach Hotel. We will consider the project for expanding services for the Bib. Center and I also want some discussion of the organization of MPLA. Do we need to make some changes in it? Or is it good just as it is? Shall we raise the dues or shall we cut out some of our activities in order to lower costs?

We have been carrying on two worthwhile projects which have run our treasury rather low, but I think both are very important. One is our five loans of \$200.00 each to a Library School student. All \$1,000 is in use at present. The other is our Quarterly. We are finding that advertising is not as easy to secure as we had thought. We will have to increase dues if we are to maintain our present very fine publication. Without a publication we have no way to reach our members with our plans and our ideas. We may want to change the format or the content of our publication, but I hope we can retain our Quarterly as it is now. I think Miriam McNally has done a splendid job of setting it up and steering it through its first two years. We owe her a deep debt of gratitude — for we are too poor to pay her in dollars what she is worth as an editor. Orwin Rush has put in many hours of work at the solicitation of advertising, too; we owe him a great deal of gratitude also. Now we must evaluate the cost and the results from the Quarterly and decide whether to carry it on or not. Come and express your opinion at Mid-Winter. Another thing we must do then, is to work on plans for the annual meeting.

## Come to Denver and Colorado in 1958

*This is the year* I want us to try a different type of annual meeting. We have had some excellent programs in the



past and some wonderfully good times together, but it has seemed to me, and to others among you, that we were just off to a good start on a problem in our meetings when it was time to leave and scatter to the four corners of seven big states. We are always so far distant from each other between meetings that it is hard to do things by mail. In 1958 I would like to try a workshop type of meeting where we take a few of the more difficult problems of the Mountain Plains area and spend a half day or even a whole day on one problem so that we can pool our talents and try to chart a solution of one or two problems at least. We'll have some fun, too; Mountain Plains people always do.

With this type of meeting in mind, I made an appointment at A.L.A. in Kansas City to see Stuart Baillie of the University of Denver to see if we might have the meeting on the University campus. I was delighted to find that he had been thinking of it too. He went home and made the arrangements with his school, and since there was no other invitation given to us at Bozeman, it is now in the planning stage. The dates are set for August 28, 29 and 30, so start planning now for a vacation in Colorado on your way to or from the MPLA meeting. Remember that Estes Park, Aspen, Colorado Springs, Central City — all are close to Denver and all are delightful places to vacation. And if you haven't been there lately, just wait till you see Denver! It has more new skyscrapers on its skyline than any other city in this part of the country.

There are many problems we could consider at such a meeting. One is how to go about creating systems of libraries. We want not only to create them within states but also to bind the state systems together in a regional system with our own Bibliographical Center as the heart of the regional system. Another problem is that of the related subjects of public relations, publicity, and exhibits. Still another problem is that of budgets — how to plan one, how to justify one, and in these days of inflation and tax resistance, how to secure what we need. This is an acute problem in the area and is likely to be-

come worse. Will systems of libraries help solve this problem?

The Special Libraries section of the Colorado Library Association wishes to meet with us. So, too, does the Bibliographical Center members. Is this a good time for these groups and the College and University members to study the resources of the area? There is always the problem of personnel and library education. All these and many more problems are present in our area, and we shall do some selecting among them and form a program to chart a solution of a few of these pressing problems.

The University of Denver has some ideal facilities for us to use for a meeting. There is good apartment type housing close to the Student Union Building at very reasonable rates — so bring the family along. The Union itself has good meeting space and excellent space for the exhibitors. The Library building is near with plenty of rooms for the smaller group meetings. For those who have a good expense account, and for the exhibitors, there are some swanky motels close by for those who prefer to live off the campus. On Saturday we will go downtown to hold one meeting in the new Denver Public Library for I know many of you have not seen that beautiful building yet, and you must not miss it.

All in all it looks like a super meeting next summer, so make plans now for that vacation in Colorado either on the way to MPLA or on the way home. Remember the dates — Aug. 28, 29 and 30, 1958.

*This is the year* I hope to see closer relationships between MPLA and the seven state associations. Kansas and Nebraska have charted the way. Kansas voted to give \$25.00 to the MPLA Quarterly and \$25.00 to the Association general fund. Nebraska voted to give \$50.00 also. The South Dakota people are doing some mimeographing for MPLA. Before the end of the year I hope the other four will join in too. I think I should say the other three, for Colorado is furnishing lots of help for the annual meeting as their part in MPLA.



*This is the year* I hope to see further growth in the membership of MPLA. There are between 1,800 and 2,000 librarians in the seven-state area, and this past year only about 375 of them were members of MPLA. That is absurd, and we want to double it this year. I have asked Eulalia Chapman and Jerome Cushman to be joint chairmen of the Membership Committee. I have never seen a man who could resist Eulalia — with or without her Bib — and Jerry has a way with women. Between the two of them I figure we should have all 2,000 librarians as members next year.

