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Milnerite Newsletter, May 1951

The Milnerites

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MILNERITE NEWSLETTER

Vol. 1

Library, ISNU, May, 1951

No. 2

CLUB NEWS

The Milnerites were pleased with the cordial reception which greeted the first NEWSLETTER. We hope you continue to enjoy it.

Although the Milnerites have not yet received formal recognition as a campus organization, the members have been busy and have undertaken several projects. In an effort to raise money for the treasury, the Milnerites decided to sell stationery and other paper products on commission. So successful were we that the club was able to buy a \$10 package of children's books through the UNESCO-CARE Children's Book Fund Program. A spring party was held at the home of Mrs. C. A. Poulton, and a picnic has been planned for May 29. The editors of this MILNERITE NEWSLETTER are Elaine Mechalas, Nancy Quimby, and Cynthia Streckfuss.

CARE BOOK PACKAGE

One of the most interesting and worthwhile activities of the Milnerites this year was the sending of a UNESCO-CARE book package to a children's library in Greece. We feel that many boys and girls will benefit from these books, each book being selected according to its value in extending universal relationships.

An appointed committee selected the following books to send:

1. Richards. ENGLISH THROUGH PICTURES.
2. Bechdolt. GOING UP, THE STORY OF VERTICAL TRANSPORTATION
3. Stong. HONK THE MOOSE.
4. Lane. LET THE HURRICANE ROAR.
5. Pyne. LITTLE GEOGRAPHY OF THE U.S.
6. Parker. LIVING THINGS.
7. SEEING U.S.A. THROUGH MAPS.

A.L.A. CONVENTION - A MESSAGE

As you all know the American Association of School Librarians has voted to become a separate division of the American Library Association. According to Miss Mildred Batchelder, Executive Secretary of the Division of Library Work with Children and Young People, the summer meeting of A.L.A. in Chicago, July 8-14, will find A.A.S.L. members busy deciding upon:

1. A new constitution;
2. the number of meetings to have each year;
3. the type of news publication to edit (continue TOP OF THE NEWS, have a newsletter, a school library quarterly, or other possibility);
4. suggestions for projects to be sponsored by A.A.S.L., funds for which are to be made available by the Ford Foundation;
5. selection of an A.A.S.L. Division executive secretary.

With so many important problems to be decided we should all make a special effort to attend and have a voice in the policies which will vitally affect us all.

I hope to see you in Chicago for the 75th anniversary convention of A.L.A. this July. --EUNICE SPEER

SIMPLIFICATION OF THE DEWEY DECIMAL SYSTEM FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARIES

Miss Ruth Zimmerman, Librarian at, Metcalf, and Miss Augusta Gienapp, Librarian of the Special Education Library, have worked on a simplification of the Dewey Decimal Classification for use with children's books. Because the Dewey system was not developed for children's books (there were no elementary libraries in 1876) the system has not proved satisfactory in a number of respects because material in children's books is far more inclusive than that in adult books and close classification distorts the collection.

One advantage of this adapted form is that it will be easier for the child since all aspects of a subject will usually be together. The librarian's time will also be conserved since she will no longer need to decide whether a book deal with one aspect of the subject or places more stress on another aspect. For example, in the field of transportation catalogers using Dewey could and do use any one of three classification numbers (in the 380's, 620's, or 650's). In fact Dewey would carry some phases of transportation to two decimal places. In the suggested simplification only one number

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ISNU STUDENTS ATTEND IASL CONFERENCE

Four students went down to Allerton Park in Monticello to attend the IASL conference that was held on April 13 and 14. These students, library minors, enjoyed the two-day program and admit that they profited by this experience because they saw how the organization actually worked and listened to some speakers who are authorities in the field of library science. Our student representatives were Mildred Wright, Mary Ellen Barton, Anita Moon, and Margery Hinrichs.

NEW CLASSIFICATION OF BIOGRAPHIES IN METCALF LIBRARY

Miss Galaway, Assistant Librarian at Milner, has undertaken the task of changing the biography classification from B to 921.

Most school librarians feel that it is better to use a number rather than the letter since it fits logically into the numerical classification system. Miss Galaway says that the average time spent on one book in this revision is forty minutes, involving the work of changing the book card and pocket, the book number inside the book, repainting the back and changing the call number, shellacing the spine again, and changing the catalog cards.

Miss Galaway will teach School Library Administration this summer.

N.C.A. SPECIAL REPORTS

Miss Dooley, Librarian at University High School, has just filled out a report for the North Central Association on Section II, Criterion 2 C on Library Services. The Association is making a series of special reports to the Commission on Secondary Schools. The effect of this report tends toward stimulation of self-appraisal on the part of secondary schools in the N.C.A.

These reports are based on the five criteria for accreditation by N.C.A. Each year, for six years, a special report will be made. This year, the third study covers library service. No doubt you have had similar reports to make.

