

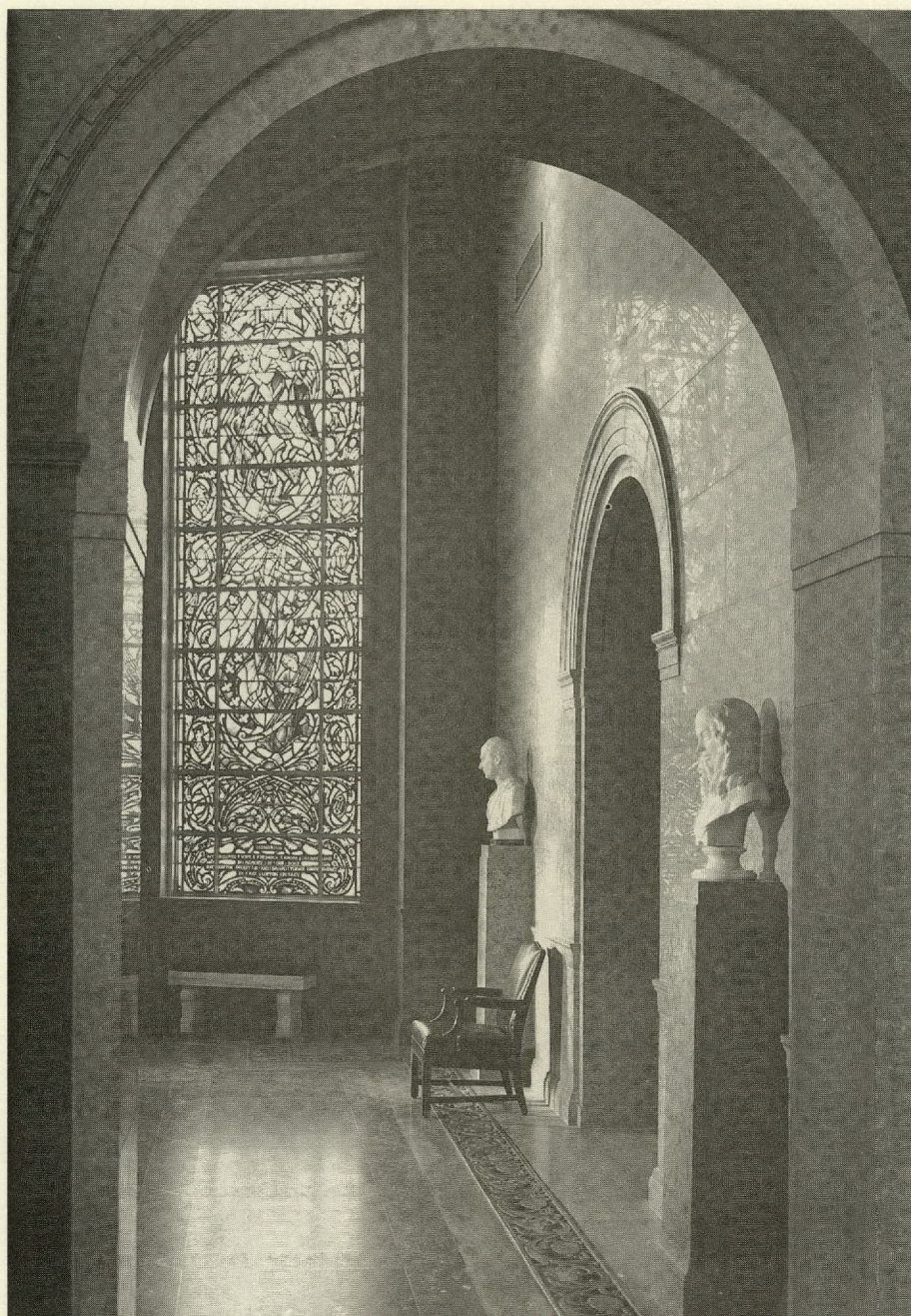
Summer 1991
Volume 52, No. 2

Texas Libraries

Published by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission

The Armstrong Browning Library

*A Waco Scholar's
Victorian Poetry
Legacy*



Texas Libraries

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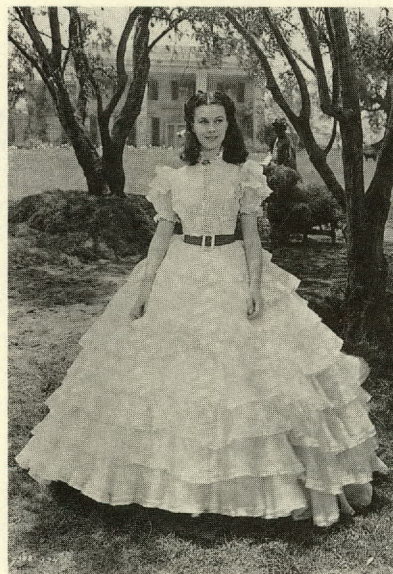
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Special Collections

Sometimes we may take for granted the wonderful collections that are housed in libraries and research facilities around the state. And some people may not even be aware that these resources are located right in their backyards. So in this issue we look at some of the most interesting and diverse collections that are available in Texas.

The Armstrong Browning Library, located on the campus of Baylor University in Waco, houses the world's largest Robert Browning collection and a substantial amount of Elizabeth Barrett Browning's work. Besides the valuable materials included in the collection, the building itself is a sight to behold. The library's Martin Entrance Foyer is pictured on our cover. The walls are made of St. Clair marble, and the foyer features double bronze entrance doors, three magnificent double stained-glass windows, and several pieces of sculpture. In the photograph are busts of Elizabeth Barrett Browning and John Kenyon, a friend of Robert and a distant cousin of Elizabeth, who introduced the couple.

Many libraries may see a renewed interest in Margaret Mitchell's novel, *Gone With the Wind*, with the September publication of the long-awaited sequel. Guide those interested about the movie made from the novel to an exhibit at the University of Texas at Austin's Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center. Our feature on page 40 offers a look at the exhibit made up of items from the David O. Selznick Archives. The exhibit is on display through November 22 and is available for viewing Monday through Friday.

Of course, these are just two of the many interesting collections in our state. Please let us know of any collections you are interested in learning about—or perhaps your favorite—and we will try to feature it in an upcoming issue. ■

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Central Texas blessed with world's largest Robert Browning collection.

Scholar Leaves Victorian Poetry Legacy

By Amy L. Root

Waco may seem an unlikely place for a shrine to Robert and Elizabeth Barrett Browning, but through the vision of a remarkable English professor Texas can claim a world-famous literary jewel as its own: Baylor University's Armstrong Browning Library.

The library looks incongruous to blocky red-brick buildings scattered across the Baylor campus. With its curved center facade, double bronze entrance doors, sun-bleached stonework, and the largest collection of secular stained-glass windows in the world, the library is more reminiscent of the European setting where two of literature's most eminent lovers flourished. The spirit of the Brownings' work is diffused throughout the library's halls and foyers. From effigies of the poets and locks of their hair to enormous red-levanto marble columns imported from Italy and paintings from the Brownings' personal collection, the library seems to preserve the poets' souls as much as their artifacts.

And of course there are the books, which Armstrong Browning Library Director Roger Brooks says are probably his favorite non-manuscript holdings at the facility. "We have about 25 percent of the books that Robert and Elizabeth are known to have had," says Brooks. "The reason I like those is that Browning would write in the margin, sometimes writing in the leaf, or thinking of a poem and writing it down in the book. That's fascinating to me. We have locks of his hair, the jewelry he gave to

Elizabeth...but his books are the most personal things we have outside of the manuscripts themselves. They are his reaction to ideas."

The library's story really began 80 years ago, when A. J. Armstrong was named chairman of Baylor University's English department. He had been collecting Browning documents ever since his thesis led him to acquire a set of letters written to Robert Browning. Tours to England further whetted his enthusiasm for the poet, and when he was hired to direct Baylor's English program, it was a fateful, ideal match that continues to enhance Baylor years after Armstrong's four decades of service to the university.

In 1918, Armstrong's personal Browning collection finally outgrew his home, so he struck up an agreement with Baylor, offering to donate his collection in return for a commitment from the university to help him build the largest Robert Browning collection in the world—a dream that has been realized.

Director Brooks still marvels at how fortunate the university is that Armstrong predicted Browning's rise to prominence. "Can you imagine? Browning had only been dead since 1889—that's 23 years—and already Dr. Armstrong had the insight that Browning would be a lasting poet worthy of building a collection on, back then when the material was so easily attainable," Brooks says. "Baylor made that commitment to him when probably no

"I love thee with a love

I seemed to lose

With my lost saints,—

I love thee with the breath,

Smiles, tears, of all my

life!—and, if God choose,

I shall but love thee better

after death."

