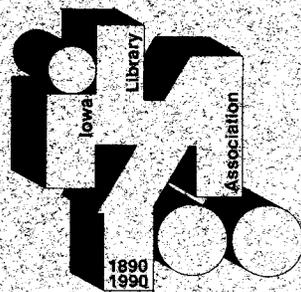


# A CENTURY OF IOWA LIBRARIES IN ASSOCIATION

A History of the Iowa Library Association 1890-1990

William M. Cochran



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1890 - 1990

William M. Cochran

Des Moines, Iowa  
Iowa Library Association  
1990

STATE LIBRARY OF IOWA



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# PREFACE

In the summer of 1988, I was honored to be asked by the Centennial Committee of the Iowa Library Association to write a readable, popular history of the Association's first century. I wanted it to be a substantive work as well, one which would not merely be easy to read but also worth reading.

Three major themes seemed to emerge in the course of my research. The first is the Association's longstanding commitment to making library service available to all the people of Iowa. The drive to establish libraries in communities throughout the state, the campaigns to expand services to rural Iowans through county libraries, the development of cooperatives and the Iowa Regional Library System, and the recent Open Access program are all chapters in a proud history of promoting extension of library services to all Iowans.

Beginning with the establishment of federal grant programs for libraries during the late 1950s, these efforts have increasingly involved the cooperation of many libraries, a second important theme. The Open Access program is an example of a recent trend toward multitype cooperation, bringing public, school, academic, and special librarians together to more effectively and efficiently use their combined resources to meet the needs of their patrons.

A final theme is the evolution of professional attitudes toward censorship and intellectual freedom. Early disapproval of fiction and other 'bad' literature, and even censorship of pro-German works during World War I, gave way to the current emphasis on providing materials representing all points of view to all people so they can make up their own minds on controversial issues.

I hope others will more fully explore the rich tradition only hinted at in this survey of some of the important events and issues in the Association's history. The histories of the committees, sections, forums, and roundtables; a comprehensive survey of spring meetings; and biographical studies of nearly all of the leading figures remain to be written.

Many people have assisted with this project, more than can be mentioned here, and I am grateful to them all. I would like to thank Bob McCown and the staff of the Special Collections Department at the University of Iowa for guiding me through the Association's considerable archives. Kay Elliott, Dave Martin, Carl Orgren, George Scheetz, and Editorial Committee members Stella Papadakis, Marg Powell, and Katherine Von Wald all read the manuscript and provided valuable suggestions. Kay Elliott volunteered for the additional task of preparing the index, making the text much more accessible and useful. Photographic assistance was provided by Denny Rehder.

Colleagues at the State Library of Iowa have been extremely helpful. I would like to thank State Librarian Shirley George for her support and encouragement, Pam Reid for assistance with research and preparation of the manuscript, Gerry Rowland for his desktop publishing expertise, and Doris Collette for patiently word processing the many drafts of the manuscript.

Finally, I would like to thank my wife, Diane, for her support, which made it possible for me to spend the time I did in writing this history.

W.M.C.  
Des Moines  
August 1990

In the early autumn of 1890, an invitation went out to the librarians of Iowa:

A meeting in the interest of Iowa Libraries will be held at Des Moines, in the State Library, September 2, at 10 o'clock a.m. All librarians and others specially interested in libraries are invited to be present.

ADA NORTH, University Library.  
MARY MILLER, State Librarian.  
T. S. PARVIN, Iowa Masonic Library.  
CLARA M. SMITH, Burlington Public Library.  
CLARA C. DWIGHT, Dubuque Y.M. Library.

Included among the names on this invitation are some of the most prominent in the early history of Iowa libraries. Theodore S. Parvin, as Territorial Librarian, had organized the first library in Iowa at the capitol in Burlington a half century earlier before founding the State Historical Society Library in Iowa City and the Iowa Masonic Library in Cedar Rapids. Mary H. Miller had been appointed State Librarian by Governor William Larrabee in 1888.

Ada North, who is credited with initiating the 1890 meeting, was then Librarian of the State University of Iowa at Iowa City after earlier careers as both State Librarian and Librarian of the Public Library of Des Moines. Her drive to organize an association of Iowa librarians had no doubt been influenced by her experiences at the American Library Association (ALA) annual conferences at Milwaukee in 1886 and St. Louis in 1889.



*Ada North, Founder*



*Mary H. Miller, President 1890-1892*

The five organizers were joined by twelve other Iowa librarians at the State Library in the recently completed capitol building on September 2. For a meeting of only a single day's duration, it was to be remarkably productive. Although the morning was largely devoted to organizational activity, a paper on "Public Libraries and Their Relation to the Public Schools" was read and Governor Horace Boies spoke briefly before the meeting adjourned for dinner.

In the afternoon, a committee appointed earlier in the day recommended slight revisions to the bylaws which had been recently adopted by the New York Library Association, the first, and only other, state association, established just weeks earlier on July 11. The bylaws named the organization the Iowa Library Society, set a cap on dues of one dollar per year, and called for an annual meeting at the State Library during the week of the state fair.

Committees were appointed to consider amendments to Iowa library laws, to draw up a list of uniform statistics to be kept by all libraries in the state, and to prepare a list of reference books for high schools. After discussion, the Society resolved that an efficient board should include a city council member, a public school teacher, and three citizens, "two of whom should be women."

Before adjournment, a number of letters of interest were noted. Esther Crawford, of Iowa State College at Ames, was no doubt particularly interested in the one sent by Melvil Dewey, Director of the New York State Library. She had spoken with enthusiasm earlier in the day of the School of Library Economy which Dewey had established at Columbia College in 1887.

By the time the second annual meeting convened in the Capitol, Miller was able to present the first statistical report on Iowa libraries, compiled through the efforts of

the committee appointed the previous year. Clara Smith provoked a debate with her announcement that she "had found boys more readily interested than girls as a rule in good reading." Maria Davenport, of Council Bluffs, disagreed, holding that not only did the longer time that girls spent in school strengthen their interest in reading but "she had found them at the same time more ready to listen to suggestions."

The 1892 meeting featured a lively exchange of views on the subject of open stacks, the novel concept of allowing patrons direct access to the bookshelves. After reviewing experiments in Cleveland and Minneapolis, Ella M. McLoney, of the Public Library of Des Moines, expressed doubt as to the wisdom of extending such privileges. Among those joining the discussion as advocates for open stacks was Frederick M. Crunden, of the St. Louis Public School Library and former president of the American Library Association.

Witter H. Johnston, of Fort Dodge, noted that Iowa libraries were not yet able to afford to pay for trained staff but members desired more training opportunities. Crawford was authorized to continue her efforts to develop a training program for Iowa librarians. North, recently retired from the State University, proposed that the Society seek formal recognition by the State Teachers' Association to encourage a closer relationship between schools and public libraries. She was appointed to a committee to attend the Association's meeting and present the request.

Much of the 1893 meeting was taken up with unsuccessful efforts to communicate with the Teachers' Association, also meeting in Des Moines, and to achieve a working relationship. Crawford argued for meeting at the time of the state fair in early autumn, as the Society had done in every previous year, rather than meeting with the teachers at the end of December. At the conclusion of "animated discussion" on the subject, it was decided to proceed with plans to meet at the same time and in the same building as the Association, but not to be part of it. George B. Meleney, of the Library Bureau's Chicago office, became the first exhibitor at an Iowa library conference, promoting the Library Bureau's printed catalog card service.

In his presidential address, Parvin recounted his experiences as one of six Iowans to attend the Congress of Librarians convened by the American Library Association at the World's Fair in Chicago in July. He quoted *Library Journal* on the library in the Iowa Building at the Fair. Although finding it quite pleasant, the correspondent noted that due to the open stacks policy, strict Dewey order was not maintained, wryly observing that "*The Destiny of the Wicked* stood calmly between a W.C.T.U [Women's Christian Temperance Union] book

and a state document."

The fifth annual meeting of the Iowa Library Society in 1894 was the first of three as a section of the Elementary and Graded Department of the State Teachers' Association. The communication problems between the two groups that had been apparent at the previous conference were not resolved by the merger. The minutes record efforts throughout both days of the conference to obtain clarification from the executive committee of the Teachers' Association on a variety of issues, including status of Society members in the Association.

Conduce H. Gatch, president of the Public Library of Des Moines and former state senator, read his paper "A Public Library a Necessity in Every Town and City of the State." Among the arguments he presented for public libraries was that they can be a positive influence on children. He asked his audience what impressions should be left on impressionable young minds:

Shall they be the tares sown by the young arab of the street, or by the gambler, the drunkard-maker, or the "strange woman" whose steps take hold on hell? Shall they be imprints of the "yellow back dime novel," or the no less sensational blood-curdling and pestilent literature of popular journalism, or even worse, if possible, the professedly obscene literature intended for the purloins of vice and as a guide to them...?

It hardly needs to be said that this is not what Gatch had in mind for the youth of Iowa. He suggested instead that the "antidote for all this moral and intellectual poison" was "a well-selected reference and circulation library of choice books."

The views Gatch expressed were widely held among nineteenth-century supporters of the public library movement. In recent years, historian Michael H. Harris has argued from evidence such as this that "the public library was founded by a group of authoritarian-elitists" who would use it "as a means of controlling and directing the behavior of their less fortunate fellows," presumably towards becoming law-abiding citizens and more productive workers. It is not necessary to accept this thesis to realize that Gatch's address reflects a very different attitude toward intellectual freedom than that held by librarians in later years. Censorship in the service of high ideals was not simply tolerated during this period, it was an important philosophical principle of librarianship.



*Witter H. Johnston, President 1896-1900*

After several years of effort, Johnston was successful in launching a monthly library column, which appeared in Des Moines's *Iowa Daily Capital* beginning in January 1895. Johnston was also able to report at the 1895 conference that he had mailed printed library statistics forms, provided by the Secretary of State, to libraries throughout Iowa. The form was printed on the back of a pre-paid postcard and had only thirteen blanks to fill in, including those for the date and the names of the library and the librarian.

Another major accomplishment announced at the meeting was that 191 Iowa librarians had enrolled for all or part of the Society's course of study during the year. In spite of the long-standing desire for such a program and its apparent success, the program was suspended for a year due to the costs of printing and distribution.

After considerable debate, a committee was appointed to present to the legislature a proposal to create an Iowa library commission "to promote the library interests of the state."

The relationship between the Society and the State Teachers' Association continued to worsen at this meeting. After the Association refused to pay the ten dollar bill for printing and distribution of the course of study brochure referred to above, dues were collected from among those present to pay it.

At the beginning of the last business session, President Joseph W. Rich, Librarian of the State University in Iowa City, reported that the Teachers' Association had "criticised the library section as being exclusive" and encouraged its members to be more active in other Association meetings. A lengthy debate concluded with the appointment of a committee to prepare a recommendation "upon the expediency and advisa-

bility of maintaining, as originally, an independent organization."

Although the 1896 meeting was again held as a part of the State Teachers' Association conference, its principal business was a vote of the membership to withdraw from the Association and reorganize as a corporate body. A committee was appointed to prepare articles of incorporation, which were filed with the Secretary of State, and a committee was appointed to plan the next annual meeting. This Executive Committee has continued to oversee operations of the organization, becoming known as the Executive Board about 1906.

The 1897 meeting, held at the Des Moines Women's Club, was the first of the newly incorporated Iowa Library Association and its program included adoption of new bylaws. Dues remained one dollar per year, the annual meeting date was set for the second Thursday and Friday of October, and standing committees were established for Enrollment, Resolutions, Finance and Nominations.

Former Society President Rich must have found his work on the bylaws committee somewhat easier than his recent workload as University Librarian in Iowa City. On June 16, a fire caused by lightning had destroyed 25,000 volumes, three-fourths of the library's collection. Fireman Lycurgus Leek was killed in the blaze, which left the largest academic library west of the Mississippi River in ruins.

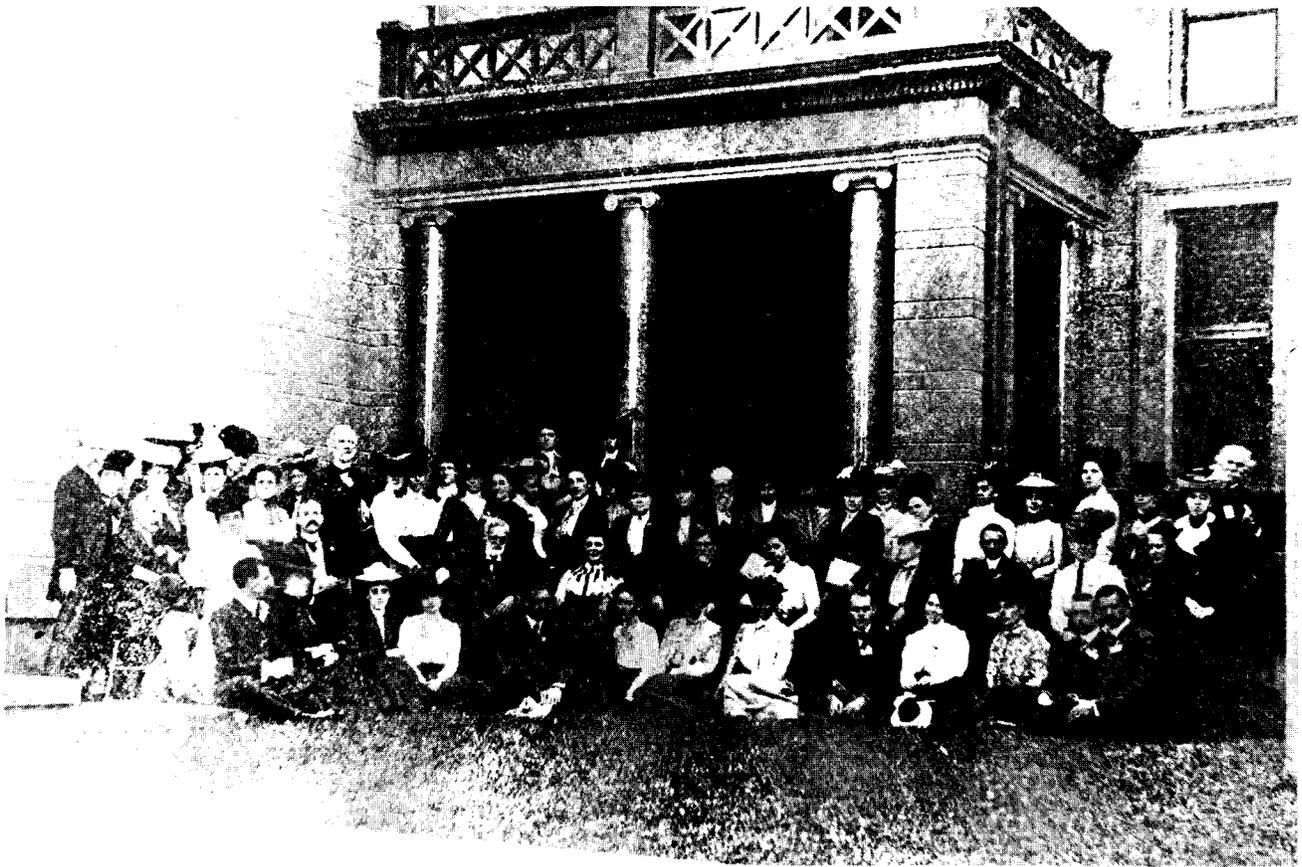
Johnson Brigham, editor of the literary journal *Midland Monthly*, would be appointed State Librarian the following year and was already well known in Iowa library circles. He presented an address to this meeting on "Danger Line in Literature," explaining how to "distinguish real literature from its counterfeit." State Librarian Lana Hixson Cope reported on the recent establishment of traveling libraries through an appropriation of the Twenty-sixth General Assembly. A committee was again appointed to seek legislation to establish a state library commission as well.

The Association participated in a Library Congress in Omaha on September 29, 30 and October 1, 1898, conducting its annual meeting as a brief business session on the afternoon of the second day only.

The 1899 meeting of the Association convened in the rooms of the Cedar Rapids Women's Club, where President Johnston acknowledged the efforts of the Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs to extend public library services throughout the state. In her paper on "The School and the Library," a topic often discussed at Association meetings, Harriette L. McCrory, Librarian of the Cedar Rapids Public Library, argued that

public libraries should include children's rooms.

As the last meeting of its inaugural decade came to a close, the Association appointed a committee to prepare and deliver to every member of the General Assembly a proposal for a state library commission.



*1901 Annual Meeting, Burlington Public Library*

The new century began on a note of triumph. The 1900 annual meeting in Sioux City hosted the recently created Iowa State Library Commission, a product of five years of lobbying by the Iowa Library Association (ILA). Three members of the committee appointed the previous year to push for the Commission had been appointed to it: State Librarian Johnson Brigham, Witter H. Johnston, and Harriet C. Towner. Johnston was in his fifth term as ILA president and Brigham and Towner would both also serve as president in future years.

At the Sioux City meeting, the Commission approved plans to publish a quarterly journal to be edited by Commission Secretary Alice S. Tyler. The publication which eventually became the *Iowa Library Quarterly* served as ILA's voice for nearly four decades beginning with its initial appearance the following year.

After confessing his own enjoyment of the "blood curdling" short stories of A. Conan Doyle, Dr. E. Benjamin Andrews, Chancellor of the University of Nebraska, said that:

For the rough boy from the street, I would rather he would read a dime novel than nothing at all. This will lead him to the habit of reading, and by judicious training he may be led to higher things.

Although librarians would continue for years to be admonished to reject "impure or otherwise unfit literature," as Gatch had suggested in 1894, an alternative view was emerging, which held that reading should be encouraged regardless of the moral qualities of the material.

In the opening address of the 1901 meeting in Burlington, State Librarian Brigham called on librarians to become more active in women's clubs. A librarian, he said:

should not only cooperate with clubs in ways already indicated, but become a working member of a working club; and if there is none she should organize one; and if her club is not federated, she should move to make it part of that splendidly organized and grandly helpful state organization of clubs, which is one of the most efficient promoters of the library movement in the state.

Brigham was quite familiar with women's clubs generally, and their support of libraries specifically. During much of his tenure as editor of the *Midland Monthly*, he had featured a regular column on women's club activities written by Harriet C. Towner, who now was serving with him on the new State Library Commission.

Her final column, in the January 1899 issue, proclaimed that:

There is no line of work in which women's clubs can exercise an influence for good to greater advantage than in work for libraries, and it is hoped there will be a growing interest not only in local library work but in the work of the State Library and the Iowa Library Association.

This hope was realized to such an extent that it can be argued that the work of women's clubs was the single most important factor in the extension of public library services during the early years of the Iowa Library Association's existence.

The liberal approach to reading proposed by Dr. Andrews at the Sioux City meeting the previous year was attacked on several fronts in Burlington. Emma Fordyce, of Cedar Rapids, argued that "love of yellow literature, the disregard of law and the villainy of the country" were the results of public schools teaching reading without giving "the guiding help of honest character and high ideals." No less than Herbert Putnam, the Librarian of Congress, complained, in his address on "The Book and the People," of "the waste of public money in fiction" that did not contribute to educational goals.

A trustees' section was organized at this meeting, with Towner as chair, and college librarians conducted a program directed at their interests. M. H. Douglass, of Iowa College at Grinnell, reminded his audience that "the college library is for the use of the student." He advocated longer hours and open stacks and described his one-hour presentations to freshmen and academy students on the use of the library. M. A. Carpenter, Librarian at Drake University, delivered a paper on "Co-operation Between the College Libraries of the State," suggesting that "loans between colleges might be possible" and calling for organization of an association of Iowa college librarians.

The Burlington meeting featured an unusually full schedule of social events, although there were similar

activities each year. The highlight was an elaborate reception honoring Librarian of Congress Putnam and ILA members at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Philip M. Crapo, benefactors of the public library in Burlington. Another major event was the river excursion on the *Ottumwa Belle* sponsored by the Library's board of trustees. The arrangements for these occasions were largely provided by the City Federation of Women's Clubs.

When President Frank F. Dawley addressed the 1902 meeting in Grinnell, he began by acknowledging the lack of universal support for public libraries. Noting that while few openly opposed establishment of a public library:

There is a great indifference to it and a strong feeling that it is an unnecessary expense, among a large number of business men and tax payers; and, if it had not been for the influence of women and women's clubs, who understand that there is something more in life than the mere earning of a living, many of our new libraries would not yet have commenced their existence.

Encouraging mutual support, Library Commissioner Jessie Waite Davidson, a former corresponding secretary of the Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs, counselled that "the club woman ought to consider the library her best friend - the librarian ought to regard the club as one of the most important of her opportunities." She also pointed out to the audience of librarians that the direct benefits of public libraries to club members were the improved resources made available for researching the programs presented at club meetings.

