State Aid for New Mexico Libraries

Albuquerque Library’s “Young People’s Quiz”

News Notes from New Mexico Libraries

Some New Mexico Library History

Law Library Notes
STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION
Mrs. Julia Brown Asplund, Chairman.
Mrs. Burton G. Dwyre, Vice-Chairman.
Mrs. Josephine Bryne.
Mrs. W. Grover Murphy.
Raymond Huff.
Mrs. Irene S. Peck, Executive Secretary and Director State Library Extension Service.
Salome Anthony, President, State Library Association.
Arlis Poldervaart, Law Librarian.

The State Library Extension Service was created for the purpose of making books available to the people of New Mexico having inadequate library service. Collections of books are loaned to schools, public libraries or responsible groups for three months. Individuals may borrow books for three weeks. For further information write the director.

STATE AID FOR NEW MEXICO LIBRARIES

The 17th Legislature has granted the State Library Commission an annual appropriation of $10,700 for the next biennium. This is nearly $5,900 less than was asked but represents a substantial increase over the previous annual budget of $11,600. When the Commission was established four years ago the yearly appropriation was $3,800.

$5,500 will be used each year to begin a program of state aid to libraries in rural areas and small towns. Rules and regulations for the use of the fund were approved at the May 1 meeting of the Commission. The money will be made available on a matching fund basis. The qualifying library must have a minimum of $200 in increased funds from public sources. Sums up to $500 will be matched.

Immediately following their approval, copies of the rules and regulations were sent to librarians, chairman of library boards and all the newspapers in the state. Libraries and communities wishing to participate in the program were urged to form their plans and appeal for increased funds at once. Several library boards already have written or sent representatives to discuss the possibility of their participation. Mrs. Peck has several trips scheduled to meet with local library boards. $5,500 is a very small sum for a state aid program, but it is believed that several constructive things may be accomplished even with so little. Many New Mexico libraries are dependent, partly or entirely, upon gifts and donations. There is a precarious and uncertain existence. This program should help to establish them on a firm foundation of support by public funds. Each qualifying library must extend service to the entire county. For the present this will probably mean increased service to the rural groups in the immediate community only, but as the libraries are strengthened and the book collections grow a system of depository libraries will be established for the outlying areas.

All state library agencies are thinking in terms of larger units of service and the New Mexico Library Commission also has a long range plan for a regional system. Regional libraries will not come at once, however. A great deal of educational ground work will have to be laid before the idea is generally accepted. The present state aid program offers a splendid opportunity to work with library boards, editors and community groups in planning the extension of library service to all parts of New Mexico.

RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING USE OF GRANT-IN-AID FUND — 1944-1945

I—Fiscal year begins July 1, 1945.
Applications should be filed by September 1st.
Applications will not be approved after December 1st.

II—State aid funds may be used for:
1. Purchase of books and periodicals.
   At least 75% of fund must be used for books.
2. Salaries
   Up to 25% may be used for librarian's salary.
3. Maintenance i.e., heat, light, insurance.

III—State aid funds may not be used for:
1. Rent of building.
2. Equipment such as shelves, tables, chairs and other library furniture.
3. Books or periodicals for sale.

IV—Funds will be available annually and will be paid by voucher through the state auditor.
2. A minimum of $200 and a maximum of $500 will be available to each local community for matching fund purposes.
3. Applications for funds must be made to State Library Commission, on forms supplied by Commission.
4. Library must have a properly constituted board either as authorized by law, or a board including representatives of the contributing agencies.
5. A report of expenditures and a statement showing how the community has benefited by state aid must be made to the Commission annually.

V—Local library must:
1. Give free service to residents of entire county. Fees may not be charged for library cards.
3. Keep open sufficient hours to provide reasonable service.
4. Provide sufficient equipment and supplies to conduct the work of the library.
5. Provide an adequate card catalog.
6. Agree to choose books from lists approved by the State Library Commission.

VI—Books bought with state aid funds will be the property of the local library with the provision that if the library be closed, books must be returned to the state. Stacks will be provided for the identification of these books.

VII—In order to qualify for state aid, the local community must have a minimum increase of $200 in appropriations from public funds. As stated above, the state will match sums of not less than $200 nor more than $500.

