

THE LIBRARY SPEAKS (Oct. 25, 1939)

The time has come the walrus said, To speak of many things.

Namely, The Library Speaks.

Many of our patrons were shocked to read in the papers the other night that Zane Grey is dead. Only last week we added his latest book which is called WESTERN UNION. It is the graphic picture of the desperate enterprise of carrying forward Western Union's line of communication through a thousand miles of wilderness - of stringing a single strand of iron wire across a continent. There are fights with outlaws, warfare with hostile Indians, buffalo stampedes, on-sweeping prairie fires and a thousand details of organization and defense plus a delightful romance.

There is an old Chinese proverb which says, "My house is a small one but my window looks out on a wide, wide world. The various church missionary reading groups might have been thinking of this when they chose as their theme this year, Christ And The World Community. Five churches have are reading from the church shelf at the library this year. One reading list says, "The books are selected for their value as background for mission study and spiritual growth." Your library staff invited you to make full use of this shelf. If the book you want is not in, telephone or come in and have it reserved.

American Education Week this year will be observed from November 5 - 11. EDUCATION FOR THE AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE has been selected for the theme. At the recent tri-state conference of Minnesota, Michigan, and Wisconsin librarians which closed last Saturday at Milwaukee we heard an address by Dr. Max Lerner, professor of political science at Williams college and former editor of the Nation.

Dr. Lerner said in part: " Democracy is a dangerous way of life because it depends upon the ability of millions of people to govern themselves, and their ability to do this depends upon their political knowledge." He pointed out that political knowledge is not a knowledge of how to run the government. It is so complex today that it must be run by technicians, but rather political knowledge or literacy permits us to see through shams, to see what direction progress lies, in what direction reaction lies, and to ~~what~~-sense where we are going. He further went on to say that we must give to all economic security, and access to information. Quoting Mayor Maverick of San Antonio, Texas he declared, "Democracy is liberty plus groceries."

*So the theme Education for the New Way of Life
is a challenge to education and literacy.*

November 11 is Armistice Day . Just 21 years ago the nations laid down their arms . If you need material for any kind of a program for this day, won't you call the library early for material and the staff will assemble it for you.

Chikdren's Book Week comes of age too this year. For 21 years we have stressed the best of new books for boys and girls. The theme this year like the church missions groups stress world friendship and calls it BOOKS AROUND THE WORLD. At the convention one firm speaker was a mother from Detroit who has lived in England for several years. She said that English children were taught little about American boys and girls. She told how her husband talked with one man about the two wars between the U. S. and Britain. He replied, Two wars. W. had only one.

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Dr. Bryn-Jones will lecture in Eau Claire this Friday. One book which is on his reading list is South American Primer by Katherine Carr. This tells that S.A is exploited by both commercial and political interests. Several of our borrowers have found this book very worth while.

Mrs. told us a story about South America which might be good to use right here. S. A. and Virginia.

Thanksgiving

Christmas 2 months from today

Jr. Red Cross broadcast

Book exhibit.