Commission Secretary Tyler included women's clubs prominently in her report on the agencies extending library services in Iowa. Others she cited were the Commission, the support for education shown by the people of Iowa, the philanthropy of Andrew Carnegie and Iowa citizens, the recently established Iowa Summer Library School at the University in Iowa City, legislation coordinating the activities of the State Library Board and the Commission, the annual meetings of the Iowa Library Association, and the character of Iowa librarians themselves.

Architect Grant C. Miller, of the Chicago firm Patton & Miller, delivered a lengthy address on library buildings, directed at smaller libraries and based on open shelf access. The Patton & Miller firm was quite active in Iowa public library architecture at this time, designing during this decade the library buildings at Algona,

Chariton, Charles City, Clinton, Council Bluffs, Eldora, Marengo, Marshalltown, Mason City, Monticello, Mount Pleasant, Muscatine, Onawa, Red Oak, Shenandoah, Spencer, Vinton, Webster City, and West Liberty.

An Iowa Summer Library School had been conducted at the University of Iowa since 1901. At the 1903 annual meeting in Marshalltown, a gathering of its alumni organized the Society of the Iowa Library School, which continued to meet at each annual conference for many years. Mary Wheelock, Librarian of the Grinnell Public Library, noted that eighty-five students had been enrolled in the School during its first three years, including representatives of at least twenty-five Iowa libraries.

In her address on the "Relation of the Library To Study Clubs," Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs President Mrs. T. J. Fletcher noted that the first standing committee of the Federation was its Library Committee. She proudly reported:

The general interest that exists in public libraries throughout the state has been largely due to the women's clubs. Most of the library buildings now being built, even those given by Mr. Carnegie, are the results of the efforts of the federated clubs, the members having mothered the small subscription library, secured a tax in order to make it a free public library and have helped it to grow to such large proportions that it has needed a building, which has been secured for it by the wise forethought of the same members.



*Anna B. Howe, President 1904*



*Iowa Building, Louisiana Purchase Exposition, St. Louis Site of 1904 Annual Meeting*

She concluded with the hope that the Federation, cooperating with the Commission and ILA, would "see the day when every man, woman and child in Iowa has access to a good public library."

The 1904 annual meeting, at the World's Fair in St. Louis, opened with a reception for the members of the American Library Association and Missouri Library Association at the Iowa State Building on the fairgrounds. Of the \$100 cost of the reception, \$50 was paid by the Iowa Commission to the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, \$30 by the Iowa Library Association, and \$20 by Association President Anna B. Howe of Marshalltown herself.

Howe was also a member of the State Library Commission, a former president of the Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs, and vice-chair of the Auxiliary Committee of Women appointed by Iowa's exposition commission to plan the activities of the Fair's Department of Women's Work. It is an indication of the extent to which libraries had come to be identified with women and women's clubs that all library activities were assigned to the Department of Women's Work. It is an indication of where women and their concerns were located in the larger scheme of things in 1904 that the Department of Women's Work was under the direction of Commissioner George M. Curtis of Clinton.

In addition to what must have been rather heavy administrative duties in support of libraries in several capacities, Howe also found time to write and publish in 1904 a history of ILA, a thirty-page booklet entitled simply *Iowa Library Association*, as well as a *List of Books by Iowa Authors*. ILA members were achieving national recognition, as Commission Secretary Alice S. Tyler was elected Secretary of the Library Commission League organized in St. Louis, while State Librarian Johnson Brigham continued to serve as president

of the National Association of State Librarians.

An editorial from the *New York Independent*, reprinted in the October 1905 issue of the *Quarterly of the Iowa Library Commission*, may have been the subject of discussion around the time of the 1905 annual meeting in Fort Dodge. Entitled "Libraries for Men," the piece explains the reasons few men used public libraries.

According to the writer:

The large predominance of women in library work and management has tended to increase the feminization of the public libraries. A woman can no more select books for a man than she can cigars or neckties.

Perhaps Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs President Mrs. J. J. Seerley shared her views on this subject after delivering "Fraternal Greetings" from the Federation, in which she commented on the close alliance of the organizations. The larger public libraries of the state organized a section at the Fort Dodge meeting, electing Ottumwa Librarian Mary E. Downey as president.

University of Iowa President George E. MacLean, a Commission member, gave what was called an "inspiring" address on "The Public Library, the People's Palace":

The people's palace is the sign and seal of triumphant democracy. Education through the reading of good books and through the elevating process of clear thinking and right living will be the means of eradicating from society the mania for accumulation, and in its place there will spring up an ambition for the duties involved in the great brotherhood of mankind and service to one's country will become the dominant factor of our society.

MacLean was, somewhat ironically, alluding to Andrew Carnegie's 1886 book *Triumphant Democracy*, a celebration of America's material progress. Carnegie's biographer, Grinnell College professor Joseph Frazier Wall, cites a letter from Matthew Arnold to a friend in England, criticizing the book for confusing material progress with cultural greatness. Speaking of the book's description of life in America, Arnold asks "Do they think to prove that it has savour and depth by pointing to the number of public libraries, schools and places of worship?" Wall suggests that "the answer that Carnegie would give to Arnold's rhetorical question would be a ringing yes."

Miriam E. Carey, Librarian of State Institutions, addressed the 1906 annual meeting in Ottumwa on "A New Phase of Library Extension." Iowa had become the first state in the nation to undertake systematic development of library services for its institutionalized residents with Carey's appointment to the new position the previous year.

Among topics discussed by the College and Reference Librarians Round Table were "What Privileges Shall We Give to the Public in Our College Libraries?" and "The Growing Helpfulness of the State Library to the Public Libraries of the State."

Of much significance in the development of the Iowa Library Association was President M. H. Douglass's suggestion that it sponsor a series of district meetings around the state. Arguing that additional opportunities for exchange of ideas were needed, Douglass recommended a roundtable format at four meetings per year. The idea was enthusiastically received and the first District Meeting, of the North-East District, was held June 4-5, 1907, at the Mason City Public Library. Thirty-one librarians and trustees attended and participated in roundtable discussions addressing the concerns of each group. Mrs. C. H. McNider, trustee of the Mason City Public Library, conducted the trustee roundtable. Commission member and former ILA President Anna B. Howe lectured on her recent "Rambles in Florence," especially appreciated by members of a local women's club which had just completed a year's study of the city.

More than one hundred attended the Southeastern District Meeting on July 16-17 at Iowa City, the only other district meeting held during the year. Resolutions passed at both meetings called for improvements to make it more convenient for all to attend.

President Ella M. McLoney of Des Moines responded to those concerns in her opening address at the 1907 meeting in Council Bluffs, held in conjunction with the Nebraska Library Association meeting in Omaha. She recommended both that eight smaller districts be created and that all annual conferences be held in Des Moines. In January, the Executive Board increased the number of districts to six, but the annual meeting was held in Des Moines only once in the following twelve years.

Commission Secretary Alice S. Tyler noted the recent move of the Commission into the Historical Building on Grand Avenue in Des Moines. She also presented a resolution on behalf of the Southeastern District Meeting instructing the Legislative Committee to consider seeking an amendment that would remove a public library trustee from office after three consecutive unex-

cused absences.

At the 1908 meeting in Cedar Rapids, W. H. Brett of the Cleveland Public Library discussed the responsibility of public libraries to provide information on the questions of the day. A symposium on children's literature included presentations on "Girl's Books" by Miss Tapert, of the Davenport Public Library, and on "Books for Boys" by Miss Gregory, of the Waterloo Public Library.

Librarian Mrs. Eldridge, of Clarion, exemplified the very practical focus of district meetings in her remarks to the 1909 Northwest District Meeting at Algona on the need for improvements in janitor service. The Middle West and Southwest Districts meeting together at Atlantic the previous year had considered the topic "Disinfectants," an important subject in an era of dangerous epidemics.

As was fitting at the end of a decade of cooperative effort between Iowa's libraries and women's clubs, the 1909 meeting included a reception at Hoyt Sherman Place, the home of the Des Moines Women's Club.

At the 1909 Eighth Biennial Convention of the Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs in Davenport, Library Committee Chair Mrs. Warren Garst reported that the success of previous Federation efforts and the effectiveness of the Iowa State Library Commission had eliminated the need for continued statewide effort by women's clubs. With 110 free public libraries serving Iowa, she recommended that club women work with their local libraries and assist in improving access to materials for the blind. Thus closed an extraordinarily productive chapter of cooperation between the librarians and women's clubs of the state.

### Chapter 3 War Service for Libraries: 1910-1919

The 1910 meeting in Davenport featured a number of sessions jointly sponsored with the Illinois Library Association, which was meeting across the Mississippi River in Rock Island. Before joining their Illinois colleagues, Iowa librarians heard ALA Secretary Chalmers Hadley discuss the role of state associations. They recommended that Hadley's request for action regarding affiliation of state associations with ALA be considered at the next meeting of each.

At a joint session on children's classics, Ruth Gatch, of the Public Library of Des Moines, reviewed a number of editions of *Robinson Crusoe*, warning against those which moralized and Edna Lyman, Advisory Children's Librarian of the Iowa State Library Commission, reported that most of the ninety editions of *Arabian Nights* which she had studied lacked authentic oriental atmosphere. The joint sessions tended toward literary subjects throughout the meeting and on the final afternoon, A. D. Ficke, of Davenport, read from the works of a number of contemporary poets including A. E. Housman, Edwin Arlington Robinson and William Butler Yeats.

At the 1911 meeting in Mason City, New York State Library Director and former ALA President James I. Wyer, Jr. addressed an audience which included his brother, ILA President and University of Iowa Librarian Malcolm G. Wyer, on "What Americans Read." Although he was optimistic that the public would one day turn to libraries for guidance in their reading, he observed that the most read magazines, newspapers and books were almost unknown to librarians.

A Round Table on Library Work With Children began with a lively debate on "Distinction Between Stories for Boys and Stories for Girls." Edna Lyman argued:

Children should be made to realize that they are a part of humanity and not simply belonging to one sex or the other. While there is the masculine as well as the feminine there is no need to magnify distinction in literature. Good books for boys should be enjoyed by girls and good books for girls should be enjoyed by boys.

Changing attitudes regarding many social issues are reflected in accounts of ILA activities throughout 1912. Among books reviewed at the North West District meeting at Storm Lake was Dorr's *What 8,000,000 Women Want*, while a book review session at the annual meeting in Nevada considered Booker T. Wash-

ington's *Man Farthest Down*.

Sioux City Librarian Jeannette M. Drake called on librarians to cooperate with social workers and "to lend a more efficient hand to the struggle for social justice," while Flora Dunlap, Head of the Roadside Settlement in Des Moines, challenged librarians to encourage reading among the youth of the settlements to reduce their interest in "moving picture shows, cheap theaters, dance and pool halls." The Nevada meeting was somewhat unusual in that local families housed the record-breaking attendance in their homes because hotel space was so limited.

Program topics for the 1913 district meetings were selected in each district from a list prepared by an ILA committee. Several chose to address the question "Shall books on social hygiene and social purity be on the shelves of our libraries?" Another topic chosen at several of the meeting sites was discussion of non-fiction books of the previous year. The choice of titles such as Jane Addams's *Twenty Years At Hull House* at the Emmetsburg meeting and Jessie Wallace's *American Socialism of the Present Day* at the Osceola meeting reflect a continuing interest in the changes taking place in American society.

The 1913 annual meeting convened in Sioux City, where the public library had just moved into its new building. The program included an address by Florence E. Ward, of the State Teacher's College at Cedar Falls, describing the relatively new Montessori method of education and explaining how it might be applied to library work with children.

The President's Address by Kate T. Loomis, a trustee of the Cedar Rapids Public Library, on "The Library Problem and the Trustee's Responsibility," certainly must have gotten the attention of her fellow trustees. Describing the lack of understanding of library issues among legislators she had encountered during the year, she wondered:

What of the library trustees in these respective men's towns; were they enjoying extended vacations, or taking much needed time for rest from labor? Surely it was part of a trustee's business to see that the legislator from his home town was an educated person at least along library lines.

District meeting program topics provided by ILA again sparked spirited discussions at the 1914 meetings. At

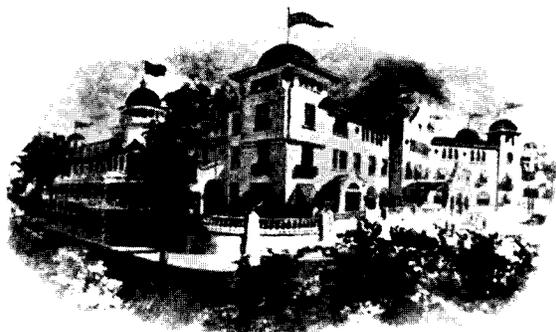
the Middle-east District meeting in Maquoketa, attendees agreed "that the public library was not justified in crippling its own work to supply the demands of the schools," and heard Miss Marks, of the State Library Commission, recommend discarding all public documents except the most useful.

The first echoes of the distant war in Europe reached the 1914 silver anniversary meeting in Marshalltown. Dr. Clarke, of Waterloo, spoke on the influence of libraries on the peace movement.

The 1915 annual meeting was the first of two to be held consecutively at Hotel Colfax, a rural resort on 140 acres outside of Colfax, twenty-four miles east of Des Moines. President L. L. Dickerson, Librarian of Grinnell College, explained in advance publicity that:

It has always seemed to me that an ideal place for a state meeting would be one where interest in the program would not be divided with shopping, sight-seeing and a score of diversions which are inevitable when librarians are scattered throughout a strange town.

In his President's Address on "The Library and a Changing Iowa," Dickerson noted that despite the increasing interest in industrialization and urbanization, 49 percent of the population remained rural. He cited a 1.6 percent rate of illiteracy in rural areas of Iowa and a slightly higher rate of 1.8 percent in cities. His extensive coverage of three township surveys conducted by the University of Iowa included findings that farmers, i.e. farm men, "are not inclined to read books," but that farm women "are almost universally readers."



THE COLFAX AND MINERAL SPRINGS  
COLFAX, IOWA, U.S.A.

*Hotel Colfax, Colfax  
Site of 1915 and 1916 Annual Meetings*

He noted that:

The social movement during the past decade found one of its greatest advertising means in the public library and the literature distributed from the library. That is the type of reading which least has come to the rural community. In a preparation of the rural mind for the readjustments which are coming about, the library can certainly have a remarkable power.

The Victor Animatograph Company, of Davenport, demonstrated moving pictures on the Wednesday evening of the meeting, leading into a discussion of the feasibility of their use in libraries.

C. E. Rush, of the Public Library of Des Moines, opened the 1916 annual meeting with a lecture on "Illustrators of Children's Books" accompanied by lantern slides. He proclaimed that:

The funny newspaper page with its distorted and hideous pictures will have no appeal to the child who has grown up with Kate Greenaway, Caldecott, Boutet de Monvel and their fellow illustrators.

A Round Table for large libraries determined that "the circulation per capita increased as the per cent [of budget] for salaries approached fifty"; that most large libraries were open forty-two hours per week; and that most allowed one seven-day fiction item, two novels, and unlimited 'classed' books to be checked out at a time. Some permitted political organizations to use meeting rooms free and some charged a small fee, while one prohibited use entirely. One prohibited children from borrowing books from the adult department, but most allowed it.

The 1917 district meetings focused on library publicity. It was reported that the library in Mason City had arranged to enclose flyers with water bills and had hosted a booth at the North Iowa Fair while the library in Dubuque was promoted by slides shown in local moving picture theaters. The Southwest District meeting at Corning on May 4 also included discussion of the role of the library in the war, which the United States had entered on April 6.

By the time of the annual meeting in Iowa City in October, the war occupied much of the program. University of Iowa President W. A. Jessup spoke of:

the duty of the library as well as of the school to help particular groups of seekers to find their places in the great movement now in progress, the reorganization of the world: to help all to read intelligently along lines of serious interests and to do our bit towards elimination of prejudice and ignorance as to the present world war.

Forrest B. Spaulding, Librarian of the Public Library of Des Moines, presented a paper on "War Service for Libraries," reviewing efforts underway and calling for further action by the libraries of Iowa. A contribution of fifty dollars to the Library War Fund for soldiers' libraries was approved at the business meeting, following a break to allow members to hear William Jennings Bryan, in town to lecture on prohibition.

Although several topics were announced for the 1918 district meetings, "War Work" virtually monopolized the programs. Commission Secretary Julia A. Robinson urged libraries to promote food conservation, displaying a basket of potatoes and an empty flour sack with a sign which read "Eat Potatoes; Save the Wheat for Our Allies." A program on local history suggested documenting the local war effort and compiling the records of local soldiers.

That intellectual freedom had not yet become an important principle of librarianship was amply demonstrated at these 1918 district meetings: a list of books determined to be pro-German and therefore to be withdrawn was circulated at each meeting. Some Iowa librarians went even further; Mary E. Wheelock, Director of the Eldora Public Library, wrote to the chair of the Iowa Council of National Defense that "during the past summer and fall we had a number of pro-German

books donated, but I burned them as they came." This was merely a small part of a widespread campaign waged against Germans in Iowa throughout the war. Historian Nancy Derr has described the extent of anti-German acts:

German language instruction was forbidden in public schools, followed by a spate of book burnings. Communities forced parochial schools to close and then outlawed church services in German. People speaking German on the street were attacked and rebuked. German-Americans began to Anglicize or change their names. Most German-language newspapers had to close their offices. Finally, in May, 1918 Governor Harding gave prejudice the force of law and forbade the public use not only of German, but of any "foreign" language.

The 1918 annual meeting was originally scheduled to be held in Waterloo. During the summer, so many members requested that it be relocated to Des Moines to permit tours of the libraries at Camp Dodge and Fort Des Moines that the change was made. The requested tours were arranged and librarians were asked to send photos of their local library war efforts for a statewide display. All of the planning was rendered moot, however, when a three-week quarantine of Des Moines caused by an influenza epidemic forced the cancellation of the meeting.

Association activities resumed with district meetings in 1919, although only four meetings were held. Sessions on vocational work with soldiers and Americanization through public libraries were held at each loca-



*Camp Library, Camp Dodge, ca. 1918*

tion. Historian Haynes McMullen has defined Americanization as "insuring the loyalty of the foreign-born population through the teaching of English and citizenship." The effort was a response to the alarming discoveries that "about a fourth of the male population old enough to vote was born abroad and that fewer than half of these foreign-born men had become citizens."

By the time of the annual meeting in Waterloo, however, the Association was getting on with other business. The only mention of the recent war was by Mrs. F. E. Whitley, chair of the Women's Committee of the Council of National Defense, who commended the war efforts of Iowa's librarians.

The big news for ILA at the end of this tumultuous decade was the adoption of a plan of certification for librarians. Following lengthy debate, the membership approved a plan that placed administration of the voluntary program in the hands of a board consisting of the chair and the secretary of the Iowa Library Commission, a trustee, a librarian, and a library assistant. Varying levels of education and experience qualified applicants for Grade A, a life certificate; Grade B, a five-year certificate; Grade C, a three-year certificate; or Grade D, a one-year certificate.

A resolution passed at the Middlewest District meeting at Missouri Valley on April 30, 1920, called upon the Legislative Committee to recommend changes in Iowa law to encourage the development of county libraries. By the time of the annual meeting in Des Moines, the dedication of a full symposium to the topic reflected the growing interest of Iowa librarians, who could also hear Carl Sandburg read from his poems at this meeting.

The Legislative Committee was successful in having a county library bill, Senate File 445, introduced in the Thirty-ninth General Assembly, but the Senate Library Committee buried it. The defeat seems only to have hardened the resolve of the library community of the state. Among those offering stirring calls to action on behalf of county libraries at the 1921 annual meeting in Ames were President C. W. Sumner, Librarian of the Sioux City Public Library; Commission Secretary Julia A. Robinson; and ALA Secretary Carl H. Milam. Attendees also passed a resolution expressing to President Warren G. Harding the Association's hopes for a successful disarmament conference.

On November 5, 1920, a meeting of school librarians was held at the Public Library of Des Moines, in conjunction with the annual conference of the Iowa State Teachers' Association. Annual meetings of school librarians continued to be held through 1935, when the group formally organized as the Library Section of the Teachers' Association. The Library Section would become the Iowa Association of School Librarians in 1953, which became the Iowa School Library Media Association in 1971, which itself merged with the Audiovisual Education Association of Iowa in 1972 to form the Iowa Educational Media Association (IEMA).

Professor A. B. Noble, of the Department of English at Iowa State College, delivered an unusually impassioned plea for librarians to provide guidance to young readers. After analyzing Edgar Rice Burroughs's *Tarzan of the Apes* and finding it to be "utterly preposterous, mere bosh," he likened such books to dramshops, "intoxicating their readers while they linger there, and weakening their power to reflect and to reason." He applauded the triumph of Prohibition, then implored:

Are we librarians and teachers of English, who probably understand better than do others the truth about intoxicating books, nerved to wage unceasing warfare against the literary dramshops of today?