*This is the year* I hope we can put both the association and the Quarterly on a workable budget and still keep our special projects. We'll talk about that at Mid-Winter also.

So you can see that *this is the year* I need the help of all of you to get all these things done. This isn't a program for a few high echelon committees to work on — this is for all of us to sit down together and work together and to plan together. Very often some small independent unit works out a new idea because they didn't know the routine the rest of us were following. Then the rest of us wonder why we didn't think of it too. If we are going to work out systems of libraries and a strong MPLA we must work together, large and small, school and college, and public, and special libraries. I want each of you to sit down and write me in regard to which part of this year's program you would like to work on, whether it be on committees or at Mid-Winter or at next year's annual meeting. *This is the year* we all work together.

The MPLA Quarterly has a new advertising manager this year. Mrs. Evelyn Brewster (Mrs. George) of 1332 Grant Street, Apt. 5, Denver, Colorado, has taken over this work from Orwin Rush. Please help her all you can by letting her know about advertisers in your part of the area. Mrs. Brewster was formerly librarian at Deadwood, S. D., and is now working for the Colorado State Library in Denver, Colo.

NOVEMBER, 1957

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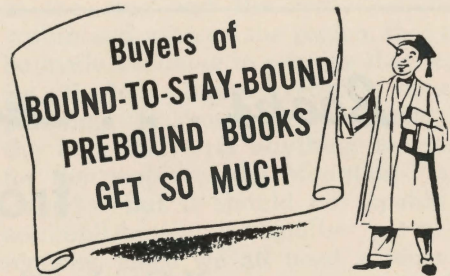
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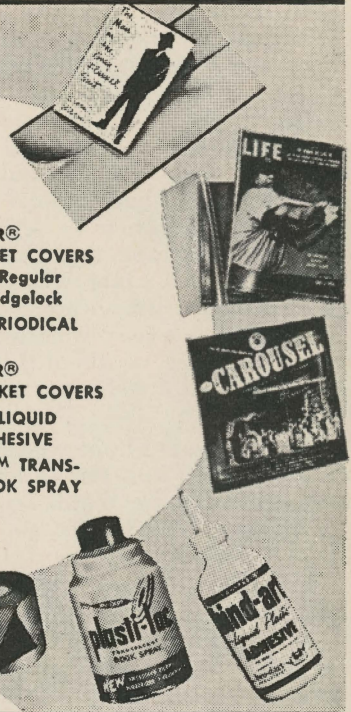
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# MOUNTAIN PLAINS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION, 1948-1958

By GRACE T. STEVENSON, *Associate  
Director, American Library Association,  
Chicago, Illinois*

This year the Mountain-Plains Library Association will celebrate its tenth anniversary. Perhaps it is an inherent tidiness of mind that invites us to use such milestones as reasons for taking stock, but whatever the motive, a periodical assessment of where we are and where we should be going is essential to meaningful activity.

When MPLA was organized in 1948, the founders set down as its objective "the promotion of library service in the Mountain-Plains region." A simpler, more comprehensive, a worthier objective, could hardly be found. Would it not be interesting and fruitful for the members of the association, during the next year, to seriously set about discovering just how great the advances in library service have been in the region in those ten years? This would not only tell you where you are, but would help point the way for the association's future program.

The objectives of all five of the regional library associations are essentially the same, though their organization and methods of achieving these objectives differ. Some are more loosely organized; some have a very definite program of association activities which attack the problems of their regions; others consider it their chief function to bring librarians together, providing them with an opportunity to discuss their problems, but leaving them to act separately.

Most of the associations have two things in common — with some variations. The member states are largely inaccessible to ALA Headquarters and the centers of library population, and

they are sparsely settled. These two things are true to a marked degree of most of the area included in the Mountain-Plains region. The twin factors of sparse population and great distances which are among the most serious problems in providing good library service are most intense in this region. If there was ever a region where joint effort was needed to achieve a common goal it is in the seven states which make up MPLA.

The solution of the regional problems will not come about automatically as a result of the existence of a regional association. The association must have a practical, but forward looking program, based on the needs for library service in the area and the resources, both within and without the region, that can be made available to provide that service. Such a program requires careful planning. It should be ambitious for the long haul — is anything too good for the people of the Mountain-Plains states? — but it should be capable of accomplishment in smaller parts, or sections, since we all need a sense of accomplishment lest we grow discouraged.

The complex society of our time makes it imperative, and the present speed of communication makes it possible, for us to work closely together on our common problems. That we cannot live alone is the basic philosophy underlying many forms of cooperation today, from international associations of sovereign states to local community councils. Both the problems and the resources of these seven great western states make the regional approach to them the soundest approach.



## Dues Problem

Bob Thomas, who was treasurer of MPLA last year, and Miriam McNally, who edited the Quarterly, have both reported that there seems to be quite a bit of confusion in regard to the MPLA fiscal year and its dues and the subscriptions to the MPLA Quarterly.

