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West Virginia Libraries Newsletter

West Virginia Library Association

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9-1964

# West Virginia Libraries 1964 Vol.17 No.3

Charles Patterson

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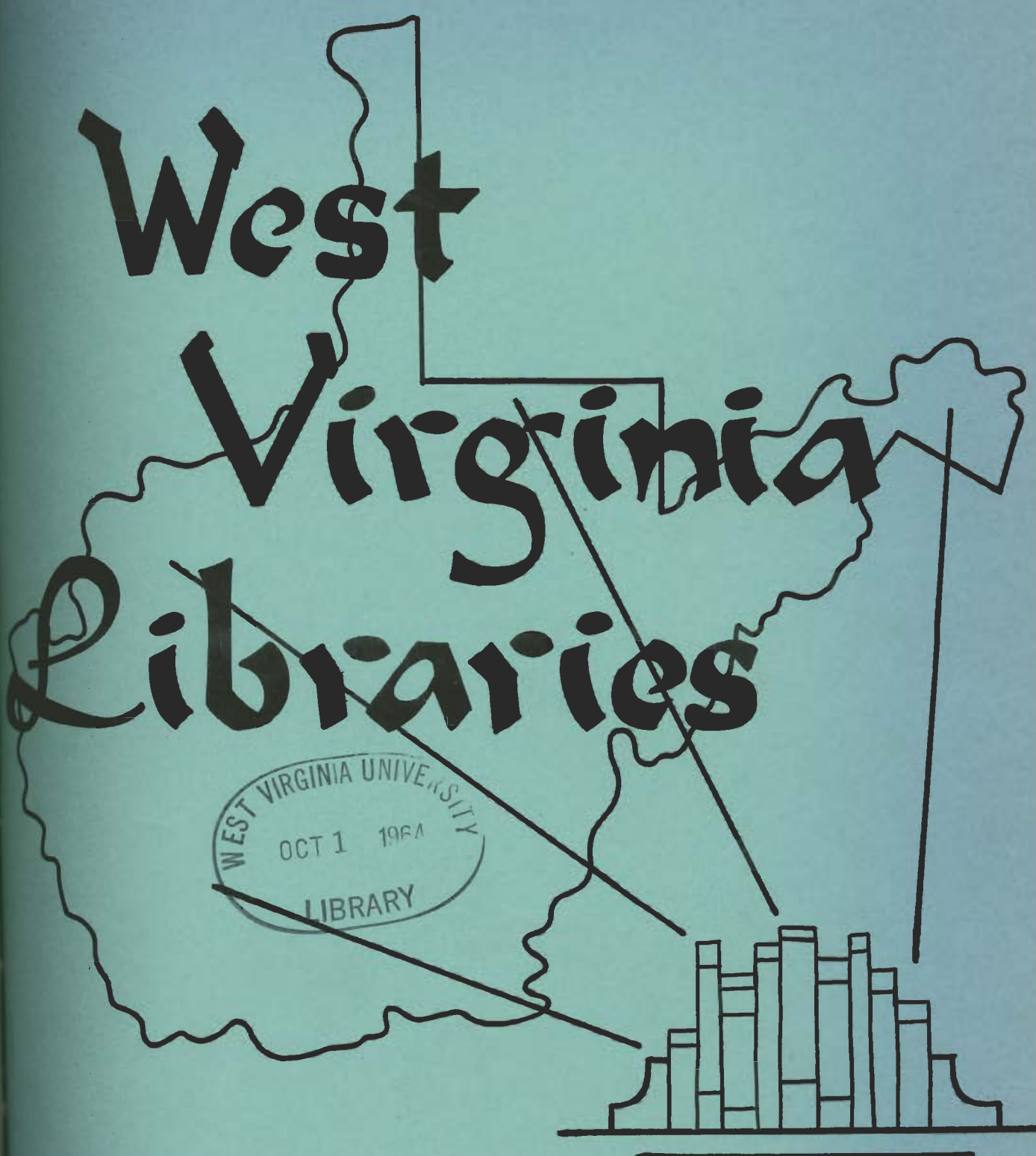
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## Recommended Citation

Patterson, Charles, "West Virginia Libraries 1964 Vol.17 No.3" (1964). *West Virginia Libraries Newsletter*. Paper 79.  
<http://mds.marshall.edu/wvlib/79>

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# West Virginia Libraries

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY  
OCT 1 1967  
LIBRARY



# WEST VIRGINIA

# LIBRARIES

VOLUME 17      OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE      SEPTEMBER  
NUMBER 3      WEST VIRGINIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION      1964

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WEST VIRGINIA LIBRARIES is the official organ of the West Virginia Library Association. It is published quarterly in March, June, September and December. Contributions and other communications should be addressed to the editor and should be received no later than the first day of the month in which an issue is to appear. Subscription is included with membership dues. Annual subscription to non-members is one dollar.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

The old saying, "Don't swap horses in the middle of the stream," was disregarded recently by the West Virginia Library Association when Michael Reynolds, president, resigned and moved to Indiana in June to accept a new position, thus moving your vice-president-president elect up to the presidency.

