

OREGON STATE LIBRARY

SALEM

*"The Best Reading for the Greatest Number
at the Least Cost"*

Letter to Libraries, 1938, No. 5
Midwinter Letter
November 1, 1938

TO OREGON LIBRARY WORKERS:

It seems a long time since I sent you one of these Letters, and on looking back, I find it was July 25. It is the first time in many years that I have failed to keep to the bi-monthly schedule, which I hope will now continue uninterruptedly.

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STATE LIBRARY BUILDING. Our new building is progressing beautifully. The exterior, white marble, with bronze windows and doors, is very dignified and handsome, conforming to the impressive new capitol building which is adjacent. The interior plastering is drying, and in some rooms the mill work is now being placed. We have been giving final approval to the specifications for the furnishings, on which bids must be let, in accordance with PWA regulations. This morning's Oregonian said that the contractor now fixed February first as the date for final completion. We had hoped to move before the legislative session. Of one thing you may be certain, we shall move the minute the building is ready.

THE GEOGRAPHY OF READING. "Cultural and educational opportunities are by no means evenly spread over this great country," concludes the American City book reviewer in his comment on Dr. Louis R. Wilson's The Geography of Reading, published jointly by the A.L.A. and the University of Chicago Press.

In this book, the author pictures the extent of library development and its relationship to that of other social and cultural forces. He points out the inequalities in access to libraries and library resources in various states and regions, the correlation between these inequalities and the present status of social, educational, and cultural institutions, the reasons for these inequalities, and their social significance. In outlining a program intended to effect greater equalization of library resources throughout the nation, Dr. Wilson concludes that improvement in status of any of the social forces considered is dependent on elevation of the whole.

The distribution of libraries is compared to that of bookstores and rental libraries, magazines and newspapers, book clubs, the radio and motion pictures, public schools and museums, telephones and highways, and other institutions and media for the dissemination of ideas. The 173 illustrations and 117 tables provide data to support efforts for state and federal planning and state and federal aid. Taken as a whole, The Geography of Reading provides the foundation for library and cultural activity for a long time to come. Fully indexed and with a complete bibliography. (Price, \$4.00. Library orders should be sent direct to the American Library Association)

RURAL LIBRARY NEEDS. Dr. Wilson's book leaves us more than ever conscious of the woefully inadequate library opportunities in large areas in our nation. After viewing the problem in a discussion meeting participated in by a few national leaders of rural life last spring, the following statement was issued by the Library Extension Board of the American Library Association:

1. The complexity of the problems which confront rural America and the importance of rural life to the nation, make it a matter of national concern that the rural people be adequately provided with institutions and agencies for continuing self education.
2. Library service, which is relatively well advanced in urban areas but insufficiently developed or wholly lacking in rural areas, is one of the many services which have proved of value in promoting self education.
3. Modern life creates needs for reading materials. Most of the programs of rural organizations or agencies cannot be fully effective without these materials.
4. County or regional library service is probably the best device yet used to meet rural reading needs.

REPORT OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION. There are two inexpensive government publications which librarians and library trustees should read. They fit in with the findings of Wilson's Geography of Reading. Both may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C., for a nominal price, or may be secured without charge from your congressman. The first is the Report of the Advisory Committee on Education (35¢) which presents the need for equalizing educational opportunities in both schools and libraries. The second, by Dr. Carleton Joeskel, is a study of federal relations to libraries, the report of the Sub-Committee on Library Service (15¢). Get these and read them carefully, so that you may be informed on the reasons for the bill on federal aid, which will be reintroduced in the next congress.

FEDERAL AID FOR LIBRARIES. The studies point clearly to the need for federal aid if the development of rural libraries is to be on a reasonably adequate basis. During the summer, President Roosevelt again endorsed federal grants for education for "those communities which need them most." It is said that others close to the President have expressed similar views.

