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SELA BIENNIAL CONFERENCES

OCTOBER 15-20, 1984
Mississippi Gulf Coast
Convention Center
Biloxi, Mississippi

OCTOBER 15-19, 1986
Marriott Hotel
Atlanta, Georgia

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In the last issue I predicted that by this time I would be in my new office still surrounded by unpacked boxes. Actually, there are only four unpacked boxes, so I'm making good progress.

ALA Midwinter, as predicted, is also behind us. I, along with several other people from SELA, attended the Divisional Leadership Enhancement Preconference. As I listened to Glenn H. Tecker, the consultant who served as presenter and facilitator, it struck me that much of what he was saying applies to SELA as well as to ALA. (I must note that I haven't been involved in the leadership of SELA so these factors may already be part of the planning. If that is the case, we can pat ourselves on the back.)



We, like ALA, comprise an association made up of people who voluntarily come together to solve common problems, meet common goals. Tecker stressed that an effective voluntary association is one that recognizes and focuses on the common self-interests of its members. If members perceive that these shared self-interests are not taken into account, they will simply voluntarily drop their memberships. What people perceive, is. People act on their perceptions. Perceptions may be based on limited information about opportunities, but "in the absence of information, we assume." For this reason, leadership needs to pay special attention to communication — both *to* members and potential members and *from* them. After all, association leaders act on their perceptions just as members do.

For voluntary associations Tecker emphasized the necessity for a collaborative planning process, including both long-term and short-term components. He sees stage one of the planning process as a "plan for planning" involving the association membership. At this stage, the shared self-interests perceived by members must be identified so that critical objectives can be developed. He believes stage one to be critical to the success of a voluntary association.

Since SELA, like ALA and its divisions, is continuously seeking new members and greater involvement of present members, rethinking the Association's mission in terms of self-interests held in common by the membership may have utility. As SELA members, what do you see as your "shared self-interests"?

— Linda Lucas

DEADLINES FOR COPY TO EDITORS:

V. 34, No. 1 (Spring, 1984)	April 1, 1984
V. 34, No. 2 (Summer, 1984)	July 1, 1984
V. 34, No. 3 (Fall, 1984)	October 1, 1984
V. 34, No. 4 (Winter, 1984)	January 1, 1985

PLAIN AND SIMPLE

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SOUTHEASTERN LIBRARIAN

Ann Morton, SELA Executive Secretary for much of the period since 1970 resigned December 31, 1983, to accept a position on the faculty of the Emory University Library School. She contributed significantly to the success of the Association, and she will be missed. During the interim before a new Executive Secretary can be employed, David E. Estes, University Librarian for Alumni and Community Affairs at Emory University, has been appointed Acting Executive Secretary. He has been very active in the Association's work for many years and currently serves as chairman of the Headquarters Committee. Jo Ann Treadwell continues to serve our members as Office Manager at the SELA Headquarters in Tucker, Georgia.



You will be pleased to learn that the Association's Conference Site Selection Committee recommended to the Executive Board that we accept Governor Charles Robb's and the Virginia Library Association's invitation to hold the 1988 Biennial Conference in Norfolk. The recommendation was unanimously accepted by the Board in December.

You should be receiving an announcement on the joint SELA/RASD workshop on reference services to be held in Atlanta in May. I hope you will be able to attend.

— Barratt Wilkins

From The President's Desk

The Role of the Special Collection in Children's Literature

By Carolyn W. Field

A common characteristic of librarians, whether school, public, academic or special, is the ability to organize materials into a system that makes it possible for the librarian or client to find the answers to questions and the materials desired. This is a complicated task for many reasons. Due to the tremendous expansion of knowledge in the past century, the development of technological equipment in this electronic age, the massive production of print materials, and the increase in cost of space and staff, many books are being discarded with both content and format lost forever. This is particularly true of children's books which may be discarded because they are worn out or because librarians consider them ephemeral.

Historians find children's books are excellent reflectors of the customs of the period. Children's books are now organized as a part of the total body of literature and are valuable to scholars and researchers as well as to individuals who wish to re-read books enjoyed in their childhood. But where are these books? Some are gone forever, but many are squirreled away in schools, public libraries and homes. Others are in rare book collections. And how would you, as an author or historian, know how to locate them?

In 1964 Helen Sattley, then President of the Children's Services Division of the American Library Association, was conducting research on children's books published during World War II. Because many of the books had been discarded by libraries, she appointed a committee on the National Planning of Special Collections of Children's Books. The committee decided its first task was to identify such special collections. The committee's work resulted in the publication of *Subject Collections in Children's Literature*, which was edited by Carolyn W. Field, and published in 1969. The second edition is titled *Special Collections in Children's Literature* and was published in 1982.

A special collection has been defined as an in-depth collection of materials organized around a specific subject, author, illustrator, theme or format that is made available to scholars and researchers. Materials added to the collection must enhance the use and value of the collection. In general, school and public libraries will not develop special collections, but they may own historical items to use for instruction in the history of the book or for display. Some institutions, public, academic or special, need to take responsibility for collecting books by local authors and

illustrators, books about the state or region, and books on subjects of specific interest to the area.

Libraries which establish a special collection must assume that the material will be properly catalogued, housed, supported by secondary materials and serviced by a professional staff. Funds should be available to add to the collection and efforts must be made to publicize it.

Libraries which do not own a special collection can still support collections to be used for research. When weeding the collection, materials may be identified that would be valuable to some collection already listed in *Special Collections in Children's Literature*. Colleagues in neighboring libraries may cooperate in developing local special collections. In children's literature, as in other fields, everything published is grist for the mill of the historian and scholar in years to come.

Carolyn W. Field was formerly the Coordinator of Work With Children at the Free Library of Philadelphia.

The John M. Shaw Collection: Children's Literature and Poetry in the Southeast

By Frederick Korn

Scholars and students of children's literature are indeed fortunate if they reside in the Southeast. As a recent article in *Southeastern Librarian* reminds us, this region is especially rich in children's literature collections.¹ Among these collections there is one that serves not only scholars of children's literature but also scholars of English and American poetry, and of the social history of England and America for the past 150 years. This is The John M. Shaw Collection at Florida State University. This collection represents nearly a half century of devoted book-collecting by a communications executive who is also a writer of children's poetry, a bibliographer, and a member of the Grolier Club. Brought to Strozier Library in 1960 the collection now holds more than 30,000 books and manuscripts that document childhood in poetry; the evolution of Anglo-American poetry from Shakespeare to Hughes, Betjeman, Rexroth, and recent efforts in the small presses; the evolution of Anglo-American religious song from Watts to the present day; and the evolution of Anglo-American book illustration from the third edition of *Paradise Lost* to the latest book by Jack Prelutsky.

