

SPRING 1977

VOLUME 39

NUMBER 1

TEXAS LIBRARIES



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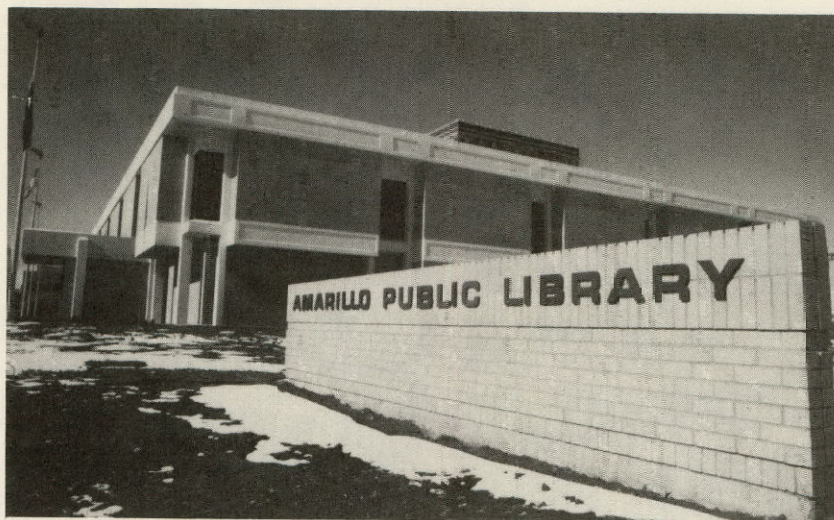
About the Cover

Soon after the completion of the Texas Capitol, members of the Legislature decided that art objects were needed for the new structure. The statues of Stephen F. Austin (shown on the cover) and Sam Houston by Elisabet Ney were the result of their plans.

A Service

For some reason that we are not sure about, the State Library has long seemed a logical place for persons to obtain information concerning getting a copyright. Our usual procedure for persons whose calls wind up in the publications office has been to refer them to the federal documents collection to consult the law if they had not already done so and then to suggest that—depending on time—they either write the Library of Congress for forms or ask one of the local publishers. With new legislation about to go into effect—and particularly because the agency cooperated in sponsoring a workshop on library involvement with copyright—we decided that having a collection of forms would be appropriate. Since their arrival a week ago they have been used by two persons planning to apply for a copyright.

Beyond the obvious service function is something else. During the mid-1960's, when the "New Social Studies" was having a tremendous aspect on how information in the disciplines, there was much emphasis upon developing new ways of thinking. Educators wanted students to learn not only the facts but also to learn to "think like" anthropologists, sociologists, historians, political scientists, and so forth. This editor thinks that librarians' working with these forms to even a limited extent will give librarians a better understanding of the copyright holder's point of view. And the public interest may well be served by informal dialogue between those who have copyrights and those who used copyrighted material.



Amarillo Public Library Moves into New Building

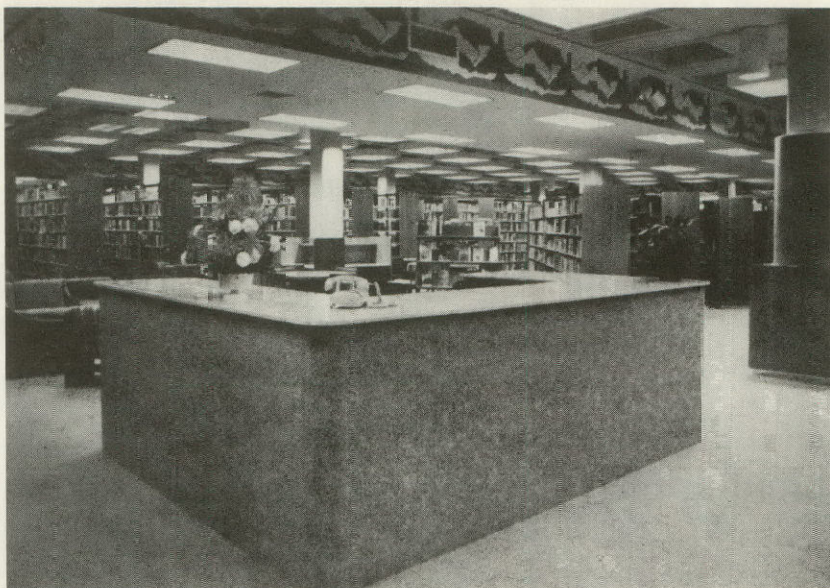
by Mary Louise Loyd

The Texas Library Association and Amarillo Public Library were founded in the same year and celebrated a seventy-fifth anniversary in 1977. In Amarillo, the celebration had two highlights: settling into a new \$2.4 million central building on an entire city block in downtown Amarillo and congratulating City Librarian Alice Green on being named Texas Librarian of the Year at the El Paso Conference.

In those 75 years, APL has grown from 123 donated books and a staff of volunteers to 250,000 books plus films, framed reproductions of paintings and recordings to check out—not to mention numerous services undreamed of in 1902.

Within the last decade, citizens of Amarillo have voted bonds for four library buildings. A southwest branch opened in 1968 and east and north branches on the same date in 1974. The new central building opened for business November 29, 1976. The Library Board thinks the success of these bond issues makes a very clear comment on a progressive, library-conscious community.

Construction costs including site acquisition and development make up the \$2.4 million total. Another \$350,000 was allotted to furniture and equipment. Financing was through the sale of municipal bonds, revenue sharing funds, and a federal Library Services and Construction Act Title II grant. Shiver-Megert and Associates, AIA, were architects, and General Contractor was Tom Bacrow of Amarillo. Also of Amarillo,



Information desk area



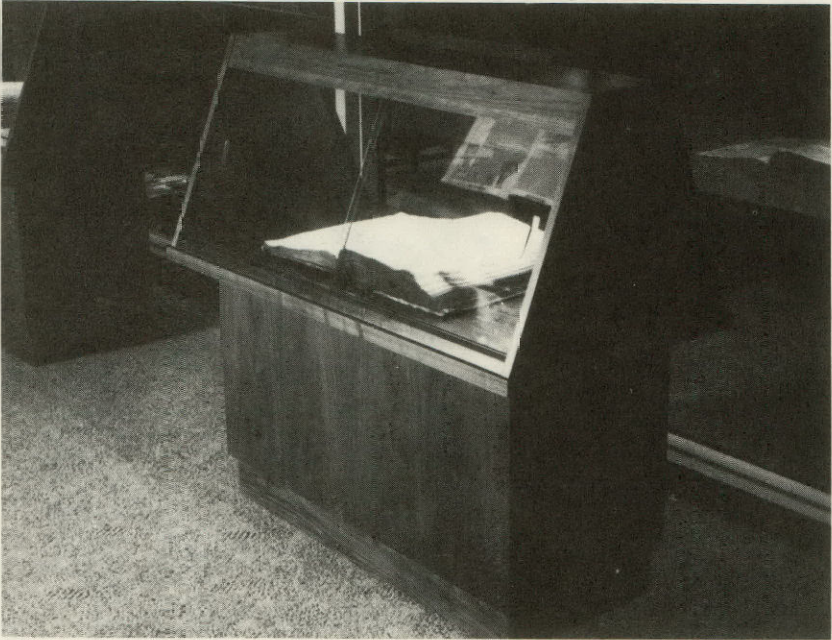
Main floor from front: information desk on left, card catalog, reference desk farther back



Card catalog



Reading area with Bush-FitzSimon Collections or the Southwest in glass-front room in background



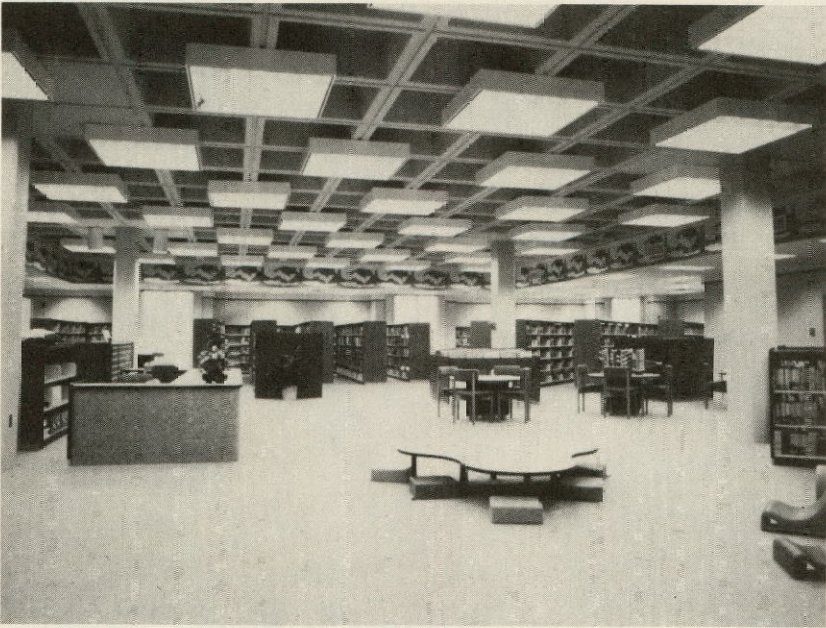
Display case inside Bush-FitzSimon Room (Nurnburg Chronicle)

Earl Herring, ASID, was in charge of interior design. David M. Henington, director of Houston Public Library, was the building consultant. Shelving was from Estey and other furniture through Environs, Inc.

With a book capacity of 400,000 and with 60,000 square feet on two floors and a full basement, library operations are confined at present to the two floors with the basement planned for future expansion. When space needs for the adult collection require it, the youth department and technical services will move to the basement. A Fine Arts and Literature section will then be located on the second floor adjacent to the large Audio-Visual area.

