

Special Library Collection Named for Appalachian's Librarian Emeritus — Leonard Eury



William Leonard Eury standing beside the portrait that was unveiled at the dedication ceremonies of the William Leonard Eury Appalachian Collection on Sunday, October 17, 1971.

Mr. Eury joined the library staff at Appalachian State University in 1929, and was named head librarian in 1945. While he was at Appalachian the library grew from a collection of about 10,000 volumes to more than 200,000 volumes at the time of his retirement in June 1970. The physical facilities grew from a two-room area located on the third floor of the old administration building to the present \$2 million building completed in 1968. In 1929 the library staff was composed of two full-time members and one student assistant. Today the library employs a staff of 20 professional members, 19 non-professionals, and approximately 100 student assistants.

Mr. Eury was born in Gastonia, North Carolina, October 16, 1904. He received the B.A. degree from Duke University in 1926, the B.S. in L.S. from George Peabody College in 1937, and the M.S. in L.S. from George Peabody College in 1951. He served with the United States Army Air Force during World War II.

Mr. Eury holds membership in many professional organizations, including the American Library Association, Southeastern Library Association, and North Carolina Library Association. He has served on many committees of the North Carolina Library Association. He served as president of the local chapter of Phi Delta Kappa 1961-1962.

William Leonard Eury will be remembered as a devoted friend and librarian to Appalachian State University, and to the library profession. He now lives with his sisters at Highacre, Box 793, Bessemer City, North Carolina 28016.



ECU Student Wins Ruzicka Scholarship

It was announced this week that a graduate student in the Department of Library Science at East Carolina University is to be the recipient this year of the Ruzicka Scholarship, awarded each year by Mr. Joseph V. Ruzicka, Jr. and Ruzicka, Incorporated.

Mrs. Kathryn Pritchard Briley of Greenville received the B.S. degree in Early Childhood Education from East Carolina in 1971. After graduation she began working toward certification in library science and has now been accepted into the graduate program.

She is a native of Pasquotank County and the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. S. R. Pritchard of

Elizabeth City. A kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Briley now resides in Greenville with her husband, H. J. Briley, and her daughter, Anne Marie.

Presentation of the scholarship will be made at the North Carolina Library Association Conference in November in Winston-Salem.

In Memoriam

Margaret Birdsong Price

June 3, 1903 - September 6, 1971

It has been said of Margaret Birdsong Price that people, past and present, were her passion. Which is not to say that she suffered because of the demands they made of her, but is to say rather that she loved people — family, friends, co-workers and general public — extravagantly, never counting the cost of serving them despite the grudging reciprocity of some of them. Certainly the staff of the North Carolina State Library will attest to that, for they have experienced the generosity of spirit of this Raleigh native and granddaughter of a former State Librarian who devoted more than 44 years of her life to the service of her fellows as a member of that staff.

Margaret Price's special service during much of her career at the State Library was in the area of genealogical research. In fact she qualified as an expert in that field at the time of her death, but she was no less alive to the present or interested in the future because of her preoccupations with the past. At home with the gentle zephyrs of tradition, she nevertheless embraced with enthusiasm the gales of change leaning into them with the gusto of one who enjoyed life as it was at a particular time and welcomed progress at all times. Because of this she felt a special affinity for the authors of change, the truly young and

the young at heart, and she exercised supportive diplomacy in behalf of these prophets of progress when they engaged in forays against the *status quo*. She was fond of saying that she believed deeply in their right and their obligation to probe, to question, and even to shock in order to provoke the powers that be to re-evaluate a policy or practice and perhaps inspire them to initiate desirable changes.

Some of us at the State Library affectionately referred to Margaret Price as the Queen Mother. We sought her wise counsel at times, accepted it unsolicited at other times and counted ourselves fortunate to have her as friend and advisor at all times. She was a good listener and an intuitive observer who called a spade a spade. She was particularly sensitive to those for whom rank, race or religion was a problem and was quick to note manifestations of prejudice, however slight, lest they grow to proportions that could destroy team spirit and undermine performance.

Margaret Price has deserved all the glowing tributes paid her, but librarians find none of them really adequate. Our sense of loss is surpassed only by our intense gratitude for having had the privilege of experiencing her friendship. Please God, our memories of her will challenge us to greater generosity and perhaps lead us to a greatness akin to hers — a credit to her family, her friends and God.

Philip S. Ogilvie