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To the Graduate Council:

I am submitting herewith a thesis written by Linda Weston entitled "A Study of Library Services for Tennessee's Senior Citizens." I have examined the final electronic copy of this thesis for form and content and recommend that it be accepted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Science, with a major in .

Dr. Carl T. Cox, Major Professor

We have read this thesis and recommend its acceptance:

Dorothy E. Ryan & Lucile Deaderick

Accepted for the Council:

Carolyn R. Hodges

Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School

(Original signatures are on file with official student records.)

August 6, 1969

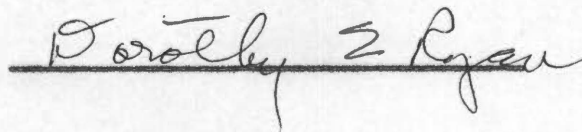
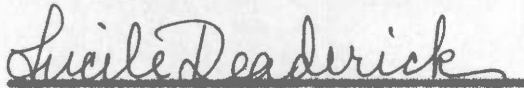
To the Graduate Council:

I am submitting herewith a thesis written by Linda Weston entitled "A Study of Library Services for Tennessee's Senior Citizens." I recommend that it be accepted for nine quarter hours of credit in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Science, with a major in Library Service.



Major Professor

We have read this thesis
and recommend its acceptance:



Accepted for the Council:



Vice Chancellor for
Graduate Studies and Research

**A STUDY OF LIBRARY SERVICES FOR
TENNESSEE'S SENIOR CITIZENS**

**A Thesis
Presented to
the Graduate Council of
The University of Tennessee**

**In Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree
Master of Science**

**by
Linda Weston
August 1969**

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Grateful acknowledgment is expressed to all who were involved in this study. Special recognition is extended to Dr. Carl T. Cox, chairman of the author's thesis committee, whose encouragement and advice were invaluable. Appreciation is expressed to the other members of the committee, Miss Dorothy E. Ryan and Miss Lucile Deaderick.

A special word of thanks must be added for the encouragement and advice freely given by the family of the writer.

L. L. W.

ABSTRACT

This study was undertaken to evaluate library service available for Tennessee's senior citizens. The specific objectives were to discover the extent of available library services for Tennessee's senior citizens and to make recommendations for improving the services. Data was obtained from the four Tennessee metropolitan public library directors and the 12 Tennessee regional library directors by means of a questionnaire.

The results from this questionnaire were tallied, tabulated, and analyzed. Results were: (1) all services for senior citizens are a part of the adult departments, (2) personnel in charge of services vary from professional staff members to clerical staff members, (3) more services are offered to senior citizens as individuals than as groups, (4) senior citizens receive better services in the library building than outside the library building, (5) most Tennessee public library systems supply materials to other community agencies working with senior citizens, (6) no special financial aid is available for services to senior citizens, and (7) additional services include taking books to individual senior citizens.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

The press and federal, state, and local governments have alerted the general public to the problems of senior citizens. Also, libraries have begun to consider senior citizens in planning services for the general public. The modern trend regards retirement as a beginning of a new way of life. Today, senior citizens have an opportunity to make their last years richer, fuller, and happier by planning and keeping active, believing as Robert Browning wrote, "The best is yet to be, the last of life, for which the first was made."¹

This country's concern for senior citizens emerged in the early years of the twentieth century and has become an accepted legal responsibility today. Neighborhood centers were the earliest pioneers in offering assistance to dependant senior citizens.² In 1935 the public assistance section of the Social Security program, initiated by the federal government, began monthly payments to needy people over 65. This program was known as Old-Age Assistance.

At the same time, Old-Age and Survivors Insurance was required under Social Security. It paid monthly benefits to retired workers over 65 who, together with their employers, had been paying contributions for

¹Robert Browning, "Rabbi Ben Ezra," College Book of English Literature, James Tobin, Victor Hams, and William Hines, editors (New York: American Book Company, 1949), p. 958.

²Minna Field, Aging with Honor and Dignity (Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas, 1968), pp. 6-9.

a required length of time. The amount of the benefit received was based on the worker's average earnings.³

Then in August, 1950, at the proposal of President Harry S. Truman, the Federal Security Agency called the first national conference on aging, *Man and His Years*.⁴ The 816 delegates from varied fields discussed the problems of aging in related areas.⁵ This conference gathered facts and made recommendations toward the solution of senior citizens' problems.⁶

Eleven years later, a second conference on aging, the White House Conference on Aging, met with 2,700 delegates from many fields including federal, state, community, church, and educational institutions.⁷ President Dwight D. Eisenhower summoned the conference under the direction of the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare.⁸ This conference recommended numerous plans for alleviating senior citizens' problems by means of programs under federal, state, and local governments, under private organizations, and under senior citizens' own initiative.⁹

³James Johnson, "Social Security," Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1968, XI, 764.

⁴Howard Rusk, "Potentialities of Elder Folks Studied at U. S. Conference," The New York Times, August 13, 1950, p. 62.

⁵Man and His Years (Raleigh, North Carolina: Health Publications Institute, Inc., 1951), p. 5.

⁶Field, loc. cit.

⁷"Medicare for the Aged," Newsweek, LVII (January 23, 1961), 51-52.

⁸"White House Conference on Aging Slated for January," Personnel and Guidance Journal, (December, 1960), 269.

⁹"Aging with a Future," Science News Letter, LXXXVIII (December 10, 1960), 394-395.

The federal government passed the Older American Act, also known as the Fogarty-McNamara Bill, in 1965, which acknowledges senior citizens as a social force. This act provided \$17,500,000 to states and to private and public nonprofit organizations for developing senior citizens' programs and for training personnel to work with senior citizens.¹⁰ The act also established an Administration on Aging within the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. Its commissioner, who is appointed by the President, works with federal and state aging agencies and national and local volunteer organizations. The Administrations on Aging also furnishes general information on aging.¹¹

The landmark legislation on Medicare was passed in June, 1965, under President Lyndon B. Johnson and became operative on July 1, 1966.¹² Through a special federal government hospital insurance trust fund, Medicare pays for the major portion of hospital and doctor bills of most senior citizens. This trust fund is made possible by higher tax deductions, which are paid jointly by employers and employees.¹³ Legally, the senior citizen is now protected from the acute want and privation of early years.

¹⁰Robert Simple, "President Signs Bill on Elderly," The New York Times, July 15, 1965, p. 13.

¹¹United States Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, The New AOA Administration on Aging (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1965), p. 2.

¹²"What Medicare Will Be Like--," United States News and World Report, LVIX (July 5, 1965), 75.

¹³"Medicare--How It Will Work," Business Week LI (July 31, 1965), 51.

Moreover, by mere numbers, the senior citizens are a social force in America. According to the 1960 Census, 16,207,237 senior citizens resided in the United States, almost one person of every nine; yet this number rose to 19,796,000 in 1967.¹⁴ An estimated national increase of eight million senior citizens for the 20 year interval, 1960 through 1980, indicates a 50 per cent increase.¹⁵ According to the 1960 figures, 308,861 senior citizens lived in Tennessee.¹⁶ The 1967 figures show 358,000 United States citizens 65 years of age or older in Tennessee.¹⁷

Just as the financial and health needs of these millions of citizens have been recognized by the government, attention is being given increasingly to providing meaningful activities for leisure hours to this large segment of the population.¹⁸ Once, leisure was interpreted as rest and recuperation; today, it denotes selection of one's activities, self-development, and community participation.¹⁹

¹⁴United States Department of Commerce, Senior Citizens: Eighteen Million (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1964), p. 3.

¹⁵Philip Hauser, "Population Trends--Prologue to Library Development," Library Trends, X (July, 1961), 28.

¹⁶United States Bureau of the Census, Eighteenth Census of the U. S.: 1960 Population, Vol. I, Part 44 (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1960), p. 33.

¹⁷United States Bureau of the Census, Estimates of the Population of States by Age, 1965 to 1967, Series P-25, No. 420 (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1969), p. 6.

¹⁸White House Conference on Aging, Background Papers on Free Time Activities (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1960), p. 65.

¹⁹White House Conference on Aging, Background Papers on Population Trends (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1960), p. 38.

Special emphasis naturally centers on library services as a primary source of leisure activities for the elderly. Scientific studies have proven that the average person of 70 years or older, who consistently uses his mental abilities, comprehends 85 to 90 per cent effectively. However, with age the speed of learning decreases.²⁰ For this reason, public libraries should offer a wide range of materials for senior citizens' exploration of familiar and unfamiliar fields and for the development of hobbies and talents. The Minimum Standards for Public Library Systems, 1966, states:

The library has the responsibility to serve all the people in the community. Many individuals and groups, not having access to specialized libraries, require special attention that can be given through specialized materials and services of the public library. These individuals include, among others . . . the senior citizens and the retired. . . . Services may be made available in the library, sponsored service, or in conjunction with other concerned agencies or organizations.²¹

The concept of adequate public library services is thus tied to the concept of adequate provisions for the old-age population.

I. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

This study was undertaken to evaluate library services available for Tennessee's senior citizens. The specific objectives were to discover the extent of available library services for Tennessee's senior citizens and to make recommendations for improving the services. The areas of special research sought the information listed below:

²⁰Howard Whitman, A Brighter Later Life (Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey: Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1961), pp. 46-48.

²¹Standards Committee and Subcommittees of the Public Library Association, American Library Association, Minimum Standards for Public Library Systems, 1966 (Chicago: American Library Association, 1967), p. 33.

1. What services in the library were available for Tennessee's senior citizens as individuals and groups?
2. What services outside the library were available for Tennessee's senior citizens as individuals and groups?
3. What services were available for other community agencies working with senior citizens?
4. Was special financial assistance available for services for senior citizens?
5. What were the future plans for library services for Tennessee's senior citizens?

II. LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

This study was limited to the following points:

1. This study investigated library services by the 12 regional library systems and four metropolitan public libraries in Tennessee.
2. The study included both present and projected services.

As a result of the study, it was anticipated that conclusions and recommendations for improved services could be made.

III. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

Increasingly, librarians as they plan programs are beginning to consider senior citizens. As yet, there are no national standards for library services for senior citizens; however, a guideline, "The Library's Responsibility to the Aging," has been prepared by the Adult Services Division of the American Library Association and approved by the Association. These guidelines stress the librarian's responsibilities to

provide special services for senior citizens and information about aging.²²

In 1961, the Tennessee Governor's Planning Committee for the White House Conference on Aging issued the following lines in recognition of the situation:

The free public libraries in the state of Tennessee should be recognized for the services they are currently providing the older citizen and they should expand and develop specialized services for the aged.²³

In consideration of this statement, an evaluation of library services for Tennessee's senior citizens is important. It is desired that this study identify the adequacies and inadequacies in library services for Tennessee's senior citizens and suggest the means of improving these services. Secondly, it is hoped that librarians will find new information and insights regarding their responsibility to senior citizens.

IV. DEFINITIONS OF TERMS

Senior Citizens. For this study, a person 65 years of age or older was classified as a senior citizen. Legislative and other policy making bodies established 65 years of age as a boundary between the aged and non-aged for statistical and action programs. The average person considers aging as an individual matter.²⁴

²²"The Library's Responsibility to the Aging" (Chicago: Adult Services Division, American Library Association, 1964), p. 1. (Mimeographed.)

²³Tennessee's Planning Committee for the 1961 White House Conference on Aging, Tennessee's Aging (Nashville: Program Coordination Section, Division of Finance and Administration, 1960), p. 19.

²⁴Robert Wilson, Urban Living Qualities from the Vantage Point of the Elderly (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina, 1960), p. 4.

Middle-aged. For this study, a person between 45 and 65 years of age was classified as middle-aged. The average middle-aged person has reached the peak of his career, has good health, and takes an active part in community life.²⁵

Partially-Seeing Person. A partially-seeing person with corrective eye glasses cannot see at 20 feet what a person with normal vision can see at 70 to 200 feet.²⁶

Large Print Books. Print of these books equals two and one-half times the size of the regular edition (one quarter of an inch high). Partially-seeing individuals can read these books.²⁷

V. SOURCES OF DATA

A review of the related literature helped in determining the available services on the national level. Also, letters were sent concerning national and state library services to the Adult Services Division of the American Library Association and to Miss Elizabeth Cole, Director of Tennessee Public Library Division. The researcher received a guideline, "The Library's Responsibility to the Aging," from the Adult Services Division of the American Library Association. Miss Elizabeth Cole forwarded a listing of the locations of the four Tennessee metropolitan public libraries and the 12 Tennessee regional library centers. Copies of the letter to the Adult Services Division of the American

²⁵White House Conference on Aging, Background Papers on Research in Gerontology (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1960), p. 2.

²⁶Teal Merrill, Activities for the Aged and Infirm (Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas Publisher, 1967), p. 121.

²⁷Ibid.

Library Association, the reply, and the guideline are found in Appendix A. Copies of the letter to Miss Elizabeth Cole, the reply, and the listing of the locations of the four Tennessee metropolitan public libraries and the 12 Tennessee regional library centers are found in Appendix B.

After reviewing the literature and receiving replies to the letters, the researcher made and used a data gathering device in personal interviews with one regional library director and one metropolitan public library director. The questionnaire was mailed to the other three metropolitan public library directors and to the other 11 regional library directors. A cover letter explained the purpose of the questionnaire. A second copy of the questionnaire with a follow-up letter was sent to four regional library directors who failed to return the questionnaire. Copies of the cover letter, the follow-up letter, and the questionnaire are found in Appendix C.

This questionnaire included two parts in evaluating library services available for Tennessee's senior citizens. Part I consisted of multiple choice responses to questions related to:

1. Services for senior citizens as individuals and groups.
2. Services for other community agencies working with senior citizens.
3. Financing services for senior citizens.

Part II contained questions requiring brief narrative answers. They sought information concerning the effectiveness of present services and plans for future services.

VI. ORGANIZATION OF STUDY

This study consists of four chapters.

Chapter I presents the introduction, statement of the problem, significance of the study, definitions of terms, sources of the data, and organization of the study.

Chapter II is a review of the related literature. It is divided into an introduction, suggested guidelines for services and programs, studies of specific local programs and services, and a summary.

Chapter III is a presentation and analysis of the data acquired through the questionnaire.

Chapter IV presents a summary, conclusions, and recommendations.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

As a background for this study, a survey of related literature was made. An abundance of articles, four theses, and other studies were located by using Library Literature.

For the purposes of this study, the related literature has been arranged as follows:

1. Suggested guidelines for services and programs.
2. Studies of specific local services and programs.

I. SUGGESTED GUIDELINES FOR SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

Guidelines for services and programs for senior citizens have been prepared by a past library specialist in the Office of Education of the United States Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, an American Library Association institute, graduate students, and an Indiana librarian.

Office of Education

Vainstein,¹ who was the public library specialist in the Office of Education of the United States Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, states that public libraries have a diversified clientele in serving the aging, which includes senior citizens, middle-aged adults, and individuals associating with senior citizens. The library must offer

¹Rose Vainstein, "The Role of the Public Library in Education for the Elderly," Adult Leadership, IX (May, 1960), 10-11, 28-30.

local library services and programs; participate in local, state, and national associations and committees; consult American Library Association's Library Service to an Aging Population Committee; state libraries, and the public library specialists in the United States Office of Education; and keep informed on all related literature.

According to Vainstein, an effective local library program involves short-range and long-range planning. Also, librarians must have a knowledge of local community problems and interests, must be aware of general issues of aging and their effect on the community, and must assume the duties of the motivating senior citizens to use the local public library.

Vainstein concludes that the major problem is an absence of constructive evaluation of existing services. For this reason, local libraries should study successful established library programs for senior citizens and should examine local pressures and personal opinions in planning such services.

Furthermore, Vainstein² emphasizes various individualized services for senior citizens by libraries. She depicts the value of special booklists to assist senior citizens in making living adjustments and in providing entertainment. As examples, the author mentions the American Library Association's Books for Tired Eyes and the Cleveland Public Library's Easy on the Eyes.

Vainstein describes individualized service to homebound senior citizens by several libraries. For example, for invalids Cleveland Public

²Rose Vainstein, "Earmarked for the Elderly," School Life, (December, 1958), 9-10.

librarians make regular visits with special selected materials. The Chicago Public Library mails books to invalids who pay the return postage. The author stresses the importance of designing new buildings for easy access. To illustrate her point, Vainstein cites the Montclair, New Jersey, Public Library building which has a street level entrance and a self-service elevator to accommodate wheel chairs.

Vainstein suggests that libraries make available special reading equipment such as magnifying aids, ceiling projectors, books in Braille, and talking books and machines for the ambulatory and shut-in senior citizens.

Library Service to an Aging Population

During the 1959 American Library Association Conference in Washington, D. C., the Adult Services Division and the Office of Adult Education of American Library Association sponsored an institute on aging, Library Service to an Aging Population.³ Experts in various fields informed the 300 participants of senior citizens' problems. Panel discussions with questions from the floor followed each speaker.

The objectives of the institute were threefold:

1. To help librarians recognize and define their responsibilities for:
 - a. Serving as a source of information on all aspects of the aging process.
 - b. Making people of all ages aware of the problems and of the availability of materials about these problems.
 - c. Co-operating with, stimulating, and supplementing the work of community agencies responsible for working with and planning for older people.
 - d. Meeting directly the special educational needs of the older individual, either singly or in groups.

³Ruth White (ed.), Library Service to an Aging Population (Chicago: American Library Association, 1960), pp. 1-2.

