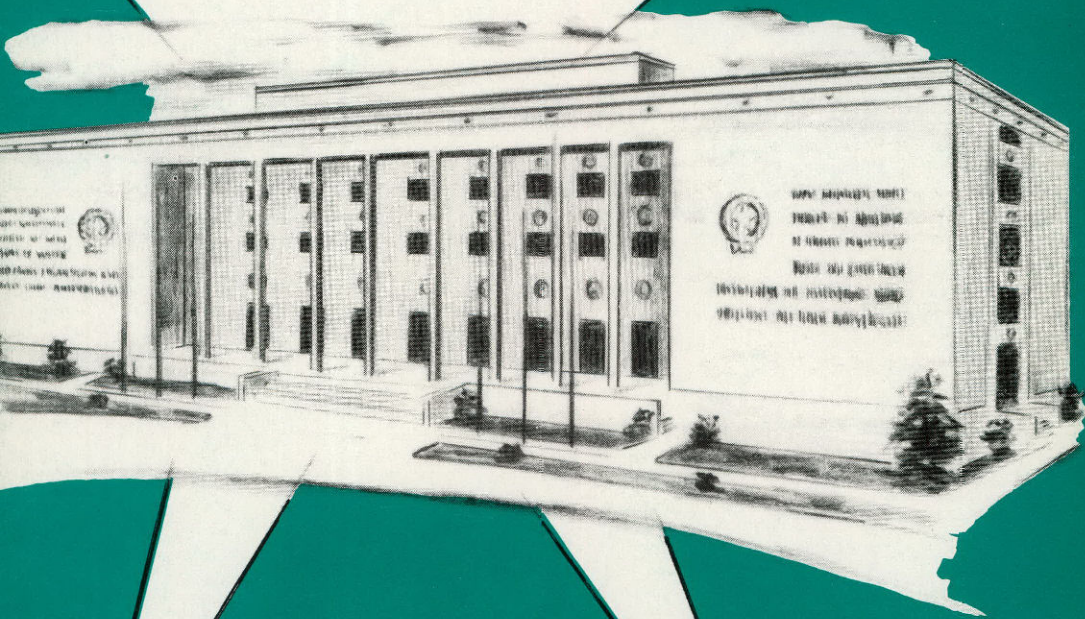


# Texas Libraries



TEXAS  
STATE  
LIBRARY

July-August, 1961  
Volume 23 Number 4





# Texas Libraries

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## TEXAS LIBRARY AND HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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# The Role of the Library Trustee

Wilmot Hamm

Wyoming Library, Archives and Historical Board

## A GOOD LIBRARY

Is my library a good library? We would all answer yes to this question . . . .

But . . . how good is it???

A good library is not only a storehouse of books, nor is it only another civic building.

A good library is an essential part of any modern community. It is a community educational and recreational service which stimulates and satisfies the needs of *all* the people in the community. The library of today is a dynamic force in the social process.

Library trustees have an opportunity and an obligation to make the library fulfill its vital purpose. Effectiveness of the board will be reflected in the kind of library service a community receives.

## QUALIFICATIONS

An appointment to a library board constitutes a public trust. It is an honor. It carries with it a responsibility and a privilege to serve the community. Some general characteristics which will insure a person's value on a library board are:

1. Ability to make the library appreciated and respected in the community.

2. Appreciation of the library's functions as a progressive educational and recreational institution.

3. An understanding of social and economic conditions in the community.

4. Knowledge of government functions and an awareness of the library's status as a part of the county or municipal government.

5. Readiness to give time and effort to the formulation and realization of long-range library objectives and policies.

6. Willingness to assume responsibility for the presentation of the library's fiscal needs to the tax levying agencies.

7. A willingness to study and to keep informed on library development and trends so that the library's program will constantly grow and change in keeping with modern recommendations.

## POLICIES

The library board should determine its policies on the following matters in cooperation with the librarian and keep a *written* record of its decisions.

1. Method of extending library service.

2. Publicity and public relations.

3. Type and quality of materials to be added to the library collection.

4. Services to schools and specialized groups.

5. Salary schedule, based on qualifications, tenure, and quality of service rendered.

6. Paying of expenses of personnel to attend professional meetings.

7. Hours open and staff duty hours, holidays.



8. Vacation and sick leave for librarian and staff.

9. Acceptance of gifts.

#### RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Attend all board meetings.

2. Be aware of the program and needs of the community.

3. Be acquainted with accepted standards for library buildings, staff and services.

4. Recognize the need for and secure adequate funds to carry on the library program, including adequate housing, provision for care of valuable collections, and adequate budgets for salaries, and books and supplies.

