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Robert Munn

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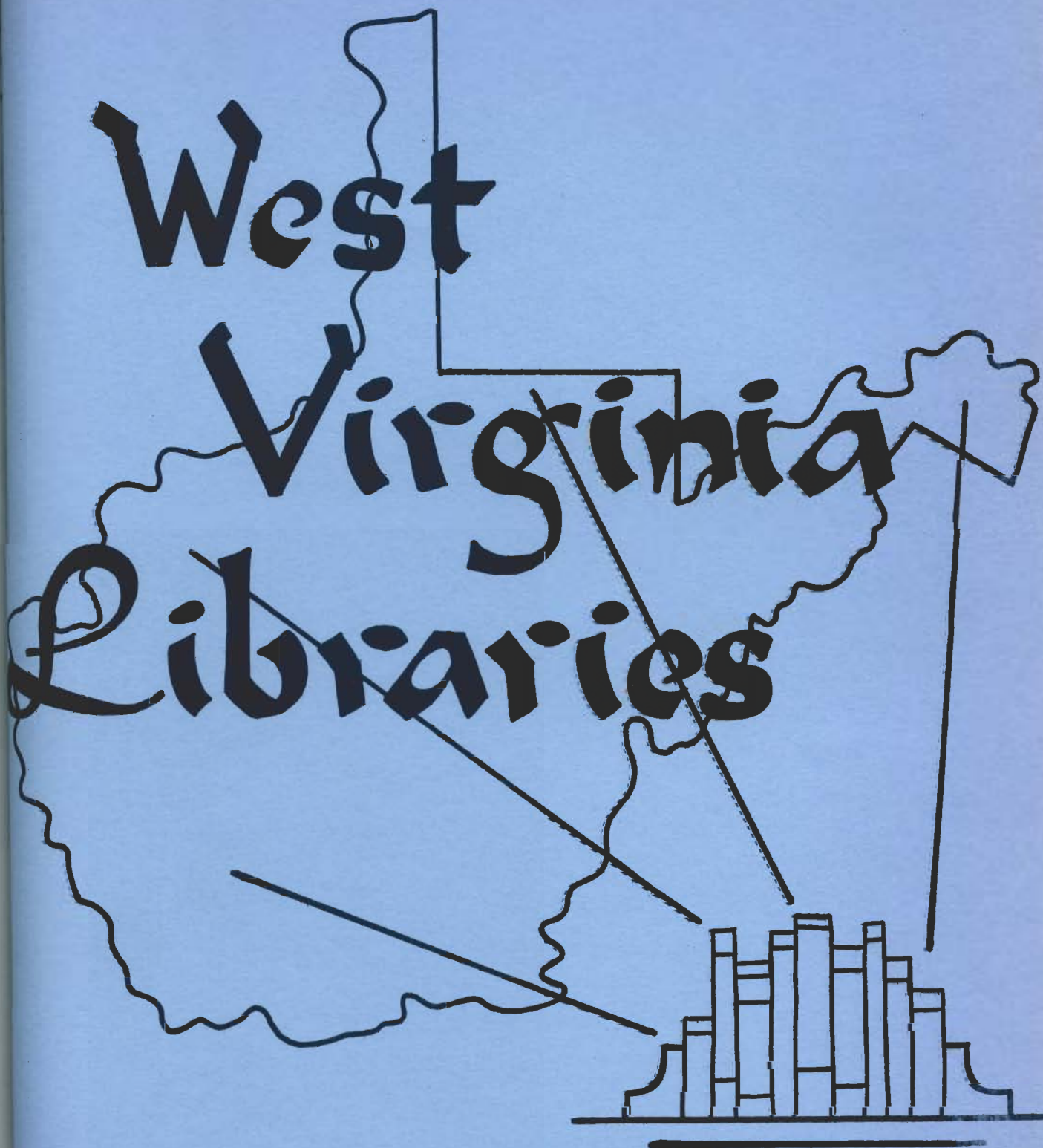


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West

Virginia

Libraries

WEST VIRGINIA LIBRARIES

Volume 9
Number 4

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ASSOCIATION

December
1956

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WEST VIRGINIA LIBRARIES is the official organ of the West Virginia Library Association. It is published quarterly. Contributions and other Communications should be addressed to the Editor or to the appropriate Editorial Assistant. Subscription is included with the membership dues. Annual subscription is one dollar to non-members.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Dear Fellow Librarians:

As I assume my responsibilities as President of the West Virginia Library Association, it is a pleasure, indeed, to greet all of you. I consider taking office at this time a particular privilege. The Association has had several worthwhile long-term objectives presented by our previous administrations, which I feel should be promoted by this Executive Board.