I made an analysis of the provisions in the Harrison-Thomas-Fletcher Bill affecting library development, for presentation at the meeting of the Pacific Northwest Library Association, and am enclosing a copy for your study. The bill is now being slightly revised to eliminate some of the difficulties encountered during the last session of Congress. It will be presented early in the next session of Congress. If you are interested, be certain your members of Congress learn of your interest. Personally, I have believed for many years that only through federal participation in a library program, as in the highway program, the program for vocational education, and the land grant colleges, would all the people have access to reasonably good library service.

COUNTY LIBRARY TWINS EXPECTED! It now looks as if two new county library systems, with definite county appropriations, will be functioning in 1939.

You all know that Clackamas County has had a long, hard struggle to get county-wide library service on a substantial basis. Back in 1934, when CWA aid was first available, they began in their local communities with CWA help. When SERA succeeded CWA, the libraries continued their uncertain existence, with intermittent openings and closings according to the fluctuations inherent in the relief program.

Then came WPA, and the libraries carried on under that program, with the addition of one non-relief person (Mrs. Lucia Bliss) paid by WPA to supervise the WPA libraries throughout the county.

The Oregon City library has been generous beyond words in giving headquarters for this work, and lending its librarian for advice.

A county association of those interested in libraries has met monthly to keep up their interest.

The State Library has furnished 2,500 books at a time to enable these WPA libraries to offer a changing book collection. Until these past few months, it has seemed likely that WPA labor might end at any time, and that unless the county made plans for complete financing, the service could not be built into a stable project. Now, however, it has seemed safe to plan a county library budget which would provide everything except service, depending for another year upon WPA labor. It is gratifying, therefore, to report that the budget committee of the county court last week approved an item of \$4,500 for the maintenance of the county library.

The Lane County project has moved much more rapidly. There have been stirrings of interest in a county library system in Lane County for some time. These stirrings were so keen this past year that Allen Wheeler, Master of the Pomona Grange, appointed a committee to investigate its problems and possibilities, so that when the WPA program seemed assured throughout another year, we decided to offer to Lane County the possibility of a one year demonstration of a county library system. A group of about 50 Lane County citizens were called together on September 9 of this year, at which time we offered them the following four way program for a one year demonstration period:

1. The State Library to lend from 3,000 to 5,000 books, these books to form the nucleus of a county collection.
2. WPA to provide all labor at headquarters and branches, and a bookmobile.
3. Eugene public library to offer free service to rural residents, and to provide the headquarters.
4. Lane County to provide funds for equipment, supplies, postage, gas and oil for bookmobile, and a fund for new books and periodicals.

The group assembled agreed enthusiastically that this demonstration should be undertaken, and appointed a committee to fix the budget. The committee met and agreed to ask \$3,645. The various groups, Grange, P.T.A., Federated Women's Clubs, teachers in the county, worked hard and fast. Newspaper support was good. The result was that an item for \$3,645 was included by the budget committee in the county budget.

In neither of these counties is action final until the county court itself has acted, but it is not usual for a county court to act contrary to the recommendation of the county budget committee. Library service to rural people moves ahead.

WPA LIBRARY PROJECT. The State Library WPA project is well under way, under the supervision of Miss Mulheron. Many of you have had a visit from her. Others have written to her. Do not hesitate to let us know of any way in which relief workers (if available in your community) can help your library.

ART WEEK - November 1 - 7. I was asked by Mildred Holmes Strange, Director for Oregon, American Art Week, to bring the dates of November 1-7 to your attention, so that you might display books and magazines on art in your libraries. Many of you, I know, are planning this, for we have had requests for the loan of pictures and books to help in the local observance.

BOOK WEEK - November 13 - 19. I know that you are all planning to observe the twentieth anniversary of children's Book Week, with exhibits, newspaper articles, and talks. I hope you have sent to the Book Week headquarters, 62 West Forty-Fifth Street, New York City, for suggestions. The poster designed by Joseph Bender is 17 x 22, and will be sent for 25¢. The same design in stamps, in full color, 20 sheets of 60, is available, postpaid, \$1, these to be used on letters, announcements, tickets, etc., or in postcard size, \$3 a thousand, for invitations, booklists, etc., or as bookmarks, \$1.50 per thousand. Although it is late, an air mail letter sent for these supplies will bring them to you in ample time, if you act at once.