As your new president, I want to remind you of our annual conference which will be held at the Stonewall Jackson Hotel in Clarksburg on October 16, 17, and 18. Before Mr. Reynolds left, he arranged the program for the conference, securing several outstanding speakers in the library field. Read the details in the advance program recently mailed to you. One significant change in the program this year is for the benefit of school librarians; that is, the scheduling of most of the conference events for Saturday rather than on Friday as in previous conferences. This change was made in the hope that more school librarians might be able to attend. Miss Charlotte Bailey, librarian of the Clarksburg Public Library, is the chairman of local arrangements and she has been busy planning for your comfort and enjoyment.

This is the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the West Virginia Library Association and we can be proud of its progress and accomplishments. However, we still have a lot of room for improvement both in securing new members and in more active participation by the present membership.

Come, help us celebrate our fiftieth anniversary. We need your support.

Mary Louise Graham  
President

## H-E-L-P H-E-L-P

I wonder if the West Virginia Library Association doesn't need me. I think I may need it. I am a school librarian serving in a small school located two miles off a dirt road. I have worked hard, three summers at school, to become certified, and this is an achievement that was realized only last year. I am proud of our school library and I am amazed by what we have been able to accomplish considering the small budget I've had. You see, I have not always been a librarian, I was pressed into service when my principal said we had to have a library and a librarian or our school would not be accredited. It was quite a change of pace for me, a biology teacher! It was difficult at first, doing the planning from scratch, and I do mean scratch. I've tried so hard to do what I feel is right and so much of the time I've had to go it alone. But as I say, now I'm very proud of our library and I know that the youngsters in our school really appreciate having it. You can tell this by the use they are making of it, the books in circulation, the eagerness to seek answers beyond the confines of the textbook. For me it has been a rewarding experience, watching our school library grow. It hasn't grown fast, but it has grown. Now I've been told that the study hall will be moved into our library. Six periods a day of study hall. Will I have to be certified for this? How can I give library service, teach two biology classes and become certified in study hall? This makes all of our efforts to have a library seem pointless. Can anyone help me? Does anyone else have this problem? Is there some organization that can plead with a louder voice than mine for a chance to let the library serve as it should? Perhaps if I meet with other librarians...can anyone help me?

LOOKING BACKWARDShort History of Public Libraries in West Virginia

by

E. Frances Jones

It may be some consolation for today's librarians to learn that the delinquent borrower is not just a modern phenomenon. Harkening back to the records of Wheeling's Library Company we find the librarian warning, "Shareholders are required to take notice that unless arrearages are settled with the treasurer members will be debited with weekly cumulations of twenty-five cents respectively." The year was 1807.

This library at Wheeling grew out of an idea which stemmed from Colonial America. Ben Franklin had created the Library Company of Philadelphia in 1783. Wheeling was a hub of frontier development in western Virginia. Since books were a very scarce item, early libraries were status symbols for the intellectuals of the day. These libraries were subscription libraries supported through memberships. The roster was open on an equal basis to those who could pay the fees, but there was no public tax support. And though the bookstore in Wheeling was reported to have fallen on hard times the library flourished for many years.

In the first half of the nineteenth century West Virginia's libraries often acquired more of the format of a literary society. This was not true of two in the Monongahela River district, the

Buffalo Creek Farmer's Library founded in 1813 and the Morgantown Circulating Library the following year. But in the Eastern Panhandle there were four such groups. The Literary Society of Romney founded in 1819, the Library Society of Harper's Ferry in 1820, and the Martinsburg Library in 1826. Much later Pendleton County organized a Pioneer and Scientific Society which established a library in 1851. Just prior to the Civil War Jefferson County established an Atheneum in Charles Town which supplied books for its membership. In the southern mountains Lewisburg organized a Circulating Library as early as 1823.

The most active of the early libraries in the eastern part of the state was the society at Romney. There were 52 members on the original roll and dues for each member came to fifty cents. Their first purchases included "Plutarch's Lives of Illustrious Men" and Walleth's "Lives of Nations." Though the Virginia Assembly in 1812 called it a "Library Society" these Hampshire Countians fought to restore the official name to "Literary Society." The interests of this group was far ranging and in 1832 received authorization from the legislature to raise \$20,000 by lottery "for educational purposes." A building to house a Classical Institute was erected by the Society soon afterwards.

The havoc which the Civil War wrought in West Virginia weakened and in many cases brought about the dissolution of pioneer libraries. The Union Army in Romney was reported to have carried away two thirds of the book collection. It was not until May 15, 1869, that there was an attempt made to revive the society and to reorganize what remained of the books. The last meeting of this group was held February 15, 1886. The Classical Institute Building

was the first home of the School for the Deaf and the Blind. The present state institutions are located on this same site.

