

WEST VIRGINIA LIBRARIES



VOLUME 5
NUMBER 1

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WEST VIRGINIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

MARCH
1952

1952 CONFERENCE DATE SET

The Executive Board, at its meeting January 12, accepted the invitation of Potomac State School, Keyser, West Virginia, to hold the 1952 convention there. Dates are Friday and Saturday, October 10-11. The Association has never been to Potomac State School, and invitations to meet there have been preferred for three years past. Miss Mary Shipper, the librarian, will be local chairman. She and President E. E. Church are anxious to give W.V.L.A. an outstanding meeting. Potomac State School has one of the prettiest campuses in the state being located in the Potomac River valley, twenty-two miles from Cumberland, Md. and twenty-two miles from Romney, W. Va., the oldest town in the state. Early October should be a colorful time to visit this lovely part of the state. Later bulletins, will carry the plans. Won't you circle the dates now?

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETS

The Executive Board of the W.V.L.A. met Saturday, January 12, for a day's work at the Chancellor Hotel in Parkersburg. Everyone was able to be present except Miss Wattles and Mr. Behymer, and the board worked hard from 11 A. M. until 5 P. M.

It was the board's duty regretfully to accept the resignation of Mary E. Wattles from her board position and as A. L. A. Councilor and Federal Coordinator. Mr. North was instructed to write Miss Wattles expressing appreciation of her work in W. V. L. A. and the regrets of the Council that she is no longer in West Virginia.

The Board appointed Robert North, Jr. to the position of A.L.A. Councilor, since in October he will be an immediate past president, and qualify to fill

out Miss Wattles term. Dora Ruth Parks was appointed Federal Coordinator.

A list of all committee appointments appears in this bulletin. The board set up a Legislative Committee to study library laws in West Virginia. They feel that this is of preeminent importance. Members have not yet been appointed, and anyone who wishes to work with this committee, be he librarian or trustee, should advise the president at once. Perhaps a librarian might wish to suggest the name of an able and interested trustee or colleague.

Membership work was considered at length, routines revised and a committee appointed. The board will itself function as an Intellectual Freedom Committee, and carrying out the interests expressed by the 1951 convention's adoption of the Library Bill of Rights will study the A. L. A. labelling resolution and related problems.

Suggestions are in order for the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws. An early submission of requested changes will allow for adequate consideration before convention time.

Rosa Oliver reported a healthy bank account of \$755.96. Membership on January 9, 1952, was 86 individual and 12 institutional. In October 1951, there were 119 individuals and 8 institutional members, at the change of the association's fiscal year.

W. V. L. A. COMMITTEES

Nominating Committee:

Mrs. Vivian Boughter, Chairman
West Liberty College
West Liberty, West Virginia
Miss Nancy Matthews
Ohio County Public Library
Wheeling, West Virginia

Miss Holois Dye
Elementary School Library
400 13th Street
Parkersburg, West Virginia

Committee on the Constitution and By-Laws:

Miss Ethel Green, Chairman
Clarksburg Public Library
Clarksburg, West Virginia
Miss Ruth E. Figgatt
Frimont State College Library
Fairmont, West Virginia
Miss Virgie Harris
Davis and Elkins College Library
Elkins, West Virginia

Auditing Committee:

Miss Mary Daniels
Huntington Central High School
Huntington, West Virginia
Mrs. Eleanor M. Peterson
Huntington Public Library
Huntington 1, West Virginia

Membership:

Mrs. Rachel Berry Barlow, Chairman
Gibson Public Library
Buckhannon, West Virginia
Vito Brenni
W. V. U. Library
Morgantown, West Virginia
Miss Rosa V. Oliver
Marshall College Library
Huntington, West Virginia

Federal Co-ordinator:

Miss Dora Ruth Parks, Exec. Sec.
West Virginia Library Commission
Morgantown, West Virginia

Council Member for ALA:

Robert North, Jr.
Kanawha County Public Library
Charleston 1, West Virginia

Legislation Committee:

Miss Dora Ruth Parks
Miss Virginia Ebeling
Others to be appointed

ELEANOR HAMILTON MEMORIAL

The Board of Trustees and the Staff of the Ohio County Public Library wish to acknowledge the gift from the West Virginia Library Association as a memorial to Miss Eleanor Hamilton, who died July 10, 1950. The material selected was from the field of fine arts, as Miss Hamilton was particularly in-

terested in their progress and development. A list of the books and records selected is as follows:

Oxford companion to the theatre, ed. by Hartnoll.