- e. Aiding those working with older people either as volunteers or as professionals.
 - f. Helping the individual adult prepare for his later years.
2. To develop knowledge of some types of library service with which to carry out these responsibilities.
 3. To prepare librarians to take part in the preparation for and in the carrying out of the White House Conference on the aging on the local, state, and national levels.⁴

Following the last session, a panel discussed questions from the audience. One delegate asked what were guidelines in establishing public library programs for senior citizens.⁵ The panel members replied that the first guideline consisted of a knowledge of specific community problems. The second guideline included a consideration of the needed materials for senior citizens, middle-aged adults, and those individuals working with senior citizens. Librarians must co-ordinate their work with other community agencies and direct a client to the proper agencies by use of a social agency directory or card file.

The panel members recommended that librarians plan educational programs for senior citizens. Also, new library programs for citizens should begin with known interests and expand to other subjects and possible interests of senior citizens. The panel members opposed the idea of a separate room for senior citizens. A panel member recommended reserving a small corner or a table for senior citizens. In conclusion, the panel members felt such services should be a regular part of the adult division.

Braun

Braun⁶ stresses the importance of public libraries offering

⁴Ibid.

⁵Ibid., pp. 35-45.

⁶Jane Braun, "Public Library Service to Older Persons" (unpublished Master's thesis, Western Reserve University, Cleveland, 1951), pp. 1-61.

special services for senior citizens as individuals and groups. Public libraries, being tax-supported and free institutions, should extend services to senior citizens on an equal basis with services for other groups. This service could be included in adult departments or organized as independent departments.

In gathering data, Braun had interviews and correspondence with senior citizens and others and surveyed the related literature. From her findings the author suggests that librarians regard the following ideas in planning programs:

1. Programs should be well-organized and varied.
2. Senior citizens should be consulted in planning programs and should be encouraged to participate actively.
3. The programs should progress at a slow and flexible pace.
4. Programs should arouse senior citizens' interests in the present and the future.

In conclusion, Braun proposes that librarians inform themselves about the community's needs, the library budget, and the diversified interests of senior citizens. In the absence of community programs for senior citizens, Braun recommends that public libraries be pioneers. Public libraries can develop senior citizens' programs without special appropriations by using local free resources or by participating in other community senior citizens' programs.

Adult Services Division of the American Library Association

Phinney,⁷ who was Executive Secretary of the Adult Services

⁷Eleanor Phinney, "Libraries Are for Reading and More," Continuing Education in the Later Years, J. C. Dixon, editor (Gainesville: University of Florida Press, 1963), pp. 76-85.

Division of the American Library Association, recommends planning special senior citizens' group programs by library personnel and participating members of the group with library and community resources. Usually, these programs include guest speakers, panel discussions, book talks, films, and recordings. The value of these programs depends on the individual community and on senior citizens' chances for contact with other senior citizens and groups.

In addition, Phinney advocates that libraries offer assistance to other community groups working with senior citizens. For example, many libraries compile up-to-date community calendars of local resources, programs, and facilities for senior citizens. Other librarians participate in planning community-wide activities for senior citizens.

In conclusion, Phinney states that librarians must consider individual needs, interests, and capacities in planning programs for senior citizens. Further, librarians must realize that senior citizens possess certain common characteristics.

Rogers

Rogers⁸ is librarian in the Indiana State Department of Public Welfare and a member of the Indiana Library Association and of the Indiana Library Trustees Association Committee on Services to Older Adults. She encourages all public libraries to develop serviceable collections of related literature. The author urges libraries with a deficiency of related literature to depend on inter-library loans.

⁸Helen Rogers, "Library Services Related to Aging and the Aged," Library Occurrent, XIX (September, 1959), 233-235.

According to Rogers, most librarians realize the necessity of extending services to senior citizens and others interested in aging. Also, librarians assume their major responsibility to the aging is to furnish materials for senior citizens' educational and leisure purposes.

Roche

Roche⁹ sent a questionnaire to 84 public libraries in communities with a population of 95,000 or more. The 69 librarians responding indicated that most librarians recognize the importance of effective service for senior citizens although they may not furnish such service. Roche feels that the lack of service results from a shortage of staff and of finances.

Roche concludes that public librarians need a knowledge of local community agencies for senior citizens and must cooperate with them in planning services.

II. STUDIES OF SPECIFIC LOCAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

The second section reviews existing programs for senior citizens at four public libraries. Also, this section reviews studies of existing services. These studies were made by a graduate student, librarians, and library specialists.

Boston Public Library

Hirson,¹⁰ an extension librarian at Boston Public Library,

⁹Christine Roche, "Provisions for the Aging in Public Libraries" (unpublished Master's thesis, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, 1952), pp. 1-57.

¹⁰Helen Hirson, "Never Too Late Group," Library Journal, LXXVIII (November 1, 1953), 1883-1887.

discloses that the programs of a "Never Too Late Club" stimulate the minds of patrons over 60 years old. Registered enrollment in this library club increased to 250 with an average attendance of 100. Its planned programs include subjects of interest to all club members from diverse economical, educational, and social backgrounds. Senior citizens favor travelogs and guest speakers, 60 years of age or older. Books relating to the program circulate after the meeting.

The Preliminary Planning Committee of the "Never Too Late Club," consisting of senior citizens and library personnel, established two club objectives: the participation by members and the stress on member interests. On reaching the first objective, this Preliminary Planning Committee developed a Permanent Planning Committee. At all meetings, other members share personal experiences, give book talks, and participate in panel discussions and in question and answer periods.

In meeting the club's second objective, the Permanent Planning Committee provided information on current activities for senior citizens in Boston with the aid of other community agencies. An Events-In-Boston Committee encourages the members to attend educational exhibits and lectures.

Hirson evaluated the success of this program by statements from individual members. They give strong indications of increased interests, broadened lives, and renewed vigor resulting from influence of the club's program.

Cleveland Public Library

Blau¹¹ made a study of Cleveland Public Library's "Live Long and Like It Club," as an example of an effective library program for senior citizens. The author maintains that the club provides Cleveland's senior citizens with a sense of belonging to a particular group and a place in the community's constant inner growth.

Since 1946, the membership in Cleveland's "Live Long and Like It Club" has grown from 25 to 800 members with an average attendance at the meetings of 200. The membership represents a cross-section of Cleveland's senior citizens. The library adult department staff develops the programs with suggestions from club members. These programs include outside resources, member participation, and annual Christmas and anniversary parties. Various groups within the club represent diversified activities such as the "Live Long and Like It Library Club" choral group.

In her conclusion, Blau gives credit to the club leaders who develop programs of varied interests and prompt membership participation in planning and presenting programs. Blau states that the "Live Long and Like It Library Club" has offered Cleveland's senior citizens a chance for continual mental growth.

Long,¹² who is supervisor of the Adult Education Department of the Cleveland Public Library, states that social workers have influenced public libraries in recognizing senior citizens' educational needs. The

¹¹Shirley Blau, "A Study of the 'Live Long and Like It Library Club' of the Cleveland Public Library" (unpublished Master's thesis, Western Reserve University, Cleveland, 1958), pp. 1-57.

¹²Fern Long, "Libraries," Education for Later Maturity, William Donahue, editor (New York: William Morrow and Company, Inc., 1955), pp. 151-158.

first library club for senior citizens, "The Live Long and Like It Library Club" of Cleveland Public Library began as the result of a suggestion from a Cleveland Welfare Federation employee. Also, Long discusses library clubs for senior citizens at Boston, Brooklyn, Detroit, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, and Oakland. Many other public libraries provide similar programs, either as independent projects or in cooperation with community agencies for senior citizens.

Replies from Long's questionnaires to 31 public libraries indicate that a few librarians hope to establish special programs for senior citizens in the near future. In libraries with established programs, senior citizens have broadened their reading and their interests in current problems and world affairs. Long maintains that separate library programs for senior citizens are valuable and essential. To illustrate her point, the author includes two quotes from senior citizens: "Here we don't feel pushed around by younger people," and "Let's keep it for ourselves."¹³ The author contends that these specialized library programs for senior citizens are beginning a new development in library work.

Grand Rapids Public Library

At Grand Rapids Public Library,¹⁴ invalid senior citizens enjoy a monthly booklist which is mailed to them. After receiving their marked booklist, the library mails books to individuals for a three-week loan period. "The Senior Citizens' Calendar," a listing of local activities

¹³Ibid., p. 155.

¹⁴Gertrude Haan, "Services to Senior Citizens," Library Journal, LXXXV (December 15, 1960), 4434-4435.

and services for senior citizens in the Grand Rapids Press, mentions this service bi-monthly. Replies to a questionnaire to Grand Rapids' senior citizens indicate that they favor the library's book talks. Many senior citizens stated that they prefer afternoon or daytime programs. The library encourages all senior citizens' groups to use the main library or branch libraries for meetings.