For the first time, all adult non-book materials have been gathered together in the A-V Department. Some mental adjustment on the part of the staff has been necessary to the new situation of having a collection arranged in logical order! The Mary E. Bivins Memorial building occupied by the library for 22 years had extensive additions for library service in 1955, but as a historic home created many problems in locations of related materials along with the undoubted charm of its atmosphere and furnishings.

At last, APL has people space!—comfortable seating arrangements: occasional chairs, reading tables, listening areas, study carrels, small study rooms. Three meeting rooms have a capacity of 184 comfortably seated. Two of these can be combined in a large multipurpose room



Youth Department: younger children's area and staff desk

with built-in sound system, three projection booths, and movable platform for a variety of public programs.

Ninety-one parking spaces on the block are in front of the building, with a large Civic Center lot across the street. Administrative offices, meeting rooms, youth department, group services, technical services, the audio-visual department, "Books by Mail," and the staff artist for the Texas Panhandle Library System all are located on the second floor. A liberal use of wall carpet on both floors makes large, easily changed display areas.

The unique character of the interior planned by designer Earl Herring has been developed through a specially designed wall covering on ceiling bays, providing a border on both floors that stylistically portrays the Palo Duro Canyon. Earth tones are used throughout in furnishings, and a flowing design with much of the furniture custom made, partially covered with the same carpet used on the floor, and with an effective use of marble on counter tops, tables, and card catalog give the building a beauty and style all its own.

On the icy Sunday afternoon in November when Mayor John Drummond, City Manager John Stiff, Library Board Chairman Bill C. Mcbley and City Librarian Alice Green posed for pictures of the ribbon cutting, more than 500 hardy citizens came out in 17° weather to see what they had built. All were beaming with pride, and one man was heard to remark, "I couldn't be prouder if I'd laid every brick myself!"

Planning Session Held For Newspaper Project

A state planning session to explore the possibility of Texas' participation in the United States Newspaper Project was held at the Lorenzo de Zavala State Archives and Library Building on February 14, 1977. The United States Project now being implemented by the Organization of American Historians under a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities is concerned with the preservation of United States newspapers through microfilming.

Dr. Gale Peterson of the U.S. Project conducted the session, which had been put together under contract by Mrs. Lois Bebout of Southwest Information Associates. As have other state planning conferences, the Texas one included representatives from the fields of history, librarianship, and journalism. Institutions from throughout the state were represented.

Prior to the conference a questionnaire was distributed to public and academic libraries in the state to determine how many newspapers they hold. Other institutions surveyed included Amon Carter Museum of Western History in Fort Worth and San Antonio Museum Association which operates Witte Museum in that city.

It is estimated that some 5,000 newspapers have been published in Texas. The most extensive effort to identify them and locate copies was carried out during the 1930's and published in 1941 as *Texas Newspapers, 1813-1939*. Continuity between that program and the



Dr. Margaret Henson, Sherrie Schmidt, and Dr. Gabe Peterson at the planning session.

present proposal was reflected by the presence at the session of Dr. J. Milton Nance. Although 36 years old now, the 1941 list is still used by researchers as a tool if not the basic one. More recent union lists of serials holdings of libraries in the areas for which Houston Public Library and Fort Worth Public Library serve as Major Resource Centers include newspapers. Catalogs of commercial microfilm companies and the Library of Congress' *Newspapers in Microfilm* provide assistance to the person who needs information on newspapers that are available in microfilm.

Those attending the planning session agreed that a program to identify holdings and then to carry out an extensive microfilming effort is needed in Texas. Before adjourning, they formed themselves into an organization, elected J. C. Martin of the University of Texas at Arlington as chairman, and asked the Texas State Library to serve as "umbrella" for the project. At its meeting on April 28, 1977, the Texas Library and Historical Commission passed a resolution supporting the project and authorizing the State Library staff to serve in this "umbrella" capacity.

Since funds for neither the extensive bibliographic project that will precede the microfilming nor the microfilming are available in the State Library budget, support for the project will be sought. In preparing for the conference, Mrs. Bebout estimated costs for the bibliographic

work. In reviewing the estimate and pointing out the need for data, several committee members suggested a budget of \$50,000 for the bibliographic activity. This remains considerably smaller than the \$90,000 allocated for the work in Iowa where a pilot project is currently underway.

The increased activity of the Library of Congress in the area of microfilming newspapers and the expectation that the MARC format for newspapers will be available in the next year make this a time when libraries are likely to work on newspaper records. Although holdings information may not be recorded on the Ohio College Library Center data base, the development of the MARC format and the input of titles into the OCLC data base will make available a verification tool.

A total of 109 institutions either reported to the 1941 index or to the most recent edition of *Newspapers in Microfilm*. How many newspapers have complete runs of their papers is not known. Nor is it known how many have microfilmed back copies and not reported them to *Newspapers in Microfilm*. The current status of newspapers that were reported to be in private collections in 1941 is not known.

Effective planning for Texas participation in the United States Newspaper Project depends upon obtaining as much input as possible. A list of institutions that answered the questionnaire is published here so that persons who know of collections that have not been reported may report them. At the state level the Texas Press Association and the Texas Daily Newspaper Association have offered their assistance. The names of newspaper persons who are interested in local history and would be interested in this project are also needed. In some communities local museums and County Historical Survey Committees have been active in identifying and/or collecting these materials.

Texas Libraries Holding Texas Newspapers

Amon Carter Museum of Western Art, Fort Worth
Austin Public Library
Baylor University Library, Waco
Dallas Public Library
Houston Public Library
Rosenberg Library, Galveston
San Antonio Museum
*San Jacinto Museum
Stephen F. Austin State University
Texas A & I University, Kingsville
Texas A & M University, College Station
Texas Christian University, Fort Worth

Texas State Library, Austin
Texas Tech University, Lubbock
Trinity University, San Antonio
*University of Houston
University of Texas at Arlington
University of Texas at Austin

*Murphy, Virginia B. et al. *Newspaper Resources of Southeast Texas*.
1971.

Although they did not report holdings, Corpus Christi Public Library, the Institute of Texan Cultures at San Antonio, and Midwestern University at Wichita Falls, reported newspaper microfilming projects.

If you are interested in being put on a mailing list concerning the project or if you have information that you think would be helpful, please fill in the blank below and return it to Millicent Huff, Texas State Library, Box 12927/Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711.

I am interested in obtaining a printed piece describing the United States Newspaper Project.

I am interested in having my name on a mailing list to obtain information on Texas participation in the United States Newspaper Project.

I do indeed know of an institution with a newspaper collection that is not listed here. It is _____

_____ is a newspaper editor/
reporter/publisher who is much interested in state or local history.



Davis Honored at TLA Conference

At the 1977 Conference of the Texas Library Association in El Paso, Robert E. Davis, chairman of the Texas Library and Historical Commission, was named Library Trustee of the Year. Alice Green, librarian at Amarillo Public Library, was named Librarian of the Year.

Each year the association honors an outstanding library trustee and a librarian for his or her work. Davis is the first member of the Texas Library and Historical Commission to be so honored.

Chairman of the Texas Library and Historical Commission since 1974, Davis served on the board for Waco-McLennan County Library prior to his appointment to the Texas Library and Historical Commission, governing board for the Texas State Library.



Sam Houston Center Presented to State

In ceremonies on May 14, 1977, Charles W. Fisher, president of the Atascosito Historical Society, officially turned over the keys to the Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center at Liberty to Robert E. Davis, chairman of the Texas Library and Historical Commission.

Constructed entirely with private funds on a 110-acre site contributed to the State by former Governor and Mrs. Price Daniel, the center will house local records for the ten-county area that was a part of the Atascosito District. The counties include Chambers, Hardin, Jasper, Jefferson, Liberty, Newton, Orange, Polk, San Jacinto, and Tyler.

Under legislation establishing regional historical resource depositories for no longer active public records, the center will maintain official records for the region. In addition, a number of significant private collections have been acquired.

In addition to its function as a research center, the building will also be used by Lamar University for research and field courses.

Clint W. Murchison Memorial Library

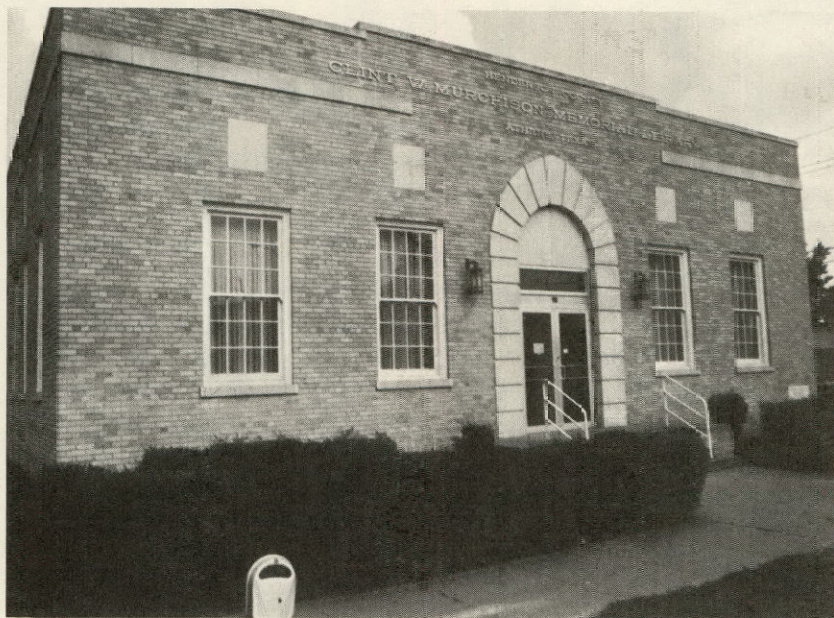
by Carlos Vidal Greth

At 121 South Prairieville Street in Athens, in what was formerly the Post Office, stands the Murchison Library. It has a circulation of 36,253 and serves a population of 24,421. This includes the 9,582 residents of Athens as well as a portion of the population of Henderson County. The 1976 budget of \$51,278 provides per capita expenditures of \$2.09. As Athens residents can appreciate, the library has come a long way in a short time. It is the result of the efforts of a concerned, active citizenry and several generous patrons.

