WEST VIRGINIA LIBRARIES

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THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WEST VIRGINIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION WILL BE HELD:

OCTOBER 16-17
HUNTINGTON, W. VA.

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND

AN OUTSTANDING PROGRAM IS BEING ARRANGED
COMPLETE DETAILS WILL APPEAR IN THE NEXT ISSUE

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND
June 3, 1959 was a significant day in the history of the Kanawha County Public Library. On this day the Library completed 50 years of public library service to the citizens of Charleston and Kanawha County.

The history of the Kanawha County Public Library began in July, 1908 when a committee of the Woman’s Kanawha Literary Club was appointed to organize action in support of a public library in Charleston.

Their hopes became a reality when on June 3, 1909, with a few hundred books and one librarian, the Charleston Public Library was opened to the public. Its quarters were in the Y. W. C. A. Building on Capitol Street, with Miss Mabel Delle Jones as the first librarian.

In the early years of its existence, the Library’s quarters were changed frequently. The first move occurred in the summer of 1912 when the Y. W. C. A. needed space to accommodate its own expanding services. Rent-free rooms were provided by the First Presbyterian Church on Quarry Street, and the Library moved into the former residence of the pastor. On May 15, 1913, the Library was moved to the Y. W. C. A. Building on Virginia Street, just east of McFarland. On September 3, 1914, the Library secured quarters at McFarland and Kanawha Streets (Kanawha Boulevard). The Library remained here until March, 1921, when it moved to the Red Cross Building on the levee near Capitol Street. Finally, in May, 1926, the Library moved to its present site. The
Charleston Library became the Kanawha County Public Library in 1934.

The present home of the Kanawha County Public Library is the old Capitol Annex Building located at Lee, Hale, and Dickinson Streets in downtown Charleston. The building was erected in 1904 to house the State Supreme Court, the Auditor's and Treasurer's offices and the offices of the Adjutant General. Later, the West Virginia Department of Archives and History occupied the top floor.

Organizations and institutions such as the Red Cross, Boy Scouts, Morris Harvey College, the State Teachers Retirement Board, and the West Virginia State Medical Association also have maintained offices in the building at one time or another. Since 1949 the Charleston Children's Museum has occupied rent-free quarters in the building.

The Kanawha County Public Library said "welcome" to visitors with an open house and reception on June 3, 1949. Habel Belle Jones (Mrs. Raymond H. O'Brien) the first librarian and Mrs. John Harwell, Sr., charter member of the Woman's Kanawha Literary Club were guests of honor.

The library received splendid publicity. Generous and enthusiastic support and cooperation in reporting and helping to promote this significant community event came from the following: Charleston Daily Mail, Charleston Gazette, Television Station WCHS, Television Station WVTN, Television Station USAZ.

In addition, special bookmarks and posters were used. Approximately 500 letters were sent to individuals and organizations in Charleston and Kanawha County. All such channels were
employed to bring this event to the attention of the public.

A reception was held in the Browsing Room for all visitors. Members of the Library Board and the Woman's Kanawha Literary Club arranged the reception and greeted the many visitors. Special displays of old-time photographs and other exhibits of early library materials were shown.

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OTHER ANNIVERSARIES

The Clarksburg Public Library celebrated its 52nd anniversary with the community attending open house during National Library Week.

The centennial of the Ohio County Public Library was May 9, 1959. The Wheeling newspapers had excellent articles about the history of the Library. In the lobby exhibit case there was a display of the first minute book of the Wheeling Library Association of 1859, and the early treasurer's report of the Association.
A workshop for public librarians was conducted by the Library Commission in Charleston, May 4-5, 1959. The workshop was financed by the Library Commission from Library Services Act funds as a part of its plan for the extension of rural library service.

Registration and tours of the Library Commission headquarters took place on Monday morning, May 4, and sessions were held at the Daniel Boone Hotel Monday afternoon, Monday evening, and Tuesday morning, May 5.

Official delegates, who received compensation as representatives of their libraries, totaled 45. Total registration for the workshop was 101.

Special consultants for the workshop were:

Robert S. Ake, Assistant Director, Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore Maryland.


Miss Jane Brugger, Chief, Catalog Department, Kanawha County Public Library, Charleston, West Virginia.