St. Louis Public Library

The St. Louis Public Library,¹⁵ with a federal grant of \$53,310, is planning an extension of library service to more than 82,000 semi-invalid and invalid senior citizens. Special book cards for the chronically ill and disabled senior citizens will be placed in senior citizens' dwelling units. Library personnel will visit the individuals who are semi-invalid or invalid. The plan includes 25,000 books and a special service vehicle.

Fretz

Fretz¹⁶ contemplates the essential factors of effective library service for senior citizens. To gather data, the author used two questionnaires. For the first questionnaire, the author selected 50 Pennsylvania public libraries in urban areas with populations of 10,000 or more. Of the 38 replies, two libraries had planned programs for senior citizens, and two libraries offered shut-in service. Twenty-one

¹⁵"For Aged Readers: A New Program of Library Service at St. Louis Public Library," Wilson Library Bulletin, XLII (September, 1967), 12.

¹⁶Evelyn Fretz, "Factors in Planning a Reading Program for Senior Citizens" (unpublished Master's thesis, Drexel Institute of Technology, Philadelphia, 1956), pp. 1-43.

librarians responded that elderly patrons had asked for reading guidance. Another 19 librarians stated that their library bought books especially for senior citizens.

Fretz's questionnaire to senior citizens in Pennsylvania's urban areas polled their opinions of books which they had read. Replies from this questionnaire indicate that most senior citizens like "sincere authors and thought provoking books with good characterization."¹⁷

Fretz encourages librarians to approach senior citizens who avoid participation in society. Secondly, the author stresses that libraries should plan buildings for easy access.

White House Conference on Aging, 1961

The Planning Committee on Education for Aging of the White House Conference on Aging, 1961,¹⁸ recommended that public library collections include book and non-book materials on all aspects of aging. A survey of 140 public libraries revealed these services to individual senior citizens:

1. Eighty-one per cent provided reader guidance service to older individuals.
2. Seventy-three per cent provided information on local activities and agency services of interest to older people.
3. Sixty per cent planned the building for ease of access.
4. Forty-five per cent relaxed the rules for those who cannot come regularly.
5. Thirty-five per cent had special shelves to meet the interest of older people.
6. Thirty per cent had shelves or lists of books with large type.

¹⁷Ibid., p. 31.

¹⁸White House Conference on Aging, Background Papers on Education for Aging (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1960), pp. 98-99.

7. State libraries provided consulting and advisory services, special collections to be borrowed through inter-library loans, and special bibliographies for the local public libraries.¹⁹

Adult Services Division of American Library Association

Phinney,²⁰ who was Executive Secretary of the Adult Services Division of American Library Association, gives two recommendations after a broad study of existing library services for senior citizens. Her first recommendation is for librarians to consider the needs and interests of senior citizens and others approaching old age. Her second recommendation is for librarians to assume the responsibility for informing the community of the problems of aging.

In 1957, Phinney mailed a post card questionnaire to 1,391 public libraries in various cities. The replies indicated that public libraries serve senior citizens by furnishing books, publicizing suitable materials, providing shut-in service, and cooperating with other community agencies. A year later, a questionnaire surveyed 200 of the original 1,391 libraries. One hundred and thirty-three replies disclosed that most libraries offered special materials to senior citizens either as a separate department or as a part of the adult department.

Phinney's study found that more libraries give assistance to individual senior citizens than to groups of senior citizens. In addition, the study noted that a majority of public librarians realize the importance of minimizing or eliminating difficulties in access to buildings and books.

¹⁹Ibid., p. 99.

²⁰Eleanor Phinney, "A Study of Current Practices in Public Library Services to an Aging Population: An Evaluative Report," Occasional Papers No. 62 (Chicago: University of Illinois Library School, 1961), pp. 1-16.

In conclusion, Phinney states that the findings of this questionnaire may alert librarians to their duty to offer services to senior citizens. Also, the author values the findings as an aid in locating existing types of programs.

Sinclair

Sinclair,²¹ a past assistant coordinator of Enoch Pratt's Adult Services, reports on a study of library services offered to four special groups, one of which included senior citizens. Seventy-two replies to a questionnaire noted service to senior citizens to be the least troublesome. Of the 72 public libraries, three reported using special funds, and two furnished special collections for senior citizens. Fourteen reported an increased demand for special library service for senior citizens since 1954.

Sinclair differs with the supposition that libraries neglect the senior citizens. She declares that a vast majority of public libraries' general collections meet the needs and interests of senior citizens. Further, Sinclair comments that individual public libraries have different philosophies regarding special collections for senior citizens. For example, one special collection may stress books on the aging process. Others may emphasize nostalgic and inspirational books or provide materials to keep senior citizens intellectually alert.

III. SUMMARY

The related literature emphasizes that library service to senior

²¹Dorothy Sinclair, "Materials to Meet Special Needs," Library Trends, XVII (July, 1968), 35-47.

citizens includes service to senior citizens, middle-aged adults planning retirement, and others who associate with senior citizens. Also, the literature states that many libraries offer service to senior citizens as an integrated part of adult service.

Local libraries can receive help from such sources as state libraries, American Library Association's Adult Services Division's Library Service to An Aging Population Committee,²² and the Office of Education's Library Services Branch.²³

²²Phinney, "A Study of Current Practices in Public Library Services to an Aging Population," p. 11.

²³Phinney, "Libraries Are for Reading and More," p. 76.

CHAPTER III

EVALUATION OF FINDINGS

This chapter contains the findings of a survey of library services to senior citizens by the four Tennessee metropolitan public libraries and the 12 Tennessee regional library systems. It divides the presentation and analysis of the collected data into ten sections as follows: (1) administration of services to senior citizens by Tennessee public libraries; (2) Tennessee public library personnel in charge of services to senior citizens; (3) services to individual senior citizens in Tennessee public libraries; (4) services to groups of senior citizens in Tennessee public libraries; (5) outside services by Tennessee public libraries for senior citizens; (6) services by Tennessee public libraries to other community agencies working with senior citizens; (7) financing library services for senior citizens by Tennessee public libraries; (8) additional services for senior citizens by Tennessee public libraries; (9) value of available public library services for Tennessee's senior citizens; and (10) future public library services for Tennessee's senior citizens. A summary of the chapter follows these sections.

I. COLLECTION OF DATA

On April 9, 1969, the researcher sent a letter to Mr. D. Marshall Stewart, Director of the Nashville and Davidson County Public Library, requesting an interview on April 17, 1969. On April 14, 1969, an

appointment was made by telephone to interview Miss Janet Smith, Director of the Highland Rim Regional Library Center, Murfreesboro, Tennessee, on April 17, 1969.

The data gathering device was sent to the remaining metropolitan and regional library directors on May 21, 1969. By June 4, 1969, the four metropolitan public library directors and eight regional library directors had returned the data gathering device. On June 5, 1969, a follow-up letter and a second copy of the questionnaire were mailed to each of the four regional library directors who had failed to return the data gathering device. By June 11, 1969, a 100 per cent return had been received. Table I presents the responses of Tennessee metropolitan public library directors and regional library directors to the questionnaire.

TABLE I

RESPONSES TO QUESTIONNAIRE

| Questionnaire | Mailed | Received | Percentage of Returns |
|-----------------------------|--------|----------|-----------------------|
| Metropolitan Public Library | 4 | 4 | 100 |
| Regional Library Center | 12 | 12 | 100 |
| Total | 16 | 16 | 100 |

II. ADMINISTRATION OF SERVICES TO SENIOR CITIZENS BY TENNESSEE PUBLIC LIBRARIES

The questionnaire sought to determine the administrative alignment of services to senior citizens by the 16 Tennessee public library systems. Responses show that none of the Tennessee public libraries have a separate senior citizens' department, nor do they plan separate departments, as seen in Table II. The service is administered as an integrated part of the library systems' adult departments.

TABLE II

ADMINISTRATION OF SERVICES TO SENIOR CITIZENS BY TENNESSEE PUBLIC LIBRARIES

| Type of Library | Separate Department | Proposed Separate Department |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| Metropolitan Public Library | 0 | 0 |
| Regional Library Center | 0 | 0 |

III. TENNESSEE PUBLIC LIBRARY PERSONNEL IN CHARGE OF SERVICES TO SENIOR CITIZENS

Table III includes data relating to personnel in charge of services to senior citizens. Professional staff members direct services at four of the Tennessee regional library centers and at two of the four Tennessee metropolitan public libraries. Three library directors indicate that semi-professional staff members supervised services. In addition,

TABLE III

**TENNESSEE PUBLIC LIBRARY PERSONNEL IN CHARGE
OF SERVICES TO SENIOR CITIZENS**

| Personnel | Metropolitan Public Library | Regional Library Center | Total |
|---------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Professional Staff Member | 2 | 4 | 6 |
| Semi-Professional Staff Member | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Clerical Staff Member | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| Others | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| No Response | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| Total | 4 | 12 | 16 |

three library directors write that clerical staff members direct services. Of the 16 library directors, four gave no response to this question.