The library is named after the late Texas oilman, Clint Murchison, of whom the Dallas *Times Herald* said, "Industrialists throughout the world considered him the symbol of Texas power in this century." His financial empire included more than oil and gas. Though he dropped out of college, Murchison owned a newspaper, *Field and Stream* magazine, and 50 percent of Henry Holt Publishing House. The Murchison family had supported the public library movement in Athens for a long time.

Also important to the development of the Murchison Library has been the foundation established by the late Sid Richardson, an associate of Murchison from the beginning of both their careers. For each of the last five years, 1973-77, the Richardson Foundation has given grants of \$20,000 to the Murchison Memorial Library. Although the grants have been without conditions, the Foundation has expressed a particular interest in developing the juvenile section and Texana and Southwest collections. Mrs. Bess Gray, the former librarian, said that in 1973 children were limited to checking out two books at a time, which is no longer the case. Other materials purchased with these funds include self-help books, technical, specialized content and special interest books. There have been many sources of financial support for the library, including public subscription, but the generosity of the Athens and Henderson County residents in recent years has been commendable.

The growth of the public library may best be expressed through the increase in book volumes. In 1972 when the library moved to its present location it had around 8,000 books. In May, 1977, it had 22,738. The old library was about a quarter of the size of the present edifice which was

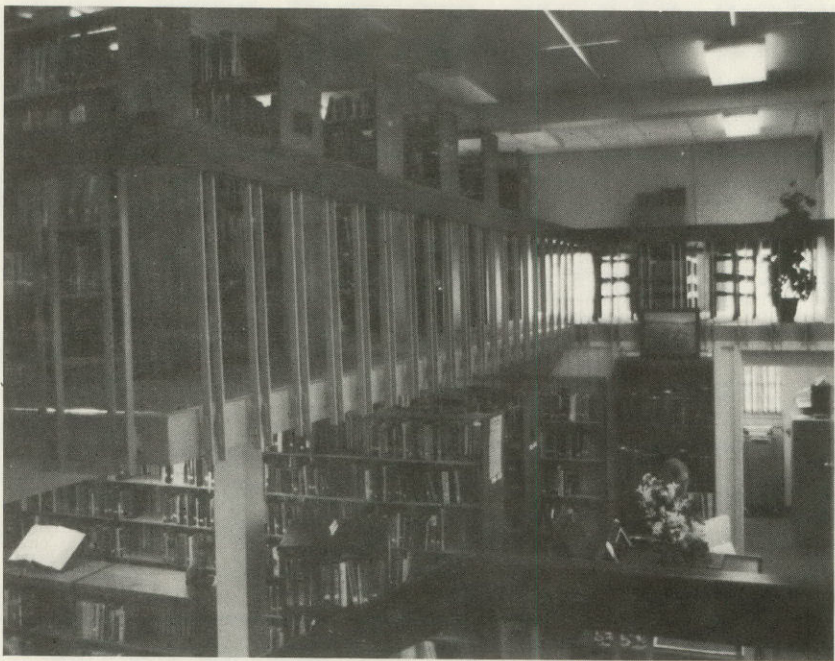


previously a post office. It was obtained through a Department of Health, Education, and Welfare program to convert former federal facilities to new community uses. An excerpt from the *Athens Review* in 1919 sheds light on the early history of the public library: "The ladies of the current literature club of Athens, especially those who are interested in getting up a public library, wish to thank Mr. Sid Richardson for our first cash donation." Fifty-three years later Athens got a permanent library. By 1977 the Library fulfilled the criteria to become a community library by having support of \$1.00 per capita. State library system membership allows the library interlibrary-loan services and includes the staff in projects such as workshops, central book acquisition programs, film lending collections, etc. Daisy Tindel was the librarian at the old library and retired in the new one. Coincidentally, her late husband retired from the same building, but as a postal employee. Mrs. Bess L. Gray was librarian for several years, retired, and was succeeded by the present head librarian Peggy Sloss. Mrs. Gray yet serves as a consultant. Jonell Taylor serves as full-time assistant. A bookmobile makes three seventy-mile round trip routes weekly. Duplicate books have been purchased for the bookmobile with the Richardson grant and other sources. There is a station (staffed by volunteers) at Seven Points in the Cedar Creek area.

Mrs. Sloss gives most credit to Mrs. Bess L. Gray in the acquisition

and processing of the Texana and Southwest collections. Some effort toward producing an oral history of Henderson County was also initiated by Mrs. Gray. They have the complete collection of the Lamar papers, many biographies such as Gambrell's *Anson Jones*, some reprints of rare or out-of-print books such as the *History of Texas* by John Henry Brown (1892) and *Early Settlers and Indian Fighters* reprinted in 1964 in a limited edition, anthologies and commentaries on the art of Texas and the Southwest, such as *Tom Lea Prints* with an introduction by J. Frank Dobie and *Everett Spruce, A Portfolio*. General works on Texas history such titles as *Soldiers of Texas* (including a commentary on the 36th T-Patch Division) and *After San Jacinto*, which covers the years 1836-1841.

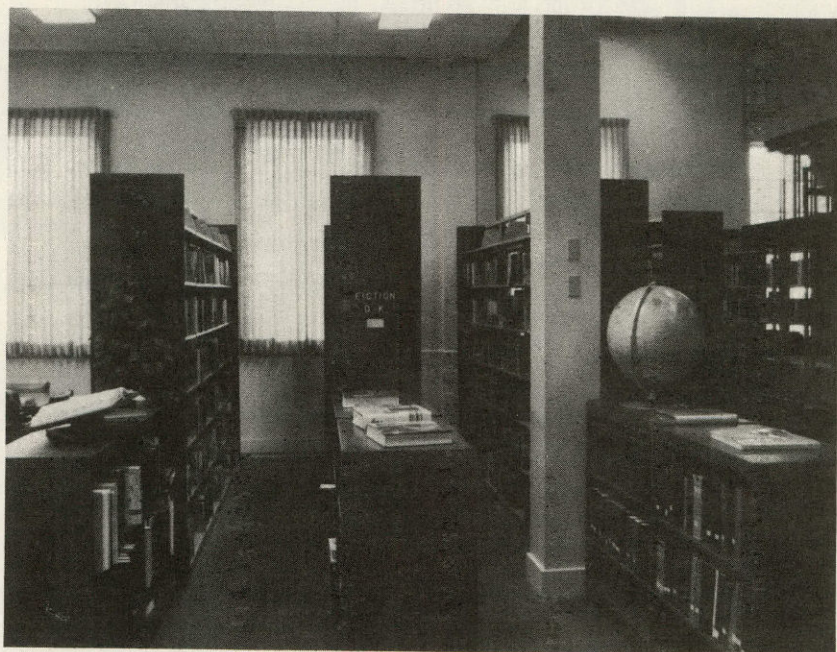
The Murchison Library is a study in the early formation of a modern library. Many divisions and sections are in an incipient, rudimentary stage, but are expanding at a remarkable rate. Present audio-visual material includes a microfish reader; forty-one out-of-print books on microfilm; a good number of cassettes, including a Bicentennial series (*Men of Affairs*), *National Geographic*, and 120 slides on Colonial Williamsburg. A record collection lists popular to classical music and has many children's records such as "Sesame Street." There are 109 albums and 238 singles. Visually impaired patrons have access to large print books. Many of the Ulverscroft and American Reprint Company



large print copies are represented. The supply of periodicals is limited to thirty magazines kept for the period of one year only because of the lack of space. There are around thirty circulating art prints and others that are non-circulating.

The Murchison Library serves the community in a variety of ways. The board room on the second story which may be used by local groups. Several years ago a lecture series was presented there. Also in the board room is a small core of genealogical material which will assuredly grow in response to the demand for information. There is little information on the genealogy of Henderson County: only one cemetery guide and J. J. Falk's *History of Henderson County*. Other material indicates a large influx of people from the Carolinas, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Some of the genealogical material is on loan from the Daughters of the American Revolution, but will eventually become a permanent part of the genealogical section. The children's section, which is relatively large, is on the first floor and includes many Newberry and Caldecott Medal award winners. Some rare and first edition books are kept in the old post office vault along with records of the Henderson County Historical Commission. Adult education classes are held in the basement twice a week for the G.E.D. examination to develop secretarial skills.

The library houses many artifacts. The Murchison family has



donated an enormous globe, the antique secretary in the board room, a grandfather clock, a set of ancient scales, and the painting, "Wesley Common Surrey" by Nieman. Of historical interest is an original Confederate flag on loan from the Richardson family. Hand-sewn by the ladies of Henderson County and presented to a company of men leaving Athens under the command of Benjamin Franklin Jordan. The flag was carried in action by the Howdy Martin Brigade. Inscribed on it are the words "Victory or Death." Notable gifts from other donors are the Tiffany clock near the front desk and several worked silver horses in the board room. There are two non-circulating prints by Buck Schiwetz, noted artist, and a signed photograph of J. Edgar Hoover.