We are very fortunate in having two presidents serving on our present Executive Board in addition to the very able officers whom you as members of the Association elected. I have served on the Executive Board at various times over a period of twenty some years and I have seen this Association become more vigorous each year because of the growing professional interest you members have shown. The WVLA will become an even more influential organization through the cooperation of each and every member.

As some of you already know, the Executive Board organized about thirteen committees at their first meeting which was held November 27, in Parkersburg. Several of these committees are standing committees. There are also the special committees, some of which are continuing from previous years. A new committee which the Executive Board has organized this year is the Recruiting Committee. This Committee will be represented on the Joint Committee on Library Work as a Career, the professions' recruiting committee, the members of which are representatives from forty eight state and national association recruiting committees. You will be hearing from this committee to help them in planning a recruiting campaign for West Virginia.

The many achievements of the past year by the various committees is certainly going to be a challenge to the newly appointed committee members. However, there is still much to be done when we remember our long-range program, "More Books and Better Libraries for West Virginia".

This great goal can be achieved if we continue to have as inspiring and well organized conferences as we have just experienced in Charleston. The speakers were outstanding, each in their own special areas. Reverend Gay gave the association members just what we needed, a reminder that we formed a corporate body and that we must each do our part without selfish aims, so that the Association will achieve its goals as a truly state wide Library organization. The other two speakers gave us an idea of what makes a writer-tick and how to create that "most worthwhile product" which we are supposed to sell.

I use quotation marks for the phrase, "most worthwhile product", because, as those of you who attended the banquet, will remember, this phrase was used by Mr. C.M. Reich, a trustee, when he challenged us with the statement that we had the most worthwhile products in the world to sell but that we were lagging sadly behind in our sales promotion programs. We must show the public what services librarians can offer. Only then will the task of getting funds to expand these services become a project of the people.

Where lies the answer of this challenge? Your Executive Board believes that the interest of business and industry in library expansion is

one of the answers. Several of the committees which have been organized, such as the extension, scholarship and the recruiting committees, will be co-operating with this in view.

We would like to hear from each member concerning your interest in our program. If you have not been assigned to a committee, name the committee in which you are interested and

we will put you to work.

Once again, I consider it a great privilege to be President of the West Virginia Library Association during this very progressive period in its history.

Margaret S. Bobbitt
President

* * * *

WEST VIRGINIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

FORTY-SECOND ANNUAL CONFERENCE

November 2 and 3, 1956

The forty-second Annual Conference of the West Virginia Library Association was held at the Ruffner Hotel, Charleston, W. Va., November 2 and 3, 1956. The principal speakers were the Rev. Robert Gay, Minister of the Glenville Presbyterian church; Dr. John Anthony Caruso, Professor of History at West Virginia University; and Jean Lee Latham, native West Virginian and author of the Newbery Prize book Carry On, Mr. Bowditch.

The West Virginia Library Association presented an award of merit to Miss Latham, a West Virginia author who has made an outstanding contribution to literature. Similar awards were presented to Miss Ida Peters, former librarian at Parkersburg High School, for her outstanding contribution to librarianship in W. Va.; and to Mr. Cyril Reich for his contribution as a trustee of the St. Albans Public Library

The major business on the convention was the adoption of a completely revised constitution. This became necessary in order to meet A.L.A. requirements for council membership and to incorporate many amendments made during the past few years.

Officers for the year 1956-57 will be: President, Mrs. Margaret Bobbitt, Marshall College. 1st Vice-President & President-Elect, Mr. Harold Apel, Marshall College Librarian. 2nd Vice-President, Miss Virginia Ebeling, Ohio County Library. Secretary, Miss Frances Alderson, Kanawha County Public Library. Treasurer, Mrs. Alice Bauer, West Virginia University Library.

THE LIBRARY COMMISSION

BUDGET REQUESTS

The Library Commission had a hearing before the Board of Public Works on December 10, 1956. The hearing was on the Commission's budget request for the 1957-58 fiscal year. This is the budget which will be considered by the Legislature January 9 - March 9, 1957.

Mr. Omar Bacon, Chairman of the Extension Committee, W. V. L. A. and Miss Parks appeared before the Board. Written copies of their statements and the statement prepared by Mr. E. E. Rich, Chairman of the Library Commission, were also submitted to the Board.

