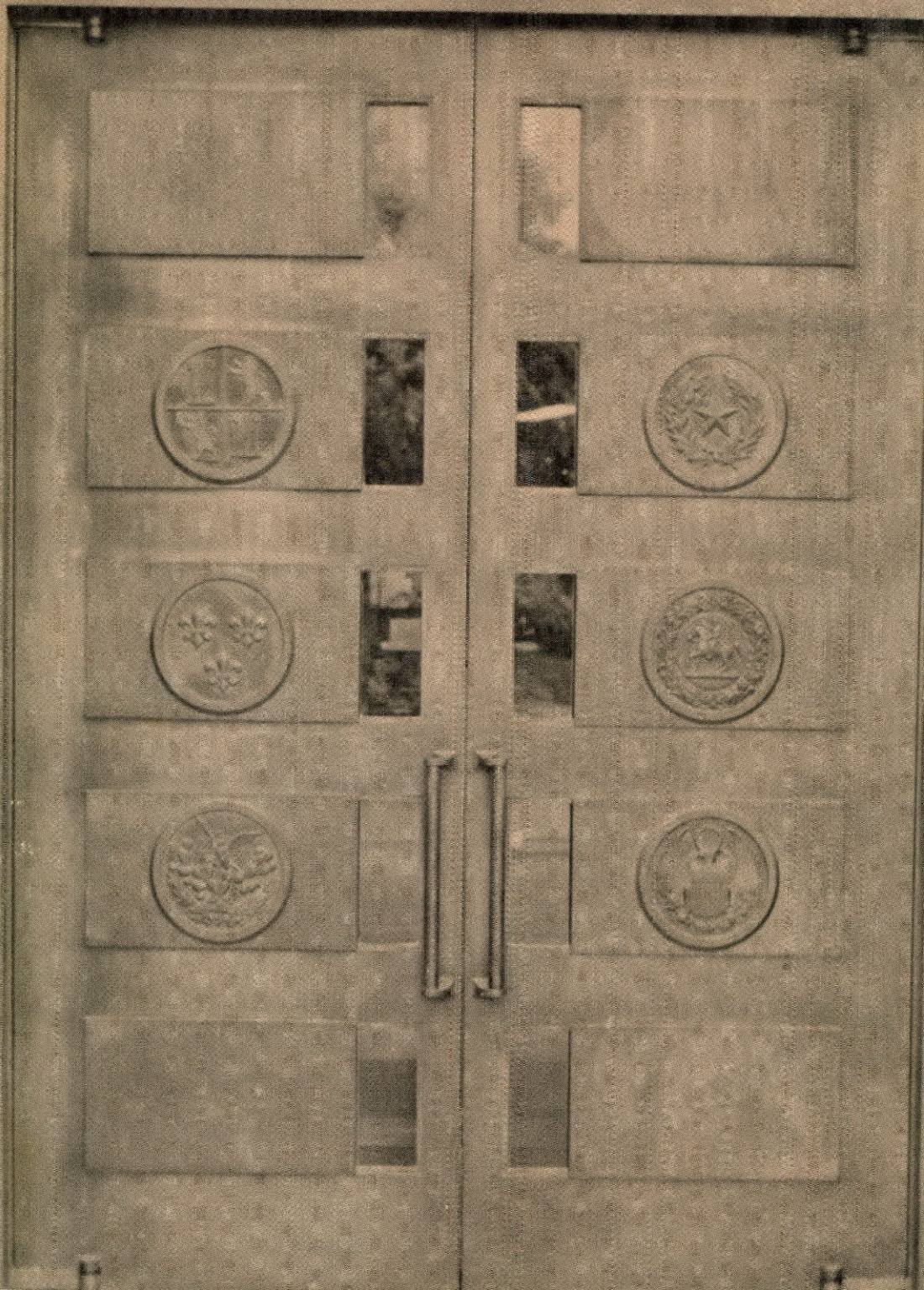


# Texas Libraries

Spring 1974

Volume 36

Number 1



## TEXAS LIBRARY AND HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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# Texas Libraries

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**Editor: Millicent Huff**

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## About the Cover

The cover of this issue of *Texas Libraries* is devoted to a familiar scene at the Texas State Library, the heavy doors on the front of the building.

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## Time To Find a Friend

Earlier this year we published in *Texas Libraries* an article on photography for the non-photographer, suggesting that this would provide a source of pictures. Another source, perhaps more practical for many, can involve library patrons—those people who want more subscriptions to photography magazines and more books on cameras, etc. While an elaborate program might call for a contest with exhibits and perhaps prizes donated by Friends or a local camera shop, there is another way. Mimeographed bookmarks placed in darkroom guides and some of the more sophisticated works on photography might simply invite photographers to turn their lens on the library. Bulletin boards in the library can be used to display some of the best shots, and the accumulation of prints and slides can be made available for publicity of various kinds.

For the photographer, making pictures in a library can have a considerable appeal. First, there are people involved—people engaged in activity. Second, library lighting is excellent for black and white photography. (Flourescent lights have strange color casts.) Third, many libraries are interesting as architecture. And finally, the prospect that one's photographs may be used appeals to the desire of many to share what they are doing.

We have a special reason for making these suggestions. We need good pictures of public libraries for various purposes. They will be filed for current use and ultimately deposited in the State Library's Archives Division. We'd like to hear from you. In turn, you may see your library in print.

*About 1000 persons gathered for the April 17 Governor's Conference on Libraries in Texas. Governor Dolph Briscoe delivered the following keynote address.*

## **Briscoe Keynotes Conference on Texas Libraries**

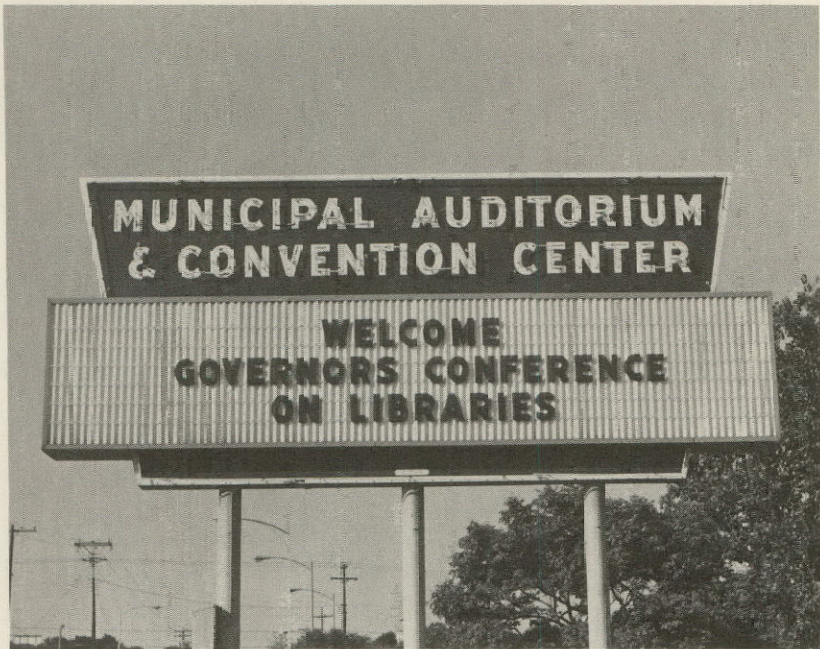
It is a very great pleasure to be with you today and to have this opportunity to discuss the important role of libraries in our daily lives.

Libraries are essential, for now as never before, accurate and easily available information is vital for all of us. Today's world is information-hungry, and since libraries are the agencies of government charged with the responsibility of maintaining and making available this information, we must see to it that libraries are adequately supported.

Our libraries have a special role in the dissemination of information. They provide the wide range of information between that in the mass media — such as radio, television, and newspapers — and the highly personal communication between individuals, either face-to-face or by letter or telephone.

Within minutes after we hear the scream of a siren we expect to be able to turn on the radio and find out what is happening. When men walked on the moon, the fact that we could watch them was no less a miracle than their steps. Or we can pick up the telephone and talk to a neighbor across the street, someone in the next town, or someone on the other side of the world.

At the same time we have been developing channels for dis-



*The marquee outside welcomes*

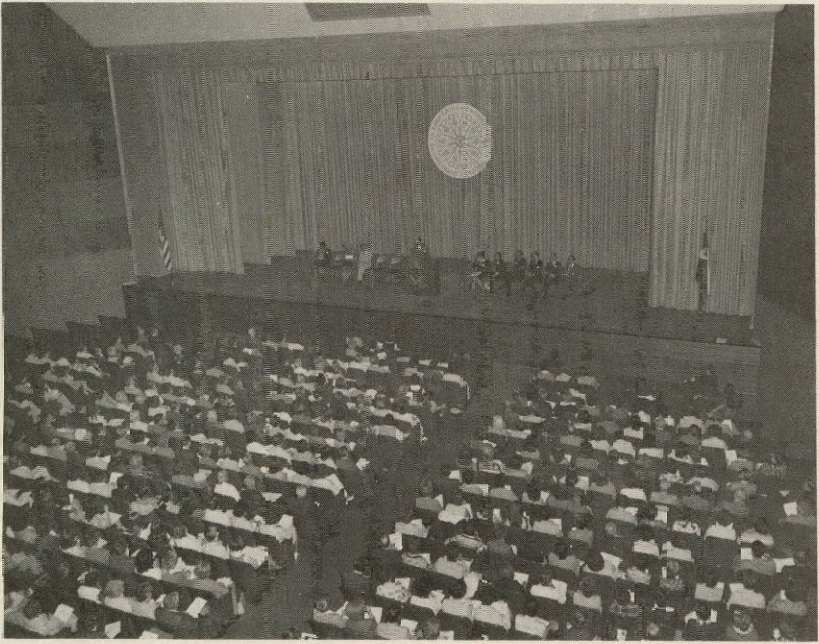
seminating this information, we have been devising ways of paying for it. A portion of what we pay for the box of soap in the kitchen may help pay for the evening news; and part of what we pay for a suit in a local department store helps pay for our daily newspaper. On the other hand, the cost of a telephone call to El Paso or New Zealand is billed directly to us.