Attention is focused on the six important characteristics of a school library, namely:

1. a well-educated, efficient librarian;
2. books and periodicals, study, and cultural and inspirational reading;
3. provision for keeping all materials fully cataloged and well organized;
4. a budget which provides adequately for the maintenance and improvement of the library;
5. encouragement of pupils in the development of the habit of reading and enjoying books and periodicals of good quality and real value;
6. continuous and systematic use of the library by teachers.

Special emphasis is given to the need for teacher-librarian cooperation. "If teacher and library, cooperating, are able to develop in students the library habit, the school has succeeded in at least one of its major purposes--to initiate learning habits which will endure long after other lessons learned in schooldays have become mere memories

LIBRARY GRADUATES

A total of ten library students will graduate this year and go out to teach. The January graduates were Mrs. Margaret (Gallagher) French, of Normal, and Mrs. Mary Louise (Pfeifer) Sutter of Cooksville.

The June graduates include Harriet Brown, Bloomington; Helen Kemmerly, Bloomington; Henrietta Renner, Chicago; Frances Douglas, New Holland; Jean Vitzthum, Pontiac; Charlene Edwards, Galesburg, and Marie Lyons, Lostant.

Joan Bonney, Breese, will graduate in August.

1951-52 OFFICERS OF THE MILNERITES

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Historian - Darlene Corbin

NEWBERY AND CALDECOTT AWARDS

The John Newbery Medal is an award for the most distinguished contribution to children's literature during the previous year, published in the United States by an American and written to stimulate reading of boys and girls. This selection is made annually by the children's librarians of the A.L.A. and the award is given by Frederic Melcher, editor of PUBLISHERS' WEEKLY.

John Newbery for whom the award is named, was an early English printer in the 1700's. He was the first publisher of children's books willing to have his name associated with juvenile books.

This special award was presented for the first time in 1922 to Hendrik Willem Van Loon for his STORY OF MANKIND. This year the award went to Elizabeth Yates for AMOS FORTUNE, FREEMAN.

The Randolph Caldecott Award is presented annually to the artist who contributes the most distinguished illustrations for a child's book published the previous year. The selection of this award is made by the children's librarians of the A.L.A. Randolph Caldecott, for whom the award is named, was an English illustrator of children's books around 1870. This award is offered to encourage artists for children's books. In 1938 the first award was presented to Dorothy P. Lathrop for her outstanding illustrations created for ANIMALS OF THE BIBLE. The award this year went to Katherine Milhous for THE EGG TREE.

GREETINGS!

I hope it has been a good year for each one of you. I know you have not accomplished all you wish. One never does, for each year the vision of the place of the library grows. Milton in 1659 urged the erection "in greater number all over the land of schools and competent libraries in those schools, where language and the arts may be taught free together... at the public cost." School libraries are increasing all over the land at public cost--but our vision is

more than Milton's--the library is for more than those interested in the Arts. The school library might well have over its door Quo omnes cogimur, "Whither we all are driven." No teacher can do without books, so teachers and pupils depend on libraries and librarians. As librarians you are a part of each school department--your subject is the whole curriculum. You will have too much respect for books to pretend to know the contents of all your books. But you should honestly know them as books, you should know your way among them to be able to guide others in the hunt for the knowledge and pleasure books give them.

Rest this summer, read much and go back to your libraries in the fall, relaxed and eager to be with pupils and teachers in the library.

--ELEANOR WELCH

Best wishes to each of you this summer and I anticipate being with you again in the fall. -- WINIFRED METZLER

Right this minute you are in the whirl of finishing off all the many projects you have managed to get into during the course of the year. In fact, by now you have found out that this teacher library business is a matter of swinging dizzily from one whirl into another. But isn't it fun?

Nevertheless, in spite of continued rush, we must all hold to the vision of every child's having access to a good library and the help of a good librarian. We hope every one of you in the field is working with us on the campus toward the fulfillment of that dream. You who have closer contacts with school administrators than we have can help particularly in making them feel the necessity of a library in their school. Your influence in recruiting young people to the teacher-librarian ranks can be much stronger than ours. We must work together.

This brings to you my very best wishes for a profitable and restful vacation. --DOROTHY HINMAN

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CHARLOTTE BROADERICK will become Mrs. Nicholas Szabo in July. Next year she will be librarian in the senior high school at Taylorville.

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MARILYN FLOREY was on the campus early in March with an interesting report about her work at Hoopeston.

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MADGE GIBSON is now at Dunlap. She is having a "wonderful time with the library," weeding, reclassifying, and cataloging. She is successful making the library an integral part of the school program.

EMMA GRAY is working hard to supply the three grade schools, two high schools, and nine rural schools in her unit district with library materials. She reports that her student assistants are excellent.

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HELEN KEMMERLEY will be teaching in the grade school in Palatine next fall.

CATHERINE KNIGHT and her husband teach in the Bloomington-Normal area.

ROSE MARIE KRAUS is planning to take library work on the West Coast this summer.

VIRGINIA SANBORN has joined I.A.S.L. She attended the Delta Kappa convention in Peoria. Did you get to the regional public library meeting in Elgin, Virginia?

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JEANNE WILSON is just completing her first and very busy year at Morton where she has had several other duties in addition to being school librarian.

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