The statements emphasized the following points:

1. Approximately 27 million people in the United States are without access to a local public library. More than one million of those people live in West Virginia. Thirteen entire counties do not have a local public library.
2. Not until we do have channels of information to all, especially adults, can we find a people armed with knowledge and vision to solve their problems.
3. While the Federal Library Services Act will be helpful, the problem of bringing more and better public libraries into West Virginia communities is a state and local problem.
4. The Library Commission's budget request for 1957-58 is \$177,820.

5. The Library Commission's Budget request for 1956-57 was based on the amount of state appropriation necessary to qualify us for the maximum in Federal funds if the Library Services Bill passed. It was an effective technique for interpretation of the Federal Library Services Bill, but some legislators asked why we had made the state budget request to coincide exactly with the Federal requirements for maximum in matching funds. The Commission felt that their questions pointed up the need for a pilot budget which would be a guide to the phases of the Commission's program which it believes should be undertaken during the fiscal year. Therefore, the Commission's state budget request for the 1957-58 fiscal year is that pilot budget.

6. This amount will:

- (a) Provide Commission resources for the first year for one new region.
- (b) Provide a loan consultant to work with local librarians in suiting to local needs the book collections lent by the Commission to local libraries.
- (c) Provide staff and office space for ordering and cataloging book collections purchased by the Commission for regional and local libraries.
- (d) Classify Library Commission staff salary-wise according to minimum A. L. A. standards.

If the maximum in Federal money is available in the 1957-58 fiscal year, the Library Commission will have resources for the first year of

a second new regional library, and further expansion of services to local public libraries.

A summary of the steps for the Library Commission's State budget request is in order:

1. The recommendation of the board of Public Works will be incorporated in the Budget Bill, which is always House Bill No. 1, and Senate Bill No. 1.
2. The Finance Committee of each House will decide on the amount of appropriation to be allotted to the Library Commission.
3. If amounts differ in the two committees, a conference committee composed of five members from each house will adjust the differences during the last week of the Legislature.
4. The Senate Public Library Committee is the other committee which works on the Library Commission's request.

As soon as committee appointments are announced, all librarians will know which legislators will be working on the Library Commission's budget. An explanation of public library needs from librarians and trustees to legislators and enthusiasm for reaching the goal are most important factors in the outcome.

The requested budget is given on the following page.

SUMMARY OF BUDGET REQUEST

Personal Services	\$ 73,780	
14 present positions		
/		
2 new professionals		
4 new clericals		
<u> </u>		
20 Total		
Current Expenses	\$ 19,035	
Equipment	\$ 13,005	
Office Equipment		
1 Bookmobile		
Books and Periodicals *	\$ 72,000	
20,000 books for one new region		
4,000 books for Harri- son and Upshur Region		
4,800 books for Commis- sion Headquarters and small local public li- braries		
	<hr/>	
	\$177,820	TOTAL

* Average cost of books - \$2.50 per book

NEWS FROM THE FIELD

PUBLIC LIBRARIESHUNTINGTON

The Library purchased a 35mm film-strip projector and several series of the Life filmstrips for use of the public. The public interest is high in this new medium.

The Library is in the middle of efforts to secure special legislation to stabilize its support and administration. A bill will be introduced in the coming legislature.

KANAWHA COUNTY

Mr. Mark Crum, Head Librarian of the Kanawha County Public Library since 1952, resigned to accept the position of Director of the Kalamazoo Public Library of Kalamazoo, Michigan. Librarians of the state will remember his many contributions to the progress of librarianship. He served ably as chairman of the Public Libraries Section, as Federal Coordinator, on many important committees of W.V.L.A., and closed his stay in W. Va. as co-chairman of the 1956 Convention. We will all miss his keen mind, his strong personality and his dedication to our profession. Sorry too, to lose his charming wife Peggy and attractive daughter Faith.

Mr. Nicholas Winowich has succeeded Mr. Crum as Head Librarian. He comes from the position of Head Librarian of the Carnegie Free Library of McKeesport, Pennsylvania. Mr. Winowich received his degree from Bethany College, and his masters in Library Science from the Carnegie Library School, Pittsburgh. He served in the U. S. Army from 1942-1945. He has been a most successful library administrator at McKeesport.

"Nick" is married and has two children. We are most fortunate to have him and his family with us.

McDOWELL

The Library begins its third year of service December 28. Great progress has been made the past two years including a new location and a greatly expanded budget. The Library has asked for a survey from the Commission in preparation for county wide service. Mrs. Brooke Robinson is getting wonderful support from her community.

MARION COUNTY

The Library had a most successful book week observance with support from the Public Schools and community. The Junior League record library in the library is most popular. Mary Conoway, Librarian, is recovering from a bad fall. She had to miss the Convention.

