The W. V. L. A. meeting of 1951 was held at Institute on the occasion of the dedication of W. Va. State college library, October 29, 1951. The academic gathering at 10 A.M. was addressed by Luther H. Evans, the Librarian of Congress.

Dr. Evans stressed that librarians should be willing to weed their collections of books and discard materials no longer pertinent. Secondly, he warned against following elaborate procedures of cataloging when they serve no useful purpose, and pointed out that the library of Congress rules and practices are good only when they make sense in a particular library. The rules are not a higher law, smaller libraries require less complicated practices. His remarks were witty, telling to those in the profession, and encouraging to those of the general public who heard them. Lastly, he pleaded for the continuance of the strong library tradition of freedom of access to information. He expressed his conviction that people have a right to truth and that the sources of information will be cut off only if people are silenced.

The procession moved to the new library where the doors were opened and the inspection tours started. After lunch, symposiums of the faculty and guests took place simultaneously with library association section meetings. Tea for the librarians and guests provided a restful hour in the attractive faculty lounge of the library.

The dinner meeting of the W.V.L.A. was held that evening, in Glasscock Hall, Members of the Association and the faculty of the College heard Dr. D. M. McNamee, Dean of the College of Arts, Science and Literature at the University of Minnesota, and formerly librarian there.

Before the speech of the evening Mr. Henry spoke with ten candles present to the West Virginia Library Commission. It was accepted by Dora Ruth Parks, Executive Secretary, and cut and distributed by Mrs. Olive Shurtleff, Chairman of the Commission.

After Miss Mary Witts, President of W. V. L. A. had introduced the people at the speaker's table, Dr. McNamee gave a thoughtful discussion of the American heritage. Three characteristics received his attention: the healthy conflict of ideas, the importance of the individual, and the importance of education. All three have been and are fostered by libraries.

The meeting closed with a stirring demand by Dr. John W. Davis, President of W. Va. State, that librarians meet their responsibilities to provide free access to truth.

Saturday morning a board meeting was followed by a general meeting and the election of officers. The adoption of the Library Bill of Rights as the Association's own, climax'd two days of meetings where the individual's right to information became the repeated subject of serious consideration. (The Library Bill of rights was originally published in the A.L.A. Bulet, Latin 42:285 (Jul-Aug 1948). Copies may be obtained from Robert North, Jr., Kansas City Public Library, Charlotte, N.C.

The Association is indeed sensible of its indebtedness to W. Va. State for being host to the conference. The cordiality of faculty and students made the meeting a delight.

Officers elected October 20, 1951 were: President, Mr. Robert North, Jr.; Vice President, Mr. E. Hugh Schwenk; Secretary, Miss Elizabeth Querries; Treasurer, Miss Rose Oliver.

PUBLIC LIBRARY SECTION

The Public Library Section of W. V. L. A. in a brief business meeting at 2:30 P.M. Friday afternoon,
October 29: elected Miss Virginia Ebbing, Chairman for the year 1952.

The Executive Secretary of the W. Va. Library Commission, Miss Dora Bath Parks, asked for an expression of sentiment from the group regarding a possible library workshop to be sponsored by the Commission. The group went on record endorsing the idea, and as being willing to encourage and promote such a training project.

At 9:00 p.m. the members separated into smaller round table groups. Mrs. Madelyn Bradford of the Huntington Public Library was chairman of the group discussing Technical Processing; Mrs. Lawrence Patterson of the Kanawha County Public Library, chairman of the group on Special Services; Miss Wilma Brown of the Kanawha County Public Library, chairman of the group interested in work with children; and Mr. Harold Bellman, of the State Library Commission, chairman of the group discussing Extension Work.

At 11:15 p.m. all members of the section assembled for a panel discussion of current problems in Public Library Administration in W. Va., led by Miss Dora Bath Parks. Other members of the panel were: Mrs. Madelyn Bradford, and Mr. Robert North, Sr. The chairman of the four round tables joined the panel, and preliminary to the more general discussion summarized the points brought out in their groups. Mrs. Lila Adams, new field worker with the commission, recorded the various points as they were made. Miss Parks and the members of the panel then brought out in their discussion the limitations placed upon libraries in their accomplishments in all fields and others by the present state laws governing libraries in West Virginia.

COLLEGE LIBRARY SECTION

Mrs. Virgil Boucher presided over the group of twenty-seven members of the College Section of W. V. L. A. which met in the audio-visual room of W.Va. State Library, on October 29.