—Elizabeth Barrett Browning
Sonnet #43
Sonnets from the Portuguese

Robert and Elizabeth

Elizabeth Barrett was 40 years old when she married Robert Browning. Her father was a domineering investor who didn't want any of his children to marry and disinherited those who did. As a teenager, Elizabeth suffered a fall from a horse and was confined to a room in her father's English home until her romance with Robert began. At that time, her poetry was better-known than his, and a mutual friend convinced Robert to begin corresponding with her. When they finally met, Elizabeth and Robert had already become very close. When Robert asked Elizabeth to marry him, she forsook her father and the couple moved to Florence, Italy. Their home, Casa Guidi, became a mecca for writers traveling through the region. They had one son, Robert Wiedemann Barrett Browning, nicknamed "Penini" or "Pen." The Brownings were married for 15 years, until Elizabeth's death in 1861.—AR

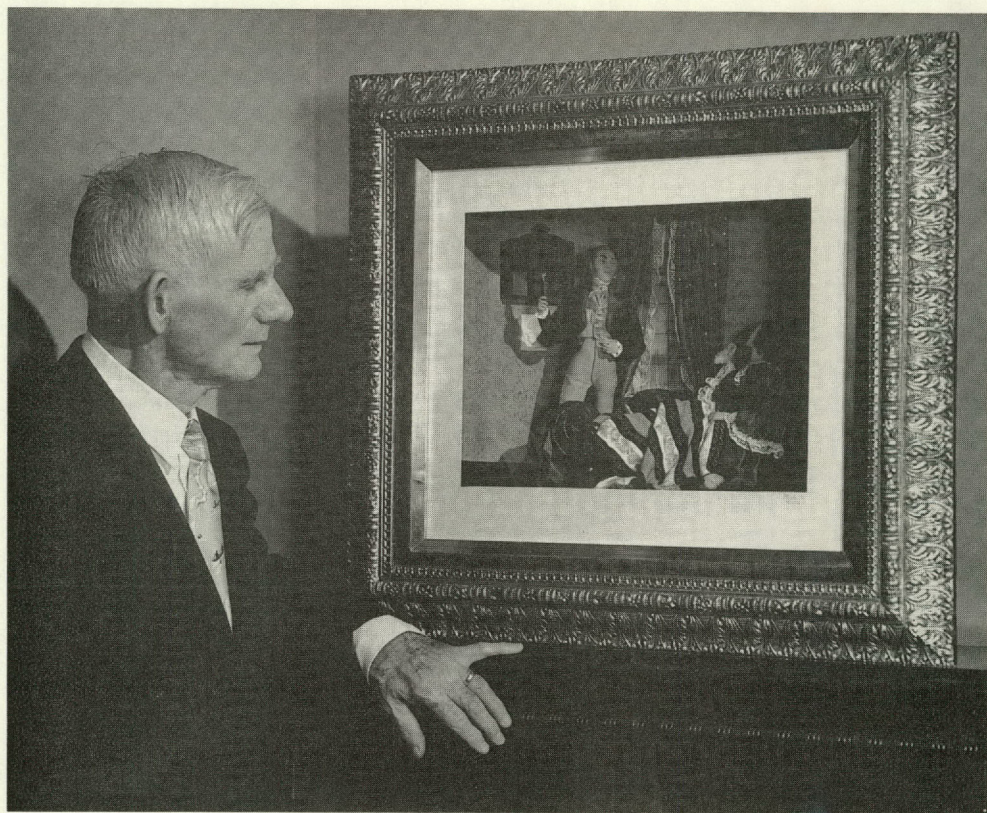
other institution in the world would make that commitment, when they thought Browning was just a passing fancy. Dr. Armstrong knew it would last forever."

Brooks also thinks that Armstrong felt a connection to the Brownings' Christian optimism; Armstrong had been raised a staunch Baptist, and the Brownings' poetry often describes their love as holy. Thus, the library easily took root at the Baptist university and thrived under Armstrong's dedicated hand.

Brooks remembers Armstrong's passion for Browning poetry, having his first substantial taste of the literature when he was one of Armstrong's

students. He also remembers how strict, and sometimes abrasive, Armstrong was as a teacher. Armstrong's zeal for his work often kept him from getting more than four hours of sleep a night.

Armstrong's biggest challenge was raising funds and notoriety in the early 1900s, when Texas had little to offer to a poetry center. But Armstrong was gaining international recognition as a Browning expert, which helped him draw leading writers to the university for symposiums and poetry readings—Robert Frost, Edna St. Vincent Millay, and Carl Sandburg, to name a few. Renowned actors were also intrigued with Armstrong's growing collection; Katharine Cornell performed on campus



Dr. A.J. Armstrong's friendships with creative professionals such as actress Katharine Cornell helped strengthen the Baylor collection. She presented Armstrong with this miniature scene from one of her performances in *The Barretts of Wimpole Street*. The diorama is now housed in the Austin Moore-Elizabeth Barrett Browning Salon.

in *The Barretts of Wimpole Street*. She even gave Dr. Armstrong a diorama depicting one of the play's scenes. The miniature scene is on display in the Austin Moore-Elizabeth Barrett Browning Salon.

Armstrong's greatest fund-raising endeavor, however, was for the construction of the library facility that now houses his life's vocation. Costing \$2 million, the building was dedicated in 1951, just three years before Armstrong died at the age of 81. By the time the library was built, Armstrong had created a circle of tremendously influential library benefactors whose names may be found throughout the building, especially on the 56 stained-glass windows that contain excerpts of Browning poetry.

Armstrong also supported his work by leading annual summer tours of Europe. Armstrong Educational Tours was founded in 1912 and, when middle-class European travel was almost non-existent, hosted more than 4,000 people on trips to cultural centers around the world. The library continues the tradition of travel by leading annual tours to Europe, and each year the library travelers accompany an author to lay a wreath on Robert Browning's grave in the Poets' Corner of Westminster Abbey. T. S. Eliot is one of the poets who has laid the wreath, and Welsh novelist Ken Follett is scheduled to perform the ceremony this year.

The library also hosts numerous symposiums and conferences. The library's collection has grown in proportion to its reputation and now includes more than 4,000 letters written by or to the Brownings and all the first editions of both poets' books, in addition to the increasing assortment of mementoes and furnishings. Annual Pied Piper tours for area fifth-graders give them the opportunity to visit the collection and see things such as drawings by Willie MacReady, an ailing child for whom Browning wrote "The Pied Piper of Hamelin."



Gracing the Jones Research Hall, this window features an excerpt from "My Last Duchess." It is one of the 10 stained-glass windows in the hall created in St. Louis' Jacoby Studios.

"My Last Duchess"

The poem is often misinterpreted as being a love poem; the lines in the window, "She liked whate'er she looked on, / And her looks went everywhere," actually mean that the author (the Duke) doubted her fidelity. The Duke is shown pointing to the painting referred to in the poem's opening lines, "that's my last duchess, painted on the wall." Red pomegranates in the window's border and blue bells in the center reflect a theme used throughout the Armstrong Browning Library based on Browning's series *Bells and Pomegranates*, a name symbolizing the music and meaning of poetry. In this window scene, the Duke is describing the faults of his former wives to an emissary from his prospective father-in-law.

Photographs courtesy
of the Armstrong Browning Library

Brooks says the institution is gradually branching out, slowly building a section of documents relating to Victorian writers who had significant contact with the Brownings during the 14 years they lived in Florence. The Florentine collection includes manuscripts, letters, and first editions from Matthew Arnold, John Ruskin, and Charles Dickens, but Robert Browning will always be the focus. Elizabeth Barrett Browning's work is also a substantial part of the collection, but the largest collection of her papers is at Wellesley College in Massachusetts.

Besides its scholarly value, the library imparts an aura of the poets' lives that written words only partially stir. Tucked away in the library's McLean Foyer of Meditation is a dim cloister

where a bronze cast of the poets' clasped hands is encased. On one wall, printed in gold leaf, is Elizabeth's famous poem "How do I Love Thee?" and opposite it hangs Robert's tribute to her, "O Lyric Love," from *The Ring and the Book*. The hushed alcove has been the site of marriage proposals and even small wedding ceremonies. Taking place in a building that A.J. Armstrong built to last 1,000 years, such events seem to perpetuate the poets' commitment to each other.

Armstrong, too, is reflected in the library; it's filled with subtle touches from his own travels, such as wood parquet floors patterned after those he saw at the Palace of Versailles, and smaller artifacts such as his eyeglasses. The library's archives also include Armstrong's papers. Appropriately, his funeral services were

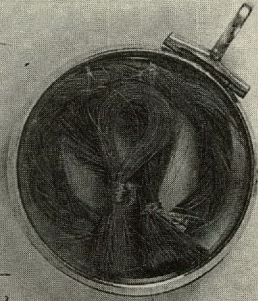


The Austin Moore-Elizabeth Barrett Browning Salon contains many rare pieces of the poet's personal effects, including her writing desk and a manuscript of Sonnets from the Portuguese. Windows depict scenes and lines from the sonnets. The walls are pale green, which was Elizabeth's favorite color.

Sonnets from the Portuguese

XVIII

I never gave a lock of hair away
To a man, 'dearest,' except this to thee,
Which now upon my fingers thoughtfully
I ring out to the full brown length and say
'Take it: my day of youth went yesterday;
My hair no longer bounds to my foot's glee,
Nor plant I it from rote or myrtle-tee,
As girls do, any more. It only may
Now shade on two pale cheeks, the mark of tears,
Caught-drooping from the head that hangs aside
Through sorrows' trick. I thought the funerals sheers
Would take this first; but love is justified:
Take it thou, a fondling piece, from all those years,
The gift my mother left here when she died.



Elizabeth wrote Sonnets from the Portuguese as a gift for Robert, so titled because he had nicknamed her "the Portuguese" for her olive complexion. He called them "the finest sonnets written in any language since Shakespeare," and persuaded her to publish them. This one is shown with a lock of her hair.

held in the Foyer of Meditation.

According to a January 1988 *Southern Living* magazine article Armstrong defended the library's high cost by saying, "If we can create a place where young people can meditate on great thoughts and by that means give the world another Dante, another Shakespeare, another Browning, we shall count the cost a bargain." The words from "Abt Vogler," illuminated in stained glass above the library's entrance, seem to assure that Armstrong's wish is not lost: "All we have

willed or hoped or dreamed of good shall exist;/Not its semblance, but itself; no beauty, nor good, nor power/Whose voice has gone forth, but each survives for the melodist/When eternity affirms the conception of an hour." ■

The library is open to visitors Monday through Saturday. There is no admission charge. For more information, write to the Armstrong Browning Library at B.U. Box 7152, Waco, Texas 76798-7152; or call (817) 755-3566.

