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## Mu Chapter of Alpha Beta Alpha Newsletter, June 1956

*Mu Chapter of Alpha Beta Alpha*

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## THE BIRTH OF MU

On February 25, the Mu Chapter of Alpha Beta Alpha was established on ISNU's campus.

An inspiring candlelight installation service was held in the Faculty Lounge of the Administration Building. We were fortunate in having Miss Suan Bush, president of Gamma Chapter at Indiana State Teachers College at Terre Haute and Vice-President of ABA, act as the installing officer. Accompanying Miss Bush were three Gamma Chapter members: Shirley Resener, Betty Westfall, and Mae Inaba.

A banquet at the Hotel Rogers, followed the installation services. Speeches were given by Miss Suan Bush, Miss Welch, and Miss Speer. The invocation was given by Miss Martz. We were entertained by a piano solo by Mable Doage and a song by Helen Brangenberg.

We now have 17 students, 13 faculty, and 21 alumni-members of Mu Chapter.

## INTRODUCING MR. NEWBERY

SONGS FOR SIXPENCE by Josephine Blackstock, is a delightful story for children from 9 to 12 years of age. It is the story of the first publisher to make a specialty of children's books; John Newbery the man for whom the Newbery Award is named. Here is a story any child would love because it is about a man who devoted most of his life to a quest, a search on behalf of children. John Newbery had often noticed that books for children were dull and colorless, so he undertook to publish a book which would interest as well as instruct. As a result he published the first Mother Goose Tales, stories which had been handed down by word of mouth from one generation to another for years, but which no one had taken time to record.

Maurice Bower's colorful cover and gay illustrations afford the reader the chance to fully picture and understand "Jolly, Old England" in the mid-eighteenth century. SONGS FOR SIXPENCE also brings to life other great men of that period, among them Samuel Johnson, Joshua Reynolds, and Oliver Goldsmith, treating them in a way which would be of interest to the fifth to seventh grade age group.

## NEWBERY AND CALDECOTT AWARD WINNERS

Jean Lee Latham was given this year's Newbery Award for her delightful children's book, CARRY ON, MR. BOWDITCH. This is the biography of Nathaniel Bowditch who was a navigator all his life and who, before he was thirty, wrote THE AMERICAN PRACTICAL NAVIGATION which has since then been the standard text at the United States Naval Academy.

Runners-up for this years Newbery Award were THE SECRET RIVER by Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings, GOLDEN NAME DAY by Jennie Lindquist and MEN, MICROSCOPES AND LIVING THINGS by Katherine B. Shippen.

The Caldecott Award for the most distinguished American picture book was presented to Fedor Rajankovsky. His illustrations for FROG WENT A-COURTIN seem to bring the characters to life. Mr. Frog, Miss Mouse and all the others are sure to thrill the hearts of children everywhere.

The Caldecott Award runners-up were CROW BOY by Taro Yashima and PLAY WITH ME by Marie Hall Ets.

## NATIONAL ABA CONVENTION POSTPONED

The National Convention of Alpha Beta Alpha was postponed this year. It had been scheduled for the University of Alabama, but student disturbances there forced the University of Alabama to cancel all

conventions. Mu Chapter was disappointed that lack of time prevented them from accepting the Executive Council's invitation to step into the breach and hold the convention on the ISNU campus this spring. Mu hopes to have another chance to be host to the National ABA Convention very soon. In 1957 the Convention will be held at Indiana State Teachers College at Terre Haute.

#### MU INSTALLS XI

On Saturday, May 26, a new chapter of Alpha Beta Alpha was established on the Iowa State Teachers College campus at Cedar Falls, Iowa. It was Mu Chapter's privilege to be chosen to conduct the installation ceremony. LaRae Muselman, Olivia Chung, Lois Eades and Bob Abbott motored to Cedar Falls as the installing officers. After the impressive candle-light ceremony they were guests of the Xi Chapter at a delicious banquet in the Commons and a movie in the campus theatre. Enroute home on Sunday they stopped at the Amana Colony, visited the seven colonies and the famous "Amana Heim" and had a bountiful dinner at the Ox Yoke Inn. They all agreed that it was an exciting week-end and they felt that membership in ABA had given them a wonderful opportunity to make new friends and see new places.

#### GREETINGS TO MU

Lois (Carnaham) Banning was formerly librarian at Pana High School. In July, 1955, she married Bill Banning and is now working at Wellston High School in St. Louis where she has formed a library organization called the Biblio Club. Under her direction the club sent a Care Package overseas. Lois says, "I certainly enjoyed receiving Milnerite Newsletter periodically. Carolynn Ferris was able to be with us for installation and initiation. Her description of her visits to Connecticut and to her home on Cape Cod thrilled us and turned our thoughts to travel!