The reading of adults also continued to be of concern

to some, and a discussion at the Round Table for Small Libraries focused on "How May We Increase the Total Circulation and at the Same Time Lessen the Percentage of Fiction Circulated?"

The county library issue was discussed at each of the 1922 district meetings, including a special meeting in Davenport on February 16 of the Southeast and Middle-East Districts joined by librarians from nearby communities in Illinois.

A resort on Clear Lake was being considered to host the 1922 annual meeting, in the spirit of the successful Colfax meetings, but the hotel burned down. The meeting was held at Cedar Rapids and again focused on county libraries. After Iowa Farm Bureau attorney J. G. Mitchell's address on the subject, members adopted former President C. W. Sumner's resolution endorsing county libraries for Iowa and calling on the Farm Bureau to help secure the necessary legislation.

In an address on "The Campaign Against Illiteracy," Cora Wilson Stewart, of Kentucky, somewhat optimistically announced that: "It is easy to eradicate illiteracy, first because illiterates are anxious to learn and second because they are easy to teach." She also shared that the slogan of the campaign was the hopeful "No Illiterates in 1930."

The 1923 Northeast District meeting at Independence turned its attention to the perennial subject of fiction but took a novel approach. The meeting adopted a resolution recommending that the Association "urge the editors of the ALA *Booklist* to make more definite their description of present day fiction and their recommendations concerning its purchase."

At about the same time, the ALA Council passed a resolution stating:

That the American Library Association has viewed with great interest the growth of the county library system and wishes to express its belief that the county is a logical unit of library service for most parts of the United States, and that the county library system is the solution of the library problem for county districts.

Gratia A. Countryman, Librarian of the Minneapolis Public Library and County Librarian for Hennepin County, shared her enthusiasm for county library work at the annual meeting at Fort Dodge, where the first Round Table for Medium Libraries discussed the steps to be



1924 District Meeting, Sioux City Public Library

taken to establish a county library.

This meeting also approved the first change in dues structure in the thirty-four year history of the Association. Although individual dues remained at \$1.00 per year, a new type of membership was established for libraries. Payment of an annual fee, varying from \$2.50 to \$10.00 by size and type of library, secured voting privileges for a trustee, a librarian, and an assistant librarian from each member library.

Ten new public librarian certificates were issued at a meeting of the Certification Board on March 7, 1924, bringing the total number issued to a modest nineteen. The writer of an announcement in the *Iowa Library Quarterly* bristled at the suggestion by a speaker at the Illinois Library Association conference the previous year that Iowa's certification program had produced few results, arguing that more time would be needed for a fair trial.

Albia Librarian Laura Duncan articulated one of the earliest recorded statements made on intellectual freedom at an Association event at the Southeast District Meeting in Centerville. Calling on librarians to "allow the reader to work out his own destiny," Duncan argued that "a citizen pays his money for the books he wishes to read and it is outside the jurisdiction of the librarian and the library board to tell him what he ought to read."

The 1924 annual meeting in Boone opened to the strains of the "Corn Song" and featured an unusual emphasis on music. Fannie R. Buchanan, representative of the Victor Talking Machine Company, encouraged libraries to develop adult music education programs emphasizing such American forms as "negro spirituals" and cowboy music. The "Folklore and Songs of Chaldea" was the topic of a lecture given by

Sheik Rafel Emmanuel of Mesopotamia, who wore native costume.

The *Iowa Library Quarterly* report on the 1925 district meetings noted that:

In the past it has been desirable to hold the meetings at good railroad centers accessible in various directions, but with good roads, automobile and bus service, this consideration need not in the future enter into the selection of the places for holding the meetings.

The variety of approaches to nonresident borrowers led to lively discussion at each of the 1925 meetings. A consensus emerged in favor of charging a fee "sufficient to exceed the tax levy for a county library" so as not to undermine the campaign for the county levies.

The annual meeting was held at Sioux City in conjunction with an ALA regional meeting for Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota. Characterizing county libraries as "the most important problem before librarians today," Commission Secretary Julia A. Robinson called on ILA to spend its year-end surplus on a concentrated effort to establish a county library in a single county. Members approved placing \$300 at the discretion of the Executive Board for county library work.

Each of the 1926 district meetings approved a motion to purchase a car to be used in county library demonstration work using the 1925 surplus of \$300 plus another \$300 expected to be saved on annual meeting expenses in Iowa City due to the generosity of the University of Iowa.

To avoid a conflict with the ALA Conference at Atlantic City in October, the annual meeting in Iowa City was scheduled for July, during the Iowa Summer Library School. Students and staff of the Summer School contributed to a record attendance and also made up the cast of "Why Not," a play dramatizing the arguments for and against county libraries.

After the production, the new Book Caravan, the county library demonstration car, was unveiled. Its yellow custom body by Kratzer Carriage Company rested on a Chevrolet chassis. At a business meeting in the Senate Chamber of the Old Capitol, members voted to christen the car 'Miss Lydia' in honor of Lydia M. Barrette, Mason City librarian and chair of the County Library Committee.

Through the summer and early autumn, 'Miss Lydia' visited many Iowa counties and appeared at a number of conventions and fairs across the state, attracting considerable attention:

'How can I get a book from the book wagon?' was the cry heard from many bare-footed youngsters who were ready to greet the car as it traveled through the towns. Farmers came out to ask questions and to admire, and called for their wives to look at the books. In many places books were loaned, especially to children. The minister at Le Clair said that all the boys should have a book and he would see that they came back to the library. The bakery did the same at Dixon.

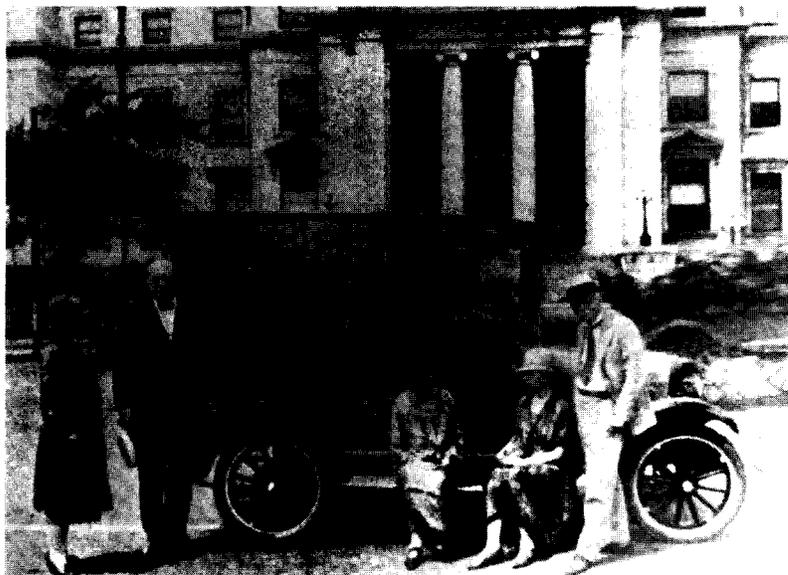
and, after neighboring states declined the opportunity to rent the car, it was stored for the winter.

A busy schedule the following spring included an appearance at the National Social Workers Conference in Des Moines and a week's tour of Clinton County at the end of May, during which 'Miss Lydia' had to be pulled from the mud twice. The \$25 charge and requirement that room and board be provided for the driver and a garage be made available for the car appears to have been prohibitive for many communities, as an *Iowa Library Quarterly* announcement recommended soliciting funds from local chambers of commerce and women's clubs. The expense and the lack of tangible results in the form of county libraries may have contributed to a significant drop in demand during the summer of 1927.

Interest in county libraries intensified, however, and at the Central District meeting at Newton, Grace Hill of Ames confidently forecast "county libraries in Iowa are coming - that is a safe prediction." She was puzzled, however, by the fact that Iowa still did not have a single county library after many years of Association effort, declaring that "the wonder is that they are so slow in coming, for to us it seems such an obvious and such a comparatively inexpensive thing."

State Librarian Johnson Brigham, serving a second term as president twenty-four years after his first, returned to a favorite theme in his address at the 1927 annual meeting in Des Moines on "The Librarian's Ever-present Problem - Fiction." Several speakers took time to criticize the national obsession with jazz, as well. Dhan Gopal Mukerji, who would receive the 1928 Newbery Medal for *Gay-neck*, deviated somewhat from his subject, "Truth about Kipling's India," to

Bad weather limited travel during September and October



*Iowa Book Caravan, ca. 1927. Johnson Brigham is standing at right*

suggest that jazz, moving pictures, and crime stories were damaging to youth and to note that American movies were prohibited by law in India.

Iowa State College Librarian Charles H. Brown and Iowa State staff members presented his play, "Discords," which:

gave a picture of an American family group where books had found no place and jazz radio was the only entertainment for the family. A happy ending came through the assistance of one of the group in bringing interesting reading to the children and the "conversion" of the father to the need of reading as a background for the children's education.

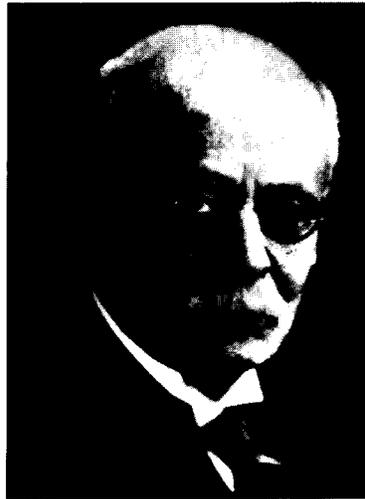
Mrs. Frederick W. Weitz of Des Moines was elected chair of the Trustees Roundtable, which passed a resolution requesting that the Executive Board select a speaker at each annual meeting to address trustee concerns.

The campaign for county libraries continued as the County Library Committee sent out newsletters on activities around the state throughout 1928. The district meetings again reviewed nonresident fees and again concluded that larger fees "might promote county library progress."

The county library issue also received much attention at the annual meeting in Marshalltown. In a review of her fifteen years as Secretary of the Iowa Library Commission, Julia Robinson noted that the number of public libraries in the state had increased from 112 to 165, but she regretted that the increase had been "in the smaller communities which could be much better served as branches of county libraries."

The *Iowa Library Quarterly* report on the meeting acknowledged that "progress in library extension through county and smaller units has not been striking" and recorded that the County Library Committee was directed to sell the two-year old book car. The year-end Committee report, however, called for redoubled effort and offered a series of recommendations for continuing the fight.

Beginning in 1928, Station WOI, the radio station at Iowa State College in Ames, experimented with reading entire books on its three-year old book review program every morning at nine o'clock. The books were selected by library staff, who found that the most popular were books about Iowa and the Middle West, love stories, pioneer stories, and biographies. This



*Johnson Brigham, President 1903, 1927*

creative effort to extend access to literature to rural Iowans was quite popular. One listener wrote:

When nine o'clock comes I take my mending and sewing, sometimes peel my potatoes, and sit down and look forward with the greatest of pleasure to that half-hour of reading. One of my boys has a paper route, and on Saturday mornings when he collects for it he finds almost all the ladies on the route listening to the reading.

The Legislative Committee was successful in securing introduction of Senate File 144, a bill for a new county library law, early in the 1929 legislative session. Complaints from librarians opposed to the bill forced its withdrawal and revision, however. As Senate File 260, the bill was defeated 26 to 19. Committee Secretary Forrest B. Spaulding, Director of the Public Library of Des Moines, reported that "with the exception of Senator Clark of Linn County no senators from districts comprising cities having larger public libraries voted against the bill."

The conflict that was emerging within the library community was stated explicitly as the topic of a district meeting program that surely generated much interest: "Small Towns vs. Rural Extension Branches." The *Iowa Library Quarterly* reported that:

The difficulty lies in persuading these small towns that although their library income may be but \$100 or \$200 it will be better expended as a branch library than in maintaining an independent library.

At the 1929 annual meeting in Des Moines, Commis-

sion Secretary Julia R. Robinson called for "establishment of more extension branches of larger libraries, rather than of many small individual libraries." The meeting adopted the following recommendations, escalating the campaign for county libraries to a new high:

1. We recommend that the Iowa Library Association formally go on record as approving a demonstration of county library service in some county in Iowa during the coming year.
2. That Black Hawk county be chosen as the county in which the demonstration shall be held and that \$600.00 be appropriated from this county.
3. That the Iowa Library Association appropriate \$800.00 for this work, \$500.00 to be paid out of funds set aside this coming year, 1929-30, and a pledge of \$300.00 to be paid out of funds of the following year, 1930-31, unless in the opinion of the Executive Board the conditions of the treasury will not permit such appropriation.
4. That the Iowa Library Association send a request to the American Library Association for a generous donation for this piece of work.
5. That every librarian in Iowa and as many trustees as can be interested be asked to contribute \$1.00.
6. That the Iowa Library Commission be sent a letter expressing grateful acceptance of their offer of 1,000 books and a librarian to take charge of the work.
7. That the book wagon be retained and turned over to the county for this work.
8. That every librarian run a column in her local and county papers throughout the entire demonstration, reporting progress of the work and featuring an educational campaign for county libraries.
9. That work on legislative changes in the county library law be started at an early date.

10. That the libraries be requested to make small loans to be exchanged periodically, to the county undertaking the county demonstration.

11. That the chairman of the county library committee be allowed funds for stenographic work, if in the opinion of the Executive Board conditions of the treasury permit such appropriation.

To raise additional funds for the demonstration project, the Association immediately launched an aggressive campaign to achieve one thousand paid two-year memberships. As the stock market crash of October signalled the beginning of the worst depression in the nation's history, the Iowa Library Association began the second decade of its campaign for county libraries with a sense of renewed purpose.

## Chapter 5 The Black Hawk County Demonstration: 1930-1939

During the summer of 1930, Callie Wieder, Librarian of Waterloo Public Library, attended the Institute in Rural Library Work at Wisconsin University in Madison. Her library was to be headquarters for what came to be known as the Black Hawk County Demonstration and she was taking a break from promotional activities to prepare for the opening scheduled for September 2. On that date, the headquarters library at Waterloo Public Library West began offering free service to rural residents of the county.

The Demonstration would not depend on the ability of rural readers to get to the library in Waterloo, however. The goal was to extend service out to rural areas of the county and the State Library Commission hired Mary Parmalee to achieve it. An Iowa Falls native, Parmalee had studied at Grinnell College and the Illinois Library School and had experience in library war work in the United States and France.

Her principal activity throughout the Demonstration was driving a book truck to over 100 stations throughout the county. Christened "the Parmalee bus" by Wieder, the maroon Ford delivery truck had been partially financed by trading in 'Miss Lydia,' the old Iowa Book Caravan vehicle, which the County Library Committee had not yet sold.

From the beginning, the Demonstration was intended to be an opportunity to promote the county library concept to the rest of the state. An active Publicity Committee arranged for radio broadcasts over WHO in Des Moines and for coverage in *Wallace's Farmer*, the *Des Moines Register*, and numerous local newspapers. The Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs, a traditional friend, and the Iowa Farm Bureau, a new ally, featured coverage of the Demonstration at state and local meetings.

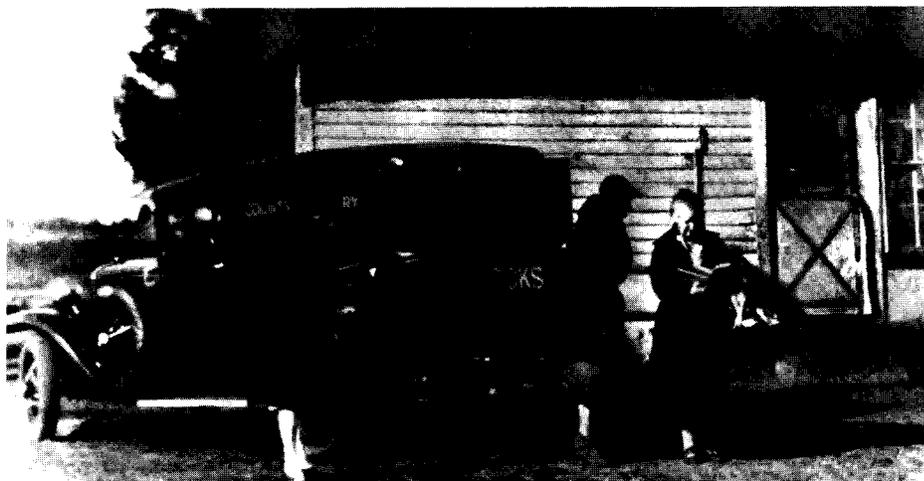
The service seems to have been well-received locally. A farmer enthused: "you can put as many books as you like in our neighborhood. We are using them in our home, - but it's hard on my sleep." Eighth-grader Roger Ganske wrote "I don't know what I'd do without library books to read." Circulation statistics demonstrate the popularity of the service, with the 13,617 rural county residents borrowing 32,319 items at the rural stations and another 2,472 at Waterloo Public Library, for a total of 34,791 items for the year of the Demonstration.

The 1930 annual meeting was held as part of the North Central Library Conference at St. Paul, Minnesota, which included a general session on county libraries presided over most fittingly by Iowa Library Association President J. Sidney Johnson.

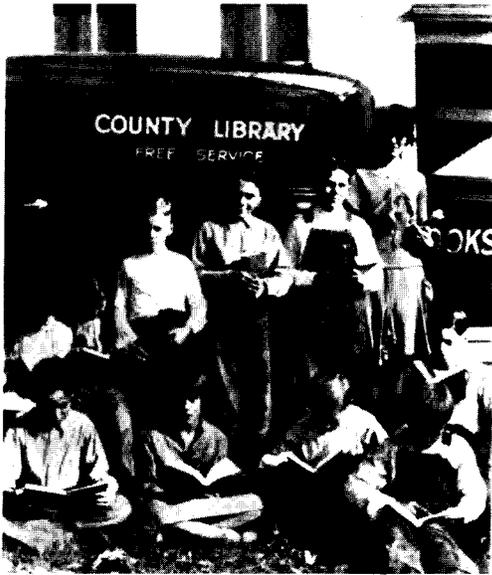
County libraries were discussed again at each of the 1932 district meetings. Lydia M. Barrette introduced a new approach to the issue at the North Central District Meeting at Mason City, suggesting that local library cards be recognized by all libraries in the state, but the idea was not discussed further.

In an article encouraging attendance at the 1932 annual meeting, Association President Johnson wrote:

I know there has been some feeling on the part of a few because we have devoted so much of our time and effort during the past two years to the county library demonstration. To some it has not seemed entirely appropriate for the ILA to expend so much of its revenue and effort on this one project.



*Black Hawk County Book Van visits a farm station, ca. 1931*



Children visit Black Hawk County Book Van, ca. 1931

He hoped that Demonstration supporters and opponents alike would come to the meeting at Cedar Rapids and discuss the subject openly.

By the time the annual meeting convened, the controversy had been rendered irrelevant as the Black Hawk County Board of Supervisors had refused to consider a levy to support a county library, ending the project. Mary Parmalee returned to the Commission office in Des Moines and became a cataloger.

In a President's Address that earned its title, "A Critical Appreciation of Librarianship in Iowa," Johnson expressed disappointment in the number of Iowa library people who took no interest in the county library effort or its associated membership drive. He speculated as to the cause:

It has been whispered to me confidentially that some librarians, particularly in the smaller towns, were rather hesitant about supporting the county library proposition, fearing that its establishment might mean the loss of their jobs.

In her report on the Demonstration, Mary Parmalee implied that politics and the Depression combined to defeat the effort.

Noted author Carl Van Doren declared that "In literature as in life, the essential thing is to pay attention to what is before you, not what ought to be," in his address on American and European literature. A sense of such realism seems finally to have overtaken the county library movement, as well, and the Associa-

tion moved on to other concerns, at least for awhile.

Chief among these concerns was the worsening depression and its impact on Iowa. At the 1932 Southwest District Meeting in Creston, Forrest B. Spaulding spoke on "The Library in a Time of Depression," suggesting economies for librarians to consider.

The 1932 annual meeting was held in Des Moines as part of an ALA regional conference. At the Trustees' Round Table, former ILA President J. Sidney Johnson, a trustee of the Marshalltown Public Library, described a grim situation:

Our public libraries are being threatened by the hysteria which is sweeping the country demanding tax reduction. Self-appointed committees and mass meetings of taxpayers are demanding reductions in governmental expenditures. Ill-considered recommendations are getting attention from intimidated city councils, whose responsibility it is to levy taxes for the support of public libraries.

He urged trustees to "sell" their libraries to their communities to defend against funding cuts.

Among suggestions for economizing discussed at the 1933 district meetings were "use of scrap paper, backs of envelopes, short pencils, used cards, great care in use of lighting, bulbs of lower wattage," and others. The annual meeting was limited to a dinner held at the Stevens Hotel in Chicago during the ALA Conference. Commission Secretary Julia Robinson thanked the Association for its gift of the books used in the Black Hawk County Demonstration and noted that they were circulating throughout the state via the Traveling Library.