Libraries, however, depend almost entirely upon tax support. When the need for a new building demands a bond issue, we may have a direct voice in whether or not our local libraries will have the physical facilities they need. On a day-to-day and week-by-week basis, all citizens have a voice in the kind of library service they enjoy. By using resources, they direct what is made available. As voters they determine who will direct their government and make budget decisions.

Easy access to information is one of the things that makes the United States different from many nations of the world. If we are truly to say that we have easily available information, this access must also include access to the materials that libraries provide.

Let's look for a minute at some of the information needs that Texans have.

As all of you know, the Constitutional Convention is meeting this Spring. How much do Texas voters know about their present Con-



*the participants inside the Austin Municipal Auditorium.*

stitution? What do they know about state constitutions in general? How will they inform themselves as they decide how to vote?

To a large extent they will depend upon newspapers, radio, and television. With 111 daily newspapers and 471 radio and television stations, they have ample access to this kind of information. But do Texans not also need the kind of information that libraries can provide as they make their own decisions about how to vote?

Some Texans do have access to information. In Dallas there's a hotline to information — provided by the Dallas Public Library. During the 69 hours a week that the library is open, local residents can obtain quick answers to their questions from the staff of the ready reference desk. Does your city offer such a service? Many do.

Texans' information needs vary.

—A man in Pampa needs a manual on plumbing to study for state licensing exams.

—A mother in the Valley needs a book on child care that's written in Spanish.

—A retired English professor eagerly awaits the arrival of a volunteer who brings books to his home since a stroke has left him homebound.

—A law student injured in an automobile accident must have the study guide for the bar exam on magnetic tape.

It has become almost a cliché to speak of the information explosion, but this mushrooming of knowledge has major implications for all who are concerned about libraries. Let's look at some figures. In 1900, the year that public libraries were really getting started in Texas, a total of 4,490 new titles were published in the United States. Just before World War I the total of new titles rose to 10,000 for several years before dropping below that figure. And it stayed below 10,000 until 1955. Each year the number has risen since that time. And for 1973, there were 28,000 new titles published.

Not even the largest libraries will purchase copies of every new book, and it is obviously impossible for the smaller ones to do so. How then can people who need specialized materials be assured of access to them? And how can Texans be assured of the assistance of librarians with the specialized skills? If libraries are to be "information centers" rather than merely book depositories, we must take a new look at both the collections of materials and the services they offer.

Many of the problems that Texans face in providing adequate library services for their communities result from population distribution.

First, Houston Public Library, Dallas Public Library, and San Antonio Public Library serve 25.9 percent of all Texans. An additional 25 percent are served by the other 16 libraries that have more than 100,000 volumes. In other words, the state's 19 largest libraries serve more than half of all Texans. The other half are served by 381 libraries.

Major challenges lie ahead in determining ways of meeting needs of people who live outside the major metropolitan areas. Not only library service but also police and fire protection and services such as water, electricity, and sewage disposal have traditionally been supported and directed by local governments. As cities began to develop sophisticated new methods for providing these services, smaller communities were left behind. The most critical needs were dealt with first. Court decisions made assistance for local police and sheriff's departments vital. Pollution of streams and rivers downstream made it mandatory to deal with waste disposal.

Too often libraries were almost forgotten. The information explosion was sometimes only a puff for the user of a small library with an inadequate stock of outdated books.

Librarians feel that the concepts of networks and systems, which have been successful in other areas of government and business, can also be applied to the dissemination of information resources to improve the service they offer the citizens of Texas. The Library Systems Act which was passed in 1969 makes it possible for existing libraries to work together as systems. Included in the material you have been



given today is an explanation of this legislation. Many of you have attended meetings of the advisory councils that have been organized.

This legislation leaves responsibility for maintaining basic library service with the local community. It builds upon what Texans have already done. You know that full implementation of this legislation could provide the information resources that you and your community need.

The following statement was made about Texas libraries in 1936:

“No person, whether he approach the subject as librarian, as student of government, or as casual observer, can contemplate the public libraries of Texas without observing that the State occupies an unenviable place among the states of the Union in library facilities. Texas is 41st out of 49 (counting the District of Columbia as a separate unit) in the number of volumes per capita in public libraries, and 39th in per capita expenditure for libraries.”

Some 38 years later, Texas ranks 41st in per capita support for libraries. The addition of two new states simply pushed our state down two notches in the list.

Some Texas cities and counties are supporting their libraries, and residents are using these institutions. These libraries are also the ones that are taking part in systems and networks that are improving service. Eight years ago when Texans gathered here in Austin to discuss their library needs, local libraries had budgets that totaled a little over eleven million dollars. By the end of 1972, this figure had slightly more than doubled.

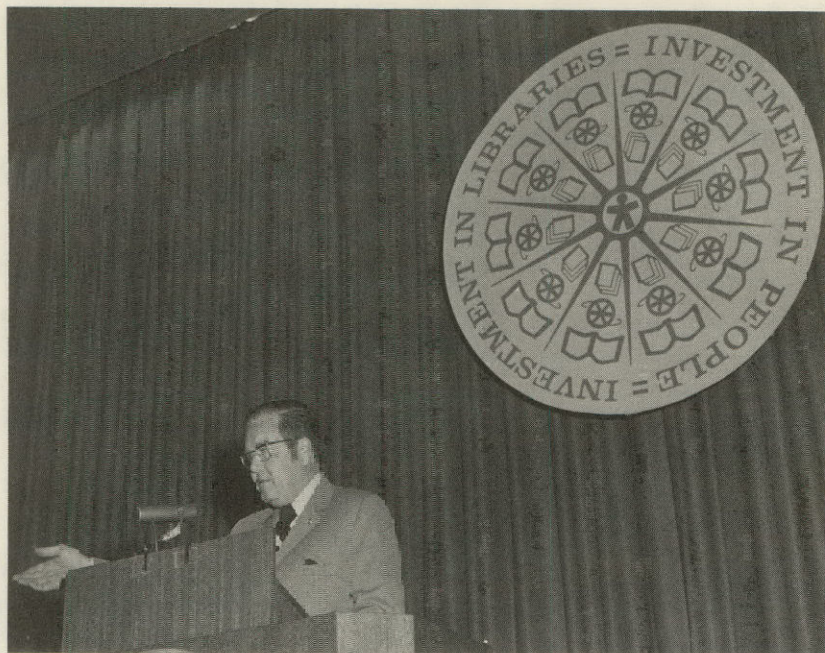
Implementation of activities made possible by the Library Systems Act can make local libraries of all sizes true information centers for the people they serve in an economical and practical way by avoiding needless duplication.

As Texas looks ahead to determining ways of meeting the information needs of its citizens, we must be constantly aware of the diversity of our state's population and the information needs of our people.

Some 58 percent of all Texans over the age of 25 have completed high school. About 48 percent of the non-farm jobs are managerial, professional, sales, and clerical. In other words, Texans in increasing numbers deal daily with information as a part of their jobs. Not only do they need information resources at work, but also in the personal life.

The library's responsibility for providing information for all Texans — whatever their skills — makes it essential for libraries to develop programs of service that will also meet the needs of the less educated.

All of us benefit from being part of a well-informed citizenry. Con-



sumers who know what they are buying and how much they will pay for it before they sign a contract are our best defense against unscrupulous merchants. Physicians tell us that prevention of health problems begins with an understanding of the body and how it should be cared for. The very survival of our form of government depends upon an electorate informed through **individualized** information services unavailable in the mass media.