A listing of the many strengths of the collection might begin with its holdings in English devotional song and poetry, especially in the work of the great dissenters — John Bunyan, Isaac Watts, the brothers Wesley (and their establishment father). This tradition is charmingly continued through the nineteenth and into the twentieth century by the collection's holdings in Bernard Barton (the "Quaker poet"), and by the numerous editions illustrated by Maxfield Parrish and Howard Pyle, who were of Quaker background. Other traditions documented in the collection include the early and high Romantic. Of the former, the Wordsworth-Coleridge-Lamb circle is well represented with significant editions, unrecorded poems, manuscripts, and association copies. Holdings in Burns, the great Romantic prototype, include over 120 items, among which are the Kilmarnock Burns as well as the first Edinburgh, London, and Dublin editions. Byron and Shelley are represented by significant first editions. The continuity between the Romantics and our present age is sustained first by the collection's holdings in England's great contribution to poetics — nonsense verse. Comprehensive holdings in Lewis Carroll and Edward Lear are supplemented by holdings in Gilbert, Parry, Pyle, Hood, Leland, and Nash. Then there are the great Victorians: Fitzgerald is well served by a full range of the many

illustrators of the *Rubaiyat*; the Brownings by many first editions, including the 1826 *Essay on Mind*, the 1833 *Prometheus Bound*, and the 1864 *Dramatis Personae*. There are also extensive holdings for Arnold, Tennyson, and Swineburne, including an 1853 *Strayed Reveller*, an 1866 *Poems and Ballads*, and the 1827 *Poems by Two Brothers*. The Edwardians, the World War I poets, and the Georgians are especially well represented, with strong holdings for Hardy, Masfield, Kipling, Graves, Sassoon, the early Lawrence in verse, and many anthologies. Of the moderns, Ted Hughes and John Betjeman are well covered.

Scholars of American poetry will find many early songsters and early anthologies. Holdings in Longfellow, Riley, Whittier, and Poe are very extensive and include the 1845 *Raven* as well as the first printing of this poem (in *The American Review*). There is an 1855 *Hiawatha* and an 1838 edition of Whittier's *Poems*. The many minor and minimal talents of nineteenth-century American poetry are especially abundant in the collection, either individually or in anthologies of the time. Documenting the conflict between the traditionalists and the practitioners of "the new poetry," the Shaw Collection offers strong holdings in Frost, early Pound, Doolittle, and the minor poets of the Poetry Society of America. Students of the Harlem Renaissance and of the newspaper poets who flourished before World War II will find many significant editions. Last but not least, the collection offers books of poetry from unlikely sources, such as Damon Runyan and John Dos Passos.

The many association copies in the collection are invaluable for a study of the network of personal relationships that runs through Anglo-American poetry. For example, there is the book of verse that Kipling, in his autobiography, claims so stirred him "to the deep" as a child; this is *Poems Written for a Child*, "by two friends."² Shaw's copy is inscribed by Lewis Carroll ("L. Dodgson") to Agnes Beatrice Jane Argles, 1868.³ In another example, a poem possibly written by S.T. Coleridge can be pursued through the collection's holdings of books of poetry written separately by his children, and the collection's holdings of poetry written by intimates of the Coleridge family. Among the last there is the collection's copy of the rare 1839 edition of *Little Derwent's Breakfast*, written by Emily Trevenen for Coleridge's grandson Derwent Moultrie Coleridge and inscribed by him for presentation.

An outstanding collection of poetry and children's literature must offer a wonderful range of book illustrations, and the Shaw Collection certainly vindicates this thesis. There are comprehensive holdings in Bewick, Caldecott, Pyle, Greenaway, Rackham, Cox, Tenniel, Geisel ("Dr. Seuss") and Denslow. The last two are also represented by many original drawings — Denslow, by the original drawings for *The Animal Fair* and *The Mother Goose ABC Book*; Dr. Seuss, by original drawings and sketches on cards and letters to his long-time friend Dr. Shaw. Over twenty illustrators are represented in the Shaw Collection for the Alice books of Lewis Carroll. There are also the important illustrators of *The Wind in the Willows*, *The Pied Piper*, *The Water Babies*, and the *Rubaiyat*.

Periodicals and annuals in the Shaw Collection document Anglo-American social, political, and literary attitudes for the past 150 years. Complete runs of *St. Nicholas* and the rare *Little Corporal*, extensive runs of *The Boy's Own Annual*, *Chatterbox*, *The Girl's Own Annual*, *Household Words*, *Little Folks*, *Merry's Museum*, *Youth's Magazine*, and *Youth's Companion* are supplemented by extensive holdings in such keepsakes or annuals as *The Amulet*, *Blackie's Girls' Annual*, *Forget Me Not*, *Friendship's Offering*, *The Keepsake*, *The Literary Souvenir*, *The Token*, and many samples from other titles.

The value of the Shaw Collection to scholars and students derives in great measure from the excellent indexes, catalogues, and bibliographies of holdings in the collection. Chief among these catalogues is the eleven-volume publication *Childhood in Poetry*, edited by John M. Shaw (Detroit: Gale, 1967—). This work offers many things: it offers a bookman's account of each item in the collection; an introduction to each of the authors therein; excerpts from many of the books; an index to book-titles, periodicals, and annuals in the collection; and a keyword index that helps to locate each and every poem in the collection by title or first line. The keyword index has proven itself an invaluable resource that has allowed scholars and poetry lovers to locate the complete text of a poem that is recalled vaguely or only by the first line or even only by a word or two in the first line. It also allows for a listing of poems by subject, like *Mother*, *Cat*, *Seashore*.

The many strengths of the Shaw Collection have led to the publication of subject and author indexes and bibliographies. Among these are Dr. Shaw's "St. Nicholas Poetry Index, 1873-1943," "What the Poets Have to Say about Childhood," "The Poetry of Sacred Song," "The Parodies of Lewis Carroll and Their Originals." There is also the *Collection Series*, which now includes separate bibliographies of holdings in Robert Burns, Lewis Carroll, and Edward Lear's *Book of Nonsense*. Finally, there is a

newsletter — the *Ars Poetica* — that describes recent acquisitions of special interest, and reports on exhibitions and visitors.

Among the many jewels within the Shaw Collection there are the 1866 Appleton and Macmillan editions of *Alice in Wonderland*; Coleridge's *Poems on Various Subjects* (1796); John Marchant's *Puerilia*; an eighteenth-century chapbook *Robin Hood* that is anti Robin Hood; Watt's *Psalms* (1719); Prior's *Poems on Several Occasions* (1709); Lear's *Book of Nonsense* in the first, second, and third editions and the first American edition; Joyce's *Pomes Penyeach* (1927); a first edition, presentation copy of Riley's *The Old Swimmin'-hole*; Millay's *Renascence* (1917); Quarles's *Divine Emblems* (1632); James Hogg's *The Mountain Bard* (1807). And on and on.

At first glance, a collection that joins Millay, Fitzgerald, Wilde, Joyce, Ginsberg, Lear, Pope, and Carroll under the rubric *Childhood in Poetry* suggests a disingenuous curatorship; yet, the origins and development of the Shaw Collection justify the catalogue title and contents therein. The founder, born in Glasgow at the end of the last century and inculcated by a Scottish education to a love of poetry, would read poetry to his children. Disappointed in the inadequacies of the American curriculum, he began to collect poetry written for children, at first to read to his own children, then in order to preserve a medium that had flourished in his own youth. Then he began to collect poetry that referred to children or childhood. And so, as the brochure to the collection explains, "Virtually all poets deal with the ways of the child, so that few can be excluded." As well, collecting poetry for children written by X.J. Kennedy or Ted Hughes somehow leads to poetry by Sillitoe or Pinter or even Ginsberg. This explains the presence of a large Fitzgerald collection alongside a collection in Lear and Carroll; a decent Pound and Lawrence collection alongside collections in Teasdale and Lowell (Amy); Longfellow alongside Lowell (Robert); Pope and Gay alongside Watts, Wesley, and Bunyan.

In sum, the Shaw Collection unites the great Anglo-American heritage of children's literature and poetry. And the publications of the Collection offer precise and comprehensive ingress into this heritage for the scholar, the student, and the lover of poetry.