At a meeting on May 22, 1934, the Executive Board voted to offer a medal annually to the Iowa author making the best contribution to literature during the previous year as determined by vote of the membership. President Mary Bell Nethercut sought the advice of Iowa artist Grant Wood who recommended sculptor Christian Petersen to design the medal. Petersen's suggestion to make the award a plaque instead of a medal was accepted. He completed the design and production of the plaque in time for it to be presented at the 1934 annual meeting in Des Moines to Johnson Brigham, in recognition of his recently published anthology, *The Youth of Old Age*.

Historian Michael H. Harris has proposed that intellectual freedom emerged as a philosophical principle of

American librarianship only in reaction to the extreme censorship and propagandizing practiced by Adolf Hitler and Benito Mussolini. President Mary Bell Nethercut's address at the 1934 annual meeting supports this view, being one of the earliest statements in ILA annals of the importance of intellectual freedom to democratic government:

The libraries, perhaps more than any other public institution, may help make Democracy lasting. They are free, open to all, without class or creed distinction, and there is little censorship of books or restraint in the choice of reading.

In response to an ALA effort to promote certification laws in every state, Forrest B. Spaulding's proposal to revive the former ILA certification program was approved. Spaulding also speculated on "The Large City Library in 1960." ILA Secretary Charlotte E. Crosley, of Webster City, found his talk "fanciful, but interesting" and reported that he predicted "that our large libraries are to be built of glass and steel, the printed page thrown upon a screen from far distances, making reference work far more interesting and attractive than in this day."

President Franklin D. Roosevelt had just launched an unprecedented mobilization of the nation to combat the effects of the Great Depression when Dr. Hubert Phillips, of the State Teachers College in Fresno, California, addressed this meeting on the "Social Economics of the New Deal." At the Southeast District Meeting at Centerville the following year, Lyle K. Henry of the Civilian Conservation Corps camp at Oskaloosa described educational work in the camps.

For more than a year, an ILA State Planning Committee



*Forrest B. Spaulding, President 1937*

chaired by Iowa State College Librarian Charles H. Brown had been studying the library situation in Iowa. Early in 1935, the Committee submitted a list of estimated costs of repairing or replacing each library building in the state to the Iowa State Planning Board, which was developing comprehensive plans for all government services.

At the 1935 annual meeting in Sioux City, Brown presented "A Suggested Library Program for Iowa" and it was adopted by the membership. The program was based on two principles:

- a. Suitable library facilities should be available to every adult and every child of school age in Iowa.
- b. The State should see that library service is available to every citizen of the State. This statement does not imply that the State itself should necessarily furnish library facilities, but it should assume the final responsibility.

Specific recommendations included merging the Iowa Library Commission and the Board of Trustees of the Iowa State Library, with the resulting Iowa State Library Board to establish six regional branches throughout the state to support and extend local library services. A state board would administer a certification program for all professional library positions and income of municipal libraries would be raised to a minimum of \$1 per capita per year.

A State Supervisor of School Libraries would be appointed, the position of the library in elementary and secondary education would be emphasized, school library standards would be developed, and coordination and even consolidation of school and public libraries would be considered. The position of librarian of state institutions would be re-established. Finally, college, university, and large public libraries would develop a coordinated acquisition program for research materials and materials for visual instruction.

Perhaps spurred by this program, the Certification Committee, which had been approved at the 1934 annual meeting, finally met on February 27, 1936 and reviewed the twenty-three certificates which had been awarded under the first program in 1924. Four of the eight librarians who had received Grade A certificates remained in Iowa and enjoyed lifetime certification. The fifteen who had received B, C, or D certificates, now expired, and all other Iowa librarians were encouraged to apply for new certificates. Many did and the Committee held two meetings to review the applications before deciding that a new set of standards

should be prepared. A new plan was adopted at the annual meeting, a new form was mailed to all who had previously applied, and during the following year 185 new certificates were issued.

At the 1936 Northeast District Meeting at Nashua, former Nashua Librarian Fannie V. Eastman reminisced about an earlier era of librarianship in Iowa. She expressed condolences to the modern librarians of the day who would never know the joy of starting a new library in a community where there had been none nor the thrill of receiving word that the appeal to Andrew Carnegie for a new building had been granted:

Then many of the boys and girls had never seen a library and were eager to discover its treasures. It was all so delightfully new. One young lady timidly inquires if you have any books for men. Her brother liked to read but thought perhaps it was intended just for ladies.

The Iowa State Teachers' Association joined with ILA to sponsor speakers at the 1936 annual meeting in Des Moines including 1930 Newbery Medal winner Rachel Field and author Cornelia Otis Skinner. Guests at the conference banquet at the Hotel Savery were entertained by a string quartet provided by the Works Progress Administration (WPA). Although the membership endorsed an invitation to the American Library Association to hold its 1938 national convention in Des Moines, nearby Kansas City was selected.

Noted British writer Vera Brittain, author of *Testament of Youth*, was a featured speaker at the 1937 annual meeting in Davenport and back by popular demand, having appeared at the 1934 meeting. In recognition of the long and distinguished career of Johnson Brigham, who had died at the age of ninety on October 9, 1936, the plaque awarded annually by ILA to the Iowa author of the most outstanding book of the year was named the Johnson Brigham Plaque.

In the summer of 1938, the Central Depository Library Committee concluded its two-year effort to plan a statewide depository. On the basis of forty-eight questionnaires received, the committee recommended that plans for a central depository of magazines be made ready in case the WPA would be able to provide assistance at some time in the future.

The 1938 annual meeting in Fort Dodge featured a theme for the first time: "Books For All Iowa." ALA President Milton J. Ferguson discussed equalization of access to library service and the trend toward larger units of service. The debate on how best to extend

library service to rural areas continued with a panel discussion on the subject featuring no less than twelve speakers. The Dubuque County bookmobile appeared at each of the 1939 district meetings, underscoring the enduring concern with rural service.

As ILA returned to Des Moines for its fiftieth anniversary meeting in 1939, the world was poised on the brink of war. Mrs. Raymond Sayre, Chair of the Women's Committee of the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation, spoke urgently on "Education for Democracy," arguing that it was essential for American farmers to adjust to changing conditions through continuing education and that public libraries must play a vital role in that process.

Announcing that a cultural renaissance was underway in the United States, novelist Sterling North recognized realist and regional writers including Iowans Phil Stong and Ruth Suckow, but ominously noted that most German, Italian, and Russian authors were working in exile.

## Chapter 6 The Victory Book Campaign: 1940-1949

Although the nation would not be at war for nearly two years, the new decade dawned with furious industrial and military preparations well underway. Iowa State College Librarian Charles H. Brown addressed the 1940 annual meeting in Burlington on "Libraries and National Defense," while May B. Ditch of Ottumwa spoke at the College and Reference Section breakfast on "War Materials and National Defense As They Affect the Reference Department."

In 1935, Brown had been chair of the ILA State Planning Committee which had recommended establishment of six regional branches of the State Library to support and extend local library service. As chair of the ILA Board on Library Action, he revived the proposal at Burlington and it was approved nearly unanimously, with the number of branches increased to nine to reflect ILA's practice, adopted in 1938, of organizing along Farm Bureau district boundaries. In November, the Executive Board decided to request a \$250,000 appropriation to implement the plan.

*The Catalyst* debuted in October 1940, produced and distributed for ILA by the Iowa State Traveling Library, primarily as a means of keeping trustees informed and involved. It was discontinued after only four issues and did not reappear until November 1948.

President Dorothy D. Houghton went on the radio on February 13, 1941 to promote the proposal for regional library branches, which she said "would be run as the Lucas County Project, with their bookmobile called the Parnassus on wheels," after Christopher Morley's novel of that title. She was optimistic:

I have a feeling that this is the year when our library bills will be passed. One philosopher said: 'There are two great wonders of the world; one is the coming of Spring; and the other is the way women get their way.' We are about to face both of these phenomena. Let's not allow the former to be true without the latter taking real form in the passage of our pending legislation.

Houghton also appointed a special committee which recommended that counties join to form district libraries which would receive assistance from the Iowa State Traveling Library. However, neither the regional nor the district proposal appears to have received any legislative attention.

The 1941 annual conference in Ames featured ILA's first pre-conference, a Conference on Work with Children and Young People, and also its first conference registration fee, set at fifty cents. Among the speakers was 1940 Johnson Brigham Plaque recipient Paul Engle, who discussed "Poetry and the War." In her address on "Iowa at the American Library Conference at Boston," Lydia M. Barrette described the inauguration of Charles H. Brown, Iowa State College Librarian and ILA president in 1929, as President of the American Library Association.

Late in the year, Iowa joined the national Victory Book Campaign, its effort to be coordinated by an ILA committee chaired by Mildred H. Pike, Director of the Sioux City Public Library. Sponsored by ALA, the American Red Cross, and the United Service Organization (USO), the campaign's goal was to collect ten million books to distribute to army camps, naval bases, and USO clubs.

By the time it ended in December 1943, Iowa's campaign had contributed a total of 286,177 volumes to the national total of 18,449,974. As the Victory Book Campaign wound down with some feeling that insufficient numbers of appropriate titles had been collected, U.S. publishers and booksellers announced a program to produce and distribute 35 million paperback pocket-sized books, launching what has been called the paperbacking of America.

The 1942 district meetings were the first ILA meetings to be held after the attack on Pearl Harbor brought the United States into the war and they would be the last regular meetings until the war ended. President Evelyn Spencer Bray of Grinnell warned:

There can be no stopping or letting down standards because of present war conditions. The present war program will continue to make heavier demands on libraries and we will be needed more than ever before.

The Executive Board considered an invitation to meet jointly with the Nebraska Library Association in Omaha and Council Bluffs before deciding that it would be "the wise and patriotic" thing to reduce travel by meeting in Des Moines. The Office of War Information warned in August that the U.S. could lose the war and called for cancellation of conventions not necessary to the war effort, however, and the 1942 meeting was called off.

ILA Defense Committee Chair Forrest B. Spaulding of Des Moines instead organized an instruction course

taught by representatives of the armed forces and defense agencies held on September 20, 1942 in Des Moines. The eighty-two librarians who attended then planned and conducted thirty-four War Institutes across the state, where a total attendance of 914 learned how to most effectively contribute to the war effort.

Frances Warner, of Iowa State College in Ames, became the first ILA president to be elected by mail ballot due to cancellation of the conference. Although she planned for district meetings in 1943, the membership voted against holding them and the Executive Board again cancelled the annual conference, as well. At an institute on postwar problems held in Waterloo on June 3, Warner and Dr. Leland Sage, of the State Teachers College in Cedar Falls, considered the problems libraries would face after the war ended.

In 1944, the Executive Board determined not to hold district meetings but planned for a fall conference to be held in Des Moines. A boy's and girl's institute, forums on post-war library problems, and panel discussions on the recurring topic of rural library legislation were among the programs being planned until the invasion of Europe on D-Day, June 6. The Office of Defense Transportation asked that nonessential travel be restricted even further and the conference was called off yet again. President Alice B. Story of Cedar Rapids would not give up so easily, however, and, with Lydia M. Barrette, collected and published the papers which were to have been given, distributing to all members ILA's only "Conference in Print."

No regular meetings were held during Barrette's term as president in 1945, either, as she urged members to follow Oelwein school librarian Thelma Spicer's advice and "be helpful in small specific ways instead of trying to deal in impressive generalities." She encouraged support of a project, being conducted by Helen Hurlbutt



*Lydia M. Barrette, President 1945, receiving citation from Donald O. Rod, President 1958*

of Iowa State College, to identify "books which have adult content but easy vocabulary," for compilation of a list to be used in helping returning soldiers adjust.

The dormant campaign for improved rural library service was quickly revived following the war's end during a series of four October workshops around the state. On a WOI radio broadcast on November 3, 1945, ILA Legislative Committee Chair Helen Rex of Marshalltown noted that forty-four percent of Iowa's population still had no access to free public library service. She pointed out that existing laws restricted counties to a one-quarter mill levy which could only be used to contract with an existing city library. She proposed legislation that would raise the levy to a full mill and permit counties to establish county libraries.

Following a 1946 annual conference held in Des Moines in May, Evelyn F. Van Wagner wrote in her hometown newspaper, the *Rockwell City Advocate*:

It seemed to be the "smart" thing at this year's meeting to deprecate and belittle the gift of the Carnegie corporation of the numerous libraries in small towns over the nation. The idea is that they have caused the general public to think of a library as a building when it should be thought of as a service. To this librarian that is only partially true and whereas, our library building is out-of-date and needs some re-arrangement, still would Rockwell City have had a library for as many years as it has if it had not been for Andrew Carnegie? I think not.

ILA was successful in having a new county library bill introduced in the Fifty-second General Assembly under the sponsorship of Senator Elmer K. Bekman of Ottumwa. It drew the opposition of the Farm Bureau, however, and at an Executive Board meeting on March 7, 1947, a Farm Bureau representative explained that the primary objection was a fear that the bill would permit the proliferation of small libraries rather than county-wide systems. The organizations worked out amendments that satisfied both, Sen. Bekman shepherded the amended bill through the legislative process, and it became law when Governor Robert D. Blue signed it after the session adjourned at the end of April.

The new law was the only topic on the program of the district meetings during October and November. Extension Committee Chair Alice B. Story was quite disappointed by the discussion at some of the meetings, however, reporting:

Too much emphasis was placed on the cost, and what it would mean to their own library, when the sole purpose of the meeting was to understand the law.

ILA held its 1947 annual meeting at the Upper Midwest Regional Conference in Minneapolis in early October, only a week before the district meetings began. Those who traveled north to the conference heard Newbery Medal winner Carol Brink, author of *Caddie Woodlawn*, speak against comic books, and journalist Eric Sevareid speak for Harold Stassen for President.

In an article in the April 1948 *Iowa Library Quarterly*, ILA Publicity Committee Chair Mary A. Woodward of Whittemore promoted county libraries as a weapon against what some saw as an emerging threat to the nation:

If we had county library services we could not only make existing small libraries more efficient but we could establish adult information centers which could revolutionize the thinking of this country which is allowing communism to make terrific inroads everywhere.

Among the many questions asked about the county library law at the 1948 district meetings were:

What would become of the present book stock of a library that participated in the county system, what would become of the present library board, would librarians now serving in small towns be retained....

Many questions could be answered in ILA's *Manual of Procedure for Establishment and Maintenance of County Libraries for Iowa* by President Robert W. Orr, of Iowa State College in Ames.

In its report at the 1948 annual conference in Mason City, the Extension Committee expressed disappointment that only five valid petitions for county libraries were filed by the September 15 deadline for the general election. Celebrating the upcoming votes in Jasper, Jones, Osceola, Scott and Woodbury counties, the Committee attributed the lack of success elsewhere to "apathy on the part of many librarians, and lack of sufficient knowledge and understanding of the bill among the rural population."

Jasper, Scott, and Woodbury counties did vote to establish county libraries in 1948. Although Orr and others hoped this would "set off a chain-reaction that

will blanket the state with county libraries in less than a decade," Dubuque County's vote in 1950 for a library would be the only one in the following four decades.

*The Catalyst*, only recently revived, found a silver lining in the election results, claiming to be "one of the few papers in the country which never predicted the election of Thomas E. Dewey," thus avoiding the embarrassment of appearing in winner Harry Truman's hands in front-page photos.

The report of the Committee on Recruiting for Librarianship at the Mason City conference recommended: 1) encouragement of the important role of children's librarians, 2) improvement of services for teenagers to encourage them to consider librarianship as a career, 3) consideration of greater informality and less monotony in work, especially in large libraries, 4) decreasing the importance of maximum age limits in library school admissions decisions, 5) improvement in work schedules, and 6) elimination of race and creed discrimination in library recruiting and hiring. The Committee proposed:

that the Association go on record as favoring, as a goal for 1949, the elimination of all questions of race or religion on our application forms, and that we set about to achieve a new degree of 'color-blindness' in the coming year.

The membership adopted the proposal.

ILA organized its Intellectual Freedom Committee in 1949. Serving as its first chair was Forrest B. Spaulding, who had drafted the Bill of Rights adopted by the Public Library of Des Moines on November 21, 1938. This document was revised at the 1939 ALA Conference in San Francisco and became the famous Library Bill of Rights, the fundamental ALA statement on intellectual freedom. Spaulding had also recommended establishment, and served as the first chair, of ALA's Committee on Intellectual Freedom to Safeguard the Rights of Library Users to Freedom of Inquiry, created in 1940.

In a somewhat different area of ILA activity, Mrs. Ray Delbert of Sac City solicited nominations through the summer and fall for a Queen of ILA to be crowned by Governor William S. Beardsley at the 1949 conference in Des Moines. She complained in the August issue of *The Catalyst* that:

I haven't found librarians to be very willing to be in the public eye. The battle is on to get more nominees with

good looks and a little come hither.

She persevered and on September 30, 1949, Lucile Miller of Iowa Falls was crowned as the first and only Queen of ILA by Victor P. Haas, Book Editor of the *Omaha World-Herald*, a conference speaker. The records are silent as to why Governor Beardsley did not perform the coronation as planned.

## Chapter 7 The Library Services Act: 1950-1959

During the 1940's, a massive study of U.S. public libraries, known as the Public Library Inquiry, was conducted by the Social Science Research Council under the direction of Robert D. Leigh. Commissioned by ALA and funded by a \$200,000 grant from the Carnegie Corporation, the project planned to produce a five-volume study covering public libraries and their place in society.

Margaret E. Davidson of Webster City presented a summary of the three volumes already in print at district meetings in Jefferson and Waverly in May 1950. She noted that Oliver Garceau, in the third volume, *The Public Library In the Political Process*, concluded "that the chief responsibility for the further development of library service belongs to the states -- not to the federal government nor to small cities." She reminded her audience that Garceau's model of district branches of the state library extension agency was "exactly" the plan Charles H. Brown and the State Planning Committee had prepared for ILA in 1934. She expressed regret at the lack of progress but also hope that the county library program might eventually lead to statewide service.

A surprise speaker at the 1950 conference in Waterloo was ALA's Washington lobbyist, Margie Sorenson Malmberg. She encouraged support of a new ALA effort to obtain federal assistance for library extension in the wake of the defeat of the Library Demonstration Bill by three votes in the House of Representatives earlier in the year. All eight of Iowa's representatives had voted against the bill.

At the conclusion of the conference, President Florence W. Butler of Sioux City pinned a yellow badge labelled 'BIG CHIEF' on incoming president Norman L. Kilpatrick of Iowa City. When Kilpatrick pinned a badge lettered 'BOSS' on his successor, Germaine Krettek of Council Bluffs, at the 1951 conference in Iowa City, he started a tradition that subsequent presidents would carry on through 1968.

During the summer of 1951, as the fear of communist infiltration swept the nation during the McCarthy era, *The Catalyst* ran a notice asking members to report to ALA Representative Beryl Hoyt, of Simpson College, any instances of librarians being asked to take oaths of allegiance, to denounce communism, or to deny association with subversive groups.

Exhibitors began to play a more important role at the 1952 conference in Sioux City. Ernest Hertzberg donated the conference programs, a practice he continued for

many years, and also introduced all twenty-two exhibitors in a brief program after the first general session. Keynote speaker Dr. Margaret Mead argued that:

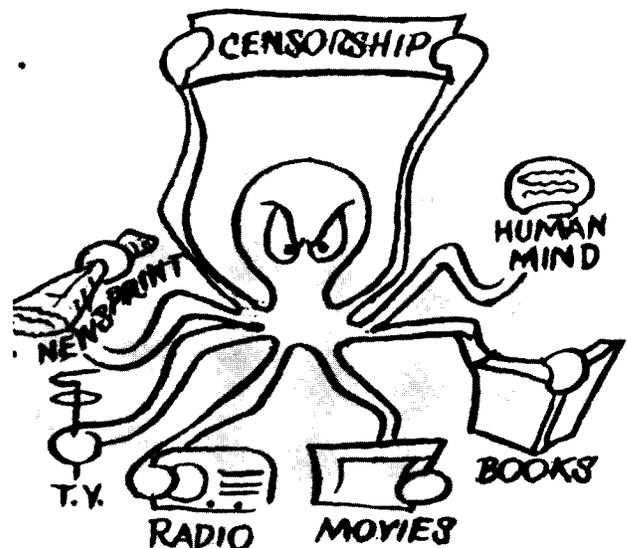
Americans are building a national culture as evidenced by their willingness to change, a willingness to move, an impatience with things that need to be "fixed" and are not, and a demand that the situation be explained and reasons given.

At its 1953 Midwinter Council meeting, ALA approved Iowa as its first, and only, state chapter. After suspending the application process later in the summer to review various problems, ALA discontinued the program in favor of regional chapters.