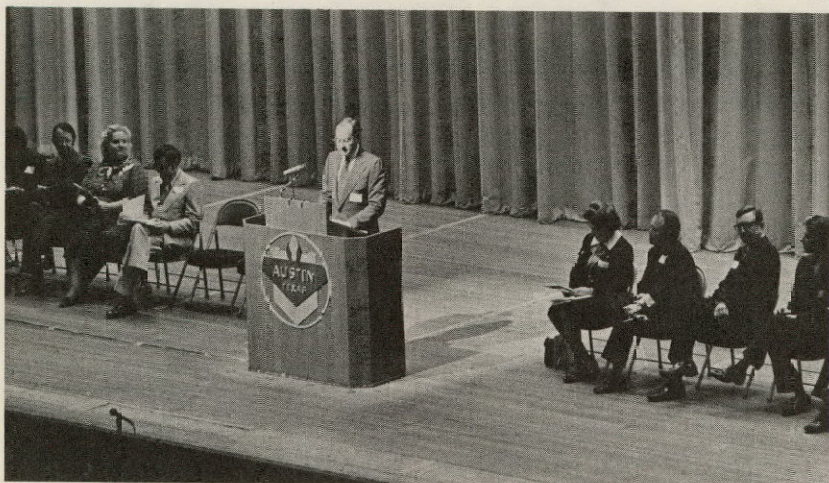
A hundred years ago, one of my predecessors signed a bill that permitted cities to establish and maintain public libraries. During your meeting today you will be talking about the beginning of a second century. We've come a long way from a few books in an upstairs room, but we still have a long way to go. Your attendance here today signifies your interest, your concern, for the need of adequate library services for all Texans. And I think that our goal should be to move Texas from the 41st place to start towards a move to where we in Texas will have not just one of the finest, not just one of the best, but the best, the finest library system that there is in the United States. And I think this can be, this should be our goal and I hope it is a goal that you will adopt as you meet here today and view and study the needs of Texans in the years ahead for adequate library services.

Again, thank you very much for attending. I hope that this will be a most successful meeting and will move us towards that goal of better meeting the information needs of the people of this state.

Thank you.



*Frank P. Horlock, a member of the Texas Library and Historical Commission, greets Governor Briscoe.*



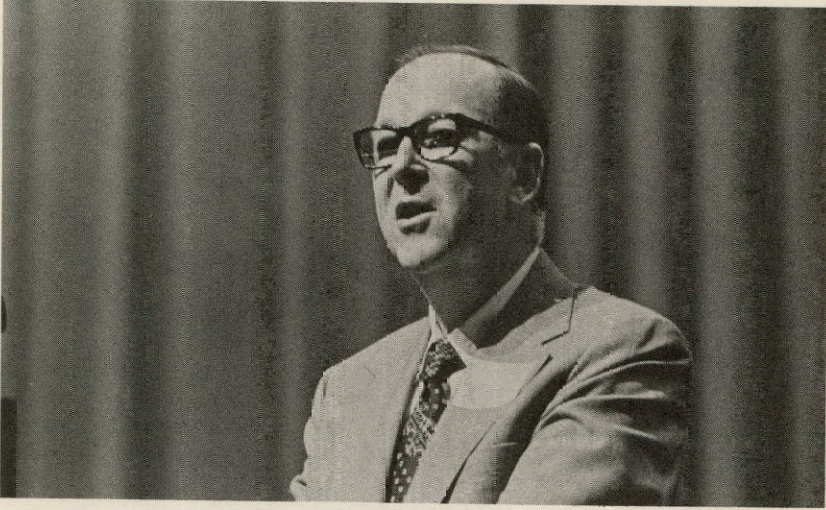
*Dr. Paul Parham at the podium with morning speakers to his right and left.*



*Mrs. William P. Hobby*



*Dr. Joe B. Frantz*



*James L. Love*

**Other Speakers for the 1974 Governor's Conference on Libraries**

Dr. Joe B. Frantz, director of the Texas State Historical Association, professor of history at the University of Texas at Austin, and a member of the Friends of the Austin Public Library, spoke to the conference as a library user.

Mrs. Alice Ihrig, president-elect of the Illinois Library Association, has been an active participant in library activities as a trustee. She has served as president of the American Library Trustee Association and of the Suburban Library System a 50-library cooperative group in Illinois.

Dr. Ralph W. Conant, director of the Southwest Center for Urban Research in Houston, is a political scientist with special expertise in urban problems.

Mrs. William P. Hobby—Diana Hobby—is on leave from her post as book editor of the *Houston Post* while her husband is serving as lieutenant governor. She is a graduate of Radcliffe College and a member of the Texas Institute of Letters and the National Book Committee.

James L. Love is chairman of the board of trustees for the Temple Memorial Library in Diboll. He has served as president of the Friends of Texas Libraries and the Texas Library Trustee Association and in 1964 was named Trustee of the Year by the Texas Library Association. In 1967 he received the American Library Association National Trustee Citation.



*Katherine Ard coordinated plans for the Conference.*



*Mrs. Don Scarbrough serves punch at the reception following the afternoon session.*



*Texas Library Association President Richard O'Keeffe and Dr. Ralph Conant.*



*Discussion groups during the afternoon session gave conference participants an opportunity for sharing ideas.*



*Patsy Castro of the Texas State Library's Division for the Blind and Physically Handicapped attended the Symposium on Spanish Language Materials for Children and Young Adults. A current goal of the division is providing adequate service to the blind and physically handicapped who want or need materials in Spanish.*



# Symposium Held in Austin on Spanish Language Materials

by Patsy Castro

Educators, publishers, distributors, librarians and teachers met in Austin on April 26-28 for the first Symposium on Spanish Language Materials for Children and Young Adults. The meetings brought together people with different ideas and points of view concerning acquisition and selection of Spanish materials for children. The Symposium stimulated enthusiasm and hopefully many of the conferees left with valuable information to incorporate in their own particular fields.

Exhibitors opened the first session of the symposium with a description of their materials. Participants were invited to browse and inspect the displays provided by the various distributors. Among the materials included were children's books, translations of well-known fairy tales, educational books and texts, and a film clip from the popular bilingual television series for children, *Carrascolendas*. Brochures, catalogs, and pamphlets were included in the information packet; and the exhibitors were on hand to answer questions concerning the materials as well as provide information on the organizations they represented.

The major problem seems to be distribution since children's literature in Spanish is abundantly available. One North American distributor stated that service is the key word in the area of book distribution. The American importer plays an important role in filling library orders for foreign language materials published outside the United States.

There are three ways that the American library can acquire foreign books from abroad. One can go directly and pay the foreign price. One can go through a foreign book wholesaler based abroad. Or a library can deal with an American importer.

It is essential that foreign publishers provide adequate book information to libraries and in Latin America, this is rarely done. It costs money to print catalogs and supply the necessary information, but this is part of the meaning of service.

If a library orders direct from abroad, it is important that the library be well known and that it has an open account. Orders are apt to be ignored if the foreign publisher is not familiar with the library. The library ordering a large number of titles may find it advantageous to deal directly with a foreign publisher.

No book wholesaler covers all the countries in Latin America. Wholesalers do exist in each individual country, but when a library has

to deal with each one separately in order to fill single copy orders, it becomes quite expensive.

When dealing with an American importer, however, the American library is going to pay for service. Libraries usually do not like to wait a year until an order of books is received, so therefore, air freight is essential. The American importer is better equipped to consolidate book shipments by air freight. Although a library pays a higher price for foreign books, it is frequently argued that the price difference is made up by service rendered. The foreign book importer also makes the necessary arrangements for customs clearance at no extra charge to the library, covers any losses made such as a book which doesn't sell, and accepts book returns when a mistake in ordering occurs.

In contrast, another North American distributor stated that air freight is too expensive so trucks are used to ship books. Since this distributor is based in Texas and close to Mexico, books — especially paperbacks — are offered at a much lower price than from the distributor based in New York. The price charged by this Texas distributor is about equal to the price in the country from which the book was ordered. If air freight is used in special instances, then the library is charged for this means of transporting the cargo. This does present a problem in keeping certain materials in stock. The librarians are used to waiting as much as a year for a shipment of materials, while the schools need materials immediately — usually in multiple copies. The delay in getting the books is approximately thirty to ninety days. Sending shipments by mail is cheap, and delivery in the United States is not delayed to a great extent.

Only from American importers do the libraries and schools find complete, up-to-date catalogs listing the new books and prices. The Texas-based distributor sells the books the way they are received. The quality of paper is generally poor and the binding often too flimsy for heavy use. But the fact remains that Spanish language materials are available at a price which is affordable to the library and school and this far outweighs the poor quality of the book.

Ms. Martha Cotera, deputy director of the National Migrant Information Clearing House, gave her reactions to what had been said about book acquisition and offered some suggestions which were well received by the audience. She agreed with the speakers in that there is a wealth of children's literature and importing from foreign countries is necessary to fulfill the demand and add to the richness of present Latin American collections. But there has been a failure in the United States to produce Spanish language materials for adults as well as for children. She stressed that Latin American materials should not be viewed as a substitute for the production of Cuban, Puerto Rican, and Mexican-American materials in the United States. Minority writers

should be helped by others accomplished in the field of writing Spanish books and Latin American collections should be encouraged. These collections are a cultural base and therefore should include Cuban, Chicano, and Puerto Rican books.

Mexican publishing and problems of distribution to the United States were discussed by Francisco Porrua, Director, Liberia de Porrua. The book industry in Mexico is very old. In his years in the industry, he said he has encountered no problems in dealing with American libraries and schools on bilingual projects. The amiable relationship that exists is conducive to good working conditions and understanding on both the Mexican publishing side and the American receiving side.

Some countries in Latin America have difficulties shipping books to the United States. Weather conditions such as floods can make it impossible to transport cargo except by air and this is expensive. Even distributing books within Bolivia is difficult. There is no way to insure books if they are sent by surface mail. When sent by surface mail, there is no priority given to the way they are handled, and books may arrive in bad condition and many times damaged. Because some countries in South America do not produce paper, the high cost of the publishers' raw material is reflected in the sales price. The matter of currency and inflation is also viewed as a hindrance. But in general, the problem of shipping books is improving considerably.

