

Lincoln, 15 Nov. 1904.

To Nebraska Editors:-

This Commission would greatly appreciate the favor if you can find it convenient to print the appended item on rural library associations in your papers. By so doing, you will contribute greatly to the welfare of your country readers, who need only to be informed concerning their privileges in the matter of books, to make use of them.

Respectfully,

Edna D. Bullock, Sec'y.

Library associations in rural neighborhoods.

A rural library association may do much to make farm people's winters both pleasant and profitable. It is an association in which both old and young can join. When the corn is husked and hauled to the cribs and elevators, people have more time to read.

If a library association could be organized in a country neighborhood, with the object of borrowing a traveling library from the Library Commission, and holding meetings to discuss the books, half-a-dozen winter evenings might be made occasions of great interest and profit. The association might have two sections, one being for the children, and one of the programs might be given by the children, based on materials gotten from books in the traveling library. The first meeting might take the form of a "covering bee", giving everybody a chance to see the collection of books before any are loaned, and to help put loose paper covers on all of them. Programs could be made out, and meetings held to discuss the books, selections read from them, and reviews and criticisms given. Attention will thus be drawn to the different books, and many of them read that would otherwise be passed over.

If special topics are of interest in a particular neighborhood, special loans on those topics may be obtained from the Commission, either in connection with a traveling library or independent of it. Such topics as the Lewis and Clark expedition, the Panama canal, the great Siberian railroad, Japan and Russia are well worth special programs.

The Secretary of the Commission will be glad to assist in the organization of rural library associations, by correspondence, or by going to a neighborhood if it is desired. Special loans of books on farm and home topics are always available, either to clubs or to individuals.

Application blanks for traveling libraries will be sent to any address.

Edna D. Bullock, Sec'y.

Nebraska Public Library Commission
Lincoln.