Renowned author Norman Cousins addressed the 1953 ILA conference at Des Moines on the current world situation, emphasizing the grave threat Russia posed to world security.

Early in 1954, an active Trustees' Section published and distributed to its members a thirty-page *Iowa Library Trustees Manual*, prepared by Section President Mrs. O. W. Harris and her predecessor Frank T. Milligan, both of Jefferson.

Before the year ended, the Legislative Committee finalized plans to seek a change in the Board of the State Traveling Library from an ex-officio body composed of the Governor, a Supreme Court Justice, and the Superintendent of Public Instruction, to a more active board of interested citizens. The bill that was introduced to



Censorship caricature, July-August 1953 issue of *The Catalyst*

accomplish this passed only after an unexpectedly difficult fight and was signed into law by Governor Leo A. Hoegh in 1955.

David H. Clift, ALA Executive Secretary, joined Elizabeth Hage of the Scott County Library, Robert W. Orr of Iowa State College, and Blanche A. Smith of the State Traveling Library, on a panel to discuss the proposed Library Services Bill at the 1955 conference in Council Bluffs. The bill, to be presented to Congress in 1956, would appropriate \$7,500,000 annually for five years for development of rural public library service on a state matching funds basis. The panel showed a plan to divide the state into seven regions, in one of which the \$174,096 Iowa was expected to receive could be used to fund a demonstration project.

During the early months of 1956, an ILA Library Development Committee worked on a plan for the expected federal aid to present to the Director of the Iowa State Traveling Library, which would administer the funds. In May, Chair Germaine Krettek reported that the committee recommended that the state be divided into seven regions, as the 1955 conference panelists had proposed, and that regional libraries be established in those regions which requested a demonstration and provided the greatest clerical and financial support. The required state matching funds would be used to "provide books, advice on local library problems, and where there is no service, temporary libraries on a regional basis."

President Eisenhower signed the Library Services Act (LSA) on June 19, 1956. At the annual conference in Des Moines, new Director of the State Traveling Library Ernestine Grafton outlined three plans for implementing the seven-region model recommended by the Li-

brary Development Committee:

The first plan could be that of a regional library under one regional library board which would serve an entire area. Each library could serve as a branch or station and bookmobiles could be used in unserved areas. Under this arrangement existing library boards would be dissolved and the libraries participating would be governed by the regional library board.

The second plan provides for a federation of existing libraries for cooperative service under a contractual arrangement. Each participating library would continue to control its own funds and operate its own library. Additional services in the form of more books and advisory services of specialists would be available to all the libraries. Each library would be encouraged to extend its services to surrounding areas and bookmobiles could operate from certain centrally located libraries. One library could serve as the administrative center for an area.

The third plan suggests that a branch of the State Traveling Library be located in each of the seven regions from which such services as outlined under the second plan could be carried out directly by the State Traveling Library.

Frederick Wezeman, of the Library School at the University of Minnesota, interjected a note of circumspection to the discussion. He acknowledged passage of the bill as an important broadening of the public library's financial base, but argued "I don't think we can consider it to be the answer to all of our problems." Maintaining that "the Library Services Act is the means, it seems to me, by which the map of librarianship can change," he envisioned that instead of "dots representing little isolated bibliographic centers untouched by each other," in the future "we will see a network, we will see lines drawn from one institution to the other."

This vision was in marked contrast to his observations on the present. In an address entitled "Librarians Working Together," Wezeman commented:

The most conspicuous thing about librarians working together is that they don't. Public libraries are virtually next



*Frederick Wezeman  
Speaker at 1956 and 1962 Annual Conferences*

door to each other and they have no contact, bibliographic, or even social. Public libraries and school libraries in the same community have no contact -- no area of cooperation. There is no area of cooperation between academic and scholarly libraries and public libraries, even in the same community. There are communities where the public librarian does not darken the door of a special library in the community, so that she would know the resources of that special library.

In May 1957, *The Catalyst* reported on the recent acquisition of a Thermofax photocopying machine by the Cedar Rapids Public Library, noting that the Iowa State Traveling Library, Public Library of Des Moines, State University Library and others also provided photocopying services.

To the great disappointment of the Iowa library community, the Fifty-seventh General Assembly did not appropriate the required matching funds for the LSA program, thereby forfeiting two-thirds of the amount available to the state. With the limited funding she received, Grafton undertook needed collection development at the State Traveling Library and established film and phonograph record collections for state-wide loan. In addition to adding three professional and six clerical staff, she hired two part-time field representatives to begin extension work out in the state.

After nine years as Librarian of the Council Bluffs Public Library and an active career in ILA, Germaine Krettek left Iowa in the fall of 1958 to become Director of the ALA Washington Office, remaining until her return to Council Bluffs after retiring in 1972.



Germaine Krettek, President 1952

The first individual dues increase in the sixty-nine year history of ILA was approved at the 1958 conference in Mason City. The original \$1.00 annual fee was increased to:

Salary to \$2,999 . . . . .	\$2.00
3,000 to 4,999 . . . . .	3.00
5,000 to 6,999 . . . . .	5.00
7,000 and over . . . . .	7.00
Trustees and friends . . . . .	2.00

Institutional memberships were also increased on a graduated scale based on library revenue.

In his keynote address, former Iowan and distinguished foreign correspondent William L. Shirer commented on a disturbing consequence of the Cold War:

For over one hundred and fifty years our American policies or our American ways of life were based on a tremendous assumption, and nowhere was that assumption more widely assumed than by the people of Iowa, that our wide oceans made us invulnerable to attack from abroad. Tonight, every single one of us in this pleasant hall, know perfectly well that that assumption is gone. It's dead; because you know that we are now vulnerable to attack; and we know from where and how.

The 1958 district meetings posed a "Challenge to Iowa -- A Challenge to Iowa's Libraries," featuring speakers from the Iowa State College Extension staff. Attempting to explain the declining population and increasing urbanization of Iowa:

Our economists pointed out that mechanization of the farm enables fewer men to cultivate the same amount of acreage; small farms become part of large farms, and the unemployed go to the cities for work; and if there are not enough jobs in the industrial cities, people will leave Iowa to seek employment elsewhere.

At the annual conference in Mason City, Mari Sandoz, author of *Old Jules* and other tales of the West, noted that "Librarians are the caretakers of material about the past history of Iowa," and encouraged preservation of local historical materials. Following her address, President Donald O. Rod, of Iowa State Teachers College in Cedar Falls, presented to retired Mason

City Librarian Lydia M. Barrette a life membership and a bound citation "in gratitude for her devoted and imaginative leadership and counsel in the work of the Iowa Library Association."

Author Vance Packard returned to the subject of his best-selling book, *The Status Seekers*, in his remarks at the 1959 conference in Des Moines, warning that:

We should start taking a look at the presently developing suburbias with the same kind of people clustering together -- the togetherness which is an apartness.

The Director of ALA's Library Technology Project, Frazer G. Poole, celebrated the recent development of a corrosion-proof paper clip and called for design of a better newspaper stick. He noted that various obstacles had prevented widespread use of emerging automation technologies in libraries. Dealing with more futuristic technology was Air Force Major General Stanley T. Wray, who began his address on space travel by announcing that "we stand on the threshold of what could well be man's greatest achievement -- the conquering of space by manned vehicles."

## Chapter 8 Op, Pop, and Co-Op: 1960-1969

Ernestine Grafton began using LSA funding for library extension services soon after the program began, establishing field offices of the Iowa State Traveling Library in Cedar Falls, Mason City, Jefferson and Cherokee. Library cooperatives for book buying and professional advice had evolved at each location except Cherokee, and Grafton called on state legislators to fully match LSA funds so that field offices could be established in the Southeast, Southwest and East Central areas of the state as well.

The 1960 conference was a joint meeting with the Nebraska Library Association in Lincoln. Although chartered buses from Davenport and Mason City were cancelled due to low registration, the ILA-sponsored bus from Waterloo was a success with reports that Bus-master Donald O. Rod of Iowa State Teachers College "might prove to be competition for even Milton Berle" as a master of ceremonies. During humorist Richard Armour's banquet address, President Dale M. Bentz, of the University of Iowa, noticed many of his colleagues slipping away in order to catch the train back to Iowa City to see the Hawkeyes beat Purdue in the Homecoming game the next day.

On March 16, 1961, the first Iowa Citizens' Committee for National Library Week (NLW) met in Iowa City with poet Paul Engle as chair. The Committee adopted as goals: 1) the development of school library programs, including appointment of a state school library advisor, 2) establishment of a graduate library school at the University of Iowa, and 3) an adequate budget for extension of public library service.

Encouraging the last item, Ernestine Grafton had reported that "of the 158 libraries found in towns with a population less than 1,000, 156 are open less than 10 hours per week" and that more than 900,000 Iowans still had no library service. Later in the year, President James C. Marvin, of the Cedar Rapids Public Library, appointed Coe College Librarian Dr. Warren Tracy to head an ILA committee to study the library school issue.

Grant D. Hanson, of the Iowa State University Library, began 1962 in the dual roles of ILA Vice-President/President-Elect and National Library Week Director for Iowa. The NLW Citizens' Committee included First Lady of Iowa Mrs. Norman Erbe, State Representative Ray Cunningham, and representatives of the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation, the American Association of University Women, the Iowa PTA, Federated Women's Clubs of Iowa, and the *Des Moines Register*, as well as librarians. It recommended appointment of a School

Library Supervisor in the Department of Public Instruction, matching funds for LSA to permit further library extension, and a graduate library school at the University of Iowa.

Governor Norman Erbe welcomed attendees at the 1962 District 8 meeting in Des Moines, the first of the meetings which all voted to reduce the number of district meetings from nine to six. At the District 6 meeting in Tipton, a program on "The Pros and Cons of Paperbacks in the Library" was followed by a demonstration of using paperbacks for adult book discussion groups by the Contemporary Discussion group from the Bettendorf Public Library.

Tragically, soon after he had coordinated these successful meetings, Hanson died in North Carolina of a sudden illness on his return from the ALA conference in Miami Beach. The Nominating Committee named University of Iowa Professor Louane Newsome to be Vice-President/President-Elect.

The theme of the 1962 conference was "Iowa's Libraries - And the Freedom To Read." John de J. Pember-ton, Jr., Executive Director of the American Civil Liberties Union, reviewed the legal history of obscenity in U.S. courts, including the Supreme Court's 1957 Roth decision, while Dorothy M. Broderick, Children's Consultant at the New York State Library, asked "Freedom For Who To Read What?" Arguing that the censor's 'average man' doesn't exist, Broderick continued:

Even if this average man does exist, does he resemble the picture the censor paints of him? According to this portrait, we are all on the verge of total sexual depravity, needing only Henry Miller as our guide to the final downfall. We are all potential willing victims to the Communist conspiracy; we are all about to hit the road and leave family, job and loved ones behind in exchange for a life of narcotic injections and alcoholic binges. Honestly, what kind of nonsense is this?

Less than a month after James Meredith's appearance on the campus of the University of Mississippi as its first black student provoked riots, Iowa's Judge Luther T. Glanton, Jr. spoke at the conference of his recent goodwill tour of Africa and Southeast Asia. He said he had reported that Americans were working quickly to eliminate racial discrimination and that:



*Oivind M. Hovde, President 1955*

organizations such as yours were shouldering their full responsibilities in telling the world through reading, mass communication and traveling that an individual should be judged by what he is morally, spiritually, intellectually and individually and not from the color of his skin nor the texture of his hair.

ILA was indeed shouldering its responsibilities. In his remarks at each of the 1963 district meetings, Vice-President Ray Smith, of the Mason City Public Library, noted with pride that Iowa and Idaho had been the only states to present resolutions at the ALA conference in Miami Beach calling upon the national organization to back up its desegregation policies with action.

Smith was also 1963 Iowa Chair of National Library Week. Honorary Chair Meredith Willson, author of *The Music Man* and creator of Marian the Librarian, urged libraries to use his slogan: "The Public Library in any community is the Fountainhead of the culture that has and is to be."

The minutes of the Executive Board meeting of November 22 record that "the meeting was adjourned at about 1:30, soon after the receipt of the tragic news of the wounding of President Kennedy in Dallas."

The speakers for the 1964 district meetings travelled in unprecedented style as Governor Harold E. Hughes placed his airplane and pilot at their disposal. His generosity may have resulted from ILA's donation of a small library for the Governor's residence at 2900 Grand Avenue. Responding to a report that the residence had no useful books, the Executive Board had supplied reference works including a dictionary and atlas, Commager's *Documents of American History*, and de Tocqueville's *Democracy in America*; the State

Traveling Library provided a collection of current titles to be updated upon request.

One of the 1961 National Library Week Committee recommendations was realized with the appointment of Des Moines school librarian Betty Jo Buckingham as State School Library Consultant. She was introduced at the 1964 conference business meeting which also voted to support establishment of a graduate library school at the University of Iowa, another of the 1961 proposals.

In his column in the January 1965 issue of *The Catalyst*, President Oswald H. Joerg, of the Davenport Public Library, warned:

Although librarians will increasingly have to become information specialists capable of understanding and using machines, the wise librarian will not become hypnotized by the halo around the machine, nor the siren song with lyrics phrased in the esoteric language of the computer.

Joerg offered a series of recommendations to ILA in his September column, including: 1) review and revision of Iowa's library laws, 2) a Governor's Conference on Libraries, 3) research on public library finance, 4) promotion of libraries in the business and professional communities, and 5) appointment of a paid executive secretary for ILA.

At the 1965 conference in Des Moines, ex-officio Executive Board member Ernestine Grafton proposed putting before the membership amendments to appoint, rather than elect, a secretary-treasurer; to eliminate the ex-officio Board membership for the Director of the State Traveling Library; and to replace these two

members with three members to be elected at large. The amendments were approved in a subsequent vote and took effect at the 1966 conference.

The Children's and Young Person's Section sponsored author Madeline L'Engle at the 1965 conference. She concluded her address by asking "What can we tell a child that will still be with him when everything else is gone? The truth!" An earlier program was a panel discussion on public library buildings followed by a visit to the new West Side Branch of the Public Library of Des Moines on Franklin Avenue.

In a May 1966 column in *The Catalyst*, President C. King Batschelet, a trustee of the Guthrie Center Public Library, declared:

The most progress in the library field in the state of Iowa over the past several years has been in the development of cooperative systems and in the extension of free public library service to the rural areas by county or township appropriations which are used to contract with existing libraries for such service. Each of these is largely the result of the federal Library Services Act and the able assistance of [the Iowa State Traveling Library.]

Also in May, the first ILA scholarship, in the amount of \$1,000, was awarded to Carolyn Kacena of Cedar Rapids. After receiving her bachelor's degree from the State College of Iowa in Cedar Falls, she used the scholarship at the Western Reserve University Library School. She wrote an informative thank-you letter published in the May 1967 issue of *The Catalyst*, reporting that she had accepted a position as a cataloger at the John Deere & Company Library in Moline, Illinois.

A goal pursued by the Iowa library community since the beginning of the decade was realized when University of Minnesota Library School Professor Frederick Wezeman was appointed on June 15 to plan and establish a graduate library school at the University of Iowa. Wezeman was well-known in Iowa, having spoken at the 1956 and 1962 conferences. He had also conducted surveys for the public libraries of Cedar Rapids, Des Moines, Sioux City and Spencer.

The 1966 conference theme was "Op, Pop, and Co-Op," comparing the trend toward library cooperation to the "strange modern" cultural phenomena of Op art and Pop music. According to *The Catalyst*:

Our 1966 conference seeks to emphasize the "strange modern" in the



Jack Tillson, Executive Secretary 1966-1971

library world and to suggest that by comparison that various forms of cooperation (though often difficult to understand and/or appreciate and perhaps even offensive to many of us and our tradition-bound concepts) are the primary solution to the problem of making all of our libraries properly functional in this era of increased output of knowledge and demand for it.

The appointment of Jack Tillson to the newly-established post of Executive Secretary-Treasurer was announced at the business meeting of this conference. Tillson, Director of the Boone Junior College Library, became the first employee of ILA after having been elected to the position of Treasurer for 14 consecutive years.

Throughout 1967, President Lee Sutton, of Parsons College in Fairfield, led the fight against an effort to enact a tighter state obscenity law. Influenced by the National Citizens for Decent Literature, censorship advocates succeeded in introducing House File 273. The bill was defeated after a strenuous lobbying effort and Sutton later commented:

I am proud of the activities of the association during this last year when we were faced with a serious threat of irrational censorship. This is a difficult area, but we handled it with firmness. People wrote letters and went out of their way to see their legislators.

He concluded that "I rather feel that those bills would not have been stopped if the legislature had not realized that they would have to fight the librarians of the state."



*Thomas L. Carney, President 1974, and  
Louane Newsome, President 1963*

In September the second ILA scholarship was awarded to Thomas L. Carney, one of the first students in the recently-established School of Library Science at the University of Iowa. Carney had completed his undergraduate work at Iowa while working part-time on the bookmobile of the Cedar Rapids Public Library. He became Director at Cedar Rapids in 1970 and served as President of ILA in 1974.

President Andrew M. Hansen, instructor at the School of Library Science in Iowa City, proposed an ambitious legislative agenda at the beginning of 1968. Among his suggestions were:

equalization of permissible tax levies between cities and counties; provision for a better distribution of Iowa public documents; provision for unified government of regional libraries; changing the name of the Iowa State Traveling Library; more specific delineation of the responsibilities of the library board, the librarian, and the local governing body; and standardizing the size of library boards.

Also announced at the beginning of the year was an additional \$1,000 ILA scholarship for library school students and appointment of a committee to prepare an organization manual for ILA officers.

A comprehensive review of the development of a state-wide system of library cooperatives, coordinated by the Iowa State Traveling Library and funded through LSA and its successor, the Library Services and Construction Act (LSCA), appeared in the March 1968 issue of *The Catalyst*. The ten cooperatives, dates of establishment, headquarters libraries and initial staffs were:

Eastern Area Library Coop Program (1957)  
Cedar Falls Public Library  
Leona Funk, Consultant  
Beverly Lind, Consultant

North Iowa Library Extension (1958)  
Mason City Public Library  
Ann McKinley, Consultant  
Susan Vaughn, Consultant

Raccoon Area Library Coop Service Program (1958)  
Jefferson Public Library  
Leona Lacock, Administrator  
Edythe O. Cawthorne, Consultant

War Eagle Coop Service Program (1963)  
Sheldon Public Library  
Bruce Tanner, Consultant

Keosippi Library Development (1965)  
Keokuk Public Library  
Shirley Dick, Administrator  
Doris Foley, Consultant

Seven Rivers Library System (1965)  
Iowa City Public Library  
Sallie Helm, Administrator  
Nelle Neafie, Consultant

Southwest Area Iowa Library Service (1966)  
Shenandoah Public Library  
Edythe O. Cawthorne, Consultant

Prairie Hills Library System (1966)  
Ottumwa Public Library  
Wilfred L. West, Consultant

Siouxland Area Field Office (1966)  
Sioux City Public Library  
Renwick Garypie, Administrator

Des Moines Metropolitan Area (1967)  
Public Library of Des Moines  
Dan A. Williams, Administrator  
Maurice Travillian, Consultant

The headquarter libraries served as field offices of the Iowa State Traveling Library and provided:

centralized ordering; cataloging; weeding; in-service training and workshops on book selection, reference books, children's literature, etc.; and professional advice to boards and librarians on any phase of good library service.

The Keosippi Library Development was part of the first interstate library service program in the United States, working in cooperation with the Great River Library System, headquartered in Quincy, Illinois, and also providing contract services to the Cumberland Trail and Kaskaskia Library Systems in Illinois. Iowa City Public Library was also serving as headquarters for a pilot project for telephone access to reference and specialized collections.

Vice-President Ethel L. Beeler, of the Public Library of Des Moines, shared her thoughts upon concluding the 1969 district meetings:

As I interpret the audience reaction, persons attending District Meetings appreciate hearing about the less theoretical, more practical aspects of library work. It seems apparent, too, that there is value in having something directed to persons both at the Librarians' desks and at the Board tables.

Upon assuming the presidency at the 1969 conference in Davenport, Beeler reported noticing "an intense seriousness of purpose which seemed almost totally to have replaced the casual exchanges" of previous conferences. However, as ILA considered the "Challenge of the Seventies," the conference theme, relief was provided by both humorist Richard Armour and *Des Moines Register* cartoonist Frank Miller.



*Elaine G. Estes, President 1978, with Ernest Hertzberg at 1971 Iowa Governor's Conference on Libraries*

## Chapter 9 The Iowa Regional Library System: 1970-1979

The Seventies opened with a serious challenge, indeed, as President Nixon's veto of an appropriation to the Department of Health, Education and Welfare cut Iowa's LSCA funding by \$285,000. The Iowa State Traveling Library was forced to take drastic steps, terminating forty-five staff members across the state and reorganizing the ten cooperatives into seven.