IV. SERVICES TO INDIVIDUAL SENIOR CITIZENS IN TENNESSEE PUBLIC LIBRARIES

As seen in Table IV, available services to individual senior citizens vary greatly in Tennessee public libraries. The table includes the following services: special shelves and sections, special equipment and materials, special reading guidance, special book purchases, special booklists, relaxed rules, calendars of community activities and agencies of interest to senior citizens, and available physical access to the library.

Tennessee public libraries have large print books in their collections. However, only four libraries have talking books, three have Braille books and two provide reading magnifiers. Nine regional library directors indicate that their systems relax rules for senior citizens. Two of the four Tennessee metropolitan public libraries also relax rules for senior citizens.

Seven regional library directors report that their libraries have ramps and grade entrances. Two metropolitan public library directors report that future buildings will have ramps, grade entrances, hand rails, and elevators. One regional library director reveals future building plans include ramps.

TABLE IV

**SERVICES TO INDIVIDUAL SENIOR CITIZENS IN
TENNESSEE PUBLIC LIBRARIES**

| Service | Metropolitan Public Library | Regional Library Center | Total |
|---|--|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Special Shelves and Sections | 1 | 4 | 5 |
| Special Equipment and Materials: | | | |
| Talking Books | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| Books in Braille | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Large Print Books | 4 | 12 | 16 |
| Reading Magnifiers | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Special Reading Guidance | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| Special Book Purchases | 3 | 6 | 9 |
| Special Booklists | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| Relaxed Rules | 2 | 9 | 11 |
| Calendar of Community Activities and Agencies of Interest to Senior Citizens | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Easy Access: | | | |
| Ramps | 2 | 7 | 9 |
| Grade Entrances | 3 | 7 | 10 |
| Hand Rails | 4 | 6 | 10 |
| Elevators | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Future Easy Access: | | | |
| Ramps | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Grade Entrances | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Hand Rails | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Elevators | 2 | 0 | 2 |

V. SERVICES TO GROUPS OF SENIOR CITIZENS IN TENNESSEE PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Table V contains a synopsis of available library programs for Tennessee's senior citizens. One regional library system sponsors special programs which consist of book talks, book discussions, and travelogs. Copies of these programs are in Appendix D. A professional staff member directs this library's special programs. Materials for the programs include filmstrips and records. Local newspapers publicize these morning meetings. The members meet in special library rooms.

Another regional library system plans to develop special programs in the future. Eight regional library directors and three metropolitan public library directors state that senior citizens attend programs for the general public.

VI. OUTSIDE SERVICES BY TENNESSEE PUBLIC LIBRARIES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

Services offered to senior citizens outside the library building are shown in Table VI. One metropolitan public library and two regional library systems have bookmobile stations or stops at senior citizens centers. Three metropolitan public libraries and three regional library systems have bookmobile stations or stops at nursing homes. In addition, one metropolitan public library and three regional library systems have bookmobile stations or stops at senior citizens housing projects.

Two metropolitan libraries and one regional library system have programs at senior citizens centers. Further, one metropolitan public library has programs at nursing homes and senior citizens housing

TABLE V

**SERVICES TO GROUPS OF SENIOR CITIZENS IN
TENNESSEE PUBLIC LIBRARIES**

| Service | Metropolitan Public Library | Regional Library Center | Total |
|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Special Programs | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Future Special Programs | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Person in Charge: | | | |
| Professional Staff Member | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Participants | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Outside Resources | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Types of Programs: | | | |
| Book Talks | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Book Discussions | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Travelogs | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Forums | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Use of Community Resources | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Materials for Programs: | | | |
| Films | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Filmstrips | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Records | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Tapes | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Publicity of Programs: | | | |
| Newspaper | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Radio | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Television | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Mailing Notices | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Time of Programs: | | | |
| Morning | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Afternoon | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Evening | 0 | 0 | 0 |

TABLE V (continued)

| Service | Metropolitan Public Library | Regional Library Center | Total |
|---|--------------------------------|----------------------------|-------|
| Special Meeting Room | 0 ^a | 1 | 1 |
| Attendance of Senior Citizens at General Programs | 3 | 8 | 11 |

^aAt one metropolitan public library, a "Golden Age Club" uses the library's auditorium for morning meetings. This club mails notices to members and publicizes programs in the local newspaper. The club uses the library's films and filmstrips.

TABLE VI

**OUTSIDE SERVICES BY TENNESSEE PUBLIC LIBRARIES
FOR SENIOR CITIZENS**

| Service | Metropolitan Public Library | Regional Library Center | Total |
|---|--|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Stations or Stops: | | | |
| Senior Citizens Centers | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Nursing Homes | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| Senior Citizens Housing Projects | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| Near (4-5 city blocks) any of above | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Programs at: | | | |
| Senior Citizens Centers | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Nursing Homes | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Senior Citizens Housing Projects | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Neighborhood Meetings at Private Homes | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Types of Programs: | | | |
| Book Talks | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Book Discussion | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Travelogs | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Forums | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Use of Community Resources | 0 | 0 | 0 |

projects. These programs include book talks by two metropolitan public libraries and one regional library system. One metropolitan public library plans book discussions.

Only one metropolitan public library has supervised programs at the senior citizens centers, nursing homes, and senior citizens housing projects. A trustee of one regional library system reviews books at a senior citizens center.

VII. SERVICES BY TENNESSEE PUBLIC LIBRARIES TO OTHER COMMUNITY AGENCIES WORKING WITH SENIOR CITIZENS

Table VII surveys the services by Tennessee public libraries to other community agencies working with senior citizens. Four regional library directors and two metropolitan public library directors report that their library furnishes materials to other agencies for in-service training programs and for planning programs for senior citizens. All of the four Tennessee metropolitan public libraries provide books, booklists, films, and phonograph records to other agencies.

Three metropolitan public libraries and four regional library systems have meeting rooms for boards or committees serving senior citizens. One metropolitan public library director and one regional library director reveal that a staff member is a member of a board or a committee serving senior citizens.

VIII. FINANCING LIBRARY SERVICES BY TENNESSEE PUBLIC LIBRARIES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

The questionnaire sought to determine if any special financial aid is available for services to senior citizens by the four Tennessee

TABLE VII

**SERVICES BY TENNESSEE PUBLIC LIBRARIES TO OTHER COMMUNITY
AGENCIES WORKING WITH SENIOR CITIZENS**

| Service | Metropolitan Public Library | Regional Library Center | Total |
|--|--|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Materials for: | | | |
| In-service Training Programs | 2 | 4 | 6 |
| Planning Programs for Senior Citizens | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| Types of Materials: | | | |
| Books | 4 | 7 | 11 |
| Booklists | 4 | 5 | 9 |
| Films | 4 | 2 | 6 |
| Filmstrips | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Tapes | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Phonograph Records | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| Meeting Rooms for Boards or Committees on Senior Citizens | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| Staff Members on Boards or Committees Serving Senior Citizens | 1 | 1 | 2 |

metropolitan public libraries and 12 regional library systems. The returns reveal that no special financial aid is available. Table VIII shows the results of the responses to this question.

TABLE VIII

**FINANCING LIBRARY SERVICES BY TENNESSEE PUBLIC
LIBRARIES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS**

| Method of Budgeting | Metropolitan Public Library | Regional Library Center | Total |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|-------|
| Item in Budget | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Special Funds | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Grants | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Gifts | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fees | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 0 | 0 | 0 |

**IX. ADDITIONAL SERVICES BY TENNESSEE PUBLIC
LIBRARIES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS**

Replies indicate that the personnel of five regional library systems and one metropolitan public library system take books to individual senior citizens. As an example, a regional director makes the following statement on the questionnaire:

Several of our community librarians, on their own, take library books to shut-ins including the older citizens.

A public library director writes the following:

Although our library does not have a separate department for services especially to senior citizens, we do have a service

called shut-in service whereby books and reading materials are taken by a volunteer to those requiring it and who cannot come to the library. This includes some senior citizens. (Hospitals, nursing homes, etc.)

Another regional library director reports that the region hopes to organize a third library club for senior citizens.

The FM radio station of one of the metropolitan libraries schedules special programs for senior citizens. The library compiles a monthly guide of its radio programs for senior citizens. Also, this metropolitan public library includes a Braille encyclopedia and a Braille dictionary in a deposited book collection at the senior citizens' center.

