

## Letters to the Editor

Mr. Herbert Poole, Editor  
**NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES**  
 Guilford College  
 Greensboro, North Carolina 27410

Dear Herb:

Although I have told you personally, I wanted to commend you again on the outstanding job you and David Jensen have done with **NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES**. I know the members of NCLA are very proud to have a journal of the present caliber as their official publication. Your many hours of planning and hard work are very evident in each issue. I honestly feel that your relationship with your active editorial board is unique, in North Carolina anyway. Each issue has contained features of interest for all the members. Your coverage has been unusually broad and interesting.

The Department of Library Science at East Carolina subscribes to all the associational journals from the different states as well as a number of international ones. Comments from our students and faculty have rated the North Carolina one in its new format among the best without any question. Many of the others only include simple reporting of events while **NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES** include items of genuine interest and concern in the profession.

As President-Elect of NCLA, I look forward to our future associations and you can be assured of my unsolicited support

of your excellent editorial efforts. I only wish that every member was aware of the many hours you have devoted to this effort. I can assure you that the finished product is deeply appreciated although it may often seem like a thankless endeavor.

Best wishes for continued success.

Sincerely yours,

Gene D. Lanier  
 First Vice-President &  
 President-Elect, NCLA

16 March 1973

Mr. Herbert Poole, Editor  
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 Guilford College  
 Greensboro, N. C. 27410

Dear Mr. Poole:

I am not in the habit of writing "letters to the editor;" to be perfectly honest, I seldom read the editorials in a professional magazine. If I do, it is with a jaundiced eye. However, your editorial in the Winter issue struck me most forcefully. Frankly, I read it once then laid it aside; read it again and was as impressed with it as the first time.

I have always held to the theory that most organizations deserve the representation they get. And usually we as members settle for the usual self-perpetuating type of leadership based in the main on twin

factors of personal friendship and the acquisition of an advanced degree.

Much of the time we tend to forget the fact that the Master's Degree is supposed to be terminal in this "profession" and opt for the person with a higher degree, regardless of field.

I cannot fully agree that the entire blame lies with the nominating committees. How many times have members been asked to serve, or at least let their name be placed in nomination, only to be met with a classic example of verbal "balletmanship" calculated to show the numerous "valid" reasons why it is impossible to accept.

I must confess that in the past I have been one of those. I guess I felt that payment of dues was about all I felt the organization was worth. And I didn't hesitate to criticize if the organization didn't live up to my expectations. Not exactly the

most mature behavior.

If we in North Carolina are going to have a dynamic, viable library association — capable of taking the italics away from the word professionalism, we are going to have to get off our "backsides" and work. Again, my sincere thanks for your forthrightness on a subject which to say the least is not the most safe. I enjoyed it. It even made me take stock of my own value to the organization. So much so in fact that I am moved to offer my services in any capacity in which I might be of use. Keep up the good work. It may be that it isn't just Ford that listens.

Sincerely,

JOHN N. IRELAND

Major, USAF(ret)

POB 566

Wallace, N. C. 28466

is there *Filth*

in YOUR LIBRARY?

**Censorship is Alive and Well in Buncombe County**

IF YOUR LIBRARY HAS COPIES OF

THE GRAPES OF WRATH

OF MICE AND MEN

CATCHER IN THE RYE

ANDERSONVILLE

The answer is yes, according to some vocal and powerful people in North Carolina.

This spring headlines in the ASHEVILLE CITIZEN announced that "200 persons attack filth in libraries" and that parents were fighting "pornography in library books."

To help you resist such attacks on the integrity of your library NCLA's Intellectual Freedom Committee is planning a pre-conference workshop on censorship.

Watch for — and respond to — further announcements