NOTES

¹Larry Barr and Janet L. Barr, "The Haley Collection at Appalachian State University," *Southeastern Librarian*, 32 (1982), 20-21.

²*Something of Myself* (New York: Doubleday, Doran, 1937), p. 10; see also *The Kipling Journal*, No. 43 (1937), pp. 96-97.

³For Lewis Carroll and the Argleses, see *The Diaries of Lewis Carroll*, ed. Roger Lancelyn Green (New York: Oxford, 1954), II, 268.

Dr. Korn is an associate university librarian in the Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida.

Public Library Adult Literacy Programs in the Southeastern United States

By Joseph E. Fleming

The dimensions of twentieth century adult illiteracy in the United States are awesome. A problem not peculiar to this country, adult illiteracy is a basic problem to all nations whether developed, underdeveloped, or emerging. Today it is recognized as a disability which denies an individual access to a productive life. Awareness of the problem has been heightened by passage of the National Reading Improvement Act and the expenditure of public monies as corrective measures. Illiteracy exists in various stages. Four of these are defined by Lyman:¹

1. TOTAL ILLITERACY — the stage where a person is unable to read and write. Because few persons beyond childhood are thought to be completely illiterate, the term usually is applied to those whose ability to read and write is so limited that it cannot be used for communication.
2. FUNCTIONAL ILLITERACY — includes those persons who read to some degree, but cannot read well enough to function in society without assistance from others who read.
3. LIMITED LITERACY — includes those persons who are functionally literate, but unable to read well enough to handle materials outside their immediate functional needs, and those who are unable to read well enough to become all they might through additional technical, vocational, or high school and college-level training.
4. LITERACY — includes the mature reader who is able to read and understand virtually all materials that everyone is expected to read, plus materials within his or her special interests, excluding only esoteric or technical materials outside the individual's interests.

During the early years of the twentieth century, Americans generally displayed little concern about adult illiteracy. The few attempts at literacy education were directed mainly toward immigrants who found that the attainment of a level of literacy was useful in gaining citizenship. Adult literacy programs were impeded by the lack of uniform legislation and

frequent population shifts. Some states, such as New York, attempted to eliminate illiteracy by placing more emphasis on the education of children through the enactment of compulsory school attendance and child labor laws. The federal government produced publications which offered methods for teaching the illiterate.

Franklin Roosevelt's presidency indirectly had great influence on literacy education. Although much of Roosevelt's legislation was designed to provide work relief, frequently the recipient derived an educational benefit such as the achievement of literacy as well. The availability of classes in hundreds of communities through the Federal Emergency Relief Administration and the Work Relief in Education Project in New York City are examples of programs during the Roosevelt years. The large number of illiterate military registrants called for duty in World War II focused national attention on the problem of adult illiteracy. One remedy was landmark federal legislation — the Serviceman's Readjustment Act of 1944 (the G.I. Bill).

The 1960s generated political activism which fostered significant legislation such as the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Economic Opportunity Act. Also coming out of this period was a greater realization that functional illiteracy was a problem of major proportions. Although the percentage of persons considered to be totally illiterate dropped to a new low, the proportion of functionally illiterate adults increased at an alarming rate. The increase in the latter group may have resulted from redefining the term. A fifth grade education could no longer be considered adequate for full participation in American society.

States which comprise the southeastern region of the United States hold the problem of illiteracy in common with the rest of the country. As shown in Table I, each state has experienced a steady decline in the percentage of illiterate adults. The problem persists, however.

TABLE I — ILLITERACY OF THE POPULATION, SOUTHEASTERN UNITED STATES: 1900 to 1970 *

STATES	1900	1920	1930	1950	1960	1970
Alabama	35.1	17.8	14.0	6.2	4.2	2.1
Florida	23.4	10.2	7.7	3.9	2.6	1.3
Georgia	32.1	16.7	10.4	6.9	4.5	2.0
Kentucky	18.1	9.4	7.3	4.3	3.3	1.6
Louisiana	39.6	23.4	15.1	9.8	6.3	1.6
Mississippi	34.1	18.8	14.8	7.1	4.9	2.4
North Carolina	30.1	15.5	11.5	5.5	4.0	1.8
South Carolina	37.4	20.9	16.7	7.9	5.5	2.3
Tennessee	21.9	11.3	8.0	4.7	3.5	1.7
Virginia	24.3	12.2	9.7	4.9	3.4	1.4
West Virginia	12.6	7.2	5.5	3.5	2.7	1.4

* Data relates to population 15 years old and over for 1900 to 1930 and 14 years and over for 1950 to 1970
Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census

Although states of the southeastern region have shown a decline in the proportion of adult illiterates each decade, twenty-five states from other regions of the country (Table II) experienced greater reductions in the proportion of adult illiterates; some even achieved levels of less than 1.0 percent of the population.

TABLE II
STATES WITH ILLITERACY LEVELS OF LESS THAN 1.0 OF THE POPULATION AS OF 1970*

STATES	PERCENTAGES
Colorado	0.7
Delaware	0.9
Idaho	0.6
Illinois	0.9
Indiana	0.7
Iowa	0.5
Kansas	0.6
Maine	0.7
Maryland	0.9
Michigan	0.9
Minnesota	0.6
Missouri	0.8
Montana	0.6
Nebraska	0.6
Nevada	0.5
New Hampshire	0.7
North Dakota	0.8
Oklahoma	0.8
Oregon	0.6
South Dakota	0.5
Utah	0.6
Vermont	0.6
Washington	0.6
Wisconsin	0.7
Wyoming	0.6

* Data relates to population 14 years and over for 1970
Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census

A survey sought to describe public library adult literacy programs located in each of the southeastern states (Table I). The administrative officer of each state library in the southeastern region was contacted for descriptions of literacy programs. Responses were received from each state except Mississippi, Tennessee, and Florida. The public library, as an agency of change, has played a significant role in attempts to eliminate adult illiteracy.

NORTH CAROLINA public library involvement in literacy programs varies from a passive stance (e.g., making appropriate reading materials available) to active programs which place the public library at the center of community efforts to eliminate adult illiteracy. The Library Services and Construction Act sponsored programs in Hoke, Robeson and Rockingham counties are special projects established specifically for adult literacy.

The Hoke County project, known as HELP (Hoke Education for Literacy Project), was established to reduce the high illiteracy rate in that county.

It is an adult tutoring project using the "Each One Teach One" Laubach Method. Volunteers were recruited and trained to tutor adult students. The programs in Robeson and Rockingham counties were essentially the same as the Hoke County program — each depending upon volunteer help working under the supervision of librarians.

In VIRGINIA prior to 1979 few public libraries held materials or programs which were designed specifically for undereducated adults. In that year (1979) librarians who attended a meeting held during the annual library association conference heard about the adult education services of the Virginia Department of Education and discussed ways for public libraries to become involved in this program.

In the summer of 1980 a series of joint meetings including library directors and supervisors of adult basic education programs were held throughout the state. These meetings explored ways to cooperate and outline techniques for planning programs. Materials appropriate for a literacy program in a public library were exhibited. Using Library Services and Construction Act monies, the State Library purchased multiple copies of books and other materials for adult low level readers. Every public library in the state was provided a beginning collection or supplements to an existing one. The area library consultants offered advice on organizing the collections for effective use, thus expanding public library service to undereducated adults.

In 1981 the ALABAMA Public Library Service, the state library agency, in cooperation with the State Department of Education sponsored a public awareness campaign, "Illiteracy: We Can't Afford It." Public libraries throughout the state supported literacy programs in school systems as well as libraries. These efforts were successful in attracting adults to (ABC) Adult Basic Education programs throughout the state. Some public libraries continue to have adult literacy programs.