Mrs. Frances Neel Cheney, Associate Professor, Library School, George Peabody College for Teachers, Nashville, Tennessee.

Miss Elizabeth B. Hage, Director, Prince George's County Memorial Library, Blandensburg, Maryland.

Monday afternoon sessions focused attention on "Improving Our Book Collections." On Monday evening Mr. Harry Brawley, member of the Library Commission, was toastmaster. Mr. Wilfred Morin spoke on the subject "The Library Services Act, Past - Present - Future"; Miss Parks on "West Virginia and the Library Services Act"; and Mr. Apel on "Needed Legislation for Better Public Library Service."

On Tuesday morning special interest discussion groups consisted of: "Cataloging for Small Libraries"; "Reference and Interlibrary Loans"; "Regional Library Problems"; "Coordination of Existing Public Libraries in Larger Programs"; and "Extending Service from the Largest County Libraries; Huntington Public, Kanawha County Public, and Ohio County Public Library."

Proceedings for the workshop are being prepared by the Library Commission and will be available soon.

* * * * * * *

LIBRARIANS NEEDED BY COMMISSION

Two librarians are needed soon after July 1 to organize and develop a new regional library which will serve Raleigh and Fayette Counties, West Virginia (200,000 population). This year the Library Commission has surveyed the counties, processed 20,000 new books and purchased two new bookmobiles in preparation for beginning of program.

One Regional Librarian needed. Beginning salary up to $6,000. Degree from accredited library school, and three or more years successful experience required.

One Coordinator of Reader's Services needed. Beginning salary $4,800-$6,000, depending on qualifications. Degree from accredited library school required.

Apply to: Dora Ruth Parks, Executive Secretary West Virginia Library Commission 2004 Quarrier Street Charleston, West Virginia
NEWS FROM THE FIELD

ECPL BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

Mrs. John T. Keenan was elected to the Library Board of the Kanawha County Public Library to fill the unexpired term of the late Colonel C. Phillips.

EXPANSION PROGRAMS.

Mrs. Nelle Griffin of the Benenden Civic Center Library of Bridgeport reports that extensive plans are underway for expanding the reading and study area from a seating space of 23 to 56. Also in the plans are a West Virginia room, a Senior reading room, and shelving space for an additional 10,000 volumes.

Clarksburg Public Library received $200.00 from the estate of George Nesbitt for the building fund.

Mrs. Lois Hiebel reports that the Carnegie Library of Parkersburg is undergoing extensive remodeling.

The Raleigh County Public Library, Beckley, is also expanding its facilities according to Mrs. Cecil Graham. A new wing has been added to the library which more than doubles the space in the library, and an electrically operated book hoist will be accessible on all four levels of the split level plan.

The Sistersville Library, which has just completed its 50th year of service to the community, plans to replace its 50 year old building. Plans are being formulated for the construction of a new library building.

EXTENSION SERVICES.

The Marshall County Library has two deposit collections located in centers which are deserving of the service, the Glendale Hospital and the Marshall County Children's Center.

The Fresh Air Farm, the day camps, and the Scout camps of the area all have received deposit collections of books from the Ohio County Public Library. These agencies also use the Film Department of the library.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY.

Mrs. Vesta H. Williams reports that a group was organized in Martinsburg last fall and now boasts a membership of over 250. The first project of the group was collecting books for a spring sale. Congratulations to the "Friends", and hope the proceeds of the sale were good.

FELICITY DE LUXE

The interview of the Wheeling-News Register reporter with Miss Eucy Matthews, Children's Librarian of the Ohio County Public
Library, concerning the difference between true fantasy and exag-
gerated fantasy in children's books. The article and photo-
graphs covered a full page in the April 26th issue of the paper.

The full page and photographically illustrated article in the
June 7th issue of the Charleston Gazette, about the West Virginia
Library Commission.

The Charleston Gazette of June 7th also had an article about the
history of the Kanawha County Public Library.

Miss Charlotte Bailey of the Clarksburg Public Library reports
that a weekly story hour is being conducted by the members of the
League for Service and the local chapter of AAW.

A six week story hour was conducted at the Martinsburg Public Li-
brary. Mrs. Else Williams reports that the story hour was taped
at the library and played as a repeat performance over the radio
on Saturday morning.