More Texas Facts at Your Fingertips

By Paul A. Arrigo

Paul A. Arrigo, the reference/government documents librarian, Information Services Division, graduated from the University of Texas Graduate School of Library and Information Science in August 1990.

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The first article in this two-part series introduced the Texas State Library's Publications Clearinghouse program and the depository library system that offers local access to state government publications. This article will guide small- and medium-sized public libraries in building a basic reference collection of Texas government publications by providing a selective list, a directory of publishers, and a list of finding aids.

I devised this selective list by matching patrons' information needs with appropriate state government publications. To determine the needs, I consulted several public library use studies, which are patron-completed surveys used to determine the materials and services patrons want.

In his book *The Public Library in the 1980s: the Problems of Choice*, Lawrence White reported that 50 percent of public library users are children and students.¹ He also found that adult users are interested in recreation/leisure, home, job, and educational activities. A New Jersey library use study reached a similar conclusion: users are most interested in leisure, do-it-yourself projects, current events, and job-related activities.² A Connecticut study listed job-related activities and education in the top five information needs of their library clientele.³

The Texas State Publications Clearinghouse user report, *Results of the 1991 Depository Library Survey*, identified legislation/law and business as

topics of high relevance to undergraduate library users.⁴ This survey also found that education, business, and legislation/law were the most popular subject areas in state depository library collections.

The Five Popular Areas

Based on this research, I concentrated my suggestions for a core collection of essential state government publications in these areas: business, education, career guidance, law/government, and leisure. The list includes only titles that contain current data, are in print, can be acquired from the publishing agency, and most likely will continue to be published in the future.

State publications for the business community are abundant. Many of them are produced by the Bureau of Business Research at the University of Texas at Austin. Staff collect economic and demographic data from state and federal agencies and tailor it to meet the needs of local businesses.

Another service available to local businesses is *TEXIS*, a data base produced by the Department of Commerce. It has current and historical information on a variety of economic and demographic topics for Texas and other states.

The Education Agency (TEA) and the Higher Education Coordinating Board are two state agencies that publish education information. Most of TEA's statistical information is kept in electronic format and is not available in print. Individuals must call TEA and request specific data.

The Employment Commission is a primary publisher of useful career information. One of the Commission's responsibilities is to develop and analyze labor market information and related data.

In the law/government category, the Legislature is the major publisher of information. Since the Legislature creates

our laws, large numbers of people are affected throughout the state and may be interested in the bills that are being considered and passed. The rules and regulations found in the *Texas Register* and *Texas Administrative Code* are the daily business of state government. These two publications are quite expensive, but librarians should be aware of them and know where they can be found.

The two most active disseminators of leisure publications are the Department of Highways and Public Transportation and the Parks and Wildlife Department. The Highway Department's Travel and Information Division provides information services to the department and the public and supports tourism through travel counseling at tourist bureaus. The Parks and Wildlife Department promotes the state's parks through *Texas Parks and Wildlife* and park brochures.

Finding Aids

Acquiring state publications can be quite a challenge. Many state publications are free upon request, but the requester must move quickly. These publications are frequently issued in small quantities, go out of print quickly, and are not often reprinted. The State Library's *Texas State Publications* and the *Monthly Checklist of State Publications*, from the Library of Congress, are the best tools to locate current state publications.

If the agency can no longer supply copies, a microfiche copy can be purchased from the State Library's Records Management Division. *Texas State Publications* identifies which publications are available.

Conclusion

Texas State Library staff can assist you in building your state publications collection. The Library houses the most complete state publications collection in the state, because the Reference Section

receives two copies of most of the documents that pass through the State Publications Clearinghouse. Many items that cannot be obtained from the issuing agency can be found at the Library and may be borrowed through the interlibrary loan service of most libraries.

Depository libraries are another source of assistance in building a state publications collection.

State government publications can enhance the value of a library's entire collection. The reference titles covered in this article are only a fraction of the many that are available to the public. If you are interested in obtaining any of these publications, call the publishers listed on the next two pages.

The finding aids will assist you in locating new titles for the collection. When you start building your collection remember that the Texas State Library and the local depository libraries can provide further guidance and answer any questions. ■

¹ White, Lawrence., *The Public Library in the 1980s: The Problem of Choice*. (Mass: Lexington, Lexington Books, 1983) p. 41-43.

² Gallup Organization Inc., *The Use of, and Attitudes Toward Libraries in New Jersey*. (January 1976) Abstracted in *Unabashed Librarian*. 39 (1981) p. 22-32.

³ Chen, Ching-chih Dr. and Burger, Leslie B., *Assessment of Connecticut Citizen's Information Needs and Library Use Study*. (Conn: Hartford, Connecticut State Library, 1985).

⁴ Texas State Publications Clearinghouse., "Results of 1991 Depository Library Survey," *Administrative Notes* (1991/special) p. 8.

Finding Aids

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Texas State Publications
Texas State Library, Publications Clearinghouse. (Monthly, annual cumulation) Free.

Comprehensive index of state publications received by the clearinghouse; each issue contains subject, title, agency indexes which cumulate annually.

Texas Index
TEXinfo. (Quarterly) \$165.
Indexes many state periodicals such as the *Texas Bar Journal* and the *Texas Business Review*; provides access through general subject, geographical, name, and author indexes; limitations are a slow rate of publication (the Texas State Library received the winter 1989-90 issue in May 1991) and a too general subject index (Education, History).

Index to Texas Magazines and Documents
University of Houston-Victoria Library. (3 issues and annual cumulation) \$75 subscription. Indexes 26 magazines and 18 periodicals; uses Library of Congress subject headings, and indexes statistical tables as well; includes book and motion picture review index.

Statistical Reference Index
Congressional Information Service. (Monthly with quarterly and annual cumulations) Price varies.
Indexes and abstracts business, financial, and social statistical data from U.S. associations; institutes, businesses, commercial publishers, independent research centers, state government agencies, and universities; national, statewide, local, and foreign coverage; full-text microfiche copies of publications available at an additional cost.

Directory of Publishers

Congressional Information Service
4520 East-West Highway, Suite 800
Bethesda, MD 20814
(301) 654-1550

Department of Commerce
Mary Reynolds
P.O. Box 12728
Austin, TX 78711
(512) 320-9447

Department of Highways and
Public Transportation
Thomas J. MacMorran
125 E. 11th
Austin, TX 78701-2483
(512) 836-0507

Education Agency
Linda Kemp or Jan Anderson
1701 N. Congress Ave.
Austin, TX 78701-1494
(512) 463-9050

Employment Commission
Retha Blakely
101 E. 15th St., Room 316T
Austin, TX 78778-0001
(512) 463-2873

Health and Human Services
Coordinating Council
Terry Karow
P.O. Box 13065
Austin, TX 78711
(512) 873-2420

Higher Education Coordinating
Board
Liesa Kaiser
P.O. Box 12788
Austin, TX 78711
(512) 483-6111

House of Representatives
Joan Gillchrist
House Research Organization
P.O. Box 2910
Austin, TX 78769
(512) 463-0752

Parks and Wildlife Department
Gayle Elkins
4200 Smith School Road
Austin, TX 78744
(512) 389-4959

-continued on next page

BUSINESS

University of Texas at Austin, Bureau of Business
Research:

•*Directory of Texas Manufacturers* (1991, annual) \$130. Multiple access points: company listing, geographic index by MSA, and a Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) code index, lists the company name, address, fax number, and manufactured product; most comprehensive list of Texas manufacturers; includes small companies not in national directories; custom reports can be ordered for a small fee.

•*Texas Economic Indicators* (monthly) \$45 subscription. Good barometer of Texas' economic condition. Includes statistics on income, construction, employment, production, and business activity; comparable to *U.S. Economic Indicators*.

•*Texas Fact Book* (1989, biennial) \$15. Includes statistical data from Texas state agencies and business associations; includes information on the cost of living, agriculture, employment, travel, and vital statistics; includes rankings in construction, labor force and unemployment statistics, income, and population.

Department of Commerce, Research and
Planning Division:

•*TEXIS: Texas Information System* (Online Data Base) \$50/year, billed quarterly at \$12/hour or 20 cents/minute. Includes current information on employment and wages, labor force, personal income, demographics, hotel/motel occupancy, and counties; utilizes statistical data from federal and state agencies; requires computer and modem to access.

EDUCATION

Education Agency:

•*Texas School Directory* (1990-91, annual) \$10. Provides information on school locations, administrative personnel, and statistical data for each district; highlights the accreditation status of public and private schools.

•*TAAS: Texas Assessment of Academic Skills and Teams Exit Level: Student Performance Results* (annual) 3 volumes, \$3/volume. Volume I lists test results for state and regional areas; Volume II lists results by school district, gives data on number and percentage of students who passed in each geographic area; Volume III lists district and campus results.

Higher Education Coordinating Board:

•*Educational Opportunities at Texas Public Community Colleges and Technical Institutes* (1989) Free. Lists the associate degrees offered by each community college using an institution index; also has a degree index showing which schools offer a particular degree.

CAREER GUIDANCE

Employment Commission, Economic Research and
Analysis Department:

•*Texas Jobs 1995 Employment by Industry and Occupation* (1988) Free. One printing, limited supply. Lists job openings and gives employment projections through 1995 for various professions. Provides brief explanation of future trends in Texas occupational employment; *Texas Jobs 2000: Employment by Industry and Occupation* will be available after January 1992.