The Wheeling Library, actual predecessor of the present institution was reorganized in 1859. The membership fee was set at \$5.00 per year and the librarian's salary at \$400 per annum. George Harrison, the first librarian, was to keep the fires and the room in order. With the onset of the war this library encountered financial problems. Much of the membership was absorbed into the war effort. It did not resume activities until the 1870's. Monies were hard to raise and so an amendment was secured from the legislature to transfer the property from the old association to the Board of Education. Thus in 1883 the state had its first tax supported public library.

At this juncture it is appropriate to ponder the reasons for the scarcity of public libraries in our state. Prior to 1900, there was only one library of more than a thousand volumes...the Wheeling Library. In New England it was not uncommon for each small state to boast more than fifty such libraries, and the great Bay state, Massachusetts, had 271. Even western states, such as Wisconsin and California, had several dozen public libraries by 1890. The failure to feel the need for public libraries in West Virginia was indicative of a general apathy toward education. What academies existed did not emphasize the value of study and research as much as skill in oratory. The ideals were practical skills and horse sense. The mountaineers' reading seemed to consist largely of persuing the county newspaper and religious tracts.

#### Twentieth Century Libraries

Library development reflects the tenor of its times and of the people of a region. Surely the great Carnegie movement was



spark plugged by the amazing financial success of a wizard who had learned the value of individual study made possible through borrowed books. The philanthropist spent \$40,908,853 on library buildings. In addition to making possible 1,463 public library buildings in this country he helped to force tax support for their operation. He required the local community to give the site and arrange for roughly ten percent of the amount of construction cost for annual operation. This had to be in public monies and was usually provided by either municipality or school board.

West Virginians secured only three Carnegie buildings..these being located at Huntington, Parkersburg, and Hinton. Wheeling carried on negotiations for several years but never seemed to work out a successful plan with the great steel magnate. Finally, through Board of Education financing, they built their own library building and this is still in use today. Whether the failure to obtain Carnegie grants can be blamed on intellectual sluggishness or the reluctance of certain communities to turn to Mr. Carnegie can only be left to surmise. Carnegie's relationship with labor made his gifts distasteful to certain groups. Carnegie buildings were often architectural monstrosities, and have been accused of creating the wrong image for public libraries. But the wee Scotsman helped to lay the foundation for compulsory public support of public libraries; a pattern of financing which is still not accepted by some communities in West Virginia.

By the end of the first World War nine libraries had developed; Huntington 1902, Parkersburg 1905, Clarksburg, Cameron, and Sistersville 1907, Charleston 1909, Bluefield 1913, White Sulphur Springs 1914 and Moundsville 1917. Thirteen more libraries made

their appearance by late twenties: Princeton 1920, Weston, Elkins, Shepherdstown in 1922, Grafton 1923, Marion County, Martinsburg, and Weirton in 1926. Logan and Keyser in 1928.

The period of the twenties was climaxed by the legal establishment of the West Virginia Library Commission in 1929. Its membership was defined... "Five members appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate, each for a term of four years. At least two members of the commission shall be women." Unfortunately there were no funds voted with the creation of the new state agency. The new unit was charged by law "to give advice and counsel to free and public libraries; and to all the communities of the state which may propose to establish libraries."

New libraries were still forming in the Depression years, but now in smaller communities...Parsons 1932, Raleigh County 1935, St. Marys and Gassaway 1936, Franklin 1937, Point Pleasant 1938, and Moorefield 1939.

The Tax Limitation Amendment to the state Constitution reduced the income of several libraries, forcing their closing. In 1935 Governor Kump's message indicated that thirty four counties had no public library service, and only thirteen libraries received tax support in the entire state. The remaining eight were dependent on subscriptions, fines, rentals, and donations.

Due to the financial plight of libraries the state Federated Women's Clubs sponsored a survey of public libraries conducted by Paul Noon and Mildred Sandoe. This revealed 88 percent of the population without library service. Recommendation was that the Commission cease to be a "paper organization." In 1939 this resulted in new legislation for regional libraries and two years later the

first state appropriation for the operation of the Library Commission, a sum of \$10,000 for the biennium.

The first professional secretary was Gordon Bennett in 1942, the second Clara Johnson in 1943. The appointment of the present secretary, Dora Ruth Parks, was in 1945. A much stronger legislative program was soon inaugurated. The improvement of the Traveling Library program for subsidizing small libraries with a changing collection of books soon followed.

Since many West Virginians had to experience library service to recognize its value, demonstrations were used. The first in Monroe County in 1949. This was followed by an intensive program in the west-central region, later named the Alpha Region with headquarters in Spencer. Four other regional centers have been organized in the ensuing ten years with headquarters in Buckhannon, Huntington, Moundsville, and Keyser.