The constitution of MPLA and its by-laws set the fiscal year for the association as the calendar year. The treasurer sent out the notice for renewing membership soon after the first of the year. The members also get the MPLA Quarterly as part of their membership. So if you sent in your two dollars for the Quarterly in the middle of the year, you will probably get a note asking if you will either pay \$1.00 for half a year or \$3.00 for a year and a half so that you will be on the same fiscal year as the other members of MPLA. If you are outside the seven-state area and are subscribing to the Quarterly, then you may send your subscription at any time of the year and you will receive four issues of the magazine.

We hope we can straighten our records so that this will not happen another year. If you paid your dues at Bozeman, Montana, you are paid up for 1958.

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# THE LIBRARY POTENTIAL IN THE MPLA REGION

By LEONARD H. KIRKPATRICK, *Librarian,  
University of Utah and Past-President, MPLA*

This article was part of a panel "Books and Libraries in our Region" given at the joint MPLA-PNLA Conference in Bozeman, Montana, September 7, 1957.

The library potential in our region is conditioned by two glaring facts, not always apparent to our friends throughout the country — we have too much wide open space and not enough people, with the subsidiary fact that goes with it, we don't have enough money. Because of our geography, we need more books and journals. These are what break our isolation from each other and from the rest of the world. Chemists in Utah actually need more journals than those in Chicago because they can't keep up with the latest developments through ACS chapter meetings filled with leading research men from three of four major institutions. Nor can they just hop over to Denver or Laramie or Seattle each week-end to use their collection either.

Furthermore, while we have few people, we have institutions big enough to offer graduate work in these various areas, and one graduate student in chemistry requires as many journals as do ten. If you are going to start graduate work, there is a certain minimum you've got to have regardless of numbers. Also, our clusters of population result in fairly large student bodies, big enough to more than use what they have locally available, so, in Utah, we cannot count on what they have at Logan — they are using it, and they can't count on what is being held over in Denver — they are using it.

Now in theory, one set of the transactions of an organization such as the Acoustical Society of America ought to be enough for Utah, but it isn't. People may be shocked, but our men in architecture do not want to run up to Logan day to day and week to week, and we can't get those foolish people in Logan to feel that way about us either. Furthermore, the same distance which makes quarterly meetings like this impossible hampers our inter-library loan

service. When it takes two or three days, or maybe a week to get service, patrons say why don't we fly it. Distance also make it difficult for us to keep in touch with each other by phone or by letter.

We need proportionately more money — we need more clusters of strong collections, and we need bigger and more frequently issued journals, professional journals even, to let us list the things we need. We need to list our own staff needs in our own regional journals. This is one of the best recruiting methods, both at building our own staff at the expense of other people and recruiting people into the profession. The best recruiting device I know is job offers of \$5,000 and \$6,000 to young college students. We need to know the out of print titles to be watching for. We need to know duplicates that could be used to build each others collections. We need to keep up an exchange of ideas, but as Stuart pointed out, we can't afford to enlarge our journals right now.

We are all thinking, I have read your financial report, too, which was included in our folder, we are thinking — how can we cut costs? Not how can we expand this interchange of ideas — how can we go on a monthly basis and do some of the things that we probably ought to do. We need to cooperate and use our voices together because there are so few of us, so that national planners will take another look at our geography out west and maybe wonder with us if one depository of United Nations materials at Denver and one at Seattle is enough for this 14 state region. They realize, of course, that they need three in New York City area, but they have people there — we just have mountains.

We need help in educating our people in our isolated communities in his-



torical book values. Too many people are still throwing away diaries, letter-books and scrapbooks while they are diligently guarding beautifully bound sets of "Messages of the Presidents." (If anyone needs one of those, I will save the next set that comes in for you.) Too many think a 1950 volume of Shakespeare is worth more than an 1870 small town Montana imprint. To give another example which could just as well apply to any one of you with one title change: In the last 10 years, Utah has been offered as a gift or as a sale item worth surely thousands of dollars (in one instance a lawyer came up to negotiate) copies of the Ulster County Gazette reprint telling of the death of George Washington. We have never been offered, nor can we find, a copy of the Pony Dispatch edition of the Deseret News — except in the New York Public Library. Incidentally, I do not mean to imply that people in this region are stupid. No one was born knowing about reprints of the Ulster County Gazette or the scarcity of the Pony Dispatch edition of the Deseret News. People are grateful for finding out, but we need somehow means of reaching more of them and educating them.