Libraries or communities interested in state aid should write for application blank. Address Mrs. Irene S. Peck, Director State Library Extension Service, Santa Fe, New Mexico. Mrs. Peck will be glad to meet with any local board or community to discuss plans for their participation in the state aid grant.

ALBUQUERQUE PUBLIC LIBRARY'S "YOUNG PEOPLE'S QUIZ"


Our Young People's quiz which is now on the air every week with a commercial sponsor, was an outgrowth of a program that we put on at our BOOK PARTY in November. As part of the entertainment of that Costume Party we had about twenty children, representing most of the schools in the city, on a Book Quiz. We borrowed an announcer from Station KOB to fake a broadcast. The announcer was so impressed with the program and the idea, that we were immediately approached about making it a real broadcast on a regular program. The Station's proposition was this: "We will broadcast and furnish an announcer and all money and equipment, if the library will get the children and the questions, and the broadcast will be held from the children's room of the library."

We gave it some thought—you may be sure—before we agreed to participate.
in such a program. We knew that getting up a group of questions each week is a time-consuming, imagination-straining job; and yet here was offered to us a fine opportunity to stimulate reading and bring boys and girls together in the library on Saturdays; so we accepted KOB’s offer and they proceeded to get a sponsor.

The program has been running eight weeks now and we have a fair chance to evaluate it. On the whole it has been completely satisfactory. It has accomplished its main purpose for us—it HAS brought children to the library—it has stimulated interest, received the approval of adults in the community, and created goodwill generally.

The stumbling block has been just what we expected—the questions. When the program was first discussed, it was suggested that a prize be given for all questions that were sent in and used on the program—one theatre ticket for instance. This has not been done, but we believe that if some type of prize were worked out more questions would be sent in by the children and a larger audience created. The program runs fifteen minutes and there are about 35 questions each week. We have more or less of a pattern that we follow. We have a biographical sketch of some author or character; we complete some poetical quotations or identify some; we play WHO AM I, giving a list of characters or brief descriptions and have them identified. We put our heads together here at the library and work up the questions and we have had some very good ones contributed by children and adults. The librarian works up the script and turns it in to the radio station a couple of days before the broadcast. They retype it and add their commercials.

We have had no trouble getting children to be on the program. The winner gets 2 silver dollars and the other participants get a silver dollar each, but—(even if there had been no prizes, we believe that the children would have been just as eager for the experience to broadcast. We handpicked our first contestants—selecting children who read a good deal and having as many schools represented as possible—2 boys and 2 girls. Then we have urged all other children who want to be on the program to register in our book at the library, giving age and school and address. We contact them several days before the program when we want them to appear. The Program manager arranged for the winner each time to carry over to the next program. We do not believe that this has proved to be a good plan, chiefly because it hinders us in selecting age levels. If a 13 year old wins the program and is carried over, we either have to have a hodgepodge of questions to suit every age or we have to exclude the younger ones. If an entirely new group was on each time, we could have first graders one week, High School Age the next, etc. Also the carry-over puts too much emphasis on the winner—for in such a short period of time it is difficult to tell just who really knows the most answers. Frequently when the question is asked, every hand goes up. There is a placard in front of each child with his name on it. The announcer must carry on a continuous program and he isn’t able to hesitate long and decide who should be called next, although there are helpers there from the station who do try to keep a fair division of questions. A fair trial depends on how many times the boys and girls get a chance to answer a question.

We tell the children to get here 15 minutes before the broadcast, and they have a brief warming up before they go on the air.

We have had one suggestion from a parent whose child participated on our programs. He suggested that we form a sort of club for those who have been on the programs, have a party during the year and ask them to come and have all the questions that were ever used. It would continue their interest—and besides, give them a chance to try again!

We have an interested audience each time. We try to get the children to come several times, before they are on the program—it serves our purpose and it familiarizes them with how it is done. It is quite a sight to see them seated around a table in front of microphones and it is rather thrilling to hear.

Like everything else, it takes a great deal of time to work up one of these programs. We cannot overemphasize the amount of thought that goes into working up a variety of good and appropriate questions. They are always either too easy or too hard! Of course, since all the realm of knowledge is contained in BOOKS questions need not be limited to authors and titles—as we have done, but the broader the field the more difficult. We have been inspired lately to ask questions on New Mexico, and we may go from that into other geographical ones—or . . . We may send out a statewide appeal for questions!