•*Area Jobs 1995: Employment by Industry and Occupation* (1988, 2 volumes) Free. One printing, limited supply. Derived from *Texas Jobs 1995*; lists 1985 employment figures by industry and occupation for various metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs); gives projections to the year 1995; will be updated after *Texas Jobs 2000* is published.

State Occupational Information Coordinating
Committee:

•*Directory of Licensed Occupations and Apprenticeship Program Contacts in Texas* (1989) Free from the Higher Education Coordinating Board. Lists the minimum requirements for professions and occupations licensed, registered, or certified by the state; includes employment projections taken from *Texas Jobs 1995*, along with wage and salary data.

LAW/GOVERNMENT

University of Texas at Austin, Lyndon Baines Johnson
School of Public Affairs:

•*Guide to Texas State Agencies* (1990) \$30. Describes the mission, function, and responsibilities for each agency; includes addresses and phone numbers of board and commission members and many helpful appendices, and a directory of higher education institutions in Texas.

House of Representatives,
House Research Organization:

•*How a Bill Becomes Law: Rules for the 72nd Legislature* (February 14, 1991) Special Legislative Report No. 166. \$6 + tax. Traces the official steps of a bill in the legislative process from introduction to final enrollment and signature by the governor.

•*Major Issues of the 71st Legislature* (biennial) \$52 for 1990 edition. 256 p. Provides an overview of the issues faced by this session; anticipates issues that may be considered in future; identifies the most significant bills considered in the session.

Secretary of State:

•*General and Special Laws of the State of Texas* (annual) \$165 for the 71st Legislature. Price varies each legislative session. Multiple volumes. Contains official laws, bound together at the end of each legislative session in chronological order; subject and popular title index in the last volume of the regular session; each special session cumulation has a subject and popular title index.

•*Texas Register* (daily, 96 regular issues) 1-year subscription \$90. Single copies of most issues are available, \$4. Equivalent to the *Federal Register*. Contains the rules and regulations of the state agencies as they implement the laws passed by the Legislature. Includes governor appointments, executive orders, and proclamations; attorney general summaries of requests for opinions, opinions, and open records decisions; proposed and final regulations; and notices of open meetings.

State Purchasing and General Services:

•*Tex-an State Telephone Directory* (annual) \$1. Lists the phone numbers of state government agencies and schools of higher education; provides Tex-an and regular telephone numbers.

Department of Commerce:

•*Texas: A Guide to Business Licenses and Permits* (1990, annual) Free. Describes business permits required by the state; provides tax, permitting, and regulatory information compiled from state licensing agencies; covers agricultural, business, industrial, manufacturing, professional, and transportation permits; lists the agency's address, phone number, and permit titles; a permit title index helps locate the appropriate regulatory agency.

Health and Human Services Coordinating Council:

•*Health and Human Services in Texas: A Reference Guide* (1991) \$10. Contains information on health and human service programs provided by state and federal agencies, public medical schools, and private agencies; each description includes location, services provided, target population, eligibility requirements, numbers served annually, and funding.

West Publishing Company:

•*Texas Administrative Code*, under the authority of the secretary of state (annual) \$795 for all titles. Volumes can be purchased separately. Subject arrangement of final rules and regulations found in the *Texas Register*. Contains 15 titles including administration, agriculture, banking and securities, community development, cultural resources, health services, insurance. State equivalent to the *Code of Federal Regulations*.

LEISURE

Department of Highways and Public Transportation:

•*Texas State Travel Guide* (1991). Color photographs with brief descriptions highlight the sights and activities found in urban and rural areas; includes symbols and lists of lakes and state parks; publication includes a regional look at seven metropolitan cities and an alphabetical list of rural towns and their attractions; includes maps for each region.

•*Texas Highways* (monthly) \$12.50 /year. Highlights the entertaining events in large and small towns across Texas; could be considered the print version of "The Eyes of Texas" television program.

Parks and Wildlife Department:

•*Texas Parks and Wildlife* (monthly) \$10 year. Provides an in-depth look at state parks; covers the environment, animals, and plant life.

•*Park Brochures and Leaflets* (irregular). Free. Each brochure consists of a map and brief description of the park, identifying natural features, history, and points of interest; hunting leaflets describe the state's many wildlife management areas; the same leaflets and brochures found at the state parks.

Purchasing and General Services
Commission
P.O. Box 13047
Austin, TX 78711
(512) 463-3336

Secretary of State
Linda Stout
P.O. Box 12697
Austin, TX 78711
(512) 463-5551

TEXIS
Tom Linehan, Manager
First City Centre
816 Congress, Suite 1200
Austin, TX 78701
(512) 320-9609

Texas Register Publications
Office of the Secretary of State
P.O. Box 13824
Austin, TX 78711-3824
(512)463-5561

TEXinfo
2824 Burning Tree Lane
Irving, TX 75062
(214) 255-7098
1-800-397-8921

University of Houston-Victoria
Library
Mitzie Stewart
North Ben Jordan
Victoria, TX 77901
(512) 576-3157, ext. 286

University of Texas at Austin
Dan Hardy
Bureau of Business Research
P.O. Box 7459
Austin, TX 78713
(512) 471-5179

University of Texas at Austin
Jeanette Paxson
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Austin, TX 78712
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UT Exhibit Offers Intriguing Look at *Gone With the Wind*

Images from the epic film *Gone With the Wind* are permanently etched in the memories of people the world over—Scarlett O’Hara in her green gown made from draperies, the great ball to raise money for the war effort, the burning of Atlanta.

Fans of Scarlett, Rhett, Ashley—and perhaps even General Sherman’s Yankees—have a rare opportunity to look behind the scenes at the MGM studios where the 1939 Civil War saga was shot, thanks to an exhibit at the University of Texas at Austin’s Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center.

The exhibit, “*Gone With the Wind—A Legend Revisited*,” is on the seventh floor of the HRHRC and will continue through November 22.

The materials on display provide a glimpse into the processes by which the film was created and marketed, from early script revisions, costume designs, and storyboards, through the film’s premiere in Atlanta and the 1940 Oscar awards ceremonies. Painted set and costume designs, for example, are paired with still photographs from the film so that the numerous transformations between the designers’ ideas and the finished product can be noted.

Included in the exhibit are more than 80 items drawn from the massive David O. Selznick Archives of the HRHRC. Selznick produced *Gone With the Wind* as well as numerous other landmark films such as *Duel in the Sun*, *Notorious*, *Rebecca*, and *Spellbound*.

“We wanted to put up as many new materials from the Selznick Archives as we could, so we have included items such as examples of the film’s storyboards, which have never been shown publicly,” said Dr. Charles Bell, associate curator of film archives at the HRHRC.

Bell noted that some of the items on display are so fragile that they will probably not be shown again for many years.

“Items such as drawings and paintings by costume and set designers were, obviously, not produced with the prospect of long-term exhibition in mind,” Bell said.

“They are susceptible to damage from exposure to light, even though we use very low light levels, so they will be retired from exhibition after this. We wanted to include some of these items because this will be the last opportunity for the public to see them for quite some time.”

FILM/Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center



This photograph of Olivia de Havilland is an example of the types of photographs in the exhibit. Makeup stills were used to remind the production crew of characters’ hairstyles and makeup for particular scenes.

Another goal of the exhibit is that it “will help to show how the film glorifies Margaret Mitchell’s novel—how it has become part of an American legend,” Bell said. The exhibit includes an example of the 1936 edition of the novel inscribed by Mitchell a few months before Selznick bought the film rights.

By coincidence, the exhibit will be under way when a sequel to Mitchell’s best-seller is published on September 25. *Scarlett: The Sequel to Margaret Mitchell’s Gone With the Wind* by Alexandra Ripley will be published simultaneously in 40 countries in 18 languages, according to a recent Associated Press article.

Mitchell’s novel has sold more than 28 million copies—more than any book except the Bible—and has been translated into 27 languages. It continues to sell 250,000 copies a year in this country.

The movie starred Vivien Leigh, Clark Gable, and Leslie Howard and won 10 Academy Awards, including best picture,

best director, best actress, and best supporting actress.

The storyboards in the exhibit provide an intriguing view into the film-making process. They are cartoon-like paintings that depict the action and proposed camera angles for every scene of the movie.

“People don’t see storyboards much anymore, and they are rarely used in making films today, partly because the process can be so expensive,” Bell said.

“But for *Gone With the Wind*, they planned out the entire film on storyboards, scene by scene and shot by shot. Sometimes they followed these storyboards exactly when they shot and edited the picture, while other scenes are very different from the storyboards.”

The exhibit includes storyboards as well as movie stills for the film’s opening scene of Scarlett and the Tarleton twins on the verandah at Tara, the

FILM/Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center



Gone With the Wind Art Director Lyle Wheeler examines one of the hundreds of storyboards created for the movie. Storyboards of several of the movie’s most famous scenes are on display.

The exhibit includes many of costume designer Walter Plunkett's original drawings. This sketch (right) is of the Tarleton twins' costume worn in the opening sequence of the film. On each drawing Plunkett attached typed quotes from Mitchell's novel as evidence of his efforts to stay true to her descriptions.

Plunkett was also on hand during the filming. He is pictured below making an adjustment on the costume worn by Olivia de Havilland who played Melanie Hamilton Wilkes.



FILM/
Harry Ransom
Humanities Research Center



FILM/Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center

library scene between Scarlett and Ashley, the scene at the Twelve Oaks plantation when the beginning of war is announced, and the scene of Scarlett and Rhett escaping as Atlanta burns.

In addition to storyboards, set renderings, costume designs, and photographs, the exhibit includes:

- Replicas of three gowns worn by Leigh (the originals are in the HRHRC collection but are too fragile to be displayed).
- Foreign and U.S. posters for the film, as well as lobby cards and other publicity items.
- A “call sheet” summarizing a day’s work during shooting of the film.

