

thousands of volumes of triviality and trash, they may hire flunkys by the score and the hundred, they may squander millions; but they will never maintain a library.

It is for that reason that I rejoice to see the library in Oxford properly housed, for this town can maintain it. You have here a long tradition of respect for learning, in part derived from educational institutions some of which have vanished, but not without leaving their mark upon the town. I do not think there are many communities in North Carolina—and I include everything from the city of Charlotte to a hamlet of three houses and a cross-roads store—that are more completely free of the fear of intelligence, less inclined to stamp upon any idea that comes in from the outside world.

I rejoice that you have a new library because you can use it, and above all, you can enjoy it. "There is no frigate like a book, to bear us lands away," sang Emily Dickinson. I know that within these walls, for years and years to come, Oxford people, boys and girls, but grandfathers and grandmothers too, without moving from their chairs will voyage through the realms of gold, from Oxford to Xanadu, to silken Samarcand, to Circe's isle and the garden of the Hesperides; and so voyaging will

look on life

And find it brave and splendid.

Can man attain to higher enjoyment in this world? Certainly you will learn, too. You will enrich your culture, you will broaden your horizons, you will profit in countless ways; but above all you will enjoy, and it is for this that I consider you most enviable; for when you open a really great book you will capture something of the rapture of the poet on first looking into Homer:

Then felt I like some watcher of the skies
When a new planet swims into his ken;
Or like stout Cortez when with eagle eyes
He star'd at the Pacific — and all his men
Look'd at each other with a wild surmise —
Silent, upon a peak in Darien.

Report of the Governor's Commission On Library Resources

A 287-page report has been completed by the Governor's Commission on Library Resources after a six-month study by a survey staff and consultants. In this report the current resources and the needs of North Carolina's libraries of public schools, colleges and universities as well as special collections, public libraries and the State Library are summarized and recommendations for continued improvement are made.

John V. Hunter III served as the chairman of the Commission, comprised of thirty-nine citizens of the state. The survey staff was headed by Dr. Robert B. Downs of the University of Illinois.

Copies of this report, in its final printed form, will be distributed in the near future to all libraries which participated in the statistical survey. It will also be possible to obtain a copy of this report upon request from the Governor's Commission on Library Resources, c/o North Carolina State Library, Raleigh, N. C.