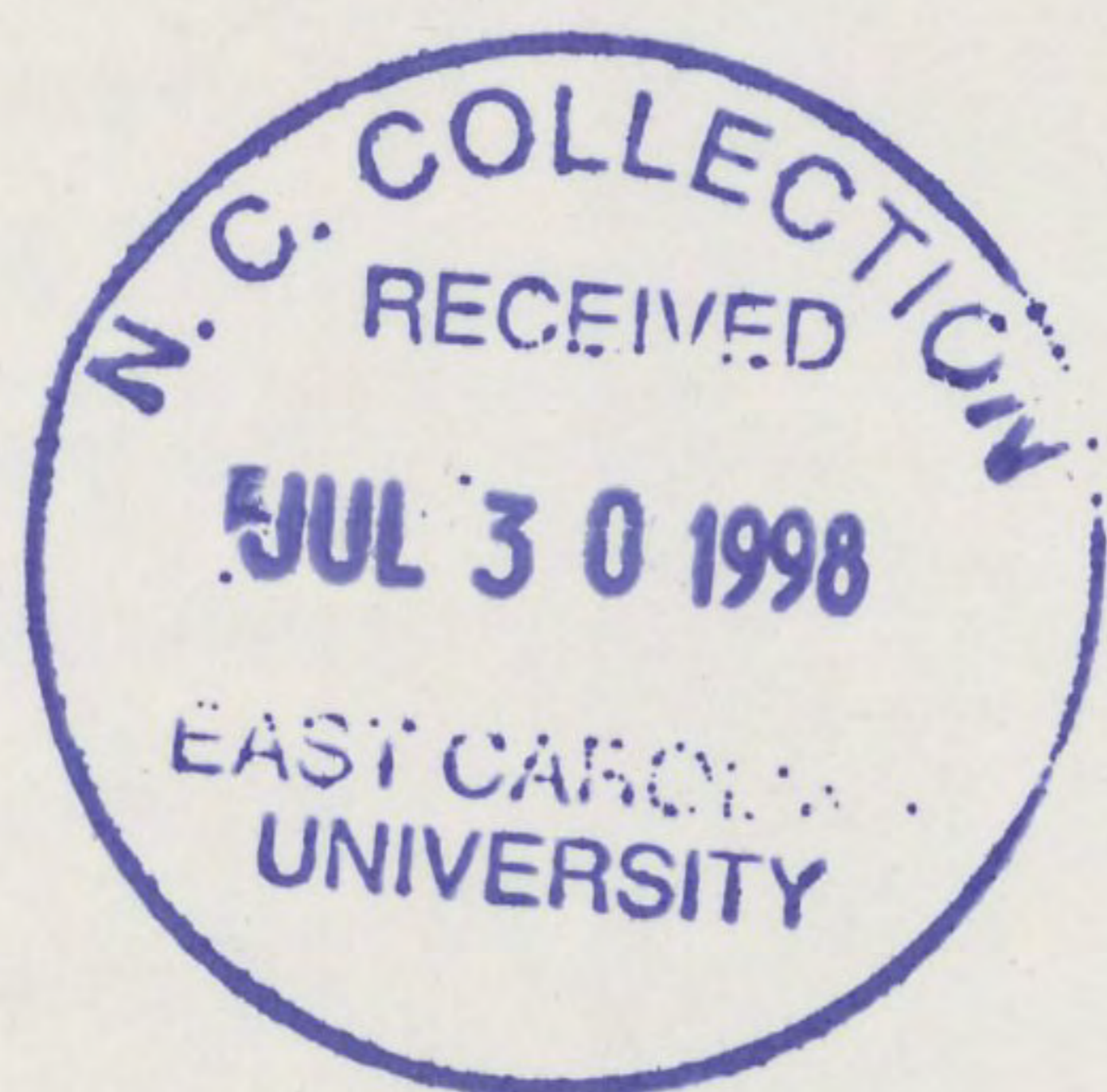
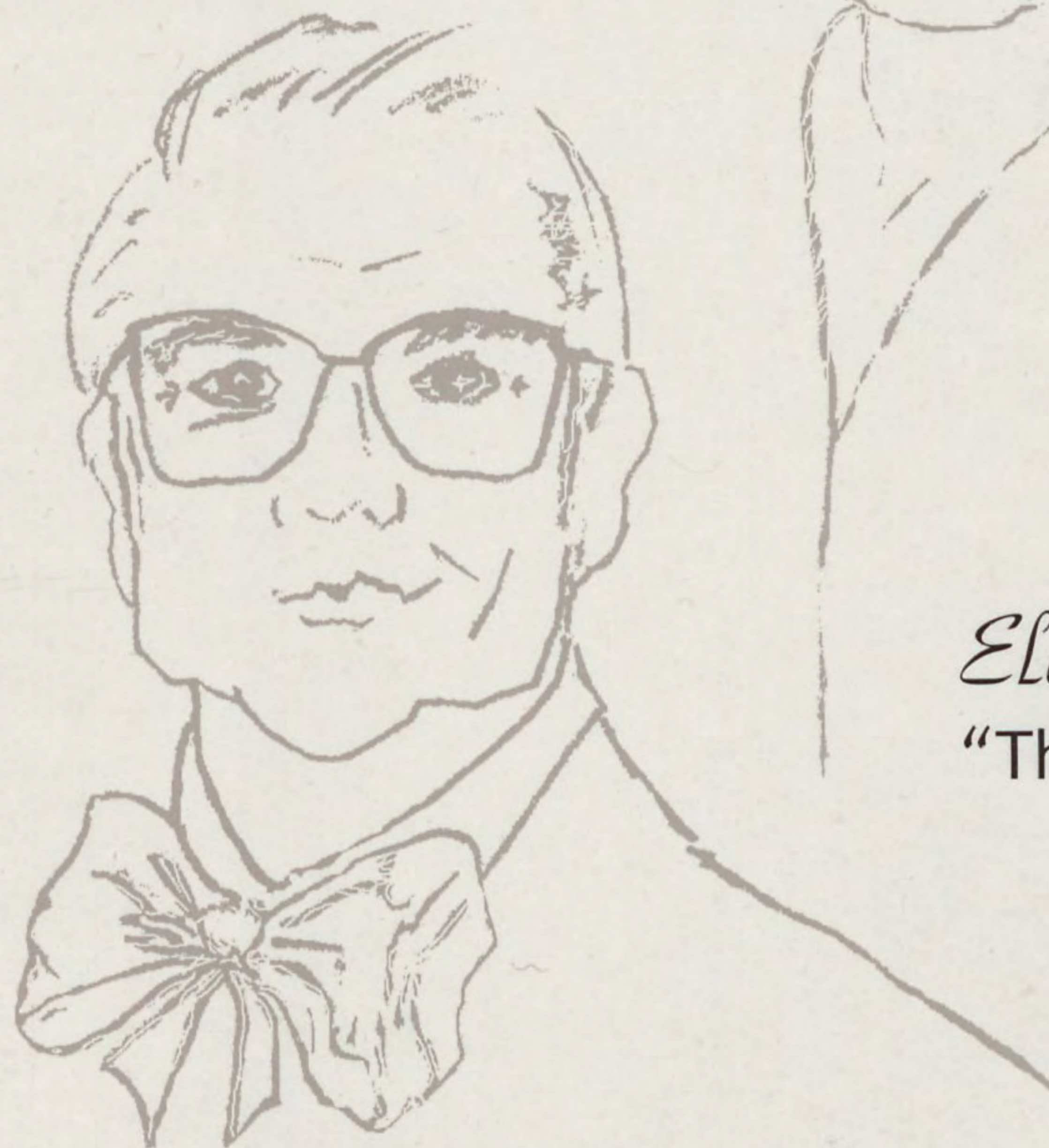


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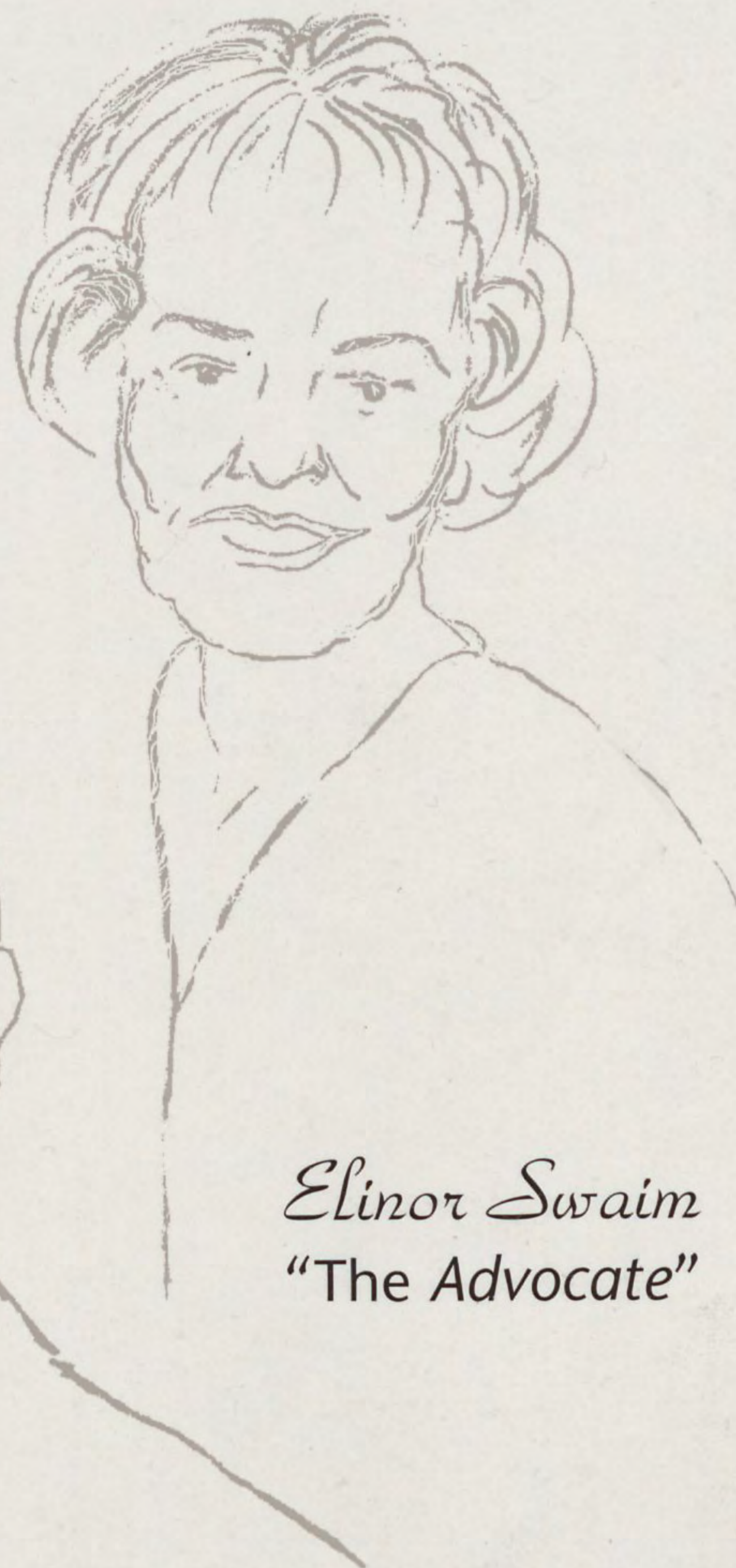
# NORTH CAROLINA LibRARIES



*Florence Blakely*  
"The Librarian"



*Edward G. Holley*  
"The Dean"



*Elinor Swaim*  
"The Advocate"



TURNING POINTS:

A NORTH CAROLINA ORAL HISTORY OF LIBRARIANSHIP

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**bigger**  
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# NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES

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# From the President

Beverley Gass, President

I have a friend who does not believe that it makes a difference whether you vote or not. Yet he will go to considerable effort to find campaign signs to display in his front yard. He even works for the election of those candidates, particularly in local elections, whom he knows and believes in or believes in and wants to know. Over the period of a campaign, he may even do some fairly assertive things to get to know candidates. Once during a school board primary, he spent several hours on the phone calling all the folks in his address book to solicit their support for a friend/candidate in an upcoming election. He really seems to understand the importance of communicating with and for those who may be or are our elected leaders and assumes that he can, by getting to know a candidate or an elected official, make a difference in how things go.

Obviously, many others believe in the idea that communicating your interests and needs to elected officials is an important civic responsibility. The American Library Association, for example, is one group that clearly values and works diligently to express its opinions and influence the way things go in Washington. So does the North Carolina Library Association when it sends a delegation to Washington to participate in the ALA Legislative Day that occurs annually. Again this year, a North Carolina delegation journeyed to D.C. to participate in the annual ALA Legislative Day. The group included Augie Beasley, chair of the NCLA Governmental Relations Committee, Dave Fergusson, Beverley Gass, Karen Perry, John Via, Claudette Wiese, and John Welch.

To give you some idea of what the days (the actual day is preceded by an all-day briefing session conducted by ALA Washington Office Staff) are like, some of those folks who attended agreed to share their impressions of the event with you. With a two-paragraph limitation, the edited results yield a glimpse at what occurred.

Dave Fergusson writes of the number of congressmen, aides, and other staffers that he visited. His experience was typical of all members of the delegation.

*When it comes to personal contact and presumed transmission of ideas, the visits we made to five legislators this year went as well as I can remember.... Representative Cass Ballenger represents part of Forsyth county and was the first in a string of Congressmen who proclaimed support for the E-rate. He praised the new Beaver Library in Hickory during our 25 minute meeting. Next, we popped in on our leader Augie Beasley as he visited Representative Walter B. Jones. Since none of us lived even remotely near the man's district, we spent time with an aide, but were well received. We then visited with Mike McIntyre's aide, who knew as much about the E-rate as we did, and then met Congressman McIntyre.*

*After being bedazzled by the luncheon choices in the Longworth Building cafeteria, we visited our own Congressman, Richard Burr. Again, support for the E-rate and a 40-minute talk that showed a real interest in the future of library services. We finished up with Representative Mel Watt, who had also attended the NCLA breakfast. We believe he is very supportive of libraries.*

Claudette Wiese shares her experience of seeing the government at work and attempting to influence those who do the work.

*Being a representative to Library Legislative Day was a stimulating experience, to say the least. On Monday, ALA held an all-day workshop on issues concerning libraries. There were suggestions on how to lobby our congressional delegation. The E-Rate, Internet filtering, and the Title VI program were of particular interest to me as a school librarian.*

*On Tuesday, North Carolina sponsored a breakfast for NC Congressmen and, in some cases, their aides. Then visits were made to the offices of Representatives Etheridge and Hefner and Senator Helms. In between times, I managed to visit the Library of Congress and the Senate where a bill was being introduced. It was interesting to watch our Senate in action. I would encourage everyone to visit Washington and drop in on his or her representatives and senators.*

---

Augie Beasley appears to be equally impressed by the opportunity to do some lobbying and the city itself.

*Being part of ALA's Legislative Day is more than just talking to legislators about the importance of libraries, although that is the primary reason we go to Washington. It is meeting librarians from other parts of the country and learning that they have the same needs and problems that we have in North Carolina. And it is seeing that, as a group, we do have a voice in Washington and can influence legislation.*

*Fascinating, exhilarating, stimulating, and tiring best describe my feelings about Legislative Day in Washington, D.C. Just being there is a visual and aural treat and experience. There is vitality and energy in D.C. that is missing in Charlotte. Even the strident "honk" of a jaundiced cabby as he careens past, barely missing you at an intersection is a treat. The city is alive.... I do think I would enjoy living there. But then, who retires to Washington, D.C.?*

Finally, we have Karen Perry's picture. Is it a bit of Baroque? Rococo? Impressionism? Surrealism? Whatever. But her last stroke turns to realism.

*We stood in the Jefferson Hall of the Library of Congress, our national treasure, where so many other famous Americans had placed their feet. Looking up at the wonderful literary frescos, we walked peculiarly, as though inebriated with the colors and images surrounding us. It was dramatic, so bright, not what you expect from granite and marble. "Oh my," said Beverley Gass, NCLA President. "Let's go up and look down," said Augie Beasley, NCLA Legislative Chair. "Great! I can take a picture from down here," said Karen Perry, NCASL Past President, leaning safely on the stone landing. Claudette Wiese, NCASL Legislative Representative, followed Augie to the balcony. Karen framed the picture to include the words Library of Congress with her friends. She spied John Welch, Assistant State Librarian, on the center floor. "John, come pose with the statue holding up the torch." Congressman Price asked, "Have you been to the Library of Congress?" Congressman Coble asked, "Did you see the Library of Congress? They've done great things over there." "It is just beautiful," said Congressman Watt.*

*Our visit to Washington was a success for North Carolina libraries. We made our case for funding and fair use while we linked the visible symbol of the Library of Congress as representative of all our libraries back home. It was fun.*

And it was. Join us next year on May 3-4 for the annual pilgrimage to Washington. Perhaps it will be filled with as much wonderment as it was for me and Karen Perry, who upon visiting Representative Howard Coble's office found two committee staffers from Representative Coble's Subcommittee on Courts and Intellectual Property of the Committee on the Judiciary of the United States House of Representatives, awaiting us. Not only did we have their undivided attention, the staffers gave us pieces of hard candy that said "I love libraries!" Could it have been that they wanted to persuade us that the pending "Database Protection" legislation was a good thing despite ALA's stance? Who knows? And who was lobbying whom?

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#### Instructions for the Preparation of Manuscripts for North Carolina Libraries

1. *North Carolina Libraries* seeks to publish articles, materials reviews, and bibliographies of professional interest to librarians in North Carolina. Articles need not be necessarily of a scholarly nature, but they should address professional concerns of the library community in the state.
2. Manuscripts should be directed to Frances B. Bradburn, Editor, *North Carolina Libraries*, Information Technology Evaluation Services, Public Schools of North Carolina, 301 N. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601-2825.
3. Manuscripts should be submitted in triplicate on plain white paper measuring 8 1/2" x 11" and on computer disk.
4. Manuscripts must be double-spaced (text, references, and footnotes). Macintosh computer is the computer used by *North Carolina Libraries*. Computer disks formatted for other computers must contain a file of the document in original format and a file in ASCII or RTF. Please consult editor for further information.
5. The name, position, and professional address of the author should appear in the bottom left-hand corner of a separate title page. The author's name should not appear anywhere else on the document.
6. Pages should be numbered consecutively at the top right-hand corner and the title (abbreviated if necessary) at the upper left-hand corner.
7. Footnotes should appear at the end of the manuscript. The editors will refer to *The Chicago Manual of Style*, 13th edition. The basic forms for books and journals are as follows:

Keyes Metcalf, *Planning Academic and Research Library Buildings* (New York: McGraw, 1965), 416.  
Susan K. Martin, "The Care and Feeding of the MARC Format," *American Libraries* 10 (September 1970): 498.
8. Photographs will be accepted for consideration but cannot be returned.
9. Upon receipt, a manuscript will be acknowledged by the editor. Following review of the manuscript by the editor and at least two jurors, a decision will be communicated to the writer. A definite publication date cannot be given since any incoming manuscript will be added to a manuscript bank from which articles are selected for each issue.
10. *North Carolina Libraries* holds the copyright for all accepted manuscripts. The journal is available both in print and electronically over the North Carolina Information Network.
11. Issue deadlines are February 10, May 10, August 10, and November 10. Manuscripts for a particular issue must be submitted at least 2 months before the issue deadline.

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## From the Editor

With this issue, NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES launches a new feature. Interspersed throughout the year, we will highlight the careers of a variety of the state's librarians and library leaders through oral history, in the belief that we cannot understand our present or plan for our future without understanding our past — and that this is best understood through the words of the individuals involved. The inauguration of this feature looks at three special North Carolina library leaders: Florence Blakely, Dr. Ed Holley, and Elinor Swaim. We have plans to interview many others. We will welcome your suggestions and willingness to interview these individuals. Tapes of these interviews will be deposited in the NCLA archives.

# Interview with Florence Blakely

Durham, NC, April 21, 1998

by Rose Simon

### About Florence Blakely ...

This interview offered me the opportunity to renew an old and special acquaintance. Decades ago, and months before I entered library school, Blakely took me on my first working tour of an academic reference collection. She was then head of reference in Perkins Library at Duke University. In years following, I would visit her from time to time on her own turf, and I remember watching her *run* from the desk to the reference stacks and back to secure a prompt answer to a telephone query. She literally loved the reference chase; and good public service was the core of her work. She has been a generous contributor to the profession on the state, regional, and national levels, and she has graciously welcomed and supported generations of new librarians in the early years of their careers.

Blakely was born in Clinton, SC, and was graduated magna cum laude from Presbyterian College. She earned her B.S. in L.S. and M.A. in L.S. degrees from Peabody College, and was elected to Delta Kappa Gamma and Beta Phi Mu honor societies. She served as reference librarian at the Greenville (SC) Public Library before going to Duke University, where she served in reference from 1948 to 1956, and as head of reference from 1956 to 1979. She has been recognized for her outstanding professional accomplishments in a number of ways, including the award of a Council on Library Resources Fellowship in 1970, and the Isadora Gilbert Mudge citation in 1974. Twice she served as a visiting lecturer in the library school at UNC-Chapel Hill. Blakely became Assistant University Librarian for Collection Development in August 1979, and she served as Acting University Librarian. With good reason, the highest library staff award at Duke University is the Florence Blakely Award.

**NCL:** What was your undergraduate major, and how did you come to choose librarianship as a career?

**FB:** I was born in Clinton, South Carolina, in 1923. There I went to high school and to Presbyterian College. We had 11 grades, so I started college when I was barely 17 and I was graduated in December 1943 — because we were on the quarter system; and because all the boys were gone — except the would-be preachers. I majored in history and English.

I was a student assistant in the library at PC (Presbyterian College), and that's what turned me into a librarian. My first mentor was a neighbor, Isaac Copeland, who became head of the Southern Historical Collection at UNC. Isaac came back to Clinton as the Librarian at Presbyterian. He was a true model of a professional librarian, and he let me do everything, which was great. I read shelves, cataloged (catalog? ME catalog?), and I didn't know what reference work was, but I found it to be the most interesting part of the job: students coming up, saying, "Hey, I've got

to have something on Florence Nightingale, quick." It was a fun thing.

