

Twelve Library Outlets Serve Rural Areas



CHECKING OUT BOOKS.—Before the books leave the Medford library for delivery to the branch libraries they have to be checked out. Above, head librarian Miss Helen Webster, below, checks the card file while Mrs. Harry Fuller takes the books from the shelves. This helper is Lauren Stayton. Either Miss

Webster or Mrs. Fuller makes a trip every Friday to several of the branches and stations so that all 12 of them are reached during a month. Miss Ruth Hunter, a senior at Medford High school, is in charge of keeping records for the books circulated among the branch libraries.



FAVORITE READING SPOT.—Chairs placed around the old wood stove in the Gold Hill branch library makes a cozy reading spot for library users. Above, librarian Mrs. Jewel Bouch helps Mrs. Eugene Dickson select a book for her two children, Ritchy and Viki, while Crystal Johnson reads beside the fire.

The Gold Hill library is in the city hall building. The Medford Library provides the books and administration for the branch libraries and the community provides the building, heat and lights. The county pays the librarian a small salary, which is in most cases supplemented by the community.

Branches, Units Are Maintained by Library in Medford

The quiet atmosphere of the Medford public library gives little indication of the activity that is constantly going on to keep records up to date and the shelves stacked with books.

But the work that goes on within the four walls of the building is only a part of the job being done by library personnel to furnish reading material to residents of Jackson county.

There are 12 other outlets for books within the county, all maintained by the Medford library, for the benefit of residents of outlying communities. Of these, eight are branch libraries and four are library stations operated by individuals at their place of business or in their homes.

Eight Branches
The eight branches are located in Phoenix, Talent, Jacksonville, Gold Hill, Rogue River, Butte Falls, Central Point and Eagle Point. There are stations at Prospect, Shady Cove, in the Table Rock area and on the Applegate.

Most of the branches hold a rotating collection of about 500 books, 50 of which are exchanged each month, while the stations carry a stock of some 100 books which are rotated in about the same proportions.

Compensation
In the communities where branches are maintained the librarian often receives some compensation from the community as well as her regular county pay check. The county pays them from \$15 to \$20 a month. Station operators volunteer their services.

The Medford library furnishes the books, and the administration for the small libraries and the community furnishes the housing, heat and lights. Any book in the Medford library is available to the branch libraries, and many special requests for books are filled each month. In addition to the books, the branch libraries all receive subscriptions to 12 magazines, plus numerous pamphlets, all supplied by the main library.

Miss Helen Webster, who has been head librarian here for about 20 months was formerly in charge of a county library, including branches and a bookmobile, in Grace Harbor county, Wash.

Value of Books
She knows the value of providing books to the people who live in the remote districts, and has been working to improve the services offered by the smaller libraries here and to increase the number of "good" books on their shelves.

Over the years, she said, many people have donated books to these community libraries that have become outdated. They take up room on the shelves, but are seldom read. According to state law, all books must be approved by a professional librarian before they can be put on the shelves of a public library.

Every Friday, either Miss Webster or Mrs. Harry Fuller loads up their car with boxes of books and heads for the "country." They visit three or four branches and stations a week and are able to cover all 12 of them during the course of a month. Their helper on these trips is Lauren Stayton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Stayton, of Medford.

