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NEWSLETTER

Mu Chapter of Alpha Beta Alpha
Milner Library, I.S.N.U., October

Volume VIII

Number I

GREETINGS!

Cheery greetings were exchanged between old and new friends at the opening of the 1957 fall semester here at Illinois State Normal University. Idle but precious chatter reigned in the student hangouts, on the beautiful flower-bordered sidewalks of the campus, under the cool and comforting shade trees, and in the classrooms.

This newsletter attempts to recapture the spirit of and the doings on the campus, particularly those of Alpha Beta Alpha. We hope that the alumni members and the professional members will continue their interest in our organization, and if at all possible, come to our meetings. We are looking forward to seeing you during the Homecoming festivities, the weekend of October 18th and the 19th.

* * *

A.B.A. AGENDA

Date: September 16, 1957
Place: Milner Classroom
Program: "Getting to Know You"

Date: October 7, 1957
Place: Milner Art Gallery
Program: Initiation Ceremony
Pledging Ceremony
Guest Speaker: Mrs. Winifred Metzler

Date: October 18, 1957
Place: Carnegie Room
Program: Homecoming Coffee
Hour after the parade

Date: November 4, 1957
Place: Projection room
Program: Film

Date: December 2, 1957
Place: Miss Speer's Home
Program: Christmas Party
Guest Speaker: Miss Parret
with Choral Readings

Date: January 6, 1957
Place: Milner Art Gallery
Program: "It's a Big Surprise"

Date: January 14, 1957
Place: Student Union
Program: Victoria Johnson
will speak before the
combined groups of A.B.A.,
English, and the Elementary
Club.

Date: February 3, 1957
Place: Milner Classroom
Program: Initiation Ceremony

Date: March 3, 1957
Place: Art Gallery
Program: Mrs. Botkin and students
from Washington school

Date: April 14, 1957
Place: Meet in classroom
Program: Trip to University of
Illinois

Date: May 5, 1957
Place: Art Gallery
Program: Installation of of-
ficers and Observance
of Founders Day

A. B. A. ROLL CALL

Members:

Robert Abbott
 Lou Ann Ahlden
 Shelia Anderson
 Donna Billeaux
 Eloise Cline
 Eleanor Eastwood
 Pat Ellis
 Carol Fox
 LaRae Muselman
 Barbara Noonan
 Mary Plager
 Rosemarie Rozim
 Barbara Stungis
 Gladys Waren

Pledges:

Barbara Graham
 Mabra Hebert
 Delores Keerns
 Mary Kay Knick
 Opal Leddy
 Mary McConnell
 Barbara Randolph
 Rita Rogers
 Gloria Ward
 Valerie Wilford
 Elsie Wilken

* * *

METCALF LIBRARY

Although there was no mention of a library in the dedication brochure, there is one. The Metcalf library is now located on the second floor of Fairchild Hall. It is in the two rooms which were formerly the music room and the reading laboratory. However, it is used by students from both Metcalf and Fairchild Hall.

Miss Ruth Zimmerman, who has previously been in charge of the old Metcalf library, still officiates as librarian. There is also a new librarian, Miss Alice Cooper. Miss Cooper came here from the Lincoln branch of the Peoria Public Library where she was for four years. She is taking the place of Miss Augusta Gienapp who is on sick leave. Last year Mrs. Helen Keeley substituted for Miss Gienapp. The student librarians who were at the Metcalf and Fairchild libraries last year are all assisting at the Metcalf library. Georgine Hittle is the new assistant.

The new library is very cheerful. There are two rooms in which there are books and tables. One room has two walls of light green, and the other room has a peach wall. Colorful chairs of lime and pink add interest to both rooms. Although the smaller of the two rooms is used for the primary grade primarily, the other room also contains lower tables for the younger children.