**NCL:** How did you decide to go to George Peabody College for your B.S. in L.S. degree?

**FB:** When I was about to finish college, Isaac said, "Florence, I want you to go to Peabody." I said, "I can't go to Peabody. I borrowed money to go to college. What would I go to Peabody on?" He said, "I'll get you a job." So, he wrote to Mrs. Ruth B. Duncan, who was the reference librarian at Peabody College. (He had been Librarian there.) And I borrowed more money.

In September of 1944, I went to Peabody — on the train, of course — troop train, no place to sit down. I think I sat on my steamer trunk. I had never been anywhere away from home. I had a very mind-expanding year at Peabody. I took my reference course under Margaret Knox. She was a very young, good reference teacher — very hard, very demand-

ing; but I knew that was IT, because reference was fun. And I saw books that I would never see in a little college library — reference books — and I found that just fascinating.

When I was about to finish, Isaac said, "Florence, I want you to go to Greenville and work for Ellen Perry in the public library." And I said "Okay." (I didn't have any other plans.) So Miss Ellen Perry hired me to be a reference librarian at the age of 22. She, too, was truly a role model. She was a marvelous lady, very proper, but she had a sense of humor. Straight as an arrow. She wore a little brown felt hat when she left the library every day. She was a good Episcopalian. She had been to Carnegie Library School under the first real library school teachers. And I soon understood why Isaac said I should work for her. She was a model reference librarian. She whipped me into shape. She did not put up with sloppiness of any sort. She had her standards and you met them. I was the only reference librarian there. It was a grand experience, and we became very good friends.

After two years of reference, I decided to get some other experience in the county system. So I moved down to the basement to work with Mary Cox. She was a wonderful person, a professional, too; but she was not as proper as Miss Perry was. I spent a wonderful year going out on the bookmobile, working the branches.

**NCL:** What brought you to Duke University?

**FB:** In the spring of '48, I got a free ride to Nashville. It was just for a couple of days, and I thought, "Well, I'll drop into the library school and see if any of the old teachers are there." I went into the dean's office and we talked a little bit and he said, "Would you be interested in going to Duke University as a reference librarian?" I said, "Well, it never occurred to me. I'd really rather go to the University of North Carolina" (because I had friends at PC, like Isaac, who'd gone on there). He said, "Well, I can't help you there, but I have a letter from the Duke Librarian, and they're ready to hire a reference librarian. You want me to send your name in?" And I said, "Why not."

Well, soon the Duke Librarian invited me to an interview. I got on the train, and got off in Raleigh, rode a bus to Durham, took a city bus; got off at the hospital, and asked, "How do I find the library?" (It wasn't Perkins Library then, it was just the library.) The head librarian, Dr. Benjamin Powell, was not there at the moment, so I was interviewed by the head of the reference department, Lucille Simcoe, and the retired librarian, Mr. Breedlove, who'd been there about a hundred years. (He was filling in.) No formality whatsoever. No written application. They didn't ask for refer ... oh, they asked me if I knew anybody currently on the staff, and I said, "Yes, Jane Sturgeon is from my hometown." So they hired me, for \$2,400 a year. That was a lot more than I was making in Greenville!

So in September of 1948, I came to Duke—with my steamer trunk again — and lived close to the East Campus. I was overwhelmed! There were those books — those reference books that I had seen at Vanderbilt. And, of course, at Greenville Public we hadn't had them. But I was a public librarian at heart — always will be.

**NCL:** What was work at Duke like, and what were some of the greatest professional challenges you faced during your career?

**FB:** The Duke reference department had three librarians and one was chronically ill and never there, so there were really

two of us. Lucille Simcoe was head. She was a Randolph-Macon grad who had gone to library school at Columbia, and she was a good teacher. She informed me shortly after I got here, "Well, we'll be going to freshman classes" — about 50, I think it was, English classes — "instructing them about the library." I said, "I can't do that! I'm not a public person. I don't make public speeches." "Well, you're the only one here!" So I did!

We had a small library staff, so it was a family. I remember that the reference department telephone was out in the hall under the big clock. We didn't even have one in the department. The reference office was about 4 x 4 — it was a tiny

little closet — and there was just room for one person at a time in there.

I well remember when the first copier came to the library. It was one of the early models and it was down in the basement. It was a huge, huge monster. We were one of the early libraries in the Southeast to use the Xerox machine to reproduce catalog cards, and never thought about the copier being a public service. The first copier in reference was an old thermafax. That was horrible. We had to make change; we had to do all these things for the machine. Then we got a real Xerox machine out in the hall, but guess who had to maintain it? The reference staff. And we had to issue borrower's cards to outside borrowers. Now, why the circulation staff couldn't, I don't know; but we had to issue borrower's cards. All the odd jobs. We were filing cards into the North Carolina Union Catalog, and I made every argument in the book and some that weren't in the book and everybody agreed — Miss Gertrude Merritt agreed — "Yes, it's not right for you to, but there's nobody else to do it, so you do it." So, we had student assistants doing it. (They could have had student assistants doing it.) Anyway, it's typical, it's just typical.

But in that little reference department, I had a chance to learn the collection and to work with fascinating faculty; and we covered that desk a heck of a lot of hours a week, the two of us.

**NCL:** When did you get used to doing the freshman BI? — even before it was called BI.



Photo courtesy of Florence Blakely.

**FB:** Yes, we didn't know it was BI. I guess the torture was that first year. Then I got a pattern and a flow and enjoyed it. I actually did enjoy it. But we didn't have slides or anything like that. All we had was the blackboard. I would draw the outline of the library and the various departments and talk about them. That's about all there was to it! Eventually, we did slide shows. But it never got boring. I've always been interested in the interaction between faculty and librarians. Some of the freshman English instructors were gracious and welcoming. They stayed, they showed interest, and the students showed interest. Others said, "OK, goodbye." And so you did the best you could.

Lucille left after about one year, and Mrs. Catharine Pierce came in. She'd retired from Swarthmore. She was head of reference for several years until she retired from Duke. In 1956, Dr. Powell, who was my boss from the time I went to Duke until 1975, called me in and said, "Miss Blakely" — he always called me Miss Blakely until the last few years — "Miss Blakely, I hear from Bill Hamilton and other faculty that you are a pretty good reference librarian, and, do you think maybe you could be head of this department?" I said, "Well, I don't know. I've been here seven years. I guess I'll try it." "Well, that's fine. And in time, Miss Blakely, you'll make \$5,000 a year."

So I became head of the department. We had an opening, I think, because we had only three members for a good many years. And the department needed to add a staff member ... still does. But the first one we took in was Mary Canada, who was my colleague for the rest of my career and who became head after I went to collection development. Mary had been the undergraduate librarian, mainly reserves, and then had gone to UNC to library school. She studied under Miss Susan B. Akers. And that was the best thing that ever happened to the reference department. Mary was a wonderful teammate. She and I balanced each other. I mean, I get spread in too many directions. And Mary is organized: she knows what she's doing, and she accomplishes a heck of a lot. She and I shared the work through the years. And gradually we added other staff. Every year my annual report was a documented case for adding staff. Sometimes it would work! (But the thing was, we were really a team. I never knew how to run a department any other way, but as a team. I don't think you can run a reference department from the top down.) And when we moved into the new building in 1970, we REALLY had to expand the staff. Business just took off, of course, because the desk was visible when you walked in, instead of being out of sight upstairs in the Gothic reading room, as it had been in the old building.

**NCL:** Did your feelings about reference work ever change over those thirty years?

**FB:** Not about reference work, but the pace became frantic and stressful and I was tired of trying to keep together a team of rugged individualists, all of whom were brighter and better reference librarians than I was. You always want to hire people who are smarter than you are, but they are prima donnas. I liked them, and they were wonderful. But I was just plain tired. I loved collection development anyway, had been working in it all along. So I was happy to change jobs, although my heart was still in reference. It's still in reference. But when I left it, I left it completely, because you can't be in two places. I never went back.

Collection development was extremely interesting. I saw the world from a whole new perspective when I

changed offices. I was dealing with things I'd never dealt with before, and I was learning — dealers, overseas and domestic; serials budget, I mean budget, THE BUDGET. Anyway, I sympathized with my predecessor Gertrude Merritt so much, and I realized I used to give her a hard time; but she was really generous. She had let the reference staff be bibliographers of sorts. I still think that reference, the front line people, are in the best position to see what's coming over the hill. Where are you going? What areas will you need to build? A bibliographer who is not in touch with the public can't get that overview.

We had a good time in the '60s building an alternative press collection. We went heavily for periodicals and pamphlets and for books on things like how to build a bomb. Now we are the only library in the country that has some of those materials. The Library of Congress, in fact, the *Oxford English Dictionary* people, would write frequently, saying, "I bet you have this. And would you please xerox it." It makes you feel good. That crazy stuff is research material. Mr. Powell would question it sometimes, but Gertrude Merritt didn't bother us.

I never had a real boss. Mr. Powell never bothered me. Jake Waggoner, the assistant or associate librarian, was officially my boss. All I did was ask him for support. They never said, "You're doing a good job." They didn't say, "You're doing a bad job." They just let me alone, which was fine with me. Mr. Powell did bother me a little bit when we got into the new building because he had bought this fine coffee table-type furniture, and I said, "Mr. Powell, the students will have their feet all over that." "They better not." I said, "I can't help it. They're going to have their feet on it." They did! They moved everything around for their comfort and convenience. They used sofas to take naps, of course. And he finally called me in and said, "Miss Blakely, I would appreciate it if you would keep students from bringing food and drink into the building. And tell them to sit up straight and keep their feet off the tables." I said, "Mr. Powell, we are busy. We'll do what we can." And that's all I ever promised him! Bless his heart, he was a true Southern gentleman. And he ran the place like a benevolent plantation owner, because Duke in those days was run like a plantation.

I'll never forget the struggles of the '70s, when the library lib movement started. That's when the professional staff organized, and he went along with us. He didn't fight us, but he didn't understand why we were doing this. We had a thorough, very efficient committee set up a staff ranking structure that still works fine. I think at one point we tried for faculty status, but we knew we'd never get it at Duke. We did get a professional status, and we had seats on some of the campus committees. The faculty respected the reference department very much, but they just couldn't tolerate the idea of us having faculty rank; and I can understand that. I wasn't going to publish. That wasn't my mission.

**NCL:** Who were some of the other librarians who inspired you, or whom you saw as leaders and/or builders within the profession?

**FB:** My chief mentors were Isaac Copeland and Ellen Perry. I would also call Frances Neel Cheney a mentor. I did not really know her when I was in library school because at that time she was working at the Library of Congress. I went back to Peabody in the summers of '59 and '60 for a "re-tread," because by then everybody was getting an M.S. in L.S. and I had a B.S. in L.S. That's when I got to know Fanny, as a friend. And Isabel Howell, who was the librarian of the state library there. I spent a lot of time with them,

and that was a turning point in my professional life. Fanny was always neck deep in ALA, and while I had been a member, I had never been active. There wasn't anything for reference librarians in ALA. All the meetings were about technical services, and I didn't know other reference librarians around the country. They urged me to try to get a section of the Reference and Adult Services Section started in the Southeastern Library Association. So I did.

But the real turning point in my career came in 1970. That's when I got the Council on Library Resources Fellowship. That was absolutely the most wonderful three months in my whole career. I went coast to coast to visit 14 large academic libraries, and did a survey of the reference departments. It was heaven! Pure heaven! In doing this, I made a network of reference librarians. "Okay," I said, "we all need to be able to get together and talk shop." I had some money left in my grant and I asked the Council, "Would it be all right if I invited the librarians that I visited all over the country to meet for breakfast in Detroit? They said, "O.K." And that was the beginning.

The next move was to try to start a discussion group. There were no discussion groups at all in the Reference and Adult Services Section. I asked Mildred Nilon at Colorado and Ann Seyboth at Ohio State, "Would you like to join me in petitioning for a discussion group to be formed for heads of reference like they have for the big heads of tech services?" They did, and we did. We started the first ALA reference discussion group. And in time, we decided we should have a chapter of Reference and Adult Services section in NCLA. People love to get together and talk shop.

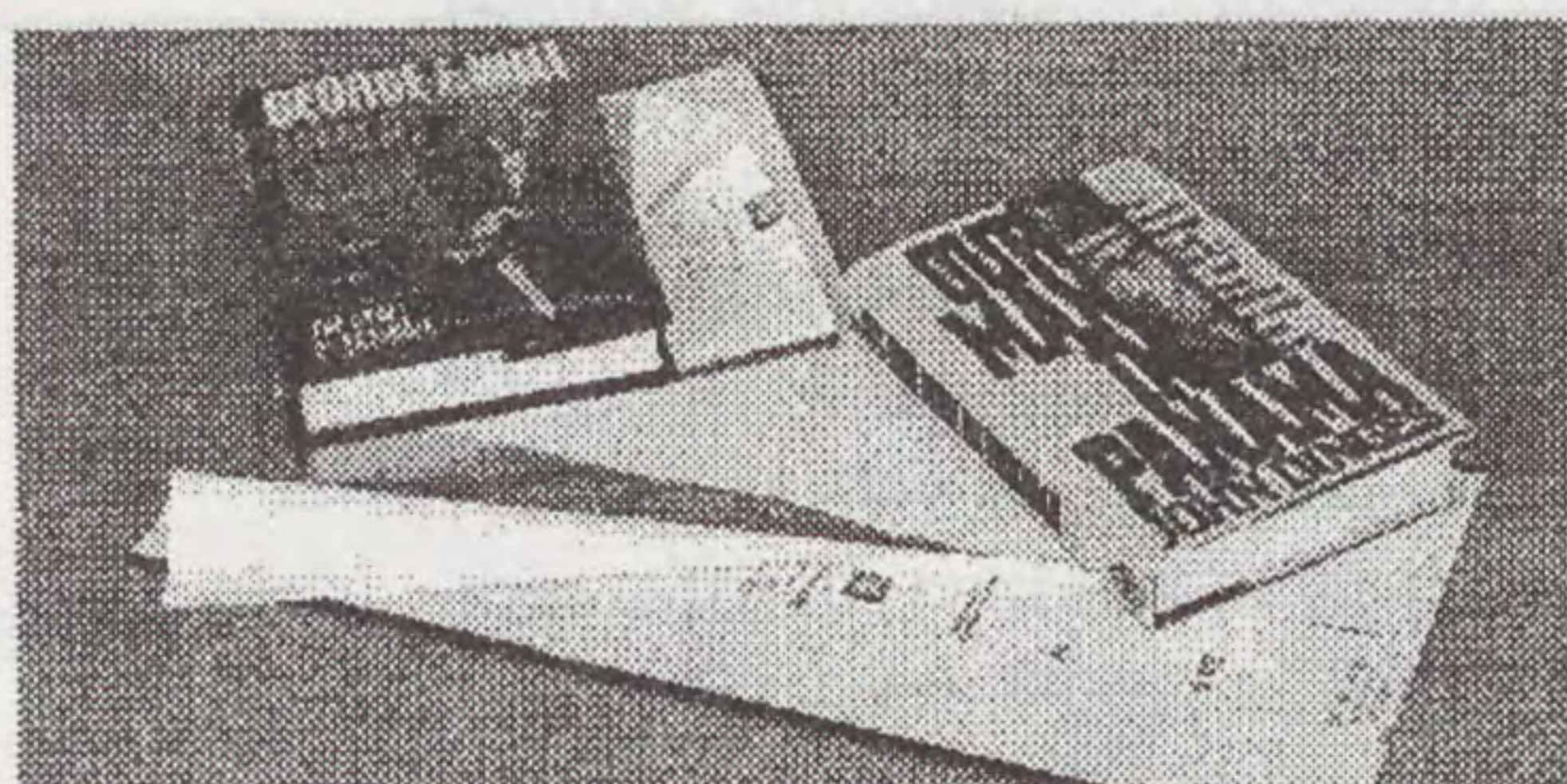
One professional colleague who helped me a lot was Mae Tucker, of the Charlotte Public Library. I think I met Mae at NCLA in Asheville, at the Junior Members Round

Table meeting. It was MORIBUND. We decided that we could work together and either kill the round table or make something of it. So at the next meeting we called a session to kill it: "If this is not going to be a live organization, we should just disband." You should have seen the people turn up to declare it alive! Mae and I did a lot of mischief over the years. She was, is and was, a wonderful reference librarian. A great colleague, too.

**NCL:** Tell us about Doralyn Hickey. I know that she was a person of stature in the library profession.

**FB:** She was. I knew Doralynn before she became a librarian, although she had worked in the library at Rice. She came to Duke to get her Ph.D. in religion, and worked part time in cataloging in the Duke library, where we became friends. Once she got into cataloging, she immediately figured out a better way to do things! Immediately! And Gertrude Merritt, my good friend and colleague through all these years, was the kind of person who welcomed this. Doralynn finally decided that she'd better go to library school, even, I believe, before she finished her dissertation. She worked with Ralph Shaw, who was very big on early automation of libraries, VERY big. She went to Rutgers because it offered a cutting-edge program. (At that time, automation meant running rods through punched cards.) And she was really a pioneer in library automation. She was really a visionary person.

After she got her Ph.D., she came back to work in the library. One day Carlyle Frarey came in — he had been our associate librarian — and he was then dean of the UNC library school. He said, "Doralynn, would you like to teach in our library school?" She said, "Well, I hadn't thought about it, but, yeah!" They fought like cats and dogs! She



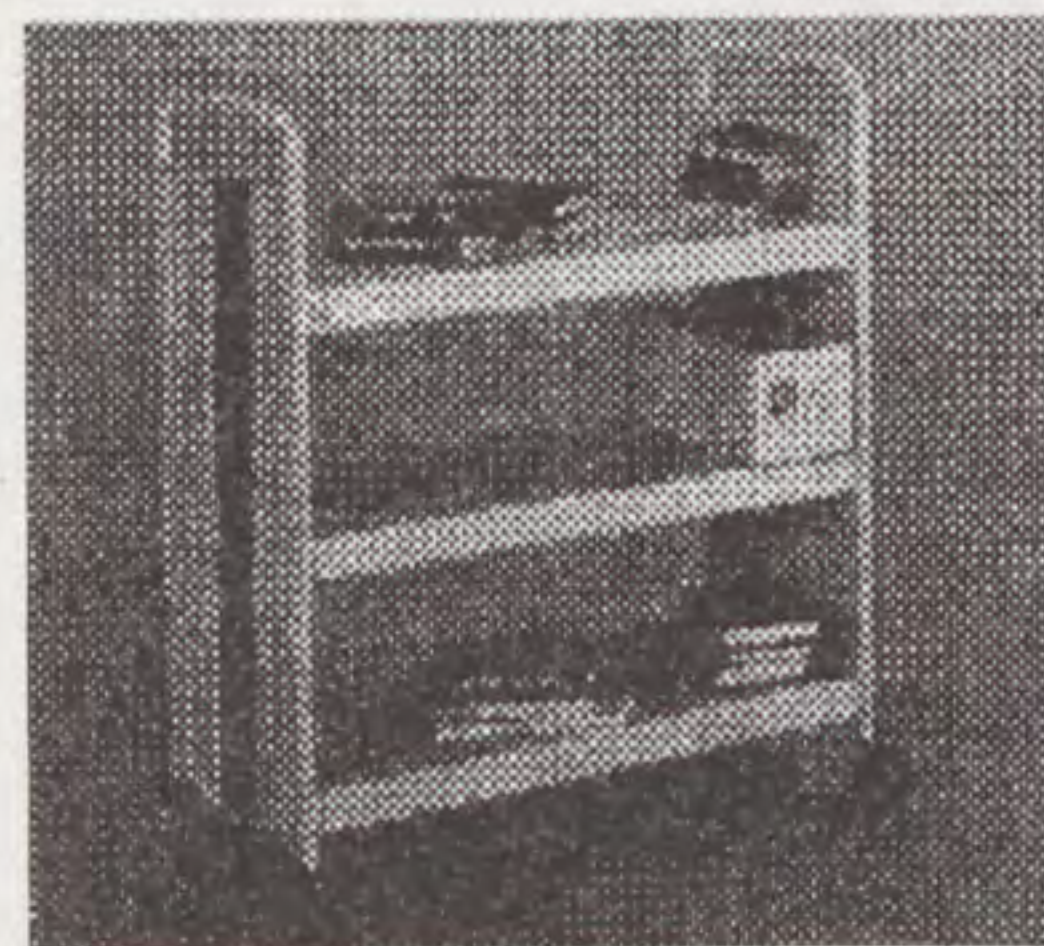
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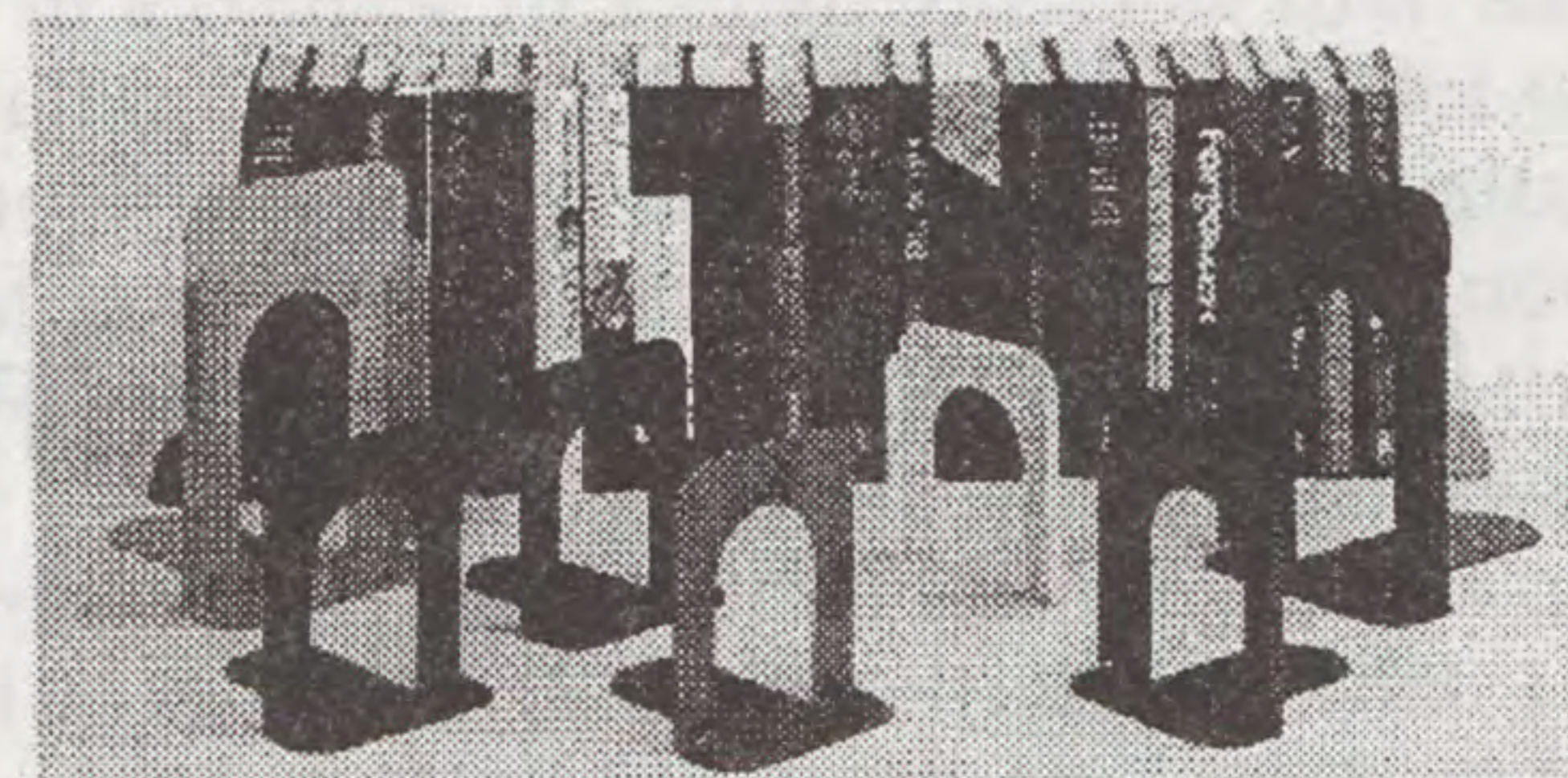
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fought with every dean she ever had! And in time she became a dean. Perfect retribution, I'd say.

