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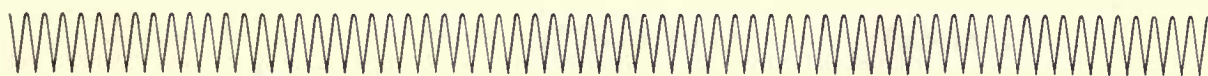
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The School Library Supervisor

2002

The School Library Supervisor



A REPORT OF AN INSTITUTE ON SCHOOL LIBRARY SUPERVISION

held at

The University of Illinois Library School

October 3-6, 1954



edited by

HAROLD LANCOUR

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Lib School

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Thelma Eaton, Professor of Library Science

Marie M. Hostetter, Assistant Professor of Library Science

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PREFACE

For three days early in October, 1954, forty-nine city, state, county, and regional school library supervisors met together at Allerton House, the attractive conference facility maintained by the University of Illinois at the Robert Allerton Park near Monticello, Illinois. They had come together at the invitation of the faculty of the University of Illinois Library School to consider and talk about several aspects of the new and rapidly developing field of school library supervision. The original idea for a conference on school library supervision developed over a period of several months and grew out of the requests from supervisors from various parts of the country for instruction in the philosophy and techniques of school library supervision.

The Institute Planning Committee under the able chairmanship of Professor Alice Lohrer, wisely decided to aim the Institute at the experienced library supervisor already in a responsible position. In so doing, it was possible to plan a meeting at a relatively advanced level. The program of the institute was built around the problems of the multi-library situation at all levels: state, county, town, city, and the consolidated unit district.

The institute planners began with the notion that the organization of the modern American public school has made necessary a new group of supervisory personnel, not only for school libraries but for other aspects of the school's program as well, resulting from the creation of multi-school, and thus multi-library systems. The institute was concerned with the administrative problems growing out of this form of organization. The institute committee also singled out two of the over-all major problems of the school library supervisor which they considered of paramount importance: collection development, and the evaluation of library services.

Each of the major presentations other than that of Dean Dodds and Director Downs, was followed by a full discussion period. Miss Lohrer was chairman of the first and last day's sessions with Thelma Eaton and Marie M. Hostetter in the chair Tuesday morning and Tuesday afternoon, respectively.

The discussion groups were lead by members of the Library School faculty. For the discussions the Institute members were divided into two small groups. For the consideration of administrative problems, the division was made on the basis of the unit size: state, large city, and small city; for the consideration of collection development and evaluation, the division was made into the elementary school level and the

secondary school level. The "Summary of Group Discussions" is based on the detailed reports submitted by each discussion leader and for the most part preserves the wording of these reports. The editor has only rearranged the material bringing it together by major topic.

An introduction to the work of the conference and a final concluding summary, was the responsibility of the editor of these papers both during the institute and in this permanent record of its proceedings. Finally, for the reader wishing to go farther with the subject, a selected list of basic references has been appended.

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