The American Library Association has the Newbery and Caldecott Awards booklist (sample enclosed in this letter) available at \$1 per 100, \$3.50 per 500, and \$6 per 1,000.

A display of nearly 100 books among those recommended in Dr. Fred Eastman's Books That Have Shaped the World was a feature of the exhibit of A.L.A. publications at the Kansas City Conference. Many of the titles shown were inexpensive editions of classics and popular recent books - fiction, biography, poetry, plays, and essays. It was learned that similar displays had already been used in several libraries and had stimulated interest in the books shown. As many of the books listed can probably be found in most libraries, this idea is suggested to other interested libraries. One library reported using Dr. Eastman's book as the basis of a radio broadcast which resulted in numerous requests for the titles mentioned. This may be a suggestion for adult observance of Book Week. Books That Have Shaped the World, now in a second printing, is an attractive, small volume of 64 pages of informal essays in biography, literature, and drama. (\$1; 90¢ to libraries.)

Be certain to ask the newspapers for publicity. Perhaps the local ministers will use books as their topic for a sermon. Clubs and organizations will all cooperate if asked. Make your community book conscious.

We are already in receipt of requests from school and public libraries for books for exhibit during Book Week.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST LIBRARY ASSOCIATION. The annual conference held at Many Glaciers Hotel on August 31, September 1 and 2, was a stimulating event, in which some forty librarians from Oregon participated, representing the libraries of the University of Oregon, Oregon State College, Oregon Normal School, Southern Oregon Normal School, Albany College, Reed College, the public libraries of Portland, Astoria, Baker and Umatilla County, and the State Library.

I wish many of the librarians from our public libraries might have heard the program, particularly the fine presentations given by some of the younger librarians in the Small Libraries section. There was such awareness of real library problems, and such a markedly professional approach, that I felt it was one of the most valuable meetings I had attended in a long time, and I was sorry more of you were not sharing it.

The honor of presidency for this year came to Oregon, to Miss J. Elizabeth Olson, librarian of the Umatilla County Library. Other officers elected were Lucille Spear, University of Montana, 1st Vice-President, Dorothy Alvord, Bellingham (Washington) Public Library, 2nd Vice-President, Jack Plotkin, University of Oregon, Treasurer, and Lillian Nisbet of Portland continues as secretary.

More Oregon librarians should join this association. Dues are \$1 per year. The members of the association receive a quarterly Bulletin, which contains the Proceedings of the conference, as well as other papers.

COOS COUNTY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION. The annual meeting, held at the Marshfield public library on September 24, was attended by library workers from Bandon, Coquille, Empire, Marshfield, Myrtle Point, and North Bend. Reports of progress from each library showed increased use and better organization within the library. Much interest was evidenced in the plans of the new state library building, which the state librarian had brought and explained. Officers for the coming year are: President, Mrs. W. J. Conrad, Marshfield; Vice-President, Mrs. O. C. Shindler, Bandon; Secretary, Mrs. Frank Rogers, North Bend; and Treasurer, Mrs. Candlin, Coquille.

BEEKMAN PRIZE CONTEST, 1938. The subject announced for this annual prize contest is the John Jacob Astor Expedition. As usual, the State Library has prepared a bibliography, which is enclosed with this letter.

CATHOLIC LIBRARIANS STUDY SOURCES OF READING MATTER. Pertinent questions are being asked freshmen in a survey of both Catholic high schools and colleges of Portland. Where does their reading matter come from? What do they read and how much? These and similar questions will form the basis for a preliminary report to be read at the next meeting of the Oregon Local unit of Catholic librarians on November 5, at St. Lawrence's library.

FIELD WORK. In spite of the fact that I have been in the field much more this year than any other year, there are still many libraries in the Willamette Valley and in the lower Columbia River area, which I have not visited in this biennium. I am still hoping to get to these comparatively near-by libraries in the next two months, unless I am held here with details of planning the moving.

Since my July Letter, I have spoken at two of the Homemakers' Camps, the Lane-Douglas-Coos camp at Camp Cleowax near Florence, and the Linn-Benton-Camp at Long Bow in the Cascadia region.