This brings us to another point that may hurt us while it helps us. With the strong collections of Americana at places like Yale, Harvard, Wisconsin, Huntington, and Bancroft, we run into the argument — why not add strength to strength. Why ship anything else to Utah when we know that when we send it to Harvard or when we send it to Bancroft we will make a complete collection available to a scholar. How can you answer that? I like the way one rancher puts it "Let's face it, son. Them that has, gets." The only answer is to start getting for yourselves, but our book people are so few and so widely scattered with so much to do that we need field agents — not to see that Bancroft, Huntington, Yale and Harvard don't get what little is left (although that would give me a little satisfaction) but to make sure that the trash-can and the fireplace don't receive priceless items. Here again, money is a bug-a-boo. We haven't funds

to buy the things we need today, nor to give all the services we would like. So when we talk to our president about a field agent, as an adequate journal or an inter-communication system, we are told they must fall like manna from heaven or from some foundation.

We need microfilm reading machines in our little towns in Utah. Now they might not realize this, but we need them, so that the increasing numbers of items that will be available to the scattered scholars in the small town only on microfilm will be of some good to them. When they write me and say can they borrow a dissertation, and we say buy a microfilm copy from the University Microfilm, they say, "Yes, where am I going to read it?" We can only say come on up to Salt Lake and we will be very happy to let you use our reading machine. Very few of you would dare to suggest to Cedar City that out of a budget of \$3,000 they should spend \$600 to \$700 for a reading machine. We need to be sure that our region acquire the total output of the learned presses of America—whether we need those titles today or not. These are the things that the scholar of tomorrow will be looking for and cursing us for not buying.

The point I would like to make very simply is this: Here we are together representing 14 states, not very many people, not very many libraries, but maybe, if we could get together, put our voices together and speak as a joint group on one of these which you think sound the most intelligent, or if you have an idea which you think is better, well, maybe 14 states — 2 associations — could get some support for field agents, for reading machines, for monthly journals for our associations with free listings of offers, needs, and so on, even a checklist of Americana in our region which we all ought to be watching for, or help in acquiring all the specialized monographs of America, or help in solving any of the problems of our bibliographic centers. So would a joint appeal, if we could agree upon one, be more feasible, or isn't that the way to get money from those foundations?



# NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

By John T. Eastlick, Librarian, DPL  
Colorado Library Chairman for Library Week

March 16 through 22, 1958, are very significant days for librarians. NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK will be celebrated during this time.

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK, sponsored by the American Library Association and the National Book Committee, Incorporated, focuses attention on the need for wiser and wider distribution and use of books.

By Christmas, 1957, forty States had prominent citizens serving as chairmen of state committees to promote the goals of NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK. In the Mountain-Plains area, the following state chairmen have accepted appointment by November 15: Colorado, Dr. Robert L. Stearns; Nebraska, Mrs. Victor P. Hass; Utah, Mr. Gail Plummer; Wyoming, Mrs. Leonard Hay. Undoubtedly, other state chairmen have since been appointed.

You have undoubtedly noticed the increase in library publicity in the national press. By January 1, twenty-three mass magazines with a total circulation of sixty million announced plans to feature NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK themes during the spring of 1958. The article which appeared in the December issue of BETTER HOMES AND GARDENS is a sample of this type of publicity. Sears and Roebuck, cooperating fully with NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK, is featuring a 2-page spread in its spring catalog (eight million circulation), advising local managers to serve on committees where possible, and urging that Sears Roebuck stores support NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK during March.

Regardless of the size of the community, NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK presents a real challenge to librarians. Here is a wonderful opportunity, supported by national publicity and national citizens' committees, to present the library in a positive light. If librarians are to realize true benefits from this program, it is suggested that the following activities are appropriate:

1. Obtain a group of leading influential citizens to serve as a community National Library Week Committee.

2. With their cooperation and support, evolve plans for advertising the library and the services it offers. These functions might include speeches, panels, films presented in the library on the library's role in the community and the need for education in today's life. Exhibits in prominent stores or banks on library resources, services it renders, its role in a democratic society, and its needs, could be planned.

3. Involve as many community groups as possible in NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK. The Junior Chamber of Commerce, the National Education Association, National Congress of Parents and Teachers, the American Association of University Women, are just a few of the national organizations which have endorsed this program. Try to get library subjects on their March meeting programs.

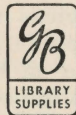
Librarians of public libraries, school libraries, college and university libraries, and community bookstores can realize results from this program which will be beneficial to their institutions for many years to come. NOW IS THE TIME TO ACT. DON'T WAIT!