The plan recommended by a 1952 survey made by Gretchen Schenk called for fourteen regions. This is now being abandoned in favor of fewer centers. Under the new Library Services Act, development can be extended to cities. Though the state now has fifty tax supported libraries, a third of the residents still lack service. Financial aid used in new ways should spark growth.

"The Past Is Prologue" is the motto engraved above the entrance to the National Archives Building in Washington. The Library Commission in its annual report chose the Centennial Year to review the events of the past in the belief that they can point the way to better library service in the future. Copies of this report are still available.

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GLENVILLE'S ROBERT F. KIDD LIBRARYBACKGROUND AND TRENDS

by

Dale E. Shaffer  
Librarian

This appears to be an excellent time for presenting an article on the library at Glenville State College. Major changes are being made, including plans for a new library, and these changes represent somewhat of a turning point in the library's history. My attempt, here, will be to briefly discuss the past, the present, and plans for the future. Perhaps some of the newly applied procedures mentioned will be of value to other small college libraries.

BRIEF HISTORY OF LIBRARY SERVICE AT GLENVILLE

The starting point was the year 1879, when a library appropriation of \$300 was made by the state. A collection of materials was begun, but it was not until 1913 that a librarian's job, filled by Miss Lucille Hayes, was established. In 1915 Miss Irma Langley cataloged all holdings according to the Dewey system. Miss Alma Arbuckle then became librarian in 1922 and continued developing the collection, which was centered primarily around teacher education. Other librarians through the years have included Miss Laura Ann Miles (1936-38), Miss Alice Willerma White (1938-43), Mrs. Elizabeth Turner (1947-49), Mr. Floyd Miller (1949-58), and Mr. Charles Patterson (1958-62).

Early Facilities. Facilities for the first collection were

located in the old administration building. It amounted to a classroom 28' x 28' in size, and contained one chair and four tables. The door was locked during most of the school day.

In 1912 the collection was moved to a new administration building. The room, presently being used by the Business Manager, provided seating facilities for 50 students. A librarian was in attendance full time, and the room was open for the entire school day.

Robert F. Kidd Library. An appropriation of \$50,000 for a library building was made by the state in 1929. The building, designed for 30,000 volumes, was completed and opened April 2, 1931. It was named "The Robert F. Kidd Library" in appreciation for the great influence Senator Kidd had on obtaining the appropriation. A sad note is that he died 10 months before the library was completed.

When it opened, the new library had a collection of approximately 8,000 volumes. The growth trend over the years is shown by the following figures: 24,000 volumes in 1949; 28,000 in 1952; and 44,000 in 1964 (books and pamphlets only). With an enrollment of almost 1,000 students, the college should have a minimum of 70,000 books available. These materials, of course, are used to serve not only students and faculty, but also teachers and public school students of the area, and citizens of the Glenville vicinity.

#### PRESENT STATUS OF LIBRARY SERVICE AT GSC

With the exception of reserve books, all materials and facilities in the library are open to students. The present librarians philosophy is that the acquiring of knowledge and skill of using a library is a most important part of every student's college

education. Closed stacks and the "silver platter" approach prevent students from gaining this education. A student at GSC is as free in using college library materials as he would be in using his own personal collection. Nothing is done for him that he can and should do for himself.

Materials Available. In addition to the 40,000 books and 4,000 pamphlets, the collection consists of 1,000 filmstrips, 350 records, four slide-filmstrip projectors, 800 paperbacks, 325 periodicals, 20 newspapers, a dozen telephone directories, and 50 maps. Most of this material can be checked out for a two-week period in the same manner as a book. Filmstrips and projectors are very popular with student teachers.

The major periodicals are microfilmed rather than bound. None are bound professionally, and only a few are bound temporarily by the library staff. Through microfilm the librarian is able to protect his open-stack collection and maintain complete volumes of periodicals. Original issues of magazines are kept for a year or two after the microfilmed edition has become available, and then discarded.

Availability of a complete periodical collection at all times is considered very important at GSC. This is the major reason for periodicals not circulating. Some loss occurs but this actually amounts to nothing more than one student stealing from another, since the librarian is able to preserve his collection through the use of microfilm. Stealing or destruction of these materials interferes not at all with the librarian's efforts to preserve a complete periodical research collection.

Four microfilm readers are available for student use. Cer-

tain faculty members require written reports through the use of microfilmed materials only. Purposely, this ordinarily applies to Freshmen and Sophomores.

Facsimile Service. An arrangement with West Virginia University makes it possible for any student or faculty member to obtain a free copy of periodical material he may need for research purposes. To obtain such materials, he simply provides the librarian with the necessary bibliographical information. A request is then submitted to the University. The service is unusually fast--three or four days--and students have the convenience of personal copies to use for teaching purposes. For this reason, the service is used much more frequently than the ordinary interlibrary loan.

