

“An Essential Expenditure”

“When the school board provides a balanced collection of good books and magazines, necessary supplies and equipment, a suitable room, and a trained librarian, the library soon becomes the heart of the school.

“Library facilities have been neglected in many public schools in this state because of the urgent need to use all of the available money for other necessities. Books should not be permitted to wear out without being replaced. Supplies and equipment should be provided when needed. Trained school librarians or teacher-librarians should be employed whenever possible.

“I do not think that the school libraries should be expected to depend on charity, in the form of entertainments, box parties, etc., for support. They are an essential expenditure, and a definite sum for their support should be included in the budget.

“I believe that a full-time trained librarian should be employed in any high school which has ten or more teachers. I believe that a trained teacher-librarian should be employed in any other high school in Virginia whenever a position is vacant in the faculty and a teacher-librarian can be found who is qualified to teach the desired subjects.”

SIDNEY B. HALL,
Superintendent of Public Instruction.