I spoke at the conference for WPA Adult Education workers at Corvallis. I made a number of trips to Lane county to speak at county-wide gatherings (P.T.A., County Federation of Women's Clubs, County Elementary School Principals, as well as at Eugene Rotary,) in the interests of the proposed county library (see elsewhere in this Letter.)

I made one trip to La Grande to address a county-wide gathering on the proposed Union County library.

I dropped in to the Oregon City library, and into Milwaukie, to see the fine quarters of the public library in the new city hall.

I have visited public and school libraries in Springfield, Oakridge, Cottage Grove, Creswell, Brookings, Gold Beach, Port Orford, Bandon, Coquille, Myrtle Point, Powers, Marshfield, Empire, North Bend, Reedsport, Yachats, Waldport, and Hood River.

I have attended a board meeting of the State Parent-Teachers Association.

I attended the Coos County library meeting, and gave a book talk to the Progress Club of Marshfield.

Last week I attended the regional meetings of the State Teachers Association at The Dalles and at Pendleton, reaching in that way the teachers from eleven eastern counties. Teachers are keenly aware of needs for library materials, and I assured them that the librarians were eager to serve them. In some of the conferences with individual teachers, I referred them back to their own public libraries, thus giving you opportunity to serve them.

I also attended a three-day meeting of the Executive Board of the American Library Association in Chicago the first of October.

BOOK SELECTION AIDS. The smaller the sum spent for books in a library, the more important it is that the sum be wisely spent. For this reason, librarians of the nation many years ago decided to maintain at the headquarters of the American Library Association an office to which publishers would send all new books. These books are read and evaluated by a corps of assistants, with the aid of specialists. The best books examined each month are then recommended for purchase in the A. L. A. Booklist, which is now published twice each month. At the end of the list, there is always a special list for small libraries. The price is \$3 per year, American Library Association, 520 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago.

The Standard Catalog Monthly, a careful selection of new books recommended for purchase by libraries, appears each month in the Wilson Bulletin for Librarians. This bulletin (\$1 per year) has practical discussions of library problems. For instance, the October number contains many suggestions for Book Week Observance which any library would find helpful. (H. W. Wilson Company, 950-972 University Avenue, New York City)

The Wisconsin Library Bulletin (published monthly except August and September) is a periodical edited by the Wisconsin Library Commission, planned especially to meet the problems of the small librarians in Wisconsin. The list of Current Books edited by Mary K. Reely in each issue is extremely practical for Oregon libraries. The price is only \$1 per year. Address the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, Madison, Wisconsin.

Any one of these three periodicals is a valuable tool for the purchase of current books in a public library. For the purchase of other books, filling in the gaps, or buying books on a special subject, there are also valuable tools. The Oregon State Library issues two of them, which have been sent you without cost, and which you should use constantly. These are the Lists of Books for School Libraries, Part I, Books for Elementary Schools (1936) and its 1937 and 1938 supplements, which lists more than 2,500 titles, as does Part II, Books for High Schools, 1938. The public library and the school library, checking together, and avoiding duplication of any but the most popular books, could thus give the school children access to many books, both recreational and for the school work.

There are other basic book tools which wise librarians use. The A.L.A. Catalog 1932-1936, compiled by Marion Horton, was issued in July as a supplement to the A.L.A. Catalog, 1926. The list contains nearly 4,000 selected titles, classified and annotated, giving publisher and price as well as cataloging information. It is an invaluable tool to any library which is really attempting to build a good, live, useful book collection. (A.L.A., Price \$5)

The Fourth Supplement to the Standard Catalog for Public Libraries is a cumulated supplement covering 1935-1938. This is an annotated list of 2,445 titles, with a full analytical index, very useful. Price may be obtained upon application to the H. W. Wilson Company, 950-972 University Avenue, New York City.

The Second Supplement (1937-38) to Children's Catalog, has been issued by the H. W. Wilson Company. It lists 366 titles of new books, 35 new editions, and 28 reprints, with annotations, and full bibliographic data. It was sent free to subscribers to the fifth edition (1936).