#### NEWLY DEVELOPED TECHNIQUES APPLIED AT GSC

To maximize efficiency (ratio of input to output) the library staff at GSC is carefully experimenting with newly-designed, simplified procedures in various areas of library operation. This is necessary because most of the work is performed by part-time student library assistants. Discussion here will necessarily be limited to new procedures in paperbacks, pamphlets (vertical files), book lettering, filmstrips, and the divided catalog.

Paperback Processing. The special collection of paperbacks (mostly hardbacks) has been developed according to rather unorthodox methods. None of the books are incorporated in the main collection, and no cards are placed in the main catalog. A special area and card catalog has been established for the purpose. Processing is quick and easy; student use of the collection, for both browsing and research purposes is simple. Green cards identify paperbacks



in circulation. Briefly, here is the process:

A simplified call number is indicated vertically on the spine of every book. The classification number is a Dewey one-numeral, general class number reflecting subject content. The number "3", for example, is assigned to education books. Fiction and literature are numbered "8". An ordinary Cutter number is also assigned. The notation, for example, on Frank Adam's book entitled THE BIRTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES is (5)

A  
2  
1  
2

A simple main entry card contains only the call number, author, title, and tracing. Subject headings are developed by the cataloger, and no rigid guide, such as Sears, is followed. The shelf-list card contains the publisher, price, and date. No accession record is maintained for paperbacks or any other books in the library. The dictionary catalog is available to students, whereas the paperback shelf-list is for library staff use only.

Located near the entrance, the paperback collection was originally established to serve a browsing function. But as the number of volumes continued to expand, it became quite evident that students were using the materials for research purposes. This necessitated a more thorough system of simplified cataloging. Under the present system, the collection can be used effectively for both stimulating reading and for term paper research.

Pamphlet Library (Vertical Files). Vertical file material at GSC consists of valuable pamphlets only. News clippings, leaflets, etc. are no longer preserved. Three long rows of open file

boxes are used horizontally to house pamphlets. They are categorized small, medium, and large, and filed vertically in the appropriate file box.

Each pamphlet is numbered on a sticker in the upper left-hand corner. Numbers run consecutively and are assigned when the pamphlet enters the collection; i. e., 1-S, 2-S, etc.; 1-M, 2-M, etc.; 1-L, 2-L, etc.

One simple title card is prepared for each pamphlet, and it contains only the number, title, and tracing. Usable subject headings are selected by the librarian, but without any rigid guide, such as Sears. The pamphlet card file, then, is a subject-title index to every pamphlet available. No shelf-list is maintained since a flat fee of \$1.00 is charged for every lost pamphlet. No record of pamphlets are entered in the main catalog.

This system offers many advantages. It is neat, organized, quick and easy to use and maintain, and is completely self-serve. A pamphlet slip is filled out by students wanting to check out the material. Actually, this collection amounts to a separate library in itself. It is an excellent source of relatively current information for students writing reports.

Lettering Books. Some of the disadvantages of the crude method of lettering books in ink by hand have been corrected by Bro-Dart through the use of a hot-iron approach. Book notations are typed on special adhesive labels and then applied to books through the use of heat.

The system offers many advantages--any member of the staff can perform the job; it is quick, economical, neat, and permanent;

all notations are located the same distance from the bottom of every book; and the technique is ideal for lettering plastic-coated paperbacks.

Filmstrip Processing. Filmstrips are housed in multi-drawer cabinets. Each drawer is lettered alphabetically and contains 65 filmstrips. The call number is assigned to the filmstrip when it enters the collection. "B-65", for example, is the call number assigned to the last filmstrip in drawer B. A label-maker reduces processing time considerably.

Cataloging involves the preparation of a title card used as the main entry, plus appropriate added entries (all in red headings)

EXAMPLE (MAIN ENTRY):

B-17 Leaves of grass. McGraw-Hill Book Co.  
(6.00)  
50 fr. with captions; color; jh-sh  
(If film has manual, indicate here)

Briefly surveys the poetry of Walt Whitman. Points out his major poetic works as well as the high points of his personal life.

1. Whitman, Walt.

EXAMPLE (ADDED ENTRY):

Whitman, Walt (red type)  
B-17 Leaves of grass. The remainder of the card is identical to the one above except no tracing is needed.

These title and subject cards make up a special dictionary-type catalog for filmstrip users. Book cards prepared for the filmstrips are arranged together in a separate drawer to function as a shelf-list.

Divided Catalog. After considerable deliberation on the subject, we have decided in favor of dividing the main catalog. De-

spite the fact that this is an uncommon system, it offers advantages that may well make the integrated system eventually obsolete. The fact is few librarians would discontinue the divided catalog if it were the traditionally accepted system, and if they were presently using it. This is another way of saying that its features are better but different.