- Letters from the cast and crew members, including a letter to Selznick from F. Scott Fitzgerald, one of several writers who contributed to the final script.

- The final *Gone With the Wind* script, known as the “rainbow script” because each change was printed on a different color of paper.

In addition to photographs, drawings, costumes, and about a half-million feet of film, the Selznick Archives contain more than 57,000 pounds of paper—including office records, memos, manuscripts, and letters—that provide an extensive record of the producer’s film projects. ■



The 80 items on display in "Gone With the Wind—A Legend Revisited" are only a part of the massive David O. Selznick Archives acquired by the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center in 1980. Photographs like this one of Susan Myrick, Vivien Leigh, and Miss Leigh's double offer an intimate glimpse of the crew and actors while they worked. Myrick, known as the "Emily Post of Dixie," coached the actors on Southern manners.

FILM/
Harry Ransom
Humanities Research Center

*On September 15, 1931,
Acting State Librarian
Fannie M. Wilcox sent
a letter to the
Librarian of Congress
accepting a commission
for the Texas State Library
to serve as one of the first
18 regional distribution
centers for the newly formed
national library service
for blind adults.
On September 15, 1991,
the State Library's Program
for the Blind and Physically
Handicapped will mark
60 years of providing books
in alternative formats
for readers with disabilities.*

Carmen Keltner is the Public Awareness Coordinator for the Blind and Physically Handicapped Program.

Patrons Reminisce About BPH Program

By *Carmen Keltner*

.....

Since this unique library program is handled by mail and by telephone, the staff who provide the service are rarely privileged to greet patrons face to face. From time to time, borrowers and their family members have written comments about the service. The word that comes up most often—especially among lifelong readers who lose their vision late in life—is “lifesaver.”

Earlier in this anniversary year, BPH asked patrons to reminisce about the last six decades. Below are a number of brief anecdotes and a letter that chronicles a borrower's experience over the years. In their own words, the patrons reveal the dramatic difference the Talking Book Program can make in a person's life.

“...Before I went blind and before I had to give up being a librarian, I had always said: ‘The last thing I would give up is my refrigerator.’ But conditions change. Now I bore anyone who will listen with: ‘The last thing I would give up is my Talking Book Program.’”

*Lummie J. Clark
Denton, Texas*

“...I can remember when those Talking Books came in these humongous containers that some grown-ups couldn't even lift at that time. Now we have these neat little plastic containers for cassettes and Talking Books. Things have changed so much, but the quality of the service—except for getting better—the quality of service

has not changed and I will say that, truthfully, I have never had one person speak to me in a discourteous way at the Library. All of you are to be commended for your hard work. The only inconveniences that I've experienced are due to computers and the mail service, and that's something that human beings can't help....”

*Karen Barraga
Austin, Texas*

Midland patron Mayme Kroenlein Martin called in with an anecdote. She recalled learning about braille books and Talking Books in New Mexico the 1920s and 30s when she was a young person. At that time, Martin was not blind, but her mother had lost her vision in an accident. Martin remembered accompanying her mother to visit one of New Mexico's most prominent blind citizens, Elizabeth Garrett, whose father was Pat Garrett—the man who shot Billy the Kid. Blind from birth, Elizabeth Garrett was a public speaker, writer, musician, and a contemporary of Helen Keller. Martin recalls visits to Garrett's house in Roswell, New Mexico, where Garrett lived independently with the aid of a Seeing Eye dog. After learning about the program from Garrett, Martin's mother began borrowing Talking Books.

Decades later, when Martin experienced a loss of vision, she became a borrower in the Talking Books Program. In 1963, Martin founded Midland Recording Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped and, in 1973, organized another service organization for visually impaired Midland-Odessa residents. Augmenting the State Library's volunteer recording program, Midland volunteers have regularly taped *Texas Monthly* and scores of books for BPH patrons.

*Mayme Kroenlein Martin
Midland, Texas*

"Dear Friends,

Since I am a long-term user and borrower from the Texas State Library, it is a pleasure to me to respond to your request for memories of the Library's service and to take this opportunity to thank you for all the Library has meant to me.

While I was still a grade school pupil at the Texas School for the Blind, I found my summers to get a little long, so I began borrowing braille books from the Library in the late 1920s. Of course, the selection was small, but you and the Library of Congress were my only available sources. I can remember loading several packages of braille books into the family's wheelbarrow and trundling them the nearly one mile from our home to the local Post Office for mailing as free reading matter.

About 1932 or 1933, a friend of mine by the name of Lloyd Sparkman and I visited the Library on a Saturday afternoon. (It was open.) At the front desk we found a very nice lady by the name of Miss Mitchell with whom I had many pleasant associations in later years. She took us down into the basement of the Capitol building where the Library's stacks were located. The aisles were only about three feet wide, and the stacks were so tall that books could be gotten from the upper shelves only with a stepladder. Since the National Library Service was beginning to supply braille books, there wasn't enough shelf space, so many books were stacked on the floor. Moved to upper shelves were some books in New York Point and in Moon type. I understand that the Library later removed these books to make more shelf space. Miss Mitchell seemed overwhelmed by the growing size of the collection.

In 1934 and 1935, I began to read reports of 'talking books' and I was very interested. My folks could afford the forty or forty-five dollars needed to buy

from the American Foundation for the Blind a combination record player and AM radio which would play these records and also play the old 78 RPM records. I began using recorded books in the fall of 1935. Each side of each talking book record played for about 18 minutes.

When I began teaching at the Texas School for the Blind in 1940, I borrowed children's books from the Library to use with the little boys in the cottage where I supervised. I also found that my eighth grade students were struggling with braille to read *Evangeline* in a way that would make it meaningful to them as poetry. I borrowed *Evangeline* from the Library and used it in my school room.

In 1942, I took a job as teacher in San Angelo Public Schools and found myself so busy trying to keep up with that job that I was not an active user of the Library for many years. In 1979, however, when I retired from teaching, I again began using the Library regularly. When I went to work for the Commission for the Blind in 1981 as a rehabilitation teacher, it was my joy to arrange for a lot of newly blind persons to be added to the Library's reading service. Now, with all the advances in technology which are coming to pass, I wonder about the future directions for Library service. Surely, such service has a wonderful future, especially in view of the growing population of older blind people.

... Thanks again for a very pleasant and productive relationship. I hope that my health will allow me to continue it for many years."

*John L. Humbert
San Angelo*

A history of the Blind and Physically Handicapped Program, "Sixty Years of Service," was published in the winter 1990-91 edition of *Texas Libraries*. ■

The Texas State Library's Program for the Blind and Physically Handicapped loans books in braille and large print, but 82 percent of circulation is material on cassette tape. The program serves Texans who have visual, reading, or physical disabilities that prevent them from using standard print books. Books and playback equipment circulate by mail free of charge to eligible borrowers.

For more information, contact the Program for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Texas State Library, P.O. Box 12927, Austin, TX 78711; (512) 463-5458 or (800) 252-9605.

J. Evetts Haley: Rancher, Historian

By Susan Hildebrand

The life of J. Evetts Haley is truly a study in contrasts. He was a little boy when his family moved in 1906 from Bell County to Midland where he grew up to work as a cowboy, compete in rodeos, and until a few years ago still worked cattle on his ranch. But he also graduated from college in the 1920s, earning bachelor's and master's degrees, and has written more than 20 books and numerous articles and essays about the people, land, and ranching industry that he loves.

The author and rancher, who turned 90 on July 5, is probably best known for his books on the XIT Ranch, cattleman Charles Goodnight, and Texas Ranger Jeff Milton, but his contributions to Texas extend far beyond his writing: he helped preserve an era that few Texans today can recall.

As a young man Haley entered Midland College and when it closed for financial reasons he transferred to West Texas State Normal College in Canyon. Haley was very involved in school activities, serving as senior class president, writing for the school paper, and editing the yearbook. Upon graduating in 1925 he was hired by the newly organized Panhandle-Plains Historical Society in Canyon as field secretary, a position that required him to travel the Southwest, interviewing old-timers, collecting artifacts and items for the planned museum, and signing up new members for the society. After this summer stint with the society, he enrolled at the University of Texas at

Austin to earn a master's degree in history. While there he studied under Dr. Eugene C. Barker, who in Haley's words was the "greatest historian that Texas ever produced."

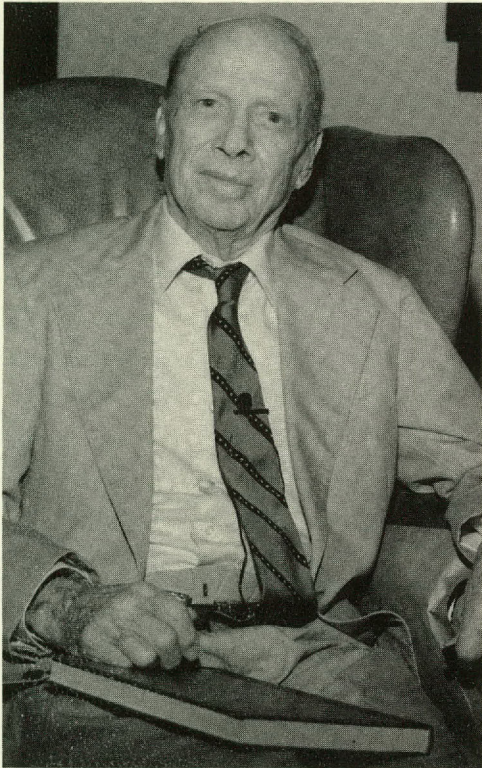
He earned his master's in 1926 and returned to Canyon to resume acquiring artifacts for the historical society. His reputation as a historian and the successful publication of several articles earned him a commission from the Capitol Reservation Lands, a Chicago-based corporation, to write a history of the XIT Ranch, the 3 million acre land grant in the Panhandle which the state sold to fund the construction of the State Capitol. *The XIT Ranch of Texas and the Early Days of the Llano Estacado* was published in 1929 and earned high praise.

