



Owl Hoots and Screeches . . .

By MRS. NELLIE M. SANDERS
Director, Pettigrew Regional Library

HOOTS

POPULAR MUSIC AND LIBRARIES—Recordings are widely-circulated items in most public libraries these days; and the libraries of the Pettigrew Region (Shepard-Pruden Memorial Library in Edenton, Tyrrell County Public Library in Columbia, and Washington County Library in Plymouth) are no exception. In fact, the latest statistics show that recordings represent the most rapid increase of any library materials circulated.

The selection of recordings for public library collections has undergone a change in philosophy in recent times.

Pam Bunch To Head Chowanian

Pam Bunch has been elected editor of the award-winning Chowanian, student newspaper at Chowan High School. Ira Lou Byrum will serve as associate editor during 1973-74.

Millie Bunch will be business manager. They were among 25 students recently named to posts on the newspaper.

The new staff put out the latest edition of the newspaper, distributed April 20.

Reporting the news around school will be Lou Ann Bass, Karen Harrell, and Debra Boswell.

Filling the position of elementary reporter is Donnie Mosley, with Gail Bass at the high school reporter. Marcia Nixon shall cover the junior high news and Gloria Copeland will be acting as club reporter.

Society editor is Belva Ashley. Thomasina Hall will deliver the top tunes in Music Spotlight and Phyllis Jordan will do the calendar.

Adding to the sports scene will be Al Peale. Providing artwork will be Jill Hendrix, Cathy Bass, and Brad Hollowell.

Filling the positions of proofreaders are Donna Bunch, Edna Privott, and LaRue Chappell.

Mimeographers and photographers will be Doris Spruill, Tony Hare, and Mel Evans.

Circulating the newspapers throughout school will be Angela Asbell and Peggy Bass.

Life would be simpler if the people on the earth were more sincere.

When libraries first began purchasing recordings, they chose spoken records and classical music. The rationale was that these were of high literary and musical quality and they were items the ordinary library patron would not buy for himself. Since we use similar thinking in purchasing reference books, that is all right as far as it goes. But the function of a public library is not just to supply information and education, although that is foremost in our plans. Another important function of the public library is to provide materials for recreation and aesthetic enjoyment hence, popular recordings are appropriate in the same way that mysteries and romances belong on the shelves along with biography and history.

Since funds for purchase of materials are limited (the largest percentage still goes for books, periodicals taking the next largest share) it is impossible to secure all the records we would like to add to our collection immediately. Every effort is made to choose wisely and economically to serve the widest variety of tastes.

SCREECHES

RECORD SELECTION ADVICE—Recognizing the problems inherent in buying popular music for libraries, the Young Adult Consultant of the North Carolina State Library, Miss Nancy Wallace, has arranged some help. A workshop has been arranged with an expert from California who gave a most interesting presentation at the recent convention in New Orleans. Mrs. Caroline Saheb-Ettaba, the Director of Library Services for Bro-Dart West in California, is conducting the workshop on April 25 in Smithfield. The Pettigrew Regional library will be represented by Mrs. Louise Darby, the Chowan County librarian from the Shepard-Pruden Memorial Library in Edenton.

The description of the presentation included the following: "The purpose of the program is to stimulate greater awareness on the part of librarians of the importance of popular music recordings in their collections, and to give some guidelines in selecting and building viable collections. In addition, there is emphasis on the use of recordings by librarians who are interested in communicating more effectively with young adults, minority groups, and specific age groups."

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