

WELCOME TO HIGH POINT!

By NEAL AUSTIN*

The new edition of the *North Carolina Guide* states that High Point's streets have a carnival look about them. I've tried to see such a look, but with no success. Let's say that High Point streets are crowded and busy, and let it go at that. However, visiting librarians here for the conference in October will certainly be aware of pre-furniture market excitement and tension. The informal market opens on the Monday following the Conference. And though this is the year's small market, it is nevertheless important, and High Pointers will be concerned with furniture—you'll hear them talking about it in the restaurants, and you'll see people rushing toward the Southern Furniture Exposition Building on South Main Street.

Many librarians will be interested in seeing some segments of the furniture industry. To make this possible, tours are being arranged. One such tour will be through the large plant of Myrtle Desk Company. They will be making library equipment during that time, and librarians will have an excellent opportunity to see library equipment under construction from the selection of woods from the seasoning kilns to the last stage of hand-finishing.

There will also be tours of one or more furniture factory showrooms. The October market is concerned more with these showrooms than with the Exposition Building, which makes planning tours difficult: most plants will be putting the finishing touches on their showrooms during our Conference. But at least one firm will arrange tours so that librarians can see the latest furniture arranged in room settings: the originals of the advertisements in the house magazines.

There will be opportunities to visit the Springfield Meeting House Museum. Here are assembled items of local interest along with examples of early Quaker workmanship. Visits to this old Quaker Meeting House are usually tops on visitors lists.

The Public Library will, of course, welcome librarians at all hours of the day. This new building is the city's pride and joy, and you'll find the library staff unblushingly eager to show you around.

Not to be outdone by Philadelphia, High Point is offering cruises. Nothing spectacular, unfortunately, and no square-dancing. However, persons who are interested in that sort of thing will have opportunities of going up Deep River on the City's Boat. With the autumn leaves changing, this should make for pleasant diversion.

For shoppers, High Point offers a wide choice. There are many shops which you will enjoy visiting. These include the usual ladies shops, gift shops and book stores.

But the main thing you will find in High Point will be an enthusiastic welcome. City officials have planned a reception in your honor. The newspapers and radio stations will announce your presence and report your activities to our people. And the people are already looking forward to having you here, and are proud that you chose High Point for your 1955 Conference. And they'll do everything in their power to make you want to return in 1957!

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HIGH POINT FIRST

The 1955 Conference of NCLA will be the first time the Association has met in High Point. NCLA has had seven conferences in Greensboro; four in Raleigh and Winston-Salem; three in Asheville, Chapel Hill, Charlotte and Durham; and one in Gastonia, Goldsboro, Salisbury, Southern Pines, and Washington.