In WEST VIRGINIA the library commission cooperates with two literacy groups — Literacy Volunteers of West Virginia and Laubach. Libraries are used as sites for tutoring and tutor training. Eleven counties, out of the total of fifty-five, have library sponsored programs. All of these have been developed within the last four years. It is estimated that there are 250,000 illiterate adults in West Virginia out of a total population of 1,979,250. Many libraries have had their programs sponsored by and underwritten by their Friends of the Library group.

SOUTH CAROLINA public libraries are organized as county or regional systems. Of the thirty-nine systems within the state, twenty-four are actively involved with literacy activities. Twelve libraries have staff members who have been trained in the Laubach method of literacy instruction, and five of these continue to tutor. Twenty-two systems have collections of materials for adult learners. Seventeen systems provide space in the

library for tutoring, and twenty-three regularly refer potential students to local literacy volunteers. Four systems have received grants under the Library Services and Construction Act for outreach projects designed to enable the library to acquire literacy materials for the adult learner.

LOUISIANA public libraries are involved in various adult literacy activities. A session of the 1979 Administrative Librarian's Conference (public library administrators) program was devoted to a demonstration of the Laubach method, the display of teaching aids and available handouts. During the following year (1980), the *Louisiana Literacy Directory* was published. Its purpose was to provide information about various literacy services available statewide to citizens of Louisiana.

The Department of Education's Bureau of Adult and Community Education and the State Library share an on-going adult literacy project known as, "Libraries: A Discovery for Adult Learners." Purposes of the project are (1) to make available through libraries educational reading materials designed for use by undereducated adults, and (2) to inform the general public of resources available through libraries. In support of this program the State Library has added high interest/low vocabulary materials to its collection for several years. A bibliography of these materials has been distributed to libraries and adult education personnel throughout the state.

The KENTUCKY Department for Libraries and Archives has a literacy coordinator whose efforts to assist the 400,000 illiterate Kentuckians have consisted of projects in both urban Northern Kentucky and rural Eastern Kentucky. A planning conference will involve lay people in the state who would be instrumental in the success of any statewide program.

The GEORGIA Division of Public Library Services indicated that there is no organized state effort to combat adult illiteracy through public libraries. There was indication, however, that plans are underway to address the matter in the near future.

Elements common to the programs described are: public arousal and concern about the problem of adult illiteracy; leadership by public librarians; the use of both volunteers and librarians as teachers; interagency cooperation; and, where available, use of federal monies.

The public library has long been touted as the Peoples' University. It is now making valiant efforts toward eliminating illiteracy. The programs described in this article can be used as models for new programs. Elements can be selected from different programs for use in devising new ones. Assisting others

to achieve literacy is a worthy activity for every librarian.

Joseph E. Fleming is Acting Assistant Chief Librarian at North Carolina Central Library, Durham, North Carolina.

NOTES

¹Lyman, Helen H., *Literacy and the Nation's Libraries*. (Chicago: American Library Association, 1977).

Serving Conservative Christians

By Paul Deane

Do public libraries offer representative services to the conservative religious groups in their communities? With the increased visibility of the "New Right" in the last three years, this has become an issue of growing interest to librarians. This question is brought to the forefront with the publication of Cal Thomas' new volume *Book Burning*.¹

Thomas' thesis in summary is:

Censorship by definition is an act of suppression carried out from a position of power, sometimes for the common good ... but often out of fear of exposure to other ideas or plain self interest. When it comes to public schools, the press, or even libraries, the secularists, unfortunately, have most of the power. I do not mean to suggest that Christians are victims of an orchestrated plot or conspiracy ...; rather, we face a subtle, elitist bias that holds Christian values are less legitimate than secular views and somehow unfit for the general public.²

The argument is the practical application of a longstanding philosophical battle between fundamentalists and humanists.³

Humanism is therefore not a popular movement, as its supporters claim, but rather a coordinated scheme to establish a system of secular, so called "ethical" values that are diametrically opposed to the noblest aspirations of the Judeo-Christian culture which undergirds this nation.⁴

The crux of this philosophical battle rests on two points. First is the question of whether man relies upon himself (reason) or God for salvation.⁵ Secondly, there are a range of ethical and/or political issues including but not limited to abortion, pornography, national defense, and sex education that are being debated.⁶ The debate, while important if not crucial to humanists and fundamentalists, is very muddy to anyone looking on. At some points secular humanists are defined as members of some small, humanist groups associated with the *Humanist Manifestos I and II*.⁷ At other times secular humanists are seen as all people who do not accept a rationalistic, fundamentalistic approach to the Bible.⁸ And at still other times, humanists are those who do not accept the political/ethical agenda put forth by the New Right.⁹ The debate becomes unclear because Christians are equated as those with a conservative political agenda. This leads to the heart of the problem for librarians.

Cal Thomas is right in believing that a bias exists that has resulted in the under representation of service to conservative religious groups in U.S. libraries.¹⁰ He is wrong in ascribing this bias to any

secular humanist leanings or plots on the part of librarians because they do not share the Right's political agenda. There are several other reasons for this situation, and both librarians and fundamentalists must share the blame. First, it must be recognized that the library is used on a much broader basis than is examined in the present discussion. Most areas of service in the library do not lend themselves to a religious or a political analysis. For example, all people are served when they get an auto repair manual. Christians are not limited to their ghetto as suggested by Thomas.¹¹ They might ask for both Jerry Falwell's latest book and a best selling suspense novel. This broad use of library services should be remembered. Libraries do, in fact, serve conservative Christians in many ways.

There are problems, however. Both librarians¹² fallen short of the goal and need to make a concentrated effort to provide reviews. However, religious publishers fallen short of the goal and need to make a concentrated effort to provide reviews. However, religious and conservative publishers contribute to this problem also. They tend to be isolationist and reluctant to leave an established market. In 1980, a popular religious author had written a new book which was heavily promoted on television, resulting in heavy demand in libraries. The publisher, however, refused to sell the book to libraries. As an employee in a trade book store in the 1970's, I had the opportunity to observe the frequent difficulties with the religious publishers who were either reluctant to deal with trade book stores or who flatly refused to do so. Conservative publishers need to meet the book trade and the reviewing media halfway. If conservatives want their books reviewed and in libraries, they will need to learn to make use of the mainstream book trade.

Librarians have mentioned a lack of demand for these materials.¹⁴ Some libraries are apparently not experiencing the interest in these materials to the degree that obviously exists in the religious book market. It becomes a question of: do libraries not buy the materials because no one asks for them; or does no one ask for them because the library does not carry the materials? Again, it seems that each group needs to improve their performance.

A final and perhaps paramount problem is one of polemics. Rather than squaring off in the press and throwing names at each other, librarians and conservatives need to be more tolerant and cooperative. Librarians do not like being portrayed as immoral, irreligious, or conspiratorial because they do not support any of a variety of political causes. And Cal Thomas points out that conservatives obviously do not care to be portrayed as nuts, crazies, censors, or anti-intellectual. A more level headed

approach and less name calling might result in better library service and greater library support.

As an alternative to Cal Thomas' "Plan for Action,"¹⁵ librarians can take several steps to improve service to the conservative and/or religious groups in their communities. (Note that these steps should apply to all religious groups and not just the conservative ones.) The first step is community analysis. Librarians should get a grasp on the nature, size, and beliefs of the religious community. Taking a further step, at least one staff member should be assigned the responsibility of getting to know community religious leaders, attending their meetings, and serving as an active, day to day liaison for their concerns. This will lead to better library service and to the political support of a powerful community group. Librarians and religious leaders also might find that they respect each other despite possible political and religious differences.