The Children’s librarian and an interested outsider are score-keepers—the results are usually close. We always have a few extra questions on hand, besides those in the script, in case the program goes faster than we expect.

From the sponsors viewpoint it is a perfect program. It interests parents as well as children; there is a live audience as well as the one on the air; it is a program of better than average value, and it is, I believe, an inexpensive one for the sponsor, the People’s Juvenile Shop. The program may be heard at noon on Saturday over KOB.

Kathleen Blakely, Librarian.

**NEWS NOTES FROM NEW MEXICO LIBRARIES**

**Albuquerque**

Three autographed copies of ‘Queens Die Proudly’ rest in three Albuquerque libraries, the Public Library, University Library and Kirtland Field Library. The books are autographed by Col. and Mrs. Frank Kurtz, principal characters in the story. They were presented to Mrs. Craig Blakely, Mrs. Helen Hofting and Mrs. Bla Thompson, librarians of the respective libraries, by Col. Kurtz.

_Ziitermo Tribune._

**Zimmerman Books Go to Library As Memorial**

Mrs. James F. Zimmerman has presented a collection of more than 500 of the books in the late Dr. Zimmerman’s personal library to the library of the University of New Mexico.

The books will be catalogued and placed in the regular stacks, but each will bear a special plate in Dr. Zimmerman’s memory.

This gift, containing books in the fields of philosophy, government, and international relations, will perpetuate his contribution to the institution he served so ably, as professor and president.

_Albuquerque Journal._

**The Barelas Community Center, south of Albuquerque, has opened an 1800 book library—thanks mainly to the efforts of four men who started work on the project three months ago with a small amount of cash but plenty of vision and zeal.**

The men—George Beach, Tom Vigil, Felipe Chavez and Esquel Marquez—began from scratch. No supplies were on hand. The $200 available seemed a small sum. All were limited to working on the library during evenings only.

But they had an unfinished room at the Center, paint brushes, hammers, and the necessary energy—and that was all they asked . . .

First the men painted the room. Then they built bookcases. Finally they constructed furniture and obtained reading lamps and light fixtures.
The library opened yesterday (April 18) ...—Albuquerque Tribune.

Gallup

**A LITTLE OF EVERYTHING**

by Wallace Barnes

In the consideration of post-war projects for Gallup, one matter which should not be overlooked is the need for an adequate library. The present small city library long ago was outgrown. It is inadequate both as to building and content. Though interest stirred two or three years ago, a library commission was appointed which has done effective work with limited means to add new books. But until more spacious quarters are obtained, little can be done in this direction. A real public library requires reading rooms, facilities for research, a professionally trained staff, proper cataloguing, and ample funds for purchase of new books and periodicals. It should have separate departments for children and adults. The Women's Club has made a beginning in attempting to arouse public interest in this undertaking. Gallup can have an adequate library if there is a public demand for it. Let's have it. —Gallup Independent.

Grant County

"On Thursday the Gilla-Cliff Home Demonstration Club held its March meeting ... The club is sponsoring a circulating library which is provided by a state organization (State Library Extension Service) and kept in the home of Mrs. Beryl Chapin. The hours are from 3:00 to 5:00 every week day. There are books of all types to satisfy all sorts of persons. The books are sent in lots of 200 volumes, but anyone wanting a different type book from those on hand may secure it by asking for it." —Silver City Press.

This library is one of three recently established in Grant County and sponsored by Home Demonstration Clubs for community use. The books are supplied by the State Library Extension Service—Editor.

Las Vegas

**Carnegie Public Library**

is being treated to an exceptionally fine "face lifting job". We had no idea that a coat of paint would make such a difference to the inside appearance of this important building. We are sure that we express the feelings of citizens of Greater Las Vegas when we say, to our city officials, "many thanks." 

—Your Chamber of Commerce by Chas. R. Keyes, Secy-Mgr.

In Las Vegas Optic

Lovingston

"The Lea County Commissioners are to be commended on their recent action in making space in the basement of the Court House for the Lovingston Library. This is an ideal location for the Library, and the number of new readers in the next few weeks will be the answer to the move. This Library, which is sponsored by the Business and Professional Women's Club of Lovingston, will be able to add many new books, since they will have funds to spend that heretofore have had to go for gas, rent and other expenses necessary to maintaining their own building. It is the duty of each citizen to support the Library."