Southwest Area Iowa Library Service was absorbed entirely by the Prairie Hills Library System, while the War Eagle Coop Service Program merged its reference and consulting services with the Siouxland Area Field Office as did the Raccoon Area Library Coop Service Program with the Des Moines Metropolitan Area.

The possibility of a Governor's conference on libraries emerged during discussions at the 1970 district meetings, and the idea was proposed to Governor Robert D. Ray. Plans for a Governor's conference to be held the following year were announced at the annual conference in Cedar Rapids.

Ronald Stump, of the Iowa State Traveling Library, spoke briefly at the conference on I-LITE, a teletype exchange established in October 1969, linking the cooperative systems in an interlibrary loan network. Iowa author Jeannette Eyerly defined the 'generation gap' as "the gap between how much the parent had forgotten of his own youth and how much the youngster hadn't learned" during her general session sponsored by the Children's and Young Person's Section.

After 18 years as ILA Treasurer, and four years as Executive Secretary, Jack Tillson submitted his resignation at the beginning of 1971. Noting ILA's debt to both Tillson and long-time editor of *The Catalyst* Lois M. Hunt, President Sr. Marita Bartholome proposed merging their responsibilities in a single half-time position. The Executive Board approved the plan, naming the new post Executive Assistant to the President. Former *Des Moines Register* staffer Don H. Allen and Mildred K. Allen, formerly with the Public Library of Des Moines, were appointed to share the position.

The first Iowa Governor's Conference on Libraries was held on April 30 and May 1, 1971, in Des Moines. With a theme of "Libraries Without Walls," the conference replaced the ILA district meetings and was intended to provide recommendations to a newly-established State Library Advisory Council. Governor Ray welcomed the nearly 300 attendees, proclaiming:

Our great commitment for the rest of

this century must be to knock down the wall of separation, distrust and, yes, hostility which has been built, bit-by-bit, until it threatens to divide us into adversary groups which will no longer be able to communicate with one another.

Edmund Arnold, director of the Cornell College Library and leader of one of the 13 discussion groups, proposed that: "No person in any community should be deprived of library services."

ILA Legislative Committee Chair Roderick MacDonald, of the Public Library of Des Moines, presented a draft bill at the conference, calling for a five-member state library board, appointed by the Governor, which would: 1) appoint a director for the state library agency, 2) determine regions for public library service, 3) set policies, rules and standards, 4) carry out research and planning for public library services, 5) coordinate and cooperate with other agencies, and 6) administer federal and state funds for state and regional services.

Regional systems would have elected boards which would: 1) appoint a director, 2) arrange for quarters, 3) contract with other agencies to provide or receive services, 4) set and determine regional policies within standards as recommended by the state library agency, 5) coordinate and cooperate with other agencies, and 6) adopt services on a wider than regional basis if desired. Regional directors would: 1) manage the regional system with the advice of the board, 2) hire a staff, and 3) survey the needs of the region and devise flexible programs and services to meet those needs. At the 1971 annual conference in Des Moines, Charles Stinard, Jr., Ottumwa banker and chair of the Governor's Advisory Council, announced that the Council would likely recommend:

A five-member advisory commission to hire a state library director, placing the Law Library under jurisdiction of the Iowa Supreme Court, merger of the Medical libraries of Des Moines and the University of Iowa, six to eight regional library systems, an appropriation of 90 cents per capita from the state general funds for library support (equal to about \$2,500,000) and designation of the three state university and Drake University libraries as resource centers to supplement regional libraries.

Conference attendees adopted a resolution, proposed by Sioux City Public Library Director Ronald Dubberly, calling for legislation that would protect the confidentiality of the names of library borrowers and the items they borrowed or information they sought.

The Trustees Section heard Jack Short, a member of the Connecticut Advisory Committee on Libraries report: "I consider many library boards in America today nothing but hot beds of apathy. There is a lack of communication between them and librarians."

On October 18, the Iowa State Executive Council rejected a \$6 resubscription claim for the underground newspaper the *Berkeley Barb*, submitted by the Iowa State Traveling Library. Citing a recent headline which read "Marx (the One We All Love) Says Nixon's Assassination is the Country's Only Hope," State Auditor Lloyd Smith made the motion to refuse payment, provoking fears of censorship in the Iowa library community.

ILA President Marjorie Humby, Librarian of the Waverly Public Library declared:

ILA deems this action to be a dangerous precedent to destroy free access to all information. While ILA does not necessarily endorse the editorial policy of the *Berkeley Barb* it feels that libraries have the responsibility to make available this piece of social commentary that represents contemporary life styles.

The Executive Council later approved purchase of a tape recording of the rock musical *Hair*, after Humby and Iowa State Traveling Library Acting Director J. Maurice Travillian again expressed concern.

Public hearings on the proposed long-range plan for development of Iowa library services prepared by the Governor's Advisory Council were held in six cities across the state early in March, 1972. The proposal maintained the five-member Library Commission, appointed by the Governor, as discussed earlier, but charged the Commission with responsibility for the Iowa State Traveling Library, the Department of History and Archives, the Library of the Iowa State Historical Society, the State Medical Library, and the State Law Library. Seven regional library systems, corresponding to the existing cooperatives, would cooperate with college and university libraries to provide local libraries with access to additional resources.

Discussion at the hearings included questions as to whether the \$2,500,000 annual price tag for the re-

gional systems was too high or too low. Advisory Council member Thomas L. Carney, Director of the Cedar Rapids Public Library, said that the 90 cents per capita base for the regional appropriation was a "realistic" figure politically. In debate on the method for selection of regional boards, the most often expressed position was that elected boards would be viewed more favorably by legislators.

Susanna Alexander, Associate State Librarian of Missouri, spoke at each of the 1972 district meetings. She noted that the ILA Legislative Committee recommended regional advisory boards that would be appointed rather than elected. She warned against presenting to the legislature a plan without widespread support: "Get together on a goal and don't be handicapped by disagreement over structure."

Early in the summer, J. Maurice Travillian resigned as Acting Director of the Iowa State Traveling Library, giving as a reason his \$11,500 salary, lowest of any state in the nation. Two weeks later, State Auditor Lloyd Smith released a report critical of record keeping at the Library.

Board Chair Tom Muller speculated that the controversies over the *Berkeley Barb* subscription and tape recording of *Hair*, in which Smith had been involved, had been factors leading to the audit. In a front-page story in *The Catalyst*, ILA President Humby told of harassment of Iowa State Traveling Library employees by auditors, asking: "How can they work efficiently with Big Brother peering over their shoulders. I cannot help but think of the Joe McCarthy era."

At the 1972 annual conference in Waterloo, members approved a resolution directing the Legislative Committee to submit its regional library proposal to the next session of the General Assembly. Looking back on a tumultuous term, retiring President Humby told the conference: "I am glad to forget the whole rotten year."

As the 1973 legislative session got underway, ILA retained Des Moines attorney Edward H. Jones as its first lobbyist. Jones was charged with drafting a regional library bill and working for its passage. Legislative Committee Chair Ronald Dubberly summarized the objectives of the proposal as it had been approved in Waterloo as:

1. To make every Iowan eligible for a library card that will entitle him to the full services of every public library in the state. Currently, libraries are a hodgepodge of local service areas and contractual agreements so that many people are denied access to any service and, still more...to the

library that is most convenient for them to use.

2. To insure that regional library service is built around presently existing library collections and services and to prevent the expensive and needless duplication of these services by a regional library agency. To this end specific libraries have been named in each region to provide core collections and essential services for the regional libraries (Cedar Rapids, Council Bluffs, Davenport, Des Moines, NILE, Inc., at Mason City, Sioux City and Waterloo).

3. To provide technical assistance in cataloging and processing books and other library materials. These things are done more cheaply in quantity. Most smaller libraries do not have personnel trained in the work. Regional libraries could provide this service through existing processing centers or on their own.

4. To provide expanded reference and information services which are becoming one of the most important and heavily used services provided by public libraries.

5. To provide interlibrary loan service because it is impossible for any one library regardless of size to purchase and house all of the library materials needed.

6. To provide librarians and trustees with help in the annual budgeting job.

7. To provide through regional staff library assistance the principles of librarianship and advice on keeping collections current with contents of other collections in the region in mind.

8. To produce lists of recommended books and subject bibliographies; to promote library use and reading on a regional level through sharing of materials and personnel; to help local libraries by providing ideas and know-how in producing public programs, ranging from adult education to antique identification days.

9. To provide materials and technical assistance for on-the-job training of new staff members in public libraries.

In what was described by *The Catalyst* as his 'gloss' on the proposal, Dubberly also explained that it was intended that a regional library system would provide direct library services to all residents of the region for a four-year period, including those living in areas or communities paying no taxes for library service.

As introduced by Senator E. Kevin Kelly, of Sioux City, Senate File 271 retained virtually all of the features described by Dubberly and included an appropriation of \$595,000. After the Senate passed the bill 47 to 0, the House amended it, decreasing the appropriation to a maximum of \$395,000, before passing it by a 92 to 2 vote. The Senate passed the amended bill 40 to 0, sending it to Governor Ray, whose signature created the Iowa Regional Library System.

A bill to reorganize the Iowa State Traveling Library, Senate File 196, also passed and was signed into law, after several amendments were added as a result of ILA lobbying. The Intellectual Freedom Committee opposed the original bill's provisions for the governor to directly appoint the state librarian and for members of the State Library Commission to serve at the governor's pleasure.

Arguing that these measures would politicize the Iowa State Library to be created, the committee was successful in pushing for authority for the Commission to appoint the State Librarian and for Commission members to serve fixed terms. As passed, the law provided for a Commission composed of the Supreme Court Administrator and four other members to be appointed by the governor, including a member of the medical profession. The Commission was to appoint the State Librarian and oversee a Department of Libraries, including the merged Iowa State Traveling Library, and the State Law and Medical Libraries.

At the 1973 conference in Cedar Rapids, the Iowa Library Trustees Association (ILTA) proposed that the six ILA district boundaries be redrawn to correspond to the seven new Regional System boundaries. The Executive Board approved the change at a meeting on November 29.

The new Regional System was up and running by the beginning of 1974. The seven systems, headquarters and administrators were:

Central Regional Library System  
Des Moines  
Marjorie Humby, former librarian of Waverly Public  
Library

East Central Regional Library System  
Cedar Rapids  
Nelle Neafie, former administrator of the Seven  
Rivers Library Cooperative

North Central Regional Library System  
Mason City  
Ann Swanson, former administrator of North Iowa  
Library Extension

Northeastern Regional Library System  
Waterloo  
Beverly Lind, former administrator of the Eastern Iowa  
Cooperative

Northwest Regional Library System  
Sioux City  
Mary Francis Harvey, former director of network  
services at Nebraska Library Commission

Southeastern Region  
Davenport  
Marie Lindquist, former director of the Bettendorf  
Public Library

Southwestern Regional Library System  
Missouri Valley  
Lucile Walensky, former librarian of Yankton, South  
Dakota, Public Library

ILA also was getting an office set up. Executive Assistants Don and Mildred Allen began working out of the Association's first permanent quarters in Room 401 of the Securities Building at 416 Seventh Street in Des Moines early in the year.

The Legislative Committee geared up to seek a 143 percent increase in the Regional appropriation for 1975 but was disappointed with the Governor's recommendation of \$585,065, well below the requested \$960,041. After heavy lobbying, the final appropriation was for \$762,588, representing a 93 percent increase over 1974, and an increase from 17 cents to 26.9 cents per capita. *The Catalyst* noted that:

Library association and Regional officials, however, said that the 26.9 cents isn't as munificent as it might appear because the money is to cover an entire 12 months. Most of the seven regions didn't get organized, hire administrators and establish headquarters

until nearly three months of fiscal 1973 had elapsed.

Another legislative victory was achieved when House File 1102, a new obscenity bill, was amended to exempt libraries from prosecution and to require uniform application of the state law, preventing local governments from adopting and enforcing different ordinances.

The Government Documents Section laid the groundwork for future legislative action at the 1974 conference in Des Moines. Its proposal to seek a law establishing a State Publications Distribution Center was approved at the business meeting.

At the Children and Young People's Section's breakfast, former Des Moines librarian Faith Sherman criticized the sexism she found in most children's literature: "The image of the female ranges from dull to invisible. In many children's books, the males do and the females are. Boys express themselves, girls weep." She encouraged children's librarians to build balanced collections by seeking out non-biased titles coming out from newer publishers.

In response to complaints relating to the Ames Public Library, Iowa Civil Liberties Union (ICLU) Executive Director Claudia Morrissey asked ILA to adopt a position against circulation practices, such as writing names on checkout cards, which reveal borrowers' identities. At an Executive Board meeting on February 14, 1975, Cedar Rapids Public Library Director Thomas L. Carney indicated agreement with the ICLU, but pointed out that many small libraries would be unable to afford to change over to other types of circulation systems. Carol Spaziani reported on the policy adopted by the Iowa City Public Library in 1970, to release the name of a borrower of a specific item only when ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction.

President Carl F. Orgren, of the School of Library Science at the University of Iowa, introduced a statement in the May issue of *The Catalyst* recommending use of circulation systems which protect borrowers' identities and encouraging resistance to governmental investigations into their reading habits.

Orgren also attended a reception for new members of Congress, held in Washington, D.C. on April 15, during National Library Week. He presented materials from State Librarian Barry Porter and the regional library administrators to staff members in each of Iowa's eight congressional offices, encouraging support of appropriations for an already-authorized White House Conference on libraries and for other library-related programs. He also spoke individually with Representatives Charles Grassley and Tom Harkin and with Sena-

tor John Culver. Reviewing the pros and cons of the experience in *The Catalyst*, Orgren recommended continued ILA participation in this event, then planned to be held every other year.

In its report on the 1975 session, the Legislative Committee was particularly self-critical over its unsuccessful efforts to increase regional library funding and to pass a bill for a state documents depository system. Noting that "our fine plans to expand a network of citizens to further library programs by influencing legislators in their home areas was a very dismal failure," the report called for dramatic improvement in ILA's lobbying performance.

At the annual conference in Sioux City, the Executive Board approved filing an "amicus curiae" petition on behalf of Des Moines adult book store owner Jerry Smith, in an appeal of his conviction on charges of sending obscene materials through the mail. Area 7 Media Director Beverly Hinders Trost, Chair of the Intellectual Freedom Committee, explained to the Board that librarians would be vulnerable to conviction if the Smith decision stood because federal officials could determine that items that they mailed were obscene even if state courts had not. In spite of support from ILA and ALA, the appeal was lost when the U.S. Supreme Court upheld Smith's conviction in 1977.

Grand View College Librarian Barbara Bum campaigned against sexism in *The Catalyst* as 1976 began. Criticizing captions of photos of the recent annual conference, she directed: "Leave the sexist comments for the commercial press; it's bad enough there, but inexcusable in a professional newsletter." In the first "ILA Members Forum" column in the March issue of *The Catalyst*, she argued against "insulting" racist and sexist subject headings.

The Board of Directors of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) approved the petition of ILA's College and University Librarian Section to become an ACRL Chapter affiliate for Iowa at the 1976 ALA Mid-winter meeting.

In July, a group of Iowa college libraries contracted with the Bibliographical Center for Research (BCR) for access to the Ohio College Library Center (OCLC) database. By September, the State Library announced in the *Catalyst* that it had contracted with BCR for membership for all Iowa libraries.

The theme of the 1976 annual conference in Waterloo was "Iowans Like Action" and the accent was on activism. Civil rights activist Dick Gregory reminded his audience "that in order to improve the quality of American life, they would have to provide information and

services to Americans and that they could not allow any restraints to be put on that information."

Dan Bakke of the Public Library of Des Moines, Chair of the Service to the Non-user Committee, reported that a *H.E.L.P.* handbook offering almost 200 'Hints and Examples for Library Programs' had been published and distributed by the committee. For the first time, librarians from Iowa's state institutions met at an ILA conference, learning about non-print media at a luncheon meeting.

The 1977 district meetings focused on legal issues and featured reports from State Treasurer Maurice E. Baringer on the Iowa Public Employee Retirement System and from Thomas Mann, Jr., Executive Director of the Iowa Civil Rights Commission, on affirmative action guidelines.

Also held in April was a retreat at Springbrook State Park to begin work on developing standards for public libraries. The 41 representatives of all sizes of public libraries, regional libraries, the State Library, and the library schools broke into committees to consider standards for collections, facilities, finance, personnel, and service and programs. The process eventually resulted in *Minimum Guidelines for Iowa Public Libraries*, which were endorsed at the business meeting at the annual conference in Cedar Rapids after considerable discussion. An ad hoc committee was appointed to further develop the guidelines.

Intellectual Freedom Committee Chair John M. Houlahan, Administrator of the Northwest Regional Library, reported at the conference on the publication of a *Handbook on Intellectual Freedom*, funded by a grant from the Kinney-Lindstrom Foundation. The Committee's goal for the coming year was to seek legislation protecting the confidentiality of library records.

The Legislative Committee made passage of a state documents depository system bill its top priority, following three years of failure to bring similar bills to the floor. During the 1978 session, House File 468 passed in the Senate 39 to 0, in the House 78 to 1, and was signed by Governor Ray.

Early in the year, Gayle Burdick, Executive Assistant since 1976, resigned to take a public relations position at Grinnell College. Shirley Kromann replaced her, serving only for a few months out of a new office at 817 Insurance Exchange Building in Des Moines. Naomi Stovall moved to the Executive Assistant post from a similar position with the Iowa Osteopathic Society, beginning on October 16, two days before the 1978 annual conference in Urbandale.



*Executive Assistants Naomi Stovall and Shirley Kromann, 1978*

The first Baker & Taylor Grassroots Grants awards, offered through the Junior Members Round Table to support attendance at the conference, were presented to two students at the School of Library Science at the University of Iowa, Randa L. Hansen and Nicola K. Stanke. Stanke would later become Administrator of the East Central Regional Library System and Director of the Carnegie-Stout Public Library in Dubuque and serve ILA as president in 1990.

The 1978 conference featured a lengthy debate at the business meeting regarding the continuing development of the *Minimum Guidelines for Iowa Public Libraries*. Amendments to the ad hoc committee's report referred the document back to the Committee for further work and plans were made for discussion of a preliminary report at the 1979 district meetings.

Waverly Public Library Director Pat Coffie was ILA's representative on the steering committee for the Iowa Governor's Pre-White House Conference on Library and Information Services held in Des Moines on March 27-29, 1979. The 145 delegates viewed multi-media presentations titled *Iowa: A Place to Grow* and *The Library: A Place to Grow* and listened to speakers including Governor Ray; ALA President Russell Shank; and Jean Ann South, of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Services.

Four working groups developed draft resolutions, of which forty-four were ultimately adopted, concerning networking, education, services, and funding. Nine delegates were elected to attend the national White House Conference on Libraries and Information Services to be held in Washington, D.C. in November.

As planned, the 1979 district meetings included further discussion of the *Minimum Guidelines for Iowa Public Libraries*. The Minimum Guidelines Committee was unexpectedly inactive during the summer, but new

Chair Dan Zack, Burlington Public Library director, oversaw preparation of a new schedule at the annual conference in Waterloo. Plans were made for hearings to be held at ILA meetings over the coming eighteen months, with the final document to be approved at the 1981 conference.

The theme of the 1979 conference, an historic joint conference with the Iowa Educational Media Association, was "Daring to Share Ideas-Daring Ideas to Share." Appropriately, many of the programs promoted cooperation. Robert Rohlf, director of the Hennepin County Library in Minnesota, declared that "cooperation means better service to library users at lower costs," but identified fear and turf protection as common obstacles to its attainment. The Health Sciences Section sponsored Lionelle Elsesser, of the V.A. Medical Center in Minneapolis, who spoke on the topic: "No Library Is an Island-Health Information Networking."

In a letter to the editor in the May *Catalyst*, Barbara Burn had called for ILA to join the Iowa ERA (Equal Rights Act) Coalition, which sought a constitutional guarantee of equal rights for women. Her motion before the membership at the business meeting passed and a contribution of up to \$50 was authorized.

Following the conference on October 29, a team of ILA and IEMA members met at the State Library to begin planning cooperative media services throughout the state. Team members hoped to build on training they had received at the National Library Media Institute in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania in late September.



*1979 White House Conference delegates and alternates left to right: Beverly Lind, Edward H. Healey, Mary Wenthe, Thomas L. Carney, Lorna J. Hansen, William Burns, Gladys Benz, Earl Whaley, Phyllis Priest, Daniel J. Winegarden, Marie Wallenga, and State Senator Joseph E. Brown. Not pictured is Rosemary Olds.*

## Chapter 10 Open Access: 1980-1989

In a 1980 *Catalyst* "Member's Forum" advocating that ILA become more political, Wayne Hanway, Director of the Cattermole Memorial Library at Fort Madison, also recommended "that district meeting program planning must consider the interests of all types of librarians in the district." He went on to suggest joint district meetings with IEMA.