X. VALUE OF AVAILABLE PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICES FOR TENNESSEE'S SENIOR CITIZENS

Library directors were asked their opinion of the most effective service offered to senior citizens. Four of these opinions are listed below:

Probably bookmobile stop at the Senior Citizens Housing Project in McMinnville, Tennessee. This is because the library in McMinnville is too far for the people to walk to it.

Individual attention to reading needs and furnishing of books.

Provisions of popular reading materials through an extensive system of branches and stations.

Senior citizens make full use of library's FM radio station. Also the deposited collection at the senior citizens center is effective.

XI. FUTURE PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICES FOR TENNESSEE'S SENIOR CITIZENS

Lastly, the questionnaire requested information on future services for Tennessee's senior citizens. Some of the replies are found below:

One regional library director hopes future services for senior citizens will include the following:

A senior citizens center is being planned for the city in the basement of a new library. When organized there will probably be aid and programs for the group.

Two other regional library directors report plans to establish additional bookmobile stations at senior citizens housing projects, senior citizens centers, and nursing homes. Another regional library director's answer to this question exemplifies the above statement:

Providing bookmobile stations in several nursing homes and at least one senior citizens center has been planned. However, federal reduction recommendations may prevent our continuing such plans.

Two Tennessee metropolitan public library directors write the following comments on future services to senior citizens:

The library has no immediate plans for additional special services for senior citizens. However, if grants of special monies became available the library might possibly develop programs in this area. Title IV A and B of the Library Services and Construction Act if funded will include many senior citizens.

Under the Model City Program, the library has submitted plans for effective home service in poverty areas of Davidson County. In the plans, librarians would go to private homes of senior citizens and others with selected materials. It is hoped that at least some aspect of the plans will be approved.

XII. SUMMARY

Data concerning available library services and programs for Tennessee's senior citizens has been presented in this chapter. The source of this data was a questionnaire completed by the four Tennessee metropolitan public library directors and the 12 Tennessee regional library directors.

The questionnaire indicates that all services for senior citizens are a part of the adult departments. Personnel in charge of services vary from professional staff members to clerical staff members. More services are offered to senior citizens as individuals than as groups. Further, senior citizens receive better services in the library building than outside the library building.

Most Tennessee library directors state that their libraries supply materials to other community agencies working with senior citizens. At this time, no special financial aid is available for services to senior citizens. Many library directors write that additional services include taking books to individual senior citizens.

CHAPTER IV

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

I. SUMMARY

This study was undertaken to evaluate available library service to Tennessee's senior citizens. The specific objectives were to discover the extent of available library services to Tennessee's senior citizens and to make recommendations for improving the services.

Current literature in the field of library service for senior citizens was reviewed. Letters were sent concerning national and state library service to the Adult Services Division of the American Library Association and to Miss Elizabeth Cole, Director of Tennessee Public Library Division. The investigator used a questionnaire in collecting data from public library directors.

The conclusions of this chapter present the major findings of Chapter III.

II. CONCLUSIONS

1. The guideline "The Library's Responsibility to the Aging"¹ of the Adult Services Division of the American Library Association recommends that libraries serve senior citizens within the library's adult department. The study indicates

¹"The Library's Responsibility to the Aging" (Chicago: Adult Services Division, American Library Association, 1964), p. 1. (Mimeographed.)

that the four Tennessee metropolitan public libraries and the 12 Tennessee regional libraries serve senior citizens as a part of the adult department. Further, none of the Tennessee libraries plan a separate department in the future. The four Tennessee metropolitan public libraries and the 12 Tennessee regional libraries meet national recommendations by serving senior citizens within the adult department.

2. The related literature indicates that public libraries should offer services to meet individual senior citizens' needs and interests. The four Tennessee metropolitan public libraries and the 12 Tennessee regional library systems offer large print books to all partially sighted individuals including senior citizens. No other services for individual senior citizens are provided by all of the 16 Tennessee public library systems. Services for individual senior citizens by Tennessee public library systems are inadequate when judged by major recommendations.
3. Further, the related literature states that public libraries need to plan special programs for groups of senior citizens. In Tennessee, only one regional library system conducts special programs including book talks, book discussions, and travelogs. Another regional library director indicates plans for future programs. None of the four Tennessee metropolitan public libraries plan special programs for senior citizens. Tennessee public library systems are not meeting recommendations for services to groups of senior citizens. Moreover,

fewer services are offered to Tennessee's senior citizens as groups than as individuals.

4. According to the related literature, public libraries should provide services to senior citizens outside the library building. Of the 16 Tennessee public library systems, three systems have bookmobile stations or stops at senior citizens centers, six systems have bookmobile stations or stops at nursing homes, and four systems have bookmobile stations or stops at senior citizens housing projects. Programs are planned at senior citizens centers by three library systems, at nursing homes by one library system, and at senior citizens housing projects by one library system. The above data leads to an additional conclusion that Tennessee public library systems, as a composite, offer a variety of services. However, as separate units, Tennessee public library systems offer few services and programs to senior citizens outside the library building.
5. The Adult Services Division of the American Library Association's "The Library's Responsibility to the Aging"² recommends that libraries cooperate with and supply materials to other community agencies working with senior citizens. Further, the related literature indicates that library staff members should participate on boards or committees serving senior citizens. Eleven Tennessee public library systems

²Ibid.

furnish materials to such agencies. Two library directors state that staff members participate on boards or committees serving senior citizens. In conclusion, five of the 16 Tennessee public library systems do not meet national recommendations to cooperate with and to supply materials to other community agencies serving senior citizens. Also, few library personnel are members of boards or committees serving senior citizens.

6. In addition, the questionnaire indicates that no special funds are available for services and programs for senior citizens by the 16 Tennessee public library systems.
7. The questionnaire reveals that an unusual service is the scheduling of special programs for senior citizens by the Nashville and Davidson County Public Library's FM radio station. Many library directors state that staff members take books to shut-in senior citizens. However, the questionnaire reveals that very little additional or unique services are being offered for senior citizens by the 16 Tennessee public libraries.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS

A careful examination of the data gathered in this study and of the above conclusions has prompted the following recommendations for improving library service to Tennessee's senior citizens.

1. Additional services for individual senior citizens are needed in the 16 Tennessee public library systems. Local libraries should devote shelves and sections and should compile special

booklists to provide for senior citizens' special needs and interests. Also, libraries should purchase special reading equipment and materials such as talking books, books in Braille, and reading magnifiers to meet many senior citizens' handicap of limited vision. Moreover, libraries should keep a calendar of community activities and agencies of interest to individual senior citizens.

2. More planned programs for groups of senior citizens should be developed in the library. Programs should include book talks, book discussions, travelogs, and forums and should be based on known interests of senior citizens. These programs give senior citizens the satisfaction of belonging to a group. Senior citizens must be encouraged to participate in planning and presenting these programs to give them a feeling of being needed and useful.
3. Tennessee public libraries need to plan more services and programs for senior citizens outside the library building. Additional bookmobile stations or stops at senior citizens centers, nursing homes and senior citizens housing projects are desirable. Further, Tennessee public library systems need to plan a variety of programs at the above locations. These programs should include book talks, book discussions, travelogs, and forums. Such programs would enable the public libraries to reach many senior citizens unable to come to the library because of physical handicaps or the lack of transportation.

4. Tennessee public libraries should provide more materials to assist other community agencies in planning community-wide services and programs for senior citizens. Likewise, boards or committees serving senior citizens should be encouraged to use library meeting rooms and materials to familiarize themselves with the library's services and programs for senior citizens. In addition, library staff members need to participate on boards or committees serving senior citizens. Library personnel are in a better position to integrate and coordinate library services for senior citizens with community-wide services and programs for senior citizens as members of such boards or committees.
5. Tennessee public library systems should consider including an item in their budgets to insure adequate services and programs for all Tennessee's senior citizens. The inclusion of such an item in the budgets would emphasize the importance of special services and special programs for senior citizens.

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APPENDICES

CRANES & CREST

APPENDIX A

LETTER INQUIRING ABOUT STATE SERVICE

FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

March 4, 1969

**Miss Elizabeth Cole
Tennessee State Library and Archives
Nashville, Tennessee**

Dear Miss Cole:

I have selected "A Study of Library Service for Tennessee's Senior Citizens" for my Master's thesis at The University of Tennessee. I would like knowing if statewide and/or individual library services and programs are available in the state of Tennessee.