Through his travels for the historical society, Haley met and interviewed hundreds of cowboys, ranchers, trail bosses, and even outlaws, but none were more colorful or important than the 90-year-old Colonel Charles Goodnight, the legendary cattleman. Goodnight had a reputation for being gruff but he took a liking to Haley and the two became friends.

"A lot of people were afraid of him [Goodnight]," Haley says about their first meetings. "I wasn't afraid of him; I approached him apologetically."

As Haley's visits with Goodnight became more frequent, he envisioned a book about the colonel's life. He was genuinely fond of the colonel, admired his character and integrity, and felt it was important to record for posterity Goodnight's contributions to the West.

Goodnight shunned publicity, but finally gave Haley his approval to begin the book. The colonel's second wife, Corrine, who had married the colonel on his ninety-first birthday, also felt the colonel's story should be told and assisted Haley by writing down the colonel's answers to many of Haley's questions.



Haley conducted extensive research but depended largely on the colonel's memories because early Texas history primary source material was scarce. Sadly, Goodnight died in December 1929, never having read Haley's final manuscript. *Charles Goodnight: Cowman & Plainsman* was published in 1936.

Haley's work as field secretary for the Panhandle-Plains Historical Society and in a similar capacity for the University of Texas is yet another example of his contribution to Texas. These two organizations' collections grew due to his passion and ability to collect historical items. For more than 50 years Haley has built a personal collection as well, gathering books and historical artifacts and conducting his invaluable research and interviews.

With Haley's desire to preserve and promote the traditions of the Southwest

as the guiding force, the Nita Stewart Haley Memorial Library and the J. Evetts Haley History Center opened in Midland in 1976. The library, which is named for Haley's first wife who died in 1958, and history center house Haley's books on Texas and the Southwest, as well as his interviews and research. Especially unique are Haley's penciled notes of the more than 700 interviews he conducted with trail drivers, Indian fighters, Texas Rangers, and other Southwest frontiersmen.

"I've known a lot of very unusual men," Haley recalls. "For some reason I gain their confidence. Sometimes they would say, 'I'm not going to tell you a damn thing,' then they would sit down and talk for half an hour maybe. I would get in the car, drive over the slope and stop, and write down everything they had told me."

The library has added extensive collections from friends and other historians and now includes more than 15,000 items on subjects such as mining, Indians, religion, and the development of ranching. Western art, bronzes, and photographs are also included.

In his books, Haley paints vivid pictures of the frontier, recounting the difficulties, dangers, and triumphs of the times. As a man, he personifies the frontiersman's strength and rugged independence but also the courtesy of a Southern gentleman.

Haley considers himself fortunate to have met so many of the people who helped build the West. "I've been extremely lucky," Haley says. "All the people I have known have had such tremendous character."

Thanks to J. Evetts Haley, all generations will remember those people of tremendous character who helped shape Texas. ■

"Though deeply religious and reverential by nature, he was impatient with institutionalized religion.... He built two churches and always helped to support them, though many are the amusing stories told about him and his clerical friends. They were always welcome at the Goodnight Ranch, and after services by a circuit rider one Sunday, Mrs. Goodnight had the preacher in for dinner. She was doing her best to keep the conversation going, while the master of the ranch attended strictly to business at the end of the table. Finally, Mrs. Goodnight asked the visiting minister where he was from, and when he said, 'Oklahoma,' the Colonel poised his knife-full of black-eyed peas in mid-air, fixed the gentleman of the cloth with those unforgettable eyes, and exploded: 'Damned poor recommendation! Damned poor recommendation!'... 'Why Charlie, you know there are many good people in Oklahoma.' 'Damned scarce, Mary,' came the rejoinder. 'Damned scarce.'"

-from **Charles Goodnight: Cowman and Plainsman**

Hey! Kids are Patrons, Too!

By Vicky L. Crosson

Vicky L. Crosson, the Texas State Library's Continuing Education and Youth Services Consultant for three and a half years, also served as head of youth services at Pasadena Public Library.

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Children want to know what the tallest building in the world is; how bats hang upside down; why veins are blue, but blood is red; how knights moved around in all that armor; and many more genuinely interesting bits of information. A child's job is learning about the world and how to survive in a complicated and increasingly technologically sophisticated environment.

To meet the needs of children, libraries must have materials designed to answer children's questions and written on appropriate reading levels for many users. The budget must include enough money to purchase and update children's reference materials on an ongoing basis. The focus of this article, however, is how libraries can improve the quality of the interaction between the library staff and children during the reference interview.

A child's search for information may be linked to completing a school assignment, answering a personal problem, or satisfying an intellectual curiosity. Whatever the purpose, children have the same right to quality reference service as adults. Whether a library appears user-friendly to a child begins when that child walks through the front door.

Using Open-ended Questions to Find the Real Answer

Open-ended questions usually begin with "what," "when," "how," "who," or "where."

Closed: "Is this the book you want?"

Open: "What do you want the book to tell you?"

Dino What?

Child: "I need something about dinosaurs."

Librarian: "What would you like to know about dinosaurs?"

Child: "I want to know when they disappeared."

Librarian: "What would you like to find out about their disappearance?"

Child: "I'm interested in who came after."

Librarian: "Who came after the dinosaurs?"

Child: "Yeah...those big animals."

Librarian: "So, you'd like some information about big animals that lived after the dinosaurs became extinct."

Child: "Yes...those really big ones."

Librarian: "Are you talking about prehistoric mammals like the saber-tooth tiger or the woolly mammoth?"

Child: "Yeah...the woolly mammoth one. I want a book about woolly mammoths."

How approachable is the library staff? The library is often one of the child's first encounters with the official world. A pleasant greeting accompanied by a smile helps a child feel at ease and more comfortable asking for assistance. Children, like many adults, are often hesitant to disturb someone sitting behind a desk. It's important for library staff to look up from whatever they are working on and check for patrons who might need assistance. Studies have shown that circulating about the shelves and asking if patrons are finding what they need prompts more requests for help.

Children are quick to pick up on negative attitudes. Careful attention to verbal communication and body language can improve the child's perception of the helpfulness of the staff. By keeping the conversational tone low and moving away from crowds, the library staff conveys respect for the privacy of the child's questions and the child's right to ask questions on any subject.

Perhaps the most difficult part of answering any patron's request for information is figuring out what the "real" question is. Children often lack the experience and frame of reference to define what they really want to know, or they may be afraid their request will not be taken seriously and ask a general question rather than state their "real" need. Identifying what information is needed requires library staff to carefully negotiate the request with the patron. This means asking open-ended questions, paraphrasing what the patron says, clarifying what is heard and finding out if there are limitations on the sources that can be consulted. Though it is sometimes difficult to apply during busy times in the library, spending time negotiating the "real" information need saves staff time and provides more accurate results.

If a child is collecting materials for a report, the teacher may have placed limits

on the types of sources that can be used. Ask the child if the request is a school assignment. If it is, ask to look at the assignment. Also, determine whether material is needed for a one-page report or a 10-page research paper. Knowing how much material is needed saves time spent searching for five books when an encyclopedia article will suffice. Finding out whether the

How to be User-Friendly

The Approach

Show respect and give professional treatment. Familiarize yourself with children's materials and information sources. Convey positive attitude with verbal and body language. Watch for children wandering around who might be too shy to ask questions.

The Interview

Children often experience difficulty expressing what they need. Ask for a copy of the school assignment. Ask questions: "What do you want the book to tell you?" "Do you want true information or a made-up story?" "Do you need to read one book for a book report, or can you use chapters or paragraphs from more than one book?" Fill the needs of the child without humiliation.

The Transaction

Explain what you are doing as you look up information or help the child find information. Explain library terms. Mark the information you have located. Check to make sure the child can read the material.

The Follow-up

Check back with the child to ensure a successful transaction. Questions to ask: "Is this information what you are looking for?" "Do you need more information?" "Is there anything else I can help you find?"

-reprinted from "Children's Services Philosophy,"
Information Services Training Checklist
for Adults' and Children's Staff.
Fairfax County Public Library (Virginia), June 1989.

Reviews for Reference Books

Library Journal

April 14 issue (each year)
"Best Reference Books" of previous year

School Library Journal

May issue (each year)
"Reference Books Roundup"

American Libraries

May issue (each year)
"Outstanding Reference Sources"

Booklist

(each issue)
"Reference Books" section

Emergency Librarian

"Outstanding New Books, K-12"
(check each issue)

Catholic Library World

(each issue)
"Reviews: Reference Books"

-compiled by Anne Ramos
Library Science Collection
Texas State Library

Texas State Library Workshops by Request

The Library Development Division offers several workshops to library groups and staff associations upon request. These sessions usually are three to five hours in length. If interested in scheduling any of these workshops, please contact the presenter listed by each of the summaries.

Planning Your Summer Reading Program

Vicky L. Crosson
(512) 463-6624

How do you design your summer program to meet the needs of the community and the library's resources? What structure works best for your program? How do you involve daycare centers and family homecare providers in the reading club? This workshop is offered to help libraries plan and produce successful summer reading club programs.