—Lovingston Leader.

Roswell

As soon as building restrictions are lifted the Roswell Carnegie Library will be remodeled and enlarged. Miss Louise Hamilton, librarian, recently talked to members of the Ad Club and the Rotary Club regarding the proposed changes. According to the Roswell Dispatch "when completed the building will be expanded back to the alley on the north, to Richardson Avenue on the west, with full utilization of the undercroft as a quiet, cool reading room and place of limited assembly." $30,000 was appropriated for the job just before war was declared.

Santa Fe

**City to Raise Public Library Appropriation**.

"Mrs. Albert S. Lathrop addressed the Board of Aldermen last night on behalf of the Santa Fe Public Library and apparently sold the members a bill of goods."

Talking in crisp and uncertain terms, Mrs. Lathrop, who is vice-chairman of the Woman's Club library committee, explained the crisis facing that institution and said that one solution which might be considered was the closing of the library three days a week.

The result was that the aldermen unanimously voted that if they "can see their way clear" they will increase the library's appropriation from the current $2,500 to $4,000.

Need Third Librarian

The most urgent need of the library, Mrs. Lathrop said, was the employment of a third librarian to assist Miss Salome E. Anthony and Miss Elizabeth Beasley. She disclosed that on a recent occasion when Miss Beasley was taken ill, Miss Anthony was forced to work 11 hours a day and had meals brought in by friends.

"Apart from the assistance of high school girls who help in the stacking of books, the entire work falls upon these two women, trained librarians and graduates of Columbia University", she said. "Miss Anthony, who is, in my opinion, the best librarian in the state, receives $1,800 and Miss Beasley, an equally hard worker, $1,500. We simply don't intend to work these women to death."

Pointing out that a previous effort by the club to obtain a $600 increase in the municipal appropriation had failed, Mrs. Lathrop indicated that younger members on the library committee are not inclined to accept the situation as docilely as the older members who have worked for the library since the days when it was a project of the Woman's Board of Trade.

"No Funds, No Library" "These newcomers say, 'So what! No funds, no library!'"

The relationship of the library to the city was unusual, Mrs. Lathrop said, and she added a survey of other cities would undoubtedly show that in no other case was the public library the responsibility of a volunteer group.

"This goes back to the time of the Board of Trade, consisting of a group of women, splendid workers who, by their own efforts, ran the library, did other civic tasks and just about ran the town," she said.

This had resulted in a "cart-before-the-horses" situation in which the Woman's Club was forced to come before the council and beg for funds, she said, whereas the normal situation would be for the council to come before the club and ask how much was needed.

"Your library is just as much a public service as your police department or street department," she declared.

Possible solutions, she said, were a bond issue of perhaps $35,000 to $50,000, which was "out of the question", or reverting to the old way of soliciting individual contributions—and we all realize that the business men of this city have to dig into their pockets for this drive and that"—or, as had been suggested, the closing of the library three days a week.

Mrs. Lathrop's minimum request was for a $600 increase to $3500 but to "run the library adequately" $4,000 was needed, she said. By that time, the aldermen were more than willing to grant that sum to be provided in the next budget if they could possibly arrange it.

'Some Salesman'

Upon Mrs. Lathrop's departure, Dr. A. S. Lathrop was the recipient of congratulations all around, the admiring but somewhat rueful consensus being:
Among New Mexico Librarians

Wilma Loy Shelton, librarian of the University of New Mexico Library, resigned March 1 after 25 years of service to devote all her time to her duties as professor of library science and readers adviser to faculty and students.

Miss Shelton has been granted an eight month leave of absence and will not return to the University until November, when she will assume her duties as head of the department of library science, retaining the title of librarian emeritus.

Margaret H. Lewis, post librarian at the Fort Sumner Air Base, was married early in March to Corporal Charles E. Danehy of Albany, N. Y. Mrs. Danehy was formerly assistant librarian at the Albuquerque Public Library. She will continue her duties as post librarian.

Mrs. Lee E. Johnson, assistant at the Albuquerque Public Library has joined her husband, who recently flew from the Philippines and will enter radar school at the University of Pennsylvania. Mr. Johnson is chief petty officer in the Navy.