If community analysis reveals the need for extended service to religious groups, librarians may decide to develop Information and Referral files and services for the religious community.¹⁶ Identifying services provided by and demographic information on the religious community would seem to be as important as any information file on business or social services. Examples of questions successfully answered from the religious I&R file at the Memphis Shelby County (TN) Library and Information Center include:

Is there a charismatic Southern Baptist Church in the city?

We need a statistical breakdown of the number of denominations and the number of members in each denomination for our FCA license renewal. Do you have them?

Are there any Methodist Churches with a gym and a strong youth program on the south side of the city?

As is readily apparent, this type of information is a useful service to the library's patrons.

A third step in improving library services is collection development. Despite a minimum of reviews in established review sources, popular religious collection building is possible. As a first and repeated step, visit the local religious book store(s) and note their materials and displays. Often bookstore personnel will be happy to share their knowledge of the publishing business and patron buying habits. The collection should not be limited to religious hardbacks. Paperbacks, comic books, records, tapes, and movies all have a strong market in the religious community. At least one library has found religious comics an important enough source to keep in the vertical file for ready reference. Religious leaders, when they find that you are seriously interested in developing your collection, will offer good

suggestions and sometimes make donations of books to the library. Remember, however, that religious leaders, along with many librarians, tend to be overly academic or esoteric for a popular collection.

Finally, librarians can use the information sources available at present while encouraging the regular review media and conservative religious publishers to make better arrangements.

Two religious journals which have broader coverage than just the conservative view should be used by even the smallest library for reviews. These journals are *Christianity Today* and *Christian Bookseller and Librarian*. Other broadly based religious journals which are helpful include *Catholic Library World*, *Sojourners* and *Religious Book Reviews*. Several religious journals are available which concentrate on conservative religious views. They provide reviews which will be useful. These journals are *Bookstore Journal*, *Christian Review*, *National Review* and *Moody's Monthly*.¹⁷

Several books written by members of the New Right have good starting bibliographies. *Book Burning* and *Branson's Best Evangelical Books*¹⁸ have good ones. A librarian assigned to watch the Old Time Gospel Hour or the 700 Club can glean titles and sources of materials that will be in high demand but unavailable from standard library sources. The librarian's problem will not be in getting enough materials but tailoring the collection to community interests and needs. Few communities, after all, serve only conservative Christians.

The final but crucial step for librarians, if they hope to serve the conservative religious community, is public relations. The library, if it has not adequately served this group in the past, will probably be met with indifference or maybe hostility. Meeting the leaders and working with them as suggested above, will alleviate much of this problem. Other standard library practices will also help. Occasional book displays of conservative religious materials, programs geared to conservatives, or a direct mail library newsletter aimed at them would help relations. In effect, the library can use all the public relations tools for the conservative religious community that they use for any other community group.

Do libraries serve the religious conservatives in our communities? The answer will vary from community to community. There is evidence, however, that their materials are generally not available through libraries in proportion to their numbers in many communities. Where such inequities exist, librarians working with conservative Christians can vastly improve the situation in the future.

Paul Deane is Manager of Reader Services, Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

(See notes on next page.)

NOTES

¹Cal Thomas, *Book Burning* (Westchester, Illinois: Crossway Books, 1983).

²*Ibid.*, p. 25.

³For the best exposition of this debate from the fundamentalist point of view, see Francis Schaeffer, *Escape From Reason* (Downers Grove, Illinois: Intervarsity Press, 1968).

⁴Claire Chambers, *The Siecus Circle* (Belmont, Massachusetts: Western Islands, 1977), p. 394.

⁵*Ibid.*, pp. 53-54.

⁶Robert Zwier, *Born Again Politics: The New Christian Right in America* (Downers Grove, Illinois: Intervarsity Press, 1982), p. 55-57.

⁷Paul Kurtz, ed., *The Humanist Manifestos I & II* (Buffalo, New York: Prometheus Books, 1979).

⁸For a description of this school of fundamentalism, led by Francis Schaeffer and Carl Henry, see Donald Bloesch, "Evangelical Theology" in *Contemporary American Theology II* edited by Dean William Ferm (New York: Seabury Press, 1982), pp. 254-255.

⁹Karen Gray Miller, "Do Libraries Get Religion?" *Library Journal*, (October 15, 1983): 1941-1943.

¹⁰Karen Gray Miller, "Do Libraries Get Religion?" and "Religion Revisited," *Library Journal*, (October 15, 1983): 1921-1923.

¹¹Thomas, *Book Burning*, pp. 96-109.

¹²Miller, "Religion Revisited," p. 1923.

¹³Thomas, *Book Burning*, pp. 101-103.

¹⁴Miller, "Religion Revisited," p. 1923.

¹⁵Thomas, *Book Burning*, pp. 140-145.

¹⁶A good source on this kind of service is Clara S. Jones, editor, *Public Library Information and Referral* (Syracuse, New York: Gaylord Professional Publications, 1978). Of particular interest would be chapter IV on file development.

¹⁷Addresses for all cited publications can be found in Patricia Hagood, ed., *The Standard Periodical Directory*, 8th ed. (New York: Oxbridge Communications, Inc., 1982).

¹⁸Mark Lau Branson, *Reader's Guide to the Best Evangelical Books* (San Francisco: Harper Row, 1982), pp. 207.

Southeastern Library Association C.E.U. Credits Through Valdosta State College

The Office of Public Services at Valdosta State College will maintain Continuing Education Unit Credits for SELA. This program will be maintained at no cost to SELA.

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SELA Chronicle

SELA Slate of Candidates

1986 - 1988

V. President/Pres.-Elect Charles Beard, Georgia
 Ann Prentice, Tennessee
 Secretary Doris Clack, Florida
 Virginia Benjamin, Georgia
 Treasurer Neal Austin, North Carolina
 George Stewart, Alabama

Vitae of the Candidates

Charles Beard is Professor and Director of Libraries at West Georgia College. He holds a B.A. degree from the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa and an M.S.L.S. from Florida State University. He served on the library staff at the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, and has been Director of Libraries at Judson College and Georgia College. Beard was President of the Georgia Library Association from 1981-1983. He has also served as Chairman of the University System of Georgia Academic Committee on Libraries and of Central Georgia Associated Libraries. He was Steering Committee and Proceedings Chairman of Georgia's First Governor's Conference on Libraries and Information Services and an Alternate Delegate to the White House Conference on Libraries and Information Services. Beard has published a variety of articles and reviews.

Ann Prentice is Director of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Tennessee. She holds an A.B. from the University of Rochester, an M.L.S. from the State University of New York at Albany, a D.L.S. from Columbia University and a Litt.D. from Keuka College. Before she came to The University of Tennessee she was a library educator, the director of a public library and the manager of school library media centers. She has served as a public library trustee and a library system trustee. Prentice has written four books on library finance as well as numerous articles on library management, funding and evaluation of services.

Doris Clack is Associate Professor, School of Library and Information Studies, Florida State University. She holds an A.B. from Florida A. and M. University, an A.M.L.S. from the University of Michigan, and a Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh. She has been Head of the Cataloging Department and Head of Technical Services at Florida A. and M. University. She has been a consultant on several projects related to cataloging and classification. Her publications include five books and a number of articles on cataloging and a variety of other subjects.