In the purchase of books for a public library, trustees and librarians should remember that Oregon laws provide that a library spending less than \$2,500 per year, shall not "purchase or make accessible to the public, any books except as recommended in the booklists issued by the American Library Association or any State Library or school department."

OTHER USEFUL TOOLS AND REFERENCE BOOKS. American Authors, 1600-1900, a biographical dictionary of American literature, edited by Stanley J. Kunitz and Howard Haycraft (Wilson, \$5) contains 1,300 biographies and 400 portraits.

Science teachers and librarians will welcome a Key to the Out of Doors, a bibliography of nature books and materials compiled by Richard James Hurley and published by the H. W. Wilson Company at \$2.50. The author has attempted to list for the amateur books, pamphlets, and films on astronomy, meteorology, geology, plants, trees, insects, reptiles, amphibia, water life, birds, mammals. In supplementary chapters, he lists magazines, pictures, and lantern slides, nature devices and supplies.

Birds of the World, an illustrated natural history by the staff of the Federal Writers project in new York City (Whitman, \$1.75) contains more than 100 biographies of all the important and representative species of bird life. Beautiful photographic illustrations.

A letter from Houghton Mifflin this week says that they will release on November 15, a reprint edition of the Garden Dictionary which was published two years ago at \$16.25. The price of the reprint, if ordered prior to publication, will be \$6.50. After that date, the price will be \$7.50.

FLOWER SHOWS. Mrs. E. C. Dalton, former President of the State Garden Clubs, and a woman with much experience in flower shows, came into the library the other day, to tell us how very fine she thought A. S. Fisher's Flower Shows and How to Stage Them was (Smith, \$5). Maybe your garden club will want to add it to your library.

OREGON ITEMS. I find five items recently added to our Oregon authors' collection:

Dake, H.C., Fleener, F.L. & Wilson, B.H.	Quartz family minerals	McGraw	\$2.50
Ernst, Mrs. Alice	Backstage in Xanadu; a book of plays	Binfords & Mort	\$1.50
Gerlinger, Mrs. Irene	Money raising, how to do it	Suttonhouse	\$3.00
Haycox, Ernest	Man in the saddle	Little	\$2.00
Holbrook, Stewart	Let them live	Macmillan	\$2.00
Reichart, Natalie & Brauns, Jeanette	Swimming work book; a manual for students	Barnes	\$1.00

DOCUMENTS. Ask your congressman for the attractive new 1938 Yearbook of the Department of Agriculture, and the Minerals Yearbook, and when they come, look them over, and learn their contents so that you may help your patrons know them.

NEWS OF OREGON LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANS.

Albany. A total of 677 children checked out 1,659 books in the city parks this summer. Over 400 books were lent from the library to the parks.

The library service to "shut-ins" is proving very popular. Books are taken by a student librarian to those who are unable to go to the library. Transportation is furnished the librarian by the Albany Business and Professional Women's Club.

Mrs. Edwin Fortmiller has added another book to the Boy Scout library maintained at the city library as a memorial to the late Bill Fortmiller.

Ashland. An attractive display of Shakespearean books was arranged at the library during the Oregon Shakespearean Association festival. As a background for the book exhibit, a panel covered with reproduced photographs and etchings of Shakespeare's dramas as produced by various groups, was set up. Books and pamphlets about Shakespeare were arranged on a table near the entrance.

Cannon Beach. The Womans Club and Library held its annual Tag Day in August. The money from the sale of the tags is used to support the library.

Clackamas County WPA Library Demonstration. The Association had an attractive booth at the Clackamas county fair.

The Association held an official meeting in Molalla, September 13. Several of the libraries in the county were represented, and reports of their library work were given. It was decided that the Molalla library should have a booth at the Colton-Meadowbrook farm bureau local fair, September 30 and October 1.

An institute for WPA library workers was held in Oswego on October 11, under the leadership of Miss Anne Mulheron, Supervisor of WPA libraries under the sponsorship of the State Library.

Milwaukie Public Library. The library had an increase of 500 books in their circulation for August. The new books and new library room have increased the popularity of the library.

Oregon City Public Library. An oil burner has been installed in the library.