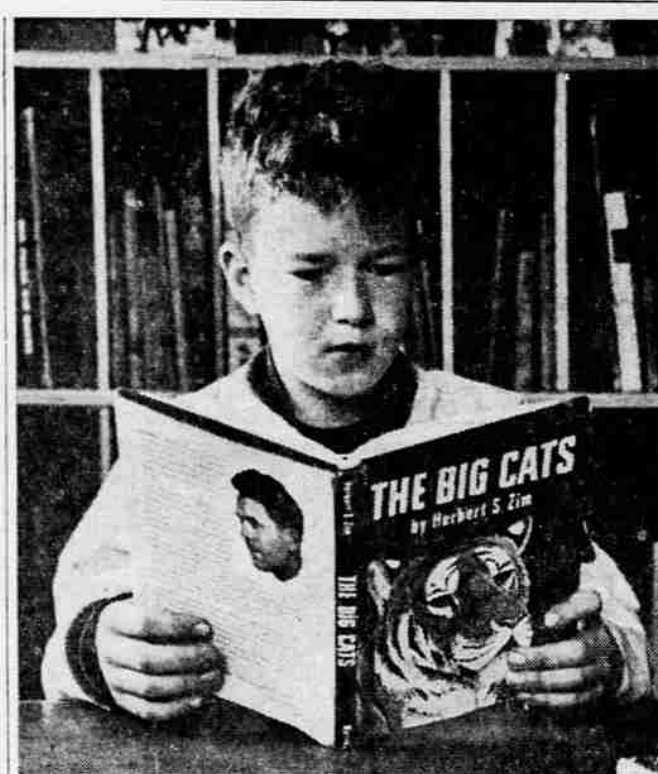
Selected, Checked
But before the books leave the main library they have to be selected and checked out to the branch libraries. There are also special requests for books and reference information that have to be filled. When the books are brought back they have to be checked in again and replaced on the shelves. Altogether, the time spent each week in exchanging books in the small libraries amounts to about 12 or 15 hours.

Most of the branches and stations in Jackson county have been maintained for 37 years. Since 1920, when a contract was drawn up with the county court, the Medford public library began functioning as both a city and county library.

The county pays the city of Medford, directly from the county budget, a sum to cover the county's share of the expenses. Last year the amount appropriated was \$24,000 or what amounts to a 3 mill levy, and is paid by every resident of Jackson county.

Wider Selection
A large part of the revenue comes from the more populated areas, and the outlying communities gain the services of trained librarians and benefit from having a far wider selection of books than if they maintained a library of their own.

According to Miss Webster, there is a possibility that Jackson county will get a bookmobile. The federal government recently passed a rural library services bill which would appro-



HIGH ADVENTURE.—Youngsters as well as adults in the outlying communities in Jackson county make use of the branch libraries. Here, James Dunnington, 10, of Jacksonville, finds time after school to read his favorite kind of story. The Jacksonville branch library is in an old building where early-day pioneer families sought shelter from Indian attacks.



LIBRARY BUILDING.—This branch library building in Eagle Point was built in 1952 with funds provided by the city. A branch library stocks about 500 books as well as numerous magazines and pamphlets. According to branch librarian, Mrs. Jessie Tyner, westerns and mystery stories are the most popular books with Eagle Point readers. An average of about 450 books are checked out each month by Eagle Point area residents.

News About Books From the Library

It's least wanted volumes, — the dustiest, the dirtiest, the most out-dated, the worst torn, — are the unusual subject of the Medford Public Library's current exhibit. Like food, books grow old, wear out or go out of fashion.

As the selection of new books is made, and like clothing, books to serve readers' interests and fill library needs is a matter of continual routine in a public library, so also is the opposite activity of weeding the collection of books which no longer serve those purposes.

One reason for this necessity is limitation of space; another is the fact it costs money to keep a book on the shelves since the books must regularly be kept in order. Then too, some books reach the stage when they do more harm than good by their mere presence in a library, as when they lead a reader to borrow a book less useful than another of better authority or more recent and accurate in its information. Too high a proportion of old, worn, unattractive books on the shelves give a discouraging impression of drabness and repel readers, who are reluctant to search among them for something that might be of use.

Shelves Examined
For these reasons library shelves are examined regularly for withdrawal of undesirable items just as they are examined regularly for addition of needed books.

Contrary to popular opinion, few books are valuable simply because they are old. The fact that a book is a first edition is not in itself an indication of merit; a poor book will never reach a second. As an unknown writer jestingly said: "If your antique book is 100 years old, your idea of antiques is quaint. It's 200 years it might be a find, but chances are better it ain't. At 300 years it starts to grow up. 400? Well, maybe it's rare. But 500 years? Hang on to it, Sis, 'cause, Brother, you've got something there!" (The Medford Public Library has no books more than 100 years old.)