A change from last year is that the fiction books are now located on the bottom three shelves with the non-fiction occupying the top three shelves. Fiction books for the first three grades are separated from the other fiction books. Last year books from Fairchild Hall were labeled with a Y, and Metcalf books were labeled with an X. Now since the two libraries have merged, both X and Y books can be found on the shelves. One unique feature is that the music books are in a separate room which is equipped with phonographs with ear phones.

KANSAS CITY BOUND by Eunice H. Speer

Flying to the Annual meeting of A.L.A. at Kansas City was thrilling and also a little uncomfortable: the latter because the air route was a trifle rough, the former because Illinois and Missouri scenery is beautiful from the air, and the prospect of good meetings was exciting. All reports indicate that Kansas City was an ideal convention site since the Municipal Auditorium provided ample meeting and exhibit space; hotels were available in sufficient numbers and within easy access of the convention hall; air, rail, and bus depots were conveniently located for speedy transportation to and from hotels; and the atmosphere of whole-hearted friendliness and genuine hospitality were heart warming.

Three meetings were especially interesting to me. The open meeting on methods of recruiting for librarianship provided some practical ideas for securing new people into our profession. One speaker emphasized something that we all can do, namely, show through our own efficient and friendly manner that school librarianship is an exciting and satisfying profession to engage in. By spotting students who have aptitudes and characteristics necessary for effective library service, by encouraging them to consider librarianship as a career, and by counseling the interested ones in procedures for obtaining education to qualify them for such a career, each of us can participate in

the best recruitment method---- the personal one where the motto is "Each one reach one!" One word of caution was emphasized: secure the best for this important profession! As school librarians we have a vantage point in guiding students into suitable professions!

Mary Peacock Douglas' booklet on The Pupil Assistant in the School Library was the basis for a panel discussion in the AASL meeting. If you have not seen her pamphlet, you will want to. It's available from ALA, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, Illinois, and costs one dollar and twenty-five cents.

A new statement on School Library Standards was considered, and plans are progressing to have them written and published soon.

One controversial issue arose: shall ALA Headquarters be moved to Washington, D. C. or remain in Chicago? (Illinoisians are somewhat prejudiced!)

A real highlight was Harry S. Truman's speech in which he prepared us for the opening of his Library in Independence, Missouri, on September 16. It's a beautiful building and should be a valuable research center, and a peek through locked glass entrance doors made us want to return for a real visit. Mr. Truman was warm and friendly, and the audience was appreciative of the time he took from a very busy schedule to greet us.

MRS. DOROTHY FAGERBURG

Hailing from the state of California, Mrs. Dorothy Fagerburg received both her Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts degrees in English from Occidental College in Los Angeles, her hometown. Interested in the field of library science, she then obtained her Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in Library Science from the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. She feels that she was extremely fortunate to have had some very outstanding personalities in the field of library science as her instructors, including Frank Baxter and Helen Haines, author of Living with Books.

While living in California, Mrs. Fagerburg worked in the libraries at both Occidental College and the University of Southern California. At the latter, she was in charge of the Periodicals Division, the position which she held at the time that she was married and moved to Illinois.

A busy homemaker with a small son who is a third grader at Metcalf, she still finds time for many outside interests. Although her primary interest is books, she enjoys such additional activities as fishing and gardening. Interested in art, she has been president of the Bloomington-Normal Art Association for the last two years. She also belongs to a study group in Bloomington known as the Travel Club. Mrs. Fagerburg is a member of the Second Presbyterian Church.

We are happy to welcome Mrs. Fagerburg to the university as a member of the library teaching staff.

* * *

SUPPLY AND DEMAND

A few vital statistics can be powerful enough to sway a decision.

In the year of 1955 there were 1,224 graduates from accredited library schools in Canada and the United States. The over-all average annual salary for newly-graduated librarians was slightly over \$3,900. Each graduate had an apparent choice of about ten positions.

Acute library shortages in the library field today exist in the library service for children and for young people, in the cataloging department, in school libraries, and in small and medium-sized public libraries. Oddly enough, the salary of the school librarian is one of the largest in the field, along with the salaries of those in special libraries and in large public libraries.