Developing Proposals for Grant Funding

Barbara S. Crosby
(512) 463-5476

This presentation will enable participants: 1) to understand and accept any funding source's purpose and guidelines for its grant project; 2) to conceptualize a library project to fit the funding source's purpose and guidelines; 3) to plan a project in appropriate detail; and 4) to construct a written proposal which presents all of the above in an easily read and easily scored form. These four activities are the key factors to successful grant writing.

child can work in the library or must meet a ride in five minutes will also influence what materials can be supplied.

Once the "real" question has been ascertained and the approximate amount of material pinpointed, it is time to search for the actual sources available in the library. Help the child determine the key words or subject headings and identify the types of sources most likely to contain that information. Most subject terms used in library catalogs are on a sixth grade or above reading level and often use words not commonly used by children. Including the child in the searching process and explaining how to use the library catalog or files to locate materials demystifies the research process and helps children learn to find the information for themselves. Children may not remember all the strategies for future library searches but will learn a little bit more about finding information from each reference transaction.

If the reading level of the child is in question, ask the child to read two paragraphs from the selected source. If the child misses five to seven words, easier material should be selected. Sometimes parents or siblings are willing to assist the child with harder material, but locating resources compatible with the child's reading ability is preferred.

After the child has spent some time working with the selected materials, it is recommended that a staff member ask, "Does this completely answer your question?" Asking this question following the reference transaction helps clarify any misconceptions and gives the child a sense of interest and concern from staff.

To effectively answer children's requests for information, the library staff needs good interactive skills, knowledge of the sources that are designed for children, the creative ability to match library materials with children's reading levels, and a commitment to providing them with information that will nurture intellectual curiosity. ■

Teacher Notification Form

Date _____

Dear _____

We are unable to supply materials on _____
_____ as requested by
_____ because:

- _____ All available materials were checked out.
- _____ No materials on this subject are available at student's level.
- _____ Further clarification of the assignment is needed.
- _____ Other:

_____ Librarian

Advance notice of school assignments can help us serve your students more effectively. We are happy to set aside materials for library use only, so that all your students have access to the needed information. Contact your nearest _____ public library to make arrangements.

(Telephone numbers)

Reprinted from: "Children's Services Philosophy," *Information Services Training Checklist for Adults' and Children's Staff*. Fairfax County Public Library (Virginia), June 1989.

The Bookmobile Lady

By Norma Castleberry

Trucks are a common sight in West Texas, but when a certain big, blue "truck" pulls out onto the highway, motorists look a second time. For one thing this truck is shaped like a huge bus but without windows. Next, you notice you are following a painting of an armadillo admonishing you to "Follow the Reader." The real shock comes when the truck turns into a rural school's driveway, and you hear those powerful air brakes engage and a petite, blonde, Swedish grandmother hops down the steps. Without a moment's hesitation, she pulls a large cable for electricity to a specially-installed 220v outlet outside the school building. The card machine clicks on, and the day begins.

This lady, Waldine Morris, is my mother, and she has been the bookmobile

librarian for the Tom Green County Library for nearly 30 years.

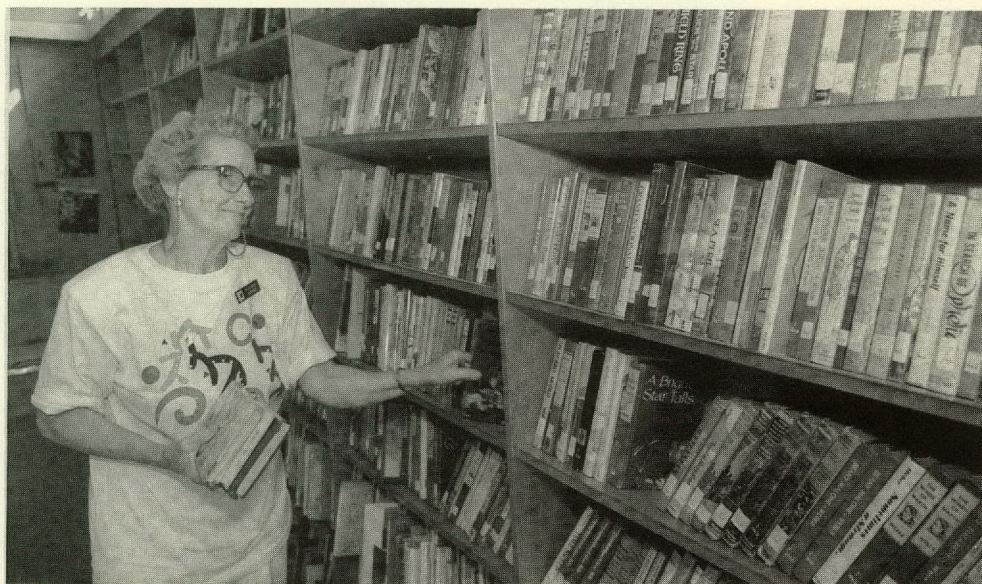
The current bookmobile, a 30-foot-long truck that houses more than 3,000 books is great, but my first memories are of the little bookmobile painted white with black letters. My first job was being my mom's assistant during those "heavy summer runs" in 1965. Imagine how it felt this summer to watch my son helping his grandmother slip books and pass out new library cards!

To say my mother taught my sister and me to value reading is such an understatement. My mother taught us so much more through working at the library. The love of the people on the staff of the county library located in San Angelo has surrounded my sister and me like a warm blanket for our entire lives.

We always had a definitive edge over students who had reports due or papers

Waldine Morris, extension department head of the Tom Green County Library, reshelves books in the library bookmobile.

Norma Castleberry teaches children with reading problems and also emergent literacy classes to teachers and parents of children five years old and younger. She wrote this article as a tribute to her mother because "she embodies all that I have learned in higher education about reading."



Reprinted by the permission of the *San Angelo Standard-Times*

to write. You might say we had an entire staff of professionals as tutors. They deserve much of the credit for the combined 43 years of language arts instruction my sister and I have given back to the state of Texas as teachers. We learned what educators all across our state are eager to teach boys and girls. Reading is not a set of decoding skills, but the desire to gain meaning from the printed word. Our lifelong love affair with reading began because our mother loved reading.

It would be impossible to count the lives touched by this little bookmobile lady. Through the years her approach has never changed. She has that sixth sense about how people often feel intimidated by a room full, or a truck full, of books. The very ones she wants to "hook for reading" may not walk in on their own. So, she is first a friend. Her ready smile and genuine interest in people are impossible to resist.

As her grandson shared with his father and me, "At one of the stops she has the books picked out and in bags for almost every patron because they are all elderly and cannot climb the steps. Mom, I never saw a library with curbside delivery before."

Teachers in rural communities surrounding San Angelo have turned to Mrs. Morris for years to bring research material and current teaching activities for those students who do not have easy access to the library in town. She has won the friendship of beginning teachers by sharing the history of the community where they are teaching. They leave her bookmobile motivated to be the best teacher who ever taught.

She has been visited through the years by patrons on horseback, assorted friendly dogs, and even a horned toad or two.

It's a different kind of library. You don't have to be quiet, but you do have

to behave. It's appreciated when you make posters and gifts or bring fresh produce, but you still have to return those overdues. You can't take an adult book unless you have an adult card, and you can expect to get a little constructive criticism if you always check out the same kinds of books. She'll encourage you to grow and reach your full potential. After all, she's never been lazy, and she doesn't want you to be either.

Mostly, though, you can count on a friendly hello and tender good-bye that beckons you to read those books quickly, so you can return to the truck where "love" isn't just a word in a book. ■

If you would like to spotlight a citizen or librarian who has influenced the development of libraries in Texas, send your suggestion to Texas Libraries, P.O. Box 12927, Austin, TX 78711-2927, or call (512) 463-5493.

The Texas Senate
Volume I: Republic to Civil War,
 1836-1861

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Edited by Patsy McDonald Spaw.
 Foreword by William P. Hobby.
 College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 1991. 408 p. 59 b&w photos. \$50.

In her introduction to *The Texas Senate, Volume I: Republic to Civil War, 1836-1861*, Patsy Spaw notes that "this project was begun in the fall of 1982 after a newly elected state senator attempted to obtain a history of the Texas Senate, only to discover that it did not exist."

The Senate staff, with Lieutenant Governor William P. Hobby's enthusiastic endorsement, set out to remedy the situation. They intended to issue a "small pamphlet with a brief narrative and a few pictures." But, like government itself, the story of the Senate proved too complex to dismiss with well-illustrated platitudes. The history of the Texas legislature is, after all, the history of Texas, told from yet another point of view and with a rarely glimpsed slate of actors manipulating forces that, for better or worse, continue to shape our lives.

This first volume in a projected five-volume series, issued through Texas A&M University Press, covers two formative periods in Texas: the national and pre-Secession eras.

Vilified by some as a collection of drunks, debtors, outlaws, and illiterates, the national congress nevertheless managed to compile an impressive record of achievement. It established boundaries, provided for defense against invasion from Mexico and harassment from Indians, attempted to reduce and control the national debt, and passed groundbreaking legislation, including homestead

exemption and community property, that has since become standard law throughout the United States.

The section on the Republic Senate rarely focuses on individual senators. Here the dominant personality is Sam Houston. During both his administrations, Houston and the Senate collided over priorities—diplomatic, fiscal, and military. Houston would ignore or postpone implementing laws he disliked. The Senate launched more than one investigation of Houston's conduct with impeachment in mind. Out of office, "Old Sam" hectoring, hindered, or helped his successors and manipulated congressional action with the aid of his political allies.

