

LIBRARIANS UNITED?

We hope you have read the words quoted on our cover. They should be digested by every librarian. We should pause to consider the place of libraries in building this new world.

Are you, a librarian, satisfied with the present status of libraries in world affairs? Should librarians not rise now to stress the fact that libraries are educational institutions to be constantly and continuously advertised as "the people's university?" Should we not insist that librarians share with the teachers of America this great educational task—"to replace violence with reason and the humane and generous spirit?"

Over a year ago, the State Planning Committee of the North Carolina Library

Association planned a State program, "Mobilizing North Carolina Libraries for Action." These recommendations are here abridged and restated:

- 1. Review our objectives and opportunities implicit in the present crisis and formulate a program looking toward library development in the next five years.
- Re-emphasize staunch adherence to the ideal of intellectual freedom with the emphasis in library work upon the distributive rather than the acquisitive phases of the work.
- 3. Develop greater co-operation among all library agencies in serving the interests of some million and one half people now without adequate book service in the State. Co-operation in seeking State Aid for further service extension must be continued. The public library, the school library, the county and regional library, the State Library Commission, the State Department of Public Instruction, the college and university library, and the library services of the departments of university extension all have a very definite part in extending the use of books in North Carolina.
- 4. Strengthen our relations with organizations or groups doing similar work of supporting the objectives of libraries.
- 5. Make vigorous effort to raise the standard of personnel in North Carolina libraries and to insist upon the highest quality of leadership among those who are directing and organizing library services in all units.
- 6. Plan a state-wide program to show what libraries are doing, what citizens may expect of libraries, and why they are essential to our way of life.

This was the call to librarians of North Carolina last year, but librarians of North Carolina still lack unity. Many persons who use the name "Librarian" feel neither the responsibility of leadership nor the necessity of being a follower.

The primary factor in securing professional strength is to achieve a belief in our professional organization, the North Carolina Library Association. Study the chart below for memberships in May 1942:

Librarians	No. in State	No. of N.C.L.A. members during last 3 years	No. with 1942 dues paid
College	178	109	44
Public	156	68	26
School	198	73	36
Institutions	195	22	6
Trustees	1,000 or more	31	3
Special	?	13	4
Others		21	8
	1,727	337	127

Only one out of every four college and university librarians, one out of 32 institutions, one out of six public librarians, one out of 5½ school librarians, and less than one out of 333 trustees were members of the North Carolina Library Association when the survey was made in May, 1942. Can you wonder that the general public is not "sold" on the value of libraries?" Granted that libraries are worth fighting for, it is worth your efforts to enlist now in our North Carolina Library Association's effort to "carry on."

Attention Membership Committee. We should triple our membership during March and April of 1943. From a potential membership of 727 librarians, we should easily achieve an active membership of at least 500 librarians and institutions in addition to many trustee and Friends of Libraries members. Ask your library trustees to join. Ask the school librarians in your city to join. Ask the public librarians in your city and town to join, and remember that anyone interested in North Carolina libraries can be a member of the North Carolina Library Association.

North Carolina Library Association dues are payable on Jan. 1 of each year.

Individual memberships \$1.00 Institution memberships \$3.00

Mail your dues to:

MISS EVELYN HARRISON, Treasurer, North Carolina Library Association Woman's College Library of Duke University, Durham, N. C.

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