Sandy Public Library. Eleven new books have been purchased with funds raised at the Commercial Club's meetings.

Corvallis. An appropriation has been made in the city budget to furnish a children's room in the basement of the library.

The late J. A. Bexell, former Dean of Commerce at Oregon State College, included in his will a gift of 424 books to the public library.

Enterprise. The library is sponsoring an NYA project employing one girl to mend and repair books.

Eugene. A book chute has been installed at the library for the convenience of patrons returning books after closing hours.

Additional repairs in the library have included the refinishing of the top of the circulation desk, refinishing of reading tables, and additional drawer space in the desk. The card catalog will be doubled upon receipt of trays which have been ordered.

Forest Grove. For vacation reading, the librarian arranged used magazines in bundles, each containing at least one complete novel.

Gilliam County Library, Condon. The library is now in its quarters in the new city hall. Shelves and a reading room table have been built by a local resident.

Gold Beach. The library association has secured a building for the library which will provide space for a reading room and bookshelves. The association hopes to receive donations of labor and material needed for repairs before the library can be moved.

Heppner. NYA workers are mending 400 books for the library.

Hillsboro. The library received 824 book reports for this year's summer reading contest.

Ione. A card party was sponsored for the Topic Club for the benefit of the library.

Jefferson County Library, Madras. A cast of 40 children presented an operetta, The Children of Old Mother Goose, at the Community Hall for the benefit of the library association. Forty dollars was cleared for the library.

The city has included \$50 in its budget for the library, and the county will give \$50 after January first.

Joseph. The library will receive help from NYA workers in mending books and giving other necessary library services.

Josephine County Library, Grants Pass. A library book repair shop has been formed for the schools of Josephine County with the assistance of WPA. WPA provides the labor, while school districts pay only the cost of materials, estimated at from five to seven cents a volume.

A constitutional shrine, depicting in facsimile the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, was presented to the library by the local order of DeMolay.

Over 1,000 new and reconditioned books have been prepared for circulation since the middle of July.

Klamath County Library, Klamath Falls. Miss Elizabeth Paterson, who has held the position of assistant librarian at the county library for the past year and a half, accepted a position as assistant librarian in the county library at Napa, California, beginning October first.

Miss Dorothy Revell has been appointed in Miss Paterson's place. Miss Revell was recently graduated from Oregon State College.

Bonanza Branch. The library building has been repainted.

La Grande. Miss Mabel Doty, the librarian, has written an article for the American Library Association, entitled, The Librarian Knocks at the Door of the Community. The article embodies the many services to the community which the library has undertaken.

Lebanon. Mrs. Theda Binshadler has resigned her position as librarian to resume her work as a teacher in the junior high school. Mrs. Ed Lansberry has been appointed librarian.

The library has installed a book depository for the convenience of patrons who wish to return books when the library is not open.

Malheur County Library, Ontario. A children's room has been opened in the library. It was formerly used as a women's clubroom, and was refinished as a library room by the Ontario Future Farmers of America, as a community project. They built shelves, repaired chairs, benches and tables, painted the floor, and did concrete patching and plastering work. Four tables of varying heights, and numerous chairs and benches of all sizes furnish the room. The adjustable shelves, now filled with 7,000 children's books, were also made by this class. Eight new lights were installed so that it would be an excellent reading room. The color scheme is blue and orange. Bordering one wall is a long animal frieze with an orange backing, and bright orange curtains hang in the windows.

Come to the Animal Fair, the Birds and the Beasts Will Be There, was the theme emphasized at the formal opening of the children's room the first week in September.

During the summer, the Girl Scouts held Saturday morning story hours for the children.

A shelf in memory of Mrs. E.M. Greig, who served for many years on the library board, has been started by the Kingman Kolony Book Club. At the July meeting of the club, they presented the county librarian with two books, The White Stag, by Sereby, and Animals of the Bible, by Lathrop.

The library has received a bound set of National Geographic magazines from 1921 to 1937, as well as thirty-four other books, from a Portland resident.

Vale Branch. Vale voters have approved a proposed issuance of \$6,600 in warrants as the city's share of the cost of the new city hall - library.