Among the most interesting items in the Murchison Library is a unique edition of *Mein Kampf*. The volume has an interesting history. During the summer of 1945 a first sergeant discovered the 18 by 24 inch volume of *Mein Kampf* in the recently captured castle of Konrad Hemlein, an important Nazi party member. The first sergeant sent the volume to his sister in Illinois. After a period of fourteen years, a McAllen, Texas banker, V. F. Neuhas, came into possession of the book. Neuhas, a friend of Clint Murchison, donated the volume shortly after the library's dedication.

This work was appraised at \$10,000 four years ago. It is assumed that the book was a personal gift from Hitler to Hemlein. Andrew Dickinson restored the white calfskin cover and vellum binding. He suggested the typeface was used on only three volumes. The whereabouts of the other two volumes, if extant, are unknown.

While having a relatively short history, the Clint W. Murchison Memorial Library is a dynamic institution with every indication of even greater community participation in the future. It is the symbol of contributions of several families and of a local burgeoning interest in learning, the arts, history, and general education.

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"Dallas Times Herald." April 17, 1972.

State Library System

Vernon's Annotated Civil Statutes Article 5446a (61st Legislature - Regular Session) As Amended by Senate Bill 383 Passed by 65th Legislature - Regular Session

CHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Short title

Section 1. This Act may be cited as the Library Systems Act.

Definitions

Sec. 2. In this Act, unless the context requires a different definition:

(1) "public library" means a library operated by a single public agency or board that is freely open to all persons under identical conditions and receives its financial support in whole or in part from public funds;

(2) "Commission" means the Texas State Library and Historical Commission;

(3) "State Librarian" means the director and librarian of the Texas State Library;

(4) "library system" means two or more public libraries cooperating in a system approved by the Commission to improve library service and to make their resources accessible to all residents of the area which the member libraries collectively serve;

(5) "state library system" means a network of library systems, interrelated by contract, for the purpose of organizing library resources and services for research, information, and recreation to improve statewide library service and to serve collectively the entire population of the state;

(6) "major resource system" means a network of library systems attached to a major resource center, consisting of area libraries joined cooperatively to the major resource center and of community libraries joined cooperatively to area libraries or directly to the major resource center;

(7) "major resource center" means a large public library serving a population of 200,000 or more within 4,000 or more square miles,

and designated as the central library of a major resource system for referral service from area libraries in the system, for cooperative service with other libraries in the system, and for federated operations with other libraries in the system;

(8) "area library" means a medium-sized public library serving a population of 25,000 or more, which has been designated as an area library by the Commission and is a member of a library system interrelated to a major resource center;

(9) "community library" means a small public library serving a population of less than 25,000, which is a member of a library system interrelated to a major resource center;

(10) "contract" means a written agreement between two or more libraries to cooperate, consolidate, or receive one or more services;

(11) "standards" means the criteria established by the Commission which must be met before a library may be accredited and eligible for membership in a major resource system;

(12) "accreditation of libraries" means the evaluation and rating of public libraries and library systems using the standards as a basis;

(13) "governing body" means that body which has the power to authorize a library to join, participate in, or withdraw from a library system; and

(14) "library board" means the body which has the authority to give administrative direction or advisory counsel to a library or library system.

CHAPTER B. STATE LIBRARY SYSTEM

Establishment

Sec. 3. The Commission shall establish and develop a state library system.

Advisory Board

Sec. 4. (a) The Commission shall appoint an advisory board of five librarians qualified by training, experience, and interest to advise the Commission on the policy to be followed in the application of the provisions of this Act.

(b) The term of office of a board member is three years, except that the initial members shall draw lots for terms, one to serve a one-year term, two to serve a two-year term, and two to serve a three-year term.

(c) The board shall meet at least once a year. Other meetings may be called by the Commission during the year.

(d) The members of the board shall serve without compensation,

but shall be reimbursed their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties.

(e) Vacancies shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term in the same manner as original appointments.

(f) No member may serve more than two consecutive terms.

Plan of service

Sec. 5. The State Librarian shall submit an initial plan for the establishment of the state library system and an annual plan for the development of the system for review by the advisory board and approval by the Commission.

CHAPTER C. MAJOR RESOURCE SYSTEM

Authority to establish

Sec. 6. The Commission may establish and develop major resource systems in conformity with the plan for a state library system as provided in Chapter B, Sec. 5 of this Act.

Membership in system

Sec. 7. (a) Eligibility for membership in the system is dependent on accreditation of the library by the Commission on the basis of standards established by the Commission.

(b) To meet population change, economic change, and changing service strengths of member libraries, a major resource system may be reorganized, merged with another system, or partially transferred to another system by the Commission with the approval of the majority of the appropriate governing bodies of the libraries comprising the system.

Operation and management

Sec. 8. (a) Governing bodies within a major resource system area may join in the development, operation, and maintenance of the system and appropriate and allocate funds for its support.

(b) Governing bodies of political subdivisions of the state may negotiate separately or collectively a contract with the governing bodies of member libraries of a major resource system for all library services or for those services defined in the contract.

(c) On petition of 10 percent of the qualified electors in the latest general election of a county, city, town, or village within the major resource system service area, the governing body of that political subdivision shall call an election to vote on the question of whether or not the political subdivision shall establish contractual relationships with the major resource system.

(d) The governing body of a major resource center and the Commission may enter into contracts and agreements with the

governing bodies of other libraries, including but not limited to other public libraries, school libraries and media centers, academic libraries, technical information and research libraries, or systems of such libraries, to provide specialized resources and services to the major resource system in effecting the purposes of this Act.

Withdrawal from a major resource system

Sec. 9. (a) The governing body of any political subdivision of the state may by resolution or ordinance withdraw from the system. Notice of withdrawal must be made not less than 90 days before the end of the major resource center fiscal year.

(b) The provision for termination of all or part of a major resource system does not prohibit revision of the system by the Commission, with the approval of the majority of the appropriate governing bodies, by reorganization, by transfer of part of the system, or by merger with other systems.

(c) The governing body of a public library which proposes to become a major resource center shall submit an initial plan of service for the major resource system to the State Librarian. Thereafter, the governing body of the major resource center shall submit an annual plan of system development, made in consultation with the advisory council, to the State Librarian.

Advisory council

Sec. 10. (a) An advisory council for each major resource system is established, consisting of six lay members representing the member libraries of the system.

(b) The governing body of each member library of the system shall elect or appoint a representative for the purpose of electing council members. The representatives shall meet following their selection and shall elect the initial council from their group. Thereafter, the representatives in an annual meeting shall elect members of their group to fill council vacancies arising due to expiration of terms of office. Other vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired term by the remaining members of the council. The major resource center shall always have one member on the council.

(c) The term of office of a council member is three years, except that the initial members shall draw lots for terms, two to serve a one-year term, two to serve a two-year term, and two to serve a three-year term. No individual may serve more than two consecutive terms.

(d) The council shall elect a chairman, vice chairman, and secretary.

(e) The council shall meet at least once a year. Other meetings may be held as often as is required to transact necessary business. A

majority of the council membership constitutes a quorum. The council shall report business transacted at each meeting to all member libraries of the system.

(f) The members of the council shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties.

(g) The council shall serve as a liaison agency between the member libraries and their governing bodies and library boards to:

(1) advise in the formulation of the annual plan for service to be offered by the system;

(2) recommend policies appropriate to services needed;

(3) evaluate services received;

(4) counsel with administrative personnel; and

(5) recommend functions and limitations of contracts between cooperating agencies.

(h) The functions of the advisory council in no way diminish the powers of local library boards.

CHAPTER D. CONSTITUENTS OF MAJOR RESOURCE SYSTEMS

Major resource center

Sec. 11. (a) The Commission may designate major resource centers. Designation shall be made from existing public libraries on the basis of criteria approved by the Commission and agreed to by the governing body of the library involved.

(b) The governing body of the library designated by the Commission as a major resource center may accept the designation by resolution or ordinance stating the type of service to be given and the area to be served.

(c) The Commission may revoke the designation of a major resource center which ceases to meet the criteria for a major resource center or which fails to comply with obligations stated in the resolution or ordinance agreements. The Commission shall provide a fair hearing on request of the major resource center.

(d) Funds allocated by governing bodies contracting with the major resource center and funds contributed from state grants-in-aid for the purposes of this Act shall be deposited with the governing body operating the major resource center following such procedures as may be agreed to by the contributing agency.

(e) The powers of the governing board of the major resource center in no way diminish the powers of local library boards.

Area library

Sec. 12. (a) The Commission may designate area libraries within each major resource system service area to serve the surrounding area

with library services for which contracts are made with participating libraries. Area libraries may be designated only from existing public libraries and on the basis of criteria approved by the Commission and agreed to by the governing body of the library involved.

(b) The governing body of the library designated by the Commission as an area library may accept the designation by resolution or ordinance stating the type of service to be given and the area to be served.

(c) The Commission may revoke the designation of an area library which ceases to meet the criteria for an area library or fails to comply with obligations stated in the resolution or ordinance agreement. The Commission shall provide a fair hearing on request of the major resource center or area library.

(d) Funds allocated by governing bodies contracting with the area library and funds contributed from state grants-in-aid for the purposes of this Act shall be deposited with the governing body operating the area library following such procedures as may be agreed to by the contributing agency.

Community library

Sec. 13. (a) Community libraries accredited by the Commission are eligible for membership in a major resource system.

(b) The program of state grants shall include one or more of the ordinance of its governing body and execution of contracts for service.

(c) The Commission may terminate the membership of a community library in a system if the community library loses its accreditation by ceasing to meet the minimum standards established by the Commission or fails to comply with obligations stated in the resolution or ordinance agreement.

CHAPTER E. STATE GRANTS-IN-AID TO LIBRARIES

Establishment

Sec. 14. (a) A program of state grants within the limitations of funds appropriated by the Texas Legislature shall be established.