There are several reasons for changing the catalog at GSC; namely:

1. The patron looking for a particular author or title is forced to thumb through a large number of subject heading cards which are of no interest to him. Instead of helping the patron who knows what he wants, the present system penalizes him by making him dig through a forest of cards.
2. There is a direct relationship between "size of catalog" and "difficulty of filing cards." Unskilled student assistants have no problem in accurately filing author and title cards; however, they do have trouble in filing certain subject heading cards. A divided catalog will make for easier and more accurate filing, since the subject catalog will be more manageable in size. Greater concentration can be focused on controlling it and, if nothing more, the filing of U. S. and West Virginia headings will be much easier.
3. Checking when ordering books is a time-consuming task at the present time. A divided catalog will speed up the process considerably.
4. Students at GSC make far greater use of subject heading cards than of author or title cards. The divided catalog offers a means for increasing student efficiency in finding material by subject. By reducing the time such persons need to spend in finding subject material, we make for greater availability of the catalog.
5. A much more efficient job of editing the catalog will be possible. Under the present integrated card system, the task is a most distasteful one.

### TRAINING OF SCHOOL LIBRARIANS

GSC offers a major field of 24 semester hours in Library Science. The primary objective of the program is to develop fully skilled school librarians. Emphasis is placed on the integrated approach to learning; knowledge plus application.

Courses cover the basic subject areas of cataloging, reference, library administration, and book selection. A term of library practice exposes the student to the largest possible number, variety and type of library activities and problems. Upon finishing his course work, the student is required to pass an eight-hour comprehensive examination over all phases of the subject.

The Peterson Library Award. This year an award for outstanding library science graduates has been established. In memory of Mrs. Dorothy Peterson, the former Assistant Librarian, the award will be given annually to from one to four students who have performed outstanding well in the library science field.

The award will consist of a valuable reference book, or set of books, selected for its value as an aid to the student in further study or work in the field.

### NEW LIBRARY PLANS FOR 1964

Having outgrown the Robert F. Kidd Library, GSC plans to begin construction of new library facilities this year. This will be a sizable expansion and will provide space for 120,000 volumes plus other modern library services.

Looking back over the development of library service at GSC, we find that objectives have not changed, but rather have only increased in number. The early objective emphasized larger facili-

ties. Materials of all types were thrown into the collection to raise total number of volumes. Later the training of skilled librarians for schools was given importance. This was an attempt to help satisfy West Virginia's need for school librarians.

More recently other objectives have been added to include (1) greater use of library facilities through the self-serve approach of open stacks; and (2) the expansion of library services through the purchasing of new types of materials and the application of various administrative techniques to simplify operations. Interestingly enough, objectives accumulate; none seem to disappear through the passing of time. Perhaps a reason for this is that partial success in one area clears the way and provides an opportunity for seeing a new distant goal that we visualize as progress.

## A STUDY OF PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICE IN WEST VIRGINIA

(The following information relative to the new study has been provided by the West Virginia Library Commission. The proposed study, when completed, will replace the survey made by Gretchen Schenk in 1952 which divides the State in XIV regions. Editor.)

The West Virginia Library Commission has budgeted \$20,000 of its Federal allotment for the 1965 fiscal year for a study to be directed by Mr. Ralph Blasingame, Jr. The following outline for the proposed study was submitted to the Commission:

- Proposal:** To conduct a study of West Virginia for its Library Commission in order to produce a state plan for public library service, the study to be completed in about twelve months.
- Scope:**
1. To review the progress and problems under the present plan for regional library development.
  2. To review the existing statutes affecting library organization and financing.
  3. To conduct an inventory of the library collections, staff and physical facilities presently existing.
  4. To draw together data on educational, social and economic conditions in West Virginia which may influence library service.
  5. To visit a sufficient number of libraries and related institutions to insure the accuracy and relevance of the data to be gathered.
  6. To recommend plans for the development, organization and financing of public library service in the light of the data collected.
- Reporting:** Interim progress reports will be prepared two or three times during the study. A final report will be presented at the termination of the study. The final report will be the sole responsibility of the Director of the

study, but its publication and distribution will be the responsibility of the West Virginia Library Commission.

**Conduct:** As outlined in the attached tentative budget, staff services, amounting to the equivalent of two full time persons (an Assistant Director and a secretary) will be supplied by the West Virginia Library Commission. The Commission will also supply funds for special consultants to the Director, travel and supporting expenses. Persons assigned to the study will report to the Director of the study during such assignment.

Dr. Robert Munn has been appointed by Mrs. Graham, president of WVLA, to be chairman of a committee to help with evaluation of progress reports.