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# LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

By IRVING LIEBERMAN, *Director,  
School of Librarianship,  
University of Washington*

**PNLA points the way through research and cooperation. MPLA, soon to be ten years old, gained much from the joint MPLA-PNLA Conference at Bozeman where this article was also part of a panel discussion, "Books and Libraries in Our Region."**

In examining my subject: "Library Development and Research in the Pacific Northwest," it seems logical to relate this subject to research in librarianship nationally. Just a matter of a few weeks ago, I had an opportunity to see the typed manuscript of the introduction to the October 1957 issue of *Library Trends*. That issue is to be on research in librarianship and I commend for your attention the entire issue when it is published. Maurice Tauber, the issue editor, points out there is a great lack of research in librarianship today. The research era of the '30s and '40s has passed, and we are no longer spending as much time or effort as we did in the past. It is a fact that the people who might do the great research of librarianship are large library administrators and cannot take the necessary time for contemplation, individual study and writing. May I say all of this notwithstanding, the Library Development Project of PNLA. Another fact is that much of the research must take place in the library schools of the country. At the same time the change from the 5th year Bachelor's to the 5th year Master's degree in the accredited library schools of the country has created a situation of lessening the quality and quantity of research. On the other hand, the schools offering the doctorate are joining forces to create a situation in which there will be greater cooperation in many areas of research. This may insure for the future a better situation in library research. Today we are being exposed to

the reporting practical library situations rather than intensive research effort.

If we look back over some 80 odd years, we find that there have been 3 major surveys or studies in librarianship. First, the 1876 Bureau of Education Study, which while it was done by the government, did involve the practicing librarian, in fact, the pioneers of 1876. Second, in 1926 the ALA 4-volume study of libraries, which was primarily concerned with library organization and technical services. Finally, the monumental Public Library Inquiry, with its many volumes, which took a good look at direction, objectives, policy, philosophy, as well as future goals. For the first time in a library study, librarians went outside of their field to another discipline, the social sciences, to secure leadership for the research effort. The major conclusions or ideas that came to us from the Public Library Inquiry were: One — the need and possibility for providing for public library users the most worthwhile and less-used books and other materials, such as films, recordings, filmstrips, of the current output as well as of the past; the inability at present to provide these in other places than larger systems because of the completely decentralized collections of books in small municipal or rural library units. Two — the need to professionalize library personnel and to get an organized profession by organizing tasks on the basis of their difficulty and professional quality, and filling



such positions by persons appropriately trained and then organizing the other personnel by systems of in-service and other training adequate for the non-professional work to be performed. Three — the need and practicability of simplifying and economizing on the technical processes by centralizing acquisitions and other processes. Four — the difficulties and the problems in the relationship between the service to children and young people by public libraries and by school libraries.

Now in the PNLA Project we find the same kind of idea of turning to public administration and political science for leadership, this time, in the person of Dr. Morton Kroll, the Director of the Library Development Project. But let us go back a bit in PNLA history to see how this Project was born since it would be utter folly to assume that it came into existence full grown. I have in front of me the first mimeographed document of the Library Development Committee in 1949, almost 10 years ago, in which they recommended that (1) convenient and ready access to the materials of knowledge, information and inspiration for all the people is an essential and desirable thing; (2) that the most feasible agency so far developed for making the full and unrestricted range of these materials available to all is a library system which centralized the technical processing of materials but wisely decentralizes the actual materials and directs services to the people, and (3) that the cost of providing the materials needed, plus the machinery for making them available to all is well within the financial reach of the entire area if planned and operated in an ingenious and businesslike way. This statement appears as the basic premise of the PNLA Library Development Committee Report of 1949. The Committee listed 17 specific projects for completion. At the same time they realized that their own resources were not sufficient for this kind of research and yet research was vital to the implementation of the

library development project. They suggested (1) that social scientists be brought in for some studies (2) they set up specific projects for committees within the PNLA according to type of library and type of work.

In 1950 and 1951 the Library Development Committee continued to function and progress but even as they moved forward there was some discouragement. The membership felt that if it could get some outside paid help, it could do a much better job in expediting the whole process of library development by completing the basic research and implementing the study results. Therefore, in the original proposal to the Ford Foundation the following statement appears: "as the work of these state and province committees has been carried forward, it has become evident that the problems of community and regional analysis and study which must be understood and solved as a basis for sound and uniform library progress, are such that they cannot be mastered by volunteer committees working largely without funds." This kernel within the proposal was the basis on which, I feel, the Ford Foundation made the original grant to PNLA.

Many of you know that the original request to the Ford Foundation was \$82,000 and the grant made was \$60,000. This year in our Proposal Addendum we reported that rather than just making an educated guess on some of the areas that were being studied—studies, travel, observation and consultation throughout the region would make the studies more effective in the future, not only for the Pacific Northwest, but for other states and regions as well. To do this we required an additional \$16,000. This amount has been granted. As you heard at the luncheon, the working paper of studies under the Project is unique. Probably its most unique quality to me is that it is concerned with the whole complex of libraries. For the first time, either on a regional or a national basis, we will have a look at the relationship of vary-



ing types of libraries and varying types of work. This idea of being able to cooperate, coordinate our work, and to learn more about each other, which has been the basic principle in the growth and development of PNLA as reported by Miss Campbell has also been evident in the Project. We cannot succeed as public librarians alone, we cannot succeed as college and university or special librarians, and we certainly cannot succeed as a group of school librarians by ourselves. We have to work together if we are going to achieve success. Another interesting fact about the proposal of the Library Development Project is that it was prepared by a Library Development Committee, the majority of whose members were college and university librarians and not public librarians. This Committee itself felt the need for research of the growing relationship within the complex of libraries and succeeded in preparing a strong proposal that could go forward to the Foundation.

