

conference in the United States and has been attended by 900 persons in its five-year history.

All church library assistants, from beginners to the most experienced, ministers, directors of Christian education, Sunday School teachers and superintendents, religious bookstore proprietors and publishers, are invited to attend. Joyce L. White, librarian at the Penniman Library, University of Pennsylvania, will direct the conference. The one-day conference will include workshops in organization, administration, book selection, cataloging and circulation and will feature discussion groups covering children's books, audio-visual aids, and book exhibit ideas.

Individuals desiring further information should write Margaret D. Warrington, Graduate School of Library Science, Drexel Institute of Technology, 33rd and Lancaster Avenue, Philadelphia, Penna. 19104.

NEW NORTH CAROLINA BOOKS

By

WILLIAM S. POWELL

F. ROY JOHNSON. *Legends and Myths of North Carolina's Roanoke-Chowan Area*. Murfreesboro: Johnson Publishing Company, 1966. 124 pp. \$3.75.

While this book is marked a second edition of one which appeared under a similar title in 1962, it is almost completely rewritten. The contents are grouped into a general classification of Indian tales, the mysterious, the marvelous, the supernatural, folk tales, and names and their origins. These legends and myths have been collected by the editor from old residents of northeastern North Carolina.

HUGH T. LEFLER. *North Carolina: History, Geography, Government*. New York: Harcourt, Brace & World, Inc., 1966. Revised Edition. 561 pp.

Although it was designed as a textbook for North Carolina history courses in the public schools, this volume will be of interest to anyone seeking a full yet readable history of the state. Its numerous illustrations (some in color), maps, charts, factual tables, and lists will make it useful in libraries for ready reference. This newly revised edition contains over 30 pages more than the 1959 edition, bringing both facts and statistics up-to-date. New pictures have been added and captions revised for some of the old ones.

CHARLES HARRY WHEDBEE. *Legends of the Outer Banks and Tar Heel Tidewater*. Winston-Salem: John F. Blair, Publisher, 1966. 165 pp. \$3.75. Illustrations by Anne Kesler Shields.

Fascinating folk tales, true but almost unbelievable incidents from the past dating from the days of Indians until the 1940's make this an interest-holding little book. A number of the tales have been related by other writers, but perhaps not in better style. Many of the pieces here, however, have been collected from oral tradition and printed for

the first time. The "booshyot" of the 1930's and "Wordr from the Sea" will surely find their place in anthologies of the future.

ROY Z. KEMP. *Shining Tower of Faith and Other Poems*. Murfreesboro: Johnson Publishing Company, 1966. 83 pp. \$2.50.

Subtitled "Poems of Affirmation and Inspiration," this book contains 75 poems of varying quality. Many of them have appeared in nearly two dozen publications which are listed on one of the first pages. We do not know Mr. Kemp, but judging from his thoughts as expressed in these poems he must be a very observant man and one who is concerned over the fate of his fellow humans. A native North Carolinian, he is employed by the Social Security Administration in Baltimore where, among other things, he is an "earnings disagreement examiner." We think he must be very pleasant and considerate in examining disagreements.

ROSSER H. TAYLOR. *Carolina Crossroads, A Study of Rural Life at the End of the Horse-and-Buggy Era*. Murfreesboro: Johnson Publishing Company, 1966. 172 pp. \$4.95.

Dr. Taylor recently retired as head of the Department of Social Sciences at Western Carolina College. He is well qualified to write on the social history of rural Piedmont North Carolina, and the book he has produced is both readable and interesting. To anyone who remembers the 1920's (or a bit earlier) much of what he has written will sound like a diary. It is good to have the everyday events of North Carolina, those which made no impression on history at a higher level, recorded for the education and pleasure of Tar Heels of the future. Food, clothes, schools, preaching, fishing, swimming, bathing, hunting, hair cuts, patent medicines, and hundreds of other common subjects are discussed.

JONATHAN DANIELS. *The Time Between the Wars, Armistice to Pearl Harbor*. Garden City, N. Y.: Doubleday & Company, Inc., 1966. 372 pp. \$6.50. Illus.

Reading this latest book by Jonathan Daniels, editor of the *Raleigh News and Observer*, revives memories of events almost forgotten. It also puts many remembered facts into proper perspective with reference to happenings not remembered. Newspaper headlines of the period, given proper historical settings, take on new meaning. To those who can remember none of the pre-World War II years, of course, the experience of reading about them will be quite different. Even so this surely cannot be regarded as just another history — it contains too much feeling and interpretation which grew out of the author's close involvement in many of the events which he discusses. How fortunate we would be today if someone (Dr. Hugh Williamson, for example) had written a history of the period of the American Revolution which he knew well.

