

Book Week To Be Observed Here

(By Louise Beville, Librarian.)

"Children's Book Week" which originated some few years ago in library activities, and the spirit of which it was felt in the year 1860 in the good old days of Louis Carroll, creator of the famous story known to all children's hearts as "Alice in Wonderland," is today actively alive in the way humanity is taking care of the trend of children's readings in the purchasing of good clean suitable literature to mold and make fine noble American men and women, by giving and choosing the right mental food which surely does more good than any other one thing in the influencing of the coming generation.

"Book Week" is here, knocking at our very doors. How will we answer its call? What will we as clubs and individuals do in honor of something that is of untold interest to us all, especially to those residents married and being parents?

One of the most entertaining things I ever read of was the outstanding feature in Greensboro of

Children's Book Week. The real appearance was Hugh Lofting with a brilliant green auto and some of the animals as well as feathered friends that appear on the pages of "The Doghouse" books.

In passing backward and glancing possibly over one thousand years, we find written on the pages of literature some such fine examples of the olden days, as Damon and Pythias which speak confidence, loyalty and a steady faith where if necessary one friend would lay down his life for another, or rather for a principle.

It is a long recognized fact that we have retrograded in our literary field by good reading and the way we spend our time do we largely mold our natures. Seldom will you find shipwreck in the life of that man or woman who has read much and read well.

In speaking of the value of books and what they mean to us; a book on Practical Electricity saved the day for a young man opening a theatre for the first time. About two days before its opening it was discovered that there was something seriously wrong with the wiring just some little wire screw or pin, as I am not familiar with electrical mechanism, but something was lack of co-ordination. The fans would waft their breezes into the theatre when the light should come. Every man in the electric field was called in without effect. The young man and owner of the building rushed off an order for a book on "Practical Electricity," and applying the knowledge gleaned therein, everything was adjusted. This was a real happening, a real man and opera house, my mother and myself lived to enjoy a musical comedy, occupying one of finest boxes in the opera house. Everything went off beautifully and the exquisite dancing, the physical beauty and gossamer costume of the solo dancer will remain to me a delight as well as an enchanting memory.

Some of the greatest deeds have been accomplished out of school. Your library is not only the free university to Waynesville, but all over the world. Here in the library there is no tuition other than a small fee charged. All are welcome to spend some time by a warm fire and well lighted room with an uplifting book as a companion to develop the mind. And so the Waynesville Library is open to all, as herein are life's real friends—good reading.

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