OHIO COUNTY

The Fall season at the Ohio County Public Library has been a varied and interesting one. It has featured school youngsters becoming acquainted with the library; visits by groups of Cubs and Scouts; resumed college classes in our Civic room, and increased use of reference facilities as the children returned to their schools. Book Week was celebrated by speeches over both Television and Radio by staff members.

The Christmas holidays brought many reservations for our Christmas material--records, films, plays, decorations, recipes, and customs. New features have been: the Film "Martin Luther" to the Film Department for the

month of December, a Popular Fiction Corner, and a separate and renovated Film Department.

RALEIGH COUNTY

A campaign is underway to get a bookmobile for Raleigh County and to qualify for a Library Commission regional demonstration. Mrs. Mae Graham, Librarian, has secured the support of the local AAUW and JC's. Her publicity is good.

RITCHIE

Ritchie County Court approved its first budget for the Library, reports Janet M. Cunningham, Librarian.

SOUTH CHARLESTON

South Charleston Library has a most interesting story telling series which enlists the citizens, from Mayor to homemaker, as well as out-of-town tellers. The series includes puppets, dance acts, slides, besides the usual stories. Mrs. Fred Miller keeps the public library-minded.

COLLEGE LIBRARIES

ALDERSON-BROADDUS

Ground has been broken on the Alderson-Broadus campus for two new buildings--a library and a dormitory.

The library is scheduled for completion by early 1958. These new buildings, with an estimated cost of \$600,000, represent the first major construction at A-B in more than 30 years.

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY

The Hugh Ike Shott estate has donated the personal papers and letters of the late publisher and U.S. Senator of Bluefield to the West Virginia University Library. The material will be housed in the West Virginia Collection, where it will be available to all qualified scholars.

FROM ABOUT THE STATE

Brooke County Library has a Saturday story hour....Morgantown Public Library had a record October in home use of Library....thirty-six new films were made available to the public at the Weirton Public Library....small business needs were emphasized in the Alpha Regional Library of Doddridge, Roane, Jackson, Calhoun, and Ritchie Counties....Ceredo-Kenova Public Library reorganized with an open house November 25, Mrs. Alta Smith is the new Librarian...Dora Ruth Parks and Omar A. Bacon presented the Commission budget to the Board of Public Works December 10....Alpha Regional Library has a brand new bookmobile purchased from local funds. Betty Arrowood drove it down from Cleveland.

* * * * *

TREASURER'S REPORT

In Bank October 31, 1956	\$ 773.08
Deposited November 7	781.74
Deposited November 26	46.00
Deposited December 10	15.00
	<hr/>
Total	\$1615.82

Expenditures

November 2	Speakers for convention	150.00
November 3	Hotel bill for meals, etc.	549.26
November 13	Medallic Arts for medals	55.03
November 13	Janes Printing. This week in Charleston	6.00
November 13	Mathew Printing ... Programs	30.81
November 13	Frances Alderson - Incidentals	10.14
November 13	Floyd Miller - T. & T.	3.25
November 13	C. Kline - refund for luncheon	6.00
December 11	Spencer Moore - Envelopes	7.52
December 11	Floyd Miller - Telephone	1.50
		<hr/>
	Total	\$819.51

BALANCE ON HAND December 31, 1956	\$796.31
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Alice G. Bauer

Alice G. Bauer
Treasurer

WEST VIRGINIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION RECOGNITION AWARDS

The Citations which appear on the following pages were presented at the November 2nd Banquet Meeting of the West Virginia Library Association in Charleston. These awards are presented annually to two or three persons who have made outstanding contributions to the development of library service in West Virginia.

WEST VIRGINIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION RECOGNITION AWARDS

JEAN LEE LATHAM

Jean Lee Latham, a native of the State of West Virginia, teacher, editor and author.

Some of the most important books being published today and gathered into our public libraries, are the ones written to broaden the knowledge of children and to bring joy and inspiration into their lives. Jean Lee Latham is the author of several books for young people. One of these, "Carry On, Mr. Bowditch" received this year, 1956, the John Newberry Medal Award, which is given for the most distinguished contribution to children's literature for the previous year. Miss Latham specializes in fictional biography for juveniles, choosing her subjects from among the less glamorous heroes of the past - as she says, "Men who managed to achieve something worthwhile despite overwhelming setbacks." Her published books are "The Story of Eli Whitney", "Medals for Morse", "Carry On, Mr. Bowditch" and "Trail Blazer of the Seas", which features the story of Matthew Fontaine Maury. She is at work now on a story about Jamestown, "This Dear-Bought Land", and she has recently recorded her prize-winning "Carry On, Mr. Bowditch" for Talking Books for the Blind.