(b) The program of state grants shall include one or more of the following:

(1) system operation grants, to strengthen major resource system services to member libraries, including grants to reimburse other libraries for providing specialized services to major resource systems;

(2) incentive grants, to encourage libraries to join together into larger units of service in order to meet criteria for major resource system membership;

(3) establishment grants, to help establish libraries which will qualify for major resource system membership in communities without library service; and

(4) equalization grants, to help libraries in communities with relatively limited taxable resources to meet criteria for major resource system membership.

Rules and regulations

Sec. 15. (a) Proposed initial rules and regulations necessary to the administration of the program of state grants, including qualifications for major resource system membership, shall be formulated by the State Librarian with the advice of the advisory board.

(b) These proposed rules and regulations shall be published in the official publication of the Texas State Library. Such publication shall include notice of a public hearing before the Commission on the proposed rules and regulations to be held on a date certain not less than 30 nor more than 60 days following the date of such publication.

(c) Following the public hearing, the Commission shall approve the proposed rules and regulations or return them to the State Librarian with recommendations for change. If the Commission returns the proposed rules and regulations to the State Librarian with recommendations for change, the State Librarian shall consider the recommendations for change in consultation with the advisory board and resubmit the proposed rules and regulations to the Commission for its approval.

(d) Revised rules and regulations shall be adopted under the same procedure provided in this Chapter for the adoption of the initial rules and regulations.

Administration

Sec. 16. The State Librarian shall administer the program of state grants and shall promulgate the rules and regulations approved by the Commission.

Funding

Sec. 17. (a) The Commission may use funds appropriated by the Texas Legislature for personnel and other administrative expenses necessary to carry out the provisions of the Act.

(b) Libraries and library systems may use state grants for materials; for personnel, equipment, and administrative expenses; and for financing programs which enrich the services and materials offered a community by its public library.

(c) State grants may not be used for site acquisition, construction, or for acquisition of buildings, or for payment of past debts.

(d) State aid to any free tax-supported public library is a supplement to and not a replacement of local support.

(e) Exclusive of the expenditure of funds for administrative expenses as provided in Section 17(a) of this Act, all funds appropriated pursuant to Section 14 of this Act shall be apportioned among the

major resource systems on the following basis:

Twenty-five percent of such funds shall be apportioned equally to the major resource systems and the remaining seventy-five percent shall be apportioned to them on a per capita basis determined by the last decennial census.

CHAPTER F. OTHER PROVISIONS

Severability

Sec. 18. If any provision of this Act or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the Act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are declared to be severable.

Hearing Held on System Rules and Regulations

More than 100 people gathered in Austin on March 1 when the Texas Library and Historical Commission held an open hearing concerning Rules and Regulations for Administering the Texas Library Systems Act in fiscal years 1978 and 1979. This represented a sharp contrast to the first hearing in September, 1970, when only a handful showed up.

Also in sharp contrast were the funds to be available to the systems. In September, 1970, funds were available only for the organization of systems. For fiscal years 1972 through 1975, the annual appropriations for system activities was \$50,000. System grants from state funds for fiscal year 1978 will total \$2,134,803.

Testimony presented by librarians, library trustees, and members of system advisory councils reflected the great challenge in developing programs to serve the needs of all Texans. The uneven distribution of the population is reflected in distribution of libraries and library resources.

Robert E. Davis, Chairman of the Texas Library and Historical Commission, conducted the hearing in accordance with the Systems Act requirement that proposed changes be discussed at an open hearing before going into effect. The first step in the process is the drawing up of proposed rules and regulations by the staff. The second step is presentation to the five-member Advisory Board which may recommend changes. In practice, informal input from the Advisory Board and from system Advisory Councils is accepted on an ongoing basis. In addition, the rules and regulations must take into account contractual and other relationships with a large number of institutions and levels of government.

Although some changes were made in the rules and regulations during the second and third biennium after the first set were adopted in 1970, the revision prior to the beginning of the biennium that starts on September 1, 1977, is the first thorough revision. With significant state funding for the first time during the current biennium, a number of refinements were made.

In addition, the new rules and regulations reinforce the concept of a



The Open Hearing held on March 1, 1977.

statewide network of systems while still encouraging each regional system to carry out programs best suited to its needs.

Changes upon which discussion focused at the hearing included the following: Specifying the maximum percentage of the funds that could be used for collection development, the rule designating access to a film collection as a required system activity, changes in criteria for membership, and the definition of free library service.

In addition to hearing testimony from those who appeared at the hearing and reading written statements sent prior to the session, Commission members also called upon State Library staff members William D. Gooch and Raymond Hitt for background on the reasons for proposed changes.

As a result of the hearing several changes were made in the proposed Rules and Regulations, and the staff was asked to study aspects of the document in preparation for the next biennium. What the considerable interest expressed at the hearing stated most clearly was the growing maturity of systems in Texas. With active programs during the biennium that is nearly complete, both librarians and others attending the session could focus clearly upon what systems activities mean to the libraries and library systems with which they are associated.

Rules and Regulations for the State Library System September 1, 1977 to August 31, 1979

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Standards for Accreditation of a Major Resource System of Libraries in the Texas Library System

- Rule 1.1 A major resource system shall serve a population of 200,000 or more within 4,000 or more square miles including contiguous whole counties.
- Rule 1.2 External boundaries of a major resource system shall be coterminous with the boundaries of Councils of Government, unless permission to vary is granted by the Governor's Office at the request of the State Librarian.
- Rule 1.3 On behalf of a major resource system, a six-year plan for system services shall be annually revised, updated, and submitted to the State Librarian by the major resource center. Data determining the adequacy of library services, methods to evaluate the effectiveness of system programs, and documentation indicating full participation in the planning process by the system advisory council, system member libraries, and the lay representatives shall be included.
- Rule 1.4 On behalf of a major resource system, a major resource center shall submit an annual program and budget for system services 120 days prior to the beginning of the state fiscal year for approval by the State Librarian. Approval of a major resource system's annual program and budget shall be certified by the State Librarian in writing 60 days prior to the beginning of the state fiscal year. If following consultation with the major resource system, the State Librarian, on behalf of the Library and Historical Commission, does not certify approval of the system's annual program of services and budget, the State Librarian may recommend that the Commission revoke the major resource center's designation

or withhold funds from the system until the plan is acceptably redrawn. If the State Librarian does not accept a proposed program of service, a formal public hearing shall be held within the boundaries of the system, with adequate prior notification to member librarians, to allow exchange of information among member libraries, State Library, and Major Resource Center. If following a public hearing the Commission finds that program of the major resource system unacceptable and revokes the major resource center's designation, the major resource system is dissolved as defined under the Library Systems Act.

Rule 1.5 If for any reason a major resource system is dissolved, the Commission may, following a public hearing, designate a major resource center and provide an opportunity for public libraries to rejoin the new major resource system by resolution or ordinance of their appropriate governing authorities, or the Commission may transfer the public libraries to other systems and provide an opportunity for the public libraries to join another major resource system by resolution or ordinance of their appropriate governing authorities.

Rule 1.6 On behalf of the major resource system, a major resource center shall fully participate in the "State Library System" by providing interlibrary loan and reference referral services to member libraries and other libraries served through the "State Library System." This requirement for accreditation of a major resource system may be waived at the discretion of the State Librarian with the approval of the Commission. Should libraries receiving interlibrary loan services experience dissatisfaction with the performance of the ILL contractor, they have the right and obligation to advise the Commission during the period of the contract. This will be taken into consideration when the contract is being negotiated for renewal.

Rule 1.7 A major resource system shall provide consulting and continuing education services to member libraries. At least one professional librarian shall be assigned full time to consulting and other system duties and provided with an adequate budget for support staff, travel, and communications to carry out these duties. A professional librarian is defined as a librarian holding an American Library Association accredited fifth-year degree in librarianship or master's degree from an American Library Association

accredited library school.

- Rule 1.8 If a major resource system elects to have a film service, it shall provide access to a collection of 16mm films for its member libraries upon an equal basis, and make annual progress toward reaching the guidelines for film services as set forth in *Guidelines for Audiovisual Materials and Services for Large Public Libraries* (Public Library Association, 1975). This rule shall not prohibit the payment of return postage for films by member libraries.
- Rule 1.9 By September 1, 1978, on behalf of a major resource system, a major resource center shall file a plan of public library development for unserved counties or provide direct service to unserved counties within its boundaries. See Rule 3.4 for definition of an unserved county. This plan will be approved by the State Librarian. Evidence must be provided in system performance reports that the plan of development is being implemented.
- Rule 1.10 Expenditures of system funds for printed library materials, including microforms and periodicals, may not exceed 50% of the total annual system funds. Each system will implement local option in the distribution of materials purchased, and the method of distribution will have built-in incentives to encourage local governing bodies to annually increase the local materials budgets.
- Programs involving the purchase of printed materials for other than local collection enrichment are excluded from these limitations and may be proposed in the system's annual program.
- Rule 1.11 Costs applicable to major resource system grants shall follow the general principles established in *Federal Management Circular 74-4*, July 18, 1974, with the following modifications:
- a. indirect costs (allocated overhead) may not exceed 5 percent (5%) of the total grant;
 - b. where an indirect cost allocation plan is available at the local government level, that indirect cost rate if applied must not exceed 5 percent (5%) of the total grant or contract;
 - c. depreciation and use charges for the use of buildings or capital improvements, library materials, and equipment may only be included as indirect costs.
- Rule 1.12 Unallowable costs include, but are not limited to:

- a. legal expenses for the prosecution of claims against the state of Texas;
- b. bad debts;
- c. contributions to a contingency reserve or any similar provision for unforeseen events;
- d. contributions and donations;
- e. costs of amusements, social activities, and incidental costs related thereto, such as meals, beverages, lodging, rentals, transportation, and gratuities; however, this rule shall not be interpreted to prohibit system seminars, workshops, or other educational and professional activities;
- f. fines and penalties resulting from violations of or failure to comply with Federal, State, or local laws and regulations;
- g. interest and other financial costs on borrowings, bond discounts, and legal and professional fees paid in connection therewith;
- h. expenses resulting from attempts to influence the outcome of any elections, or the passage or defeat of any legislative measure; however, this prohibition shall not be construed to prevent any official or employee of the system from furnishing to any citizen information in the hands of the employee or official not considered under law to be confidential information.