A total of 236 volumes were added to the library during the past two weeks. Of these 28 were gifts donated by Mrs. Florence Bailey, Mrs. Annie B. Hawkins, John Reter, and Mrs. Albert Griffin, of Jacksonville. The 48 new titles added include:

Philosophy of religion: Of God, the devil and the Jews, Runes; Prescription for Anxiety, Weatherhead; Faith, Hope, and Love, Brunner; Pathways of the Inner Life, Barrios; Rand McNally Bible Atlas, Kraeling; The One Story, Niebuhr.

Travel and Adventure: Adventure of the Western Sea, Beals; The Vengeful Sea, Snow; Jambo Means Hello, Strandburg; Matto Grosso, Korabiewicz.

History: Decision in Germany, Clay; The Big Thaw, Sulzberger; The Far Western Frontier, Billington; Historical Statistics of the United States, 1789-1945, U. S. Census Bureau; Wheels, Tunis.

Science and technology: Random Lengths, Cox; Glory Days of Logging, Andrews; Complete Home Improvement Handbook, Evans; The Television Workshop, Tooley; Men of Other Planets, Heuer; The Exploration of Mars, Ley.

Reference: Audubon Western Bird Guide, Pough.

Other non-fiction: Family Menagerie, Rudolph; Cues for Careers, Scott; The Sea Dreamer, Jean-Aubry; William Penn, Pearce.

Adventure stories: High Case, Frazee; Lonesome River, Gruber; The Hell Bent Kid, Locke; Manhunt, Mackenzie; The Dark Window, Walsh.

Science fiction: The Naked Sun, Asimov; When Worlds Collide, Balmer; Best From Fantasy and Science Fiction, sixth series; The Door into Summer, Heinlein.

For young adults: Gypsy Se- crete, Crane; Blueberry Summer,



LIBRARY STATION.—Mrs. Ray Wyatt of Table Rock store is a combination librarian and grocery clerk. Above she is checking out books for nine-year-old Barbara Rominger, a nearby neighbor. This is one of the four library stations in Jackson county. The books are provided by the Medford public library and the station operators volunteer their services. The other three stations in the county are in private homes.

Federal Judge Rules Company Failed to Comply With Orders

San Francisco — (U.P.) — Federal Judge Louis E. Goodman Friday ruled that J. Henry Helser and company, Portland and San Francisco investment advisory company, failed to comply with previous court orders and ordered the company to make changes in its offerings to its clients.

Goodman ordered the company twice in 1955 to take steps to clarify its service to its clients or face injunction for violation of the Securities and Exchange act and the Investment Advisors act.

In January, the SEC asked Goodman to grant the commission an injunction against the company for "repeated" violation of Goodman's earlier orders. The company, during the same proceeding, asked Goodman to make an order stating that Helser and company had "substantially complied" with the previous court orders.

Goodman said Friday that evidence taken at subsequent hearings showed there "have been instances and occasions in which Helser has not fully complied" with the court order.

Action Ordered
Because of the several areas of non-compliance found by Goodman he ordered the company to take the following action: —Include in its offering brochure the nature of the suit before the court and the court's findings and orders.

—Include in the brochure the nature of the investment and management service made available by the company, the fact that the Helser plan commits client funds to speculative trading and the relationship between the management fees collected by the company and the dividend and bond interest income.

—State the source of funds used to meet monthly and other withdrawals from client accounts.

—Give each client a revised brochure and expressly forbid officers and employees of the company to make statements and representations contrary to the revised brochure.

Goodman said the court would retain jurisdiction over the suit and would make any additional orders or modifications in the case as the court deems necessary.

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Three People Hurt In Car Accident
Three people received minor injuries in a two-vehicle collision at 8:05 p.m. Friday on Henricks rd., near Talent, state police reported.