The Huntington Public Library reports about their Reading Club
for 1959 in their publication "The Fortnighter." If you are not
on the mailing list to receive the publication write to the Lib-
rary in Huntington and ask for the May 20, 1959 issue of "The
Fortnighter."

TOURS

The Benedict Civic Center, Bridgeport held a tea and tour of the
library for the faculties of the Bridgeport schools.

Mrs. Katie Bailey of Bluefield reports that Boy Scouts and Girl
Scouts, and groups from the schools make frequent visits to the
library.

Visiting Scouts are told of the various books collections, the
procedure for borrowing books, and the use of their library card
when they visit the Marion County Library. Mrs. Valtam H. Com-
way reports that groups visiting the library will become future
borrowers, and this is one of the best ways of bringing attention
to the library in any community.

The Editor wishes to thank each one of you for your prompt re-
sponse to the questionnaires which were sent out this past spring.
Thank you again for all the news.
PENDING FEDERAL LEGISLATION OF SIGNIFICANCE
TO WEST VIRGINIA LIBRARIES

LIBRARY SERVICES ACT APPROPRIATION:

Senate approved appropriation of $7,500,000, June 24, according to a telegram received from Senator Robert C. Byrd, member of the Senate appropriations sub-committee on H.E.W. appropriations.

Status: Now in conference committee of Senate-House.

SCHOOL SUPPORT ACT OF 1959:

On June 8, the House Education and Labor Committee reported an amended bill (H.R. 232) which authorizes $25 per child for a four-year period to the states for constructing school facilities and teachers' salaries. The term "school facilities" is defined in the bill to mean "classrooms and related facilities (including furniture, instructional materials other than textbooks)". This would make possible the allocation by the State educational agency of funds for school libraries and materials. The House bill is now pending in the Rules Committee. In the Senate, the Education Subcommittee is considering S.2 (Murray bill) and other educational measures.

Status: House-Pending in the Rules Committee. Senate-Hearings have been completed.

FEDERAL PROPERTY AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES ACT OF 1942 (Amendments to):

[S.155] permits donations of government surplus property to "Libraries which are tax supported or publicly owned and operated." The House bill (H.R. 4254) would provide for the donation of surplus property to "Public libraries which are tax supported in whole or in part" and further provides that for the purposes of this act "a public library shall be considered to be an educational institution."

Status:

INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1954:

(H.R. 3667)-Amends section 170 (b) (1) of the Internal Revenue Code.

(H.R. 2444)-Same as above. Permits a deduction for Federal Income Tax purposes certain charitable contributions to libraries.

These bills would include public libraries in the treasury's definition of an "educational institution", so that the public libraries could receive the same benefits under the Internal Revenue Code that are now available to college, university, and school libraries.

The above benefits would mean that an individual taxpayer as well as a corporation would receive the same deduction for a charitable
contribution to a public library as to a church, educational institution, a hospital, etc.

Status:

COMMUNITY FACILITIES & PUBLIC WORKS ACT OF 1959:

(8.155) A bill to expand the public facility loan program of the "Community Facilities Administration." The term "public facilities" includes public schools and libraries.

This bill would facilitate establishing libraries in many communities which otherwise would be unable to acquire loans.

Status:

COLLEGE HOUSING:

(8.35) The omnibus housing bill, included in this bill in Title V-College Housing, is a provision for "loans for classroom buildings and other academic facilities." It is understood that the term "other academic facilities" would permit loans to educational institutions for the construction of new or the improvement of existing college library buildings.

Status: Senate-House Conference Committee is considering. Presidential veto threatens the present bill.

LIBRARY SERVICE TO THE BLIND:

(8.257) A bill to establish a temporary Presidential commission to study and report on problems related to blindness and the needs of blind persons. One of the charges of the proposed Commission is an appraisal of the quantity and quality of all services, programs and activities supported by Federal funds, including "(D) books for the blind in raised print and recorded form and library services, including problems of procurement and distribution."

Status: Hearings have been held by Special Education Subcommittee of the House Education and Labor committees. ALA filed a statement urging that a professional in the field of library services to the blind be included in the membership if a National Commission is appointed to consider the problems related to blindness.