"I have not found in history the absolute heroes nad the certain villains I once knew in life," the author writes. Many books which proved useful in arriving at his new evaluation of many people and events are listed in a bibliography. A random sampling of the index should convince any reader over 50 that this is indeed a diary of his time. To the younger reader many names of people and places still frequently mentioned in the daily newspaper will be encountered.

J. K. ROUSE. *North Carolina Picadillo*. Salisbury: Rowan Business Forms, Inc., 1966. 112 pp. \$5.95. (Order from author, 1100 Brantley Road, Kannapolis.)

As its name implies, this book consists of an assortment of little pieces. They all relate to the Davie-Rowan-Cabarrus County area, and some were written by Mr. Rouse, while others were merely collected by him from various sources. Many attractive pictures, particularly some of old waterwheels at mills and of covered bridges, illustrate the work. From poems by Peter S. Ney, biographical studies of pioneer settlers, church histories, through stories of old houses, lost creeks, to extracts of land grants, it is likely that every one with an interest in history or genealogy will find something appealing here.

H. G. JONES. *For History's Sake: The Preservation and Publication of North Carolina History, 1663-1903*. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1966. 319 pp. \$7.50.

Dr. Jones, State Archivist of North Carolina, has written a splendid book which must be read by every Tar Heel concerned with the historical records of the state. He not only discusses the history of the records themselves, but also many of the histories which have been written (or planned) based on those sources. Here is told the full and interesting story of the publication of the much-used *Colonial and State Records of North Carolina*. The formation and work (or death) of several state historical societies and official agencies are recounted.

Heads of Families at the First Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1790, North Carolina. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1966. 292 pp. \$17.50.

This first census of North Carolina lists names of heads of families and indicates the number of males and females in his family as well as the number of slaves which he owned. It was first published in 1908 by the Bureau of the Census. The present facsimile is the latest in a number of reprints of this interesting historical source. It is a clear reproduction and certainly should be in every college and public library in the state.

JOHN H. WHEELER. *Reminiscences and Memoirs of North Carolina and Eminent North Carolinians*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1966. 478 pp. \$15.00.

First published in 1884, clear facsimile reproduction has been prepared from a rare perfect copy in the North Carolina Collection at the University Library in Chapel Hill. Wheeler's name has long been a household word in North Carolina and his *other* history cited frequently to settle historical disputes. This history is less well known but is equally useful. It reprints several historical essays and some genealogical material by way of preface. The main body of the work is arranged by county with historical sketches of varying length and completeness in each case. As a concluding section for each county there is a selection of biographical material. Many of the people about whom Wheeler wrote were his contemporaries, but in other cases his information could have come only from research or from descendants of the men discussed. The original edition of this work has long been out of print, and the rare copies offered in recent years have brought high prices for their owners. No library with an interest in North Caroliniana should miss this opportunity to acquire a facsimile.

JAMES A. FELTON. *Fruits of Enduring Faith, A Story of Racial Unity*. New York: Exposition Press, 1965. 969 pp. \$3.50.

The author, a native of Hertford and a graduate of Elizabeth City State College, is a teacher in his native county. While his purpose in writing this novel is to be commended, the research on which it is based leaves much to be desired. The story relates the experiences of a young Georgia couple (of which the husband and father had been saved by a Negro Marine during World War II) as they tour the eastern United States before beginning a trip around the world. They see segregation at home and the lack of it abroad, and they return to join in supporting civil rights activities.

This book, I think, is evidence that the Negro can no more understand the white point of view than can the white man understand the Negro's. It fails to "ring true" and the errors of fact (that Richmond is on the Skyline Drive; that Negroes are much in evidence as guests in Australian hotels, in restaurants, and elsewhere) detract greatly from its authenticity. Mr. Felton's book could have been acceptably good with proper editorial assistance.

Mountain Men, George Frederick Ruxton's Firsthand Accounts of Fur Trappers and Indians in the Rockies. Edited and illustrated by Glen Rounds. New York: Holiday House, 1966. 278 pp. \$3.95.