His Senate opponents were not entirely colorless. Albert C. Horton survived one of his terms only because two fellow senators could not agree over who should have the privilege of duelling with him first. Robert Wilson, declaring that he would be "damned if he would come to order," was expelled by the Senate. Promptly reelected by his constituents, Wilson returned to the Capitol, blowing a bugle to punctuate his triumph. Mob demonstrations in his favor nearly unseated the senator a second time.

With the entrance of Texas into the Union, the focus of the book shifts. More biographical material is included, the writing is somewhat less formal. During this period, the Senate could boast members who included a German baron, a grandson of Benjamin Franklin, and its first Oxford graduate. The legislation of the period centered around the public debt, boundaries, frontier defense, maintaining racial order, land distribution, and internal improvements.

Through these years, when national debate about states' rights and abolition raged, a principal controversy in the

Senate was over a chaplain—should the Senate elect one, and if so, who should he be? The question sharply divided the body and threatened the passage of more substantial legislation.

The book concludes with a final confrontation between Sam Houston and the Senate. Governor Houston denied the authority of the Secession Convention to unilaterally join Texas with the Confederacy; senators voted to finance the delegates and validate the acts of the convention. With an overwhelming popular vote to support their stand, the Eighth Legislature adjourned.

To compile this narrative of Senate activities, the Senate staff has consulted the published journals and laws; histories of the period; biographical resources including newspapers, “mug” books, and directories of government officials; and original government record, private manuscript, map, and photographic holdings of the Texas State Archives and the Eugene C. Barker Texas History Center. Since many of these works are out of print or are unavailable to the general public, this synthesis of an otherwise unwieldy mass of reference material is most valuable and the bibliographic essay included in the text gives the reader a good guide to additional reading. However, the decision to omit endnotes or footnotes limits the usefulness of the volume for anyone wishing to learn more about a specific topic, action, or legislator.

The Texas Senate is both readable and informative, and it provides a sense of the complicated inner workings of Texas government. The organization by session, however, limits one’s understanding of ongoing legislative concerns or the nature of the interaction between the Senate, the chief executive, the House of Representa-

tives, and the voters. Perhaps this publication will encourage more writing for the general audience on the nature of Texas lawmaking.

Unfortunately, the \$50 price will limit even library purchases of *The Texas Senate*. While the volume is handsome and well-provided both with illustrations and with annotated rosters of each session, few general readers could afford to buy the book. Possibly in the future the A&M University Press will offer a more affordable trade paperback edition for the public.

Of related interest, June Rayfield Welch’s *The Texas Senator* covers the lives of the men who have served as U. S. senators from Texas. Published in 1978, the book includes biographies of senators through John Tower and Lloyd Bentsen, Texas Speakers of the House through Sam Rayburn, and Texas Vice-Presidents through Lyndon B. Johnson. ■

Jean Carefoot, an archivist at the Texas State Library, selects books for the State Archives Collection.

Eight Libraries Qualify for LSCA Title II Grants

The Texas State Library and Archives Commission approved a total of \$1,049,608 in public library construction grants to eight qualifying libraries at a July 25 meeting.

The grants, issued from federal Library Services and Construction Act Title II funds, will be distributed during the 1992 fiscal year which began September 1.

Libraries and grant amounts are:

- Buda Public Library, \$100,000;
- Delta County Public Library, \$100,000;
- Midland County Public Library, \$200,000;
- Montgomery County Library, \$100,000;
- Pasadena Public Library, \$82,186 (partial grant);
- San Marcos Public Library, \$300,000;
- Springlake-Earth Community Library, \$100,000;
- Van Horn City-County Library, \$67,422.

Selections of Title II grantees are based on library space needs, types of construction requested, and amount of local funding available. Applicants must meet minimal criteria and must be able to match grants with at least an equal amount of local funds. ■

Commission Announces Third Annual Local Government Awards

On July 25 the Texas State Library and Archives Commission announced the recipients of its third annual awards of merit in local government records management. Of the more than 8,000 local governments in Texas only five were singled out by the commission for special recognition.

The awards of merit honor those local governments that have developed exemplary programs in managing their records effectively and economically.

The recipients of the awards of merit are Brazoria County, El Paso County, the city of Rowlett, and the Nederland and Pasadena Independent School Districts.

In presenting the awards on behalf of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, Director and Librarian William D. Gooch noted that the success of the recipients "serves as an example to cities, counties, and other local governments throughout the state of what can be accomplished through a well-planned program of records management. Leadership of the quality exhibited by this year's recipients will be especially important in the years ahead in view of increasing numbers of local governments

implementing or upgrading records management programs under the authority of the Texas Local Government Records Act."

According to Gooch, "Records, if not effectively managed and controlled, can take up badly needed space in local government offices, needlessly consume tax dollars for their upkeep, and retard administrative efficiency. Businesses have long recognized the financial and legal benefits of systematic programs to manage and preserve their records, and we are pleased that local governments in Texas are beginning to adopt sound records management practices."

The Local Records Division of the Texas State Library, through workshops and direct consultation, works with local governments in establishing effective records management programs. The division's records consultants are Cindra Morgan, Arlington, (817) 273-3393; Harriet Roberts, Richmond, (713) 341-2648; Carmela Leal, San Antonio (512) 226-5926; and Robert Schaad, Liberty, (409) 336-8821. Local governments may also contact the division by calling (512) 463-5478 or writing to the Local Records Division, Texas State Library, P.O. Box 12927, Austin, Texas 78711-2927. ■

Genealogy Department to be Temporarily Closed for Maintenance

The Texas State Library's Genealogy Department will be closed and all services interrupted from November 10 until January 10. Asbestos will be removed from several areas in the Lorenzo de Zavala State Archives and Library Building, and there will be no public or staff

access permitted to the Genealogy Department. Although there will be some inconvenience getting into the building, all other offices will be open, except for the usual closings on federal and state holidays. ■

News Clips

Richmond's **George Memorial Library** brought the Elizabethan era to life at its fourth Shakespeare-by-the-Book Festival. This year's festival included performances of *Comedy of Errors* and *Macbeth*, and a Punch and Judy puppet show was staged. Events were expanded to include madrigal singers, a dunking booth, and a pillory. The library's genealogy section also provided heraldry services to discuss family crests and how to trace ancestry.

Approximately 250 people attended the dedication and open house of the **M. Beven Eckert Memorial Library** in Mason. Former University of Texas library educator Heartsill Young was on hand to introduce the guest speaker, Brooke Sheldon, dean of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Texas in Austin.

The **Graham Public Library** received a \$15,000 gift from the family of the late T.L. Roach, Jr., of Amarillo.

First Lady Barbara Bush met recently with a group of students and tutors from the Lubbock Area Literacy Coalition. Mrs. Bush discussed literacy for all Americans at the program, which took place at Lubbock's **Mahon Public Library**.

Wharton County Library patrons who have been cardholders for 50 years were honored in July with a special program that featured door prizes, a play, and readings from Wharton County authors.

A 106-year-old historical landmark became the home of the **Boerne Public Library** in June.

It took two years and more than \$1.2 million to complete the Dienger Building's renovations, which were made with historically accurate materials and include a computerized reference center. A fund-raising Gala Preview Party was held, with the Olive Garden restaurant donating a catered buffet Italian dinner.

The T.L.L. Temple Foundation awarded a \$4,500 grant to the **Mickey Riley Public Library** in Corrigan.

Young actors performed for approximately 100 patrons of the **W. Walworth Harrison Public Library** in Greenville as part of the library's first creative-dramatics class. The performance included renditions of three short children's books and a poem.

The new **Llano County** library facility, comprised of three buildings in Llano's historic district, broke its daily circulation average of 125 when it opened in July, loaning 412 books. Patrons now enjoy a genealogy section, meeting room, computerized encyclopedia, and separate study area.

A memorial fund honoring Pasadena native Sibyl Hancock, the late children's author and columnist, has been established at the **Pasadena Public Library**. Proceeds will be used to buy children's books. A plaque honoring Hancock will be placed in the young people's department.

The Missouri City-Fort Bend County chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc., donated \$476 to the **Fort Bend County Library System**. Jack and Jill is a 60-year-old organization of African-American mothers who seek to enrich children's cultural and

intellectual experiences.

The **Copperas Cove Public Library** hosted a Summer Expo for children. Representatives of various community organizations were on hand, as well as an employment interviewer from the Texas Employment Commission who brought information on the Kids-for-Hire program.

The **Jefferson Carnegie Library** Board's Cultural Arts Committee sponsored a production of *Mame* by the Opera House Theatre Players of Jefferson. Produced by a group of more than 50 actors, technicians, and assistants, the play gave the library a chance to further cultural development in the Jefferson community.

Awards and Honors...Lillian M. Bradshaw, former director of the **Dallas Public Library**, was recently selected as the 1991 winner of the Oak Cliff Lions Club Humanitarian Award...Alvin Bailey, director of the **Denison Public Library**, was elected vice-president/president-elect of the National Librarian's Association.

Retirements...Carolyn Kirgan retired after 29 years of service to the **Gibbs Memorial Library** in Mexia. She was replaced by Carla Wilkins...Arlene Bennett retired as assistant director of the **Bay City Public Library**.

New Faces...The **Waller County Library System** announced that Elizabeth Beamon was appointed director of the Brookshire branch following the resignation of Amy Kelton...The **Leander Public Library** welcomed its first professional librarian, Pat Wilson...Belinda Boon was named director of the **Bastrop Public Library**.—AR ■

Texas State Library

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The Texas State Library was established on Jan. 24, 1839, by a joint resolution of the Third Congress of the Republic of Texas. In 1909 the State Library became a separate state agency with the creation of the Texas Library and Historical Commission. Legislation in 1979 changed the name to the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. The commission consists of six members, appointed by the governor to staggered six-year terms.

Texas State Library

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