Rule 1.13 Direct grants-in-aid to major resource system member libraries are prohibited. Grants-in-aid are defined as cash grants for library materials or other expenses in which the major benefit is to the receiving library as opposed to the major resource system of libraries. Programs requiring direct grants to member libraries as reimbursement for providing system services are an allowable expense.

Rule 1.14 Equalization grants to major resource system member libraries are not an allowable system expense.

Rule 1.15 Purchase or lease of "personal passenger cars" for use by major resource system administrative staff is not an allowable expense. Motor vehicles necessary to carry out a specified system service (i.e., delivery van, bookmobile, media mobile) are an allowable expense with the prior approval of the State Librarian. Actual use of vehicles approved for purchase must be documented in a detailed travel log and must be furnished to the State Librarian upon request.

- Rule 1.16 Travel and per diem expenses are allowable at the current rate of reimbursement for state employees or at the option of a major resource system, the current rate allowed by the appropriate local government.
- Rule 1.17 Labor expenses for persons whose primary assignment is to the local library are allowable for that portion of time spent in the provision of major resource system services, if reimbursement is based on payrolls documented and approved in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles of the State and local government. Payrolls shall be supported by time and attendance records or equivalent records for individual employees and shall be supported by appropriate time distribution records between the system and local library.
- Rule 1.18 On behalf of a major resource system, a major resource center shall maintain and submit an inventory of all real and non-expendable personal property purchased and valued at more than fifty dollars (\$50.00) and all films and video tapes purchased with state or federal funds. The director of the local library having possession of state property shall be considered an "Agency Head" and the system member library shall be considered an "Agency" under House Bill Number 753 Chapter 35663 State *Property - Accounting - Responsibility*, and where system property disappears whether through theft or other cause, as a result of the failure of the library director, property manager, or system employee entrusted with the property in writing to exercise reasonable care for its safe-keeping, such persons shall be pecuniarily liable to the State for the loss sustained by the State. In the event that a library withdraws or fails to qualify for system membership, all property and library materials on inventory purchased with federal or state funds shall be disposed of according to instructions from the State Librarian. Such instructions may require that the property be returned to the Texas Library and Historical Commission or transferred to a system member library. This rule shall not be interpreted so as to hold the library system or library staff responsible for the normal wear or loss of films, video tapes, and equipment due to use or loss while in circulation or transit.
- Rule 1.19 On behalf of the major resource system, a major resource center shall provide for a financial management system that provides timely and accurate information on the status of system funds. An audit of system funds must be

conducted annually by an independent certified public accountant or public accountant licensed by the Texas State Board of Public Accountancy. Quarterly reports of disbursements and/or encumbrances of system funds shall be prepared. A copy of the annual audit and the quarterly expenditure reports shall be published in a system newsletter or made available in printed form to the members of the system and the advisory council. Audits and quarterly expenditure reports shall be provided to the Texas State Library in accordance with procedures specified annually in the system's contract and audit guide.

Rule 1.20 On behalf of a major resource system, a major resource center must collect and report program performance measures, accompanied by a narrative report, that conform to the Texas Library and Historical Commission's *Program Performance Report* as required by the Legislative and Governor's Budget Boards.

Rule 1.21 Consistent with the established Rules and Regulations of the State Library System and the Library Systems Act, by September 1, 1978, on behalf of a major resource system, a major resource center shall provide a copy of system by-laws approved by the system advisory council, the major resource center, and a majority of the member libraries to the State Librarian for approval as a part of the annual program of system service. The by-laws shall specify the purposes of the library system, responsibilities and relationships of the member libraries, the system advisory council, and the major resource center with regard to review and approval of long range plans, annual programs and budgets, program and budget changes, election of advisory council members, procedures to call and conduct membership and council meetings, employment and dismissal of system staff, and such other matters as are deemed appropriate. The by-laws will also delineate the responsibilities and duties of the officers of the system advisory council, the major resource center director, the system coordinator, and any standing committees of member librarians established in the annual program of service.

Minimum Standards for Accreditation of Public Libraries in the "State Library System"

Rule 2.1 The population served by a public library is based upon the population recorded in the most recent decennial census

for the city and/or county appropriating public monies for public library services. A municipal library contracting with a county government will be credited with all or a portion of the rural county population depending on whether other municipal libraries in the county also receive county financial support. In counties with more than one contracting municipal library, the rural county population is allocated to the municipal libraries based upon the proportion of the combined municipal population served by each municipality. County libraries having municipal libraries within their service boundaries will not be credited with the municipal population.

- Rule 2.2 A public library shall provide library services without a use charge to all persons residing in the library's tax supporting political subdivision with the following exceptions: reserving library materials, use of meeting rooms, replacement of lost borrower cards; fines for overdue, lost, or damaged materials in accordance with local library policies; searches of machine-readable data bases; postage, in-depth reference services on a contractual basis; photocopying; library parking; services to non-residents; sale of publications; and rental and deposits on equipment.
- Rule 2.3 A public library shall be legally established as a department of city or county government by charter, resolution, or ordinance; or must be chartered as a non-profit corporation by the Secretary of State for the purposes of providing free public library services.
- Rule 2.4 A public library may not decrease its annual local operating expenditures as measured by a three-year average. At least 50 percent (50%) of the annual local operating expenditures required to meet the minimum level of per capita support for accreditation must be from local tax sources. Local tax sources are defined as monies appropriated by city or county governments from their general revenue monies or from federal revenue-sharing monies. A public library shall have minimum local operating expenditures of \$5,000.
- Rule 2.5 A public library shall have on file at the State Library a statement certifying that no person shall be excluded from participation in or denied the benefits of the services of that library on the grounds of race, color, or national origin.
- Rule 2.6 A public library serving more than 25,000 persons shall have a full-time professional librarian on its staff. See Rule 1.7 for definition of professional librarian.

- Rule 2.7 A public library shall file a current and complete annual report with the State Library.
- Rule 2.8 A county library shall not be eligible for accreditation unless the county librarian has received from the State Board of Library Examiners, a certificate of qualification, nor shall any municipal library that receives county funding be eligible for accreditation unless the municipal librarian has received from the State Board of Library Examiners, a certificate of qualification.
- Rule 2.9 A public library that does not meet one of the requirements for accreditation may be provisionally accredited for not more than an initial three-year period, if the library can demonstrate a reasonable expectation of meeting the requirements within three years. However, a newly established library in a previously unserved area that does not meet two criteria may be provisionally accredited.
- Rule 2.10 A public library that has been fully accredited may be granted probational accreditation for one year if the library fails to meet not more than one criterion. Probational accreditation may not be granted to libraries falling below the minimum standards for annual per capita local operating expenditures. Probational accreditation may not be granted more than once in a three-year period and may not be granted immediately following provisional accreditation. To regain full system membership, a library must equal or exceed its previous level of effort on the deficient criterion.
- Rule 2.11 Minimum Requirements for Major Resource System Membership as a Major Resource Center.
- a. It must have local expenditures amounting to at least \$2.00 per capita.
 - b. A library designated as a major resource center must have a collection of at least 100,000 volumes.
 - c. It must be open for service not less than 60 hours per week.
- Minimum Requirements for Major Resource System Membership as an Area Library.
- a. It must have local expenditures amounting to at least \$1.50 per capita.
 - b. A library designated as an Area Library must have a collection of at least 25,000 volumes.
 - c. It must be open for service at least 40 hours per week.

Minimum Requirements for Major Resource System Membership as a Community Library.

- a. It must have local expenditures amounting to at least \$1.00 per capita, or \$5,000, whichever is greater.
- b. A library designated as a Community library must have a collection of at least 10,000 volumes.
- c. If serving a population of 10,000 to 25,000, it must be open for service at least 30 hours per week. If serving a population of less than 10,000, it must be open for service at least 20 hours per week.

Grants: System Operation, Incentive, Establishment, and Equalization

Rule 3.1 System operation grants are to strengthen major resource system services to member libraries, including grants to reimburse libraries for providing specialized services to major resource systems. System operation grants are to initiate and continue cooperative region-wide services sponsored by the system. Application for a system operation grant may include reimbursement to the major resource center or other contracting library for all expenses incurred in the performance of the service contract. System operation grants are awarded to "major resource systems" operating under an approved annual program of services and budget.

Rule 3.2 Incentive grants are to encourage libraries to join together into larger units of service in order to meet criteria for major resource system membership. System member libraries joining together into a county or multi-county library system may be eligible for incentive grants. The library system as a unit will be eligible for incentive grants in three (3) consecutive years provided that services to new geographic areas are added after the first and then second years.

Rule 3.3 Establishment grants are to help establish libraries which will qualify for major resource system membership in counties without library service. An establishment grant is to assist a county without library services to meet the minimum requirements established by the Commission for system membership, provided the library to be established will serve at least a county. A newly established library may apply for system membership in the year in which the library becomes operational. Such a library may be provisionally accredited as a system member. Such a provisional accreditation will not be extended for more than three years following that library's designation as a system member library.

