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**BOOKMOBILE GROWTH  
IN NORTH CAROLINA  
DURING 1947**

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During 1947 for the first time since the war, trucks became available and real progress was made toward securing bookmobiles for those counties

## NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES

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long anticipating them. The BHM Regional Library (Beaufort, Hyde and Martin Counties) had the first new bookmobile this year to begin service in March. This truck replaced the one formerly operated by the North Carolina Library Commission and used by the Region for the past six years. The next new bookmobile replaced the one wrecked in Buncombe County last fall. This is the second bookmobile given to Buncombe County by Mr. R. Lee Ellis of the Asheville Coca Cola Bottling Company, he having given the original one which was wrecked.

Columbus County, sharing in State Aid for the first time in 1946-47, began county-wide service with its new bookmobile in May. The long anticipated bookmobile service in Stanley County began with a new truck in June. Wilson County, feeling the need for a new and larger truck to meet the increased demands for county service, began operating a one-ton bookmobile in November. Fontana Regional Library (Jackson, Macon and Swain Counties) has the first of the new model one-half ton panel Chevrolet trucks converted into a bookmobile and it began operating early in December.

Through cooperation of the Division of Purchase and Contract with the North Carolina Library Commission, a contract was let for panel trucks to be used for bookmobiles.

Through November orders had been placed for forty-four such trucks. Of these orders twenty-two have been delivered and the delivery of the others is expected during December. Also through the Division of Purchase and Contract a contract has been let for the conversion of these panel trucks to bookmobiles. Of the twenty-two already delivered one has been converted and is in operation as stated above, and the contract calls for completion of the remainder at the rate of one each week.

North Carolina already has more bookmobiles in operation than any other state in the union and when these new ones are in operation there will be sixty-eight serving seventy-six counties. Counties which have bookmobiles on order and where service will begin within the next six or eight months are: Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Bladen, Cabarrus, Caldwell, Carteret, Cleveland, Craven-Pamlico Region, Cumberland, Currituck, Duplin, Durham, Edgecombe, Franklin, Gaston, Halifax, Harnett, Haywood, Johnston, Lee, Lenoir, Moore, Nantahala Region (Cherokee, Clay and Graham), Nash, Northampton, Pasquotank, Pender, Perquimans, Pitt, Randolph, Richmond, Rockingham, Rowan, Scotland, Stokes, Transylvania, Tyrell, Wake (two—Negro and White), Washington, Wayne and Wilkes.