Ruxton, an English soldier and adventurer, lived, travelled, hunted, and fought with fur trappers in the American West of the 1840's. His account of the experiences which he faced is told with a great deal of sympathy for the Indian. It is an interesting account which will be read with profit by both the adult reader and by the mass of "young people." Its North Carolina connection lies in the fact that Glen Rounds is a resident of Pinebluff. His drawings, which appear at the bottom of almost every page, add greatly to the worth of the book. They are attractive, very pertinent little drawings which can be enjoyed by themselves by those who would simply flip through the book page by page.

Billy Boy, verses selected by Richard Chase, drawings by Glen Rounds. San Carlos, California: Golden Gate Junior Books, 1966. (43) pp. \$3.27.

"Billy Boy" is an American folk song almost two centuries old. Richard Chase has taken it down as sung by old timers in the southern Appalachian mountains, and Glen Rounds has provided suitable, often humorous, drawings in color on every page. This is a book which adults will delight in reading to children and, for those who feel inclined to sing it, a simple piano arrangement is included. No North Carolina library should count its children's section complete without *Billy Boy*.

THAD STEM, JR. *Spur Line*. Charlotte: McNally and Loftin, Publishers, 1966. 84 pp. \$4.00.

Those who have enjoyed Thad Stem's regular editorials in the *News and Observer* will be delighted to find here more of his picturesque descriptions of youthful activities of earlier years in this century. There are 38 sections to this little book, and each consists of a poem and a prose piece. Generally, there is some relation between the two if only that both are satirical. Either can be enjoyed alone for the picture it calls to mind, the feeling it brings back from years gone by, or the idea that comes to mind only when prodded by something read, like this. Although it's a short book, it is recommended for slow reading and thoughtful consideration.

PHILLIPS RUSSELL. *North Carolina and the Revolutionary War*. (No place, no publisher.) c1965. 323 pp. Illus. \$6.75. (Order from Intimate Bookshop, Chapel Hill, N.C.)

The subject of this book will make it one to be in every library in North Carolina, but it is far from being *the* history of North Carolina's part in the American Revolution. True, the subject is covered, but little or no new information is added which is not available from standard histories. Traditional stories are repeated. Secondary sources are generally cited. Throughout the text the author too often takes the reader aside to tell him what will be discussed later in the book. Too much extraneous information is added, frequently in square brackets much of which does not relate to the subject at hand. On the other side of the ledger, it should be mentioned, Professor Russell's very readable style is often in evidence.

AUDIO-VISUAL MATERIALS

MASTERPIECES IN THE NORTH CAROLINA MUSEUM OF ART (Slide Lecture)
by Charles W Sanford, Jr., Raleigh, North Carolina Museum of Art Book Shop,
1966 Illus. 86 p. 40 color slides. \$8.00.

A well printed guide for prospective group or class visitors to the Museum of Art in Raleigh, ostensibly to be used as an introduction to the museum prior to a visit. There are forty lectures for the layman, with both an illustration and a slide provided for each. All slides are in color, as are some of the illustrations. The color is quite good considering that the slides are duplicates. Some cropping of the picture frames in the slides is a little messy, but the work on the whole is a very nice production. The slides are enclosed in an attractive binder which is separate from the guidebook. The whole set is highly recommended for all school and public libraries; some colleges might find good use for it.

NORTH CAROLINA FILMSTRIP SERIES(Filmstrips), National School and Industrial Corporation, 14 Glenwood Avenue, Raleigh, 1965. 8 filmstrips, one 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ rpm recording, and guide. \$64.50.

Eight filmstrips of from fifty-one to sixty-nine frames each, entitled "Natural Resources of North Carolina," "Government in North Carolina," "Industry and Agriculture in North Carolina," "Transportation in North Carolina," "North Carolina — Its History," "Religion and Education in North Carolina," "Things to See in North Carolina," and "The Interesting and Unusual in North Carolina." The recording is an introduction to the whole series by Carl Goerch, who has also written the annotations inscribed below each frame. The guide is a pamphlet which expands the annotations. These filmstrips were obviously developed for use in the primary classroom and are, as a result, not generally applicable to all libraries. They are very broad and general in information. The reproduction of some pictures is not of the highest quality, and the art work is not especially stimulating. They do provide a good introduction to the various aspects of North Carolina mentioned in their titles and are, therefore quite useful in the public schools. Public libraries may wish to buy them for their children's collections.

"A good book is the precious life-blood of a master spirit."

—John Milton
Areopagitica
1644