Karlson Wayne Heard, 16, route 1, box 65, Talent, driver of one of the cars, received chin lacerations and his two passengers, William R. Snyder, 17, and Robert Lee Hoffman, 19, both of Talent, received head and face lacerations. They were treated at Ashland General hospital.

Operator of the other vehicle, Doris Deane Tipword, 62, route 1, box 95, Talent, was not injured.

According to police, Mrs. Tipword's vehicle was east-bound on the road and Heard's car was westbound when the two collided at the crest of a hill. Police said Heard was cited for failure to operate on the right side of the highway. Both cars were reported totally wrecked.

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Praesepe Constellation Is Visible High In Heavens

By FAY BENTLEY

"If Praesepe is not visible in a clear sky, it foretells the coming of a violent storm," wrote the Roman author, Pliny the Elder. Praesepe, also called The Manger and The Beehive, is a star cluster found in a small, inconspicuous, but very interesting constellation, Cancer the Crab.

Known as a weather indicator, Praesepe's stars in that region of the sky were visible and this star group could scarcely be seen, a heavy rain storm was anticipated.

Swarm of Bees
Although this asterism of dim stars remotely resembles a swarm of bees, it seems more fitting to regard it as a Manger, for Praesepe is flanked by two small stars named Asellus borealis and Asellus australis; the Northern Ass and the Southern Ass, which are eating hay from The Manger. The literal meaning of Praesepe is manger or stable.

According to legend, the god Bacchus, on his way to visit the temple of Jupiter, came to a marsh which he could not cross. Nearby were two wild asses. Mounting one of them Bacchus rode safely through the muddy water. To show his appreciation, he placed both animals in the sky and gave them a well-filled manger so they would never suffer from hunger.

Galileo, viewing this famous cluster with his "optical tube" was amazed to find several stars where only one was visible to the naked eye.

Halley's Comet was first seen near The Manger in the year 1531.

Position of Importance
Cancer the Crab, with its Beehive or Manger, appears in all the ancient star charts and since very early times has held a position of importance. The Chaldeans called it the "Gate of Men" and said it was the gate through which souls came down from heaven to live in mortal bodies.

Four thousand years before the time of Christ the Babylonians and Egyptians called Cancer a Tortoise instead of a Crab. Later, the Egyptians named it Scarabaeus or sacred beetle and regarded it as an emblem of immortality.

Two more stars complete the star picture: one directly below Asellus australis and one above and to the left of Asellus borealis. This broken line of four fourth-magnitude stars resembles a carelessly formed figure seven.

30 IN FEBRUARY
Muskegon, Mich. — (U.P.) — Many residents in this area have calendars showing February with 30 days this year. A printer's mistake went unnoticed until after hundreds of the calendars were handed out.

Restrictions Bill Approved by Group

Salem — (U.P.) — The House forestry and mining committee Friday approved a bill to prevent restriction of marketing areas for timber.

Under the present law, the board of forestry has authority to set up marketing areas for state and county owned forest lands, giving mills in the immediate vicinity a priority on purchase.

House bill 563, sponsored by Rep. Eddie Ahrens, Turner Republican, and others, would repeal this provision of the law.

Ahrens said the present law was useless since marketing areas had been set up after its passage in 1951.

A companion bill passed by the committee at the same time would prevent the state forestry board from entering into cooperative agreements with other land owners.

Applegate Minstrel Show Scheduled
The fourth annual Applegate 4-H Minstrel show will be presented Friday, March 29, at 8 p.m. in the Applegate school gymnasium.

"Mr. Bones," "Mr. Brown" and "Mr. Tambo" are members of this year's cast. Special numbers, solos, quartet numbers and novelty acts are on the program as well as several numbers by the entire chorus. Club members and residents of the Applegate valley are working together to produce the show.

Admission for high school students and adults will be 75 cents and grade school students will be admitted for 25 cents. There will be no admission charge for pre-school children. Proceeds will be used for 4-H summer camp scholarships and for financing the annual Applegate valley 4-H fair.

The Applegate extension unit will be in charge of the refreshment booth.

A single female oyster may lay 500 million eggs within one season.



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