Myrtle Whitehill, who has been librarian in a Veteran's Hospital in the Bronx, New York, is now librarian at the Veteran's Hospital in Albuquerque. Miss Whitehill was at one time high school librarian in Alamogordo and active in state library affairs. We are glad to have her back.

Marie N. Lusk, former assistant librarian at the Thomas Branigan Library, Las Cruces, is now in the WAC's. After several months service in Brisbane, Australia, Private Lusk was transferred to a forward base in the New Guinea area. She has been in the Woman's Army Corps since February, 1943.

Leslie Murphey, librarian of the Museum of New Mexico Library, Santa Fe, gave an illustrated talk on April 8, to the members of the Roosevelt County Fine Arts Society in Portales, on trends of today and tomorrow in the architecture of the Southwest. The State Museum prepared a special exhibit on Southwestern architecture to be shown at the Roosevelt County Museum at this time.

SOME NEW MEXICO LIBRARY HISTORY

There was a time when books were books in New Mexico. The few people had few books, and they were read and re-read until they could scarcely hold their pages together. In those days the pet peeve of the guy who borrows a book and doesn't remember to return it was unknown. Everybody for miles around would know that he had it, and somebody was apt to come riding for miles and miles after it, of course, with the knowledge of the real owner, who sometimes kept track of his property. Of course there were no such things as public libraries.

As the country settled up, people began to come in who had libraries of their own, and a number of these collections became the nucleus of municipal libraries.

Roswell had the first Carnegie library south of Denver, and there were some things about its establishment that are interesting now that nearly 40 years have passed, and the Roswell library is one of the acknowledged institutions of the time, large in numbers and of immeasurable value in the life of the community, since it is truly free to all.

Whether Roswell would have a Carnegie library or not finally came up to the city council. The Woman's club had maintained a library for some years, using the rooms near the Roswell Commercial club in the Galileu block, a location that was unsatisfactory and without adequate arrangements for its care and extension. Of course the idea of securing a Carnegie grant originated with the women, as does every good thing, but the conclusion of the plan was something else.

Through certain influences the Carnegie foundation was interested in the case, and finally a donation of $10,000 was promised providing certain conditions were met, which the foundation probably thought would never be done in a frontier town, for such Roswell still was. The Carnegie brain squad were never strong isolationists, and had a way of driving hard bargains for the good of the plant when it was once going.

One stipulation was that the site should be secured free of charge to the foundation. This was looked after by the Woman's club. Then there had to be a permanent arrangement whereby there would be a perpetual income. This brought the matter up to the town board, which then consisted of John W. Poe, Ed S. Seasy, L. D. Danenberg, C. R. Carr, and Will Robinson. This board wrestled mightily with the problem. One of the members was dead set against the site chosen, arguing with some force that the ground area was too small to allow of possible future extensions, in which he was supported by one of the trustees. One of them was dead against any more taxation. Two were of an open mind.

One whole evening was taken up in discussion of the matter, without getting anywhere until Trustee Carr said, in substance:

"None of us are what you might call educated. I take that all of us know that everything good comes from the women. If the location is poor, maybe the town will grow so that it can be sold for enough to build a new building. The taxation to get the grant and the maintenance it won't hurt anybody. I don't care what the labor unions think (nearly all American unions were against the Carnegie grants because of Homestead or something). Since the women want it and there is nothing but good in it, I move that the petition be granted."

It was put to a vote and carried by an unofficial majority of one, which was later formally set down as unanimous.

The scope of the library has vastly expanded since those days. The city now pays $2,400 a year, and the various school boards $300 a year more. There are 15,500 volumes on the shelves, and hundreds of people use the privileges.

By managing, it has been possible to get along with the space at hand, though more is needed. The building is now practically down town.

Lots of water has passed under the mill in those 36 years, but they have differed only in matter of degree with the Carnegie Library, the admiration and envy of all New Mexico and of Texas, which hadn't such a thing in its vast empire, the foundation apparently misjudging Texas as a place for bencilenes of the ironmaster. Operated by a board which has intelligence and vision, with an efficient librarian, it has to contend forever with the shortness of appropriations for extensions and improvements. That has been true of every day library since the great one back in Alexandria, nigh onto a spell ago.

You seldom hear anything about it, but if anything hostile came up you would find the people back of it as a stone wall.