She taught at UNC for some time. Students hated her or loved her, and it was about an equal match. If you hated her, you hated her! Not personally, but as a teacher. And if she was your kind of teacher, you worshipped her. She was a very complicated person. I think she was one of the outstanding librarians of this generation, a true prophet. But she didn't like being a dean at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. She liked to give grief, not take it; so eventually she went to the University of North Texas to teach. There she developed cancer. She continued to meet class, wearing a wig, until just a few days before her death. She was going to meet her obligations. She never told them she had cancer. That kind of strength is almost overwhelming. I'll always appreciate her. She fits in the colleagues category, good colleagues.

**NCL:** What were some of the greatest professional challenges you faced during your career; and how do you see the future of libraries and librarianship unfolding now, in the Information Age?

**FB:** Changes in the library profession—automation and its effects. It's a different world. I couldn't work in it. I mean, I would not be at home with it now, but I appreciate it and it has really changed the world. The information explosion, of course, literally was, and is that — an explosion. I remember in 1948, saying out loud to somebody who thought I was insane, "It would be so nice if all the *Who's Whos* were indexed and you could just punch a button to get information." I was ready for automation!

Before automation, we always had the problem of reaching students other than at the reference desk, and it never bothered me just to reach them at the reference desk.

During the height of the BI revolution, the thought was, "You should put student assistants on the desk and offer research service by appointment." You know, reference librarians have offices out back somewhere. I could never see that. And I've had many a discussion with colleagues about the importance of being on the front lines, because that's where you find out what the question is and teach people. Nobody asks a straightforward question, usually. That's not the way people work. And I remember we reference librarians experimented, and we tried to train students to offer front-line service. That never worked — students wanted to help their friends, not refer them to somebody else.

An article came out recently about the state of undergraduate instruction. Duke has always done well by undergraduates, but now they're setting up new senior capstone courses, all requiring independent research. They're creating a Center for Teaching, Learning, and Writing, and guess who's a partner in it — the library. The time has come. It took automation, the computer, to do it. The faculty has started asking for instruction on the use of the Web for themselves and for their students. There's your opening! That's the revolution! The librarians are going to be working with faculty on instruction. And I just got an article off the Web that seems to confirm this. It's about a new Web site on American Studies resources and it refers to a series of interviews with professors and librarians who explain how they took advantage of multimedia and hypertext to create this site. There you have it. That's all yours.

**NCL:** My world.

**FB:** Your world and you're living in it and you are lucky. If I could start over it would be fun, but I don't want to start over. That's for you.



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# Interview with Edward G. Holley

Chapel Hill, NC, April 27, 1998

by Tommy Nixon

*About Professor Edward G. Holley ...*

A major figure in 20th century American librarianship, Edward G. Holley has served his chosen profession as library administrator (Director of Libraries, University of Houston, 1962-1971), library educator (Dean & Professor, School of Library Science at UNC-Chapel Hill, 1972-1985, and professor thereafter), and library historian. He has produced over 100 books, articles, and essays on topics as diverse as library biography, the history of library education, copyright, library administration, and the place of personal morality in public life. Indefatigable in his service to librarianship, he has served on countless high level committees, worked for accreditation standards, defended the MLS, testified before Congressional committees, and acted as library consultant. As ALA President during turbulent times (1974-1975), he was largely responsible for establishing a federated system for ALA ("every tub on its own bottom"), thereby saving the 100-year-old association from likely financial disaster. While at Houston he not only oversaw a major addition to the library and a significant enrichment of the collection, but was responsible for hiring Charles D. Churchwell as Assistant Director for Public Services, the first black professional on that campus (1967). As Dean of the Library School at Chapel Hill, he recruited stellar faculty, established a doctoral program, and expanded the Master's program to two years, providing a core curriculum known famously to students during the Holley years as "The Block." As professor and advisor, he has been an inspiration to his students and has directed a number of significant doctoral dissertations. His own writing is characterized by intellectual rigor, thoroughness, and fair-minded critical assessment. He has been the recipient of almost every major award his profession can bestow, notable among them the ALA Scarecrow Press Award for his published dissertation, *Charles Evans, American Bibliographer* (1964); the ALA Melvil Dewey Award (1983); the ALA Joseph Lippincott Award (1987); Distinguished Alumnus Awards (Peabody Library School, Vanderbilt University, 1987; Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana, 1988); the Academic/Research Librarian of the Year Award (Association of College and Research Libraries, 1988); and the Beta Phi Mu Award (1992). Holley was named William Rand Kenan, Jr., Professor in 1989 and held that distinguished professorship until his retirement at the end of 1995. In 1994 he was honored with a festschrift, *For the Good of the Order: Essays in Honor of Edward G. Holley*, the title bearing witness to his tireless professional devotion. (For an eminently readable and perceptive overview of Holley's life and career, See James V. Carmichael's essay, "Richer for his Honesty," in the above-mentioned volume.)

Although now retired, Dr. Holley is currently hard at work on a history of UNC-Chapel Hill which seeks to explain UNC's emergence from a small college to a major American university. Once more, on this date — "For the Good of the Order" — he graciously consented to take time out from his busy schedule to be interviewed for this oral history project.

This is an interview conducted with professor emeritus Dr. Edward G. Holley under the auspices of the North Carolina Library Association. We're in Dr. Holley's office in the School of Information and Library Science at UNC-Chapel Hill. The date is Monday, April 27. The interviewer is Tommy Nixon, a former pupil of Dr. Holley's and currently a reference librarian in Davis Library.

**NCL:** I'm interested in how you became a librarian. What events or persons were instrumental in your decision to pursue a career in librarianship and what made you choose library science as your doctoral discipline at a time when most library directors probably had Ph.D.s in areas other than library science?

**EH:** Perhaps we need to go back to when I started out in the Giles County Public Library. The librarian was Frances Hampton Moose who had her library science degree from Columbia. Now imagine, this is a town of 3,000 - 3,500

people and that was very rare in those days to have a public library in a county, in a small town like that. And, this just opened up whole worlds to me. I spent a lot of Sunday afternoons there — it was open on Sunday afternoons. Mrs. Moose noticed me and she said, "You know," she said. "Edward," (everybody called me Edward in those days). "You're here a lot on Sunday afternoon. How would like you like to keep the library open for me?" It was open I think from 1 to 5, or 2 to 5, or something like that. I thought that would be all right. She showed me how to do things, and she paid me with the money from the fines

she collected.

When I went away to David Lipscomb, I had intended to be an English teacher because I loved English literature, American literature. I thought I was going to be an English teacher. Well, they didn't have a librarian at this college, and it was right after the war. The dean was the titular head of the library, but that first year I worked in the library, and there was an elderly woman who was finishing her degree and she was sort of the supervisor. She had no training in librarianship whatever. Well, I really actually ran that library for about three years.

Meanwhile, when I graduated in 1949, I had by that time decided that I wanted to be a librarian. So Peabody College, which is also in Nashville, had a good program and had some marvelous people there — the famous Frances Neel Cheney being one of the major ones. Wonderful woman, magnificent woman.... she knew everything!

**NCL:** Connections with agrarians?

**EH:** Oh, she knew, yes, she knew all the agrarians and all that. So I took my degree there and I think I got a pretty good degree for the time. It became very clear to me, by that time, that I wanted to be an academic librarian. But then it also became clear to me that if you wanted to be in academia, it would be very much to your advantage to have a doctorate. So I decided that I would explore the options. I remember Fannie Cheney, when I told her that I was going off to Illinois. She said, "Why don't you get an honest-to-God doctorate in English or history! Why do you want to go and get a degree in library science?" And I said, "Well, I thought that people who were hopefully going to be administrators and so forth in the library world really needed to know a good deal more in-depth about librarianship." I got a graduate assistantship [at Illinois]. But it was really a revelation to me, too. There was this magnificent library with its millions of volumes and, it was just a kid turned loose in a candy shop for me.

I also ran the photographic reproduction laboratory. I was a half-time graduate assistant.

Meanwhile, I was pursuing both librarianship and American history. I did a minor in American history under some wonderful people .... So I was pursuing that. By that time I had pretty well decided that I wanted to be not only a librarian, but also a library administrator. It seemed to me that a doctorate was a good thing if you wanted to do that so you could be like all the rest of the faculty. I was going to do a dissertation on plantation libraries. But I was interrupted. I had to go on active duty toward the end of the Korean War....

So I took three years off to do that and in the process

to marry. Then when we came back from Washington, D.C., in 1956, I went back to finish the course work and take the preliminary exams. I was planning to go ahead, now that I had the G.I. bill, you see, which was very lucrative in those days. So we went back to Urbana, and I finished, took the preliminary exam, and was ready to barrel along on the dissertation. I found out that this other fellow was going to study plantation libraries, and my advisor, Les Dunlap, who was associate librarian at the time but also on the faculty, said, "Oh, don't worry about that. There are a lot of topics. You know, have you ever read Charles Evans' introduction to his bibliography?" Well, I hardly knew Charles Evans, period. And his bibliography? He said, "Now there was an interesting man! You ought to go down and read that preface. You should do that." He was so dogmatic. "You know, his papers must be around somewhere." I looked at it and thought, "Well, this is not a bad idea." I wrote to the family, the Evans family, they were in Chicago, and got some encouraging words. Then Les called me up to his office and said, "Ed,

we need a new librarian for the educational philosophy and psychology library," which was one of the big libraries in the main building.

**NCL:** They have a fairly decentralized system as I remember.

**EH:** And he said, "I'd like for you to go down and take a look around at that library. You can work on your dissertation at the same time you know." Well, I did that. And it was a lot of work. We had kids during that period and I did that for five years and enjoyed it immensely! Enjoyed working with the faculty and the graduate students and so forth. Had a great time! Wouldn't take anything for that experience.

When I did finish my Charles Evans biography and defended it, I was then looking.... I really wanted to be an administrator somewhere. Meanwhile, I did a speech or two on Charles Evans to the Illinois Library Association and some other group, and the Evans family subsidized a trip that I made to the east to the American Antiquarian Society and places where Evans had lived and worked. I began looking around, and while there had been a lot of openings earlier, the ones that seemed to be available did not too much impress me.... So I thought, "Well, I'm probably going to be around here another year." Then the University of Houston asked me to come down and talk with them about their situation. That's when I went to Houston and stayed for almost 10 years. And had a wonderful time there! Finished up the revision of the biography for the Illinois Press...

**NCL:** For which you received the ALA Scarecrow Press Award.

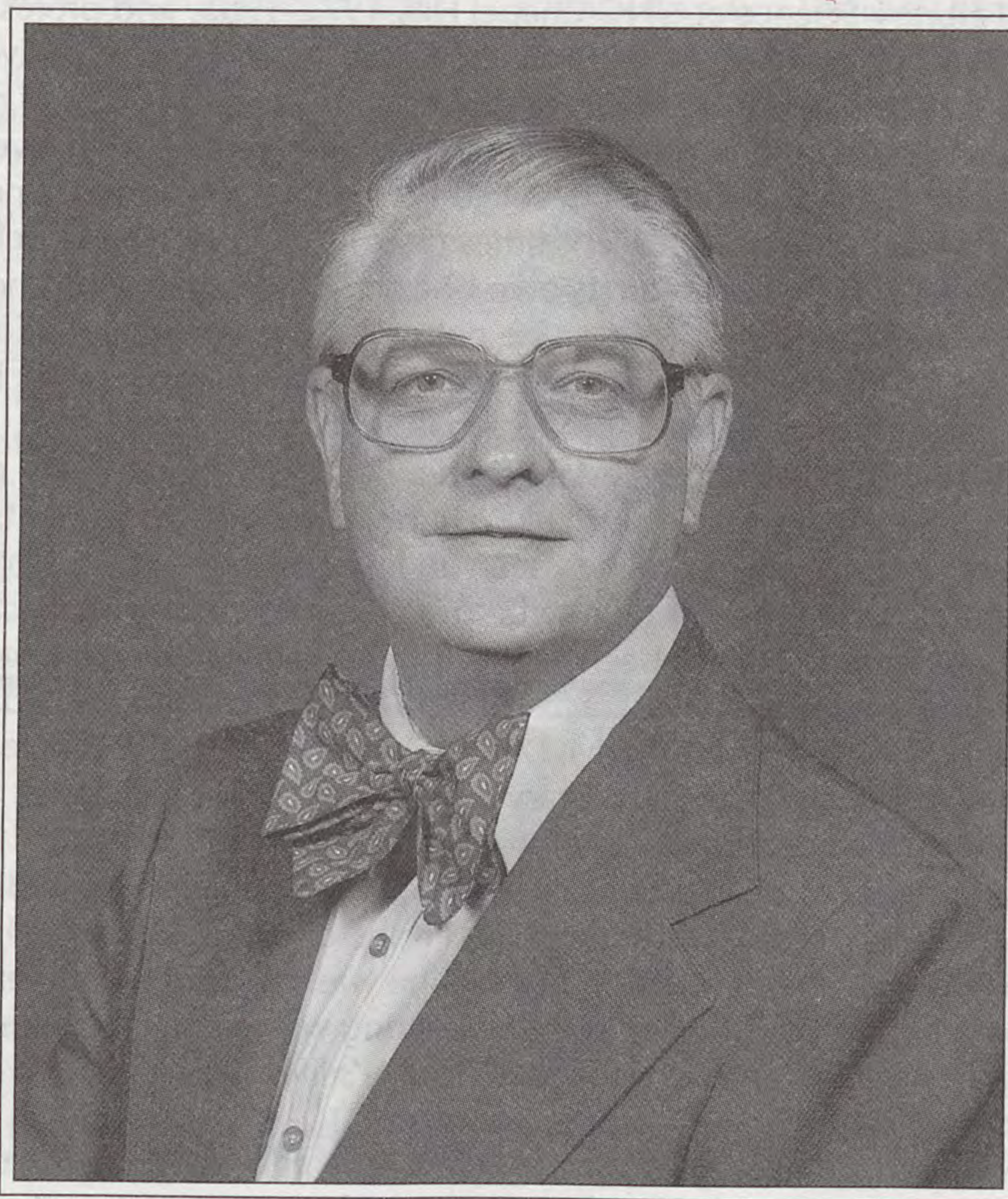


Photo courtesy North Carolina Collection, University of N.C. Library at Chapel Hill.

**EH:** Right, right, that was a great scholarly success but it didn't make much money.

**NCL:** Seems to go hand-in-hand sometimes.

**EH:** It seems to do that. But I had a wonderful experience at Illinois. Bobbie Lee hated Illinois because it was this flat land, and we had all these little kids running around and all that. But it was a good time for us. Houston was different. I told Bobbie Lee, "I don't want to go to Houston." I never wanted to go to Texas! I mean, I just don't think they have anything down there that would interest me at all." Well, they brought me down there in the middle of April, or no, I guess it was in late March...

**NCL:** This was about 1962?

**EH:** This was in 1962, and they said they'd heard a lot about me and would like to invite me down.... Well, I did go down. There was snow and ice on the ground in Urbana. Houston, nobody told me about Houston summers, but Houston was just blossoming out all over the place. And I discovered that it was a pretty good staff. I had heard that these really first-rate people who had been so upset because they'd had 11 years of lack of leadership. They wanted somebody to come in who'd do something about that.

**NCL:** I know there was a big addition to the library, and also I think you probably doubled the size of the collection and got some rare books.

**EH:** Oh, it was a wonderful time to be there, and that experience was marvelous. A lot of people asked me to come and interview. And I think one or two just insisted that I did, but I didn't want to leave Houston .... At any rate, Houston was a great place for me. It was a place that was building. It was a place that I could handle and handle well. And that's probably a bad way to say that these days, but I don't mean, you know, that I was a dictatorial type. I was not. But they needed somebody who would give them leadership. And so we had a wonderful time in Houston. We spent almost a decade there. Then I got into the library education business.

**NCL:** Before we go to that, could you talk a little bit. I think it's fairly well known about the time in Houston that you had the expansion in the library and added to the collection. I don't think it's as well known about your efforts in terms of minority recruitment. I'm thinking specifically about the appointment of Charles Churchwell as assistant director for public services. How controversial an appointment was that, at the height of the civil rights movement in the Deep South?

**EH:** The associate director was retiring. When I went to Midwinter in New Orleans, I ran into Charlie Churchwell, whom I had known.... and I said, "Well Charlie, what are you up to?" He said, "Well, I just defended my dissertation and I'm looking to see what else I want to do. I could go into library education, but I don't think I want to do that," because he taught at Prairie View, which is one of the black schools in Texas. But he said, "I think I want to go into administration." Immediately light bulbs went off in my head. So I said, "Well, let's keep in touch." I thought that I needed to go back home and see what I could do. I went back home to the staff and said, "I think I've solved our problem." Now, mind you, these, except for one male, these were all Southern women.

**NCL:** In the mid 1960s ...

**EH:** '67 or something like that. So, they said, "Well, I don't know." Mrs. Wykoff said, "I don't care what color he is, is he competent?" And I said yes, I thought so and I knew that the Dean would write a nice letter for him and so on. I went over to the provost and said, "John, I think I've solved our problem." And I said, "I want you to know, he's Black." And he said, "Ed, you know we don't discriminate."

**NCL:** There were no Black administrators at Houston at the time though.

**EH:** There were no Blacks, period. Charlie was the first one. So, I knew no such thing. But they obviously were going to try to get other.... Because by that time affirmative action was really beginning...

**NCL:** So in that sense you did have administrative support.

**EH:** Oh, absolutely! And I had the support of the staff. They said, "Well, it will be different, but we'll try." You know, I was really very fortunate that we had people who were open to this kind of situation. And so Charlie came down for an interview, and of course just charmed everybody. I said, "Charlie, I'll make you associate director..." And he said, "Ed, I don't think I'm ready for that. Why don't you just make me assistant director for public services?"

**NCL:** Was there much violence in Houston at that time in terms of the civil rights movement?

**EH:** Not really until the death of Martin Luther King.

**NCL:** Which had its impact everywhere.

**EH:** Had its impact everywhere. Well, we had several Black faculty members by then, but Charlie was crucial in keeping things calmed down among the students.

**NCL:** That would be in the spring of '68.

**EH:** Right, right. But it was a wonderful time to be a librarian, at least where I was. Wouldn't take anything for it. And I had these wonderful women librarians who had been so frustrated by lack of leadership and wanted to do things.

**NCL:** And that and the confluence of funding was a wonderful solution.

**EH:** We brought in some bright young people as well. We had a great time. Of course, I got very much involved in the state and was on a lot of the committees, and I was on some boards. My book was published during that period. But Texas was good for us. In a lot of ways we left Houston reluctantly. But by that time I was beginning to think I wanted to do something else. I'd always had such a poor opinion of most-library schools in those days, and I thought, "Well, I'd like to try my hand at that." Unlike, I guess, most directors, I had proof of my scholarship; published articles that most of the faculty who were here at the time knew.

**NCL:** Turned down Columbia, thankfully for us.

**EH:** Yes, I did turn down Columbia. Everybody was aghast.

I guess it shook them. They couldn't conceive of anybody turning down Columbia. But, you know, we had children who were in junior high and in elementary school. There was no way I was going to take those kids to New York City. The UNC Associate Dean of Business, Claude George, had written and said that they had a position open here, and they would like to talk with me. I wrote back and said, "Well, I was going on leave." I had planned this leave. That was when I got the Council on Library Resources grant to chase around and look at urban university libraries. He said, "Well, what kind of excuse is this? Come on up and talk with us." And I said, "Well, you know if we get serious with each other, I will feel compelled to come back for a year, because I'm on leave." I came up here and talked with them anyway, and was impressed with the chancellor and the provost.