We are delighted to see the many areas in the Library Development Project, several of which were mentioned in Dr. Kroll's luncheon talk. The studies should make a significant contribution not only in our region, but nationally as well. Two of the strongest items in the research of school librarianship is the administrator's concept of the school library and the relationship between public and school libraries. These are two things that have needed basic research. We hope that by having an attitude study, as well as a more comprehensive look at the administrator's role and his conception of the school library, we will be breaking new ground in the development of school libraries. Again, with service of children and young people, the importance of creating an understanding of what is the service of the public library and what the service is in the schools. School librarians and public librarians do not understand this difference so how can we expect Board of Trustees and School Boards to understand the

difference. In the college and university area the policy and control of libraries, as well as an examination of the administrative aspect, the research function and the teaching function of the college and university library will add a great deal of information for our use here in the Northwest. The public library, its finance, its legal organization, the development of children's services and adult education services are other areas in the Project.

We are pleased and deeply honored that the Proposal placed the Project on the campus of the University of Washington, under the auspices of the School of Librarianship. This has given our faculty and our students an opportunity — those who are interested in specific research to work in those areas, and to make themselves useful to the Project staff. At one and the same time to develop individuals and to improve our teaching program.

All of these things which I have related could not have happened without a thoughtful, long, carefully conceived library development program for the Pacific Northwest. And now we will have the Project's research come next July. The publication of findings will be available sometime in 1958 or 1959. Is this the end? Hardly. Actually, the implementation of the research will really make for a greater PNLA and we hope that the implementation of the research in our region will have broad effects on other groups striving to improve and develop library service throughout the country. Therefore we are not sitting by the sidelines waiting for the research to be finished and published. In fact, we are preparing now to implement this research so that by 1958, one year from now, when we report once more at the PNLA in Victoria, we hope to be able to offer you a plan for the implementation of this research. The research in itself is useless. It is the implementation of that research that will make the difference in the library development in our particular region. In addition, many



additional studies will be recommended. When these areas are indicated, there will be time and effort necessary for many other groups to develop them as best they can. To assist, the Council on Library Resources is ready, willing, and able with large sums of money to implement such studies. Mr. Vernor Clapp, the President of the Council, is urging librarians from every type of library to consider their research needs. I couldn't think of a better way to approach this research than to do it through a regional association using our own proposal as a jumping off point because of the success we have had with it. The Ford Foundation has said as I talked with them about the Proposal Addendum that they are no longer in the business of research in librarianship. They have turned \$5,000,000 over to the Council on Library Resources and it is that Council that will now administer any project for library research. Our Library Development Project, I must modestly say, will cover only some of the areas and there will be many others to be done. This is an opportunity, it seems to me, for other regional associations to strive to accomplish the same purpose that the Pacific Northwest Library Association's Library Development Project will do for us.

**Plan NOW to Come  
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CONFERENCE**

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**August 28, 29, 30, 1958**

## **DU PLANS TWO WORKSHOPS**

### *School Library Workshop*

The School of Librarianship at the University of Denver is planning a second workshop for school librarians. This year it will precede the A.L.A. Conference in San Francisco, and will be held on July 7-11, 1958.

It will be directed by Sara Jaffarian, Director of Libraries, Greensboro Public Schools, Greensboro, North Carolina. A local committee, made up of Mary Lee Keith, Director of Libraries, Denver Public Schools, Lucille Hatch, Associate Professor, School of Librarianship, University of Denver, and Stuart Baillie, Director, School of Librarianship, University of Denver, will assist in planning and arranging the Workshop.

It is planned to consider the problems of the school library and the faculty it serves in the modern school. Emphasis will be placed on problems recognized by the Workshop participants.

The Workshop may be taken for two hours of graduate credit but it will also be possible to enroll for no credit. The tuition cost is \$28.00 and housing will be available at the DU Hotel. A brochure, reservation blank and housing information will be available upon request.

### *Public Library Service to Adults*

Preliminary plans have been made for a Workshop to precede the MPLA Conference on the University of Denver Campus. It will be a three day, non-credit Workshop and will concern itself with public library services to adults. The dates are August 25, 26, 27, 1958. Further information will be available from the School of Librarianship, University of Denver, Denver 10, Colorado.