Committee discussions were held on Faculty Status of College Library Staffs, Recruiting for Librarianship, and the Curriculum for Teacher-Librarians. The latter topic is to be discussed at the library session of the Association of Higher Education in the spring.

The secretary was directed to collect the college library statistics and to mail them to the Office of the Clerk of the Senate for publication in the W. Va. Blue Book.

Officers elected for 1952 by acclamation were: Mrs. Margaret Bobbitt, Marshall College, chairman; and Virgil Wynn, W. Va. Institute of Technology, secretary.

After the election of officers, Mr. Boucher introduced the first speaker, Mr. Walter C. Foulty, Audio-Visual Director of Marshall College, who discussed the subject of the afternoon: "The College Audio-Visual Program as an Independent Department."

Mr. Foulty stated very clearly why many directors of audio-visual education preferred to be independent of the library. He raised many thought-provoking questions such as: What is the role of the audio-visual program in the library? What is the role of the library in the audio-visual program? Is the audio-visual program in the library a part of the library or a separate entity? Is it a part of the educational program of the institution or a separate entity?

Mr. York, Director of the Audio-Visual Department of W. Va. University Library, was introduced as the next speaker to discuss "The College Audio-Visual Program in the Library," from the point of view of the librarian. He pointed out that librarians were well qualified to service audio-visual aids because of the similarity to library reference work. He explained that the evaluating and selecting of audio-visual materials for circulation and the classifying and housing of these materials is very similar to the methods used for other library materials.
of the state in touch with each other. The list will probably include those who have been members during the past two years, with an indication of the paid-up memberships. If you have not already done so, please send your check for two dollars for 1951-52 to Miss Ross Oliver, Librarian, Marshall College, Huntington, and brighten the life of the membership chairman.

WHAT BECOMES OF THESE QUESTIONNAIRES?

From twelve questionnaires returned last year, and seven this year, a number of interesting ideas have been called; the Executive Board awaits some more returns. In case you have forgotten, the form appears on the last sheet of the conference bulletin.

INVITATION

The President of the Ohio Library Association, Mr. Ernest L. Miller, has suggested that the new W.V.I.A. and O.L.I.A. have a joint meeting in a convenient spot. What does the membership think about this idea? Ohio's plans next year are for Toledo, definitely an inconvenient spot, but the interest of both groups might be stimulated by a meeting together.

FEDERAL LIBRARY BILL

The Library Service Bill, S.1452, was introduced in May by Senator Liston Bowers, Alabama, Senator George Atkinson, Vermont, and Senator Paul Douglas, Illinois. The bill has been reported favorably by the Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare. In the House eight identical bills have been introduced, one (H.R. 5511) by Congressman Cleveland M. Bailey of West Virginia. These bills have been referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor, of which Graham A. G. Barbour, North Carolina, is chairman.

S. 1452 aims to stimulate state library agency programs for the strengthening of already existing inadequate services and the extension of services to rural people without such service, as each state agency feels could be done most effectively, and to provide means for studying methods of extending library services to rural areas. The bill provides for state agencies to submit plans for the use of federal funds for an initial allotment of $40,000 to each state, and the remainder of the allotted amount for the next five years. The bill was introduced in the House of Representatives and has been referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor.
PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS

St. Albans Public Library: A new library is aborning in St. Albans, Kanawha County. After a year of spade work by A.J.N. members and others the St. Albans Public Library was incorporated October 23, 1951 as a private organization, with broad public library objectives.

It is negotiating for quarters to refurbish, equip, and ready for business. People are giving their time, cash and work. The Kanawha Public Library has aided with advice, will set up the registration, circulation, and statistical systems to coincide with its own, will supply large deposit collections, and catalog books belonging to the library. It is hoped that in due course the municipality will appropriate funds for the library's operation.

Where large libraries, because of tax limitations, cannot expand their service, smaller localities may be able to do something about it. The handicap which such small libraries invariably have, can be partly overcome by friendly and cooperative relations with larger libraries. Those interested in following or contributing to this venture, may write to Mrs. Richard Syder, 24 Carroll St., St. Albans.

Kanawha County Public Library:

Circulation of books was up 7% over last year to 475,425 and the book stock increased 10% to a total of 134,000 volumes. The budget for 1951-52 is $127,975.