—Sidelines on the News

by Will Robinson.

PATRONS ARE PEOPLE

How to Be a Model Librarian

PATRONS ARE PEOPLE; HOW TO BE A MODEL LIBRARIAN* has just been published by the American Library Association.

A guidebook of tried-by-fire library experience, based on one library's critical analysis of the relations of its staff
and public, it reflects every library's keen interest in the patron and his needs. Its twenty-five concise chapters, lavished with humor and cartoons, are filled with pointers on how to make the library's contacts with patrons effective and pleasant.


The State Library Extension Service is presenting a copy of this merry and wise little book to every librarian in the state. We recognize some of our sins of omission and commission. And so will you!

RECENT EXCHANGE

The law library has recently concluded an extremely advantageous exchange agreement whereby it will receive many new legal treatises and statutory compilations on an exchange basis. Among these newly received are the following: Appelman on Insurance Law and Practice, 18 vols. (1941-45); Anderson on Declaratory Judgments (1940); Jones on Evidence in Civil Cases, 3 vols. (1944); Warren on Homicide, 5 vols. (1938); and Curtis on Arson (1946).

OTHER INTERESTING ACCESSIONS

Barnett—A More Cooperative Democracy (1941)
Burdick—History of the Bench and Bar (1938)
Duffus—Santa Fe Trail (1931)
1946 Louisiana Civil Code
1944 Michigan Administrative Code
1943 Code of North Dakota
Seitz—Tryal of William Penn and William Mead, 1670 (1919)
Selective Service Regulations, 2d ed. (1944)
Shain—Res ipsa loquitur, presumptions and the burden of proof (1945)
Villagran—Historia de Nuevo Mexico (1907)

BOARD OF TAX APPEALS REPORTS

The law library has recently completed its file of the Board of Tax Appeals Reports by filling in three out-of-print volumes which had been missing from the set. The library also has the bound volumes of reports of the U. S. Tax Court which has superseded the former U. S. Board of Tax appeals. With the increased amount of income tax activity these two sets will prove extremely useful not only to attorneys, but also to accountants, Federal officials and others who may wish to consult them.

NEW MEXICO CONSTITUTION, 1910

The law library wishes to acknowledge gift of an original presentation copy of the New Mexico Constitution as adopted by the Constitutional Convention of 1910 which was made recently to the library by Col. Jose D. Serna who was a member of the Constitutional Convention and for many years clerk of the Supreme Court of the Territorial and State Supreme Courts. This is the copy of the Constitution which was presented to Col. Serna following its adoption and contains the facsimile signatures of the members of the Constitutional Convention who signed the document at the time of the convention.

PERIODICAL GAPS BEING FILLED

Remaing gaps in the law library's files of legal periodicals are being filled as rapidly as funds permit. The file of the Cornell Law Quarterly was recently completed from Volume One to date. The library carries current subscriptions to all indexed American legal periodicals and to some Canadian and British publications.

Mrs. Nellie Reed Judington, science teacher and librarian at the Española High School has presented the State Library Extension Service with an autographed copy of her recently published volume of verse "I Am the Weaver".

HAVE LAW BOOKS FOR SALE?

If you have any law books for sale, particularly New Mexico Supreme Court Reports and New Mexico statutes or session laws, here's a suggestion. Members of the bar who desire to purchase these books frequently contact the librarian to inquire whether he knows of anyone who has any of these for sale. A file of offers of any of these volumes is kept in the law library and the prospective purchasers are referred to the offerors. So, if you have law books for sale or want to buy them, we'll be glad to act as a contact agency. If no one has offered the items you want or no one wants what you have, the worst we can do to you is to tell you we have no listings for such items at the present time. Occasionally, too, the library may be interested in buying some of the items.