I will appreciate any enlightenment you can give me on this question at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

**(Miss) Linda Weston
1725 White Avenue South West
Knoxville, Tennessee 37916**

RESPONSE FROM MISS ELIZABETH COLE, DIRECTOR OF
TENNESSEE PUBLIC LIBRARY DIVISION

March 25, 1969

Miss Linda Weston
1725 White Avenue S. W.
Knoxville, Tennessee

Dear Miss Weston:

In regard to your letter of March 4th, we are doing very little as an organized project for the Senior Citizens in Tennessee. However, many library systems throughout the state have special projects. Senior Citizens, housing projects, and special programs at the libraries are a part of the organization of the Senior Citizens. So that you may get a more direct and precise picture of this program, I am sending you a copy of the Public Library Directory so that you may write to these people who actually administer the program.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Cole
Director

EC:vh

PUBLIC LIBRARIES SECTION
Tennessee State Library and Archives
Nashville, Tennessee 37219

Elizabeth Cole
Director

Telephone 741-3158

Lillias Burns
Consultant

DIRECTORY OF RURAL REGIONAL LIBRARY CENTERS

July 1, 1968

| <u>Rural Regional Library Center</u> | <u>Director</u> | <u>Participating Counties</u> |
|--|-------------------------------|---|
| BLUE GRASS REGION 104 West Fifth Street Columbia, Zip Code 38401 Telephone 388-9282 | Miss Irma Harlan | Giles, Hickman, Lawrence, Lewis, Marshall, Maury, Perry, Wayne, Williamson |
| CANEY FORK REGION 209 Rhea Street Sparta, Zip Code 38583 Telephone 836-3335 | Mrs. Mary Little | Bledsoe, Cumberland, Grundy, Marion, Sequatchie, Van Buren Warren, White |
| CLINCH-POWELL REGION Westwood Estates, Hwy. 25-W P. O. Box 269 Clinton, Zip Code 37716 Telephone 457-0931 | Mrs. Helen M. Kittrell | Anderson, Campbell, Claiborne Morgan, Scott, Union |
| FORKED DEER REGION P. O. Box 158 Trimble, Zip Code 38259 Telephone 297-5810 | Miss Mattye Jackson | Crockett, Dyer, Lake, Lauderdale, Tipton, Fayette, Haywood |

Rural Regional Library Center**Director****Participating Counties**

FORT LOUDON REGION
P. O. Box 146
Athens, Zip Code 37303
Telephone 745-5194

Mrs. Marie D. Middleton

**Blount, Bradley, Loudon,
McMinn, Maigs, Monroe, Polk,
Rhea, Roane**

HIGHLAND RIM REGION
2102 Mercury Blvd.
Murfreesboro, Zip Code 37130
Telephone 893-3380

Miss Janet Smith

**Bedford, Cannon, Coffee,
Franklin, Lincoln, Moore,
Rutherford, Trousdale,
Wilson**

HOLICHUCKY REGION
Rt. 4, McCrary Drive
Morristown, Zip Code 37814
Telephone 586-6251

Miss Dorothy E. Sharpless

**Cocke, Grainger, Hamblen,
Hawkins, Jefferson, Sevier**

REELFOOT REGION
408 Jackson Street
Martin, Zip Code 38237
Telephone 587-2347

Mrs. Melba W. Wash

**Benton, Carroll, Gibson,
Henry, Obion, Weakley**

SHILOH REGION
227 West Baltimore
Jackson, Zip Code 38301
Telephone 427-3721

Miss Helen Lockhart

**Chester, Decatur, Hardeman,
Hardin, Henderson, McMairy,
Madison**

UPPER CUMBERLAND REGION
120 Madison Avenue
Cookeville, Zip Code 38501
Telephone 526-4016

Mrs. Julia G. Boyd

**Clay, DeKalb, Fentress,
Jackson, Macon, Overton,
Pickett, Putnam, Smith**

Rural Regional Library Center**Director****Participating Counties**

WARTO REGION

827 Franklin Street

P. O. Box 886

Clarksville, Zip Code 37041

Telephone 645-9531

Mrs. Julia C. Martin

Cheatham, Dickson, Houston,

Humphreys, Montgomery,

Robertson, Stewart, Sumner

WATAUGA REGION

P. O. Box 3250

Carroll Reece Branch

Johnson City, Zip Code 37601

Telephone 477-7337

Mrs. Olivia K. Young

Carter, Greene, Hancock,

Johnson, Sullivan, Unicoi,

Washington

| Urban Regional Library | Director | Participating County |
|--|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Chattanooga and Hamilton County 601 McCallie Avenue Chattanooga, Zip Code 37403 Telephone 266-6451 | Mrs. Kathryn Arnold | Hamilton |
| Knoxville and Knox County 217 Market Street Knoxville, Zip Code 37902 Telephone 523-0781 | Mr. Caswell Perry | Knox |
| Memphis and Shelby County 258 South McLean Blvd. Memphis, Zip Code 38104 Telephone 274-4593 | Mr. C. Lamar Wallis | Shelby |
| Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County Eighth Avenue and Union St. Nashville, Zip Code 37203 Telephone 244-4700 | Dr. Marshall Stewart | Davidson |

APPENDIX B

**LETTER INQUIRING ABOUT NATIONAL SERVICE
FOR SENIOR CITIZENS**

March 4, 1969

**Adult Services Division
American Library Association
50 E. Huron Street
Chicago, Illinois 60611**

Dear Sir:

"A Study of Library Service for Tennessee's Senior Citizens" is the problem I have selected for my Master's thesis at The University of Tennessee. Please inform me as to whether a national standards program and/or evaluations of such for senior citizens is available. I will appreciate receiving this reply and any other enlightenment on this problem at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

**(Miss) Linda Weston
1725 White Avenue South West
Knoxville, Tennessee 37916**

**RESPONSE OF RUTH M. WHITE, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY,
ADULT SERVICES DIVISION, AMERICAN
LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**

21 March 1969

**Miss Linda Weston
1725 White Avenue South West
Knoxville, Tennessee 37916**

Dear Miss Weston:

Please excuse the delay in replying to your letter of March 4, 1969. The Adult Services Division has not established standards for library services to senior citizens, but a statement has been prepared on the library's responsibility which is close to this, I am enclosing a copy.

The ASD Standards Development Committee is working on a "Bill of Rights for Adults" which will no doubt take into consideration senior citizens. However, they will not be singled out as the only group.

If there are other publications on the enclosed checklist, you can send for them through this office as noted on the checklist itself.

Yours truly,

**Ruth M. White
Executive Secretary
Adult Services Division**

**Enclosure: checklist
library responsibility**

RW/c1

signed in Miss White's absence.

THE LIBRARY'S RESPONSIBILITY TO THE AGING

**A Statement Prepared by the Committee on Library Services
to an Aging Population, and Adopted by the Board of Directors**

ADULT SERVICES DIVISION

A Unit of the American Library Association

January 1964

Aging is a life-long attribute of man which consequently has daily, personal implications for each person in our society. The social, economic, and biologic problems resulting from the process of aging place a responsibility on every school, public and academic library, and every special library having a general education function, as well as those libraries with a specific concern for the problems and needs of the aging and the aged.

These libraries serve their communities by:

1. contributing to a positive, wholesome attitude toward aging and the aged
2. providing information and education on the subject and its problems for the professional and the layman who work with this group, for those who are aging, and for those who are retired
3. demonstrating by example in the library profession and in the use of volunteers the potential contribution to society of the retired or eligible to retire
4. facilitating the use of library service by the aged
5. providing library service appropriate to the special needs of this group
6. working with other institutions and groups concerned with these problems and needs
7. continually exploring ways of making these services more efficient

Such service should respect the existing philosophy of library service, should use the traditional library materials and services, should maintain adequate standards, and unless the library is a specialized library serving the aging or the aged, should serve the aging and the aged as a part of integrated adult services.

APPENDIX C

**LETTER REQUESTING INTERVIEW WITH MR. D. MARSHALL STEWART,
DIRECTOR OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY**

April 9, 1969

**Mr. D. Marshall Stewart, Director
Nashville and Davidson County Public Library
Eighth Avenue and Union Street
Nashville, Tennessee 37203**

Dear Mr. Stewart:

As a graduate student in library service at The University of Tennessee, my problem for a thesis is "A Study of Library Service for Tennessee's Senior Citizens." As I will be in Nashville on Thursday, April 17, 1969, would it be convenient for you or a member of your staff to discuss such service offered by Nashville and Davidson County Public Library System on that date preferably in the morning any time after 10:00 CST?

Enclosed is a stamped envelope for your reply.

Sincerely,

**(Miss) Linda Weston
1725 White Avenue South West
Knoxville, Tennessee 37916**

QUESTIONNAIRE COVER LETTER**May 21, 1969****Dear**

As a graduate student in library service at The University of Tennessee, my problem for a thesis is "A Study of Library Service for Tennessee's Senior Citizens." I would appreciate if if you would please answer this questionnaire at your earliest convenience. Enclosed is a stamped envelope for your reply. Thank you!

Sincerely,

**(Miss) Linda Weston
1725 White Avenue South West
Knoxville, Tennessee 37916**

FOLLOW-UP LETTER

June 5, 1969

Dear

On May 21, 1969, I sent you a questionnaire to be answered as it related to general and special services for senior citizens offered by your regional library system.