**NCL:** Was Sitterson chancellor in '72?

**EH:** Sitterson was chancellor. Actually, he quit chancery about the time I arrived. I didn't know any of the people on the faculty — zero. In fact, I knew nobody here, I'd just heard good things about the University of North Carolina. It became clear that what they wanted was some leadership in the school. You know, they had had either four deans or acting deans in a period of about 12 years. Charlie Morrow said, "Ed, you know when we wrote you, we had decided we should either go get leadership or we should close the place down."

**NCL:** This was 1971-72.

**EH:** Right, we came in January of '72. And I had said I wouldn't come. I'd go back [to Houston] for the full academic year. But Phil Hoffman, president, said, "Ed, don't worry about that. Your leave was for past favors, not future." "You know," he said, "I told you when Columbia was trying to get you that I didn't think it was a good idea for you to take Bobbie and the children off to New York City—but now, if you really want to do this, North Carolina is a good place to go." ...Well, what I did say was that we'd compromise. I'd come in January. And I'd come back and see that everything was in decent order before I took off. Which I think was the thing that one ought to do. So that's what I did. And, we were very impressed with the campus and the people. Bobbie Lee didn't really want to leave Houston and her friends and so forth. But she thought if we must go, that this was a good place to go....

**NCL:** Let me ask you, you came here, you hired a lot of folks, some really stellar faculty, you expanded the master's program to two years, and famously had the block as a core curriculum and I believe . . .

**EH:** Infamously sometimes.

**NCL:** Infamously or famously, depending on the perception of the student I guess, and also in '77 you established a doctoral program, which I believe was the second library doctoral program in the South, behind Florida State maybe.

**EH:** It was a good period. But I don't want you to think, and I wouldn't want anybody who subsequently hears this to think, that what I did here was done by myself. There were some good folks here. Dr. Gambee was a fine person and good teacher. Margaret Kalp was a good teacher. Doralyn Hickey, of course, was already creating a name for

herself in cataloging and classification. But they needed some new people, clearly. And that first year, I was very fortunate. Haynes McMullen at Indiana, he had been at Indiana a very long time — 19 years I think — and he said that if at some point in the future I had an opening that he'd like to be considered for it. Well, I went to Charlie Morrow and said, "Charlie, we've got this opportunity with this marvelous man who is a full professor and a very distinguished writer in our field, but I don't know how I can manage it." And he said, "Well, let's see what we can figure out."

**NCL:** Charles Morrow was provost at that time?

**EH:** Yes, Charlie was provost during almost all of my tenure here, and he was a great support, let me tell you! Charlie and I had a wonderful relationship. When I would try to figure out how we were going to do things, I'd just go up and talk with Charlie. And I'd say, "Charlie, I've got this problem," and he would always come up with some type of solution. I enjoyed very much working with him. But he said, "You know, you've got money here and here and here. Put these pieces together." I wasn't quite sure what the salary should have been, but I put together as good a package as I thought I could manage, with Charlie's help. So we brought Haynes here. Just before '75, Charlie called me, and said they wanted to start a doctoral program here. Charlie knew and I knew that you couldn't do it with the faculty that were here, that you were going to have to have some high-powered stuff somehow. So Charlie called me one day and said, "Ed, how would you like to have a Kenan professorship at the school?" I said, "Charlie, I would love to try!" And he said, "Well, the trustees are unhappy because we're not spending enough of the Kenan money. We need to fill these positions. Mind you, it can't be you." And I said, "That's all right Charlie." He said, "It has to be somebody from outside."

**NCL:** The Kenan was used as an incentive to draw...

**EH:** That's right, to bring distinguished people. And so I went to the faculty and said, "We have this opportunity for a Kenan." I said, "Well, now, if you had to go get the best person in the country, whom would it be?" Doralyn Hickey said, "Well, Les Ashheim, of course, but he would never leave Chicago." And I said, "How do we know if we don't ask?"

I thought, well, she's probably right, but I never let that stand in the way of my attempting. I had never met Dr. Ashheim — his name, of course, I knew — so I brought him down here, and he talked with the people, and of course charmed everybody. I never will forget that last night; I took him out to dinner just before he was to catch the plane back to Chicago, and I said, "We would really like for you to come and occupy this distinguished chair." And he said, "Well, what could I really do for this school?" which I think was characteristic of Ashheim—he didn't put on airs or whatever. I said, "We're going to start a doctoral program. It's already in the works. You have had a long career in this area, and we really need somebody like you to come and help us with that program." This was before all this affirmative action and all the other candidates, so I could pretty much do what I wanted provided I had somebody to supply the money, and so I said, "I'll be writing you a letter." Wrote him a letter, he accepted, and I told him what the terms were, what the salary was. I don't

remember what the salary was, but it was very good. In fact, Charlie had asked me would it bother me if he made more money than I did. And I said, "Certainly not, if we get the kind of person we want. I will not worry about my salary." I thought I was being paid very well anyway.

**NCL:** The Kenan's a hefty supplement.

**EH:** Supplement, it was \$10,000 on top of a full professorship and so, Les came, and of course he and Haynes together. Haynes had had lots of experience with the Indiana doctoral program. Very distinguished people. And we were also able to lure Bob Broadus the following year.

**NCL:** Where did he come from?

**EH:** He was in Chicago. I believe he came here from one of those major state universities in Northern Illinois. But he had published a lot of things and had taught and so forth.... So there, in the short space of four years, I was able to bring to the campus three first-rate, research-oriented faculty. They had an enormous impact on what was done. I never had a whole lot of interest in curriculum and stuff like that myself, but we did start committees to do the block. It was a very stodgy curriculum.

**NCL:** When you came?

**EH:** Yeah, we all knew it, I mean, it was no secret, and we decided that we would go for a two-year program, which everybody else thought was foolish. But, we decided that you could not provide all of the things that people needed in today's world on the 36 hours or whatever it was, so we went to 48. At that time, we were also re-forming the master's degree and introduced the block. I'd like the record to show that I had very little to do with the curriculum. I was not interested in such matters. We had a lot of people who were, and were very good at it, and I didn't see any reason why I should be. They didn't need it, a dean who did all of that. We had good people here who knew what they were doing.

I think the block was a really innovative thing. We owe that to Doralyn Hickey, we really do. Haynes McMullen worked on it a lot too. The students hated it and the faculty hated it, but it was a good program. It provided a basic core. It was the one place where everybody had to start off on the same level. I think it lasted, probably as long as most curriculum changes, and then we went back. I think it was too bad that we had to abandon that, or thought that we had to abandon that. But, that was done after my period, so I do not criticize because we've moved in a very different direction and needed to move in a very different direction. So I don't have any problem with that at all. Different times call for different strategies.

The key to having a first-rate program is having good people and letting them do their thing. I've known a lot of directors and deans of library schools who want to be the whole show, and I've never understood that. Why in the world would anybody, who has enough to do if he or she is an administrator, fiddle around with the curriculum and all this other stuff, when the job is to see that the place is running along in a good way and competent people are in charge and go out and find the money to help them do what they need to do?

**NCL:** Well, I'm just wondering what you're most proud of in

terms of the deanship here because, one thing kind of led to another with the faculty and the doctoral program and expanding the master's program.

**EH:** You know, that's a hard one. We had a lot of accomplishments. We did really well. We had a lot of administrative support. That doesn't come casually, that's an effort. I'm happy that I was able, personally and with some of the faculty, to become more visible on campus so that the school was known on the campus for having a first-rate program. I'm very proud of that. I'm very proud of the faculty that we brought here. Like most people, most deans, we had one or two losers, but they didn't last long. You know, you don't win 'em all. But we always had great students, had an incredible campus, and working with the caliber of students we had here was just really wonderful. I loved teaching, and wish I could have done more of it; we just get unusually good students. I don't think I had anything to do with that — that was true before I came and that was certainly true after I quit dean-ing.

One of the things that I did that I think helped a lot, and one of the things I worry about today is now that we have so many students to deal with, I'm not sure that we relate to the state, the profession of the state as well as we did early on.

**NCL:** A lot of ground to cover ...

**EH:** Oh, it is. The state is growing, it's bigger. It is very important though, in a state university, that you not neglect the people in the state.

**NCL:** Was there anything that you would have especially wanted to happen for the school that did not happen? It

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seems like you would have realized most of the goals that you had set, I would think.

**EH:** I don't know that there was anything particularly that I had disappointments in. My real disappointments were the poor choices we made — as well as the great choices — but that's not something that anybody can ever, you know, there's nothing you can do about that. You just hope that you have brought people here who have a trial period, and then if they don't work, you can say "Thanks, but no thanks." And you do need to be just very tough about that, and I think I was tough about that.

**NCL:** You have to uphold the reputation.

**EH:** I think we've done very well on that score ... I can say honestly that I have enjoyed my whole career. I guess I've been fortunate. I think there are a lot of people who are brighter than I, who somehow didn't do that well in administrative positions. And I think that's so sad.

**NCL:** Hard to say, but it was a propitious time in terms of after World War II and libraries expanding. Just a great time to be where you've been. I don't want you to give away too much on this, but you're working on a history of UNC. My understanding is it's trying to explain the emergence of UNC as a major national university. Is there anything that has greatly surprised you or challenged your initial historical assumptions about UNC's development?

**EH:** Oh, I think what I've learned in my research has just opened up a whole field for me. Of course I had heard that UNC was a great university and was prepared to believe it. But, when I came here, I did not really have any inkling of how far back it goes. I've studied enough higher education that I know who's on the top and who is on the bottom and all that, and I'm still interested in that, but as I've delved into it, it is very clear there's a progressive pattern that reveals itself. I've been fortunate to interview people in their 80s, one or two in their 90s, who still had their marbles and who could talk about right after the first World War and things like that. But, it's clear that this

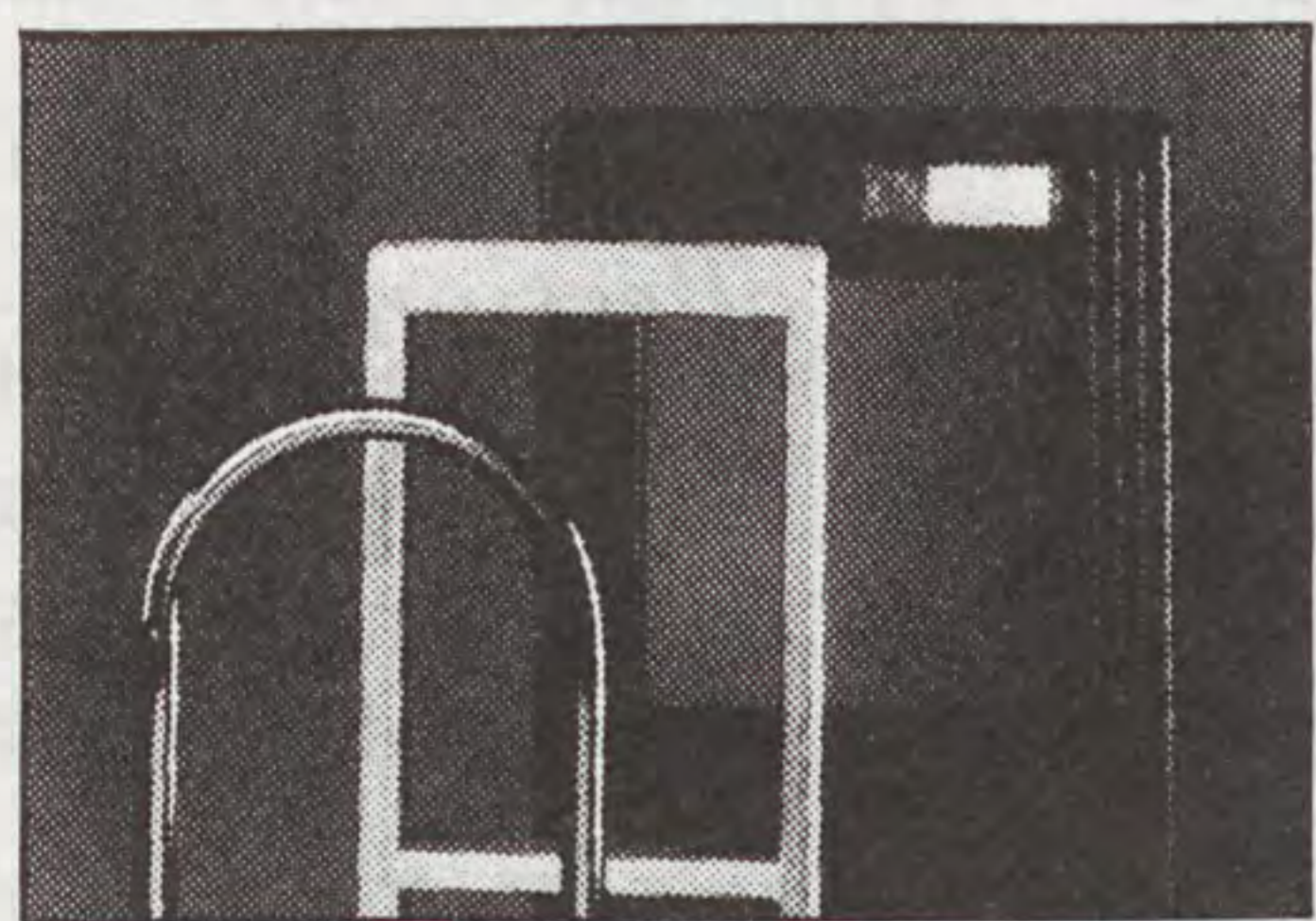


*Back row: Gailon Holley, Eric Spiter (son-in-law), Ed Holley, daughter Beth  
Front row: Julia and Joy (Gailon's friends, Julia, our prospective grand-daughter and her mother, Joy), Amy Holley (Eric's wife), Bobbie Lee, Mary Holley, our daughter-in-law, and son Jens Holley, the librarian.*

university, well, for one thing, it and Texas had more money than the other Southern states. Now that may be a surprise...

**NCL:** Than Virginia?

**EH:** Well, not more than Virginia, but Virginia's a special case, as Virginia's own historian says. So the thing that surprised me most was when I was looking at the Southern landscape and beginning to dig around in this, I was surprised that Virginia was not in there. But the first study of graduate study in the U.S. was in 1925, and in that particular study only we and Texas, Texas with three departments and we with two. Then, when the next one came in '34, Texas had 12 and we had 11 departments. And then I think Duke had 8. And, you know, that's when arose a saying in Yankeeland that North Carolina was the farthest South you could go and still get a decent education! So, it's been fun working on this, and I've thoroughly enjoyed it. I've just now got to get on with it. And one of these days, we're gonna have a book. I'm determined.



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# Interview with Elinor Swaim

Salisbury, NC, April 21, 1998

by Thomas Kevin B. Cherry

## *About Elinor Swaim ...*

Elinor Henderson Swaim began her work with libraries in 1946 when the Asheboro Public Library Board asked her to write a radio show to celebrate that library's tenth anniversary. She soon joined the Asheboro board and served on it until 1962, becoming as she has laughed, a "fly on the wall" at state-level discussions regarding issues such as public librarian certification and suggested salary levels for librarians. Moving to Salisbury, NC, she became a grassroots organizer for the then quickly growing Republican Party in North Carolina. Her political work led to appointments — and she always asked that some of them be library-related.

She joined the Rowan Public Library Board of Trustees in 1979, serving as trustee chair from 1984-87. In 1986, she led Rowan County's first successful bond referendum effort in 25 years; the drive was for a new library headquarters building. Appointed to the North Carolina Library Commission, she chaired that body from 1985-1989. She became a member of the United States National Commission on Libraries and Information Science in 1988, and was elected the Commission's vice chairman in 1990. From 1993 until 1994, she was the acting chairman of the Commission. While on the National Commission, she took special interest in library and information services to Native Americans. In 1987, Swaim served on the National Planning Committee for the Second White House Conference on Library and Information Services.

Swaim has served on the North Carolina Governor's Commission on Literacy and Basic Life Skills, the Alliance for Math and Science, and NC 2000's National Education Goals Committee. She has been a member of the Presbyterian Synod's Committee on Colleges and Universities, was a delegate to the First National Congress of Church-Related Colleges and Universities, and was the first woman to serve as a trustee of Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, VA. She has been a trustee of the North Carolina Symphony Society and a board member of the North Carolina Arts Council, helping to establish the Association of Symphonies of North Carolina.

Swaim, a member of the first graduate class in Health Education at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, was one of the first health educators in North Carolina. In 1988, The North Carolina Public Library Directors Association gave her its Distinguished Service Award. In 1995, the North Carolina Library Association made her an honorary member. In 1996, the American Library Association Washington Office honored her on its 50th anniversary celebration, and in 1997, the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science gave her its silver award on the occasion of that body's 25th anniversary.

For more than fifty years, Elinor Swaim has worked for libraries. With her rambunctious wit and quiet determination, she is a tireless campaigner and always among friends— that's because it doesn't take long to become a friend of Elinor's. Making friends is her talent, and she has put it to good use, especially in the political arena. Noting her family's history, she laughs, "I've been interested in politics for many generations. My great, great grandfather was in the legislature, and three of his sons. And one of his sons was the first Secretary of State of the Republic of Texas and a member of Congress." Libraries have benefited greatly from Elinor Swaim's genetic disposition.

**NCL:** We're going to talk with Mrs. Swaim about one aspect of her many-faceted career as a ...

**ES:** General busy body.

**NCL:** As a mover and a shaker. What's your earliest memory of a book or a library?

**ES:** Well, I was a reader growing up. And my favorite thing to do was to go away and hide somewhere with a sandwich made of bread and tomato catsup, have you ever?

That was the Depression and there probably wasn't much to make a sandwich of, but I would sometimes climb up in a tree or somewhere with a book and read and read to my heart's content.

**NCL:** What was the first library that you really got active with, worked with?

**ES:** Well, my whole life has been filled with accidental, pre-destined events, and I truly believe there is a wonder-

ful Providence or a good angel, or somebody, leading me around. Because most of the good things that have happened to me have been totally unplanned, unsought, and wonderfully serendipitous.

I went to Asheboro after World War II with my husband. I had been working as a health educator and had a weekly radio program in Fayetteville in the Fort Bragg area where I was assigned during the war. I was working in venereal disease control. My theme song was "Some little germ is going to get you someday." People in Asheboro learned that I could write a radio program, and the second program that I was asked to write, other than some that I was doing for the Health Department there, was the Tenth Anniversary Celebration of the Asheboro Public Library. Before television, the way that people celebrated was to get a special radio program on the local radio station. So, we wrote one about the way the Asheboro Public Library was formed. A group of young women there met to play bridge, and they decided they would form a bridge club. The more they talked about it, the more they realized they would rather form a library. So, they went around door to door and collected books, and secured a place for the library up over the drugstore that was operated by one of the important men in town. And the volunteers actually operated the library themselves.

**NCL:** So where did you go after you left Asheboro?

**ES:** We left there in 1961 or 2; and came directly to Salisbury. I was not connected with the library in Salisbury, although, my mother lived on Bank Street, and I was in and out of the library. I guess I must have gotten back into the library by way of politics. I got into politics for love, and politics opens doors for people. Almost every interesting job that I have had has been related to politics. I've always thought that politics was not a bad thing because it's related to people. The reason that I became active here in Rowan County is that we had such a lively group of people at that time, who were among the first local elected Republicans, and they happened to be our friends.

**NCL:** Were you a Democrat before you came to Rowan County?

**ES:** No, I was a Democrat before I got married. And so was everybody in North Carolina, almost. I remember my father bringing me to the window to see a Republican go by in Catawba County. I got into politics because a Baptist proposed to me. There are several things that are very important to me — one is being a North Carolinian, having been here on both sides for so many generations. It's really a sense of place for me. I cannot imagine living in any other place in the world. And neither could I imagine being a member of any church that was not Presbyterian. So, when the Baptist proposed, I said, "Well, I can't marry outside the Presbyterian Church." And he said, "Well, that's all right, nobody in my family ever married a Democrat. You can become a Republican, and I'll be a Presbyterian."

The importance of being active politically, is that if you do certain work, and you help to elect certain people, then they want to reward their friends. Almost all of the interesting appointments that I have had, have come by way of politics.

**NCL:** Do you remember what kind of things you did for your first campaign?

**ES:** Well, I wrote radio spots. And traveled around and spoke to groups about Phil Kirk. But, mainly, my early work in politics was organizing precincts and doing grassroots work — and raising money for his campaign.

**NCL:** Do you remember your first speech.

**ES:** I remember the very first speech I made as a health educator. It was to a large PTA meeting, and it had to do with the health of the child, and I fainted right on the stage while I was making the speech and had to be carried off, feet first.

**NCL:** Tell me about your campaigning for Rowan Public Library's bond referendum.

**ES:** I meant to bring something that I'm going to give you for your archives sometime. It's just a page out of a calendar, a big calendar that I had stuck on cardboard and written down all the places that we were going to give programs. I believe I counted 65 programs. We went to small senior citizen groups and churches. We went to fire departments, to volunteer fire stations, to any kind of a gathering that would listen to us, to talk about the library. We had a list of all the organizations in the county, and we wrote and asked them if we couldn't give a program. And you know, a lot of groups are looking for a program ...

**NCL:** Was it an exciting time?

**ES:** Yes, it was a slenderizing time, too. I lost ten pounds. We were so busy that we didn't have time to eat. We went to a lot of eating events. I remember standing in one of the senior clubs in a church in Landis or China Grove. We were all standing around and holding hands and singing the final hymn. This charming, older man next to me was, I learned, the father of one of our leading Democrat activists in Rowan County. When we said amen, I said, "I'm going to go back and tell your son that you were holding hands with a Republican." And he said, "Honey, that won't surprise him. I married one."

We focused that campaign on the idea that the average homeowner would pay \$3.20 more taxes each year to get the headquarters library— "for the cost of a pizza," you can have that wonderful new library.