GRADUATE WORK AT PEABODY

Starting with the summer quarter of 1945, courses leading to the M. S. in L. S. degree will be offered for the first time by the Peabody Library School. The complete program of courses will be offered during the regular year, beginning with the fall of this year. Entrance requirements include graduation from an approved four-year college of university with a creditable record of scholarship; satisfactory completion of a year of training in an accredited library school; successful library experience of at least one year in an approved library; and a reading knowledge of two foreign languages, preferably French and German. Inquiries should be addressed to the Director, Peabody Library School, Nashville 4, Tennessee.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN RURAL LIBRARY INSTITUTE

Under the Joint Sponsorship of the Colorado A. & M. College, Fort Collins, Colorado School of Librarianship, University of Denver, Denver, Colorado The Rocky Mountain Rural Library Institute, under the joint sponsorship of the Colorado A. & M. College and the School of Librarianship of the University of Denver, will be held from July 23 through August 10, 1945. The Institute will be held in two sections, either of which may be registered for separately. The first section, of one week, will be held in Fort Collins from July 23 through July 27, while the second section, of two weeks, will be held in Denver from July 30 through August 10. Holding of the Institutes will of course be dependent on a sufficient advance registration, but advice from librarians and rural leaders in the Rocky Mountain states indicates that a sufficient attendance may be counted on. The Institute will pay particular attention to the special problems of the Rocky Mountain region, such as library service to sparsely populated sections, and in regions where geographical features make communication between parts of the service area difficult.

In the first section, to be held at Fort Collins, the sessions will be devoted largely to questions of major interest to rural educational leaders, rural sociologists, agricultural extension personnel, library trustees, leaders of rural life, and librarians who are interested in the broader aspects of rural library administration.

In the second section, to be held in Denver, interest will be centered more on the problems of the professional librarian or present members of rural library staffs, although there will be some amplification of some of the problems considered at the first section.

It will be possible to register for either of the sections separately, or for both as a single unit. Both sessions will be conducted on the "round table" or "work shop" basis and will be open to any persons who care to attend, although work for credit will be permitted only after consultation with the persons.
in charge of the schools concerned. Fees will be $10 for the Fort Collins section, $20 for the Denver section, or $24.00 for both.

For further information write to—

Miss Harriet E. Howe, Director, School of Librarianship, University of Denver, 311—15th Street, Denver (2), Colorado.

A QUARTER-CENTURY OF A.L.A.

The American Library Association this year marks its twenty-fifth anniversary under the secretarship of Carl H. Milam, and the twenty-fifth anniversary of the "Enlarged Program." For the library profession, and for the A.L.A., these have been twenty-five creative years, which have brought out the best that many librarians have had to give, and which have broadened the scope of library service far beyond its conception in 1920.

The importance of the Enlarged Program lies in its adoption by the A.L.A. at a time when optimism about the future ran high; and when energy and vision were available for its gradual accomplishment over the next quarter century. The leaders of the '20s put their best thought into this plan for an expanded, more vital A.L.A. All over the nation there was an appetite for progress.

Librarians were elated over their excellent record of service in the first World War which had been made possible by adequate funds and a united professional front. They were reluctant to let the impetus die, before it contributed to a peacetime program of equal proportions.

But the pre-war A.L.A. was incapable of what its leaders now expected of it. Hence the Enlarged Program, which took the future firmly in hand, mapped it out, called for funds totaling $2,000,000, and recommended the reorganiza-

tion and expansion of headquarters.

The areas of library service destined for future importance as visualized in 1920 are interesting. They were library extension, including children's and school libraries; work with the foreign-born; adult education; books for the blind; institutional and special libraries; a program of international good will; general publicity; professional publishing; personnel standards and welfare; and follow-up on A.L.A.'s war service to the merchant marine, war industries and hospitalized veterans.

Looking at A.L.A. as it was then, it is possible to see how over-ambitious the Program sounded. There was almost no machinery to coordinate efforts or to assemble information in most of these fields. "Library extension" and "adult education" were such new ideas that there were not even volunteer committees working in their behalf.

The officers of A.L.A. and the authors of the Program did not suppose that all its objectives could be accomplished within a few months, or even within a few years. They thought it would take at least three years to raise the necessary money and to build up an organization equipped to handle the new and enlarged duties of the A.L.A.

Although librarians did not contribute the $2,000,000 which could have put the Program into operation immediately, the Association has managed to carry out most of its objectives piecemeal. In some cases, the Association has far outstripped the Program. In others the objectives have changed. Some of the goals have not yet been reached, and some new goals have been added.

But in the main, the Enlarged Program has been carried out. The best proof of this is the fact that it is no longer regarded as "enlarged." Where some of the A.L.A.'s 4500 members in 1920 considered it a fanciful pipe-dream, most of A.L.A.'s 15,000 members today take its definition of A.L.A.'s job for granted.