Monmouth. Miss Eloise Ailor, librarian, has left for Seattle to study at the University of Washington. Her place was taken by Mrs. G. H. Reynolds, who will be in charge Wednesday and Saturday evenings, and by Warren Nowowiejski, who will be in charge Saturday afternoons.

A story hour for the children was held Wednesdays during the summer by a story-telling class from the Oregon Normal School.

Monroe. The library is open to the public in Legion Hall every Wednesday and Saturday afternoon from two to five o'clock. One of the Legion members has constructed shelves, and the library now owns about 500 books.

Philomath. The dedication of the new library quarters was held Wednesday, September 28th. The library was open for inspection from two to five. Miss Josephine Baumgartner of the Oregon State Library gave the dedication address.

Portland. Tuesday, September 6th, the library celebrated the 25th anniversary of the dedication of the central library building. Miss Mary Frances Isom was librarian at the time of the dedication, and remained in this position until her death in 1920. She was succeeded by Miss Anne M. Mulheron, who retired in 1937, to be succeeded by the present librarian, Miss Nell A. Unger.

The library collection in 1913 numbered about 170,000 volumes, and now contains 627,751 cataloged volumes. Since 1913, approximately 60,000,000 books have been circulated by the library system, including branches, stations, rural service, and schools, and the circulation from the central library alone in the past 25 years has been about 18,500,000 volumes.

Next February the library will observe the 75th anniversary of its founding.

The umbrella reading room, held during the summer in Lowndale square, served not only as a reading room, but also as a checkroom, lunchroom, missing persons bureau, employment agency, and clothing store. Mr. George Lindsay, the librarian, was often asked as to the whereabouts of a regular patron. Many of the borrowers deposited their packages with him while they read their books or magazines. Often someone would come to the reading room looking for a man to do some work, and the librarian had no trouble finding one. About ten magazines to one book were issued. Biographies proved popular, especially books on Mussolini and Hitler. Pamphlets on Spain and on unemployment were also popular.

Miss Katherine Anderson, head of the reference department of the Library Association, spent three weeks this summer at the University of California at Los Angeles, where she was an instructor in a special course in public library administration. Miss Anderson is a graduate of the University of Washington library school and received her master's degree in librarianship at the University of California.

Miss Nell A. Unger, librarian, has announced the following staff changes at the library association:

Miss Pauline Shady, Seattle, a graduate of the University of Washington library school, will be the new children's librarian at the East Portland branch library, filling the position left vacant by the resignation of Miss Barbara Crowell, who will be married this fall.

Miss Alice Harper, also of Seattle, and a graduate of the University of Washington library school, is now on the staff of the Vernon branch library as children's librarian. Miss Helen Amesse, formerly of this branch, who was temporarily on the staff of the North Portland library this summer, was transferred to the circulation department of the central library in September.

In charge of the intermediate collection at central library is Miss Ruth Camblin of Denver, who received her library training at the University of Denver school of librarianship. Miss Agnes Krarup, who was the intermediate assistant for almost two years, assumed her new duties as head of the school department in July.

Another graduate of the University of Washington library school who joined the staff this fall was Merwin M. Moores, who is librarian at Boys Edison high school. Miss Florence Anderson, who was librarian at this school, was transferred to the Commerce high school.

Miss Esther M. Rush of Fort Dodge, Iowa, who received her B.A. degree from the State University of Iowa and her library training at the St. Louis library school, has been appointed children's librarian at the North Portland branch library. This position was formerly held by Miss Elizabeth A. Groves, who resigned last April to become head of the children's section of the A.L.A. Booklist.

Reedsport. The new Community Hall and City Library was dedicated in July, and the formal opening of the library took place August sixth. A silver tea was served at the opening. The building is sponsored by the American Legion and Auxiliary.

A chicken dinner was served by the members of the library board in the banquet room of the Legion Hall. Proceeds are to be used for library expenses.

St. Helens. An NYA project has been assigned to the library, and NYA workers will mend books, prepare them for circulation, and give general office assistance.