As in the field of teaching, the librarians need to recruit more people to fulfill this valuable and necessary task.

* * *

FRIENDS FROM AFAR

If we were to look into a crystal ball, we might catch fleeting glimpses of the former Milnerites or of the succeeding members of Alpha Beta Alpha.

Joan Bencivenga is teaching fourth grade at Benjamin Franklin Elementary School in Glen-Ellign.

Betty Brush is the kindergarten teacher at James Whitcomb Riley School in Hammond, Indiana.

Barbara Jacobs Charlier is teaching English and is serving as the librarian at Morton, Ill.

Ruth Karloski is the District Librarian at Carlinville Community Unit in Carlinville.

Joan Kester journeyed to Norwalk, California to teach the fifth and sixth grades.

Dick Loy and Georgia Ann Schmidgall were married August 31, 1957. Dick is now working at the Sears store in Bloomington.

Richey Nelle Nicholosen is now teaching in the state of Louisiana.

JoAnn Ode, now Mrs. Mitternich, is living at home while her husband is in the service.

Don Schroeder is teaching Senior English and serving as the high school librarian at McLean, Illinois.

Shirley Scribner, formerly President of Mu Chapter of Alpha Beta Alpha, is now unit district librarian at Peotone, Illinois.

Carlynn South, now Mrs. George Engel, is teaching social science.

Edith Stoltz was married to Darrell Poland on June 9.

Rose Taplin is the fifth and sixth grade teacher at Pontiac, Illinois.

Lucy Ward is the librarian for the elementary and the high school at Herscher Community Unit District, Herscher, Illinois.

Carolyn Wascher is the kindergarten teacher at Western Springs in Berwyn, Illinois.

* * *

BOOKS

I think that I shall never see
The books I long since lent to thee,
A book that might some soul inspire;
A book that others might desire;
A book perhaps due sixty days
Does little good and scarcely pays.
A book that may perchance regale
Some avid reader of the tale;
In circulation it might find
Its way into another mind;
Thus pleas are made by books like me:
Bring back those books--post-hastily!

by Winifred M. Shores
Woodward Memorial Library
LeRoy, New York

* * *

MISS ALICE COOPER

Amid the exciting and amusing books in Metcalf Library, one can find Miss Alice Cooper. Miss Cooper, a new librarian of Metcalf Training School, is a native of Illinois. She makes her home in Gilman, Illinois. She entered Eastern Illinois State Teacher's College; there she majored in commerce and business education. While at Eastern she was introduced to the fascinating world of library science and books. Upon completing her education she taught for a few years. Feeling the challenge offered by the world of library science, Miss Cooper entered the Library Science School of the University of Illinois.

After obtaining her Masters in Library Science, Miss Cooper served as librarian for the Peoria Public Library System at the Lincoln Branch. In this branch library Miss Cooper worked to place the right book in the hands of the right person. This position offered a great professional challenge because the users of the library ranged in age from six to sixty.

While leading a busy and stimulating life that was dedicated to the members of the community, Miss Cooper found time to be a member of the American Library Association, the Illinois Library Association, and Beta Phi Mu. Today, in addition to her numerous activities, Miss Cooper has become a member of Alpha Beta Alpha.

Since people and books are Miss Cooper's business, it is only proper that she enjoys the hobbies of reading and meeting and working with children. Among her favorite authors she lists Mark Twain, Charles Dickens, Robert Frost, and Longfellow. She also enjoys the hobby of sewing.