Literature for children was discussed by a panel of educators in light of a children's theatre of which one panel member is a director in Mexico. Stories were read to the audience in Spanish written by children from four to twelve years old. These stories reflected their imagination and their personality. On stage, all acts are impromptu and nothing is rehearsed.

It is the responsibility of the teacher, librarian and educator to look for quality in children's Spanish books. Just because a book is written in Spanish does not mean that it is the best literature for a child. Quality and quantity should be striven for. Literature should make a child think and leave with him a realistic picture of life. Although translations of well known children's classics are usually on every list, these stories may often be misleading in terms of portraying American life to a child who knows only Spanish.

The comics are also an important form of children's literature, although their educational value has not been fully realized. The *novella*, a popular form of reading material for adults as well as children, differs from the American "comic book." Illustrations are essential not only in the comics but in children's stories as well. Colorful pictures can be entertaining and they can be instructional. For instance, in the comics, animal characters which are generally viewed as non-

threatening to a child, are used instead of adult figures to convey messages, ideas, and instructions to the child.

It was also pointed out how important it is to act immediately when an excellent book goes out of print. When such a book offers so much in artistry, language, and gets a quick response from a child, the teacher or librarian should not allow a publisher to discontinue it. A successful book should be fought for to keep it in print.

Selection of materials is a difficult process for there are many factors to consider before deciding on which materials to choose. There are no easy rules to go by and no definite set of criteria. A child's book should leave impressions, inspire creativity, and be a learning experience. Ideas are introduced and left to expand with the child. Many times it is thought that a child's book should be a source of entertainment. It is true that this quality is desirable but children's books should also be viewed on a serious side and accept responsibility. A child learns about behavior and life from a good book. The kind of literature which makes a Latin American child proud to be part of America belongs in everyone's collection.

The librarian who has no knowledge of Spanish needs immediate help in finding the best literature available. Often it is necessary to rely on other people or lists of books in Spanish. Heavy reliance on the translations of classics is sometimes viewed as the answer to this problem. The ideal solution is for the librarian to learn the language.

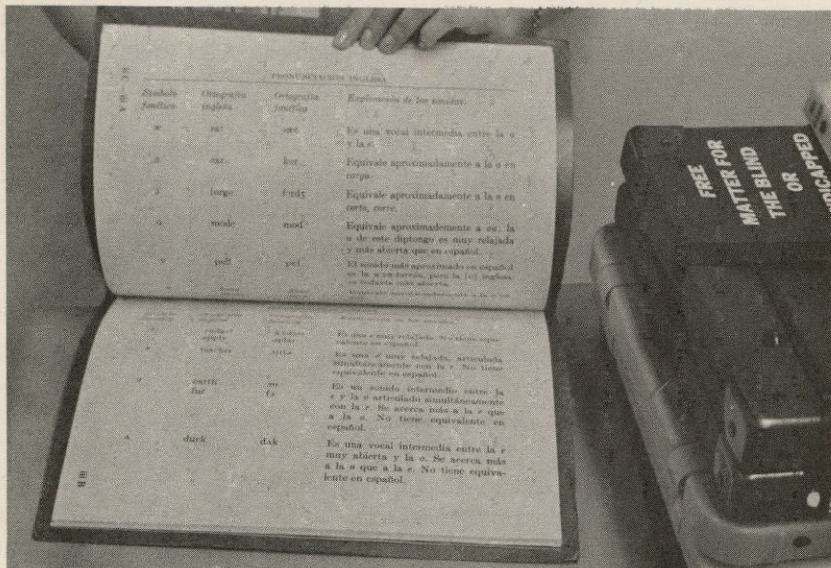
Knowledge on the part of the librarian of each child's cultural and social background is very helpful. By getting to know the child and his family, a librarian can better select materials to meet his needs. This is especially important when the librarian has little or no knowledge of Spanish. It is the responsibility of the librarian to select material which will provide enrichment, personal growth, expand horizons, and develop values. Besides keeping in mind the above criteria, there are other equally important factors to consider when selecting materials for children and young adults. One has to take into account the different Spanish groups represented in a community, the varying social backgrounds and economic levels, and the different usage of the Spanish language among the different groups.

Open-mindedness on the part of the librarian is essential in the selection process. He or she must be willing to accept ideas, opinions, and criticism by those who are familiar with the language. Involvement with the community to be served is necessary to meet its particular needs and provide the appropriate reading materials. Professional journals should be consulted and reviewed in order to select books recently published and also to become familiar with the wide variety of subjects available. When confronting all of these factors in selecting materials, the librarian faces a formidable task.

It was pointed out that there is a definite lack of young adult literature in Spanish today. There are just not enough sources to meet the demands of the young teenager. Modern novels, such as Hannah Green's, *I Never Promised You a Rose Garden*, should be available to the Spanish youth. Rather than having book dealers translate such novels, Puerto Rican, Cuban, and Chicano authors should be encouraged to write books for this age level and children, too. In addition, annual awards similar to the Newberry and Caldecott awards for outstanding contributions to children's literature should be established for each group of Puerto Rican, Cuban, and Chicano writers.

The federal government funds many projects on acquisition, production, and evaluation of materials. One such project is the Materials Acquisition Project (MAP), and its main function is to acquire materials in Spanish and Portuguese and to disperse information on these materials. MAP's activities and functions have broadened to include evaluation and testing of materials, and provision of a resource center. Other projects which are funded by the federal government include the Spanish Curriculum Development Center and the Dissemination Center for Bilingual Bicultural Education.

The Symposium was concluded with a multimedia presentation sponsored by Children's Television Workshop. The Spanish version of "Sesame Street" was viewed and comments were invited from the audience. The Symposium offered a great deal of knowledge and everyone who attended benefitted in some way from the conference. Perhaps now the task of providing Spanish language materials for children and young adults will be somewhat easier and more rewarding.



## **SWLA Slates Conference for October in Galveston**

“The Interfaces of Librarianship” is the theme of the Southwestern Library Association Biennial Conference in Galveston on October 15 through 18. Conference participants will explore interlibrary cooperation, the computer revolution in library reference services, and library services to special interest groups. Two evening general sessions will focus on opportunities in the information professions and future training for library services.

Opening with an all-day Nonprint Media Institute at 8 a.m. on October 15, the pre-conference meeting will center on attempts to resolve differences in cataloging nonprint media and on selecting a standard where none exists.

The next day will feature morning tutorials which will be repeated on October 18 to accommodate individual schedules. The tutorial program will include “Interface of Community Libraries with Each Other: Total Community Library Service” by Alphonse F. Trezza, director of the Illinois State Library. Kenneth E. Dowlin, director of the Natrona County Public Library in Casper, Wyoming, will present two tutorials: “Interface with Local Information Agencies: A Community Information Network” and “Interface with Telecommunications: The Use of Video and Cable Technologies to Extend Library Services.”

Public and academic library services will receive attention in the afternoon. Speaking on services to special groups in the public library will be Elizabeth Martinez Smith, special services consultant from the County of Los Angeles Public Library. The computer revolution in library reference services will be the topic of the college and university interest group led by Eugene Burch, assistant director of operations of the Technology Application Center at the University of New Mexico; William H. Caldwell, deputy chief of the National Library of Medicine

Bibliographic Services Division; and Donald V. Black from the Education and Library Systems Department of the Systems Development Corporation.

Thursday sessions will include a panel discussion on "Interfaces of Library Associations." Viewpoints will be presented by Robert Wedgeworth, ALA Executive Director, representatives of the ALA Chapter Relations Committee, SWLA, and state library associations.

Presenting further uses of the computer in library services SLICE Director Maryann Duggan will speak on "Interface with a Computer-based Bibliographic System: The Development of a Regional Bibliographic System."

Friday tutorials will concentrate on the integration of media in learning resource centers and their importance in the educational process. Highlighting Friday interest group meetings will be Dr. Barbara H. Baskin from the State University of New York at Stony Brook Elementary and Early Childhood Program and Joseph W. Price, senior systems analyst from the National Serials Data Program. Dr. Baskin will discuss "Library Services to Exceptional Children," while Price speaks to technical services librarians on "The National Serials Data Program."

In addition to tutorials, general sessions, special interest group meetings, panel discussions, and issue seminars, the conference will also include SWLA committee, business and task force meetings, and a Thursday tour train in Galveston. Concluding the four-day meeting, participants will attend a beach party at the Sea Arama Marineworld.

Information on SWLA membership and conference registration may be obtained from Mrs. Marion Mitchell, Executive Secretary, SWLA, Inc., P.O. Box 36206, Airlawn Station, Dallas, Texas 75235.