Salem. Exhibits of the work of the Salem Art Center, arranged by that organization, are being made in an alcove of the reading room. This display is to be a permanent feature.

Salem Masonic Lodge number 4 has loaned to the library a copy of the Constitution of the United States. It is on a large bronze standard located in the reference room.

Sherwood. An NYA project has been provided for the public library to provide employment for one girl between 18 and 25 years. She will assist the librarian in the circulation of books, and will mend books.

Silverton. The reference department in the library is rapidly gaining in popularity. During July, 240 questions were answered.

Toledo. The city council gave \$75 toward the library fund.

Umatilla County Library, Pendleton. Miss J. Elizabeth Olson, county librarian, was elected president of the Pacific Northwest Library Association convention at Many Glaciers Hotel, Montana.

An NYA project to employ two girls has been granted to the library. The girls will mend and repair books and help extend the public and school library services.

Willamina. The library is now open Tuesday and Saturday afternoons, from 2 to 4:30.

There are several new books on the pay shelf.

Woodburn. The library board has announced that a charge of \$1 per family per year will be made to those patrons of the library who live outside the city limits.

College Library Notes.

Eastern Oregon Normal School Library, La Grande. Miss Hendrine Rozendal is taking Mrs. Mildred Hawksworth Lowell's place as librarian while Mrs. Lowell is on a year's leave of absence.

Oregon Agricultural College Library, Corvallis. Miss Loretta Fisher has accepted a position in the circulation department of the library. Miss Fisher, a graduate of Willamette University, worked in the Oregon State Library for several years, then received her library school training at the University of Columbia, where she was graduated this year.

Miss Ruth Heiss has been appointed to the library staff to succeed Miss Hendrine Rozendal. Miss Heiss is a graduate of Purdue university and received her B.S. and Master's degrees from the University of Illinois.

Reed College Library, Portland. Miss Julia Blake, formerly assistant librarian at Worcester art museum, has replaced Miss Eleanor Pineo as cataloger in the Reed College library. Miss Blake received a Bachelor of Science degree from Simmons College, Boston, in 1937. She majored in the fields of English and librarianship.

College librarians from Oregon and Washington met at Reed College Saturday, October 22nd. Care and binding of books was among the subjects discussed Saturday morning under the chairmanship of Ruth Reynolds, librarian at Whitman College, and means to closer relationship between faculty members and libraries was discussed during the afternoon session, under the guidance of Warren L. Perry, librarian of the College of Puget Sound.

University of Portland Library, Portland. Appointment of Brother David, C.S.C., as librarian has been announced by Father Michael J. Early, president of the University. Brother David has spent the past year gaining a master's degree in library science at the University of Washington.

Judge Thomas McKeon of Los Angeles has donated a law library of more than 100 volumes to the university. Also given to the university was the 700 volume library of the late Father E. P. Murphy, first president of the university. This consists largely of history and literature.

University of Oregon Medical School Library, Portland. The construction of a medical library building, containing an auditorium, has been made possible by the president's approval of a PWA grant. The Medical School's library now contains approximately 30,000 volumes, and is the only comprehensive medical library north of San Francisco and west of the Mississippi.

Oregon State Library. Miss Mirpah Blair was the honor guest at a surprise dinner given recently in honor of her 25th year as a member of the library staff. Members of the State Library staff were hosts.

Miss Agnes Swanson has been appointed as classifier, to succeed Miss Dorothy MacDonald, who is now assistant librarian at Willamette University. Miss Swanson is a graduate of Reed College and the Wisconsin Library School, with a year of advanced study at the London School of Economics and a Master's degree from the University of California School of Librarianship.

Miss Agnes Shields has been appointed as school reference librarian to succeed Miss Edna Patton. Miss Shields received her B.A. degree at Radcliffe, and is a graduate of the University of Washington Library School.

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This is a long Letter. If you have waded this far through it, I hope you have found something of value to your library. Before I close, I want to urge every library to buy Anne Lindbergh's Listen! the Wind (Harcourt, \$2.50) and I hope the librarian takes a night off to read it, and relax!

Cordially yours,

Harriet Choung
Librarian

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