# BOOKS AND LIBRARIES IN OUR REGION: Membership in the P.N.L.A.

By KATHLEEN CAMPBELL,  
Librarian,  
University of Montana

**This is the third of a series of panel speeches made at the joint MPLA-PNLA Meeting in Bozeman, Montana, and shows that the strength of PNLA lies with its librarians — its membership.**

The Pacific Northwest Library Association, an outgrowth of the Washington State Library Association, dates back to 1909. Conditions which prompted the organization of the Association were (1) the Pacific Northwest, practically new country, was well isolated from the eastern and central portions of the United States and consequently dependent upon its own resources; and, (2) libraries were far apart in the sparsely populated area of the Northwest. As Mr. Charles W. Smith, formerly Librarian of the University of Washington Library, said in his History of the PNLA, "Although the future loomed large, it was a time of small beginnings — a small population, small libraries, small book appropriations, and small salaries. Few of the librarians were trained, and in some quarters there was a question even as to the desirability of securing professionally trained librarians."

There was no other way — librarians and the libraries of the Northwest were dependent upon one another. However, the history of the PNLA might not have read so dramatically had it not been for the strong personalities that sparked the flame of enthusiasm for a united library front in the Northwest back in the early 1900's.

When the first conference was held in Seattle in June 1909, there were 85 original members, and about 35 members in attendance at the Conference. Librarians at this Conference were discussing pretty much the same problems as librarians of today. The year 1957 could well be substituted for the year 1909 on the program of the first PNLA Conference for the topics included

"Work of a Public Library Commission" — a subject so important today in light of the Library Services Act; "Library Training for Teachers" — a topic which received considerable attention during the Pre-Conference on Library Education held on Wednesday afternoon of this week; "What the Library can do for the Schools"; "What the School Needs from the Library"; "How to Select and Advertise Children's Books"; and, "Cooperation of Libraries in the Northwest" — the most important matter of the Association from its very beginning.

In connection with the discussion on cooperation of Northwest libraries, Mr. Smith has a progress report on the COOPERATIVE CHECK LIST OF BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS RELATING TO PACIFIC NORTHWEST HISTORY, a project already underway in 1909.

The year 1909 saw the PNLA born. Now there was work to be done. Work, after all, was the purpose for organization — to create an interest in libraries in the region. The attitude of those pioneer librarians back in 1909 was not one of selfish approach — their interest was not "What can the Association do for me?" Rather, they had a burning zeal to contribute something to the region in the way of libraries and library resources and to make these resources, both physical and professional, available to the whole Northwest.

In his History, Mr. Smith stated that the period of the 1910's saw the PNLA grow into a strong organization of some 200 members. He states: "Its annual conferences afforded an opportunity



for friendly acquaintance and for the exchange of ideas and the nourishment of ideals. These gatherings became a clearing house for cooperative undertakings on a scale sufficient to insure success." The membership today is approximately 700 individuals and 80 institutions. However, the PNLA did not sail through the years meeting with success at every turn. There were the growing years with the headaches and pains, with failures as well as accomplishments, and with years of hard work before accomplishment. Headaches, planning and hard work still lie ahead.

Annual conferences have been but a small part of the PNLA. Its membership through committees is busy year after year working on projects which are so vital to librarians and libraries in the region. For example, in 1917 a Subscription Book Committee was appointed. The purpose of this Committee was to furnish information relating to books of this class to librarians in the Northwest. As you probably all know, this important service was taken over by the ALA in 1930 as the SUBSCRIPTION BOOKS BULLETIN.

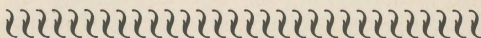
The Committee on Bibliography likewise came into being in 1917, and through the work of this Committee the Pacific Northwest Bibliographic Center was established in the late 1930's.

The above projects are but two of the many accomplishments of the PNLA. Many of you are familiar with the Association's other accomplishments and with the publications of the Association, the most recent being WHO'S WHO AMONG PACIFIC NORTHWEST AUTHORS which you have all seen on exhibit at this Conference.

The accomplishments of the PNLA are the accomplishments of its membership. This has been done through representation on committee of each state and province within the Association and through close integration with committees of the state and provincial library associations. For example, Chairmen of the Legislative Committees of the area state and provincial library associations comprise the PNLA

Legislative Committee. Librarians in the region have needed the PNLA and they have looked to it for leadership, coordination, and unity of effort. This has kept the Association strong and its members have been willing to work far beyond the call of duty to maintain their Association.

The PNLA will soon celebrate its 50th Anniversary, and at the half-century point the members of the Association still think that a united effort is more effective than divided interests. It was through this thinking on the part of the PNLA membership that the Library Development Project of the Association came into being and was made a reality through a Ford Foundation grant. After hearing the report of the Project Director at the Thursday luncheon it is evident that the PNLA will not want for a long time to come for committee assignments or for opportunities to make contributions toward a continued development of libraries and librarians in the Northwest.