- Rule 3.4 An unserved county is defined as either a county with no existing free public library services or a county that is served by a library that has not expended funds from local city and/or county taxes for a period of three years prior to application for an establishment grant. A period of establishment may not exceed three (3) years.
- Rule 3.5 Equalization grants are to help libraries in communities with relatively limited taxable resources to meet criteria for major resource system membership. Equalization grants will not be awarded during this biennium.
- Rule 3.6 Exclusive of the expenditure of funds for administrative expenses, establishment, and incentive grants, 25 percent (25%) of system operation grants shall be apportioned equally to the major resource systems and the remaining 75 percent (75%) shall be apportioned to them on a per capita basis determined by the last decennial census. The population base for distribution of 75 percent (75%) of the Library Systems Act funds is defined as the total population residing within the major resource system boundaries.

System Advisory Council

- Rule 4.1 An advisory council for each major resource system shall be established consisting of six lay members representing the member libraries of the system.
- Rule 4.2 The governing body of each member library of the system shall annually elect or appoint a representative for the purpose of electing council members. The representatives shall meet following their selection and shall elect the initial council from their group. The major resource center shall always have one member on the council. Thereafter, the representatives in an annual meeting shall elect members of their group to fill council vacancies arising due to expiration of terms of office.
- Rule 4.3 The term of office of a council member is three (3) years.
- Rule 4.4 The council shall annually elect a chairman, vice-chairman, and secretary.
- Rule 4.5 Broad geographical representation is encouraged on the system advisory council.
- Rule 4.6 A representative is elected to council September 1, and once elected to council, represents the system. Therefore, the representative shall complete his council term of three (3) years even though the council member may be replaced

as the official representative of the member library, except as provided for in 4.2. If the council member is replaced as the official representative, the new representative may vote in behalf of his library at the annual meeting of representatives to fill council vacancies. No individual library in the system shall have more than one representative on the system advisory council.

Rule 4.7 Vacancies on the system advisory council arising for reasons other than the regular expiration of terms of office may be filled from among the lay representatives for the unexpired term by the remaining members of the council. If the unexpired term was held by an officer of the council, the lay representative appointed to fill the unexpired term need not necessarily be that officer. The vacated council office can be filled from among the members already on that council.

Rule 4.8 A county or multi-county library system will be eligible to send to the annual meeting of lay representatives either a citizen to represent the entire county or multi-county library system; or the county or multi-county library system may elect to permit each individual member in that system to send one representative to the lay meeting. Only those county or multi-county system member libraries which could individually qualify for State Library System membership may be eligible to send a lay representative. No county or multi-county library system may have more than one representative serving on the major resource system advisory council at the same time.

Rule 4.9 Unless otherwise provided for in the system by-laws, the signature of the council chairman on the following documents shall be required as certification that the advisory council has had an opportunity to review and approve: the long-range plan and annual update for the system, the annual program of services and budget, amendments to the annual program or budget requiring a contract modification, and system by-laws. In the event that a member of the advisory council has had an opportunity to review the documents, but does not approve their contents, a letter stating minority reports should accompany the document to the State Library. In the event that a majority of the advisory council does not approve the contents of one of the above documents, the chairman should sign the documents and forward the advisory council's report with them. The chairman of the advisory council should not sign

OUTLINE OF CRITERIA FOR MEMBERSHIP

Requirements for All Member Libraries

Must provide library service at no charge.
 Must file a statement saying no person shall be denied any library service because of race, creed, or national origin.

Be a legally established Library
 File a current and complete annual report with the Texas State Library
 Receive at least 50 percent of the funds required for system membership from city and/or county appropriations
 May not decrease per capita support

	Per Capita Support	Book Collection	Hours of Access	Staff
Major Resource Center	\$2.00	100,000 volumes	60 hours per week	A staff adequate to meet essential functions, including one professional assigned full-time to system duties with adequate support staff
Area Library (A library serving more than 25,000 people must qualify as an area library.)	\$1.50	25,000 volumes	40 hours per week	A staff adequate to meet essential functions, including one professional librarian
Community Library	\$1.00 per capita or \$5,000, which ever is greater	10,000 volumes	30 hours per week if serving more than 10,000 persons; 20 hours per week if serving fewer than 10,000 persons	

The chart above simply summarizes criteria for system membership. Full explanations of these criteria as well as policy statements on provisional and probational membership are included in the Rules and Regulations.

a document if the majority of the advisory council determine that they have not been adequately informed of its contents by the major resource center staff and should immediately inform the State Library in writing.

People and places



The water sprinkler

This picture was taken about 1912 when a horse drawn water sprinkler operated in the business district. The late D. A. Scoggins is shown above as he is about to mount the vehicle for another tour after replenishing the water supply. The horses in the picture are Naud on the left and Charlie on the right. Mrs. W. L. Lynch is a daughter of Mr. Scoggins and Bud Anorus both own copies of the pictures.



The fire department around 1915

This is the Corsicana Volunteer Fire Department, June Archer, whose father and uncle are in the picture. The picture is owned by Miss



Baptisms near Cryer Creek

A baptistry isn't the only place where baptisms are conducted. This photograph shows a water tank in the Cryer

Creek area where many baptisms were performed around 1902. The church members in this picture are Baptists.



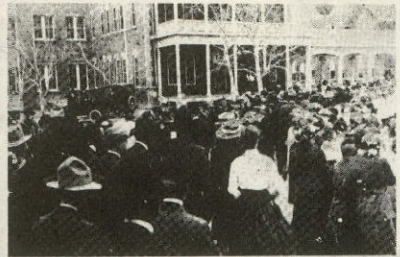
Parade in 1943

Pretty white horses lead off this down town parade in Corsicana in 1943. (Photo courtesy of Glen Francis)



Trinity bridge

This picture of the bridge across the Trinity River to Trinidad was taken in 1923. It is north of the present bridge. (Photo courtesy of Roy M. Hopkins)



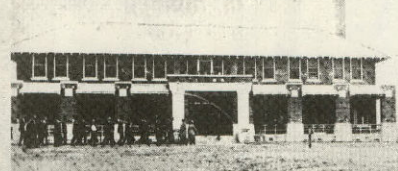
An airplane crash

An airplane crash at the Odd Fellows' Widows' and Orphans' Home sometime before 1915 drew a large crowd of curiosity seekers. The woman in the white blouse in the center foreground is Mrs. R. M. Whitten. Whitten was superintendent of the home and Mrs. Whitten, mother. They came in 1906 and, except for one two month period in 1913, stayed until 1920. They were the parents of Mrs. J. S. Dill, who owns the picture.



Thrashing time

Everybody got in the picture, taken in the Cryer Creek area in about 1915, when the thrasher came to the farm. Normally there was only one thrashing machine in the community, and the owner would go around and thrash every farmer's oats.



Old Folks' Home

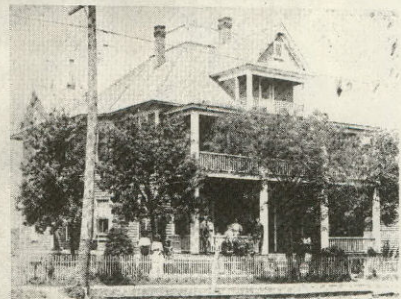
This is the old folks home at the Odd Fellows Widows' and Orphans' Home in about 1915. That portion of the home was later moved to Etna. (Photo courtesy of Mrs. J. S. Dill)



Shearing sheep in Rice

Shearing sheep was a major business on the Haynie Ranch in Rice around 1897, the approximate year this picture was taken. The three men in front who are shearing the sheep traveled from ranch to ranch to ply their trade. In the

background are ... B. Haynie, left, the ranch owner; Doc Sloan, center, a longtime Rice dweller; and Tom Payne, L. B.'s son. The picture was brought to the Sun by Mrs. Claude Hervey.



The Green Flat Hotel

This was the Green Flat Hotel, a rooming and boarding house in early Corsicana. The hotel, owned by a dentist named Green, was two doors west of the Navarro Hotel on 5th Ave. The picture was taken in 1914. It is owned by Mrs. Elvia Garrison. She worked at the hotel at age 6, cleaning rooms and washing dishes for \$1.50 a week.

Corsicana *Sun* Salutes Local History in Special Edition

by Bob Armistead

Like most every other newspaper in the United States, the staff of the Corsicana *Daily Sun* hoped to produce a good tribute to the Bicentennial during the Bicentennial year.

When our edition appeared June 29, 1976, we hope we outdid ourselves. The Bicentennial edition was the culmination of about 2,500 hours of planning and preparation by the staff of our small daily newspaper, located 55 miles south of Dallas on Interstate 45.

If the 86 pages in the 14,500 copies which were printed were laid out end to end, the Bicentennial edition would stretch for 481 miles.

Including the pages which were consumed in getting the color registered properly, the Bicentennial edition included 1,339,113 pages.

It weighed 15,399 pounds, or about 7.5 tons.

It required 223 pounds of black ink and 64 pounds of colored ink.

It included 197 photographs from 87 contributors. Promotional efforts for the section used 78 more photos. In all, our Bicentennial efforts used 265 photos from 104 different contributors.

The Bicentennial edition included 69 stories, written or edited and condensed by 22 different people.

Ninety-eight advertisers contributed 5,724 inches of advertising.

It was a tremendous amount of work for a newspaper with an

editorial department staffed by 10 men, but the compliments we got and the orders for extra copies made it more than worth the effort.

We think much of the response to the edition was due to the fact that it highlighted local history, the history of Navarro County, rather than national history.

The Bicentennial year was by no means Corsicana's or Navarro County's Bicentennial year. Navarro County was formed in 1846, Corsicana created in 1848. We chose nevertheless to emphasize our local heritage in our Bicentennial edition for several reasons.

One was that "everybody" was publishing a Bicentennial emphasizing national history. We wanted to be a little different, somewhat unique.