**NCL:** Why didn't you ever run for office?

**ES:** I guess I didn't have time. Or maybe, I just had to stay in one place too much. I never really particularly wanted to run for office. I'd rather elect other people and enjoy the spoils. But that idea followed me all the way to helping elect governors. There were so few Republicans in those early days that when Governor Holshouser was elected, I was invited to be on several different boards, but I couldn't make up my mind what I wanted to be on. That's how I happened to be on the North Carolina Arts Council. Because the first board, if I had known then what I know about it now, was the Archives and History Board, and I turned that down. Then they offered me a couple of other things, and finally the secretary of Cultural Resources said, "Elinor, I'm going to offer you one more thing. If you don't do it, you're not going to be on anything. You have to be on the Arts Council. That's what's left for me to appoint you to."

**NCL:** How did you meet all those people who made appoint-

ments, etc.? In what capacity would you have met them all?

**ES:** Because of the activities of my parents, I met a lot of people in North Carolina who were “movers and shakers” when I was growing up. People like Albert Coates, and Frank Graham, and Justin Miller, and folks like that would visit our home. My mother taught at Greensboro for several years and knew every Chancellor at UNCG, except Dr. McIver, the first president.

We were talking about appointments, and that’s how I got on the State Library Commission. And I really didn’t know then what I should do. But, I did know that when Governor Martin was selected, and somebody from his appointments office called and asked if I would like to be on the Council on the Status of Women. I said, “No, I don’t care a thing about the status of women. I would like to be on the Library Commission, depending on who the chairman is.” They said, “Would you like to be chairman?” And I said, “Yes.” So, I did not know very much, and I have always depended on the professional librarians to tell me what to do.

**NCL:** Tell me how you got on the National Library Commission.

**ES:** Let’s see. Because I was a politician, I began going to Washington with library leaders every Library Day in order to visit our congresspeople. I knew some of them, and that’s why it was a good thing for me to do.

**NCL:** What would you do when you visited the congresspeople?

**ES:** You make appointments ahead of time on Library Day and hope that they will be in—frequently, they are not in their offices. You meet with the staff person who would deal with library issues and give your spiel about why we need federal money, and why we need federal aid, for the states, in library development. But the way that I got on the National Commission — I was up there lobbying, and they had an event at the Library of Congress. The Chairman of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science made a speech. I had never heard of such a thing as the National Commission on Libraries, and on the way home ( I was riding with the Assistant State Librarian, Howard McGinn and with John Welch) I said, “Have we got anybody on that Commission from North Carolina?” They said, “No, we did a long time ago, but we haven’t anybody now.” And I said, “Well, we ought to. We’re the best state library in the country, and we’re not on that. I believe I could get on that. I know some people in Washington who make the appointments.”

A really good friend of mine was working, at that time, in the Appointments Department in the Reagan White House. I had been on the National Board of Republican Women for about 10 years, and I knew a lot of leading, important Republican women across the country. I had known her for a long time, by three different names — long enough for her to have been married several times. I just called her and said I would like to be on that commission. You know, I had first called the commission, and they said, “Oh, that’s very hard to get on. Why don’t you apply to be on

the group that’s planning the White House Conference?” I said I didn’t want to be on that — I wanted to be on the commission. They told me there was no vacancy on the commission. And I said, “Well, just put my name down.” Within about 3 weeks, somebody resigned from that commission and they called and asked me if I wanted to be on it. Sure enough, it didn’t take but a couple of months to get on the National Commission, whereas, some real solid library people like Jean Simon, Paul Simon’s wife, worked for more than a year. She wrote all these letters, got a lot of recommendations, and was so thrilled when her efforts finally paid off; because she loved libraries and she knew she could do a lot for them. But, I just sort of went in the back door, the way I have always.

**NCL:** How were you chosen to help announce the Year of the Young Reader?

**ES:** Well, there’s a very important man who’s been in Washington many, many years named Bill Cochran. I roomed with his sister in college, and he married the daughter of my first cousin, so I have known Bill Cochran since college and since he and Terry Sanford ran the Graham Memorial while they were in Law School. When he saw my name on the list of people for his Senate Committee to approve (his committee oversees the work of the Library of Congress and all the relations of the government with the Library of Congress), he said, “Well, I’ll put my friend from North Carolina, on that.” So, there’s a reason for everything; and it’s not always because you’re real important.

To become a member of the National Library Commission, you have to be investigated by the FBI. That was so funny. Two men came to Salisbury and stayed almost a week investigating me. They talked to all my friends, and they asked questions, like, “Would she embarrass the President?” And all my friends said, “Yes, she would dance with a glass on her head.” Apparently, they didn’t see



*Barbara Bush and Elinor Swaim at Library of Congress 20th Anniversary of The National Library Commission. Barbara Bush was recognized for her literacy work; Elinor Swaim was chair of the event. Photo by Chad Evans Wyatt, Washington, D.C.*

anything harmful about that. My first appointment did not last too long, so they came back and investigated me again when I was re-appointed by President Bush. That time an FBI man came to my house. He said, "The last time we investigated you," (he had a stack of papers, several inches thick), "a lot of people told us that you would embarrass the president by dancing. What is this about a glass on your head?" I went back in the hall where I had a picture somebody had taken of me with a saucer and a cup and a beer bottle and candle in the beer bottle all balanced on my head. I showed it to him, and I said, "If you could do that, wouldn't you do it?" The truth of the matter is, my head is flat on top, and I don't have any trouble balancing things on it.

**NCL:** You visited the Oval Office during Reagan's term — right?

**ES:** I would like to tell you one little story about that visit to the Oval Office. I had been attending meetings where the President spoke, and I saw him from a distance. And I was in Washington for a briefing when the speech writer and some of the people who planned his schedule told us about his upcoming trip to Russia. I asked the President's speech writer if he would try to insert some of the lines from "Ulysses," my favorite poem. I thought Reagan could do that so well. "Come my friends, 'tis not too late to seek a better world. Push off and sitting well in order, smite the sounding furrows for my purpose holds to sail beyond the stars of all the Western Seas until I die." He was then the oldest President that we've had, and I just could imagine how he would sound saying that in his waning months of office. And I told the speech writer that I wanted that in one of his speeches. And then, a few months after that, I was in Raleigh at the State Republican Convention when the news came on. It was President Reagan, giving his speech to the British Parliament. He closed saying, "And as your poet said, 'Come my friends, 'tis not too late to build a better world.'" I was so excited when I heard that, I just couldn't believe it. I had tears streaming down my face.

When I got to the Oval Office a couple of months after that, the members of the Year of the Young Reader committee all went in, shook hands with the president, and had our pictures made individually with him. We gave him a tee-shirt for "The Year of the Young Reader." He signed the proclamation, and the Librarian of Congress said a few words, and the Secretary of Education said a few words. And Mr. Reagan said, "Well, I am glad to sign this; because I was a young reader ..." Everybody stood around, and it got to be real quiet. Nobody said anything. So I spoke up, "Well, I knew that you were literary when I heard you quote from 'Ulysses' in your speech to the British Parliament." And he said, "Weren't you nice to remember what I said?"

**NCL:** What is your secret behind building and maintaining a network of people.

**ES:** Well, of course, in any kind of work that you do, the important thing is the people and the friendships, I think.

That's the main thing that's interested me, in every field that I've worked in. The wonderful people that I worked with on the Board of the North Carolina Symphony, like Paul Green, and people that I wouldn't have missed knowing for anything in the world. The same is true of the library people; you get attached to certain folks. That's why I have had so much fun going to Library Day. I'm very fond of a lot of the people who are in the Congress, and very close friends with some of them.

**NCL:** I want to know what your lobbying technique is. When you walk into a Congressman's office, what do you do?

**ES:** Well, if the congressman's there, he'll say, "Well, that's just Elinor. But there she is again." The reason that they want me to go on these trips is because the congressman know me, and I know them. And I have had close associations with them for a long time.

**NCL:** Do you just come out and tell them what the issue is?

**ES:** That's right. I have lived in the same house for 35 years, and in the last few years, I've been in three different Congressional districts — without moving. You know how in North Carolina, everybody is connected to everything. When I was in the 8th District, my congressman was a Democrat. His administrative assistant was married to the daughter of one of our dearest employees at Carolina Maid, one of our ladies who helped run everything there.

There's always a close connection. Like Bill Cochran, even if he's the leading Democrat, he is still my college roommate's brother, my second cousin's husband; so you can't escape the ties that you have back home. And I've always had those, with the Democrats and the Republicans.

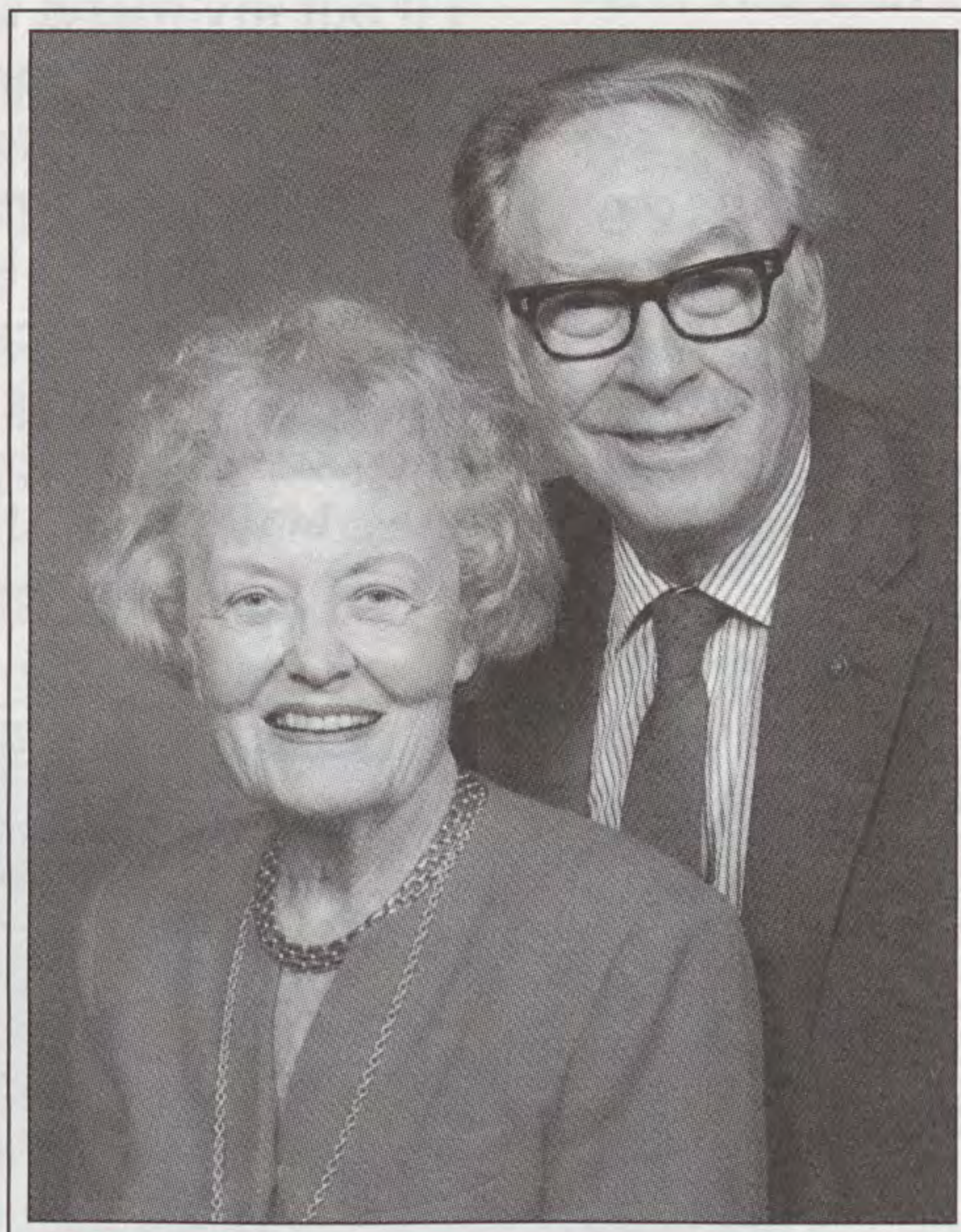
**NCL:** Just Elinor's Web. She spins it everywhere. What do you think is your proudest 'library moment'?

**ES:** There have been a lot of them, a lot of them connected with my Indian friends. One was when I saw my Eskimo friend who was the last Native American to race in the Iditerod. I had known him in Washington, where he had been all dressed up in his three-piece suit, helping me in the White House Conference. And then, I saw

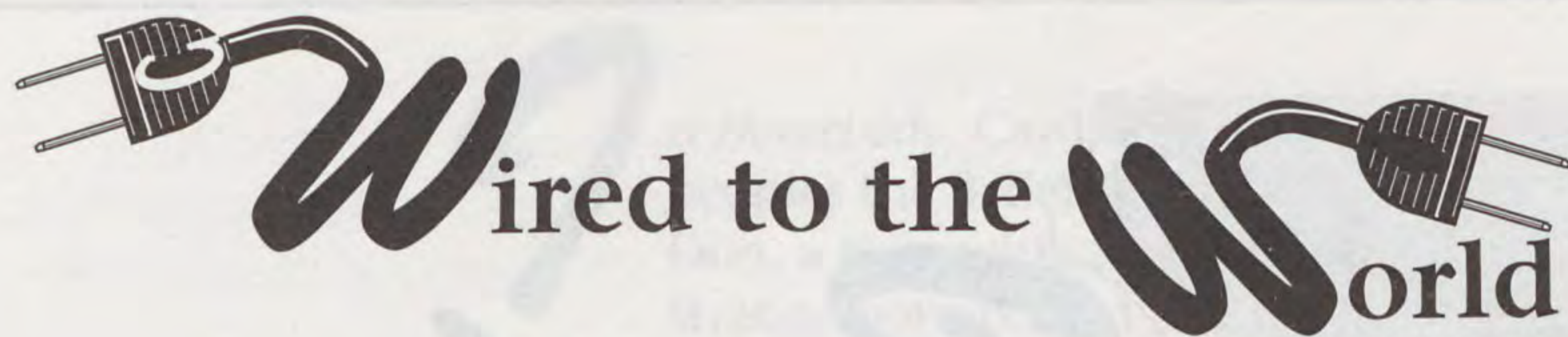
him in his fishing clothes — his parka and everything — in the Eskimo village and speaking the Yupit language. I saw the tears stream down his face, when we came, and he couldn't believe that I had come there with the National Library Commission. That was a real moment of pleasure for me.

**NCL:** Do you see an increasing or a diminishing role for folks like you, sort of library advocates and activists?

**ES:** I think you will always need cheerleaders and people who love to work for libraries. I can't imagine not needing all the help we could get, especially in the legislature. I love to write to my friends in the legislature and in the Congress about library subjects. It's just a real joy to be able to use your connections, and hope that you do a little bit of good.



*Elinor Swaim & husband, Bill.*



by Ralph Lee Scott

## Zurfiging the Net

**T**ired of those goofy search engines that leave you with 56,789 hits on your topic, when what you need is seven relevant Internet sites? Try "Zurfiging" the Net instead of just plain surfing! *ZurfRider* is a recently (1997) developed search tool that can help you make sense of today's confusing Internet searching tools. *ZurfRider* can be downloaded from: [www.zurf.com](http://www.zurf.com). A free download trial with a 50-search limit is available, while for the fantastic price of \$19.95 you can get an unlimited version.

*ZurfRider* is a truly revolutionary Internet search tool that brings the power of dozens of search engines to your desktop. The list of things it can do is almost a catalog of search engine problem-solvers. Instead of having to go from one search engine to another, *ZurfRider* calls dozens at once and then organizes the results together based on content. *ZurfRider* automatically verifies that each link is valid before display; thus you will never go into a dead link again. When search statements are faulty, *ZurfRider* prompts you by asking questions based on your search. For example, if you search "hto dogs," "hot dogs" would be suggested as an alternate term. *ZurfRider* highlights terms that match your search; thus you never have to wade through canine pages when looking for "hot dogs." No more references to sites such as "It's Hot in Phoenix Today as the Dogs Get Off the Plane —ASPCA Provides Gratis Drinking Water for the Animals." The software attempts to provide an intelligent interface for the search query. For example, in the "hot dog" search, *ZurfRider* was able to determine that this search was related to: food, eating, and restaurants, but not warm Fidos. Results were displayed in traditional Windows-grouped folders for easy sorting. The first site retrieved was a link to the "Ten Top Hot Dog Restaurants." An embedded window allows the searchers to select the words that most nearly represent what they are looking for and not select unwanted terms such as pets, animals, etc.

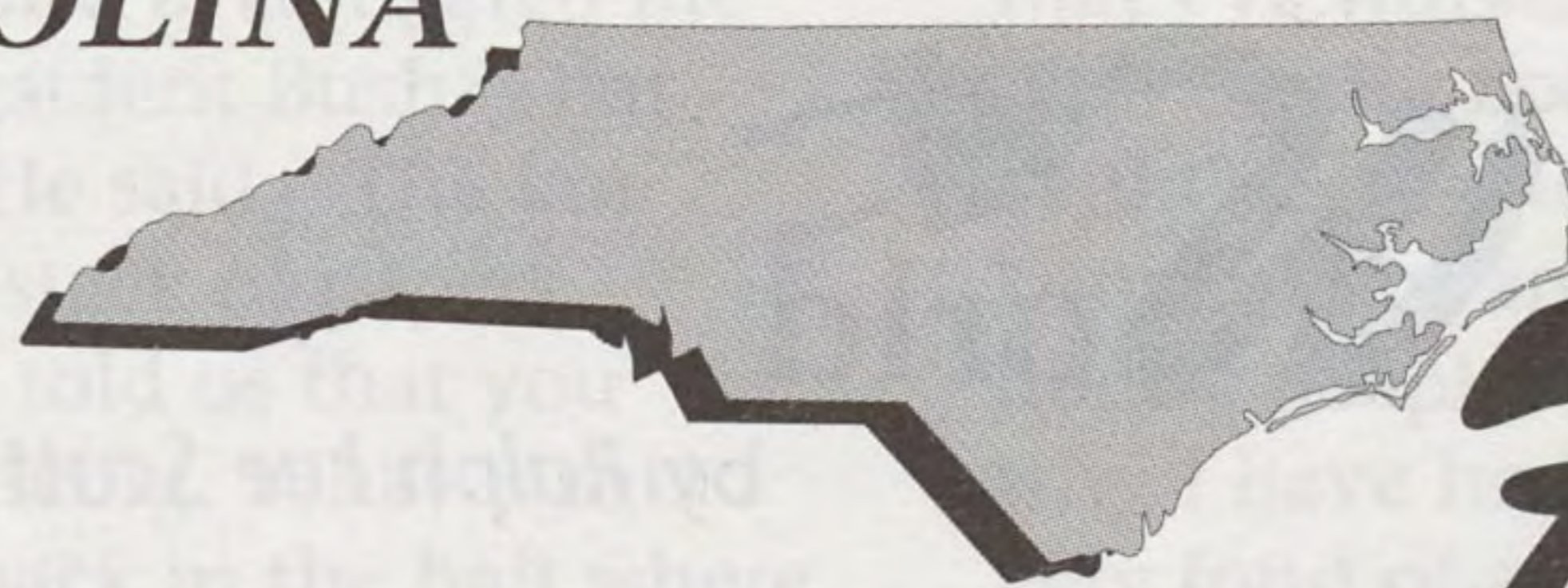
While *ZurfRider* is looking over the 'Net, it prompts you with a status window that tells you how things are going, and lets you stop at any time. *ZurfRider* can determine the language of the site, and thus eliminate all those references with the Japanese characters that do not display on your screen. This software package groups search results into folders when large numbers are retrieved, and then you can easily discard folders you do not want to view. You can also store previous searches for future recall.

The Zurf Incorporated Home Page features a monkey covering its eyes and suggests that users stop monkeying around with the Internet and get serious with an intelligent search engine. The *ZurfRider* slogan is "Shred the Web" implying that the software will zip you to your site with a search tool that has a brain. *ZurfRider* is integrated with MS Inter-

net Explorer for faster results running under Windows95. It works just fine with Netscape's *Navigator*, but lacks some of the tight software integration found with Explorer. *ZurfRider* is about half the cost of its competitors: Quarterdeck's *WebCompass 2.0* (\$49.95); Symantec's *Fast Find* (\$49.95); and ForeFront's *WebSeeker* (\$49.95). Competitors' software also lacks many of *ZurfRider*'s features. For example, no competitor offers the ability to group related results together or the intelligent query re-definition feature of *ZurfRider*.

The package can be purchased only over the Internet with a credit card. Files are shipped/downloaded in a compressed/zipped format and must be unpacked to install. After unzipping, run the file called: `zurf.*`. Several known bugs are documented on the [www.zurf.com](http://www.zurf.com) Web site. The most serious one I encountered occurs when launching a URL. The user receives the message "- embedded" rather than gaining access to the URL in the browser. The solution to this error message is to reinstall the browser. It appears that reinstalling the browser after installing *ZurfRider* corrects most known bugs. A "Feedback Form" is also on [www.zurf.com](http://www.zurf.com) for reporting additional bugs you encounter. All in all, the software appears to work well and is amply supported for your \$19.95. Librarians always want to know: "Can I do Boolean searching with *ZurfRider*?" The answer is yes, but only on those search engines that allow Boolean operators. Using Boolean searching will help refine the results, however some systems do not use these operators, so they cannot always be relied on. Since *ZurfRider* allows you to pick and choose search engines that use Boolean operators, you can avoid those engines that do not offer this feature. I think it is always good to try using the operators and then look over the results. This is part of redefining your search strategy. In arranging the search results, *ZurfRider* always favors those hits that have the complete phrase, such as "hot dogs," over those sites that just have "hot" and "dogs" listed. It all depends on what you are looking for, but *ZurfRider* is hard to beat! An undesirable feature is that you cannot print directly from the search screen. First you have to "Select Results in Browser," then you can print from the browser.

Other interesting things you can do with *ZurfRider* are to play its theme music while you surf (Zahn-Perry song entitled of course "Zurf's Up!"); learn how to surf efficiently using a "Beginner's Course"; check out the lingo in the "Surfonary"; and finally visit the *ZurfRider* mascot, "Phil the Wonder Dog." All in all, *ZurfRider* is quite a deal for \$19.95 and also a whole lot of fun! This software actually finds stuff for you on the Web. It is like a second brain. Perhaps "Hal," the computer in 2001, has been turned on again and has returned as *ZurfRider*.