Dora Ruth Parks  
Executive Secretary  
West Virginia Library Commission



LIBRARY TECHNOLOGY PROJECT

Forrest F. Carhart, Jr., Director, Library Technology Project, announces that beginning in January, 1965, the Library Technology Project of the American Library Association will publish an information service on a subscription basis. To be called LIBRARY TECHNOLOGY REPORTS, the service will cost \$100 a year and will include six REPORTS annually on library equipment, supplies, and systems. The Council on Library Resources is underwriting the early stages of the service.

The information sheets will be punched for insertion into a standard 3-ring loose-leaf notebook, to be furnished by LTP, so that the librarian who subscribes to this service can have an up-to-date collection of LTP reports in convenient form. The materials will be arranged according to categories of LTP study areas and guide-separator cards will enable the librarian to insert the several items in LIBRARY TECHNOLOGY REPORTS into their proper places in the binder as they are received.

These bi-monthly reports will include, among other features: results of LTP studies (exclusive of the Project's major numbered publications), abstracts of significant current literature in library technology, answers to questions of general interest submitted to LTP's regular information service, and news of LTP programs.

The new service is designed to help a librarian: Save money by selecting the most efficient and economical product or system

for his library, based on the reports. Save time by letting LTP do the searching, testing, and evaluating for the library. Avoid costly mistakes by reviewing the best, most up-to-date information about equipment and supplies before making a purchase.

Subscribers to LIBRARY TECHNOLOGY REPORTS can be assured of receiving, on a regular basis, information covering the full range of LTP's activities.

Librarians should write to Library Technology Project, 50 East Huron Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611, for a sample issue of LIBRARY TECHNOLOGY REPORTS and a brochure describing the service in detail.

KCPL AND THE PL480 PROGRAM

Under a program of Public Law 480, the Kanawha County Public Library is now receiving selected English-language publications from India, Pakistan and the United Arab Republic. P.L.480 is known as the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954; in it, Congress authorized a form of cultural exchange to take the place of usual dollar-bartering. The Law--specifically Section 104(n)--provides for the collection of foreign publications by the Library of Congress, using U.S.-owned currency acquired from payment on surplus agricultural products. The Library of Congress distributes these books, scholarly journals, newspapers and magazines to recipient libraries throughout the country. Acquisition and cataloging offices have been staffed by L.C. appointment in Cairo, Karachi and New Delhi; extensive study, indexing and distribution is anticipated. New programs in Burma, Indonesia and Israel are in the planning stage, and with the procurement of additional funds, the project will be extended to include Yugoslavia and Poland as well.

Newspapers now available in Charleston for public reading include the Egyptian Gazette and Mail (Cairo) and The Statesman (Delhi). Among the periodicals from India are The Illustrated Weekly of India, the Eastern Economist, Folklore, and Indo-Asian Culture. Also in the Library's Periodical Room are the Pakistan Review, the Arab Observer and the Egypt Travel Magazine.

SUMMER SESSION STIMULATES SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

by

Olive Lewis, Assistant Professor  
Department of Library Science  
West Virginia University

It might almost have been a performance of the Beatles--to judge from the enthusiasm of the teenagers flocking around the stage after the show. They were obviously eager to prolong contact with the cosmopolitan group of University students who had just held them spellbound with a simulated television program. Features had included an ethereal chop-sticks dance by a charming Formosan girl in native costume, the click of the castanets in the hands of an Ecuadorian, and singing by a Cuban, who had also assisted in moderating the program. A handsome young intellectual from Northern Rhodesia had spoken briefly about his section of Africa and conducted a question and answer period. A concerned journalist, in the role of commentator on current affairs, had thrown out a challenge for independent thinking and action, especially in the area of civil rights. West Virginia too had been represented by a Mingo Countian.

The post-session admirers, questioners, autograph-seekers were participants in the 1964 Workshop for Student Library Assistants, held on the campus of West Virginia University from August 2 to 8 under the sponsorship of the Department of Library Science.

The project had exhibited healthy growth from an attendance of 58 in 1963 to a registration of 90 this summer. Students came

from public and school libraries (mostly the latter) throughout West Virginia and from Maryland, Ohio and Pennsylvania. The boys, although still in the minority, were a growing constituency, their enrollment of 14 representing even greater proportional increase than that of the total group. The year before there had been only four.

Another outstanding event of the week was the appearance at a general session of Agnes Smith, whose prize-winning book AN EDGE OF THE FOREST, had been in much demand and evidence. It was unquestionably a case of love at first sight between the speaker and her listeners, who were amazed to find an author so warm and friendly and full of fun. A special thrill was added to the occasion by the knowledge that her book had recently been published in Finnish. Typical teenage superlatives of admiration for Miss Smith enlivened the corridor meetings that night and continued to be heard during the week.

