



the Commission, it is an admission of the relative subordination of library service as compared with other activities of the State. The heads of major departments of the North Carolina state government receive \$6,000.00 annually. Other department heads receive salaries in a scale between the top and bottom ratings. The Secretary and Director of the Library Commission is rated at the bottom of the scale of salaries for heads of departments in the State Government.

We have heard President Roosevelt, Wendell Willkie, and other great leaders orate on the importance of books and libraries in the democratic way of life, and we have seen educational institutions recognizing more and more the importance of books and reading in education, but still the importance of library leadership in North Carolina has not been recognized.

It is true that the 1943 Legislature has adopted a war bonus system which will increase the salaries of most state employees, but this does not effect the status of the salary of the Secretary and Director of the Library Commission in comparison with other Department Heads of the state government.

The Library Commission Board cannot be expected to carry the burden of this salary adjustment without assistance, but the responsibility for leadership to secure this salary increase rests with the Board.

We raise these questions: 1. Does the Board consider the salary increase justified? 2. Have they made an honest effort to secure an increase?

OUR STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION DIRECTOR

Recently many letters have been received at the Editor's office urging the North Carolina Library Association to take action which would lead to an increase in the salary for the Secretary and Director of the Library Commission. No action was taken since the Library Commission had presented its budget to the Advisory Budget Commission in the Fall of 1942 and the amount of salary had been set before the letters were received at the Editor's office. Now is the time to plan for a salary increase in 1945, but it is too late to secure an increase for 1943.

North Carolina is fortunate to have, in Miss Marjorie Beal, one of the outstanding library extension workers in the United States. Her opportunities to move from North Carolina to similar positions in other states at a higher salary are well known, but fortunately for us she has apparently developed a sincere love for North Carolina and has chosen thus far to remain with us.

As long as the State Library Commission continues to accept the present salary status for the Secretary and Director of