Marylyn Florey wrote from Lockport, Illinois, saying that unfortunately she is not in library work this year but hopes to return to that work in the near future. However, with four English classes and the sponsorship of the school yearbook she has her hands full. Marylyn is in Donna Timm's school alma mater and the two of them have had some opportunities to get together. Marylyn is considering moving to the State of Virginia but we certainly hope to see her at ISNU before she leaves.

Margery Hinrichs was a charter member of the Milnerites and is also a charter member of Mu Chapter of ABA. Added to these "firsts" is the fact that she just got into a new library building at Belvedere. Barbara Jacobs is teaching at Morton Township High School. She wrote to the club saying that she felt that belonging to a national fraternity would be a distinct advantage even tho she would be unable to attend many of the meetings; she became a charter member of Mu Chapter of ABA.

Miss Kreuz, Assistant Professor of Library Science, on leave for two years to pursue graduate study at the University of Illinois, wrote that it was impossible for her to accept the invitation to the installation and initiation ceremony since she was at that moment doing comprehensive study. However, she wished the club every success. Virginia Sanborn, at the last moment, found it impossible to attend the installation of Mu Chapter and the Banquet following. However, through her generosity three on-campus students, who would not otherwise have been able to attend the banquet, were given the opportunity. Mu Chapter's sincerely thanks Virginia for her kindness. Carlynn South was in Bloomington on business the week-end before the installation of Mu Chapter of Alpha Beta Alpha. She regretted that it was impossible for her to return for the ceremony.

#### CROSSING THE BAR

On May 1, 1956, Miss Edna Kelley passed away at Brokaw Hospital after an illness of several months. Miss Kelley, an emeritus member of Milner Library Staff, was formerly librarian in the Publishers Exhibit Room. She retired in 1952.

### A YEAR AT DENVER

Miss Augusta Gienapp, librarian at Fairchild Hall Library, was on leave of absence during the academic school year of 1954-55, to do graduate work at the University of Denver, Denver, Colorado. She was enrolled in the School of Librarianship which trains and prepares students in all fields of library work: school, public, college, and special. Within its schools the City of Denver offers facilities for field work in all these areas. The University of Denver Library School is the only school of librarianship which serves the mountain-plains states but it draws students from all parts of the United States.

One of Miss Gienapp's most interesting projects during her year of study was a survey of literature pertaining to libraries and the exceptional child.

### SCHOOL LIBRARIANS HOLD CONVENTION

The Illinois Association of School Librarians held a March 23 and 24 meeting at Danville. The group met to discuss the need for school libraries for children and young people from kindergarten through junior college. There were panel discussions, speakers, book exhibits, a coffee hour, and a tour of the public and school libraries of the city.

### AN INTEGRATED LIBRARY PROGRAM

The presentation by Mrs. Evelyn Botkin and twelve members of the Washington Junior High School ninth grade at our March 5 meeting in the Art Gallery of Milner Library was one of the most interesting and informative programs of the year. Mrs. Botkin worked together with Mrs. Davis and Mrs. Ivens (classroom teachers) in planning the coordinated library-classroom units. Seven students gave a panel discussion on how they carried out the six-week projects. In this part we learned the criteria by which they judged books, how they made a bibliography, and how they judged their projects. Also during the panel discussion, students told about specific problems of their units: Biographies of Famous Americans, Selection of Magazines, and Lives of Famous Living Authors. They made regular reports and

bibliographies on each unit. Extra credit work was permissible; as part of the extra credit many students wrote to authors and received letters they will always value. One boy did research on Jerry Sohl, Bloomington's science fiction writer, and even got him to talk to the class. As the last part of the program for Mu Chapter, one group of five students gave a skit representing an interview with Nina Brown Baker, American writer of biography for young people. One girl took the part of Mrs. Baker.

After this skit we were invited to see displays of the ninth graders' projects. Mrs. Botkin also showed reading ladders which the sixth grade had made.

### TRIPPING TO THE BINDERY

On Saturday morning, April 7, a group of the members of Mu Chapter of ABA met at the library classroom. From there we proceeded by car to Bloomington for a tour of the Stappenbeck Bookbindery at 401 West Washington Street. Mr. Stappenbeck, himself, served as our guide and showed us the complete process followed in rebinding a book. As a result we, as future school librarians, will understand what to look for in a class A binding. Altogether it was a very informative and interesting trip.

### ANNUAL PICNIC

Our annual picnic this year was held on Memorial Day, Wednesday, May 30. The affair was a breakfast served at 8 A.M. Although this meant early rising on a holiday, many exam-minded students and even faculty and local area alums agreed that it was fun and worth the sacrifice of holiday sleep!

### NEWSLETTER STAFF

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