Virginia Benjamin is Assistant Head of the Science Library at the University of Georgia, Athens. She holds an M.L.S. from Peabody Library School. Her previous appointments include head of interlibrary loan, UGA; assistant head, Bibliographical Center for Research; head of science reference and head of science public services, UGA She has also worked for Hawthorn Books, Inc.,

in New York City. She has served in several capacities in the Georgia Library Association, including chair of the reference section and chair of the special libraries division.

Neal Austin is Director of the High Point, North Carolina Public Library. He holds a Masters degree from the University of Oklahoma. He has been Librarian of the University of Oklahoma School of Journalism and of the Union County, North Carolina Public Library. Austin has served as President of the North Carolina Public Library Directors' Association. He has also chaired the North Carolina Library Association Junior Members Round Table and the Public Library Section. He served as Chairman of SELA's Intellectual Freedom Committee for two terms. His ALA activities include membership on Council and Chairmanship of the Junior Members Round Table for two terms.

George Stewart is Executive Director of the Birmingham Public Library. He holds B.A. and M.A. degrees from Samford University and an M.A. from Emory University. Before becoming Executive Director, he held several positions within the Birmingham Public Library. He has served as President of the Alabama Library Association and is currently Vice President/President-Elect of the Public Libraries Section of SELA.

Southeastern Library Association

Executive Board Meeting

December 13, 1983

Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT: Barratt Wilkins, President; David L. Ince, Secretary; Arial Stephens, Treasurer; Kenneth Jensen, David Estes, Ann Morton, Paul Spence, Lorraine Schaeffer, Bill Roberts, Delores Owen, Hubert Whitlow, Rebecca Ballentine, LePoint Smith, Linda Lucas, Ann Prentice, Mary Louise Rheay, Carl Stone, and Kenneth Toombs.

The meeting was called to order by President Wilkins on December 13, 1983, at 10:00 a.m. at Howard Johnson's Airport Inn in Atlanta, Georgia. President Wilkins called on Arial Stephens for the Budget Committee report.

Mr. Stephens distributed the financial statement as of November 30, 1983. Our total assets are \$36,448.04. A copy of the Financial Statement is attached. *SOUTHEASTERN LIBRARIAN* is doing well. It was moved and seconded that the budget be accepted as read.

President Wilkins informed the Board that we would be losing our Executive Secretary, Ann Morton. She has accepted a full-time position at Emory University. Ann has been a mainstay at SELA for many years. We are very pleased for Ann, but very sad for the Association collectively. Ann made a brief speech thanking everyone for their support and kindness. President Wilkins has asked David Estes to look after the office at Tucker on a weekly or bi-weekly basis, and he has agreed to do that. President Wilkins suggested that the Executive Committee, which constitutes the

President, Vice President, President-elect, Secretary and Treasurer, serve as a Search Committee for our new Executive Secretary. The Executive Board accepted President Wilkins' suggestion with the understanding that the candidates would be considered by the entire Executive Board. He stated that we should have someone by late spring as there would be workshops in May and an institute in August. We would need someone on board by then.

Arial Stephens moved that the Board extend to Ann their thanks and appreciation for her years of service to the Association. The motion was seconded and approved.

Conference Site Selection Committee: Lorraine Schaeffer, Chair, distributed a report to the Board. The Marriott in Atlanta is the site for the 1986 conference. Ms. Schaeffer informed us that the Committee made some modifications to the original agreement with the Marriott. They negotiated a better room rate and conference pre-meeting space that was not assured at the original agreement with the hotel. Ms. Schaeffer stated that the Conference Site Selection Committee would be glad to brief the Conference Committee on all matters pertaining to the 1986 Conference.

Ms. Schaeffer continued her report in terms of the 1988 Conference Site. A report was passed out and read by the Executive Board. At least two members of the Committee reviewed the sites that were selected — Columbia, South Carolina; Winston-Salem, North Carolina; and Norfolk, Virginia. Materials on each site were made available to the Board to review before taking a vote on the City.

In terms of the 1990 site, the Committee has continued to look at New Orleans and we have had a very strong invitation from the Tennessee Library Association to meet in Nashville. The Committee has been pursuing with interest those two cities. Work is not concluded yet. Nashville has been visited and we could meet at Opryland Motel where all functions could take place under one roof. The situation in New Orleans is being investigated and is not complete as of this date. The Conference Site Selection Committee was not ready to give a recommendation for the 1990 site, but Ms. Schaeffer suggested that their recommendation would probably be one of the two cities mentioned above.

The report on *The Southeastern Librarian* was given by Linda Lucas. The second issue for Vol. 33 went into the mail on December 12, 1983. The third one is at the printer and the fourth will go to the printer about mid-January. We are in good status with the Post Office. This issue's printing ran just under \$1,300 and mailing costs should bring the total to around \$1,500. There should be enough money remaining to get all the issues out. Linda stated that she would like more regional information from the various states. President Wilkins congratulated Linda Lucas and her editorial staff for their ability to get *The Southeastern Librarian* back on track. The reason for the many issues is the fact that the Post Office informed us in order to keep the second class rate we have to publish four during each year.

Conference Workshop Activities: President Wilkins has been meeting with the MLA/SELA Conference Committee in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. There is a December 16 deadline for reserving space on the program. President Wilkins expressed thanks to the Mississippi Library Association for the work that they are doing. There are several hotels — The Hilton, Royal D. and Broadwater in Biloxi. The Hilton is the Conference meeting area.

Workshop Activities planned are:

1. A four-day institute co-sponsored by State Library of Florida and SELA at FSU Library School in Tallahassee. It will be on intellectual freedom, as it relates to children/children's services/school and public libraries and aimed in particular to censorship of children's books. There will be psychologists and a number of other people there. The institute will be in late July or early August of 1984. The Hilton Hotel will be the headquarters hotel. Many of the meals will be served at the Florida State Conference Center. David Ince reported that we do have the Continuing Education Agreement with Valdosta State College which should be a drawing card if we get it into our publicity. President Wilkins explained the CEU which SELA has with Valdosta State. President Wilkins also informed us that in May 1984 the lease we have with Tucker, Georgia will be coming up for renewal or consideration. We have 30 days to evaluate.

Section Reports:

1. Library Education: Ann Prentice reported that we will be dealing with the topic of consultants — how you identify and employ them and how you use their results.
2. Public Library Section: Mary Louise Rhey reported that the Trustees Section and Public Library Section are going to have a joint program.
3. Reference and Adult Services: Carl Stone reported that a workshop will be held at Dunfey's in Atlanta, May 10-12, 1984.
4. President Wilkins reported for several section chairs that were not present. RTSS and Georgia have been working to publish the proceedings of the very successful workshop held several years ago. They are looking at an arrangement with a private publisher that will provide royalties to SELA for the publication. The School and Children's Librarians Section has a program planned at the SELA/MLA Conference.

President Wilkins asked for a motion for the 1988 site. It was moved and seconded that the Board accept the recommendation of the Conference Site Selection Committee for Norfolk, Virginia.

The meeting was adjourned.