*In ceremonies at the Texas State Library, three members of the Texas Library and Historical Commission, governing body for the Texas State Library, took the oath of office. They are Robert E. Davis of Waco, who was reappointed to a new six-year term and has been elected chairman by his fellow commission members; Mrs. Walter S. Moore of Austin; and Walter B. Moore of Dallas. The oath of office was administered by Supreme Court Justice Price Daniel, a former member of the Commission.*

*Current members of the Commission are seated, left to right, Dan Hemphill of Odessa, Frank P. Horlock of Houston, Mrs. Moore, and standing left to right Davis, Don Scarbrough of Georgetown, and Moore.*





# Texas Libraries

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# LSCA Grants Announced for State's Public Libraries

Grants under federal Library Services and Construction Act Titles I, II, and III have been announced by the Texas State Library's Department of Library Development. These grants are as follows:

**Title I, Project 5, Category 2**

Grants to reimburse Major Resource Center and area libraries for interlibrary loan transactions **\$264,430**

**Title I, Project 5, Category 3**

Acquisition of bibliographic tools for Interlibrary Loan verification **No grants given**

**Title I, Project 5, Category 4**

Incentive grants for two or more libraries that wish to join together into a unit of service that qualifies for membership in the Texas Library System **\$ 65,000**

**Title I, Project 5, Category 5**

Establishment grants for unserved counties that wish to establish library service **\$ 55,000**

**Title I, Project 6, Category 1**

Grants to libraries for projects to serve target groups including the aged, preschool children, economically and culturally disadvantaged and others for whom traditional public library services have not filled library needs **\$657,078**

**Title I, Project 6, Category 2**

Grants for purchase of Adult Basic Education materials for libraries engaged in such programs in cooperation with local public educational institutions **\$135,000**

**Title II**

Grants to supplement local funds for the construction of library buildings **\$627,896**

**Title III**

Grants to encourage cooperative activities among libraries **\$268,411**

## **Federal Funds to Demonstrate Programs of Library Systems**

The ten library systems organized under provisions of the Texas Library Systems Act will receive federal Library Services and Construction Act funds for system operation grants during fiscal year 1975. A total of \$1,766,288 in federal LSCA funds has been designated for demonstration programs to be carried out by the systems. Systems will also receive the \$50,000 State appropriation to be allocated to systems on a per capita basis as provided in the Systems Act.

LSCA funds will also be used for establishment and incentive grants. Libraries that will provide county-wide service in three counties that have been without service will receive grants totalling \$45,000. Two county systems recently organized by existing libraries will receive incentive grants totalling \$65,000. Although these federal grants are also being made under provisions of the State legislation, they are being made this year from federal funds directly to the county libraries and county library systems.

In fiscal year 1974 a total of 220 of the state's 400 public libraries qualified for system membership. These libraries serve 82 percent of the total state population. Both the number of libraries and the percentage of population served by system members are expected to rise in fiscal year 1975.

State appropriations of \$50,000 a year since 1971 have permitted very limited system activities. The more extensive programs made possible in 1975 under the demonstration grants will give Texas library users an opportunity to judge for themselves the value of systems in their communities.

### System Operation Grants

Abilene Major Resource System	\$102,350
Texas Panhandle Library System (Amarillo)	135,100
Central Texas Major Resource System (Austin)	94,300
Corpus Christi Area Library System	106,205
Northeast Texas Library System (Dallas)	341,111
El Paso Major Resource System	151,351
Fort Worth Major Resource System	271,600
Houston Area Library System	420,912
Lubbock Resource Libraries System	37,049
San Antonio Major Resource System	<u>156,310</u>
Total	\$1,816,288

The above figure includes \$1,766,288 federal funds and \$50,000 State Funds.

### Establishment Grants

Burleson County	\$10,000
Nacogdoches County	25,000
Newton County	<u>10,000</u>
Total	\$45,000

### Incentive Grants

Hidalgo County	\$40,000
San Patricio County	25,000
Total	<u>\$65,000</u>

## **Grants Announced for Service to Disadvantaged**

Grants have been given to 29 public libraries to carry out a total of 38 projects to serve the disadvantaged as defined in the 1970 amendments to the federal Library Services and Construction Act. Under Project 6, Title I of this legislation, libraries may receive grants for special projects to demonstrate special programs. New federal regulations to insure accountability for funds spent require detailed descriptions of how funds will be spent as well as measures that can be used to evaluate the success of activities undertaken. The grants were announced by Raymond Hitt, director of the Department of Library Development, and Beverley Van Camp, grants administrator.

The 29 libraries receiving grants are Jim Wells County Libraries, Amarillo Public Library, Arlington Public Library, Sterling Municipal Library in Baytown, Crystal City Memorial Library, Dallas Public Library, El Paso Public Library, Fort Worth Public Library, Pioneer Memorial Library at Fredericksburg, Rosenberg Library in Galveston, Harris County Library, Hidalgo County Library, Houston Public Library, Huntsville Public Library, Kenedy Public Library, Butt-Holdsworth Memorial Library at Kerrville, Dawson County Public Library, Mesquite Public Library, Midland County Library, North Richland Hills Public Library, Frio Public Library, Lucy Hill Patterson Memorial Library at Rockdale, Tom Green County Library, San Antonio Public Library, San Augustine Public Library, Sherman Public Library, Silsbee Public Library, El Progreso Memorial Library at Uvalde, and Waco-McLennan County Library.

Each library applying for a grant submitted a budget for the activity it proposed to carry out. A point system on which projects were evaluated was developed, and each proposal was given a numeric score on the basis of this system. The following criteria were used: county economic status as indicated in published sources, assessment of needs of persons to be served, goals and objectives of the project, methods of evaluation to be used, plans for community participation in development and implementation, programming to encourage use of materials rather than merely to make them available, use of appropriate audiovisual materials, adequacy of delivery system for materials and services, staffing,



degree to which the project can be considered innovative, organization of project proposal, and overall assessment of chances for success.

While the detailed proposals were needed to evaluate the projects, they will also serve another purpose. Funds in Project 6 are to be used for demonstration projects. Detailed information will be vital if these projects are to be replicated elsewhere.

Jim Wells County Libraries received a \$15,000 grant to develop a program for Mexican Americans. By the end of the first calendar year of operation, there will be .50 volumes per patron of Mexican-American descent compared with .075 at present. About 25 percent of these materials will be housed at the main library, and the remaining will be at the six bilingual-bicultural centers. A folklore writer will be employed to adapt or translate materials for children in Spanish. This will include a broad range of stories, riddles, songs, and poems.

Amarillo Public Library received a total of \$8,556 for three programs. One will provide books-by-mail to the elderly. A volunteer will visit each patron once each six months. The second program for the aging will provide books and programs by volunteers and rotating collections of cassette tapes by the library staff. Each of the 10 convalescent homes in the city will be contacted about the possibility of setting up the program. The third program will focus upon preschool children. Special activities will be held for them at the library, and staff members will visit nurseries and kindergartens for storytimes, films, and hand puppet shows. Workshops showing use of the library and library materials will be conducted for agencies, teachers, and parents.

Arlington Public Library has received a \$36,250 grant to develop mini-libraries in eight institutions for the aged in the city and to develop a books-by-mail service for those who lack transportation to the library. Audiovisual materials will be purchased for programs on consumer information and pertinent problems of senior citizens, and the senior citizens will be encouraged to participate in an Oral Tradition program to preserve the rich traditional folklore.

Sterling Municipal Library at Baytown will use its \$5,800 grant to expand bookmobile service into six additional disadvantaged neighborhoods, develop two additional programs for the aging and develop programs for two institutions—one a school for disadvantaged black and Spanish-speaking boys of high academic potential and the other a home center for mentally retarded girls. Volunteers from the communities to be served will consult with the library on needs of the areas and will in turn be encouraged to explain and promote the services to be made available.

Barrio Resource Centers, with storytelling hours and tutoring sessions in reading for young children, monthly instruction on how to use encyclopedias and dictionaries for all interested participants, sessions



*Youngsters who cannot yet read will receive the benefits of some programs.*

on reading experiences for children for the parents of preschoolers, and bilingual rap sessions, will be established at Crystal City under a \$49,824 grant.

Children Discover will be carried out by the Dallas Public Library under a \$11,344 grant. The program will offer children aged three to six an opportunity to experience the interrelationship of the creative arts: visual, musical, and dramatic.

El Paso Public Library will purchase a basic collection of Spanish language educational films for patrons served by La Biblioteca del Barrio, the bookmobile program begun under an LSCA grant in 1972. In cooperation with Chicans in Mass Communication at the University of Texas at El Paso, the library will develop a documentary film on the bookmobile. Further programs to be implemented under the \$70,000 grant include the selection and purchase of books and audiovisual materials by day care centers at six locations and monthly programs at these centers. Monthly educational and recreational programs for adult patrons will be presented at five locations.

The target groups for the programs to be implemented under a \$77,900 grant to Fort Worth Public Library will be pre-school children and aged persons. Special collections of materials valuable to persons working with these persons will be assembled, and bibliographies will

be produced and disseminated. In cooperation with other agencies, programs for senior citizens will be developed on such topics as nutrition, consumer affairs, home decorating, genealogy, legal information, music and art appreciation, and gardening. A delivery system will be developed to make materials available to the homebound aged.

Bookmobiles will make materials available to both preschool and aged persons. Library-based programs will be established for parents and their preschool children who are unable to participate in established child-care programs.

The program for preschoolers made possible by an \$8,500 grant to Pioneer Memorial Library at Fredericksburg will focus on the ethnic and cultural groups that make up Gillespie County. Through the use of stories, books, films, filmstrips, cassette stories, dramatics, arts and crafts, music, and cooking, the summer program will acquaint children with the contributions of Mexican, German, and black influence.

