Today we are going to visit the Junior high school branch. The other
noon I went over to visit it. A very attentive little school policeman met
me at the door and showed me in. Mr Solie, the custodian of the building,
greeted me on second floor. He said, I know you want to see Miss Yule. I did.
Miss Louise Yule is the librarian of the Junior high school library. Her
library didn't present its usual busy routine because it was being painted.
She was having a hard time convincing the students that they couldn't come
in. Miss Yule had so many interesting things to tell me that I asked her to
come and tell us about her work. Here is Miss Yule.

Thank you, Marion, I'm very glad to be here.

The Junior high school is housed in the old senior high school build-
ing on Lake, Fourth ave and Grand ave. Just what grades are housed in your
building?

All of the 7th and 8th grades of the city and 2 6th grade rooms.

What is the total enrollment?

The enrollment has been as high as 900. This year we have about 750
students, but the enrollment is expected to be higher again next year.

This school was opened just 10 years ago this fall. The first two years
the library branch was open only afternoons. The books used were taken from
the grade school duplicate collection. There were only a few hundred books
in that early collection. Today the shelves are overflowing. How many books
do you have?

At the present time we have 1833 circulating books and 192 reference
books. About 30 per cent of our circulating copies are fiction, the rest are
non-fiction, and we feel that we have a well-balanced collection.

What is the seating capacity of the library?

We have 13 tables, each seating 6 people, and a half dozen chairs
scattered about. We can seat 85 at full capacity.
How are students assigned to the library?

We have tried several plans for providing students with library contacts, but our system this year has proved most satisfactory. Each reading class is assigned one hour a week in the library. At this time students return books, draw new ones and work on their reading reports. The 7th graders all receive a series of lessons on how to use the library. These classes I teach in the library using their assigned hour each week. This year students were allowed to choose several activity periods. Library reading was listed as an activity and was chosen by many of our pupils. Our activity period enrollments range from 65-86 pupils per period. Periods which are not assigned to reading classes are open to teachers to bring classes for reference work, or who wish to send individual students on passes. And then, of course, the library is open morning, noon, and night.

This has been most interesting. The boys and girls over there do love both the library and the librarian. Miss Yule tells me that this year each student has read an average of about 40 books or magazines. She has selected two little booklovers who want to tell us about one of the most interesting books they have read this year. Miss Yule will you please introduce them.

First we'll hear from Roscella Sundby. I'm sure that I am safe in saying that, except when she is absent from school, Roscella has never missed a daily visit to the library. She is in the 8th grade, so she will have to find a new library next year. What book are you going to tell us about this morning, Roscella?

Roscella - Shanty Brook Lodge by Fjeril Hess.

Let's hear about it, it sounds very interesting.
The main character in this story is a lively, loveable girl, Cornelia - better known as Kit. She lives with her stern Aunt Benicia and her busy father. Her exciting summer begins when her Girl Scout troup is given the chance to spend a few weeks at Shanty Brook Lodge - a beautiful camping spot some distance from home.

Half of the troop makes the trip by auto, but the rest, Kit among them, makes the journey by bicycle. They have a wonderful time, in spite of an exciting time when Kit falls from her bike and gets a bad bump or two!

For a few days the girls were guests of old Binjie Allan, a childhood admirer of Aunt Benicia. While there they christened some new kittens, tried chopping wood, and got a taste of real farm life.

At last under the guidance of Pete and Charlie they reached camp. Then followed exciting days of getting settled, swimming, and hiking. On one of their nature tramps the girls spend several hours watching a spider spin his web. As they are about to leave, Janet, the youngest camper destroys the web with a stick. The girls are very angry, and Janet is very sorry. To right herself with the troop she decides to make a birch basket and fill it with berries. While browsing about in the woods she becomes lost. Late that night she is found by two boys who take her back to a very worried and excited Scout Troop.

This is only one of the many adventures in this interesting story. And it has a happy ending when Aunt Benicia becomes engaged to Benjie Allen.

