

Friends of Kentucky Libraries

JANUARY

1967

New Year's wish for 1967 - May as much be accomplished in the program toward adequate public library service for Kentucky in 1967 as in 1966 - or even more!

Report from Marion County

A group of people interested in having improved library service in Marion County was given \$260, partly from an anonymous donor, \$60 from the Friends of Kentucky Libraries. This money was used to give a dinner, to which community leaders were invited, on December 1. The meeting was successful for the group decided to sign a petition for a 2¢ library tax and to canvas the community to get other signatures. The gift of \$260 was truly "seed" money, and we all hope that from this planting, a great deal of fruit will result.

Congratulations to Miss Clo Era Sewell

who was named Kentucky's Public Librarian of the Year, during the KLA meeting, in November. Miss Sewell is the Valley of the Parks Regional Librarian. Friends of Kentucky Libraries are particularly proud of her because she was once one of our scholarship students.

Report from Oldham County

Assurances have recently been given that the Oldham County Fiscal Court will soon make the needed move to put into service the bookmobile they have received. The court must make arrangements to provide money for the running of the bookmobile - the salary of a librarian-driver, gas, oil, etc. Once the money is provided, the bookmobile can get on the road and provide this needed service. News will be given as soon as possible.

Home Start Project, Whitley County

Mrs. George Gray has given \$100 toward the Home Start Project which is under the guidance of Mr. Ralph Roaden, Department of Libraries, and Cumberland College with Vista Workers. The workers read to children in isolated areas and take them to libraries for story hours. This is an entirely new experience for these children. Dr. Boswell of Cumberland College is also helping with the project. The \$100 mentioned above will go toward paying for gasoline to bring the children to the libraries. This program is called a "reach out program" to bring people to libraries who have never been inside one before.

Competition in Salaries

In a recent ALA bulletin, there appeared an advertisement by the City of Los Angeles in which the immediate availability of positions in new branch libraries, subjects, departments, technical services, children's work and bookmobiles was

announced. What makes this advertisement interesting to Kentuckians is the second paragraph: "Salary: \$560 to \$696 a month. (Experienced librarians may start above the minimum.)"

Why do librarians stay in Kentucky? Will they continue to do so at the present salaries? These problems will obviously become more pressing with time.

Regional Systems

One of the points Dr. Lawrence Allen made in his speech at our luncheon meeting on November 11, 1966, was that in order for library cooperation to exist at the state level, regional library systems are necessary. Kentucky will soon have 19 library regions. The three newest are or will be:

	<u>Headquarters</u>
Region 17 (Scenic)	Corbin
Region 18 (a nucleus of a Region, only)	Russellville (still to be developed)
Region 19 (Lincoln, Garrard and Jessamine Cos.)	(Demonstration.) Nicholasville (still to be developed.)

Note: About two-thirds of Kentucky counties now participate in library regions.

The National Scene

A.L.A. Conference

for the coming year will take place in San Francisco, June 25-July 1, 1967.

Library Services and Construction Act Extension

Many members of the Friends of Kentucky Libraries worked for the new bill. Full appropriations were passed for Title I (Services) and Title II (Construction) with small planning grants, only, for Title III (Inter-Library Cooperation) and Title IV (Services to inmates and patients of state institutions and services to the physically handicapped.)

Everyone is waiting impatiently to hear whether these appropriations will be provided. Full funding has not been released by the Bureau of the Budget because President Johnson is considering which programs are to be cut. A cut of the comparatively small amounts appropriated to Public Libraries will be tragic indeed. The year is almost half over!

Do you know President Johnson or anyone close to him? If so, you could let him - or them - know how desperately Kentucky citizens need the full amount of financial help for library services and construction.

The New National Advisory Commission on Libraries

This commission...."will be headed by Douglas M. Knight, president of Duke University. In announcing the creation of the Commission by Executive Order, President Johnson said: 'I've asked the commission to appraise the role and adequacy of our libraries, now and in the future, as sources for scholarly research, as centers for the distribution of knowledge, and as links in our nation's rapidly evolving communications networks.' "

3. Library Building Program - 1966. Summary of accomplishments during the past year.

<u>County</u>	<u>Town</u>	<u>Description</u>
Bath	Owingsville	Renovation
Cumberland	Burkesville	Bids have been awarded for construction of a new building.
Daviess	Owensboro	Preliminary plans have been made.
Fleming	Flemingsburg	Plans have been approved but building has not been begun.
Hardin	Elizabethtown	Renovation of old post office building. Hopefully, will be opened in June.
Henry	Eminence	Building open but not yet dedicated.
Lawrence	Louisa	New building has been started.
Lewis	Vanceburg	Plans have been approved for renovation.
Meade	Brandenburg	Renovation of a brick school building.
Nicholas	Carlisle	Regional Headquarters staff have moved in building. Library to be dedicated Jan. 7, 2-4 P.M.
Russell	Jamestown	Building nearly complete. Will open soon.
Union	Morganfield Sturgis and Uniontown	Addition is almost completed. New building in each town is under construction
Wayne	Monticello	Bids for construction have been awarded.
Woodford (14)	Versailles (16)	Bids have been awarded for a renovation

Note to members: Let us not grow weary in well doing. If you have not already paid your dues for 1966-67, please fill out the blank, following, and return it with your check to Mrs. Houston. Every member makes a difference to the organization.

Issued by the Executive Committee of Friends of Kentucky Libraries

	COUPON	(All donations tax deductible)
1966-67 membership (\$2.00)	_____	
Scholarship Fund	_____	
Other	_____	
Total	_____	
		_____ (Signature)
		_____ (Address)

Please return coupon and check to: Mrs. Russell Houston, Jr., Executive Secretary
2512 Brighton Drive
Louisville, Kentucky - 40205