5. Employ a qualified librarian.

6. Determine policies in cooperation with the librarian to govern the library program.

7. Establish and support a planned program of public relations.

8. Study State Library Laws.

9. Work actively for the improvement of *all* libraries by supporting library legislation in the state and in the nation.

10. Be a member—as active as possible—of at least one library organization.

11. Be aware of the services of the State Library.

#### LIBRARIAN'S DUTIES

The librarian is the administrator of the library program jointly agreed upon by the library board and librarian.

The librarian should:

1. Attend all board meetings except the one at which he is employed or his salary fixed, and may serve as secretary of the board.

2. Point out and recommend needed policies for board action.

3. Carry out the policy of the library as adopted at board meetings.

4. Prepare an annual budget

with the help of a budget committee and submit it to the board.

5. Help the chairman prepare a meeting agenda before meeting date.

6. Recommend employment of all personnel and supervise their work.

7. Select and order all books and other library materials, or have this done under his supervision.

8. Maintain an active public relations program.

9. Make and carry out plans for extending library facilities to the limits of the area served.

10. Cooperate actively with educational organizations of the state and community.

11. Make regular reports on the progress of the library.

12. Attend professional meetings and plan for staff to attend such meetings.

13. Provide in-service training experiences for staff members.

14. Make use of the consultants from the State Library.

#### TWELVE GOLDEN RULES

##### FOR BOARD MEMBERS

1. Leave the actual management of the library to your librarian. It is his responsibility to select the books, to employ the assistants, to see that the library is unlocked at the proper hour and closed at night (and he can do it without your arrival every day to oversee his work). If you do not have that much confidence in your librarian, get another one immediately!

2. After a policy or rule is adopted by majority vote of the library board, do not criticize or re-voice your opposition either privately or publicly.

3. Be very careful to keep confidential information confidential, and do not give out information



regarding future board action or plans until such action is taken.

4. Respect the publicity and advertising policy set up by the entire board as to source of news items and do not give out this information individually. Rather, refer newspapermen or individuals seeking information to the librarian whose task it is to interpret policies and rules.

5. Treat the staff members and the librarian in a completely impersonal fashion. Under no circumstances listen to grievances of staff members or treat individual problems on your own. The librarian is in charge of the staff and has administrative control up to the point that a grievance is presented to the library board as a whole.

6. Save yourself embarrassment and all kinds of complications by *never*, under any circumstances, hiring a relative in any capacity as a library employee. This should be a well-understood rule of board ethics.

7. Orders to the librarian or staff members through the librarian must always emanate from at least a quorum of the board at a regular meeting. Even the president must abide by this rule.

8. Except when considering the librarian's salary, do not hold board meetings without the librarian. If face to face the problems of policy making and administration cannot be ironed out, get a new librarian.

9. Complaints from the public are first the responsibility of the librarian and failing solution there, should be taken up at a meeting of the entire board. Certainly if complaints come to the attention of the board regularly with no attempt at solution by the librarian, some time should be

given to a survey of the administration to see why there are so many indications of dissatisfaction.

10. Carry your full share of responsibility as a board member so that one or two do not have all the work, all the praise or blame. If you cannot attend meetings regularly and face the exigencies of board membership, resign so that an active member can be appointed.

11. The librarian should be the only person authorized to give orders to book salesmen, dealers, etc. Refer these persons to him in every case.

12. It is the library board's prerogative to spend money, *not to save it!* Simply hanging on to the purse strings and yelling economy which restricts the library's function is a degrading role for any board member to play. It is necessary to realize that these are public not personal funds, and they must be spent for the efficient operation of the library along the lines prescribed by board policies and the administrative needs of the librarian. Furthermore, the acquiring of additional funds and an adequate budget is your definite obligation as a board member.

ARE *you* A GOOD LIBRARY TRUSTEE?

(Reprinted from *Wyoming Library Roundup*, December, 1960. Permission for publication is given Texas State Library with the observation that some of the material came from handbooks of Nebraska, Idaho, and Kansas.)

WYOMING LIBRARY TRUSTEE CREED  
A GOOD LIBRARY TRUSTEE  
BELIEVES:

1. That, in part, the self-education, culture and recreation of the



people of my community has been entrusted to me. . .