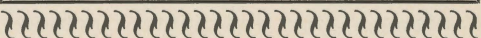
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## BIBLIOGRAPHICAL CENTER NEWS

### RECENT NEW MEMBERS

The following have joined the Bibliographical Center for Research, Rocky Mountain Region, since August, 1957: National Bureau of Standards, Boulder, Colorado, Mrs. Willie D. Sevis, Librarian; Grant County Library, Silver City, New Mexico, Helen Lynch and Mildred T. Walton, Librarians; Lorac Service Corporation, P. O. Box 1590, Tulsa, Oklahoma; Mr. B. W. Koepfel, Senior Research Engineer; Woehrmyer Printing Company, 750-770 Acoma Street, Denver 4, Colorado; Shell Chemical Corporation, Denver, Colorado, Mrs. N. A. Lewis, Librarian, Technological Department; Bayard, New Mexico, Cobre High School, Mrs. Elizabeth Leewright, Librarian; Mesa County Library, Grand Junction, Colorado, Mrs. Irene Wubben, Librarian.

### EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Officers and members of the Executive Committee of the Center will meet at a dinner session at ALA Mid-Winter. Included in the group are Chairman of the Council, Ray C. Janeway, Librarian, Texas Technological College, Lubbock, Texas; Vice Chairman, Fleming Bennett, Librarian, University of Arizona, Tucson; Treasurer, John T. Eastlick, Librarian, Denver Public Library; Secretary and Librarian of the Greeley Public Library, Phyllis Osteen.

Executive Committee members will include: Chairman, James Ranz, Director, University of Wyoming, Laramie; Stuart Baillie, Director of Libraries, Mary Reed Library, and Director of University of Denver School of Librarianship; Miriam McNally, representing MPLA Quarterly; Elsa Thompson, Librarian, Albuquerque Public Library; Lora Crouch, President of MPLA; and Eulalia Chapman, Director, Bibliographical Center.

The agenda will include discussion of the 1958 budget, plans for improvement and coordination of efforts regarding the Center's service in the Region. The increased bibliographical service to

rural areas and for government research call for an enlargement of the staff, according to the Director.

A date for the Annual Meeting, which members are thinking of having with MPLA in August in Denver, will be considered. The Nominating Committee of three persons will be appointed from the group of members who pay less than \$100 per year.

### OLIVE LONG MEMORIAL FUND

Last year at Christmas time a beautiful tree was filled with sparkling decorations and gifts for Olive Long. This year a fund has been started in memory of her fine and faithful work for the Bibliographical Center. She passed away October 4th.

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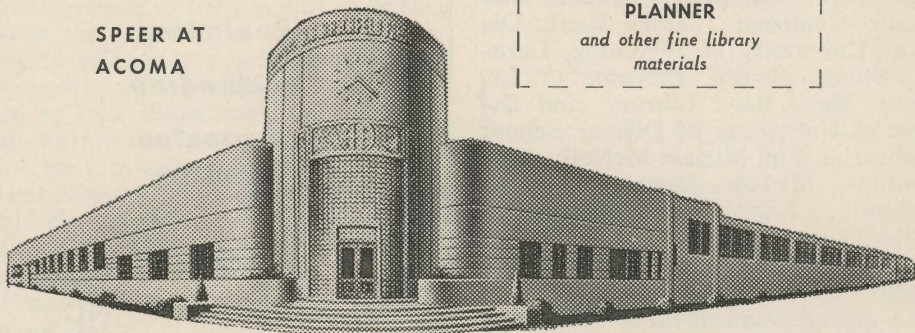
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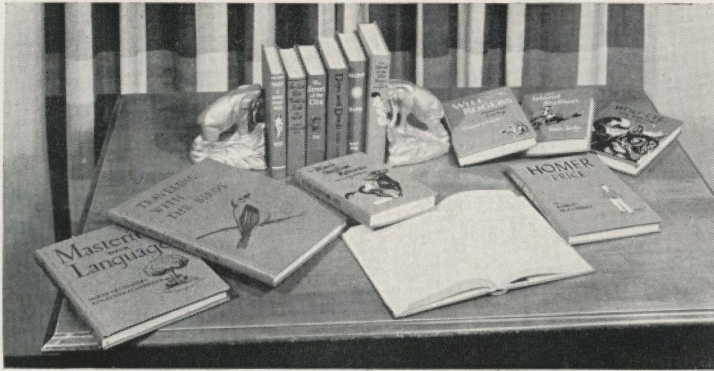
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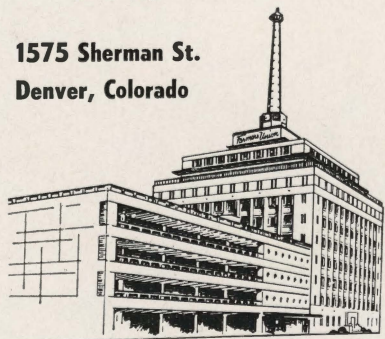
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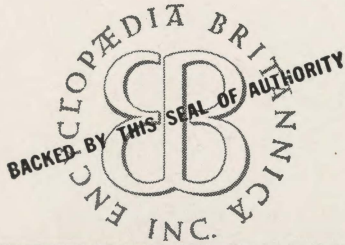
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