David L. Ince, Secretary

Regional News

GEORGIA

Mary Louise Rhey, Director of the Cobb County Public Library System, has received the Nix-Jones Award, the highest honor given by the Georgia Library Association. The award was presented October 29, 1983, at the Biennial Conference of the Association at Jekyll Island. The Nix-Jones Award is presented each biennium to a practicing librarian for distinguished service to Georgia librarianship, recognizing substantial contributions, such as stimulation of library development, leadership in library programs, and outstanding support of Georgia libraries. Rhey has been Director of the Cobb County Public Library System since 1975, having served previously in the Atlanta Public Library as Assistant Director for twelve years and in the Children's Department for twenty-two years. She was president of the Georgia Library Association from 1973-75 and has held other offices in it and in other library associations. Rhey received the Allie Beth Martin Award from ALA's Public Library Association in 1980 for outstanding work by a public librarian. In the education field, she has been elected to Delta Kappa Gamma, an organization recognizing outstanding women educators. In presenting the Nix-Jones Award, GLA made public recognition of Rhey's work, accompanying this with a plaque and with a monetary award.

David F. Bishop, Director of Libraries, University of Georgia, and **Mrs. Bishop** have established the **W. Porter Kellam Library Enrichment Fund**, in the University of Georgia Foundation. Kellam was Director of Libraries from September, 1950, until the end of June, 1973. The purpose of the fund is to bring scholars and lecturers to the University of Georgia to address issues of interest to the library faculty. The fund will provide support for faculty and staff development and enrichment. Specific projects supported by the fund will be selected by a committee elected by the library faculty and approved by the Director of Libraries. Donations by library staff members and other friends of the libraries have been made to the Fund since its establishment.

Norris Wootton has been appointed Head Librarian for the Tifton-Tift County Public Library. Ms. Wootton was County Librarian for Chesterfield County, South Carolina, from 1976-1984.

KENTUCKY

William H. Ptacek has been named director of the Louisville Free Public Library. He came to Louisville on February 1 from Idaho Falls, where for the past four years he has been director of the Idaho Falls Public Library and regional director of nineteen public libraries in the Eastern Idaho Regional Library System. Ptacek received his undergraduate degree from the University of Chicago, followed it with an MLS, with an emphasis in Computer Science, from the State University of New York, and

has completed post-graduate studies in library systems, personnel administration, and public sector finance at Chicago. His prior library experience included five assignments within the Chicago Public Library service area. In 1982, Ptacek co-authored *Public Libraries: Smart Practices in Personnel* with Peggy Sullivan.

Lexington Public Library has completed an agreement with Data Research Associates whereby DRA will provide an online integrated automated library system for the library. This will include circulation control, acquisitions and database construction and maintenance functions. The ATLAS software package will include serials control and public access catalog. DRA and LPL will jointly develop a cable television interface for the automated system which will permit access to bibliographic database information by way of the library's dedicated cable channel. Digital Equipment Corporation will supply the hardware for the system: the VAX-11/750 processor and DEC Rainbow microcomputers for use in record conversion, as system backup, and as intelligent terminals in various library locations.

NORTH CAROLINA

Herman Howe Fussler, ABLIS 1936, was awarded the University Distinguished Alumnus Award by the University of North Carolina, in recognition of his record in university library administration, microphotography, teaching and scholarship. Fussler is credited with both defining and guiding the cutting edge of change in the great research libraries. Fussler was awarded the Master's and Doctor's degrees by the University of Chicago. He served as Director of the University of Chicago Library for 23 years, 1948-1971, was acting Dean of the University of Chicago Graduate Library School, and was named Ryerson Distinguished Service Professor of Library Science there in 1974. ALA presented Fussler with the Melvil Dewey Award in 1954 and with the Ralph Shaw Award in 1976. He is also a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

The Durham County Public Library Association received a \$3000 grant from the North Carolina State Library to support a continuing education workshop on the new Copyright Act and its bearing on nonprint materials, February 24.

The Interlibrary Services Branch of the Division of State Library of the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources announces the publication of its *Interlibrary Services Manual*. This work is designed to tell North Carolina libraries how to use the branch's interlibrary loan and reference services. Copies have been distributed to the interlibrary loan librarians of North Carolina libraries. Other interested libraries may obtain a copy by writing the Interlibrary Services Branch, Division of State Library, 109 East Jones Street, Raleigh, NC 27611.

The 1984 John Phillip Immroth Memorial Award for Intellectual Freedom will be presented this summer in Dallas to **Dr. Gene D. Lanier** of the East Carolina University library science faculty. The award, a citation and a cash prize, is presented annually by ALA's Intellectual Freedom Round Table.

Immroth, for whom the award is named, was an author, teacher, scholar, advocate and defender of First Amendment rights. It honors the courage, dedication, and contribution of individuals who have been exemplary in their defense and furtherance of the principles of intellectual freedom.

As chairman of the Intellectual Freedom Committee of the North Carolina Library Association since 1980 Lanier has presented papers at conferences, professional and civic meetings in the Southeast concerning the threat of library censorship and the individual's right to read, view, and listen. A former president of NCLA, he was appointed by the Governor to the State Library Committee and by the North Carolina Speaker of the House to the Study Committee on Obscenity Laws.

Dr. Lanier is a native of Conway, North Carolina, and holds degrees from East Carolina University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He has received the Hugh M. Hefner First Amendment Award in Education presented by the Playboy Foundation and the Mary Peacock Douglas Award by the N.C. Association of School Librarians for his efforts. He was chairman of the Department of Library Science at ECU from 1966 to 1981 and has served as consultant to over 50 libraries across the state.

He currently serves on the Intellectual Freedom Committee of the Southeastern Library Association, as parliamentarian and member of the Research Grants Committee of the N.C. Association of School Librarians, as liaison representative of the Association for Library and Information Science Education, and on the N.C. Advisory Council of People for the American Way.

North Carolina Central University School of Library Science has received a gift of equipment valued at \$3,500 from Microfilming Corporation of America. This equipment will improve the school's ability to provide students and faculty access to increased numbers of electronic publications and services. Recently the school joined ALANET, ALA's electronic mail and information service.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Barbara Brittain has been appointed Director of the Learning Resources Center at Horry-Georgetown Technical College. She was formerly associated with the LRC at Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College.

Penelope Forrester has been appointed Director of the Pickens County Library. She was formerly Local Information and History Librarian at the Greenville County Library.

Dr. Myriette Guinyard Ekechukwu is head of the Library Division at Chesterfield-Marlboro Technical College. She was formerly Assistant Professor of Afro-American and African Studies at the University of North Carolina - Charlotte.

The Special Libraries Section of SCLA published a *Directory of Special Libraries and Information Centers* (South Carolina), fall, 1982. Copies can be ordered for \$3.75 each from Robin Deal, Chemical Library, 240 Stoneridge Drive, Columbia, SC 29210.

The Thomas Cooper Library, University of South Carolina, has had a TRS-80, Model II, microcomputer installed in order to control lighting throughout the library. It is used to activate the eviton Central Control System which determines when lights should be on or off in various areas of the building. The System transmits coded command signals to the appropriate load via existing AC power circuits, remembering designated days and times of day. Lights are turned off in areas which are not open after normal weekday office hours while lights in areas used by the public remain on until the midnight closing hour. The lighting goes off and on automatically for a designated period of time after the closing hour so that custodial cleaning can be done from midnight until six a.m. On weekend days, the system remembers to light only those areas open to the public. A manual override control can be used by the staff when necessary. Kenneth E. Toombs, Director of Libraries, reports that the System, which controls 28,000 lights in the 7½ acre building, has saved an average of \$7,555 per month at the rate of five cents per week. Savings accrued in the first eight months of use paid for the total cost of purchase and installation.