2. That, in placing his trust in me, it should be my duty to uphold this honor intelligently, openly and ethically. . .

3. That it shall be my duty to cooperate with and to observe

the needs of the people I have been chosen to serve . . . and to do this to the best of my ability. . .

4. And last: that in executing this trust I shall endeavor to elevate and expand all library service to the most remote corner of my community and to attempt to reach the most unaware mind.

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## Texas State Library Has Loan Collection of New Books for Children

A collection of new and recently published books for children of all ages, known as the State Traveling Exhibit of Children's Books, is available on loan to interested Libraries from the Texas State Library Extension Division.

Sample copies of new books are sent by publishers a few weeks before publication to the State Library so that it can make these new titles available to those in Texas who would not otherwise have an opportunity to see them.

The State Traveling Exhibit on Children's Books, sponsored by the ALA-CBC Joint Committee, is a program under which publishers send sample copies of new children's books to participating state libraries. The purpose of the program is to make newly published children's books available to school administrators and their staff, public librarians, and other groups within that state who might not otherwise have an opportunity to examine new books. These books are not used for circulation to the public but rather as buying guides.

The State Library makes up these books into smaller loan collections of twenty to several hundred titles, and sends them, either on a pre-arranged schedule, or on request, to various groups for a period of two weeks or more. They may be sent to many different places, including state library association meetings, state education association meetings, elementary and secondary schools, to PTA's responsible for a school's book selection, to teachers' colleges and university workshops in various subject areas, women's clubs, and local book fairs.

Individual review copies might be loaned to such professional people as school faculty members for evaluation.

It is the publishers' hope that showing the rich variety and quality of books available today for our children will stimulate schools and libraries to buy these titles.

To arrange for an exhibit, interested libraries should write Director of Extension, Texas State Library, Austin 11, Texas.



# Small Libraries Can Afford the Services of A Professional Librarian

*Rosalynne Shamblin*

"Where can we get a professional librarian?" This is a question frequently asked of the State Library. Rarely can it be answered, for the demand far exceeds the supply.

It is said in library circles that there are probably 10,000 library vacancies in the United States. How many librarians are needed in Texas is not known.

New libraries are coming into being with encouraging frequency. At this time, there are in Texas more than thirty library buildings at some stage of progress from formation of a fund-raising group to opening-day ceremony. In addition, several communities are organizing library service for the first time, or expanding to county-wide library coverage. Older libraries are enlarging their professional staffs, as library use grows and budgets increase.

The rural library extension program of the State Library, under the Library Services Act, will continue to produce a harvest of new multi-county library service units. Each such cooperative effort calls for a qualified librarian to administer an adequate program, thus creating more demand on the limited supply.

The current salary rate for professional librarians is often beyond the financial reach of the town or even county government. According to data from 107 Texas libraries, the average monthly salary paid to head librarians in 1959/60 was \$494, or \$5928 annually.

This article is a proposed par-

tial answer to the oft-heard query, "How can we get a professional librarian?" "Partial" in that the proposal is for securing a trained librarian on a part-time basis. "Part-time" for the needy libraries, but full-time for the shared librarian.

The sharing of professional personnel is not a novelty. At present, county agricultural and home demonstration agents, nurses, social workers, soil conservationists and others are spreading their professional "know-how" over entire counties, and even over multi-county areas. Water development, flood control and drainage projects represent other types of cooperation among counties and states. Recently joint programs of fire prevention have received attention. Hospital construction and operation result from pooling the resources of several jurisdictions.

Recently three Texas newspapers reported hiring cooperatively a science editor to serve the needs of the three where management of a single paper apparently found it uneconomical to provide this coverage alone.

Similarly, in Texas county libraries the County Librarian often administers several branch libraries. In the State Library's rural program one librarian operates the service for an area composed of several counties. Multi-school services employ one librarian to serve several school libraries.

A shared librarian may be the answer to the question echoing



through Commissioners Courts' deliberations and library board meetings.

One professional librarian, given the requisite clerical staff, can provide on-the-job training for such staff to render them far more useful than the lone and lonely worker who works and waits hopefully for the rare visit from a State Library field consultant.

The librarian can organize cooperative and more economical book and supply purchasing for several libraries. She—or he—can set up a center for the necessary preparation of books for use in all the units of a system. Her knowledge of books can result in wiser selection from among the 15,000 new titles published each year in the United States. With her expert aid, the libraries of a system can arrange regular "book swaps" among the libraries so that

all readers have the use of more materials than one library can provide alone. Space does not permit of pointing out all the advantages of having a person trained in four to five years of college with specialization in library administration.

