



Department of Education
DIVISION OF THE STATE LIBRARY, ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1965-1966

1. The new State Library and Museum buildings were dedicated on September 26, 1965, by Governor Hughes before an audience of more than 2500 persons. Many prominent public officials, including members of the Legislature and the Judiciary, attended.
2. In May, 1966, the State Library received an Award of Merit for Architectural Excellence from a Joint Committee composed of representatives of the American Library Association, the American Institute of Architects and the National Library Week Committee. The State Library was one of ten libraries in the country to be so honored.
3. A major new activity of the State Library involved the successful development and implementation of a plan for the administration of Title II under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965. Through a crash program on the part of the library staff, and with the guidance of an advisory committee appointed by the Commissioner of Education, the processing of approximately 2500 applications from New Jersey elementary and secondary schools was accomplished on schedule. By the end of the fiscal year, more than \$3,000,000 in Federal funds to improve school libraries and instructional materials in public and private schools had been obligated.
4. A bill adding \$300,000 in State aid to public libraries was passed by both houses of the Legislature in the closing weeks of the session, raising the total amount of such aid from \$1,550,000 to \$1,850,000. The legislation enacted was a committee substitute for a new State Aid Bill which would have provided between \$7 and \$8 million for public library services under a new shared-cost formula designed to reward local effort.
5. The activation of the position of Chief of Readers Services and the appointment of a highly qualified individual to the post marked an important step forward in improving the basic management pattern of the State Library. The Readers Services Bureau is charged with making continuing studies of inter-bureau relationships for the purpose of eliminating wasteful duplication and streamlining services wherever possible.
6. An important step in implementing a major recommendation of the Library Development Committee's Report was taken with the appointment of the New Jersey Committee on Library Resources by the State Commissioner of

Education. The Committee held its first meeting on May 24 and, as a major item of business, approved the State Library's proposed master plan for Federal depository library designations. This plan, which would insure that depository libraries were assigned in such a way as to cover the entire state and be placed where they would best serve the public, replaces the former haphazard method by which these designations have been made. The plan has already received tentative approval by the U.S. Superintendent of Documents and by the Congressmen in whose districts depository libraries have been recommended for designation.

7. At the request of the Commissioner of Institutions and Agencies and the New Jersey Commission for the Blind, the State Library has agreed to establish a New Jersey Library Services to the Blind and Handicapped as a unit of the State Library. Negotiations have been completed with the Free Library of Philadelphia to terminate their contractual services to New Jersey as of December 31, 1966, and to effectuate a transfer and phasing-in operation for the State Library operated service to begin by January 1, 1967.
8. The improved facilities of the new State Library building and the longer hours of service have resulted in much wider use by the general public. The General Reference and Archives bureaus are now open on Monday and Thursday evenings as well as all day Saturday. The popular Archives Exhibit Room, which continues to attract large numbers of interested viewers, is now open on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays at the same time that the Museum facilities are open to the public.
9. The emerging plan of area reference libraries located at strategic points throughout the State received continuing study and review by the State Library staff and the Advisory Council. The review is being conducted against the background of the proposed expansion of the Library Services and Construction Act and the Report of the Library Development Committee of the New Jersey Library Association, which provides basic guidelines for the designation of additional area reference libraries.
10. An important step toward a strengthened Archives Bureau was taken with the creation of the position of Historical Editor. With the establishment of this position the Bureau will embark upon a publications program of which the resumption of the New Jersey Archives Series is a primary goal.
11. At the request of the Secretary of State, a special library of appropriate materials was created and manned during the New Jersey Constitutional Convention at the State University in New Brunswick. To assist the delegates, a subject bibliography was compiled on "Problems of Legislative Apportionment and Districting".

12. As of June 30, grants totaling \$1,018,382 under the construction title of the Library Services and Construction Act were approved for public library construction in the following municipalities: Bergenfield, Bridgeton, Elizabeth, Englewood, Garfield, Little Falls Twp., Mountainside, Monmouth County, Newark, Phillipsburg, Scotch Plains, Springfield, Willingboro Twp., and Woodbridge Twp. (Iselin and Port Reading).
13. Workshops, seminars and institutes conducted by the State Library or assisted by its staff included an Equipment Institute held at the State Library on March 30 and attended by over 150 librarians and trustees; four Regional Institutes on Library Self-Evaluation and The Use of Federal Funds by Public and School Libraries attended by 767 librarians and trustees; a two-day Seminar for Public Library Trustees developed in cooperation with the Library Trustees Association of New Jersey attracted 350 trustees to Morristown, and two series of Reference Workshops for Small Libraries on a pilot project basis demonstrated the need for additional workshops of this type in future years.
14. The Commission to Study the Arts in New Jersey, for which the State Librarian serves as Secretary, completed its final report in June. With the approval and support of Governor Hughes, legislation was enacted creating a permanent State Arts Council, and appropriating \$75,000 for its use. This act also authorizes the State to accept Federal funds to further arts programs in New Jersey.

Publications

1. Monthly Checklist, Official New Jersey Publications.
2. New Jersey Narcotic Laws (A Compilation), March, 1966.
3. Bibliography - Problems of Legislative Apportionment and Districting after Baker v. Carr, February, 1966.
4. Federal Acts of Interest to Public Libraries in New Jersey, March, 1966.
5. Guidelines for Filing Applications for Federal Funds Through the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, Title II, School Library Resources, Jan. 1966.
6. A State Plan for Making Available School Library Resources and Other Instructional Materials, under Sections 201-207 of Title II, and Sections 601-605 of Title VI, Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, January, 1966.
7. School Library Directory, 1965.

8. Information for Applicants, Library Services and Construction Act of 1964, Public Library Construction, June, 1966.
9. New Jersey Public Libraries Directory, 1965.
10. Annual Report, Public and School Library Services Bureau, Division of the State Library, Department of Education, 1965-1966.

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July 1, 1966