

Librarian Rides The Bookmobile In This County

Rural Borrowers Are Using Books By the Armfuls Every Month in Year

By Mrs. Elizabeth H. Copeland District Librarian

A day on the bookmobile is a real education! It offers us the priceless opportunity of talking to the people we buy books for all the time. We had just such a day recently in Martin County in the vicinity of Oak City.

Of course, everybody over there is busy getting tobacco ready for market. We really did not expect to get to see many of our folks. And we did miss quite a number. But to our great satisfaction, they didn't miss their books. Instead of the usual family group and close neighbors, we were met by one member who selected books for all. But let me tell you about it.

We were delayed in leaving Washington and therefore missed the early part of the day. We joined Mrs. Peele and Mrs. Scott in the little village of Hassell where the bookmobile was just completing its regular visit with Mrs. Nelson and her neighbors. We didn't see the books they borrowed but we noticed they had from 15 to 20 each. Then Mrs. Nelson wouldn't let us leave until she had seen her new puppets.

five baby toy terriers. She told us she wants to raise them for selling and we made a mental note to send her some books on the care and feeding of dogs.

From there we went on down the road to stop with Mrs. Edmondson. We parked under the

we were immediately surrounded by several children from the neighborhood and Mrs. Edmondson herself who came out with a plate of beautiful chocolate cake she had just baked. It was for our lunch, she said, and she hoped it would be enough to go around. We smiled later when we opened it to find six huge slices! The children found their own books and we helped Mrs. Edmondson select for all their mothers and select for all their mothers and tobacco barns. "I don't know what we would do without the bookmobile," she said, and her eight year old son said, "Mama if it hadn't been for the bookmobile I couldn't have started school in the second grade, could I?" Then she told us of her recent attendance at a Roman Catholic wedding and we discussed varieties of church ceremonies.

Our next stop was at the Briley home where again we found books to meet the wishes of all the family, historical fiction, sports stories and others.

We stopped at Barrett's Drug Store in Oak City for lunch and that wonderful Chocolate cake.

Then to Mrs. Liverman who told us of her 21 year old son in the army while she held her one year old son in her arms. She has

fessed she hid Forever Amber from her family while she read it in secret.

The Tysons were not at home and we went on to Mr. Hassells Store. But today we stopped across the road under Mr. Robertson's shade trees. One of the small boys had been watching us and he went flying to the barn with the news that we had arrived. We left fairy stories for the girls and horses, dogs and Indians for the boys. It was a happy occasion with perhaps ten people of all ages gathered for a visit to the library.

As we approached Smith's store on the Palmyra road we saw a little boy running toward the house and we heard the familiar cry, "Bookmobile's here! Bookmobile's here!" Bookmobile's here! In a push cart with her seven month old baby, Sarah Smith was bringing also the great quantity of books she had read this past month. Her husband is away in service and these books have helped her to pass many lonely hours. Both children and grown people came out to this stop and we had a good time talking with them about crops, politics and the books they had read.

Next came the Harrell family—long-time bookmobile patrons and avid readers. They have a large book shelf in their living room. Each month they empty it and refill it with bookmobile books. And what's more, they read those books—Amy Jean, fifteen year-old daughter, always gets from 35 to 50 books for herself. She is not a book worm either. That day she

was helping a neighbor in tobacco and her mother selected books for her. Her younger brother reads almost as many and her mother is not far behind. They wanted all kinds—good novels, biographies, travel, adventure and others. Mrs. Harrell asked for a particular book on house planning. She is going to renovate her kitchen and wanted some help. We'll take her books on that subject next month. She had a big pitcher of ice water ready for she knew on a hot day we'd be thirsty. We drank three glasses each!

We went on to the Mannings and drove into the cool back yard. Inspected the chickens, including Easter biddies now grown up and back to their natural color. Left an arm full of books for the parents and the son who suffers with arthritis and could not come out. His mother told us how he looks forward to bookmobile day.

A few more smaller stops and we made our way back into Williamston about five-thirty. We went to our small office to refill our shelves with more books for tomorrow.

Yes, a day on the bookmobile

Our Great America by Woody



Jamesville Club Holds Meeting

The Jamesville Woman's Club met Tuesday evening, October 7, with Mrs. James Long, president, presiding. Following the business meeting, Miss Esta Martin, chairman of the American Home Department took charge of the

She introduced Mrs. Varo Davenport, Speech and Hearing Therapist, of the Washington City schools. Mrs. Davenport told how she screens school children in order to find those who need help, described her methods of helping these handicapped children, and quoted figures to show that eastern North Carolina needs this type of teaching in every school. She used the audiometer in testing the hearing of several club

Mrs. Davenport is the first person in North Carolina to complete work for a certificate in Speech and Hard of Hearing Therapy in a North Carolina College. She holds a master's certificate

Dardens Club Holds Meeting

Dardens Home Demonstration Club held its regular meeting in October with Mrs. Marvin Jones. The meeting was called to order by the president, Mrs. C. B. Fagan, we sang "America the Beautiful," followed by the club creed. Minutes were read and roll called. There were 10 members present and one visitor. Old business was discussed and we decided to keep our club project for another year the same, that being to help with the sick room in Jamesville School. Also we were happy to know that we had won something

After her talk, Mrs. Edgar Brown gave a report on the District convention held at Farmville. Mrs. Elwood Brown, Walter Brown, Edgar Brown and P. C. Blount, Jr. served as hostesses. Reported.

Cpl. Willie Baker Returning Home

With the 1st Cavalry Div. in Japan—Army Cpl. Willie E. Baker, whose wife, Peggy Joyce, lives in Farmville, is returning to the United States under the Army's rotation program.

He served in the 1st Cavalry Division, which spent 17 months in the front lines of Korea before being assigned to security duty in Japan late in 1951.

During his tour of duty in the Far East, he served for four months in Korea, in Battery B of the 99th Field Artillery Battalion. Corporal Baker holds the Korean Service Medal, the Army of Occupation Medal for service in Japan, and the United Nations Medal.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Jasper A. Baker of Route 1, Wilson, N. C., he entered the Army in January 1951.

on our booth at the Jamesville Fair. We wish to thank all that helped us and especially the Ruritan Club of Jamesville. Our apron sales were very successful. Also our sales on Christmas Cards. We would like to remind each club member to please don't forget your pack of postcards next meeting as we are looking forward to having a bag ready for the train.

The National Council meeting will be held in Raleigh on October 25-29. We are also planning a booth for the Williamston fair. Achievement Day is Nov. 14, and will be held at Cross Roads.

Mrs. Harrison showed us slides on Fitting Ready Made Clothes, and its importance on looking neat and well dressed even though they were made over. Hostess served ice cream, cake and potato chips. The meeting adjourned to meet in November with Mrs. James Stalls. —Reported.

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