* * *

SEPTEMBER MEETING

On September 16, 1957, at 7:00 p.m. the first meeting of the Mu Chapter of Alpha Beta Alpha was held in the Milner Library classroom. The main purpose was to greet and welcome the newcomers. Policies, rules, and practices of the organization were explained, and the agenda for the year was discussed. Two committees for Homecoming were selected on the volunteer basis. The planning of the Homecoming float lies in the able hands of Chairman Barbara Noonan and her committee composed of Barbara Graham, Mary Kay Knickl, Rita Rogers, and Gloria Ward. In charge of the coffee hour to be held after the parade are Co-Chairmen Barbara Stungis and Eleanor Eastwood and their committee members, Mabra Hebert, Valerie Wilford, Carol Fox, Rosemarie Raziw, and Lou Ann Ahlden. Dixie cups of ice cream and cookies were served at the end of the meeting.

* * *

DIXON PUBLIC LIBRARY
by Mary Kay Knick

Where did people ever obtain the impression that a library is a dull, uninteresting establishment, that all library employees themselves are unenlightened creatures?

From working as a library page in the Dixon Public Library from the summer of 1953 through the summer of 1957, I have found this popular conception to be entirely false. To me, library work is a real challenge, and its rewards in personal satisfaction are unlimited.

How well I remember my first hour on the job! I was thrilled with the prospect of actually working in the library when the librarian, Mrs. K., told me with a broad sweeping motion of her hand to "read the shelves" to find any misplaced books. After doing that for a few minutes and under the impression that my task was completed, I beamingly told Mrs. K. that I was finished. She was thoroughly amazed at my rapidity and hastened to see just what I had done. Instead of reading the shelves from left to right according to the Dewey Decimal System, I had read the complete expanse of only one shelf! Mrs. K. and I had a good laugh over that, (I was feeling deflated) but that incident taught me an important lesson pertaining to library work: always follow directions carefully.

Not only does library work require one to be "on his toes" but also one has to have a few muscles on reserve. After carrying armloads of books up and down the steps and to and from the loan desk for awhile, I soon discovered this fact!

What an assorted and fascinating variety of patrons a library employee has an opportunity to meet! Until I commenced to work at the library, I had never realized that so many types existed, but regardless of any personality, class, or racial distinctions, all people utilizing a library are there for a common purpose---to realize new experiences from books.

However, the greatest pleasure I derived from working as a library page was the satisfaction of assisting people and getting to know them and their reading preferences. I will never forget the grateful and admiring faces of the small children who thought I was performing a miracle whenever I was able to find books they desired! Nor will I forget the little girl who once asked in awe, "Have you read every book in this library?" I humbly answered no. (How I wish I could!)

As long as books and people are involved in library work, the profession will always be "full of life." It certainly was for me!

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

As soon as you get a calendar for the coming year of 1958, underline the week of March sixteenth through the twenty-second in red. This week marks the first National Library Week. Through the efforts of the American Library Association, one week out of the fifty-two weeks of the year has been set aside for the purpose of expanding reading in America at all ages and income levels and making reading an important leisure time activity. During the week beginning March 16, a major advertising, promotion, and public relations program carried through the nation-wide mediums of magazines, newspapers, radio, and television will evolve around the theme "Wake Up and Read!"

The success of the program, however, depends upon each local librarian whose job it is to conduct the program in her own community. Each state has its A.L.A. committees to spread the program throughout its own individual state. If the program is conducted throughout the nation, throughout the state, and throughout each local community, National Library Week will be a success.

LIBRARIAN'S NIGHTMARE

Oh! Carry On, Mr. Bowditch!
You Man in the Grey Flannel
Suit
Carry on to 10 North Frederick
With Auntie Mame acting so
cute.

And, there, Search for Bridey
Murphy,
(So Near and Yet So Far.)
Oh! Carry On Mr. Bowditch,
Find Marjorie Morningstar.

And search for Something of
Value
Inside Africa, Gift from the
Sea,
Or, On the Island of the Sun
Find a Tender Victory.

Oh! Carry On Mr. Bowditch,
The Last Hurrah is said,
Tell Sane Society How to Live,
I'll Cry Tomorrow, Maybe I'm
Dead!

by Gladys Trooper, Librarian
Carnegie Library
McCook, Nebraska

* * *

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