Hanway's comments are representative of a more widespread movement within ILA seeking greater participation in planning and decision-making by the sections representing different types of libraries and library functions. Responding to these concerns, President John M. Houlahan appointed the chair of each of the sections to ILA's first conference planning committee, for the 1980 annual conference in Sioux City.

The membership also was calling for a stronger voice in the Association's affairs. Vice-President Bev Lind organized district meetings around the theme "Plan Ahead" and provided generous blocks of time for member input. The meetings generated fifteen recommendations for ILA's leadership:

1. Keep the library community up-to-date on what is happening in legislation and its effect on libraries.
2. Promote libraries to the general public and funding officials.
3. Provide an avenue for research to be published.
4. Promote interlibrary cooperation.
5. Establish a public libraries section to sponsor district meetings and encourage all sections to have their own spring meetings.
6. Provide meetings on practical topics as well as underlying philosophies of service.
7. Become more involved in planning and preparing membership for problems such as alternatives when budgets are cut, etc.
8. Do more for academic librarians.
9. Sponsor [sic] a clearing house for speakers' bureau.
10. Help educate library trustees.
11. Support statewide interlibrary loan.
12. Support small libraries.
13. Contact all new library personnel and encourage their participation in the Association.

14. Evaluate sections now in existence to see if they best represent the membership.

15. Assist in legislative problems such as distribution of county funds, reciprocal borrowing, statistics for those serving many small areas.

Much of this agenda would be achieved in the following decade.

A legislative victory was achieved with passage of House File 2240, which added library circulation records to those designated as confidential in the *Code of Iowa*. Concerns were expressed, however, about several library-related recommendations contained in the report of the Governor's Economy Committee. The Executive Board directed lobbyist Ellen Adelman to work against the Committee's proposals to establish the Library Commission as the coordinating agency for the Regional Library System and to relocate the medical library to Iowa City. The Committee's recommendations died before ILA action could be taken regarding a plan to move the Historical Library's genealogical program into the State Library.

Among the speakers at the annual conference were Major R. Owens, then a New York State Senator and Professor of Library Science at Columbia University, and Eileen Cooke, Director of ALA's Washington Office. Children's authors and Iowa State University English professors Lee Hadley and Annabelle Irwin, known as Hadley Irwin to their young readers, were sponsored by the Children and Young People's Section.

The Committee on Service to the Non-user sponsored a panel discussion on "Learning Services for Non-English Speaking People in Iowa" which brought attention to the needs of the more than 6500 Indochinese residing in the state and described the innovative programs for its Spanish-speaking patrons offered by the West Liberty Public Library.

Soon after the conference, the ILA office moved one floor to its third location, at 921 Insurance Exchange Building.

President Beverly Lind, Administrator of the Northeastern Iowa Regional Library System, invited Executive Board members and the chairs of all committees and sections to a long range planning retreat at the Springbrook Conservation Education Center near Guthrie Center on March 23-24, 1981. Discussion

focused on goals and objectives for ILA and resulted in the creation of an ad hoc Reorganization Committee.

A draft of "Public Library Service in Iowa: Proposed Guidelines" appeared in the March *Catalyst*. The proposal was discussed at each of the district meetings where "a lively discussion was generated with mixed feelings across the state." The draft defined a public library as "an auditable unit of government with annual operating expenditure of at least \$10,000" and recommended that "contracting with a nearby library may be preferable to establishing an underfunded unit."

The revised document approved at the business meeting at the annual conference in Waterloo limited the financial requirement of the definition to \$10 per capita or more from the local government but retained the recommendation to contract for services.

A pre-conference provided an "Update on IOWANET," covering the draft design of a statewide interlibrary loan network prepared by consultants Joseph Becker, Robert Hayes, and Alphonse Trezza. Among other highlights of the conference were speakers John Berry III, Editor of *Library Journal*, and Sandy Dolnick, President of Friends of Libraries USA, and a reception at the new Waterloo Public Library.

During a busy November, a second Springbrook conference was held for ILA leadership and the Executive Board adopted guidelines for a new Endowment Study Committee. The ILA/IEMA Cooperation Committee was dissolved after its brief foray into cooperative media services, with the intent that it would be replaced by another committee with a broader charge for liaison with other organizations.

Legislative Committee Chair Bob Ward, Administrator of the Central Regional Library, organized ILA's first legislative reception, cosponsored by IEMA and held on February 8, 1982 at the Hotel Savery in Des Moines. Among the more than 300 people attending were eighteen state senators and forty-nine representatives. Much of the conversation focused on how the state should respond to President Ronald Reagan's proposed elimination of the LSCA program.

The district meetings featured Iowa City Public Library Director Lolly Eggers reviewing "The State of the Art of Library Cooperation in Iowa-Contracts, Fee Cards and Reciprocal Borrowing." The final report of the Reorganization Committee was also presented at the district meetings. It proposed an organization with ad hoc and standing committees, forums, and roundtables, and an Executive Board including representatives of public, academic, school, and special libraries.

During the summer, the Executive Board approved a new Committee on Common Concerns to coordinate efforts with other organizations, expanding on the role of the earlier ILA/IEMA Cooperation Committee.

The reorganization plan generated discussion through the summer and early fall. In a "Members Forum" in the September *Catalyst*, Pat Foley, Business Librarian at the University of Iowa, advocated placing the presidents of each of the proposed forums on the Executive Board, rather than maintaining type-of-library representation. She went on to note that:

The District Meetings held every year are admittedly based on public library concerns. Attendance is almost exclusively by public libraries. Since other types of librarians attend their own Spring Meetings (and pay for them), it does not seem fair that their dues should be spent to pay for another conference which they do not attend. I think the District Meetings are an excellent way to contact public library staffs all over the state so I would not advocate abolishing them. My feeling is that the public librarians under the new organization can easily get a petition signed and form their own Forum within ILA. Then they can sponsor and fund the District Meetings. Thus ILA would hold its Annual (Fall) Meeting and the Forums would hold the Spring Meetings.

As a result of such suggestions, the Executive Board revised the reorganization plan before it was submitted to membership at the 1982 annual conference in Des Moines. The revised plan was approved at the business meeting and Elizabeth Martin, Director of the Department of Library Science at the University of Northern Iowa and retiring ILA President, was named to coordinate the reorganization effort.

A pair of faculty members from the University of North Carolina promoted library use of microcomputers at the conference. Dr. Theodore Hines gave "An Introduction to Microcomputers in Libraries," urging his audience to "buy whatever you can now and learn on it," while Rosann Collins focused on technical services applications, demonstrating a special program used to produce catalog cards. Another perspective on library technology was presented by JoAn Segal, of the BCR office in Denver.

Attendance was down at the 1983 legislative reception



Governor Terry E. Branstad, center, visits with Dan Zack and Faye Clow at the ILA display booth in the Capitol rotunda on Legislative Day, February 21, 1984.

at the Embassy Club on February 2, due to an untimely blizzard. Although only thirty legislators were able to visit at the reception, an information booth in the Capitol rotunda took ILA concerns to many others throughout the day.

A debate on the planned reorganization simmered during the summer. In the September *Catalyst*, Jamie Wright Coniglio, of Iowa State University and a member of the original committee on reorganization, asked: "Why has the Board's role and influence been strengthened, while the Forums and Round Tables have been saddled with sundry rules and regulations?" She charged that ILA "may be going through the motions of self-examination" without intending to truly address problems of communication, leadership, and development.

Explaining the Board's rejection of type-of-library requirements for its composition, reorganization coordinator Elizabeth Martin pointed to the difficulty of fielding candidates. She encouraged support of the proposal, summarizing:

Your vote to reorganize ILA will indicate that you want 1) the Executive Board to become a strong advocate on library issues and 2) the members to be able to organize into groups with common interests.

The reorganization plan was put before membership as revised bylaws by Constitution and Bylaws Committee Chair Lorna Truck of the Public Library of Des Moines, at the business meeting during the 1983 conference in Waterloo. The new bylaws were approved and the plan was implemented. During the remainder of the decade, the following forums and roundtables were established under the new organiza-

tional structure:

#### 1983

Adult and Reference Services Forum (dissolved 1989)  
 Children and Young People's Forum  
 Computer Forum  
 Iowa Chapter/Association of College and Research Libraries  
 Iowa Library Trustees Association  
 Government Documents Roundtable  
 Health Sciences Roundtable  
 New Members Roundtable  
 Storytellers Roundtable

#### 1984

Resources and Technical Services Forum

#### 1985

Local History Roundtable  
 Special Libraries Roundtable

#### 1987

Public Library Forum

Membership also approved establishment of the Iowa Library Association Foundation at this meeting.

In his conference presentation on "Automation and Resource Sharing," Michael Gorman, author of *The Concise AACR2*, was also concise regarding his topic, stating that "we must cooperate and share our resources or die." Public Library Association President Nancy M. Bolt spoke on "What the Public Has a Right to: New National Standards for Public Library Service."

Two new publications were distributed at conference programs: the Service to the Non-user Committee handed out a bibliography entitled *Active Age: A Resource Guide For an Active Retirement* and the Chil-

dren and Young People's Section released *Rainbows and Ice Cream: Storytimes About Things Kids Like*, by Carol Elbert, of the Ames Public Library, and Robin Currie, of the Corn Belt Library System in Illinois, with artwork by Rene Lynch, of the Conrad Public Library.

In an "It's Your Turn" column in the November *Catalyst*, Rod Henshaw, of the Iowa State University Library, noted the continuing debate on plans for "a post-I-LITE interlibrary loan system." He proposed:

Whatever hardware is ultimately used must conform to the primary operational imperative of a successful interlibrary loan network: a system of referral based on the known location of a bibliographic item, and in which the major library collections of the state are linked and are accessible to any library user.

He urged that ILA support the development of such a network and concluded that "we must begin to view interlibrary loan not as a burden but as an opportunity."

Automation came to ILA itself at the end of 1983, with installation of an IBM PC with dual disk drive, Epson RX80 printer, and DOS 2.0, Wordstar, and Multiplan software in the office. The equipment was moved soon after, along with everything else, as the ILA office moved one floor to its fourth, and current, location at 823 Insurance Exchange Building.

The Iowa Library Trustees Association sponsored its first Workshop in Library Leadership (WILL) at the Hotel Savery in Des Moines on March 30-31, 1984. Patterned after a 1982 WILL in Minneapolis sponsored by the American Library Trustee Association (ALTA), the workshop featured ALTA President Don Surratt and Past Presidents Alice Ihrig and Nancy Stiegemeyer and drew an attendance of 185.

The theme of the 1984 district meetings, "1984-And Still Free," played off of the title of George Orwell's classic novel of a totalitarian society, *1984*. Attendees could celebrate another ILA victory in the campaign to protect the individual rights of library patrons from the abuses Orwell parodied. On March 12, Governor Terry E. Branstad signed Senate File 442, a bill for which ILA had lobbied, which prohibited law enforcement officials from conducting "fishing expeditions" into library circulation records. The law specified that such records could be released only under a court order "pursuant to an investigation of a particular person or organization suspected of committing a known crime," among other restrictions.

Meeting at the West Des Moines Public Library on May 9, the Executive Board approved a request from Guidelines Committee Chair Julie Huiskamp, Director of the Cresco Public Library, for permission to change the Committee's charge from the original simple revision of the existing document to incorporation of output measures following the model of the Illinois "Avenues to Excellence."

At the business meeting at the 1984 conference in Des Moines, members endorsed a legislative agenda that included an ambitious rewrite of Chapters 303A and 303B of the *Code of Iowa*, referring to the State Library and the Regional Library System. The revisions were contained in *Iowa Libraries: A Time To Grow, 1985-1990*, developed by the Long Range Planning Committee that the State Library Commission had authorized in 1983. The legislative changes were among the actions recommended to achieve Goal I of the plan:

Increase efficiency through cooperation between the State Library, the Iowa Regional Library Systems and state government in order to make the most effective use of resources and funds.

Included in the proposed changes was a mandate for the State Library to establish and administer standards for public libraries. As a result of its endorsement of these changes, Guidelines Committee Chair Huiskamp announced to the membership that ILA's Guidelines Committee would form the nucleus of the State Library's Standards Committee.

The *Catalyst* reported that:

ALA President E. J. Josey's remarks on cooperation between libraries centered on the idea that libraries are not freestanding by type or by finance, and that new relationships are needed which foster new types of service across library lines.

Other speakers included Arch Lustberg, Director of Communications Workshops for the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, on "Communicating with Impact," and Kathleen Balcom, Director of the Downer's Grove, Illinois, Public Library, on "Measures for Management: Practical Applications of 'Output Measures' for Library Managers."

Clinton Public Library Director Bob Seger was impressed enough with conference speaker J. Charles Park, of the University of Wisconsin at Whitewater, that he wrote about his presentation in the November *Cata-*

*lyst.* Calling Parks "one of the most knowledgeable persons I know on the subject of intellectual freedom," Seger summarized his advice as:

1. Know the legislation concerning Intellectual Freedom
2. Renew your commitment to Intellectual Freedom, so if you are confronted, you will be ready.
3. Build a strong base with other organizations.
4. Build your own public relations.

At a meeting at the West Des Moines Public Library on December 5, the Executive Board learned that Tom Simpson, Director of the LeMars Public Library and ILA's representative on the State Library's "Let's Talk About It" Committee, was working on a grant application to the Iowa Humanities Board with Dottie Hiebing, Director of the Office of Library Development at the State Library.

The Board also authorized the Public Relations Committee to solicit designs for a new ILA logo from an art class, setting in motion a process that would generate a good deal of controversy and involve many proposed designers and designs before a logo was approved nearly two years later.

Senate File 250, a bill to reorganize the State and Regional Libraries as suggested in *Iowa Libraries: A Time To Grow, 1985-90*, had already passed in the Senate by the time of the 1985 legislative reception at the Bohemian Club on March 13. It later passed in the House and Governor Branstad signed it into law.

Meeting in the office of Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. on the day of the reception, the Executive Board approved ILA to be the fiscal agent for the "Let's Talk About It" adult book discussion group grant. President Lois Siebersma, Director of the Sioux Center Public Library, appointed an ad hoc committee to implement the project.

The district meetings included programs on computers and electronic mail, the Iowa Literacy Program, the Iowa Newspaper Project being conducted by the State Historical Society, and updates on the certification and standards programs of the State Library. In the midst of planning these meetings, Vice-President/President-Elect David Martin, of the University of Iowa Libraries, proposed that the number of district meetings be reduced from seven to five in future years, to enable them to be completed in a single week. The Executive Board deferred action pending further study.

Throughout the summer, members reviewed the draft

standards, *In Service to Iowa: Public Library Measures of Quality*, which they had received in March in time to discuss at the district meetings. In the July *Catalyst*, President Lois Siebersma urged support of the standards:

Not only will they serve as guides to the every day operation of the library, and the formulating of long-range plans, they will be invaluable in approaching city councils and county supervisors for adequate funding.

The State Library Commission approved the standards at its meeting on August 5, establishing that they would take the effect on January 1, 1986. ILA membership would be asked to endorse the standards at the annual conference.

In an "It's Your Turn" column on school/public library cooperation in the September *Catalyst*, Dottie Hiebing asked:

Wouldn't we increase the possibility for more school/public library cooperation activities at all levels--and also increase communication--if both public library staff and school library/media staff attended the same state association conferences?

Featured speakers at the 1985 conference in Waterloo included Nancy Bolt on policy-making and Will Manley, Director of the Tempe, Arizona, Public Library and columnist for the *Wilson Library Bulletin*. An unusual international flavor was provided by University of Iowa Health Science Librarian David S. Curry's session on "A Librarian Visits Egypt" and Nicky Stanke's slide presentation on "Libraries & Librarianship in the People's Republic of China."

At the business meeting, Kay Runge's motion to endorse *In Service to Iowa: Public Library Measures of Quality* carried. In the following months, ILA and State Librarian Claudya Muller worked out arrangements for continuing the cooperative development of the standards program.

At its meeting on the last day of the conference, the Executive Board approved deactivation of the Committee on Common Concerns.

As the year ended, Governor Branstad released plans to reorganize Iowa's state government and to place ceilings on local government budgets. At its December 4 meeting at the West Des Moines Public Library, the Executive Board directed that a press release be

issued outlining ILA's opposition to the budget ceiling, and that the Legislative Committee "pursue the concept of the most independent department in State Government to provide library services statewide with the least interruption in existing services."

Although the proposed budget ceilings were not considered seriously in the Legislature, they reflected the harsh economic realities of the farm crisis in Iowa. In the January, 1986 issue of the *Catalyst*, Julie Huiskamp observed that:

Every public library in Iowa is, no doubt, learning to cope with what has come to be known unaffectionately as THE IOWA ECONOMY. I am certain that each library director and board of trustees has, consciously or unconsciously, mapped out a strategy for dealing with difficult economic times.

State government reorganization was being discussed seriously in the legislature and its impact on the State Library greatly concerned the Iowa library community. On January 22, Legislative Committee Chair Bill Cochran, of the Public Library of Des Moines, testified at a marathon hearing on reorganization before the full Iowa House and Senate that:

1. ILA supports reorganization of state government to improve the effective and efficient delivery of services to Iowans.
2. ILA supports a placement of the State Library of Iowa sufficiently independent to protect its operation from political or other inappropriate concerns.
3. ILA opposes the proposed removal of policy responsibility from the Iowa Library Commission.
4. ILA opposes the proposal to make the position of State Librarian a direct gubernatorial appointment.

The legislative reception at the Hotel Fort Des Moines on February 5, co-sponsored for the first time by Iowa Library Friends, provided another opportunity to discuss the issue with legislators. Concern continued to be expressed throughout the session and when Senate File 2175 became law, it reflected ILA's effort. The State Library was placed in a new Department of Cultural Affairs with the Iowa State Historical Society, the Iowa Arts Council, the Iowa Public Broadcasting

Network, and the Terrace Hill Authority. The State Librarian was to be appointed by, and serve at the pleasure of, the State Library Commission, which otherwise became an advisory body.

A second Workshop in Library Leadership, sponsored by the Iowa Library Trustees Association, was held at the Hotel Savery in Des Moines on April 12-13. The program included John Berry III, Nancy Bolt, and Arch Lustberg, speakers at earlier Iowa conferences, and Public Library Association President Charles W. Robinson, who discussed "Marketing Your Library."

The September *Catalyst* announced that a "New Program Is the Talk of the Town," celebrating the success of the new "Let's Talk About It" book discussion program. Registration at the eleven public libraries participating in the demonstration project was outstripping projections and participation in the program increased throughout the remaining years of the decade.

The business meeting at the 1986 annual conference in Des Moines was unusually long. Legislative Committee Chair Bill Cochran's motion to accept the 1987 legislative program initiated lengthy debate. At issue was an item calling for a bill "to provide state funding for compensation to public libraries for providing library services to Iowans not resident in the local community of the library." A motion to hold the idea for further review and development failed and the entire agenda was approved.

Membership also approved the report of an ad hoc committee setting a 1987 recommended minimum salary for entry-level MLS librarians at \$18,000. The figure was to be adjusted annually using the Consumer Price Index and published in the March issue of the *Catalyst* each year.

Conference speakers included ALA Executive Director Tom Galvin; *Des Moines Register* columnist Chuck Offenburger; and Harlan Cleveland, Director of the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota. Cindi Youngblut, Director of the Sage Public Library in Osage, discussed the policy implications of a recent controversy at her library involving videos. The Iowa ACRL chapter celebrated its tenth anniversary by sponsoring several programs, including concurrent sessions on "Integrating Information Technology on College and University Campuses," by Pat Molholt, Associate Director of Libraries at the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and Peter Roll, Vice-President for Information Services at Northwestern University.

The Intellectual Freedom Committee sponsored two workshops titled "Bambi vs. Godzilla or How to Survive

1986 and Beyond" in Carroll on October 28 and in Grinnell the following day. Instructor Dennis Day, Director of the Salt Lake City Public Library, was a former Chair of ALA's Intellectual Freedom Roundtable and an authority on dealing with censorship.

After two years of false starts, the Executive Board approved a new logo at its December 4 meeting in Grinnell. The design by Steve Pattee, of the Des Moines firm of Pattee and Weaver, was later explained in the *Catalyst* by Faye Clow, Director of the Bettendorf Public Library, as:

an abstract image that conveys a sense of discovery. A library is the place where one goes to discover. In this rubbing-like logo the name of our association emerges in a graphically appealing manner. Imagine laying a sheet of luscious green paper, perhaps handmade paper, over unknown letters and rubbing charcoal over them until a legible message is revealed. Syllable by syllable, stroke by stroke, the mystery is clarified. A discovery is made - the Iowa Library Association.