The program for the aging at Rosenberg Library in Galveston will be funded by a \$33,946 grant. This program uses deposit collections at two retirement condominiums, six nursing homes, and one chapter of the American Association of Retired Persons; books-by-mail; and delivery of materials by volunteers to provide service to the aging.

The program being carried out by the Harris County Library will receive a \$12,625 grant. Working with the Harris County Senior Citizens Project, the library will make 8 mm loop films, 16 mm films, laminated prints and posters, records, cassettes, and both large print and regular books available at fifteen congregate meal locations.

Four libraries in the Hidalgo County Library System have received a total of \$108,070 for their Public Library Action for Neighborhood Education program. The program at McAllen Memorial Library will feature art exhibits, booking traveling exhibits that focus attention on the Chicano/Mexican/Texas culture. Puppet shows, some of which will be taken outside the library, will feature Mexican stories and folklore, Texas folktales, and Spanish fairy tales.

The program at Porter Doss Memorial Library in Weslaco will strive to increase educational opportunities and training skills of the disadvantaged and help provide meaningful recreation for the elderly disadvantaged. Spanish language books will be purchased, and a basic audiovisual collection will be developed.

Individual study of Spanish and English as second languages will assist Mexican Americans and Anglo Americans to develop a better appreciation of one another's cultures.

Edinburg Public Library will establish deposit collections at four locations, and monthly programs for adults and children will be held. Topics will include nutrition, hygiene, and child care. A program of career information and awareness will be aimed at both student and

adult levels, and there will be opportunities for participation in programs to improve English proficiency and to prepare for citizenship.

The program at the Mission Public Library will provide for the establishment of deposit collections in community and housing centers. Special education classes will visit the library weekly to use audio visual materials, and career education information will be offered in connection with IMAGE (Involvement of Mexican-Americans in Gainful Endeavors).

Houston Public Library will receive \$65,054 for two programs for the aged. One program will develop a program of books by mail for the homebound. A catalog will be distributed, and there will be a program to contact those persons working with these people to acquaint them with the program. A second program will be directed toward persons living in complexes for the elderly and those confined to nursing homes. Films, handicraft projects, and recreational and educational materials will be available. There will be special activities to contact those not living in such centers to inform them of the availability of services.

Under a \$4,460 grant Huntsville Public Library will carry out a program to provide rotating collections in residential facilities for the aging and to develop a system for delivery of materials by volunteers to the homebound living within the city limits.

Kenedy Public Library has received a \$1,500 grant to develop a program for the elderly. A club group is interested in working on a local history project with this group. Children from a community with minimal library services will be transported to a nearby library, where there will be craft shops, puppet shows, film showings and other activities. Rotating collections will be sent to correction centers, and programs will be established in a county institution for the retarded.

The grant of \$3,800 to Butt-Holdsworth Memorial Library in Kerrville will provide multiple copies of current titles and paperbacks in large print for the library, nursing homes, and interlibrary loan and *Reader's Digest* in large print for each nursing home. Film programs and book talks will also be conducted.

A \$4,000 grant to Dawson County Library will provide for operation of a books-by-mail program for the aged. An envelope and postage for return of the materials will be provided.

The \$5,150 grant to Mesquite Public Library will provide for the purchase of books, talking books, record albums, and cassette tapes for two convalescent centers in the community.

Midland County Library has received a \$6,265 grant for establishing rotating deposit collections of paperback, hardback, and large print books at two institutions for the aged. Audiovisual programs will be presented by volunteers at five institutions.

The Story Hour Lady, her trained assistants, and teachers will tell stories, perform puppet shows, play games, and present films under a \$4,046 grant to the North Richland Hills Public Library. Deposit collections of books, cassettes, and other materials will be at each location, and additional materials will be available from the library. The Birdville School District has promised its support, and special activities will involve the parents of the children in the program.

Frio Public Library's grant of \$3,461 will provide a study room for afterschool sessions. Radio and newspaper publicity will supplement personal contact to encourage students to use the facilities.

At Rockdale the Lucy Hill Patterson Memorial Library will provide books and special materials and reading aids to the aging and shut-ins. In cooperation with the local genealogical society, a program of interviewing for local history will be undertaken. A pick-up service will be provided for children who do not ordinarily get to go to the library because they lack transportation.,

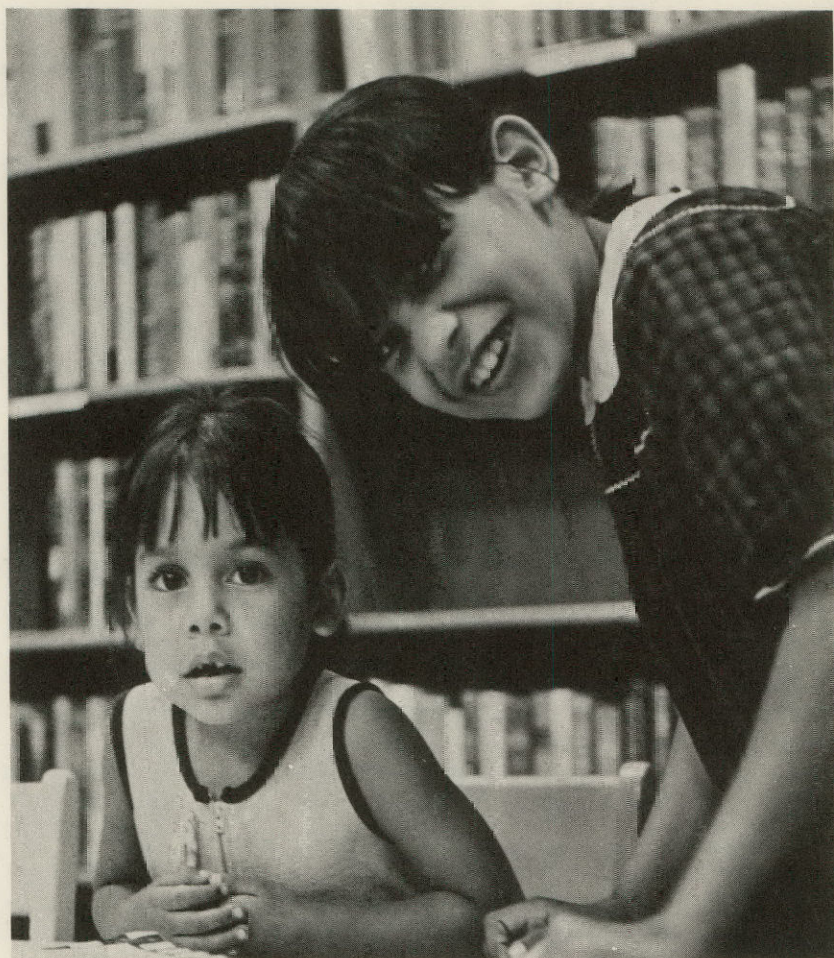
Tom Green County Library's \$15,000 grant will develop a program to serve the aging. Activities include providing special materials such as talking books, cassette tapes, large print books, cassette players, and equipment for film programs. Materials will focus on various aspects of retirement: social security, medicare, health, recreation, and crafts.

San Antonio Public Library will receive a \$45,000 grant to select, acquire, and process Spanish language materials for the library's collection. Community agencies will assist in making the community aware of the materials.

A grant of \$14,700 to the San Augustine Public Library will provide programs for the rurally isolated, the unemployed and the underemployed, the aged, and preschool children. The San Augustine library was established within the past year to provide county-wide service, and these special services will point out the importance of the library in serving persons who may not think of library service as one they will use.

The Sherman Public Library has received a grant of \$10,725 to provide programs for the disadvantaged, the aged, and those needing career information. The program for the disadvantaged will utilize short feature films that have family appeal along with a brief program that will accompany the showing. The program for the aging will provide a program each month at fifteen nursing homes. The library will cooperate with schools in Grayson County to provide information on careers. Loan procedures will be developed to make the materials available throughout the county.

Silsbee Public Library will utilize community resource people in its program for the aged. The grant is for a total of \$8,500. Although the direction to be taken will depend upon community wishes, it is ex-



*Materials in Spanish are provided to programs concentrating on the non-English-speaking.*

pected to have discussions of Medicare and Medicaid conducted by Social Security representatives, discussions of religion tapes by local ministers, and legal advice for the aged conducted by a local attorney.

The project for preschoolers at El Progreso Memorial Library at Uvalde will include story hours in both English and Spanish. Programs will also be conducted at the migrant school, nursery schools, and kindergartens. Projection equipment will be purchased to use films from San Antonio Public Library. This project will be funded for \$12,400.

Waco-McLennan County has received a grant of \$11,250 to continue a program for the aged and institutionalized. The program makes available a variety of audiovisual materials to be used in programs for the aged and institutionalized.

## 16 Public Libraries To Participate in ABE

Under Project 6, Category 2 of the federal Library Services and Construction Act Title I, a total of 16 libraries have been given grants for programs in adult basic education. Fort Worth and Dallas public libraries, the only two Major Resource Center libraries participating in the program, received \$15,000 grants. The six area or Size II libraries each received \$10,000 grants. The seven community or Size III libraries received \$5,000 grants.

The Fort Worth program, being coordinated by Robert Joyce, assistant director of Fort Worth Public Library, is a continuation of a similar program begun last year in cooperation with the Fort Worth Independent School District. As in other projects, the library will purchase materials and make special efforts to encourage students in the program to use library services.