# Books

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Dorothy Hodder, Compiler

**J**on F. Sensbach sets the stage for a truly remarkable and revelatory history when he opines that "if ever a group of European immigrants to America should have been temperamentally equipped by ancient pedigree to abhor slavery, it was the Moravians." Ironically, these former serfs and descendants of fifteenth-century Czech Protestant Pietists, the *Unitas Fratrum*, or Unity of Brethren, adopted a decidedly different stance once in the Piedmont hills of North Carolina.

Once in Wachovia, the name of the one-hundred-thousand-acre plot purchased from John Carteret, Earl of Granville and lord proprietor for the northern part of North Carolina, the Moravians reasoned anew about slavery. The drawing of the divine lot convinced them that earthly slavery, administered within a framework of brotherly love and respect for fellow Christians, both black and white, was necessary, at least temporarily, if their community was to survive.

Jon F. Sensbach.

***A Separate Canaan:  
The Making of an Afro-Moravian  
World in North Carolina, 1763-1840.***

Published for the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, Williamsburg, Virginia.  
Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1998.  
342 pp. Cloth, \$45.00. ISBN 0-8078-2394-5.  
Paper, \$17.95. ISBN 0-8078-4698-8.

The Moravians were not unacquainted with African slavery, as it flourished in the West Indies. As early as the 1730s, the Moravians were among the first Protestant missionaries to preach the New Testament Gospel to Africans there. Many of these Africans were originally from the West Coast of Africa and sold into slavery in service of predominately English, Dutch, Danish, and French colonists. Some of these West Indian slaves were later transported to servitude in the New World. Such was the plight of the first Afro-Moravian in North Carolina, Sam, a Mandingo, later christened Johann Samuel. Sensbach chronicles the milestones in the life of Johann, including his capture in West Africa, his initial servitude in the West Indies and Virginia, his christening in 1771 in North

Carolina, his marriage to Maria in 1780, their emancipation in 1800, their banishment from the church in 1813, and, finally, their deaths near Bethania in 1821.

The provocative title of Sensbach's fascinating history derives from the different interpretations that black and white Christians have attached to the Gospel. He explains that European Christian immigrants perceived America as a new Israel. Afro-Christian slaves, on the other hand, saw America as merely another Egypt—simply substitute African slaves for Israelites. Enslaved African Americans in Wachovia "saw clear parallels between their own tribulations and the struggle of the Israelites to escape Egyptian bondage and regain freedom in Canaan." These German-speaking Afro-Moravians were searching for a "usable faith" that would allow them to sustain their particular and separate vision of salvation, or Canaan, in the Piedmont hills or the West Indian tropical forests.

The very last sentence of the "Afterword" in Sensbach's history of the Afro-Moravian religious experience in North Carolina is totally unexpected in view of the rough road that black Moravians have had to walk in their search for a separate Canaan. We are totally caught off-guard with the simple statistic that "[o]f the approximately half-million Moravians worldwide, three quarters are of African descent."

This evenhandedly written and painstakingly researched testament belongs on the shelves of every academic library throughout the country and every public library in North Carolina, where students and citizens turn for a clearer understanding of the sometimes distinctly separate roles of religion in American life.

— Plummer Alston Jones, Jr.  
Catawba College

**I**n *Homebody*, Card does a "Steven King" better than King has done in a very long time. He populates the Bellamy house, a derelict Victorian house in Greensboro's College Hill area, with Don, a man with a tragic past; Sylvie, a homeless ex-library school student with some very strange powers; and Miz Judea, Miz Evelyn, and Gladys, three ancient ladies-of-the-evening who've been trying to escape from the house for over 60 years. The supernatural bubbles just under the surface from the first page to the last. One never quite knows who's real, who's not, or even who's on the side of "light" and who's on the side of "dark."

Orson Scott Card.

### ***Homebody: A Novel.***

New York: HarperCollins, 1998.  
291 pp. \$24.00. ISBN 0-06-017655-5.

Readers of Card's well-known science fiction (*Ender's Game* and its sequels among others) or fantasy (*Seventh Son* and its sequels) will find this book very different in style, mood, and theme. On the other hand, fans of 1992's more mainstream *Lost Boys* will find themselves back in familiar territory. So will anyone who lives in Greensboro. Trips to the Friendly Center Harris-Teeter and to fast-food-row on Wendover at I-40 for drive-through cuisine anchor Don, and the reader, to a very concrete and specific reality. Meanwhile, developments within the house cause Don to re-think and re-adjust to a constantly changing set of possibilities. One tiny quibble, for the librarians in the audience: Card is deeply confused as to what constitutes library school. Sylvie appears to have been finishing her Ph.D. in library science at UNC-G,

her senior paper being on "the system of filing active documents during World War II." Also, Sylvie's roommate, Lissy, who escapes flunking out of undergraduate school by stealing other people's work, manages to assume Sylvie's identity and degree, reporting for work at Sylvie's first professional job without benefit of a day of said library school.

It is a shame that Cindy, the tough-on-the-outside, soft-on-the-inside, real estate agent who helps Don acquire the Bellamy house, doesn't have a more integral part throughout the story. She starts out a wonderful, strong, and complicated character and then simply disappears midway through the book. She is much more appealing than Sylvie, who dominates the second half.

This suspenseful and at times truly spooky story will ring oh-so-true to anyone who has ever renovated an old house, or with anyone who has really loved and felt particularly safe in their personal space. I know *my house* can move things like hammers and hide things like nails when it feels it's been neglected too long. Why, just last week I found the kitchen flashlight in the strangest place ....

— Rebecca Taylor

New Hanover County Public Library

**I**im Crow laws — the vague set of rules and laws which institutionalized discrimination in the early part of this century — are what Leon Tillage grew up with in Fuquay, North Carolina. Separate water fountains, eating places, the Ku Klux Klan, and the pervasive attitude, even among many Black people, that "colored" were inferior to whites, is the reality that Leon lived with every day, and teaches about on every page of this small book.

Leon, now in his 70s, works as a custodian in Maryland. His willingness to share the story of his childhood has earned him deserved recognition in that state. Susan Roth heard his story from her young daughter and urged Tillage to allow her to help him publish his account. The result is this story, illustrated by Roth's simple collages.

*Leon's Story* will undoubtedly be required reading for sixth grade and up for the foreseeable future. Young people who are learning about Jim Crow laws, sharecropping, and the struggle against discrimination will read this book as accompaniment to textbooks.

Will they like it? Probably not. This book is broccoli without cheese sauce. Told from the point of view of a very pragmatic old man, the story will come across as preachy to the average middle-schooler. Tillage is certainly correct when he implies that he had it tough and kids today have it much easier, but when he uses the phrase "cheap" when referring to his Christmas gifts and (no kidding) describes his four-mile walk to school in the freezing cold, he's gonna lose some young readers.

There is not a laugh or smile to be found in this book. Neither is there a tear. Tillage describes his father's violent death matter-of-factly, in just a few sentences. Circumstances and laws are the stuff of this oral history, not feelings. Readers may wonder if Leon Tillage has more stories to tell: warm stories or funny stories. And wonder, too, whether Susan Roth colored the telling with more than her collages.

— Jan Brewington

New Hanover County Public Library

Leon Walter Tillage and Susan Roth.

### ***Leon's Story.***

New York: Farrar Straus Giroux, 1997.  
107 pp. \$14.00. ISBN 0-374-34379-9.

These two Ashe County books share a common focus and both mirror the Foxfire tradition: you get mountain people to write or talk about how life used to be. Here Appalachian men and women, from out there where North Carolina, Virginia, and Tennessee meet, tell about clearing new ground, hog killing, home funerals, canning, one-room schools and really hard work out-of-doors. The books seem to complement the earlier McFarland imprint *Southern Appalachia, 1885-1915* by Roy E. Thomas.

Zetta Barker Hamby, who died in 1997 as her book was going to press, wrote an illustrated memoir that serves well as an ethnography of her mountain culture. Her editors have preserved the charm of her manuscript and included her pen-and-ink illustrations of farmstead artifacts. There are a number of fine photographs including a crucial 1925 newspaper photograph of her elementary school pupils provided by the Forsyth County Public Library. The changes that technology made during her lifetime unfold before us. She went from trading chickens for cloth to flying in a jet airplane to Hawaii. Her father and other men used the community telephone party line to pose recreational math problems and discuss their solutions, much like today's Internet chat rooms.

Zetta Barker Hamby.  
***Memoirs of Grassy Creek:  
Growing Up in the Mountains  
on the Virginia-  
North Carolina Line.***

Contributions to Southern Appalachian Studies, 1. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland & Co., 1997. 256 pp. \$25.00. ISBN 0-7864-0416-7.

Leland R. Cooper and Mary Lee Cooper.  
***The Pond Mountain Chronicle:  
Self-Portrait of a Southern  
Appalachian Community.***

Contributions to Southern Appalachian Studies, 2. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland & Co., 1997. 240 pp. \$25.00. ISBN 0-7864-0391-8.

The Coopers came to their Pond Mountain community after writing *Hungarians in Transition* and completing careers in higher education. They began collecting oral history interviews from their neighbors while restoring a traditional mountain farmhouse. Like Zetta Barker Hamby, several of their informants are now deceased. The Coopers used a very simple and non-threatening set of questions to encourage their subjects. Some examples are: "What is your earliest memory?" and "Do you produce some of your food?" The informants had an opportunity to correct written copies of their histories. There are thirty-two interviews printed here. Subjects' ages range from 35 to 94 years, and they talk about topics such as when they had to move away to get factory work, their religious conservatism, the history of some of the older buildings and families. You can also read of their frustration with absentee sportsman tract holders and the New River land developers.

In *The Pond Mountain Chronicle* there are allusions to the establishment, training and command structure of volunteer fire departments and rescue squads, coexisting as they do with the historically dominant denominations of the mountains. They would be an interesting subject for another oral history in this series.

Both of these books are good source material for Appalachian cultural history. Both are well-indexed and well-made paperbound monographs.

— Philip P. Banks

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**E**ighty-one-year-old Viola Bagg, the heroine of *Empire Under Glass*, finds herself trapped underwater beneath the windshield of the small plane in which she had been riding during a brief excursion from her retirement home — where she has been living, for some recent weeks, under an assumed identity. Instead of panicking and upsetting the structure that contains her air supply, she delicately searches her purse, applies some makeup, breathes lightly, and reviews the course of her long and unusual life.

We begin on a strange island in the Indian Ocean called Wallawalhalla, where Viola's mother died when she was only an infant. Stranger still, Viola was born literally with two left feet. Both phenomena help to define her and temper her outlook on life. They also correlate with her personal failures — to recover that mother, to reconstruct a lost recipe for Empire cake, to avoid disaster at Wallawalhalla, to understand her husband and daughter, to find a comfortable independence from the people in her life.

Julian Anderson.

### ***Empire Under Glass.***

Boston: Faber and Faber, 1996.  
299 pp. \$23.95. ISBN: 0-571-19884-8.

It could all be so dull but it never is, given author Julian Anderson's imagination and humor. Wallawalhalla itself is a marvelous creation — an island vacated by natives, sparsely populated by assorted citizens of the British Empire who endure oppressive heat, legendary "white ants" (remarkably ravenous termites), and sulfurous fumes from the volcano at the far end of the island. After a bewildering girlhood in Canada, Viola returns to Wallawalhalla with her friend, Jenny, to do clerical work on an archaeological dig.

Their hosts are Jenny's exceptionally beautiful (and evil) uncle Roddy and his pathetically incompetent wife. Another resident is the odd, wounded veteran Harry Bagg, who marries Viola despite the gossip linking her to the murder that breaks just as the volcano erupts and scatters the residents of Wallawalhalla to the four winds.

The second major setting is Conflux, North Carolina, home of Viola's daughter, a bright but good-natured slob who marries a bee-keeping academic, and of the Sunset Home, where Viola retreats after failing to fit in with Marjorie's unlovable family. Most interesting about Viola is the ways in which she errs in her relationships with her kin — she sometimes says the wrong thing at the wrong time, and she sometimes fibs in her own favor, as those with two left feet might be expected to do.

The fun at Sunset Home grows out of Viola's friendship with the elegant Evangeline Ypsilanti, a sophisticated international who becomes Viola's weekly chess partner (and who usually wins). When Evangeline comes to tea at Marjorie's house she charms the whole family, leaving Viola lamely competing for attention. Even Viola's bee sting is overshadowed by Evangeline's stroke and dramatic transport to the care facility.

Viola Bagg is an endearing character because she is a good human being — frequently fallible, unconsciously comic, consciously kind, and ultimately noble. As the novel reveals more and more about her, the author's "hook" grows more and more effective: the reader has to know what finally becomes of this remarkable old lady. Will the glass fall aside? Will she run out of air? What finally happens to people like Viola? Read the book.

Julian Anderson was raised near Durham, North Carolina and earned an M.A. degree in English in 1989 at Ohio State University. She has published in *The Southern Review*, *The Journal*, and the *Cleveland Plain Dealer Sunday Magazine*. She currently lives in Columbus, Ohio. *Empire Under Glass* won the AWP second-place prize for a work of first fiction in 1994.

Recommended for public and academic libraries.

— Rose Simon  
Salem College

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**P**eaceful, remote getaway for the city-weary, or ravaged, overdeveloped playground for the rich? The fate of High Haven hangs in the balance in Marian Coe's latest book. This is her second novel; her first novel, *Legacy*, won two national awards in 1994. Coe, formerly a staff writer for the St. Petersburg (FL) *Times*, brings her skills as a seasoned travel writer to this story of textile tycoon A.Z. Kingston, a Sean Connery look-alike. After the mysterious disappearance of his wife, Eve, from the Ridgecrest Inn, A.Z. buys the mountain above the inn to preserve her memory. Forty years after Eve's disappearance, A.Z. returns to the mountain to recuperate from a stroke. Several newcomers arrive eager to call on him, but are

Marian Coe.

***Eve's Mountain:  
A Novel of Passion and  
Mystery in the Blue Ridge.***

Banner Elk, N.C.: South Lore Press, 1998  
362 pp. \$14.95. ISBN 0-9633341-5-8

held off by A.Z.'s cold and calculating daughter, Tory, who has designs of her own for Eve's mountain. His recovery is impeded while his nurse contends with the domineering daughter. Selena, the nurse, gets little help from Tory's noncommittal older brother, Zack, who is too preoccupied with his own hang-ups to pay much attention to Tory's underhanded schemes.

The novel is richly layered with interwoven subplots that merge at the end. The scenes are well-crafted with detail and dialogue that render place, character, and conversation with artful ease. Coe does depart from the action of the story in what amounts to a treatise on keeping development from spoiling the pristine beauty of the Blue Ridge and the lifestyle of native dwellers. A later scene depicting the reactions of local people to the invasion of television reporters suffices to develop her theme of preservation.

As is so often true with the mystery novel, the twists and turns of the plot happen at the expense of character development, which flows from characters' attempts to resolve inner dilemmas when the author is inclined to pursue them. As long as this limitation can be overlooked for the sake of anticipating the resolution, readers will enjoy this book. Public libraries will want to offer this selection for summer reading. If a real vacation is still far around the bend, this book could be the next best thing.

—Helen Kluttz

Student in LIS program at UNC-Greensboro

**B**eing fifteen is hard, just ask anyone. Being fifteen in a dying cotton mill town without a future is even harder, just ask Tollie Ramsey. In Constance Pierce's award-winning first novel, *Hope Mills*, we live the summer of 1959 through Tollie and those around her. More than just a coming-of-age story, *Hope Mills* is about becoming and overcoming.

Pierce's fictional town of Hope Mills, like the real town, is on a lake, near a military base, on the Cape Fear River, not too distant a drive from both Chapel Hill and Raleigh.

The summer is hot, dry, and dusty, with imagery so vivid the reader will want a cool drink nearby. The town is dying by inches as Easy-Care fabric muscles cotton aside. The mill rats (children of the mill workers), occupy the lowest layer in the White social strata, and the closing of the mill means their already bleak future just got worse. Tollie is bright and eager and dreams of going to college, while still painfully aware of her surroundings. In addition to her own problems, she deals daily with her mother's suicidal depression and her stepfather's quiet desperation. Tollie and her capricious best friend Lilly drift apart, but are drawn back together over the course of the summer and the trials each face alone and together. Tollie and her mother Janice are torn apart by Janice's disease, but manage to find their way back to one another as well. Through her struggles, Tollie is on her way to becoming something more than her circumstances.

Constance Pierce.

***Hope Mills.***

Wainscott, NY: Pushcart Press, 1997.  
311 pp. \$24.95. ISBN 0-916366-82-0.

Pierce is able to handle tough issues like racial tension, teen pregnancy, and depression (both economic and social) with grace and dignity. She uses the third person narrator to keep Tollie, Lilly, and

Janice at arm's length until the final chapter, told in Tollie's voice. Once allowed inside, the reader shares Tollie's palpable sense of hope and optimism. Although this is a first novel, it is not the first published work by this author. Pierce, who holds a master's degree in English from East Carolina University, has a collection of short fiction (*When Things Get Back to Normal*, 1986) and an epic poem (*Phillippe at His Bath*, 1983), both of which demonstrate the author's gift for strong characters and vivid description. This novel would be an asset to any fiction collection and is especially appropriate for public libraries.

—Lisa D. Smith

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

# M

North Carolina's coastal defenses from Cape Lookout to Currituck Banks fell one by one to invading United States forces between the autumn of 1861 and the spring of 1862. From then until the close of the Civil War, the state's mainland lying along and to the east of the estuaries of the White Oak, Neuse, Pamlico, Roanoke, and Chowan rivers, as well as the Outer Banks, was effectively occupied by federal forces and cut off from regular communication with the rest of the state. As a result, many families were split between the occupied and the unoccupied zone of eastern North Carolina. At the same time, the federally occupied zone provided a safe haven for the thousands of slaves who slipped from their owners' plantations and into the area behind federal lines. The geographical setting for this study of those troubled times is

primarily the Outer Banks from Cape Lookout to Currituck Banks, though the author includes some data from the mainland ports in the northern sector of the outer coastal plain. Similarly, he expands his time frame by providing three chapters in which he discusses antebellum and postbellum conditions on the Banks. Otherwise the heart of this study, which was presumably an outgrowth of the author's master's thesis at East Carolina University, is a chronological account of Civil War military operations and some effects of federal occupation of the state's sounds and barrier islands.

Fred M. Mallison.

## ***The Civil War on the Outer Banks.***

Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland & Company, Inc.,  
1998. 251 pp. \$37.50. ISBN 0-7864-0417-5.

It is a delicate business to attempt an historical study of what amounts to no more than a sliver taken from a much larger area undergoing a common experience. The extent to which events

within a selected area can be elaborated and the extent to which related events outside the selected area can be lightly reported without causing "the tail to wag the dog" is a problem constantly confronting the author. Mr. Mallison deals valiantly with this problem while drawing from a large body of sources rich in official reports, newspaper reports, anecdotes, contemporary testimony, and retrospective regimental histories. He is generally successful in striking the necessary balance, but he is less successful in separating the essential from the nonessential in his sources. There are a few occasions when it seems difficult for the author to avoid telling us some things with but little relationship to the text just because, apparently, the information was available to him. On the other hand, the text sometimes builds to a point that is never made, or is made on a subsequent page, or is allusively made in succeeding chapters. We are told, for example, that charges were pressed against Colonel Draper of the 2nd North Carolina Colored Volunteers for "nine counts of violations of military law" during federal operations in northern Currituck County, but not the outcome. Admiral Goldsborough's effort to close Hatteras and Ocracoke Inlets by blocking them with stone-filled hulks is recounted in chapter four, but the effect is not revealed (though allusions in chapter eight and in the epilogue hint at lack of success).

One wishes rather more had been reported concerning the black settlement on Roanoke Island, at least to the extent of incorporating testimony from the *Brief History of the Slave Life of Rev. L. R. Ferebee* (1882). One also wishes the author had been able to illustrate his text with the contemporary drawings of the cousins Edwin Graves Champney and James Wells Champney, made while they were stationed with federal forces on the Outer Banks.

Some parts of Mallison's text flow smoothly and read easily, while other parts are turgid and make for tough going. A good editor would have been of inestimable service. This study will probably be more useful as a reference resource in academic and special libraries than as "a good read" for the casual reader.

— George Stevenson  
North Carolina State Archives

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In 1885, twenty years after general emancipation, black newspaper editor, politician, educator, and businessman George Allen Mebane proposed writing a 300-page book called "The Prominent Colored Men of North Carolina." The book was to include biographical sketches of 200 of the state's leading black businessmen and politicians and would document what Mebane termed "the progress of the race" from 1860 to 1885. To gather information for his volume, Mebane circulated a detailed questionnaire to those would-be subjects of the biographical sketches. He included questions such as whether their parents had been freedmen or slaves before the war, the extent of their schooling, their occupations, and the amount of property they owned.

Mebane never completed his study of prominent black North Carolinians, but this invaluable primary document, as well as tax records, business directories, credit ratings, and census reports, served as grist for the mill of historian Robert Kenzer in preparing his fine study, *Enterprising Southerners: Black Economic Success in North Carolina, 1865-1915*. Dr. Kenzer

is Associate Professor of History at the University of Richmond and is the author of *Kinship and Neighborhood in a Southern Community: Orange County, North Carolina, 1849-1881* (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1987).

Dr. Kenzer confirms that African Americans who were already free before the Civil War enjoyed greater economic success than their newly freed counterparts. He asserts, however, that his research does not support lingering theories that "the heritage of slavery" had an adverse effect on the economic performance of blacks. Rather, he posits that the lack of capital and poorly developed markets were the likely economic barriers. Dr. Kenzer also studied the comparative economic status of blacks and mulattoes during this period, finding that, with very few exceptions, in every North Carolina county the economic status of mulattoes was "well above" that of blacks. Although mulattoes generally were wealthier than blacks, blacks were "more than twice as likely ... to form two-member partnerships." The author

suggests that one reason it was more necessary for blacks to take on partners may have been that they generally possessed less capital than their mulatto counterparts.