The 1951-52 budget for educational funds, over and above the normal maximum taxes, was voted in Kanawha County on November 27 by a substantial majority. This measure assures another 3 years of life to the library. About half of its budget is derived from the money raised by this levy. The remainder comes from the general fund of the Kanawha County Schools.

In March 1944 Miss Wilma Brown of boy's and girl's Department initiated an exchange of books and friendly letters with the public library in Norden, England. This friendly interchange has been continuing and received a great deal of interest when Miss Jan Austen of Charleston personally presented some gift books to Norden library. In November Mr. P.L. received a scrapbook and book from England and are preparing one to send in return.

The Vacation Reading Club of Boys and Girls Department encouraged 36 children to enroll with a total of 6,087 books read. One boy read 269, one girl 309, and 124 read 20 or more books during the past summer.

Mr. Robert North, Jr., Librarian, has written an article on the library for the West Virginia State Magazine for December 1951. The issue is devoted to Kanawha County.

Miss Jane Brand prepared a list of articles and books on wage payment and pension plans for the December issue of Kanawha Commerce, published by the Charleston Chamber of Commerce.

COLLEGE LIBRARY NEWS

West Virginia University: In July 1951 a new addition to the library consisting of five floors extending above the old structure was completed. Four of these are stock levels and one is for public rooms. On this floor are found the catalog reference room, book, document, and large reading rooms. Painted in modern shades of green, gray, yellow, and red and lighted by overhead fluorescent lamps, these rooms are bright and cheerful. With these extra rooms the seating capacity of the library has increased by 320 seats.

The rare book room contains the valuable 7,000 piece Dayton book collection. The rarest item in this collection is Shakespeare's First Folio (1623), which is the first printed edition of the author's collected plays. The Third Folio (1664), belonging to Julia Mervine, has the joint bookplate of this famous actress and her husband. Other first editions include works of Milton, Dickens,
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West Virginia Institute of Technology: Last December the library of W.V.I.T. decided to try as an experiment the addition of recordings to its collection. Since there was no space for sound-proof listening rooms it was decided to buy an acoustic phonograph and to place it in the browsing lounge. The idea met with great success. The phonograph has been in almost constant use since the day it was received. The demand is so great in fact that another phonograph has been ordered and will soon be in operation. Recordings in the collection include such subjects as Light Music, Opera, Musical Comedy, Serious Drama, Poetry, Symphony, and Oratorio.

PERSONNEL NEWS AND NOTES

Kanawha County Public Library: Mr. George Williams of the Reference Department was promoted to be head of the department effective December 1, 1951. Mr. Williams came to the library June 1, from Kent State University, Ohio.

On January 1, 1952, Mr. Charles A. Loudermilk, Jr. will join the staff as Reference Assistant, coming directly from taking his Master's Degree at George Peabody Library School, Nashville, Tennessee. He also holds a Master's Degree in Education, and worked in Acquisitions at the University of Georgia Library, Atlanta Division, last year.

Miss Joanne Greenup joined the staff of the Extension Department in July. She is a graduate of Wellesley and received her Library Degree from the University of Washington in Seattle.

Mrs. Mary V. Hoys resigned in July when her husband was transferred to Washington. She is now cataloging at the Library of Congress.

Two staff members, Mrs. Mabel Barnett and Mrs. Martha Norton, resigned this summer and are now the proud mothers of baby girls.
West Virginia Libraries is the official organ of the West Virginia Library Association. It is published quarterly. Contributions and other communications should be addressed to the appropriate Editorial Assistant.

Mrs. Robert North Jr., Kanawha County Public Library, Charleston, W. Va., is now in charge of the News.

Mary Shippee, Potomac State School, Keyser, W. Va., is now in charge of the News.

James E. Hedges, Mountaineer College, is now in charge of the News.

West Virginia University Library: Miss Mary Mattes has been appointed head of special collections. Miss Katherine Grel of the circulation department is now in charge of the catalog department.

Miss Elizabeth Downey has been appointed assistant director of the circulation department.

Several other new people are on the library staff this year. Miss Emily Brown, formerly of the reference department, is now in charge of the new general reading room. Miss Dorothy Dabney is now in charge of the new general reading room. Mr. John Preston (Columbia, 1497) is in charge of the new general reading room. Dr. Donn Genlow is now in charge of the new general reading room. Long a member of the editorial staff, Miss Ruth Hedges is now in charge of the new general reading room.

James E. Hedges, Mountaineer College, is now in charge of the catalog department.

Miss Helen Schmidt, formerly of the reference department, is now in charge of the catalog department.