Fort Worth Independent School District is also serving as the prime sponsoring agency for programs in Arlington and in Weatherford. Project director in Arlington is Royce Puckett, co-op supervisor of the North Central Texas Co-op, Adult Education Center in Fort Worth. Bill Pounds, community education director is project director in Weatherford.

The Ten County ACE Co-op, an adult and career education cooperative headquartered in Lockhart, is sponsor for two projects: one in Llano and another in Smithville. Phil Wagoner, of the Llano Independent School District is project director in Llano, and Gene Sampson, a teacher in Smithville, is project director there.

Other libraries, prime sponsors, and project directors are as follows: Dallas Public Library, Dallas Independent School District, Jean S. Brooks, independent study officer at Dallas Public Library; Del Rio Public Library, San Felipe Del Rio Consolidated Independent School District, Bess Bradley, librarian at Del Rio Public Library; Emily Fowler Public Library, Denton Public Schools, Joella Orr, librarian at Emily Fowler Public Library; McAllen Memorial Library, McAllen Independent School District, Ronald P. Steensland, coordinator at McAllen Memorial Library; Hillsboro City Library, McLennan County Community College, Liz Roberts, librarian at Hillsboro

City Library; Lewisville Public Library, Denton Public Schools, Cynthia Bennett, librarian at Lewisville Public Library; Montgomery County Library, Region VI Education Service Center, Alonzo Langley, Adult and Continuing Education at the Education Service Center in Huntsville; Mt. Pleasant City Library, Mt. Pleasant Independent School District, Wanda Sue Lum, librarian at Mt. Pleasant City Library; Sherman Public Library, Sherman Independent School District, Mike McDougal, director of Adult Basic Education in the Sherman Independent School District; Waco-McLennan County Library, McLennan County Community College, Paul Medley, director of libraries at Waco-McLennan County Library; and Silsbee Public Library, Beaumont Independent School District, Marguerite Horka, librarian at Silsbee Public Library.



*A sound/slide show has been produced by the University of Texas Extension Division to introduce those who are interested in adult basic education programs develop a better understanding of the concept.*



## Foundations Pledge Funds for Tape Conversion Project

Four Texas foundations have pledged a total of \$175,000 to a program to convert open-reel recordings of books to cassette recordings for use by blind and physically handicapped persons. The conversion, which will cost about \$300,000, will be carried out by the Texas State Library's Division for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

The Moody Foundation, the Sid Richardson Foundation and the George Brown Foundation have each pledged \$50,000 while the Houston Endowment, Inc., has pledged \$25,000.

Conversion of materials available on open-reel tape will make them available in cassette form for persons with physical handicaps that make them eligible for the service. "Not only is the cassette tape more convenient for these persons to use," said Donald K. Bailey, director of the Division for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, "but also the Library of Congress makes available cassette players for its patrons."

The tremendous popularity of Talking Books, materials recorded on phonograph disks, indicates a need for the spoken material. Not only is use of this material most suitable for persons with physical handicaps that prevent their using ordinary printed material, but it is also the media most used by persons who have lost their vision as adults and do not read Braille.

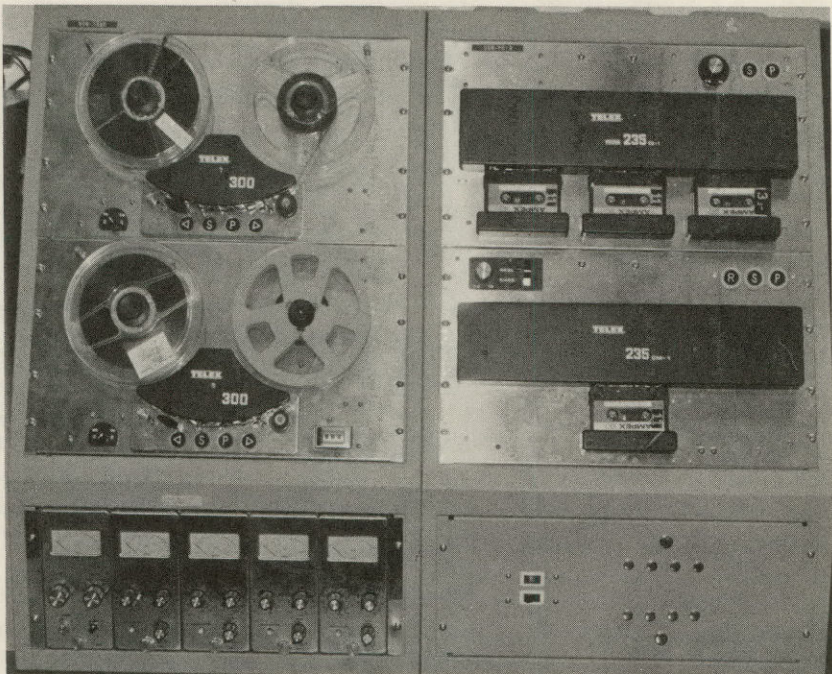
"Although the State Library has always sought archival, manuscript, and printed materials, this is the first time that the agency has requested financial aid for service activities from other than governmental sources," said Dr. Dorman H. Winfrey, director of the State Library. "The need to convert materials from open-reel to cassette tape is urgent. Since new materials from the Library of Congress will be available on cassette tapes rather than open-reel, it is a one-time operation with a beginning and an end. The tape masters produced at the State Library will be made available to other regional depositories—thus strengthening service to the blind and physically handicapped throughout the United States."

Service to the blind and physically handicapped is funded from a complex meshing of effort. Braille and recorded materials (on both disks and tape) are furnished by the Library of Congress. The federal Library Services and Construction Act has provided funds for staff and for the purchase of large print materials, but the uncertainty of the direction that federal programs will take has made necessary the assump-

tion of staff costs by the State, which also provides space. The United States Postal Service transports the materials without charge to users.

During the past decade the program has undergone tremendous change. In 1965 legislation extended services previously available only to the blind to all persons with physical handicaps that prevent their reading ordinary printed materials. More recently it has been determined that blindness and the inability to hold a book are not the only disabilities that prevent reading. Other disabilities with physical bases may also prevent reading.

“What this means,” said Bailey, “is that the 20,000 persons currently being served represent only a small percentage of those who need services offered by the Division for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. The assistance made available by these foundations is a much-needed supplement to governmental funds.



*On this piece of equipment a single reel of tape can be copied by four cassette tapes.*

## Tech Library Acquires New Aid For Blind

*By Geneva Adams*

Recent development of electronic devices and precision instruments has not only been a boon to the business world but also has gone far in helping the handicapped. One of the newest of these inventions is the Optacon, a reading aid that opens new channels of learning and pleasure to the blind.

The Optacon has been added to the Texas Tech University Library, and blind students have the opportunity to learn to use it at no cost to themselves. As far as can be ascertained, Tech is the first college to acquire such an instrument.

The name is derived from the key words, OPTical-to-TActile-CONverter, thus Optacon. Its purpose is to convert the image of a printed letter into a tactile image that a blind person can feel with one finger. It is compact and portable, about the size of a tape recorder, weighing less than four pounds. After a series of lessons, a blind person can learn to read books, magazines, and newspapers.

The library at Tech became involved when Ray C. Janeway, Dean of Library Services, asked the writer to take on the responsibility of teaching the use of the Optacon. The first requirement was that she attend a ten-day training course in Palo Alto, California. This program is provided on the purchase of the Optacon and is conducted by Telesensory Systems, Inc., where the instrument is made. After the initial training, the Optacon was shipped to the library and is now kept in a room in the basement where the lessons are conducted. When the new addition to the library is completed, probably in April of next year, plans are that the Optacon and other aids to the blind will be housed in the Media Center. Dean Janeway foresees a far-reaching program that could encompass the whole West Texas region.

The Optacon was invented less than ten years ago by a professor at Stanford University. Having a blind daughter, he felt driven to do something to enable her to read the same material that the sighted read. He



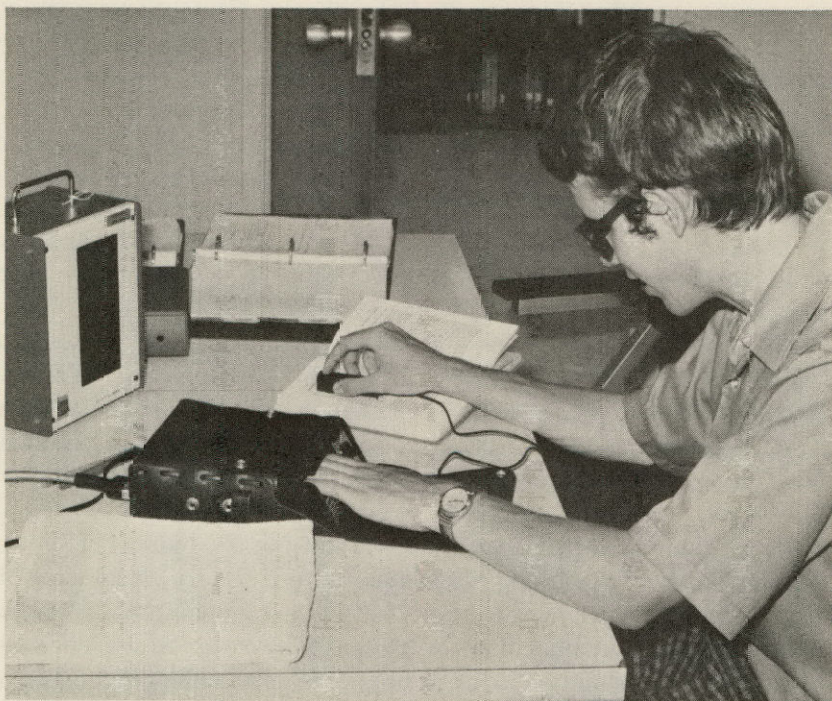
*On the left Geneva Adams shows how easily the Optacon may be carried from place to place.*

*In the picture on the right Redge Westbrook, a blind student at Texas Tech, reads with the Optacon.*

began to see the possibility of using the electronic "know-how" that had begun to erupt. His first attempt was a large box-type contraption. It was unwieldy and had to remain stationary. This was not to his liking. He gradually refined and reduced the size until he arrived at the small, portable machine that it is today.

