

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

After working in temporary quarters for more than a year, State Library staff members are occupying desks in the new Library-Archives Building in Raleigh (See photo on page 148). The building is located between the Legislative Building and the Governor's Mansion. Librarians should visit the new facilities on their next journey to the Capital City. Although the Archives and History Department moved into the building early in August, State Library employees were forced to postpone their move for several weeks because of a delay in installation of stacks. State Librarian Philip Ogilvie declares that the space allocated to the library in the new structure will be adequate for a few years, but eventually the library will require a building of its own.

Readers will note the appearance of a new name among members of this journal's Editorial Advisory Board on the title page of this issue. Herbert Poole, librarian at Guilford College, began service as the College and University Libraries representative in September. He replaces Carroll Hicks, who left the state in August to accept a position on the staff of H. W. Wilson Company in New York. Herb and the four other board members, each representing a different type of library, will furnish valuable counsel to Mell Busbin, who assumes duties as editor of NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES effective with the Winter issue, 1969. With his experience as both writer and editor, Mell is certain to serve readers of this journal some stimulating fare in the coming year.

By this time every Tar Heel librarian should be familiar with the major findings and recommendations of the Legislative Commission to Study Library Support, which presented its report to Governor Moore in August (See article on page 145). Amendment of the state constitution so as to declare public libraries a "necessary expense" of local government, thus eliminating the need for voter approval of additional library support by city and county governing bodies, is the most significant recommendation of the commission. Another major recommendation is a \$1 million annual increase in State aid to public libraries.

At present cities and counties are furnishing 73 percent of the total operating funds received by public libraries, with the State furnishing only 10 percent. Commission members believe the state's share of the total load should be materially increased. All librarians and friends of libraries owe a vote of thanks to Commission chairman David Stick and his four associates who analyzed the financial needs of North Carolina libraries and prepared the report. Our task in the coming months is to inform our state senators and representatives of the report and its recommendations and urge them to take appropriate action in the 1969 session of the General Assembly.

It is with a note of pensiveness that I leave my position as editor of our state journal with this issue. During my three-year tenure I have earnestly tried to include something of interest to all types of librarians in each issue. Whether I have succeeded is for you, the reader, to judge. As I bid adieu, I would urge each NCLA member to support your journal by making constructive suggestions for its improvement, both in content and format, and to consider making a contribution, small or large, to the pages of this periodical. Your new editor welcomes any manuscript at any time and assures me he will give it careful consideration. Let him hear from you in greater numbers than your retiring editor has heard.

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