



Owl Hoots and Screeches . . .

By MRS. NELLIE M. SANDERS
Director Pettigrew Regional Library

HOOTS
LIBRARY FRIENDS — Two things happened to me this week to strengthen my confidence in the good things that library friends accomplish. The first took place in Tarboro where the Friends of the Edgecombe County Memorial Library held a sell-out concert and hosted a very successful reception in the Library. A Plymouth native, son of my golfing companion, Lloyd Owens joined with another pianist, Terry Coley, to perform an impressive two-piano program interspersed with choral selections by an ensemble which included his wife and eight other accomplished singers. The proud mother, Fran Owens, and aunt, Eloise Owens, basked in the glow of praise and my pride was no less than theirs. Bringing good music to a community is one of the nicest things a library and its friends can do.

The other nice thing came through the mail from a book publisher. Viking Press wishes to make a contribution to the funding of public libraries and has made a unique offer. For every Christmas gift to a public library of \$5 or more, they will give the donor a Christmas gift of a book from their library. Their ad appears in the New York Times Book Review for December 2nd and, of course, they are most concerned about the New York Public Library which has had serious financial difficulties, but the offer should prompt help to all public libraries — including ours.

SCREECHES
TIME JOURNEY HAMPERED — I feel as if I have taken a time machine trip into the past with recent visits to historic areas. First it was Burnsville where the hotel was built in 1833 and then it was Hillsborough where the Colonial Inn dates from 1759. Inclement weather prevented our taking the planned walking tour of historic Hillsborough which was on our agenda but we managed to spend some time in the Museum set up in the old Courtroom.

The occasion for the visit to Hillsborough was a meeting of Regional Librarians. It provided a rare opportunity for us to have both formal and informal discussions with Grace Rohrer, Secretary of

Cultural Resources, Philip Ogilvie, State Librarian and Elaine von Oesen, Assistant State Librarian. The need for additional state support to libraries was stressed and the budget request to be made to the Legislature was explained. Bill O'Shea, in his capacity as Governmental Relations Chairman for the Public Libraries Section of The North Carolina Library Association, urged all of us to work closely with our representatives and senators to help them understand library needs.

HOOTS
SMALL WORLD — The informal discussions took place in the home of a Library Trustee in Hillsborough, Sandy Davison, who also invited local friends of the library to meet us. All of the people I met were charming conversationalists but there were two with whom I spent most of the evening. Lady Whitby fascinated me because I had never before talked to anyone who lives in a Palace. As the widow of a famous hematologist who was knighted for his contributions to society, she lives "at the discretion of the Queen" in a Hampton Court Palace apartment in Middlesex, England. The other new acquaintance with whom I talked at length was Miss Rebecca Wall, a direct descendant of the Collins family, builders of Somerset Place. She lives in Hillsborough and told me how much she appreciated her invitation to the Candlelight Reception but age prevents her doing much traveling these days.



A private eye is quick to detect a good thing. Mike Connors, CBS-TV's "Mannix," takes stock of the gift problem and chooses U.S. Savings Bonds.

ARPDC And George Chevrolet Sponsor Mobile Training Unit

The Chevrolet Mobile Training Unit met at George Chevrolet last Thursday night for a demonstration. The program was sponsored by the Albemarle Regional Planning and Development Commission in conjunction with George Chevrolet. Carter Berry, operator of the training van, presented an audio-visual program on "Tips on Engine Oil". Discussion followed into the feasibility of the mobile training unit; and the use of available audio-visual equipment and resource aids. General Motors will be sending a list of available resource material to area school systems and community colleges for their possible use in curriculum.

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