Finally—like buying "the large economy size"—this idea enables communities and counties to effect economies in sharing the salary of a professional librarian. Salaries impressive enough to attract highly qualified persons can be offered by several libraries where one alone could not afford one salary. Sharing the cost makes it possible for all to share the benefits.

Our proposition opened with a question. It closes with another—"Is this your answer to how to have good library service?"

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## Notable Books 1960

Prepared by Notable Books Council  
Adult Services Division  
American Library Association

This list for adult readers seeking an informal guide to books published in 1960 has been chosen by the Notable Books Council after careful reading and consideration. It is a selection of those titles published during the year which, in the judgment of the Council, made a contribution to literature and general knowledge. Thirty-six libraries from all sections of the United States assisted in the compilation of the list. Texas libraries assisting were Dallas Public Library and Rosenberg Library, Galveston.

*This Is the American Earth*—Adams, Ansel E., and Newhall,

Nancy. The rhythmic prose and peerless photographs are an outstanding contribution to the cause of conserving our national scenic resources. Sierra Club dist. by Knopf).

*Born Free: A Lioness of Two Worlds*—Adamson, Joy. Elsa, orphaned lion cub, was raised as a pet, then re-educated to return to the African jungle. Pantheon.

*Picture History of the Civil War*—American Heritage (periodical). Lucid prose plus fine pictures and maps make this outstanding. Doubleday.

*The Intelligent Man's Guide to*



- Science*—Asimov, Isaac. Well-proportioned two-volume survey, which moves from history to the newest discoveries. Basic Books.
- The Public Years*—Baruch, Bernard M. Further memories of the financier, philanthropist, and adviser to presidents, covering almost fifty years in public affairs. Holt.
- The Forest and the Sea*—Bates, Marston. Of the interdependence of man and nature, by a scientist who is also a wise philosopher. Random.
- Sculpture of this Century*—Berckelaers, Ferdinand L. An illustrated survey from Rodin to the present. Braziller.
- The Passionate Sightseer*—Benson, Bernard. Sensitive and informed observations from diaries of the noted art critic on a postwar trip through Italy. Simon & Schuster.
- The Master Builders*—Blake, Peter. The story of modern architecture told through the lives and works of Le Corbusier, Mies van der Rohe, and Frank Lloyd Wright. Knopf.
- A Time in Rome*—Bowen, Elizabeth. An observant writer's reactions to the city and its history. Knopf.
- An American Dialogue*—Brown, Robert M., and Weigel, Gustave. "A Protestant looks at Catholicism and a Catholic looks at Protestantism"—a salutary exchange. Doubleday.
- Grant Moves South*—Catton, Bruce. Emergence of Grant as a great military leader. Little.
- Copland on Music*—Copland, Aaron. Occasional pieces covering thirty years. Doubleday.
- Dr. Schweitzer of Lambaréné*—Cousins, Norman. An intimate view into the work and spirit of the renowned humanitarian, including his attitude toward atomic war. Harper.
- Clea*—Durrell, Lawrence. Final volume of the "Alexandria Quartet," exploring with discerning insight man's quest for life's meaning. Dutton.
- The Firmament of Time*—Eiseley, Loren C. How man can comprehend himself as a part of nature and a product of evolution. Atheneum.
- Felix Frankfurter Reminisces*—Frankfurter, Felix. Candidly expressed opinions on a wide variety of topics. Reynal.
- Art and Illusion*—Gombrich, E. H. J. The relation between art and the viewer, presented with wit and richly illustrated. Pantheon.
- Goodbye to a River*—Graves, John. Contemplative journey down the Brazos River. Knopf.
- History of Western Music*—Grout, Donald J. A well-written, comprehensive account. Norton.
- The Future as History*—Heilbroner, Robert L. Provocative discussion of the forces which are shaping our future. Harper.
- The Child Buyer*—Hersey, John. An attempt to purchase a 10-year-old boy genius for exploitation, cast in the form of Senate hearings. Knopf.
- On Thermonuclear War*—Kahn, Herman. Important discussion of the prospect of a nuclear war and the methods of escaping total destruction. Princeton Univ. Pr.
- A Separate Peace*—Knowles, John. Quiet, perceptive study of the fatal relationship between two adolescents. Macmillan.
- The Reluctant Surgeon: A Biography of John Hunter*—Kobler, John. An illuminating portrait of the Scottish farm boy and founder of scientific surgery,