Recruitment to the profession, although not the sole objective of the workshop, is an important one. Mr. Charles Patterson, who, in addition to his duties as Assistant Professor of Library Science at the University, is the energetic and able State Recruitment Representative for the American Library Association, conducted a general session on careers. His informative talk about the opportunities in and training for the field, was followed by the film, A KEY TO THE FUTURE, current, colorful and persuasive. The main characters are an extremely attractive teenage boy and girl considering a variety of interesting possibilities in librarianship. The print is available for loan from the Audio-Visual Library of the Department of Radio, T V and Motion Pictures, West Virginia University.

In small group sessions the student assistants discussed books, practiced techniques of display, explored the secret recesses of the reference collection, operated audio visual equipment, browsed in the West Virginia Room of the Main Library, enjoyed the skills of a master story-teller, mended and mended books and begged for more, and profited by the repair demonstration of a library supply company representative. They toured the Main Library, the Medical Library, the Agriculture-Engineering Library. They discussed scholarships and educational opportunities in the glamorous surroundings of the Rare Book Room.

The week was not all work, however, and the recreational program included a talent show, square dancing, swimming at Mountainlair, a picnic at Marilla Park in conjunction with the other groups at the Fine Arts Institute, the final concert of the Music Camp, occasional invasions of Mountainlair for liquid and solid refreshment, corridor parties.

Then came the inevitable tearful partings, traumatic separations of firm friends who had been unaware of each others' existence a scant week before, and the emphatic recommendation that the Workshop be of longer duration next year. The last suggestion was somewhat less appealing to the weary counselors than to the indefatigable teenagers but, at least, it left the former with the consoling thought that his and her efforts had not been without rewards and that, if enthusiastic reception was any guage of success, the project was worth repeating another year.

MICROCARD FOUNDATION

Charles Carner, Public Relations Officer of the American Library Association, announces the receipt of a grant of \$100,000 by the American Library Association from the Microcard Foundation for distribution of materials to one hundred college libraries has been announced by David H. Clift, executive director of ALA.

Each library selected by the Association of College and Research Libraries Grants Committee will receive a package unit including a mark VII Microcard Reader and a number of publications on Microcards. The value of each package will be approximately \$1,000.

Selection will be made at the December meeting of the Grants Committee of ACRL and results will be announced in January 1965.

The Association of College and Research Libraries is a division of the American Library Association.

The Southern Mountaineer in Literature; an Annotated Bibliography  
[by] Lorise C. Boger. Morgantown, West Virginia University Li-  
brary, 1964. 105 pp. plates. Price \$4.00

A Review

by

Joan M. Ellis

Assistant Curator, West Virginia Collection  
West Virginia University Libraries

Within the pages of this little volume one can find directions for exploring the vast wealth of Appalachian literature. In her preface the compiler, who is senior reference librarian at West Virginia University Library, presents a concise, overall view of the themes of mountaineer literature. These prose works "primarily novels but with a liberal sprinkling of drama not folktale" are arranged alphabetically by author. A title index and list of sources enhance the book's worth as a reference tool. A state subject index reveals that stories with a Kentucky background predominate (159) followed by those centered in Tennessee, North Carolina, West Virginia (46) Virginia, Georgia and Alabama. The inclusion of several black and white plates add to the book's attractive format. Miss Boger's pithy comments and analysis are alone worth the price of the bibliography which is highly recommended not only to students of Appalachia but to all those concerned with the development of American literature.



PUBLICATIONS OF NOTE

- Boger, Lorise. The Southern Mountaineer in Literature. Morgantown:  
West Virginia University Library, 1964. \$4.00.
- Brenni, Vito J.. American English: a bibliography. Philadelphia:  
University of Pennsylvania Press, 3436 Walnut Street. \$8.00.
- Garrison, Guy. Research Methods in Librarianship. Urbana: Universi-  
ty of Illinois Press, Subscription Department. \$2.00. (To be  
found also in the July, 1964 issue of Library Trends).
- The Library Trustee. New York: R. R. Bowker Company, 1180 Avenue  
of the Americas, 1964. \$7.50.
- Standards for Children's Services in Public Libraries. Chicago:  
American Library Association, 50 East Huron Street, 1964.  
\$1.00.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Tri-State Association of College and Research Libraries (Meeting jointly with the College Section of the Pennsylvania Library Association)

October 3 - Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

West Virginia Library Association "Golden Anniversary" Conference  
October 16-18 - Stonewall Jackson Hotel, Clarksburg, W. Va.  
Conference Theme: Access to Information

American Library Association Membership Day  
October 28

Student Library Assistant Workshop  
November 7-8 - Cedar Lakes, West Virginia

Middle Atlantic Regional Library Conference  
October 18-22 (1967) - Atlantic City, New Jersey

West Virginia Library Commission Workshop  
November 20-21 - Workshop implementing the study of the West Virginia Library Commission for a new plan of public library service for West Virginia. West Virginia Library Commission, 2004 Quarrier Street, Charleston