The 1987 district meetings covered the issue of service to nonresidents from a number of perspectives. A concurrent session each morning found Clow and Dan Zack discussing "Aspects of Funding for Libraries: Foundations and Nonresident Fees." In the afternoon, State Librarian John Montag and Marsha Tate, Director of the Musser Public Library in Muscatine, presented "Open Access Card: Point, Counterpoint and Discussion," continuing the debate begun at the 1986 business meeting.

During the spring, thirteen past presidents agreed to

serve on a committee to plan the centennial of ILA's establishment, to be celebrated in 1990. Lois Siebersma, Director of the Sioux Center Public Library, agreed to serve as Chair of the Centennial Committee, which began work at the 1987 annual conference in Waterloo.

The conference theme was "Thriving in the 80's" and it focused heavily on economic development. Among the many programs on the subject were "Libraries as a Force for Economic Development" by Coleen Coghlan, of Metropolitan State University in St. Paul, Minnesota, and "Economic Issues and Academic Libraries" by Sheila Creth, University Librarian at the University of Iowa. A pre-conference on "The Role of Library and Information Advocates in Economic Vitality" was sponsored by Iowa Library Friends.

A gift of \$10,000 from former Executive Assistant Jack Tillson to the Iowa Library Association Foundation was announced at the conference. Tillson specified that interest on the gift was to be used to provide an annual scholarship to a library science student beginning in 1988.

In an interview conducted at the conference by Editorial Committee Chair Kathleen Bognanni, of the Public Library of Des Moines, new State Librarian Shirley George suggested that "it is important for libraries to explore multitype cooperation and technology to deal effectively with greater competition for financial resources." In Iowa to attend the conference, George would return to officially begin at the State Library on November 2.

The Iowa Library Trustees Association joined ILA and the Iowa Library Friends to sponsor the 1988 legislative reception, at the Marriott Hotel in Des Moines, on February 3. The Governmental Affairs Committee con-



Centennial Committee members begin work at 1987 Annual Conference in Waterloo. From left to right are past presidents Kay M. Elliott, Elizabeth Martin, Kay Runge, Richard Doyle, David Martin, Carl F. Orgren, Lois Siebersma, Mildred K. Smock, Lorna Truck, Beverly Lind, Elaine G. Estes, Douglas M. Hieber, and John M. Houlahan.

ducted its first Legislative Day workshop, on "Communicating With Your Elected Officials," in the afternoon. As the Iowa library community continued to discuss the concept of open access, Nicky Stanke presented a session entitled "We Are All in This Together: an Exploration of Interlibrary Cooperation," at each of the district meetings. Also on the agenda was a program on inappropriate patron behavior, conducted by Gardner Hanks, of the Viking Library System in Fergus Falls, Minnesota, and presentations by representatives of the State Library and the new Iowa Center for the Book, headquartered at the Public Library of Des Moines.

As the 1988 conference began in Ames, the Governmental Affairs Committee was busy planning a response to a legislative initiative of the League of Iowa Municipalities. The League planned to seek legislation that would place libraries under the direct administrative control of municipal governments and make library boards advisory.

ILA members expressed strong opposition to the proposal, citing intellectual freedom concerns, at a presentation by Peter B. King, the League's Executive Director, and at a later special session organized by Governmental Affairs Committee Chair Roy Kenagy, of the Ames Public Library. Although the League did succeed in having two related study bills introduced in the House during the following legislative session, efforts by the Governmental Affairs Committee, the State Librarian, and librarians, trustees, and friends across the state prevented further action.

Keynote speaker Herbert S. White, Dean of the School of Library and Information Science at Indiana University and a *Library Journal* columnist, shared "Advice From My Old Tennis Coach: Always Change a Losing Game." Feminist author Andrea Dworkin provoked spirited discussion with her call for censorship of pornography in a program on "Pornography and Male Supremacy." State Senator Richard J. Varn provided a dose of "Political Reality for Iowa Libraries." At the closing luncheon, Howard Mohr, a writer for the public radio program "A Prairie Home Companion," described from experience how "An Iowan Learns to Talk Minnesota."

The Iowa Center for the Book provided birthday cake in honor of the fiftieth anniversary of the Library Bill of Rights, which had originally been written by Forrest B. Spaulding, Director of the Public Library of Des Moines.

As the 1989 legislative session began, ILA was represented by a new lobbyist, Ted Anderson. After a 16-year career as a United Auto Workers official in Waterloo, Anderson was elected to the Iowa Senate, where he served on the Education and Appropriations Com-

mittees. Among his other clients since he had become a full-time lobbyist in 1985 was the Iowa Educational Media Association.

At the second Legislative Day workshop, held at the Marriott Hotel in Des Moines on February 1, an audience of nearly 100 librarians, trustees and friends analyzed the tension between "The Public's Right to Information/The Public's Right to Privacy." Speakers included Cryss Farley, of the Iowa Civil Liberties Union; Herb Strentz, of Drake University and the Freedom of Information Council; Barbara Jones, of the Minnesota Historical Society, a former member of ILA's Intellectual Freedom Committee while Director of the University of Northern Iowa Library in Cedar Falls; and State Representative Dan Jay. In addition to holding its own eighth annual legislative reception that evening, ILA participated in a similar event organized by the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs and held at the new Historical Building on March 6.

The third Iowa Workshop in Library Leadership was held in West Des Moines on March 31-April 1. Speakers included both State Librarian Shirley George and former State Librarian Claudya Muller, then Director of the Suffolk Cooperative Library System in Long Island, New York.

The spring conference of the Iowa Chapter of the Association of College and Research Libraries, held at the University of Northern Iowa on April 21, considered "Library Cooperation and Open Access." Several examples of cooperative activities were presented, including the Sioux City Community Cooperative, ILLINET Online, and the Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries. Then, "Academic Librarians and Open Access: A Panel Discussion on the Report of the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Libraries" began with a discussion of criteria for participation in Open Access by State Librarian Shirley George.

The State Library was conducting four Open Access pilot projects in different areas of the state as one of the results of a special \$100,000 appropriation to promote multi-type library cooperation. Participating libraries were reimbursed eighty cents per item loaned to non-residents who were registered patrons of another participating library. Another result of the special appropriation was a Blue Ribbon Task Force on Libraries, which had made a number of recommendations, including statewide extension of the Open Access program. Panelists Wayne Rawley, of the University of Iowa libraries, and William Stoppel, of the Drake University library, expressed concerns about how Open Access would affect staffing and service to the primary patrons at the larger institutions.

The 1989 conference in Cedar Rapids also included a panel discussion on Open Access. By the time panelists shared their experiences with the pilot projects, membership had approved a legislative agenda that called for full funding for the statewide Open Access program already underway. The agenda supported additional funding to carry out several other recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Task Force, including increased funding to the Iowa Regional Library System for promotion of multitype library cooperation and service.

The theme of the conference was "Cooperation and Risk sharing" and ALA President-Elect Richard M. Dougherty addressed both topics in remarks that also covered the economics of information and the problem of illiteracy. The Iowa Humanities Board co-sponsored the appearance of Betty Mahmoody, who shared the nightmare she and her daughter endured as virtual prisoners of her Iranian husband, described in her book *Not Without My Daughter*. Other speakers included Edwin A. Holtum, of the Hardin Library for the Health Sciences at the University of Iowa, on "AIDS-Sources of Information," and Judith Krug, Director of ALA's Office of Intellectual Freedom, with an update on current issues.

Two new awards were presented at the 1989 conference. Ann Swanson, Administrator of the North Central Regional Library System in Mason City, received the first ILA Member of the Year Award for her leadership in developing library services through technology. Iowa Senator Richard J. Varn accepted the first Citation of Merit, an award for non-members, for his support of libraries as Chair of the Senate Education Appropriations Subcommittee.

U.S. Senator Tom Harkin received the 1989 White House Conference on Library and Information Services Task Force Award for Outstanding Legislator at a reception hosted by the Iowa Library Friends on December 12 at the Public Library of Des Moines. In his acceptance speech, Senator Harkin credited ILA President Cynthia Dyer for stimulating his interest in the Conference.

Thus, as ILA's first century drew to a close, its members continued to be involved in national, state and local issues affecting Iowa libraries and were already planning for the next century.



*U.S. Senator Tom Harkin with Cynthia Dyer, President 1989, at Library Legislative Day, Washington, D.C., April 11, 1989*



## APPENDIX A

## IOWA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCES

<u>Year</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Location</u>
1890	Des Moines	1940	Burlington
1891	Des Moines	1941	Ames
1892	Des Moines	1942	No conference <sup>11</sup>
1893	Des Moines	1943	No conference <sup>11</sup>
1894	Des Moines <sup>1</sup>	1944	No conference <sup>11</sup>
1895	Des Moines <sup>1</sup>	1945	No conference <sup>11</sup>
1896	Des Moines <sup>1</sup>	1946	Des Moines
1897	Des Moines	1947	Minneapolis, Minnesota <sup>12</sup>
1898	Omaha, Nebraska <sup>2</sup>	1948	Mason City
1899	Cedar Rapids	1949	Des Moines
1900	Sioux City	1950	Waterloo
1901	Burlington	1951	Iowa City
1902	Grinnell	1952	Sioux City
1903	Marshalltown	1953	Des Moines
1904	St. Louis, Missouri <sup>3</sup>	1954	Cedar Rapids
1905	Fort Dodge	1955	Council Bluffs
1906	Ottumwa	1956	Des Moines
1907	Council Bluffs and Omaha, Nebraska <sup>4</sup>	1957	Davenport
1908	Cedar Rapids	1958	Mason City
1909	Des Moines	1959	Des Moines
1910	Davenport <sup>5</sup>	1960	Lincoln, Nebraska <sup>13</sup>
1911	Mason City	1961	Cedar Rapids
1912	Nevada	1962	Des Moines
1913	Sioux City	1963	Minneapolis, Minnesota <sup>14</sup>
1914	Marshalltown	1964	Sioux City
1915	Colfax	1965	Des Moines
1916	Colfax	1966	Mason City
1917	Iowa City	1967	Milwaukee, Wisconsin <sup>15</sup>
1918	No conference <sup>6</sup>	1968	Des Moines
1919	Waterloo	1969	Davenport
1920	Des Moines	1970	Cedar Rapids
1921	Ames	1971	Des Moines
1922	Cedar Rapids	1972	Waterloo
1923	Fort Dodge	1973	Cedar Rapids
1924	Boone	1974	Des Moines
1925	Sioux City <sup>7</sup>	1975	Sioux City
1926	Iowa City	1976	Waterloo
1927	Des Moines	1977	Cedar Rapids
1928	Marshalltown	1978	Urbandale
1929	Des Moines	1979	Waterloo <sup>16</sup>
1930	St. Paul, Minnesota <sup>8</sup>	1980	Sioux City
1931	Cedar Rapids	1981	Waterloo
1932	Des Moines <sup>9</sup>	1982	Des Moines
1933	Chicago, Illinois <sup>10</sup>	1983	Waterloo
1934	Des Moines	1984	Des Moines
1935	Sioux City	1985	Waterloo
1936	Des Moines	1986	Des Moines
1937	Davenport	1987	Waterloo
1938	Fort Dodge	1988	Ames
1939	Des Moines	1989	Cedar Rapids
		1990	Des Moines

Notes

- 1 As section of Iowa State Teachers' Association
- 2 At Library Congress at Trans-Mississippi Exposition
- 3 At Louisiana Purchase Exposition
- 4 With Nebraska Library Association
- 5 With Illinois Library Association
- 6 Cancelled due to quarantine for influenza
- 7 At ALA Regional Meeting with Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota Library Associations
- 8 At ALA Regional Meeting with Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota Library Associations
- 9 At ALA Regional Meeting with Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri and Nebraska Library Associations
- 10 At ALA Annual Conference
- 11 Cancelled due to war effort
- 12 At Upper Midwest Regional Conference with Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin Library Associations
- 13 With Nebraska Library Association
- 14 Tri-State Regional Conference with Minnesota and Wisconsin Library Associations
- 15 4-State North Central Conference with Illinois, Minnesota, and Wisconsin Library Associations
- 16 With Iowa Educational Media Association

## APPENDIX B

## IOWA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION PRESIDENTS

<u>Year</u>	<u>President</u>	<u>Town</u>
1890	Mary H. Miller	Des Moines
1891	Mary H. Miller	Des Moines
1892	Mary H. Miller	Des Moines
1893	Theodore S. Parvin	Cedar Rapids
1894	Theodore S. Parvin	Cedar Rapids
1895	Joseph W. Rich	Iowa City
1896	Witter H. Johnston	Fort Dodge
1897	Witter H. Johnston	Fort Dodge
1898	Witter H. Johnston	Fort Dodge
1899	Witter H. Johnston	Fort Dodge
1900	Witter H. Johnston	Fort Dodge
1901	A. P. Fleming	Des Moines
1902	Frank F. Dawley	Cedar Rapids
1903	Johnson Brigham	Des Moines
1904	Anna B. Howe	Marshalltown
1905	Harriet C. Towner	Corning
1906	M. H. Douglass	Grinnell
1907	Ella M. McLoney	Des Moines
1908	Flora E. Barkley	Boone
1909	Harriet A. Wood	Cedar Rapids
1910	Irving B. Richman	Muscatine
1911	Malcolm G. Wyer	Iowa City
1912	Grace D. Rose	Davenport
1913	Kate T. Loomis	Cedar Rapids
1914	Lillian B. Arnold	Dubuque
1915	L. L. Dickerson	Grinnell
1916	Jeannette M. Drake	Sioux City
1917	Ione Armstrong	Council Bluffs
1918	Mary Burnside Johnson	Oskaloosa
1919	Mary Burnside Johnson	Oskaloosa
1920	Maria C. Brace	Waterloo
1921	C. W. Sumner	Sioux City
1922	William F. Riley	Des Moines
1923	Grace Shellenberger	Davenport
1924	Callie Wieder	Marshalltown
1925	Mary M. Rosemond	Des Moines
1926	C. V. Findlay	Fort Dodge
1927	Johnson Brigham	Des Moines
1928	Mary A. Egan	Clinton
1929	Charles H. Brown	Ames
1930	J. Sidney Johnson	Marshalltown
1931	J. Sidney Johnson	Marshalltown
1932	E. Joanna Hagey	Cedar Rapids
1933	E. Joanna Hagey	Cedar Rapids
1934	Mary Bell Nethercut	Des Moines
1935	May B. Ditch	Ottumwa
1936	Mildred H. Pike	Sioux City
1937	Forrest B. Spaulding	Des Moines
1938	Edna Giesler	Davenport
1939	Mae C. Anders	Des Moines
1940	Jessie B. Gordon	Iowa City
1941	Dorothy D. Houghton	Red Oak
1942	Evelyn Spencer Bray	Grinnell
1943	Frances Warner	Ames
1944	Alice B. Story	Cedar Rapids
1945	Lydia M. Barrette	Mason City
1946	Ruth Hollingshead	Albia
1947	Helen Rex	Marshalltown
1948	Robert W. Orr	Ames
1949	Elizabeth Lilly	Burlington

<u>Year</u>	<u>President</u>	<u>Town</u>
1950	Florence W. Butler	Sioux City
1951	Norman L. Kilpatrick	Iowa City
1952	Germaine Krettek	Council Bluffs
1953	Opal Tanner	Muscatine
1954	Elizabeth Hage	Eldridge
1955	Oivind M. Hovde	Decorah
1956	Frank T. Milligan	Jefferson
1957	Dan A. Williams	Des Moines
1958	Donald O. Rod	Cedar Falls
1959	Ruth A. Dennis	Dubuque
1960	Dale M. Bentz	Iowa City
1961	Mildred K. Smock	Council Bluffs
1962	James C. Marvin	Cedar Rapids
1963	Louane Newsome	Iowa City
1964	Ray Smith	Mason City
1965	Oswald H. Joerg	Davenport
1966	C. King Batschelet	Guthrie Center
1967	Lee Sutton	Fairfield
1968	Andrew M. Hansen	Iowa City
1969	Leslie W. Dunlap	Iowa City
1970	Ethel L. Beeler	Des Moines
1971	Sr. Marita Bartholome	Davenport
1972	Marjorie Humby	Waverly
1973	H. Wendell Alford	Cedar Falls
1974	Thomas L. Carney	Cedar Rapids
1975	Carl F. Orgren	Iowa City
1976	Judith Ellis	Davenport
1977	Douglas M. Hieber	Cedar Falls
1978	Elaine G. Estes	Des Moines
1979	Kay M. Elliott	Des Moines
1980	John M. Houlahan	Sioux City
1981	Beverly Lind	Waterloo
1982	Elizabeth Martin	Cedar Falls
1983	Kay Runge	Eldridge
1984	Richard Doyle	Cedar Rapids
1985	Lois Siebersma	Sioux Center
1986	David Martin	Iowa City
1987	Lorna Truck	Des Moines
1988	Pat Coffie	Waverly
1989	Cynthia Dyer	Indianola
1990	Nicky Stanke	Dubuque

## APPENDIX C

## THE JOHNSON BRIGHAM PLAQUE

<u>Year</u>	<u>Recipient</u>	<u>Awarded for</u>
1934	Johnson Brigham	<i>Youth of Old Age</i>
1935	Ruth Suckow	<i>The Folks</i>
1936	Mackinlay Kantor	<i>Voice of Bugle Ann</i>
1938	William J. Peterson	<i>Steamboating on the Upper Mississippi</i>
1939	Frank L. Mott	Selected list of books on journalism
1940	Paul Engle	<i>Corn</i>
1944	Hartzell Spence	<i>One Foot in Heaven</i>
1945	William Shirer	<i>Berlin Diary</i>
	John T. Frederick	<i>Out of the Midwest</i>
1946	Darrel Garwood	<i>Artist in Iowa</i>
1948	Thomas Duncan	<i>Gus the Great</i>
1950	Bess Streeter Aldrich	<i>Journey into Christmas</i>
1953	Marcus Bach	<i>Strange Altars</i>
1959	Esther Sietmann Warner	<i>Silk Cotton Tree</i>
1962	Wallace Stegner	<i>A Shooting Star</i>
1965	Calvin Kentfield	<i>All Men Are Mariners</i>
		<i>The Great Wandering Goony Bird</i>
1968	R.V. Cassill	<i>The Father and Other Stories</i>
1971	Joseph Frazier Wall	<i>Andrew Carnegie</i>
1974	Curtis Harnack	<i>We Have All Gone Away</i>
1977	James Schell Hearst	<i>Shaken By Leaf-Fall</i>
		<i>Dry Leaves: New Poems</i>
1980	Frederick Manfred	<i>Green Earth</i>
1983	Julie McDonald	<i>The Sailing Out</i>
1986	Amy Clampitt	<i>The Kingfisher</i>
1989	Lynn Hall	<i>The Secret Life of Dagmar Schultz</i>

*The original plaque presented to Johnson Brigham at the 1934 Annual Meeting in Des Moines*



## APPENDIX D

## STAFF

EDITORS OF THE CATALYST<sup>1</sup>

<u>Years</u>	<u>Editor</u>	<u>Town</u>
1948	Iowa State Traveling Library	Des Moines
1948-1949	Claribel Sommerville	Des Moines
1949-1950	Eleanor Jones	Sioux City
1950-1951	Marjorie Zumstein	Iowa City
1952	Eleanor Jones	Sioux City
1953	Ethel Beeler	Des Moines
1954-1955	Margaret E. Davidson	Webster City
1956	Edgar Glick <sup>2</sup>	Des Moines
	Claribel Sommerville <sup>2</sup>	Des Moines
	Vera Harris <sup>2</sup>	Jefferson
	Lois M. Hunt <sup>3</sup>	Earlville
1957-1971	Lois M. Hunt <sup>4</sup>	Earlville
1971-1975	Don H. and Mildred K. Allen <sup>5</sup>	Des Moines
1975-1976	Don H. Allen	Des Moines
1976-1978	Gayle Burdick	Des Moines
1978	Shirley Kromann	Des Moines
1978-	Naomi Stovall	Des Moines

<sup>1</sup> Since Volume 30, Number 4 (July 1976), titled *Catalyst*

<sup>2</sup> Acting Editor

<sup>3</sup> Associate Editor

<sup>4</sup> Managing Editor

<sup>5</sup> Since Volume 25, Number 2 (March 1971), the Executive Assistants also have served as Editor

EXECUTIVE STAFF

<u>Years</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>
1966-1971	Jack Tillson	Executive Secretary
1971-1975	Don H. Allen and Mildred K. Allen	Executive Assistants
1975-1976	Don H. Allen	Executive Assistant
1976-1978	Gayle Burdick	Executive Assistant
1978	Shirley Kromann	Executive Assistant
1978-	Naomi Stovall	Executive Assistant

LOBBYISTS

<u>Years</u>	<u>Name</u>
1973	Edward H. Jones
1974-1978	Richard E. Thornton
1979-1982	Ellen Adelman
1983-1988	Judy Dierenfeld
1989-	Ted Anderson

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