PLEASE--I need your help to get my required 100 per cent return for a thesis! Enclosed you will find a second copy of the questionnaire to be filled out and a stamped envelope. Thank you!

Sincerely,

(Miss) Linda Weston
1725 White Avenue South West
Knoxville, Tennessee 37916

**PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICE TO TENNESSEE'S SENIOR CITIZENS
(QUESTIONNAIRE)**

INTRODUCTION: The purpose of this questionnaire is to determine what library services are available for Tennessee's senior citizens, 65 years and over.

DIRECTIONS: The questionnaire consists of two parts.

Part I contains questions answerable by one of several responses. Check the response which is most appropriate to your program.

Part II contains questions requiring a brief narrative answer.

Name of Library _____

Address of Library _____

Type of Library (Check one)

Metropolitan public library _____

Regional library center _____

Answered by _____ Position _____

Part I (Check the correct response)

- A. Does the library offer services for senior citizens as a separate department? Yes _____ No _____
- B. If services to senior citizens is provided within the adult department, does the library plan a separate department in the future? Yes _____ No _____
- C. Who is in charge of services for senior citizens?
- | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------|----------|
| Professional staff member | Yes _____ | No _____ |
| Semi-professional staff member | Yes _____ | No _____ |
| Clerical staff member | Yes _____ | No _____ |
| Other | Yes _____ | No _____ |
- If other, who?
- _____
- _____

D. Services for senior citizens in the library:

1. For the individual senior citizen:

- a. Are special shelves and sections available? Yes _____ No _____

- b. What special reading equipment and materials are available to aid senior citizens?

| | | |
|--------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Talking books | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Books in Braille | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Large print books | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Reading magnifiers | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |

- c. Is special reading guidance available?

Yes ☐ No ☐

- d. Does the library purchase books especially for senior citizens?

Yes ☐ No ☐

- e. Are special booklists available for senior citizens?

Yes ☐ No ☐

- f. Are rules relaxed for senior citizens who are unable to come regularly to the main library, branches, or/and county libraries?

Yes ☐ No ☐

- g. Does the library keep a calendar of community activities and agencies of interest to senior citizens?

Yes ☐ No ☐

- h. How is the main library, branches, or/and county libraries planned for easy access?

| | | |
|-----------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Ramps | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Grade entrances | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Hand rails | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Elevators | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |

- i. If your answer to h is no, will easy access be provided in the future by:

| | | |
|-----------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Ramps | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Grade entrances | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Hand rails | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Elevators | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |

2. For groups of senior citizens:

- a. Are special programs planned? Yes ☐ No ☐

- b. If your answer to a is no, does the library plan programs in the future? Yes ☐ No ☐

c. If your answer to a is yes, answer the following questions:

1) Who plans and directs the programs?

| | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----|-------|----|-------|
| Professional librarians | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| Participants | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| Outside resources | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |

2) What types of programs are planned?

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----|-------|----|-------|
| Book talks | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| Book discussions | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| Travelogs | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| Forums | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| Use of community resources | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |

3) What materials are used in programs?

| | | | | |
|------------|-----|-------|----|-------|
| Films | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| Filmstrips | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| Records | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| Tapes | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |

4) How are programs publicized?

| | | | | |
|-----------------|-----|-------|----|-------|
| Newspaper | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| Radio | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| Television | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| Mailing notices | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |

5) What time is scheduled for programs?

| | | | | |
|-----------|-----|-------|----|-------|
| Morning | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| Afternoon | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| Evening | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |

6) Is there a special meeting room?

| | | | |
|-----|-------|----|-------|
| Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
|-----|-------|----|-------|

d. Do senior citizens attend programs planned for the general public?

| | | | |
|-----|-------|----|-------|
| Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
|-----|-------|----|-------|

E. Services for senior citizens outside the library:

1. Does the library have stations or stops at:

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-------|----|-------|
| Senior citizens centers | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| Nursing homes | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| Senior citizens housing projects | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| Near (4-5 city blocks) any of the above | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |

2. Does the library plan programs at:

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-------|----|-------|
| Senior citizens centers | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| Nursing homes | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| Senior citizens housing projects | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| Neighborhood meetings at private homes | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |

3. If your answer to 2 is yes, what types of library programs are offered?

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----|-------|----|-------|
| Book talks | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| Book discussions | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| Travelogs | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| Forums | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| Use of community resources | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |

F. Services to other community agencies working with senior citizens:

1. Does the library offer materials to other community agencies for:

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|-------|----|-------|
| Their in-service training programs | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| Planning programs for senior citizens | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |

2. What types of materials are provided by the library?

| | | | | |
|------------|-----|-------|----|-------|
| Books | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| Booklists | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| Films | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| Filmstrips | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| Tapes | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| Records | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |

3. Does the library provide meeting rooms for any boards or committees serving senior citizens? Yes _____ No _____

4. Are any staff members on boards or committees serving senior citizens? Yes _____ No _____

G. Financing library service to senior citizens:

1. Is there an item in the budget which provides for such special service? Yes _____ No _____

2. Are there any special funds available? Yes _____ No _____
If yes, check below:

| | | | | |
|--------|-----|-------|----|-------|
| Grants | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |
| Gifts | Yes | _____ | No | _____ |

3. Are senior citizens charged for using special services? Yes _____ No _____

Part II (Answer briefly)

A. List any additional services.

B. Of the services offered by your library, which do you consider to be the most effective? Why?

C. What are the library's future plans for providing additional special services for senior citizens?

APPENDIX D

SCHEDULE OF PROGRAMS FOR SENIOR CITIZENS AT JASPER PUBLIC LIBRARY, JASPER, TENNESSEE

The following activities will be conducted at the Jasper Public Library each Friday. All persons 60 plus are invited to come to the library at 10:00 o'clock to any or all the activities. Keep this sheet for future dates.

| | | |
|--------|----|--|
| March | 28 | Games Checkers - Plain - Chinese Yakteze Per Quakey Cards - Bridge - Rook - Canasta Hearts Dominos Chess Bingo |
| April | 4 | Discussion - Topic - "What Is Healthy Gossip?" |
| April | 11 | Sunday School Lesson |
| April | 18 | Questions and Answers with Dr. Wm. Headrick - Topic - "Aging and Diet" |
| April | 25 | Discussion and Trip to Russell Cave |
| May | 2 | Panel with Mental Health Specialist - "Is Forgetting Normal?" |
| May | 9 | Games |
| May | 16 | Fun Day - Kitchen Orchestra |
| May | 23 | Questions and Answers with Lawyer on Wills and Legal Procedure |
| May | 30 | Choral Reading - Favorite Jokes |
| June | 6 | Dialogue - Topic - International Relationships |
| June | 13 | Discussion and Trip to Tennessee Rugby Colony |
| June | 20 | Discussion - Local History |
| June | 27 | Games |
| July | 11 | Dialogue - Topic - "The Youth of Today" |
| July | 18 | Listening - Poetry, Historical Orations |
| July | 25 | Group Singing |
| August | 1 | Art - Topic - "Where Do You Find It?" |
| August | 8 | Games |
| August | 15 | Discussion and Trip to Beersheba Springs |
| August | 22 | Program - Do As You Please |
| August | 29 | Sunday School Lesson |

**SCHEDULE OF PROGRAMS FOR SENIOR CITIZENS AT ORENA HUMPHREYS
LIBRARY, WHITWELL, TENNESSEE**

Activities for 60 plus persons at Orena Humphreys Library

| | | |
|--------|----|---|
| May | 2 | Games |
| May | 9 | Discussion - What Does Having an Interest Do for You? |
| May | 16 | Sunday School Lesson |
| May | 23 | Dietician Lecture on Aging and Diet |
| May | 30 | Sharing of Hobbies |
| | | |
| June | 6 | Games |
| June | 13 | Discussion by Physician "Do I Really Hurt?" |
| June | 20 | Discussion and Trip to Fall Creek Falls |
| June | 27 | Sunday School Lesson |
| | | |
| July | 11 | Kitchen Orchestra |
| July | 18 | Read and Listen to Poetry |
| July | 25 | Sunday School Lesson |
| | | |
| August | 1 | Games |
| August | 8 | See Tennessee USA |
| August | 15 | Lecture by Mental Health Specialist - How Not to Forget |
| August | 22 | Sunday School Lesson |
| August | 29 | Tell Jokes |

VITA

The author, Linda Weston, was born in Salt Lake City, Utah, December 3, 1942. She attended kindergarten and the primary grades in Salt Lake City, Utah. At the age of eight, she moved to Knoxville, Tennessee, where she continued her education in the Knoxville City School System. Miss Weston received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Tennessee Wesleyan College, Athens, Tennessee, in June, 1965, with a major in history. Graduate study in library service was begun at The University of Tennessee in September, 1965.