Blind students can use the Optacon for reading ink-print materials, either black on white or white on black. It has three main sections: (1) a miniature optoelectronic camera, (2) an electronics section, and (3) a tactile stimulator array. The camera (about the size of a pocket knife) is mounted in a housing that has rollers for easy movement on paper. It is connected to the electronics section by a small cable. Both the electronics section and the tactile stimulator array are contained in the main chassis. The tactile stimulator array consists of 144 minute metal rods, 6 columns across and 24 rows long, measuring a half inch by one inch. The tips of these rods vibrate against the index finger of the left hand when the camera is placed over printed matter by the right hand.

The workings of this device may sound complicated. Pictures cannot do it justice, but sight and feel will convince the blind, as well as the sighted, that it can be of great assistance to the blind, as well as the sighted, that it can be of great assistance to the blind. The Optacon was not designed to replace Braille, but it is intended to open unknown resources and to give pleasure to those who heretofore were denied the ability to read ordinary books.



In the first lesson the blind student learns to use the controls, how to connect and disconnect, and the general care of this delicate instrument. Then follows a lesson by lesson of letter recognition, starting with upper-case and then advancing to lower-case. The ascenders and descenders of lower-case are given special attention because the sensitivity of the finger grows less near the first knuckle.

The student soon learns to set his own pace, and as his confidence grows, he is introduced to more difficult reading. It is a thrill to him, and to the teacher, when he is able to be on his own.

The Optacon is available to the blind and can be checked out just the way the books are. Its use, however, is limited to the confines of the library. By attaching a shoulder strap to the Optacon, an individual can carry it with ease.

Since the beginning of our program in March, three students have been enrolled. One of these is a sighted person who is writing his master's thesis on various aids to the visually handicapped. Another student, Redge Westbrook, has bought an Optacon and plans to continue his lessons in order to gain more rapid reading ability. About the instrument he states: "The Optacon is especially helpful to me for short reading assignments such as reference work and class handouts. To become proficient, I will need more time and training."

A blind woman who went to Palo Alto from her home in New Jersey

to learn the use of the Optacon says: "One encouraging word you can give your Optacon students is that after awhile one really does come to recognize words by shape instead of determining single letters." Her progress is great, for she has reached this stage in only three months.

At present the Tech Library is in touch with the teachers of the blind of the Lubbock Public Schools. Efforts are being made to work out a program whereby children just beginning their education can learn to read with the Optacon. It would be rewarding to see a blind child acquire the ability to read the same literature that his sighted peers read and to realize that when he is older, reading would be second nature to him.

The cost of the Optacon and the training that is included comes to a high figure. A blind person, however, may be able to receive help if he sincerely wants to own one. At Tech financial aid has come from three sources, grateful to them. Men's fraternity, Alpha Phi Omega, took the lead; the Texas Compress and Warehouse of Lubbock and the Friends of the University Library also gave generously.

The library at Texas Tech is pleased and proud to pioneer in this endeavor. An ever-expanding program is planned. Every visually handicapped person on campus, in the city, and in surrounding areas is of concern. It is hoped that other libraries in Texas will take up the challenge and look into the possibility of starting programs for the blind in their communities.

# Texas Libraries Available To Fill in the Files

Libraries which are missing issues of **Texas Libraries** from their files may be able to fill in the gaps from copies available at the Texas State Library.

Requests for the additional copies should be addressed to:

Millicent Huff, Editor  
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The following are available.

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## News Notes

### **Library Is Scene for Inaugurating Governor for a Day**

Inauguration of Senator Max Sherman as Governor for a Day provided a unique climax to National Library Week in Amarillo. Senator Sherman chose to be sworn in on the steps of the Amarillo central library, the Mary E. Bivins Memorial building at 10th & Polk, rather than at the state capital.

In addition to including in the day's events his constituents of the Texas Panhandle, Senator Sherman's purpose was to dramatize "the extraordinary unity of the people of Texas, large and diverse as the state is."

One of the proclamations issued at a later news conference was in recognition of the importance of Texas public libraries. In all publicity attendant on the ceremonies of the day, the interest of Governor-for-a-Day Sherman in library concerns was obvious. A prayer breakfast, a luncheon program, dedication of the Fort Smith-Santa Fe Trail Historical Marker at Borger, and a reception in the Frank Phillips College Library made a full day.

Administering the oath of office on the steps of the Amarillo library before a large crowd in the roped-off area of Polk Street was Justice James G. Denton of the Supreme Court of Texas, with the Honorable A. M. Aikin, Jr., Dean of the Texas Senate, presiding. Dignitaries participating in the ceremony were seated on the spacious front porch of the former Bivins home, decorated for the occasion by the local VFW. Dr. Lloyd T. Watkins, President of West Texas State University of Canyon, made some brief remarks to which Governor Sherman responded. Following the ceremony at the library, he served as parade marshal for the Greater Southwest Music Festival Parade.

### **4 Abilene Libraries Receive \$100,000 Grant for Reference Materials**

A gift of \$100,000 from the Dodge Jones Foundation of Abilene has been received to provide added resource material for Abilene college and public libraries.

Dr. Rupert N. Richardson, historian and president emeritus of Hardin-Simmons University, is serving as coordinator for the four



library directors—Dr. Calvin Turpin of Hardin-Simmons University, Callie Faye Milliken of Abilene Christian College, Mrs. Frances Vaughn of McMurry College and W. Dee Blackmon of the Abilene Public Library—in planning use of the book funds. Each library will make its own decision concerning the expenditure of its \$25,000 share of the gift.

Dr. Richardson and the four librarians are meeting periodically to select reference books and materials that would be most beneficial to strengthening the Abilene area as a resource center.

### **Mrs. Madeline Owens, Employee for 29 Years, Retires from Library**

Mrs. Madeline Owens, circulation manager of *Texas Libraries* and an employee of the Texas State Library for nearly thirty years, will officially retire on September 1, 1974, after completing her vacation.

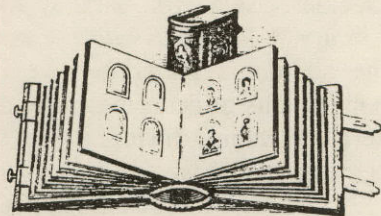
Through the years, Mrs. Owens has had contact with librarians throughout the state as she worked with extension loan collections and with the collection of annual statistical reports for libraries. Since Mrs. Owens came to the State Library in January, 1945, the agency has undergone dramatic change. There was, for example, a staff of only 15 persons. The library was housed in the Capitol, with much material stored in the basement.

### **TA&M to Provide Agricultural Researchers with Library Service**

A \$10,000 grant to the Texas A&M University Library to underwrite through June 30 the costs of providing information services to U.S. Department of Agriculture researchers working in Texas. The latest supplement covering a six-month period continues an information services project initiated in July, 1972, as a cooperative effort planned by the National Agricultural Library with funding by the U.S.D.A.

This program now called the Documents Delivery Project involved the TAMU Libraries during the Fall Semester in responding to more than 5,000 requests from U.S.D.A. staff members. Photocopies usually are provided as desired by the researchers, but library books may also be sent.

Requests are handled by Interlibrary Services Librarian H. C. Yu and his staff. The funding will provide for needed staffing and related expenses.



## Genealogy Collection Given to State Library

Materials collected by Mrs. Edna Perry Deckler, long-time president of the Texas State Genealogical Society and editor of *Stirpes*, the society's publication, have been given to the Texas State Library's Genealogy Collection.

"The fact that so many of the publications Mrs. Deckler collected were published in very limited numbers makes this a particularly important contribution," said Dr. Dorman H. Winfrey, director of the State Library.

The 26 boxes of material were packed by members of the Fort Worth Genealogical Society and transported to Austin by Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Mattoon and Mrs. Kenneth Harlow.

They include quarterlies published by genealogical societies throughout the United States. "The quality of the Texas publication made other societies want to set up an exchange program with Mrs. Deckler," said Mrs. Sarakay Jordan, genealogy librarian at the State Library. "Together with the collection already at the State Library, the additional materials give us an outstanding collection of the publications of genealogical societies." Also included were books on heraldry, family histories and such things as marriage records and cemetery records.

The Genealogy Collection is located on the third floor of the Lorenzo de Zavala State Archives and Library Building. It is open to researchers from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

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