Fjeril Hess is one of our favorite authors - and you'll love this book.

L. L. - Thank you, Roscella, that was fine. We have some new titles at the public library that you will want to read this summer. Now I'll let Miss Yule introduce our second guest speaker.

Y. Y. - Here is Charles Ross, another 8th grader. We librarians know that one of the best ways to advertise a new book is to give it to a good reader.
Charles has been my official "book tester" for two years. He's always willing to read anything I may suggest - and he's mighty fine salesman. What story have you chosen to tell us about, Charles?

Charles Ross - Sajo and the Beaver People by Grey Owl

First I would like to introduce the characters of my book.

Sajo is an Indian girl. She has brown eyes, jet black hair worn in two braids, is usually dressed in a many colored dress, and wears a pair of beautiful beaded moccasins.

Shapian is an Indian boy - the brother of Sajo. He is a manly looking boy, tall for his age, has copper colored skin and the dark eyes of the Micmacs.

Gitchie Mee-Gwan (which means the Big Feather) is the father of Sajo and Shapian. He is a tall gracefully built man with keen, dark eyes and long black hair that falls in two braids over his shoulders. He dresses in a suit of fringed buckskin that has been smoked to a rich brown.

Chilawee (which means Big Small) is Shapian's pet beaver kitten.

Chipanee (which means Little Small) is Sajo's beaver kitten.

A beaver colony had made a home by building a dam across a stream and then using mud and sticks to make a mound. They had a small opening underneath with a plung hole at the top inside and a piece of ground raised for a bed where the babies were born. They made feed rafts under the ice and then cut down trees to build canals to float the trees to a pond.

The first adventures of the two beaver babies, Chilawee and Chickanee, came when the Otter Megih broke the dam and tried to seize them. He jumped at them, but they got away and escaped down the plung hole and over the dam. They floated down stream until night, and then crawled into a hole in a tree.

Big Feather discovered the kittens when he was paddling down the Yellow Birch River. He made a birch basket for them and took them home to Sajo and Shapian, who delighted with their new pets.
After a time the kittens became lonesome for the beaver colony, and often uttered shrill cries. One day Big Feather took the children and their pets to the river by canoe. When they came to the place where the kittens were found, Sajo released them. Some larger beavers met them, and together they went under the water and down the river, probably toward home.

M. L. - That was fine, Charles. We'll see you often next fall at the public library, when you are in senior high school. What do you plan to be?

L. Y. - What besides? Our circulation this year will be over 30,000 - that's a lot of books to charge, discharge, mend, keep in order, to say nothing of collecting fines for overdue books. Reference questions take a lot of time.

M. L. - What kinds of reference questions are asked?

L. Y. - We have reference questions coming from all departments in school. Everything from how to pronounce an impossible name of a Russian city to the origin of the Know-Nothing political party. The art students are continually coming to the library for suggestions for designs and soap carvings.

Students special interests bring many questions - and I'm always especially anxious to help them with hobbies or leisure time activities. It is surprising how much some students know about their particular hobbies. We have one girl who has a wonderful collection of pressed wild flowers; several of our boys are model airplane fans, another girl is very much interested in figure skating, and has a nice collection of pictures and clippings - and of course, I mustn't forget to mention our stamp collectors! I've seen some very fine collections.

Extra-curricular activities provide their share of reference questions. Our very active Girl Scout organization has brought to light many interesting and unusual facts.

And then we mustn't forget to mention our exceptionally fine dramatic
department. Anyone who has seen a Junior high school play will agree that
the students have surely left nothing to be doubted as far as details in
stage settings are concerned.

I could go on and on - but I think you'll agree that we're a happy busy
group over at the Junior High School!

W. L. - Indeed you are. We have enjoyed having you, Roscella, and Charles
with us this morning. Thank you for coming over. Until this same time next
week, goodbye from the library staff.