

GLEANINGS FROM YESTERYEAR

"If the carpets of the Brown Hotel in Louisville, Kentucky were not smeared with tar between October 18 and 23, it was not for lack of Tar Heels. Of those registered at the 1948 conference of the Southeastern Library Association over fifty were North Carolinians; on the basis of equal representation of each state the Old North State had its quota — one-ninth. Some arrived as early as thirty-six hours before the first scheduled meeting (among these were Marjorie Beal, Mrs. Edith F. Cannady, and Sophronia Cooper) and stayed till the afternoon of October 23. Though their geographic representation may not have been from Murphy to Manteo, it was certainly from Waynesville to Greenville. They went by train, plane, and car . . .

Dr. L. R. Wilson, who was referred to as the Father of the Southeastern Library Association, was scheduled to speak that evening. He had started to Louisville, but illness forced him to turn back before he got off Tar Heel soil. The association was sorry of his and its misfortune. A young lady from another state was heard to say that he was one person that she had especially wanted to see and hear."

—Elizabeth S. Walker
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"The librarians in 12 Western North Carolina Counties joined together in April, 1950, to discuss and to plan how the libraries might co-operate in promoting local interest in the Cherokee Indian Drama, "Unto These Hills," which was presented for the first time last summer.

The method of approach was different in each library unit, with certain basic regulations agreed on by the librarians. Different types of libraries were involved — city, county, regional, small town libraries, and Bookmobile service. Probably the most unique member of the group was the library at the Cherokee Indian Reservation with Indian children as members."

—Margaret Johnston
May, 1951

"The School of Library Science of the University of North Carolina is celebrating its 20th birthday. It has graduated 635 men and women into the profession of librarianship. Without pausing for a formal celebration the School is marking its twentieth anniversary with two innovations; one academic, the other physical.

For the first time courses leading to the degree of Master of Science in Library Science are being offered this fall. Special courses for school librarians leading to the degree of Master of School Librarianship, begun in the summer of 1950, are also offered. There are ten students registered for work toward the M.S. in L.S. degree, nine of whom are taking prerequisite work; two are taking courses toward the M.S.L. degree; and 23 are enrolled in the B.S. in L.S. program.

The physical change is in the quarters of the School. The top floor of the new West Wing of the University Library has been assigned to the School of Library Science. Although the addition to the library is not complete, and the formal opening will not be held until February, the School has moved in and is enjoying the "newness" of the surroundings after a year in the "Old Filter Plant."

—Elaine Von Oesen
October, 1951

"The Department of Library Science at Appalachian has trained more school librarians during the past ten years than any other institution in the state. The Department was set up in 1938 by Mrs. Louise Moore Plybon; Miss Helena Clardy later joined her as a member of the regular faculty. They have been succeeded by Miss Margaret McIntyre, Miss Eunice Query, Miss Ila Taylor, Miss Mabel Brister, and Mrs. Eloise Camp Melton. Nationally famous people in the field of school library service have served on the summer school faculty when the enrollment increases threefold."

—Ila M. Taylor
October, 1951

"The long awaited and much needed addition to the Library at Chapel Hill was informally dedicated on the 18th day of April. In many respects the enlarged library will be considered one of the outstanding research library buildings in the South.

The attendant ceremonies brought together a group of prominent personages within the state and beyond its borders, including librarians, educators, college and university presidents, University trustees, Friends of the Library, and donors.

The program at the morning convocation in Memorial Hall included Chancellor R. B. House and President Gordon Gray of the University, Governor W. Kerr Scott, Robert B. Downs, President-elect of the American Library Association, and D. Howard Mumford Jones of Harvard, formerly professor of English literature at Chapel Hill. Dr. Jones spoke on the subject "The Library in Higher Education: Its Importance and Support."

—George F. Bentley
April, 1952

Of all the human relaxations which are free from guilt, none is so dignified as reading.
—Samuel Brydges, *The Ruminator*.

A room without books is as a body without a soul.—Cicero (as translated by Sir John Lubbock)