Without setting out specifically to do so, *Enterprising Southerners* also serves as a rich catalog of names that are an integral part of the economic, social, and political history of North Carolina. Extensive chapter notes, selected bibliography, tables, charts, nine photographs, and an index provide further direction for interested readers.

*Enterprising Southerners* contributes a valuable chapter to the economic history of North Carolina's black population. It is a carefully-researched, scholarly work, and as such would be most suitable to academic or larger public libraries.

— Bryna Coonin

D. H. Hill Library, North Carolina State University

### North Carolina Children's Book Award

The North Carolina Association of School Librarians and the Children's Services Section of the North Carolina Library Association are pleased to announce that the book *Roses Are Pink, Your Feet Really Stink*, written by Diane DeGroat, has won the seventh annual NC Children's Book Award, Picture Book Award, and the book, *Shiloh Season*, by Phyllis Naylor, has won the fourth annual Junior Book Award.

The Picture Book Award honors a picture book, suitable for grades K-3, and is selected by the children themselves. Over 122,000 children throughout the state of North Carolina voted during the month of March for their favorite book from a list of previously nominated titles. *Roses Are Pink, Your Feet Really Stink* received more than 22,600 of the votes cast. Many of North Carolina's public school systems participated, as well as public libraries and private schools.

This award, sponsored by the Children's Services and School Librarians' sections of the North Carolina Library Association, is intended to broaden students' awareness of current literature, to promote reading aloud with students in the early grades as a means of introducing reading as a pleasure, and to give recognition and honor of children's favorite books and authors.

The purpose of the Junior Book Award is to encourage students in grades 4 through 6 to become better acquainted with noteworthy writers of contemporary books, to broaden their awareness of literature as a means of personal satisfaction and lifelong pursuit, and to give recognition and honor to their favorite books and authors. *Shiloh Season* received almost 4,300 of the 17,000 votes cast.

These awards will be presented during the NCASL Conference in the fall of 1998 in Winston-Salem, NC. For further information, please call Jackie Pierson at 336-945-5163 (Vienna Elem., Winston-Salem/Forsyth Cty. Schools) or Frances Lampley at 910-662-2250, Southeast Regional Public Library).

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST ...

Elizabeth Daniels Squire recounts absentminded amateur sleuth Peaches Dann's fifth adventure in *Is There a Dead Man in the House?* (1998; Berkley Publishing Group, Penguin Putnam, Inc., 200 Madison Ave, New York, NY 10016; 244 pp.; paper, \$5.99; ISBN 0-425-16142-0.) Peaches' unpredictable Pop elopes with Azalea Marlowe, an exotic widow from Tennessee. When Azalea falls from a possibly booby-trapped ladder in the historic house she is restoring, Peaches and her imperturbable husband, Ted, find themselves racing to unravel 100-year-old family secrets before they cause more present heartache. As usual, Peaches and Ted are a treat, with their solid good sense, good manners, and good marriage to sustain them through mayhem unimagined by most middle-aged people.

After nearly twenty years of helping fourth graders with North Carolina history assignments, Beverly Tetterton, Local History Librarian at New Hanover County Public Library, compiled the *North Carolina County Fact Book*, Volume I, with the assistance of husband Glenn Tetterton, a veteran of high school history classrooms. (1998; Broadfoot's of Wendell, 6624 Robertson Pond Rd, Wendell, NC 27591; vi, 153 pp.; cloth, \$25.00; ISBN 1-56837-359-7.) The first volume covers Alamance through Jackson counties, with Johnston through Yancey soon to follow in Volume II. Each county is covered in two to three pages, with listings for location, origin, latitude and longitude, total area and land area, physical features, river basins, climate, population, form of government, county seat, early inhabitants, other towns/cities, highways, agricultural products, industrial products, minerals, parks, landmarks and historic sites, cultural institutions, festivals and annual events, higher education, newspapers, notable people, odds and ends, read more about it, and chambers of commerce. Entries are illustrated with black and white photographs and maps. A glossary and bibliography are included. A must for school and public library reference shelves.

Victoria Logue, Frank Logue, and Nicole Blouin have compiled an attractive, compact *Guide to the Blue Ridge Parkway* (1997; Menasha Ridge Press, 700 South 28th St., Suite 206, Birmingham, AL 35233; 146 pp.; paper, \$12.95; ISBN 0-89732-141-3.) Although the book is arranged by parkway milepost numbers, the emphasis is on the flora, fauna, folklore, and history of the territory. Outstanding color photographs will whet the traveler's appetite, and the Blue Ridge Parkway Bloom Calendar included as an appendix will be appreciated by wildflower enthusiasts and allergy sufferers alike. Libraries collecting hiking guides will also want to be aware of *The New Appalachian Trail*, by Edward B. Garvey (1997; Menasha Ridge Press, 700 South 28th St., Suite 206, Birmingham, AL 35233; x, 306 pp.; paper, \$14.95; ISBN 0-89732-209-6), and *A Season on the Appalachian Trail*, by Lynn Setzer (1997; Menasha Ridge Press, 700 South 28th St., Suite 206, Birmingham, AL 35233; xviii, 190 pp.; paper, \$14.95; ISBN 0-89732-234-7).

John Dixon Davis has edited and published *A Civil War Diary* by Sergeant Henry S. Lee, Co. B 10 Regt., Arty & Engrs, a native of Craven County. The diary was passed from Lee's descendants to the father of the publisher, and has never been published before. The period covered by the diary is from January 1863 through May 1864, while Sergeant Lee was in camp near Kinston. Davis has added notes, correspondence, epilogue, bibliography, and maps, and includes two facsimile pages from the diary. (1997; Craggy Mountain Press, P.O. Box 55, Black Mountain, NC 28711; xv, 124 pp.; paper, \$18.00 plus tax and postage; ISBN 0-9661946-0-8.)

Frances H. Casstevens is the author of *The Civil War and Yadkin County, North Carolina* (1997; McFarland & Company, Inc., Publishers, Box 611, Jefferson, NC 28640; 298 pp.; cloth, \$45.00 plus postage; ISBN 0-7864-0288-1.) She has included contemporary photographs and letters, home guard activity, a roster of militia officers, the names of Yadkin men at Appomattox, and 1,200 Confederate Army and Navy service records with parents, vital dates, and place of burial for most. Includes photographs, bibliography, and index.

The Institute of Government announces two publications: the second edition of *Eminent Domain Procedure for North Carolina Local Governments* by Ben F. Loeb, Jr. (1984, 1998; Institute of Government, CB#3330 Knapp Building, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3330; v, 120 pp.; paper, \$12.00 plus tax; ISBN 1-56011-311-1), and the *1997 Supplement to Arrest, Search, and Investigation in North Carolina*, second edition, by Robert L. Farb (1998; Institute of Government, CB#3330 Knapp Building, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3330; ix, 130 pp.; paper, \$12.00 plus tax; ISBN 1-56011-312-X).

## Collection Development on the Web? Yes, Try *EvaluTech*!

by Angela Leeper

Whether it is clowns or Congress, slugs or endangered species, pizza or sex education, educators now can find resources on these topics as well as numerous others through *EvaluTech*, a keyword-searchable database that features reviews of prekindergarten through grade 12 educational and professional print, nonprint, and technology resources. These reviews come directly from *InfoTech: The Advisory List*, a bi-monthly publication that is sent to all North Carolina public schools. A joint effort by the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) and the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI), *EvaluTech* is located on the Web at <http://www.EvaluTech.sreb.org>.

The beginning sparks of *EvaluTech* occurred in fall 1996, when SREB began investigating ways to have software evaluated. With NCDPI's thirty-plus years' experience in evaluating educational resources, it was a logical choice when SREB chose to explore NCDPI's services. State representatives from SREB toured NCDPI's Evaluation Center in May 1997, and expressed a desire to have electronic access to all of NCDPI's reviews, not just software. Bill Thomas, Director of Instructional Technology for SREB, recognized that the value of NCDPI's educational reviews stems from "the process behind the evaluation, from the quality of criteria implemented to the thorough training that evaluators receive."

The staff at NCDPI also realized the value of a Web site with a searchable database. With the ever-gaining presence of the Internet, a Web site brings unprecedented exposure to NCDPI's evaluation services. More importantly, a searchable database alleviates the need to rely on the staff's collective memory, which, depending on who is in the office, the time of day, and the amount of caffeine recently consumed, can vary significantly. Media specialists, teachers, and even parents now can access *EvaluTech* and formulate their own searches to questions such as, "What are some recommended algebra software programs?" without having to call NCDPI each time.

The *EvaluTech* Web site was launched officially in February 1998. The site contains two years' worth of evaluations at all times as well as evaluation criteria, professional resources for selection and collection development, and frequently asked questions. The mainstay of

*EvaluTech*, however, is its searchable database. From the homepage, it can be accessed through the link, "Search Reviews of Instructional Materials." Search fields include: author's last name, title, publisher or producer, series, copyright date, grade, subject area, lexile level range, data format, keywords, and *InfoTech* issue date. These fields may be searched separately or combined (e.g., social studies as a subject area and print as a data format). To enter a search, click the "Submit" button at the top or bottom of the screen. A click on the "Reset" button clears all of the search fields to begin a new search.

When searching by author's last name, title, publisher or producer, or series, only a portion of the name or title is required. A search on "adler" in the author field, for example, produces resources by authors David Adler and A.E. Sadler. Note that the last name Sadler contains the letter combination "adler." Similarly, a search on "war" in the title field delivers titles such as *Young People from Bosnia Talk About War* and *Persian Gulf War Almanac* as well as Andy Warhol and Global Warming.

The copyright date, grade, subject area, data format, and *InfoTech* issue date fields all have drop-down boxes for easy access. Although most evaluations come from resources with recent copyright dates (the current and previous year), some resources such as second language materials do not meet these parameters. All copyright dates or a specific year may be searched. Grade level is broken down into three categories: PreK-5, 6-12, and Professional. Either an individual category or all grade levels can be searched. Likewise, all subjects or individual curriculum areas (e.g., science, workforce development, arts education) are searchable. A search by data format may be limited by the following formats: AV, Print, Software MAC, Software MAC/WIN, Software WIN, Web Site, or Other (e.g., kits). To obtain everything that will run on a MAC or PC, users should search on Software MAC/WIN.

Another way to search for reviews is by lexile level, which is a reading level. Most North Carolina educators are familiar with lexile levels, but for users not acquainted with them, a help screen from the search page briefly explains how lexile levels correlate to grade levels. A search on a lexile level range of 900 through 1000, for

example, would result in resources that are approximately at a sixth grade level. This manner of searching is especially useful when finding materials for students who read above or below their grade level (e.g., a first grader or eighth grader who reads at a third grade level). Since lexile levels do not necessarily reflect content or age-appropriateness, educators should read reviews carefully when matching lexile and grade levels. In addition to lexile level descriptions, the help screen gives strategies or clarifications for each search field such as explanations of subject areas (e.g., circle of childhood is described as early childhood).

The driving force of *EvaluTech's* searchable database is its keyword field, comprised of over 1,000 keywords from LC terminology, curriculum terms (e.g., problem solving, cumulative tales, community helpers), and everyday language (e.g., slime, coming of age, first day of school). Either a word or phrase can be entered into the keyword field, and the Boolean operators AND or OR may be applied. If assistance is needed in choosing a keyword, a list of keywords

is available through a link on the help screen. Like the author and title fields, a keyword letter combination may find records that contain keywords with the same combination of letters. A search on the keyword "women," for example, also will find reviews with the keywords "women's issues," "women's rights," and "women's suffrage." The following words or topics also can be searched: names of people as keywords (by last name, first name) such as Edison, Thomas or Morrison, Toni; award-winning books such as Newberry Honor Books, BBYA (Best Books for Young Adults), or Coretta Scott King Awards; award-winning illustrators (by last name, first name) such as Ransome, James or McCully, Emily Arnold; words with multiple spellings, such as rainforests or rain forests; as well as the terms multicultural, early readers, and autobiographies (biography is a subject area).

Once a search has been submitted, a "Search Results" screen appears. This screen recaps the search criteria the user applied, the total number of reviews found, and a multi-celled box that lists the author, title, series (if applicable), publisher or producer, copyright date, lexile level (if applicable), format, and *InfoTech* issue date for each review. For nonprint materials such as software programs that do not have an author, "NONPRINT" is

identified in the author location. Encyclopedias, dictionaries, or other print resources that are compiled by multiple writers and editors use "PRINT" as the author. Clicking on a specific title takes the user directly to the evaluation of that resource.

Each review begins with a section in bold that contains bibliographic and purchasing information (See example). This bolded section also includes the grade levels and subject area for which the resource is best suited. The evaluation itself comes after this information.

It may conclude with additional abbreviations of subject area tie-ins or the lexile level, abbreviated as "LL." As previously mentioned, users can find assistance with subject areas on the help screen. Towards the end of the review, users also may find the designation, "An Eisenhower Review," meaning that the review was completed by specially trained math and science teachers through NCDPI's Eisenhower Fellows for Resource Review program. The entire evaluation is followed

by a list of related keywords and subject areas. Media specialists and teachers, who then perform searches on these keywords and subject areas, will find similar titles to fill gaps in media center collections or to develop specialized units.

Although anyone can utilize *EvaluTech*, North Carolina media specialists hold a clear advantage over educators in other SREB states. They already have a history with *InfoTech*, the basis of *EvaluTech*, and understand the terminology in the evaluations, whether it is references to the Standard Course of Study or lexile levels. *EvaluTech* allows NCDPI to expand its services to North Carolina schools, and according to Frances Bradburn, Section Chief of NCDPI's Evaluation Services, "*EvaluTech* provides media specialists with more opportunities to match students and resources." Before teachers come asking for more resources to use during Black History month or Web sites featuring online projects, media specialists and public librarians will find it worthwhile to take time during the summer lull to explore *EvaluTech*, North Carolina's powerful new collection development tool.

— Angela Leeper is *EvaluTech/SLJ* Editor at Education Resources Evaluation Services of the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

### InfoTech Review Incredible Comparisons

**Ash, Russell. *Incredible Comparisons*. Illustrated by Dominic Zwemmer and Dorian Spencer Davies, art eds. 63 p. \$19.95. DK, 1996. (ISBN 0-7894-1009-5) [3-10, MATH]**

This fascinating, and indeed, incredible book uses drawings, some fold-out, to help readers gain a realistic perspective of the size, speed, and capabilities of living and non-living matter. For example, students can visualize and understand the relativity of size from something as large as the universe to microscopic organisms, while scale drawings of well-known animals lined end to end show the true size of the Diplodocus. Readers of all ages will find it hard to close this well-organized and attractive oversized book of interesting facts, comparisons, and illustrations. Index. (An Eisenhower Review) [SCI] LL 1130

**Keywords:** comparisons, math skills

**Subject Areas:** Mathematics, Science

### Credit Where Credit Is Due ...

Carol Truett, co-author of the article, and the editors of NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES wish to offer apologies to Dr. Cheryl Knight, Associate Professor at Appalachian State University, for inadvertently leaving her name off of the article "Technology Use in North Carolina Public Schools: The School Library Media Specialist Plays a Major Role" which appeared in the Spring 1997 issue of the journal. Dr. Knight not only co-authored the article, but she also spent many, many hours doing the original research and data analysis that preceded the writing of the results, for which she must be given equal credit.

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# NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

## Minutes of the Executive Board

*April 17, 1998, Guilford Technical Community College*

*Attending:* Beverley Gass, Ross Holt, Liz Jackson, Rhoda Channing, Martha Davis, Karen Gavigan, Augie Beasley, Karen Perry, Gerald Holmes, Carolyn Price, Barbara Best-Nichols, Gwen Jackson, Frances Bradburn, Kem Ellis, Tracy Babiasz, Liz Hamilton, Jackie Beach, Diane Kester, Gene Lanier, Steve Sumerford, Wanda Brown, Dave Fergusson, Peggy Quinn, Rich Anderson (for Carol Freeman), Marilyn Miller, Susan Adams, Ann Miller, Elizabeth Laney, Ginny Gilbert, Al Jones, Maureen Costello, Vanessa Work Ramseur, Lou Bryant, Eleanor Cook, Catherine Wilkerson.

President Gass called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The October minutes were approved with a correction of September 21, as the date for the first day of the 1999 conference

### **President's Report**

A schedule of meetings has been sent to guests inviting them to come to NCLA board meetings. Liz Hamilton, Director of East Albemarle Regional Library, has agreed to chair a new committee, the NCLA Administrative Office and Personnel Advisory Committee.

Kathy Thompson has regretfully resigned as chair of the Special Projects Committee.

Several communication items from ALA were brought for board review. Two surveys have been completed from the ALA Chapter Relations Committee, on membership practices within NCLA, and our needs and priorities for the Chapter Relations Committee.

The NCLA vision and objectives drafted at the January retreat were reviewed. These draft statements appeared in the Spring 1998 issue in the President's Column.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Diane Kester presented a 1997 end-of-year report of total revenues and expenses. Conference monies were recorded in this accounting. A first quarter report was also presented, showing the projected budget, and revenue and expenses to date. Reports are posted on the Web. Investment income is shown separately from each round table's operating expenses. Profit made during the conference by any section was returned to the NCLA parent organization. Expenses were also paid by the parent organization, rather than sections, for conference activities. All pre-conference session profits made by sections are returned to the sponsoring section. Further, revenues collected from section or round table workshops throughout the year are returned to sections. Each section received an individual report on their financial status. NCLA has purchased membership for an Internet Service Provider for Maureen Costello to have Web ac-

cess in addition to e-mail access. The Marketing/Publication committee has responsibility for Web postings.

### **Administrative Assistant Report/ Membership**

Membership totals and unrenewed membership totals were reported. Unrenewed membership totals reflect members from the NCLA database from 1990. People who joined at conference have purchased membership through 1998. Seven different kinds of application forms are being used for renewals for 1998. The correct forms for each type of membership should be on the Web. An attempt will be made to consolidate the forms into one of each.

The State Library is renovating the building and the NCLA office will be moved to another State Library building at a later date.

### **Section/Round Table Reports Children's Services Section**

The Children's Services Section had its first meeting on January 26, 1998, at the Eva Perry Regional Library in Apex. Conference activities and fund raising, and the state of the CSS and NCLA budgets were discussed. It was agreed that more complete and timely budget information is needed. A decision was made to put the section newsletter on hold until NCLA makes a determination regarding an Association newsletter. Preliminary planning for the CSS "off-year" retreat/conference was done. The retreat is scheduled to be held on October 26-27, 1998, at the Brown Summit Conference center north of Greensboro.

### **College and University Section**

There was no report.

### **Community & Junior College Section**

CJCS held its first meeting on March 4, 1998 at the Sheraton Research Triangle Park during the Learning Resources Association Conference. Discussion centered around pros and cons of having CJCS become a subset of the College and University section, how to increase membership, and programming for the biennium. Tara Guthrie

from Carteret Community College has been appointed to the director's position vacated by Carol Freeman after her appointment to the NCLA Publications Committee. The section is still seeking a representative to *North Carolina Libraries*.

CJCS Board has been invited to attend a future meeting of the College and University Section to discuss possibilities of merging the two sections. CJCS plans to co-sponsor, with the Paraprofessional Round table, a group of regional workshops on using the Internet. The workshops will hopefully be held in late summer, and will focus on community college paraprofessionals but will be open to all who wish to attend.

### **Documents Section**

The Documents Section has been planning the spring workshop. Nancy Kohlenbrander of Western Carolina University has gathered a group of speakers to present "The Old North State: State, County, and Local Information in North Carolina" at the McKimmon Center May 15, 1998. *The Docket*, the newsletter of the section, is now available online at the Documents Section Web site: <http://sunsite.unc.edu/reference/docs/ncladocs/pub.html>. Click on Spring 1998 issue.

### **Library Administration & Management Section**

The LAMS Board met on April 16, 1998, in a conference call. LAMS has plans to pursue a joint program with RTSS on September 23 and 24 at the Friday Center on issues related to assessment of library processes, and to partner with the New Members Round Table, matching newcomers with LAMS members in the same type of library. Two regional workshops on mentoring, one in the eastern part of the state and one in the western part, are being planned. The section will support the Leadership Institute if asked to do so. Plans were made to publish the newsletter after August 1, electronically and in paper, including the survey.

Chair Rhoda Channing has agreed to contact the directors of the 3 largest academic libraries in the state to ask them to encourage

their staffs to join NCLA and LAMS.

### **North Carolina Association of School Librarians**

The NCASL Executive Board met on March 9, 1998, at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Charlotte. Karen Gavigan and Melinda Ratchford reported on ALA Midwinter held in New Orleans. The *Information Power* materials were discussed. This information is to be formally presented on June 26, 1998, in Washington, DC to AASL state contacts. A letter was received from State Superintendent Mike Ward in response to a letter requesting a meeting regarding concerns of media coordinators. He did not respond to a meeting at this time. NCASL's conference has been changed from Raleigh to Winston-Salem and will be held from September 16-18, 1998. Requests to present were mailed the last of March. David Loertscher and Phyllis Reynolds Naylor will be among those presenting. The NCLA Board has stated that for every 350 members in a division that division can have another representative on the board. NCASL now has in excess of 550 members. A motion was made and passed for the first position to be filled by the past chair and, in the event that we receive a second position, the chair-elect will fill that position.

The next meeting will be on June 3, 1998, in Winston-Salem where conference facilities will be reviewed.

### **NC Public Library Trustee Association**

There was no report.

### **Public Library Section**

The Public Library Section met on April 15 at the Glenwood Library in Greensboro and agreed to the following goals for 1998-99. Goal 1: To enhance the Public Library Section Web site so that it will contain valuable and current information. Strategies: Hold a workshop at the next PLS executive committee meeting. Encourage all PLS committees to use the Web site to communicate with their own members and other NCLA members. Promote our Web site to all public library staff through flyers and email. Goal 2: To raise level of competency of public library staff, with a particular focus on developing trends/problems. Strategies: Seek out cosponsors among other sections, round tables and committees.

The next meeting will be held June 17 in Fayetteville.