NATIONAL CULTURAL CENTER ACT:

(H.R.6047) A bill to "amend the National Cultural Center Act to provide that the building to be constructed for the performance of symphonies and operas shall be named the Woodrow Wilson Memorial Hall, to provide for a library of the performing arts, and for other purposes." This proposed fine arts library would house such materials as manuscripts, photographs, motion pictures, recordings, and writings directly or indirectly related to the performing arts.
The National Cultural Center was authorized last September and a 10-acre site provided on condition that $25,000,000 estimated cost for the construction of the Center be raised by public subscription within five years. A 3-break member advisory committee to help plan and run the proposed National Cultural Center was appointed by President Eisenhower in April of this year.

DEPOSITORY LIBRARY SYSTEM:
(H.R.519 - Revision of the Depository Library System)

The UVa favors passage which would mean that U. S. Government documents would be more widely and efficiently distributed in U. Va.

Depository libraries would be relieved of the mailing costs and therefore there would be a greater balance in their budgets for purchasing other materials.

Status of Bill: Passed House Mr. 16, 1959. Now in Senate for consideration.
WEST VIRGINIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
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<td>Kinnie X. Burdette</td>
<td>Mason County Public Library</td>
<td>Point Pleasant, West Virginia</td>
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<td>Joanna Burke</td>
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<td>Edward A. Button</td>
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<td>Mrs. Janet Callard</td>
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<td>Mrs. Catherine Campbell</td>
<td>Pendleton County Library</td>
<td>Franklin, West Virginia</td>
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<td>Nancy Canterbury</td>
<td>Kimberly, West Virginia</td>
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<td>Bertha Chadderton</td>
<td>Sisterville Public Library</td>
<td>Sisterville, West Virginia</td>
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<td>Mrs. Viola D. Dodge</td>
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<td>Huntington 1, West Virginia</td>
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<td>Mrs. Bernice Dorsey</td>
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<td>Richard C. Doty</td>
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Weise-Winchler Bindery, Inc.  
631 North Street  
Cincinnati 2, Ohio

Mrs. Otis G. Wilson  
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Huntington, West Virginia

Mrs. R. M. Wilson  
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Logan, West Virginia

Nicholas Yavorsich  
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Carolyn Matthews Witches  
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Mary B. Wolfe  
Box 28  
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Mrs. Edna R. Woolery  
Bethany, West Virginia

Robert H. Yockey  
Bethany College  
Bethany, West Virginia

Robert L. Zimmer  
1419 Jefferson Park Avenue  
Charlottesville, Virginia

Mrs. C. E. Zipf  
Pleasants County Public Library  
St. Marys, West Virginia
Institutional

Beckley College
Beckley, West Virginia

Louis Bennett Public Library
Benson, West Virginia

Carnegie Library
725 Green Street
Parkersburg, West Virginia

Clarksburg Public Library
Clarksburg, West Virginia

Fairold State College Library
Fairmont, West Virginia

Gaylord Bros., Inc.
155 Gifford Street
Syracuse, New York

Charles W. Gibson Library
East Main and Sedgwick Streets
Buchanan, West Virginia

Glenville State College Library
Glenville State College
Glenville, West Virginia

Grafton Public Library
City Building
Main Street
Grafton, West Virginia

Hardy County Public Library Assoc.
Box 101
Moorefield, West Virginia

Harrison-Ohio Regional Library
51 Marion Street
Buchanan, West Virginia

Huntington Public Library
900 Fifth Avenue
Huntington, West Virginia

Kanawha County Public Library
Lee and Hale Streets
Charleston, West Virginia

Marshall College Library
Huntington, West Virginia

Morris Harvey College
Charleston, West Virginia

Ohio County Public Library
2100 Market Street
Wheeling, West Virginia

Union Carbide Chemicals Company
The Library
P.O. Box 2004
South Charleston 3, West Virginia

Union Carbide Chemicals Company
Development Department Library
South Charleston, West Virginia

Mary H. Weir Public Library
3442 Main Street
Weirton, West Virginia

West Library State College Libr.
West Liberty, West Virginia

U. Va. Dept. of Archives & History
State Capitol Building
Charleston, West Virginia

West Virginia Library Commission
2004 Quarrier Street
Charleston, West Virginia

U. Va. State College Library
Institute, West Virginia

West Virginia University
Morgantown, West Virginia

West Virginia Wesleyan Coll. Lib.
Buckhannon, West Virginia

Wheeling College
Wheeling, West Virginia

Williamson Public Library
Williamson, West Virginia