Another was that the national heritage was being emphasized everywhere—on TV, in school programs, in speeches. We thought readers would like to read some about their own ancestors. We thought they'd like to see pictures of their own grandmothers and grandfathers contributing to their heritage. We thought readers would simply get excited about a tribute to the homefolks, featuring names and dates and places they could appreciate on the local level.

And, third, we thought Corsicana needed a tribute to its local history. To our knowledge the *Sun* had never attempted one on as large a scale as we envisioned. We thought Corsicana school students needed a special capsulized-but-complete history which could help them while they were writing essays on local history. We thought newcomers (and that's one fourth of the nation's population every year) needed to know something about the city they had chosen, needed to know the facts behind the historical markers, the names of the streets, and so forth. We thought historians needed a ready reference to Navarro County history. In short, we thought a good capsulized history of Corsicana and of Navarro County would fill a need which no other publication we know of has filled.

We weren't scared of "going local" by a fear of lack of material to put in the section.

Corsicana has a rich history, fascinating to read and fun to tell.

Navarro County itself was named after Jose Antonio Navarro, and Corsicana was named after the Isle of Corsica, the birthplace of Navarro's father.

Navarro was a signer of the Texas Declaration of Independence. He helped draft the constitution for Texas when it was a nation, later helping write the Texas State Constitution and serving as a member of the first Texas State Legislature.

Children in our area love the story of Navarro, especially of his

bravery when he was captured by troops of Mexican dictator Santa Anna when he was a member of the expedition to Santa Fe.

Navarro endured a 2,000-mile forced march to Mexico City and later solitary confinement in a Vera Cruz prison before he escaped and returned to Texas to become a leading figure in her early history as a nation and as a state.

Children also love the story of the 1872 state Democratic convention which was held in Corsicana. It became known as "The Hog Convention" and "The Flea Convention."

The convention was held in the new Methodist Church building, beneath which was a favorite wallowing place for the town's hogs. According to one convention participant, the hogs "created so much squealing and disturbance that it was necessary to stop the meeting several times to run the pigs away."

The pigs had fleas, too, and the fleas plagued the participants. So the convention became known as "The God Convention" or "The Flea Convention"—just depending on which one happened to bother the visitor the most.

Corsicana is proud of the political leaders who have come from here. They include Beauford Jester, governor of Texas from 1947 until his unfortunate death in July, 1949. And they include three congressmen who have come from the city—Roger Q. Mills, Luther Johnson, and Rufus Hardy.

But perhaps more than anything else Corsicana is proud of Navarro County's role in petroleum history.

June 6, 1896, was a big day in Corsicana history. The town was drilling for water. Instead, workers struck oil—the first such discovery west of the Mississippi River.

That led to a refinery here and many firsts. The first rotary drilling rig was produced here. Experiments started in Corsicana led to development of the first oil-burning locomotive. (Until then, much of the crude oil found in drilling was used to sprinkle the streets to keep down the dust.) Mobil and Texaco got their start here.

That was just the first oil strike in Navarro County. A huge strike in 1923 really put Corsicana on the map as a city. For a while it became either the first or the second largest producing field in the United States, depending on whose "claims" you want to believe.

Interesting, you say, but you can't fill up 86 pages with a convention plagued by hogs and with a city drilling for water and striking oil instead.

That's true. Most of the edition includes the type of topics you would expect to find in any region's history—the early Indians, the biggest Indian battle, the first settlement, the founding of the

county, the founding of the county seat, the coming of the railroad, the founding of the city government, the origin of city government, development of local and county school systems, the history of Navarro Junior College. These stories are the lifeblood of any special historical report about a city or county, and they formed the basis for our special edition, too.

Where did we get them?

We used three sources. One was books. We were very fortunate that *Navarro County History* was published in 1975 by Wyvonne Putman, executive secretary of the Navarro County Historical Society. Mrs. Putman graciously let us use any material we wanted for our special edition.

We also were permitted to quote from older, perhaps less reliable histories.

A second source was the *Navarro County Scroll*, the annual reports of the Navarro County Historical Society. The *Scroll* includes papers prepared and presented over the years by historical society members.

These two sources, the books and the *Scroll*, provided most of our sources. We shortened many of the articles from the original versions. And on some we corrected inaccuracies. We believe this editing improved some of the original works.

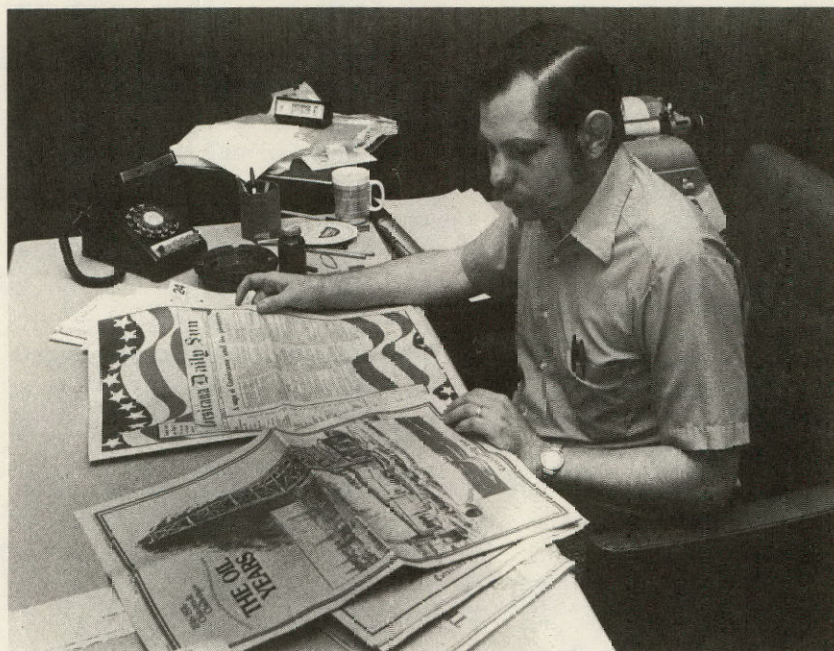
The third source was our staff. When we needed an article on some phase of Navarro County history and couldn't find an article on that subject, we wrote one ourselves. That's what we did to show the county's role in World War I and that's what we did to prepare biographies of the political figures previously mentioned.

However, our source material was so good that we had to do little original writing ourselves. Original writing probably accounted for less than 10 per cent of the special edition. Writing was the easiest part of our job. The hard parts were determining just what we wanted to include in the special section and in figuring out how to illustrate what we had.

Of course, not all historians agree. And that's particularly true when you're dealing with amateur historians who devote their time to local or regional history. We made every attempt to get the correct version when we had more than one record of an event. And we asked Nelson Ross, a college teacher here and past president of the historical society, to read over our material in the first two sections on the earliest history of our county.

We think this procedure paid off. We didn't get a single complaint that any of our stories were inaccurate.

In writing our material, we tried to use as many names as we could to let readers identify with their ancestors whenever possible.



Bob Armistead, editor of the Corsicana Daily Sun, with copies of the Sun's Bicentennial edition.

And we tried to keep the material as light as possible. Localized history can be tedious reading. We didn't want that, so we put in as many lighter stories as we could.

We told the history of the mayors and city managers, of the school superintendents and the county judges. But we also told the history of Col. Jake—a turkey from the Navarro County town of Dawson auctioned off so many times he raised more than \$10,000 for Red Cross efforts in World War I.

We told the story of Corsicana's 51-3 baseball victory over Texarkana in the early 1900s—the highest score ever run up in Texas League history.

We told about the Navarro County baby named Centennial in 1876 in honor of the nation's 100th birthday.

We told the story of Rope Walker, the man with a peg leg who died in 1834 here as he tried to walk a rope across our major street with a stove strapped to his back.

We told the story of Black Diamond, the elephant who attacked a woman and killed her here in 1929. The elephant was destroyed as a result.

We think interspersing materials like these throughout the edition helped make for interesting reading from cover to cover.

The element of our special edition that drew the most attention by far, however, was the pictorial material for the edition. The pictures were supplied by *Sun* readers.

We were a little nervous when we announced that we'd like for our readers to bring in old photos and items of memorabilia for our Bicentennial edition. We didn't know whether we'd get any response at all, and we didn't know whether the response we did get would be any good. (There's nothing worse in the newspaper business than having to tell someone their family's treasured photo is "not worth publishing.")

We needn't have worried. Response was tremendous. Readers brought in tons of photos—good photos. They brought in photos of the first radio in Corsicana, the house with the first bathtub, even the first hearse.

They brought in pictures of early county fairs. Of businesses, especially banks and blacksmiths. Of people working and playing. Of disasters—airplane crashes and poisoned wells. Of high school graduation classes in 1904 and 1908 and of classes from schools long out of existence.

They brought in materials which would reproduce as well as photos, too. A program from a John Phillip Sousa concert in 1925. A 1902 graduation program. An 1888 report card. A certificate from an ex-Confederate in which he was required to swear allegiance to the United States.

It was these illustrations that made our special section unique. And it made "our" special section "their" special section as far as readers were concerned. They were delighted when one of their pictures was accepted for publication. It made them want to dig in the attic and come up with more pictures.

As was mentioned in the beginning, the section included 197 photos from 87 contributors. And on special preview pages published up to two months in advance we used 78 more photos. In all, that meant 265 photos from 104 different contributors.

Our Bicentennial edition won eight awards in the newspaper contests sponsored by Harte-Hanks Communications, our parent company. We have also entered it in a contest providing national attention.

But the real pride we get from our efforts is providing our readers, and especially our student readers, with an illustrated history of our region. We just hope it makes them want to learn more about an exciting subject.

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