- against a background of 18th-century London. Doubleday.
- The Leopard*—Lampedusa, Giuseppe di. Urbane portrayal of the dissolution of a 19th-century aristocratic Sicilian family. Pantheon.
- To Kill a Mockingbird*—Lee, Harper. A young girl's growth in tolerance and understanding in an Alabama town of the 1930's. Lippincott.
- The Four Loves*—Lewis, C. S. Philosophical discussion of the varieties of human love. Harcourt.
- Times Three*—McGinley, Phyllis. A delightful collection of deft, light verse on an infinite variety of subjects. Viking.
- The Son of Man*—Mauriac, Francois. A moving meditation on Christ's identification with the suffering of modern man. World.
- Turmoil and Tradition: A Study of the Life and Times of Henry L. Stimson*—Morison, Elting Elmore. An excellent appraisal of an outstanding statesman. Houghton.
- Thomas Wolfe*—Nowell, Elizabeth. This penetrating biography by Wolfe's literary agent is an outstanding contribution to literary history. Doubleday.
- Queen Mary: 1867-1953*—Pope-Hennessy, James. A fitting portrait of a regal lady, well documented and very readable. Knopf.
- Literature and Western Man*—Priestley, John B. A panorama of authors and their works during 500 years. Harper.
- Lord Burghley and Queen Elizabeth*—Read, Conyers. The second and concluding volume of the political biography of William Cecil; careful and exacting, based on manuscript sources. Knopf.
- Stages of Economic Growth*—Rostow, Walt W. Controversial theory, stated with conviction. Cambridge Univ. Pr.
- The Politics of Upheaval*—Schlesinger, Arthur M., Jr. Completes the analysis of Roosevelt's first term. Houghton.
- The Last of the Just*—Schwartz-Bart, André. An eloquent, enduring testament to Jewish persecution through the ages. Atheneum.
- Robert Frost: The Trial by Existence*—Sergeant, Elizabeth S. An affectionate, sensitive biography, enriched by numerous quotations and parts of poems. Holt.
- In Defense of Ignorance*—Shapiro, Karl J. A plea for the average reader to give poetry a hearing. Random.
- The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich*—Shirer, William L. Revealing "inside" picture of a dark period of history. Simon & Schuster.
- The Affair*—Snow, Sir Charles P. Supposition of a scientific fraud has an explosive effect on an English university. Scribner.
- The Two Cultures and the Scientific Revolution*—Snow, Sir Charles P. A discussion of how the lack of communication between literary and scientific leaders endangers society. Cambridge Univ. Pr.
- Journey into Summer*—Teale, Edwin W. Exploration from New Hampshire to the Rockies. Dodd.
- Education and the Human Quest*—Thelen, Herbert A. A bold program of action to raise education above mere problem-solving. Harper.
- Walk Egypt*—Williams, Vinnie. Vital story of a strong-willed woman, told in the distinctive rich speech of her Georgia hills. Viking.



# News of Texas Libraries and Librarians

At the time of going to press, the State Library was in the process of moving into the new Library and Archives building. The move, being executed by divisions of the Library, will be completed in September. Further news of the State Library in its new location will appear in a subsequent issue of *Texas Libraries*.

## Book Sale Nets \$515

The Friends of the Library of the Bivins Memorial Library, Amarillo, held their third annual used book sale on June 17 on the library lawn. Net proceeds were \$515, as the sale resulted in a complete "sell out." The Amarillo library saves all gift books not needed in its own collection. These are priced and boxed. As the sale time approaches, members of the Friends of the Library put on a publicity campaign for additional books. On sale day, folding tables are set up on the library lawn and kept filled with books as they are eagerly bought by book lovers, young and old. This project provides funds with which to micro-film historic newspapers of the Panhandle area.

## "Do It Yourself" Survey Issued by State Library

A self-survey designed primarily for libraries in towns under 10,000 population has been prepared in the Extension Division of the State Library. The purpose of the survey is to aid librarians and boards to gauge what the library is doing and where it is going. Topics covered are the library board, budget, building, staff, books and materials, and the library's services. Copies have been mailed to all librarians and board chairmen of libraries in this population group. Single copies are available to other libraries on request to Extension Director, Texas State Library, Austin 11, Texas.