Everette J. (Jack) Dennis has been appointed Student Services Librarian at Wessels Library, Newberry College. Mr. Dennis is retired from the U.S. Navy Officer Corps. He holds an MLS from Catholic University and a Master of International Studies from The American University, Washington, D.C. Dennis' prior library experience was at George Mason University. Dennis succeeds **Arie Koelewyn**, who resigned in order to attend the University of South Carolina, seeking a Master of Computer Science degree.

Bill Cooper, Director of Laurens County Library, has been named editor of *News & Views of SCLA*.


TENNESSEE

The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga library has received the final component of a gift from the Lyndhurst Foundation which totalled \$1,853,600 over a five-year period. Designated expenditures from this last increment continued the

bibliographic instruction program, acquisition of films, slides and scores, automation of the library circulation system, and personnel. The bibliographic instruction program is the first of its kind in the state and has become a prototype for similar universities, including instruction in the use of the card catalog, in the use of standard bibliographies, and in modern techniques for locating research materials. A total of \$125,000 is designated for new books for the library.

VIRGINIA

Fairfax County Public Library is presenting a series of free lecture discussions, "The Southern Woman: Myth and Reality," presented by five distinguished literary scholars. Dr. Elizabeth Baer, Assistant Dean of Sweet Briar College, delivered the keynote lecture, developing the theme of the Southern woman's role evolution from the plantation legend to modern day concepts. Works of Katherine Anne Porter, Eudora Welty, Kate Chopin and Mays Angelou will be studied in the remaining lectures, with the final lecture scheduled for March 12. A grant from the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities funded the "Southern Woman" program, which has been presented in public libraries in other Virginia counties.




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NECROLOGY

Alice Dodson Callaham, deceased on January 21. Mrs. Callaham had served as Branch Librarian at the Jennie Erwin Library, Anderson County, South Carolina, and was also a former member of the branch library's board as well as of the board of the Anderson County Library. Mrs. Callaham, wife of J. Winfred Callaham, was the mother of Betty E. Callaham, South Carolina State Librarian.

David Louis Olsen, Acquisitions Librarian, Thomas Cooper Library, University of South Carolina, died January 28, 1984. Mr. Olsen had been associated with USC since 1981 and is survived by his wife and a son.

Frances Reid, North Carolina State Library Public Library Consultant for the western half of the state, died December 11, 1983. In that position, she had assisted in the founding of the Friends of North Carolina Public Libraries. She had previously served as Director of the Spartanburg (South Carolina) County Library and had been on the staff of the South Carolina State Library.

SELA PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE AT REDUCED PRICE

Anders, Mary Edna, Libraries and Library Service In The Southeast - A Report Of The Southeastern States Cooperative Library Survey, 1972 - 74. The University of Alabama Press, 1976. \$5 (Originally, \$10)

Ward, James E., Albright, Jane A., Phillips, Kathleen, Southeastern Bibliographic Instruction Directory: Academic Libraries. Southeastern Library Association, 1978. \$1.25 (Originally, \$10)

Tucker, Ellis Eugene, Ed., The Southeastern Library Association, Its History and Its Honorary Members, 1920 - 1980. Southeastern Library Association, 1980. \$1 (Originally, \$5)

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NEWS NOTES should be sent to the Managing Editor.

INDEX: The Winter Issue contains the index for the previous calendar year. Also, the journal is indexed in LIBRARY LITERATURE and LIBRARY SCIENCE ABSTRACTS.

BACKFILE: Copies of all earlier issues are available in microform from University Microfilms International, 300 North Zeeb Road, Dept. P.R., and Ann Arbor, MI 48106, U.S.A. or c/o 18 Bedford Row, Dept. P.R., London, WC14EJ, England. Some hardcopy back issues are available through the SELA Headquarters, P.O. Box 987, Tucker, GA 30084.

DATES TO REMEMBER

1984

MARCH 4 - 7: 1984 Conference on Public Libraries, "Managing Information — A National Imperative." Florida State University School of Library and Information Studies. Contact: Alphonse F. Trezza, Assoc. Prof., School of Library and Information Studies, FSL, Tallahassee, FL 32306, (904) 644-5775.

MARCH 14 - 16: Louisiana Library Association, Annual Conference; Baton Rouge.

MARCH 22 - 23: South Carolina Association of School Librarians, Greenville.

APRIL 7: "The Black Experience in Children's Literature." College of Library and Information Science, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208. Contact Augusta Baker.

APRIL 8 - 14: National Library Week. Theme: Knowledge is Real Power. ALA's 1984 Power Tools Publicity Book provides campaigns with a choice: Superman, George Orwell's 1984, new technology and user friendly service, E.T., and others.

APRIL 10 - 12: 5th National ONLINE Meeting, Sheraton Hotel, New York. Features: presented papers, product review sessions, and 120-130 exhibits. For further details: National Online Meeting, Learned Information, Inc., 143 Old Marlton Pike, Medford, NJ 08055, (609) 654-6266.

APRIL 11 - 13: Alabama Library Association, Birmingham.

APRIL 25 - 28: Tennessee Library Association, Memphis.

MAY 3 - 4: National LOEX Library Instruction Conference, EMU Hoyt Conference Center, Eastern Michigan University. Cost: \$135 to LOEX members. Further information: Carolyn Kirkendall, Director, LOEX Clearinghouse, Eastern Michigan University Library, Ypsilanti, MI 48197, (313) 487-0168.

MAY 10 - 12: "Improving Reference Management." SELA RASD Workshop, Atlanta. Contact: Carl Stone, Anderson County Library, Anderson, SC.

MAY 10 - 11: The Fifth Southeastern Bibliographic Instruction Conference, "BI: A Multi-faceted Discipline," University of Florida, Gainesville. Advance registration \$60 (with CE credit, \$65). Registration deadline, April 2. Contact: Barbara Wittkopf, University of Florida, 114 Library West, Gainesville, FL 32611, (904) 392-0361.

MAY 25 - 31: Medical Library Association, Denver.

JUNE 9 - 14: Special Libraries Association, New York.

JUNE 23 - JULY 1: American Library Association, Dallas.

JULY 1 - 4: American Association of Law Libraries, San Diego.

JULY 30 - AUGUST 3: International Association of School Librarians, Kamehameha Schools, Honolulu. Theme: School Libraries/Media Centers: Partners in Education. Contact: Dr. Jean Lowrie, School of Librarianship, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI 49008.

SEPTEMBER 13 - 15: South Carolina Library Association, Columbia.

OCTOBER 17 - 20: Southeastern Library Association/Mississippi Library Association (joint conference), Biloxi, MS, planned to coincide with the World's Fair, New Orleans. Theme: Fair Sailing in Biloxi.

OCTOBER 21 - 26: American Society of Information Science, Philadelphia.

OCTOBER 31 - NOVEMBER 4: American Association of School Librarians, Atlanta.

1985

FEBRUARY 2 - 8: American Library Association, Midwinter meeting, Washington.

APRIL 14 - 20: National Library Week.

MAY 16 - 18: "Literacy Accomplishments of Vera and Bill Cleaver," A Children's Literature Symposium. Sponsors: School of Library Science and Southern Historical Collection of Louis Round Wilson Library. Place: University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC. Directors: Marilyn L. Miller and Mell Busbin. Contact: Dr. Mell Busbin, Department of Library and Media Studies at Appalachian State University, Boone, NC 28608, (704) 262-2243.

JUNE 8 - 13: Special Libraries Association, Winnepeg, Manitoba.

JUNE 21 - 27: American Library Association, Los Angeles.

OCTOBER 1 - 5: North Carolina Library Association, Raleigh.

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