Miss Latham has, in her comparatively brief span of years, lived a full and adventurous life. She has followed four careers, teaching, editing, writing and technical electronics. She was, for six years, editor of the Dramatic Publishing Company and wrote seventy-five plays. During World War II she trained in radio maintenance and repair, and worked with the U. S. Signal Corps Inspection Agency. There are two awards which the War Department gives to Civilians, and Miss Latham was awarded one of them, the Silver Wreath, for her services. After the War she moved to Florida and devoted her time to the study of narrative writing. A recent achievement of this versatile woman was the course she took under the U. S. Power Squad in St. Petersburg in elementary piloting and small boat handling. She has also made a study of linotype machines, and speech retraining of aphasics in a veterans' hospital. Miss Latham brings to her writing a sound and varied educational background. She graduated from West Virginia Wesleyan College with a bachelor of arts degree, and to further her knowledge as a playwright she took a degree of drama at the Ithaca Conservatory, New York. She then attended Cornell University and was graduated with a master of arts degree in modern poetry. Her books reflect her own joy of living and are enriched by her many unusual experiences.

West Virginia is proud to claim this gifted author.

IDA M. PETERS

The Awards Committee of the West Virginia Library Association presents this citation to Miss Ida M. Peters in recognition of outstanding services rendered during her library career in the state.

As the first head of the Parkersburg High School Library, a position she held from 1917 to 1952, Miss Peters was largely responsible for the increase in the number of reading and reference books from 2,774 to 15,744.

This high school library, under her excellent management, has attracted attention throughout the state. Visiting teachers came to study it as a model. It has been the subject of articles in various state and national publications.

Miss Peters' buoyant spirit, her pleasant manner, and her great knowledge of books made the library a place where students loved to come to read, study and browse.

Her work was not limited to the community. She was supervisor of secondary school libraries in the state, taught Library Science at West Virginia University for five summer terms and was chairman of the state committee that published four editions of the Library Manual. In 1931 she was elected president of the West Virginia Library Association.

As a reviewer of books she was much in demand by local and state organizations. Another of her projects was the organization of the Teachers Book Review Luncheon Club.

A life-long member of the Parkersburg Baptist Church, Miss Peters has taught the Semper Fidelis Class since 1935. When she resigned as librarian she accepted a new position with The American Baptist Assembly at Green Lake, Wisconsin. She is now in charge of the Baptist Convention Office in Parkersburg.

For these and many untold achievements, the West Virginia Library Association is proud to present this citation.

CYRIL M. REICH

Cyril M. Reich, resident of St. Albans since 1946, Chemical Engineer, Department Head in the Limestone Unit of Carbide and Carbon Chemicals Company, member of the Board of Directors of the St. Albans Public Library since its founding in January, 1952 and Chairman of the Board since September, 1952.

As early as 1949, Mr. Reich envisioned a permanent library for the rapidly growing town of St. Albans. He made a survey of library facilities in West Virginia, visiting libraries, interviewing and corresponding with librarians. In 1952, when the St. Albans branch of the American Association of University Women went a step further and established a library, Mr. Reich was elected to the Board of Directors. As Chairman of the Building Committee, he recruited and supervised a large group of volunteer men in completely renovating and equipping an old store building for use as a library. He solicited business concerns over the entire Kanawha Valley for materials. On June 30, 1952 the library opened its doors, staffed entirely by volunteers and financed by contributions. Impressed by what a group of private citizens could do, the City Council included the library in its budget that year. A part-time professional librarian was hired. In the four years that have followed the circulation and services of the St. Albans Public Library have tripled. The original store building has long since been outgrown, and the town continues to grow, having more than tripled its population since 1940. The city has doubled its library appropriation, but the remaining two-thirds of the budget has been the responsibility of the Board of Directors. As Chairman of that Board, Mr. Reich has carried the major share of the load. In 1953 he conceived the idea of the St. Albans Town Fair as a means of library financing. This day-long, midsummer affair held on a school grounds in the downtown area, proved such an outstanding success that it has been perpetuated annually. An entire town has now been made library conscious. Faced now with the urgent need for more adequate library quarters, Mr. Reich's energy, courage and enthusiasm are unflagging. This is made doubly impressive by the fact that he carries heavy home responsibilities, being the father of ten children, ranging in age from two months to fifteen years.

Few people outside the library profession have a more dedicated spirit towards the public library as one of the foundations of our democracy, than Mr. Reich. It is with great pleasure the West Virginia Library Association presents its award to Cyril M. Reich for distinguished contribution to libraries.