## Tri-County Bookmobile Is Given National Publicity

The Tri-County Bookmobile Service of Callahan, Shackelford and Taylor Counties has gained national recognition. The American Library Association Bulletin, national organ for professional librarians, for June 1961 carried the following comment:

"Texas had its first locally supported multi-county library service when Taylor, Callahan, and Shackelford counties joined forces. The state reports of the faithfulness of the bookmobile patrons in the wide open spaces: "Even in the cold, snow and ice, they drove as much as 60 miles just to meet the bookmobile. The record was set by one woman who came 90 miles regularly."

A summary of progress during four years of the Library Services Act was the subject of the article by John C. Lorenz and Herbert A. Carl of the Library Services Branch, U. S. Office of Education. The tri-county Bookmobile Service was cited as an example of Texas rural library progress along with that of other states.

## Fifty State Libraries To Be Studied

The Survey of Library Functions of the States, a project of the American Library Association, is under way. Dr. Phillip Monypenny, professor of political science, University of Illinois, is Director of the project.

The survey is the first attempt to develop standards of service based on a nation-wide survey of existing practices. The survey is being supported by a \$45,000 grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York and is expected to cover the 50 states. The basis of the survey is to determine the present nature, quality, status, and potential of state library activities and on the basis of the survey to develop standards for state library service which will complement the present standards of other types of libraries. The Survey and Standards Committee of the Association



of State Libraries of the American Library Association is acting as an advisory committee to the research staff making the survey. Dr. Edward A. Wight, of the University of California, is the Survey Staff member assigned to Texas.

#### **Texas Librarian to A.L.A.**

The appointment of Mrs. Eliazbeth Rodell, head of the Catalog Department, Rice University since 1953, as Executive Secretary of the Resources and Technical Services Division of the American Library Association has been announced by David H. Clift, Executive Director of the ALA.

Mrs. Rodell, who received her A.B. with distinction from Rice Institute (now Rice University) in 1931 and her B.S. in library science at Denver University in 1940, served as a member of the American Library Association Council, the Association's governing body, from 1953-1956. She also is a member of Phi Beta Kappa and is active in other professional groups.

Mr. Clift, in announcing the appointment, declared: "We are fortunate indeed, to have the services of Mrs. Rodell in this highly important post. Mrs. Rodell's outstanding career fits her well for the increasing responsibilities in this highly specialized area of the profession."

Mrs. Rodell served with the Rosenberg Public Library, Galveston, Texas, as an apprentice in 1926-27, became circulation assistant of the Houston Public Library in 1927 and in 1931-32 owner of the Rental Library in Houston. In 1933 she became cataloger of the Houston Recreation Department and served as librarian from 1934-42 with the Kincaid Preparatory School.

After serving as head of contract files at the Reed Roller Bit Co. during World War II, she became catalog assistant at the Harper Library, University of Chicago, and served as cataloger at Rice from 1947 to 1953, being named

to her present position at the University that year. Mrs. Rodell will fill the post previously occupied by Mrs. Orcena Mahoney, who resigned recently.

#### **Newton-San Augustine Bookmobile Demonstration**

On August 2, in Newton and San Augustine counties, the first bookmobile runs began in the eleventh multi-county bookmobile demonstration of the Texas State Library rural extension program. The rural program is made available under the Library Services Act with Congressional appropriations. The Texas program is designed to aid in establishing rural library service by means of a one-year demonstration. If participating counties then appropriate for continuing the bookmobile program, partial aid is provided for the second year, after which the counties will bear the full cost of their own rural library service.

Headquarters for the demonstration are in the San Augustine County Courthouse, where the 7000 book collection is shelved. On a three week schedule the bookmobile will make 38 stops in the two counties.

Mrs. Evelyn Maples, a trained librarian of Longview, will serve as Multi-County Librarian. Mrs. Maples holds a Masters Degree in Library Science from East Texas State College, Commerce. Supervision of the project will be provided by Miss Elizabeth Karle of the Texas State Library. Mr. Carlton Harris of San Augustine will serve as driver-clerk.

#### **New Libraries in Texas**

Since the publication of the Statistical Directory issue of *Texas Libraries*, March-April 1961, the following new libraries have been organized, according to reports received at the State Library:

Baytown Public Library, Henry Blaisick, Librarian

Brooks County Library, Falfurrias



Diboll Memorial Library, Mrs. Calvin  
Lawrence, Librarian

Freer Government Wells Library,  
Mrs. Jack Allen, Librarian

Hardeman County Library, Quanah,  
Mrs. Oscar Low, Librarian

Pharr Memorial Library, Mrs. Ruby  
Fleming, Librarian