### **Reference & Adult Services Section**

The RASS Executive Committee met on Friday, February 20, at the UNC-Greensboro campus. Plans were discussed for the fall program on the impact of the NC-LIVE project on reference and public services. The program has been planned for Friday, November 20, 1998, at the Friday Center in Chapel Hill.

The next meeting of the section will be May 1 at Durham County Public Library. Stephen Dew, who is moving to Iowa, resigned as chair of RASS. Carolyn Price from the Forsyth County Public Library will now chair this section.

### **Resources & Technical Services Section**

The RTSS board had its first meeting in Feb-

ruary at UNC-G. The next meeting will be held on April 23, also at UNC-G. The major topic of business is planning a fall workshop tentatively scheduled for Thursday, September 24, at the Friday Center in Chapel Hill, on analysis and improvement of technical services processes. Board member Page Life participated in the UNC-CH School of Information and Library Science Career Fair with Peggy Quinn, membership chair. Brochures for RTSS and NCLA were made available for attendees.

### **New Members Round Table**

The NMRT board met on Tuesday, February 10 to discuss goals for the biennium. Sondra Oakley, Director for Programming, has had to resign. The position will be held by Jennie Hunt for the rest of the biennium. Plans are in the works for the 2nd annual NMRT's Big Adventure to take place this summer. NMRT is looking into co-sponsoring workshops with other NCLA sections and round tables.

### **NC Library Paraprofessional Association**

The Executive Board of the Paraprofessional Round table met at the Eva Perry Regional Library in Apex on March 24, 1998. The Program Committee met with the board to discuss programming aims for the year. No program Chair has been named at this time. Each district will be in charge of arranging the programs held in their own district. Martha Davis, Chair of the Community College Section, is to be contacted regarding a co-sponsorship of a workshop this summer on training Internet Trainers. The program will be held in each district. The board discussed the imminent resignation of Linda Morton, District 2 Director. The Chair was asked to try to find a replacement. Proposed By-law changes were discussed. Brief discussion was held regarding the finances of the Round Table.

### **Round Table for Ethnic Minority Concerns**

The Executive Board of REMCo met on March 28, 1998. An archival committee was formed. Clarence Toomer of Pembroke will serve as chair. Since REMCo was formed to serve as a voice for minorities within the Association, emphasis will be placed on identifying and seeking out minorities. Identified groups are Native Americans, Asians, Hispanics, Polynesians, etc. Both professional and non professionals will be earmarked. A survey done last year to determine programming ideas was reviewed. Discussions centered on the type of program/fund raising event that would provide the greatest value to participants.

### **Round Table on Special Collections**

There was no report.

### **Round Table on the Status of Women**

The RTSWL Board met on February 20 and April 3, 1998, to discuss the workshop planned for May 1 at the Forsyth County Public Library. Dr. Richard Rubin will present "Motivation, Satisfaction and Commitment in the Library Workshop." *MS MANAGEMENT* is a valuable tool for communicating with Round Table members publishing interviews with women leaders, bibliographies,

and features related to the status of women in librarianship.

### **Technology and Trends Round Table**

TNT's executive board met on Friday, April 3, 1998 for a get-acquainted and orientation meeting. Carol Freeman, Chair of Publication & Marketing committee, was invited to this meeting. Eleanor Cook, TNT Chair, attended the Publications & Marketing committee's first meeting on April 7th.

Ideas were brainstormed for a fall series of workshops. Ideas were reviewed for workshops collected by RTSS, shared by Ginny Gilbert. A 2-day series with general themes of catching up and keeping ahead was chosen. One day will focus on upcoming trends and issues, and the second day will be for workshops for people to "fill in the gaps" of their technology knowledge. The plan is to provide a series for the eastern and western parts of the state. Ideas were discussed with Carol Freeman about NCLA-L, the care and maintenance of the home page (since NCLA Webmaster Michael Roche is on the TNT executive board), and ways the two groups can collaborate. It was decided that Michael Roche should be an ex-officio member of the Marketing & Publications committee. The master calendar is on the Web site for scheduling purposes of all round tables and sections. A master calendar is available with Maureen. People planning activities should submit dates to her.

### **Committee Reports**

Administrative Office/Personnel Advisory Liz Hamilton is looking for committee members. This committee has already been charged with 4 -5 activities. They will be planning the office move, looking at personnel and procedures, updating manuals, clarifying database questions, and making the NCLA office more electronically connected.

### **Archives**

A portion of the Archives Committee met in late March to review the work which needed to be done, to review the status of the records, and to review the retention policies. The committee plans to meet in late April to begin processing the materials and getting them ready to go into the State Archives. The committee asks that all members of the NCLA Executive Board review the materials in their possession and review the Records and Retention and Disposition Schedule. Any files that should be in Archives should be sent to the NCLA Archives Committee at the following address: Carrie Nichols, Carlyle Campbell Library, Meredith College, 3800 Hillsborough Street, Raleigh, NC 27607

### **Conference**

Both the 1999 and 2001 NCLA Biennial Conference will be held at the Benton Convention Center in Winston-Salem. The dates for the conference are September 21-24, 1999. Subcommittee chairs have been appointed, and accepted, for the 1999 Conference Committee. The Conference Committee is on the NCLA listserv so people know who to contact about a particular topic. The Full Committee will meet at Catawba College on May

15 to decide on the theme for the conference, to get to know one another, and to discuss the process of planning the conference. The Full Conference Committee will begin monthly meetings in the late summer, with an orientation meeting at the Benton Convention Center. The convention centers of Charlotte, Greensboro, High Point, Raleigh, and Winston-Salem have been contacted as possible sites for 2003 and 2005 biennial conferences. Planning committee sheets were passed to Board members with a request to indicate the name, address, telephone number(s), and e-mail address of the person in each section or round table who will be responsible for the program(s) of those groups at the 1999 Biennial Conference and to return names to Al Jones.

#### **Constitution, Codes & Handbook**

There was no report.

#### **Development**

The Development Committee met on Friday, March 6, at the Asheboro Public Library. The initial goal of the committee is to raise an endowment that would generate enough interest to fund at least one issue of *North Carolina Libraries* per year. This amount would be in the range of \$100,000 to \$125,000. The committee expanded the concept of the endowment, viewing it as a vehicle for major corporate contributions to NCLA as well as a vehicle for individual contribution with the opportunity to give in memory or in honor of a person or group. The primary goal is to endow the one issue per year of *NCL*. Secondary goals are to be able to fund other NCLA projects, such as Leadership Institute, scholarships, special projects and the like. There will be four areas of effort:

- An endowment campaign that possibly targets major North Carolina corporations, library vendors, NCLA members, Friends organization, trustees, and local library associations.
- Handling gifts to the endowment. Gifts will have to be deposited into a fund in the NCLA account until they can be transferred to the endowment account. The committee is investigating means of investing the money. Note was made that the Executive Board at some point will need to adopt a policy governing the endowment and use of the proceeds.
- Receipt and acknowledgement of gifts including acknowledgement of gifts given in honor or memory of a person sent to the family of the personal being memorialized or individual/group being honored, an acknowledgement in *NCL*, and acknowledgement by the NCLA president or Development Committee Chair.
- Endowment brochure, which describes the endowment, the association and how to contribute. The content was agreed upon by the committee and Sharon Johnston at PLCMC designed and produced the drafts for consideration by the Executive Board. The development brochure draft was presented. A suggestion was made to consider adding the vision statement we are currently refining to the brochure.

Since the March meeting, an investiga-

tion has been made of NCLA's tax exempt status. The association is exempt under section 101(6) of the IRS code of 1939, and received the status in 1950. Dick Pahle investigated and determined that this status is almost the same as the current 501(c)3 designation. The association is listed in the IRS Publication 78, Cumulative List of Organizations, which lists organizations to which contributions are tax deductible.

The committee will meet again in May or June to plan the endowment campaign and begin making contact with potential major contributors. The committee will work with the Finance Committee and treasurer to establish a fund. The Finance Committee may have a possible liaison to this committee. Updates will be posted on the listserv.

#### **Finance**

A written report, "Financial Procedures for Operating Funds," was submitted in an effort to provide clarification for the procedures to be followed for the handling of operational funds. When the committee meets, it will review these procedures in order to identify any changes which may help improve the financial paperwork flow. Topics included were Income, Expenses, Reporting, Reconciliation, and IRS Procedures. A suggestion was made that perhaps this committee should deal with the investments being considered instead of creating a new committee for that purpose.

#### **Governmental Issues**

The committee is looking for people who can attend Legislative Day in Washington on May 4 and 5. They will be meeting in Bobby Etheridge's office. It was recommended that each district be represented. Objectives are to reinforce the need for the E-rate and other important issues for libraries. NCLA can only afford to pay registration for those attending. A training session on Monday would be helpful to know how to lobby once in Washington. North Carolina Legislative Day is May 27 in Raleigh. An important lobby is for NC LIVE, with specific emphasis on more funding for community colleges. Last year's event was fruitful for funding.

#### **Intellectual Freedom**

IFC members met online to discuss functions of the committee, listservs of interest, publications of interest, and Web sites of interest. The IFC membership list with phone and email addresses has been forwarded to the NCLA listserv. The committee investigated the offer by Jim Broadwell with SIPS (Systems Information Processing Services) in North Carolina of a filter option to users of their services. Those interested are being directed to the Internet Filter Assessment Project ([www.bluehighways.com/tifap/](http://www.bluehighways.com/tifap/)) for information. People are also being encouraged to contact members of Congress concerning pending digital copyright legislation, the McCain bill (Internet School Filtering Act) tying e-rates funding to filters, WIPO Copyright Treaties Implementation Act, and The Collection of Information Antipiracy Act. E-mail addresses make it easy to comment di-

rectly to our representatives on pending legislation. It was reported that 42 bills in Congress deal with the Internet. The IFC will alert us through the listserv. It was noted that Ann Symons' theme for her presidential year is Intellectual Freedom. Peter Keber, Chair of Trustees section, and former head of trustee for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Library System has joined this committee.

#### **Leadership Institute**

The proposed 1998 Leadership Institute is a full day longer than the 1996 Institute, based on recommendations of Institute attendees. Discussion was held about how to pay for the extra day. Additional corporate sponsors are being sought. An attempt is being made to keep the cost low so people can participate, and to make attendance widely available. Applications were sent to public and academic directors, and school system media supervisors. An application will be added to the Web site so people can nominate themselves, with the approval of their supervisor. The expectation is that the professional's parent institution would pay the tuition. A postcard will be sent to NCLA members. Letters will be sent to library directors. A motion was made, and carried approving the \$525.00 tuition.

#### **Literacy**

There was no report.

#### **Membership**

The Membership Committee met Friday, February 20, 1998, at Wake Technical Community College. The following proposals to increase the membership of NCLA were referred to the Executive Board for further discussion:

- Update the NCLA brochure.
- Investigate the feasibility of dividing the state into regions to market membership actively. Committee members will be assigned a region and local library partners will be solicited.
- Purchase a table-top display to use for recruiting.
- Change dues structure to \$10/year for all years in school for library school students.
- Mail membership renewal notices during the last quarter of the year.

Peggy Quinn attended the Career Day at UNC-Chapel Hill on February 18 to promote NCLA through conversation and distribute brochures. Committee members are contacting NC Library Schools to inquire about Career Days and to establish a liaison with the faculty and students. Brochures from round tables and sections were requested for use in displays for future recruiting.

#### **Nominating**

There was no report.

#### **Publications & Marketing**

The Publications & Marketing Committee met April 7 at Forsyth Technical Community College. Discussion was held regarding the draft vision and objectives for NCLA with particular regard for the three objectives which most concern this committee:

- An extension and development of the

NCLA Web site, including threaded discussions (similar to chat rooms) on library and technical topics of interest.

- Establishment of an electronic newsletter, with concern about the efficiency of sending print to those who need it without sending print to those who don't.
- Marketing the organization. A possible idea was to locate a communications or ad class that might be willing to put a spot together for the NC News Network.

The committee will meet again on Friday, June 12.

#### Scholarships

There was no report.

#### Special Projects

This committee has no chair.

#### Other Reports

##### NC Libraries

The Spring issue should be mailed before the end of April. Editorial board representatives Sharon Noles (Paraprofessional Association) and Brigitte Blanton (REMCO) were noted. Representatives are still needed for the Public Library Section, the Community/Junior College Section, and the Trustees Section. Some upcoming issues need guest editors. Please contact Frances Bradburn.

"Between Us" is a new column, to be edited by Kevin Cherry, in which anyone is welcome to bring a point of view. It is an opinion piece replacing "Point/Counterpoint," and debuts in the Summer 1998 issue.

Using both the Web site and listserv, the editorial board representatives will be plan-

ning to communicate between meetings.

#### ALA Councilor

A report was made on Council sessions at ALA Midwinter. Council I reports included those dealing with Endowment Trustees, Fund for America's Libraries and the Executive Director's search, nominating, and execution of previous Council actions. There was concern over attendance at ALA membership meetings and the action taken by Council in San Francisco in an attempt to free up time at conference for membership meetings.

At Council II, the International Relations committee requested that Council support increased funding for the International Relations Office. The request was referred to the Budget Committee. The Bill Gates family was proposed, and approved, for membership in honor or their development of the grant program for libraries.

Treasurer Bruce Daniels presented a detailed report of ALA's finances. ALA revenues must increase if the Association is to continue to pursue the objectives of Goal 2000 which will increase the Association's expenditures over projected revenues by \$1 million within the next few years. The key action areas were identified and approved by Council as Diversity, Education and Continuous Learning, Equity of Access, Intellectual Freedom, and 21st Century Literacy.

In Council III, the Committee on Legislation reported on and asked for support on several non-controversial resolutions for Council. Resolutions attempting to improve

the ALA Membership meeting schedule at conference were debated and revised for approval.

The posting of actions by Council to the Council listserv was approved. It was noted that some of the credit for fast and productive council session could be attributed to the use of the listserv for debate over the issues. Also discussed was the resolution process and the need for it to be followed by Council members, directing appropriate consultation to the Committee on Resolutions and other committees which handle association procedures prior to taking issues to the entire Council.

#### SELA Councilor

There was no report.

#### Old Business

There was no old business.

#### New Business

ACRL is considering having its 2003 conference in Charlotte and has asked for NCLA support. A motion was made to extend our warm welcome and support. Discussion was held regarding sending the new brochures to members who have not renewed membership and former members who have allowed their memberships to lapse. This proposal was sent to the membership committee and Peggy will talk with Beverley about how to proceed. It was noted that new members have joined at workshops.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00.

Respectfully submitted,  
Liz Jackson

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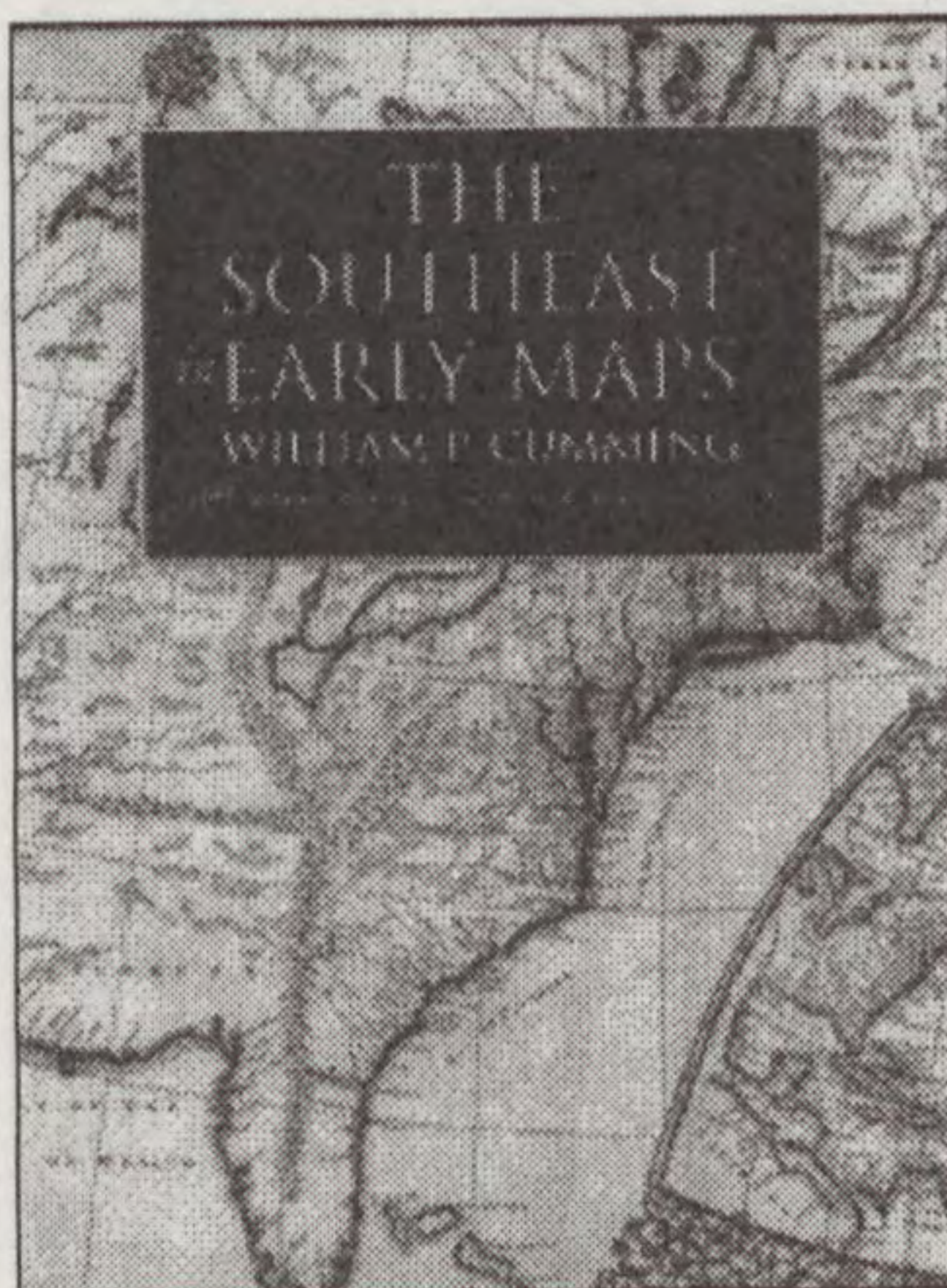
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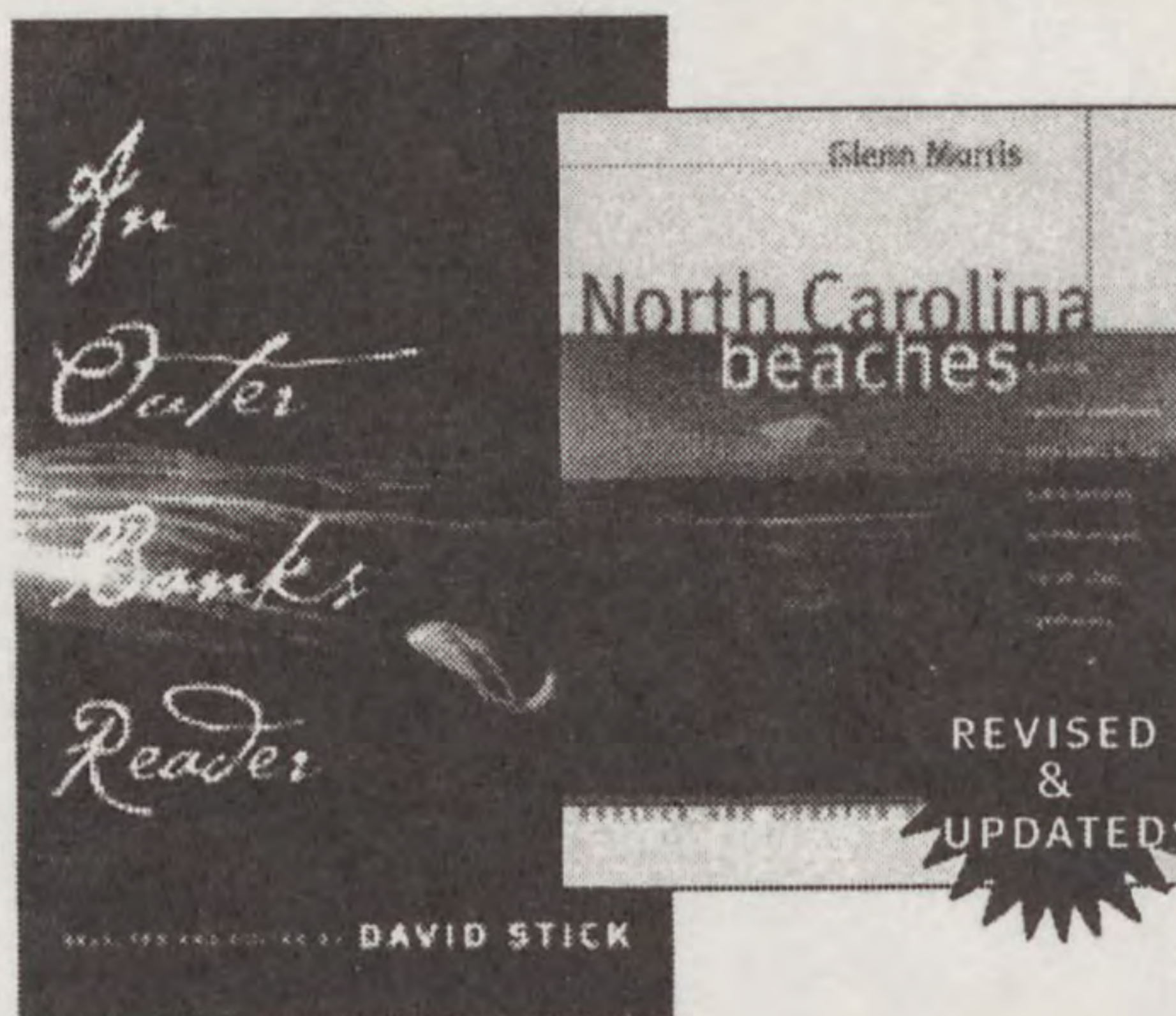
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