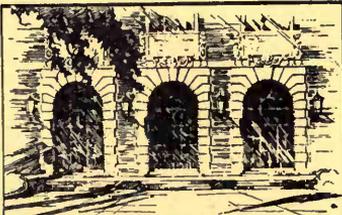


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THE SCHOOL
LIBRARY MATERIALS CENTER:
ITS RESOURCES AND THEIR UTILIZATION

Allerton Park Institute



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THE SCHOOL
LIBRARY MATERIALS CENTER:
ITS RESOURCES AND THEIR UTILIZATION

Papers presented at an Institute
conducted by the
University of Illinois
Graduate School of Library Science
November 3-6, 1963

Edited by
Alice Lohrer

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Foreword

LIBRARY

In the relatively short history of school library development, each decade since 1920 could be characterized as centering attention on a particular phase of organization or service pattern. In the 1920's, quantitative standards were developed for the establishment of high school libraries; in the 1930's evaluative criteria focused attention on qualitative characteristics of book and print resources in the school library; in the 1940's attention was centered on the service aspects of the library program to children, youth, and faculty at all levels of education; and in the 1950's clarification was made for the profession concerning the responsibility and the role of the school library in providing multi-media resources and services for the school. The school library profession in the 1960's is concerned with the implementing of standards that reflect the philosophy of the school library serving as an instructional materials center, with the identifying of significant programs of library service at each educational level which fits the accepted philosophy, with experimenting in creative designs for housing, and with organizing resources to implement these programs of service.

In the past eleven years the library school at the University of Illinois has held three conferences and institutes for school librarians. One section of the "Institute on New Library Trends" held in 1952 was devoted to aspects of school library development. In 1954 school library supervisors were invited to an Allerton Institute; and now in 1963 attention is centered on "The School Library Materials Center: Its Resources and Their Utilization."

In this volume, the papers presented at the 1963 Institute held April 3-6 at Robert Allerton Park, Monticello, Illinois, are reproduced essentially as they were given.

The keynote address sets forth the rationale justifying the present trend in the direction of the school library becoming an instructional materials center for the school. Explored are the implications of the changed objectives of education, of the needs of modern society, of technological achievements and developments that have educational significance, and of educational media research as it affects school library programs and the professional preparation of staff for these centers.

Newer resources, facilities to make effective use of these materials for individual and group needs, and educationally designed equipment available or in progress of becoming available to use these

media are brought to the attention of school librarians and administrators in three of the papers. One relates specifically to the possibilities of the 8mm film and another to the expanded use of electronic learning centers.

Experiments in designing new techniques for central processing of all types of materials used in the school libraries today are reported as they exist in representative school systems throughout the United States. Local and commercial ventures are discussed, and sources of information are tabulated for reference by those faced with this administrative problem.

The role of the librarian, administrator, and architect in planning new and remodelled functional quarters and facilities in which to house and service the multi-media instructional materials are presented with a view to the limiting factors of quarters as well as the need for creative and flexible designs for the future.

Effective utilization of instructional materials by teacher and pupil depends in no small part on the understanding and cooperative efforts of school administrators, school library supervisors, and school librarians in providing specialized advisory and consultant services to users of multi-media resources provided. The dynamic role of school administrators, library supervisors, and librarians is each highlighted in such a way as to give insight into the educational objectives of the school. Steps to take in rethinking and in redesigning a traditional school library program to meet the modern needs of the school are graphically developed for those who need help in the beginning stages of planning for the future. Where to find well designed and functional programs of school library service are also suggested. Evidence that school libraries functioning as instructional materials centers are to be found in all parts of the country and at all levels of the educational ladder is both encouraging and challenging to leaders in the profession who often become discouraged with the knowledge that we still have a long way to go before we are providing these services and programs to all the youth of our nation. There is much to be done, but each decade brings us closer to achieving our goals.

Assisting me on the planning committee for this Institute were Dr. Herbert Goldhor, Director, University of Illinois, Graduate School of Library Science; Winifred C. Ladley, Associate Professor of Library Science at the University; and Cora E. Thomassen, Assistant Professor of Library Science at the University. My thanks to them and to Mrs. Susan Bush Lindsey, formerly, Instructor in Library Science, Division of University Extension; Mr. Hugh Davison, Institute Supervisor and his staff of the Division of University Extension; Mr. Eugene H. Schroth, Assistant Director of Allerton House, and his colleagues; Mrs. Maija Harris, Credentials Analyst, Graduate

School of Library Science; and Miss Jean Somers, Assistant to the Editor in the Graduate School of Library Science.

Alice Lohrer
Chairman, Planning Committee

Urbana, Illinois
May 1964

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*We very much regret that due to pressure of a heavy schedule Dr. Louis Forsdale was unable to send to us his manuscript entitled "The 8mm Film: A New Medium for School Libraries." His excellent presentation and demonstration of 8mm films that have been developed experimentally for school use give hope that this revolutionary media will soon be available for use in our school libraries.

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