American painting, history, and interpretation, by Virgil Barker.

The forthcoming publication for October, Treasury of the theatre, by John Gassner.

Two records have been bought by the Music Department: Tschaikevsky,

Swan Lake; St. Louis Symphony orchestra.

Brahms, Piano concerto # 2 in B flat; Eugene Ormandy conducting; Rudolf Serkin, piano.

The generosity and thought of the members of the Library Association is gratefully appreciated.

INVITATION FROM THE NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY

"Many of the systems of large units of library service in New York State are rather recent and being recent they appreciate having visitors. Sharing experiences on the spot is good for us. We hope that many interested individuals on their way to, during, or from American Library Association Convention in New York City this summer will plan to visit some of these centers.

"Right now we are planning train and pullman schedules so that those interested may have stop-overs at either Albany, Schenectady and Elmira, Watertown or Buffalo. We are also getting out road maps and local directional maps for those planning to come by automobile. Key people in the organizing of these systems will be on hand at the centers and we hope at New York City to answer questions. There will also be conducted tours and exhibits of evaluation materials."

PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS

HUNTINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY: The old Carnegie building in Huntington has been closed undergoing alterations for some time. It was reopened in January, boasting a completely modernized and redecorated appearance, with new floors, fluores-

cent lighting, and a new mezzanine bookstack. The project cost \$42,000.

The bookmobile finished the summer with the Round-Up Reading Club in Cabell County. Young readers met Gulliver faithfully. 350 boys and girls signed up and read more than two books each. 225 qualified for the Reading Certificates which were sent to the schools and presented during Book Week. To qualify, a minimum of 10 books from three subject groups was required. The children were encouraged to read on their own grade level.

KANAWHA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY: Pink has power! The pink attachment is well known in business for producing results. By stapling a pink slip to overdue notices, quoting the state law on wilful withholding, K. C. P. L. has, in the last six months, increased its return of overdue books and payment for lost books 148% over the same period the previous year.

K. C. P. L. has received authority from the Board of Education and State Superintendent of Schools to sell or otherwise dispose of any of its unwanted books, with the proceeds to be added to the book fund. Duplicates of Judge Ritz' library may now be sold.

The present 12 member professional staff of the Kanawha County Public Library has 100% membership in A.L.A. and in W.V.L.A. for the current year.

OHIO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY: Ohio County Public Library had good cause to celebrate Book Week this year, for on November 13, a new Branch was opened in Elm Grove, through the combined efforts of Virginia Ebeling, Librarian, and her staff, and the Elm Grove Civic Association. Located in an office building in a busy shopping center, it will serve an older community, but one which is growing rapidly. Having been newly decorated with bright curtains, new furniture, and pastel walls, it presented a welcoming face to visitors who came on

opening night, when punch and cookies were served. This branch will serve both adults and children and is this library's second "outpost". Both are open three days a week. The Bookmobile which has always served this community, will continue its school visits, but is eliminating the adult "stops".

The new branch library, at Elm Grove, struck a new high in circulation, during the week of January 21, 342 books were loaned.

Films:

Virginia Ebeling and Carolyn Hansen, film librarian, attended a meeting in Coshocton, Ohio, for members of the Oglebay Institute Film Library Committee. After a Discussion period, the A. L. A. film "Help Yourself" was viewed. This film portrays a day in the life of a public library and was made by the staff of the Cambria Free Library, Johnstown, Pennsylvania.

The Christmas season was highlighted by the presentation of the film "The Littlest Angel". The delightful story of the tiny angel who gave his most cherished possessions to the Christ Child received an enthusiastic response from the 135 children who crowded into the two showings.

In response to the many requests for a return of the "Film Previews", a new program has been set up. The showings were held at 4:20-5:30 each Wednesday during February. There is no admission charge, and choice of films is left to the audience. The film circuit, now in its second year, is a popular addition to the library's services.

Music Department:

The Library's Music Department has joined other city libraries in offering "live music", as well as the recorded kind to its public. A series of Four Sunday afternoon Chamber Music Concerts have been scheduled for the year 1951-52. Sponsored jointly by the Library and members of the Wheeling Symphony, they are being presented to the public free of charge in the Music Department's Listening Room. The committee arranging the concerts consisted

