

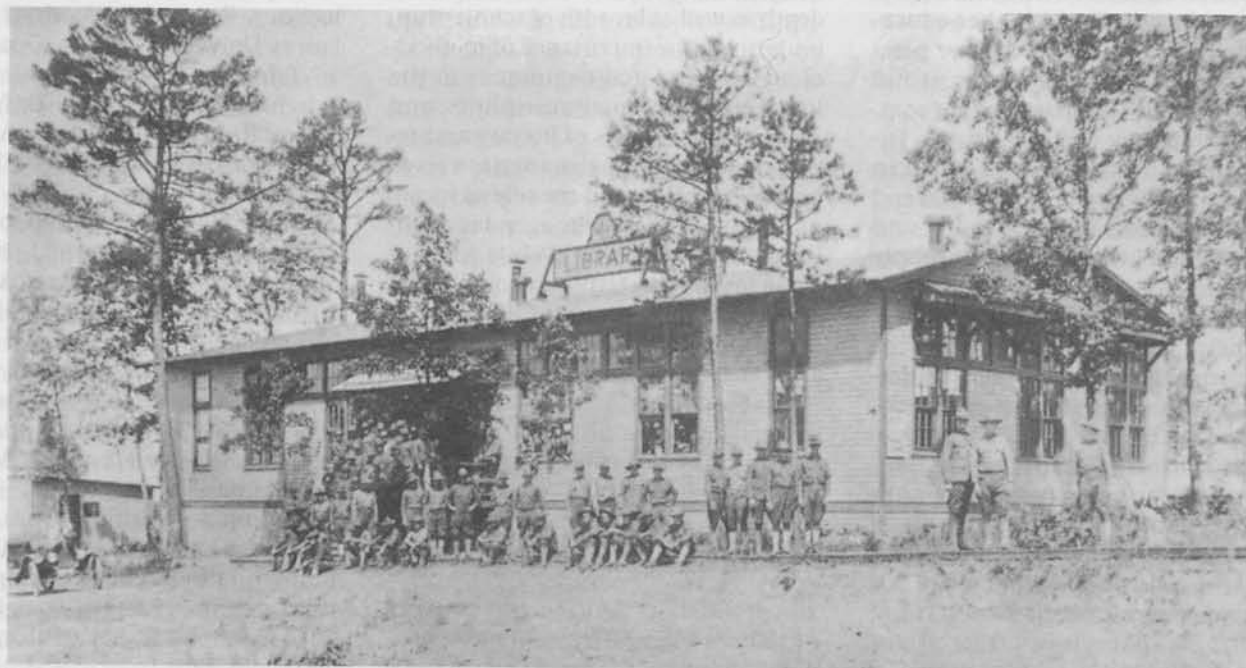
Newfangled & Highfalutin:

North Carolina Library Innovations Over the Decades

If a brief survey of NCLA publications can give any indication at all, then 20th century North Carolina library innovations have been driven by two major concerns: 1) a desire to reach underserved populations, and 2) the search for tools to deliver the raw materials of education, entertainment, and information faster, more efficiently, and in an increasing number of media formats. Innovation has been horse-drawn wagons carrying books into the coves of Appalachia, storytellers visiting polio wards, and that (now) old stand-by, the bookmobile. It has been card catalogs, teletypewriters, filmstrip projectors, and laminating machines. The Internet and all that goes with it may very well be just the most recent variation on our old familiar two-verse tune.

Here are a few North Carolina library innovations from decades past.

— *Plummer Alston Jones, Jr.* and *Thomas Kevin B. Cherry*, Guest Editors



The doughboys get their books at the Camp Greene Library (Charlotte) in 1918. [NC Library Bulletin (Sept. 1918): 128 insert.]



In 1922 some bookmobiles needed hay.

[NC Library Bulletin (Dec. 1922): 82 insert.]

* Photos included in this essay are courtesy North Carolina Collection, University of North Carolina Library at Chapel Hill.



The state's first motorized bookmobile — Miss Kiwanis — a gift of the Durham Kiwanis Club, makes a trip to Burlington in 1924.

[NC Library Bulletin (June 1924): 204 insert.]



Winston-Salem Public Library's hospital service celebrates its 1st anniversary in 1930.

[NC Library Bulletin (March 1930): 234 insert.]

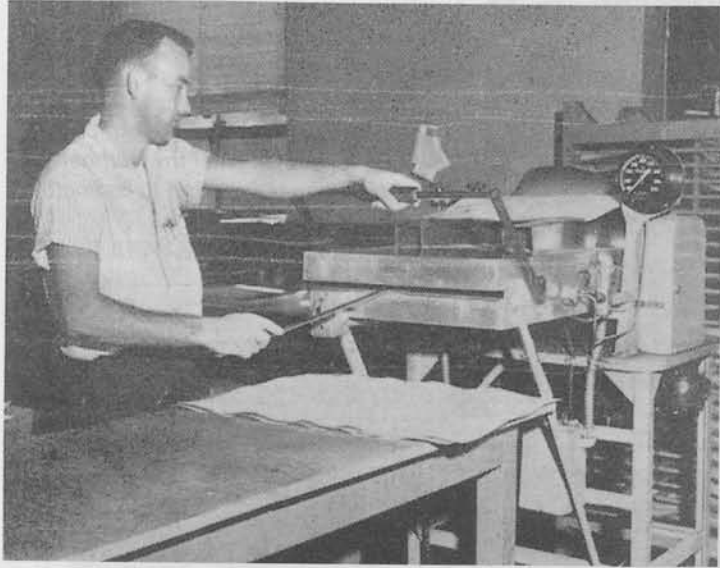


When school libraries became media centers. How many media can you identify in this 1953 photo?

[NCL 11 (May 1953): 79.]

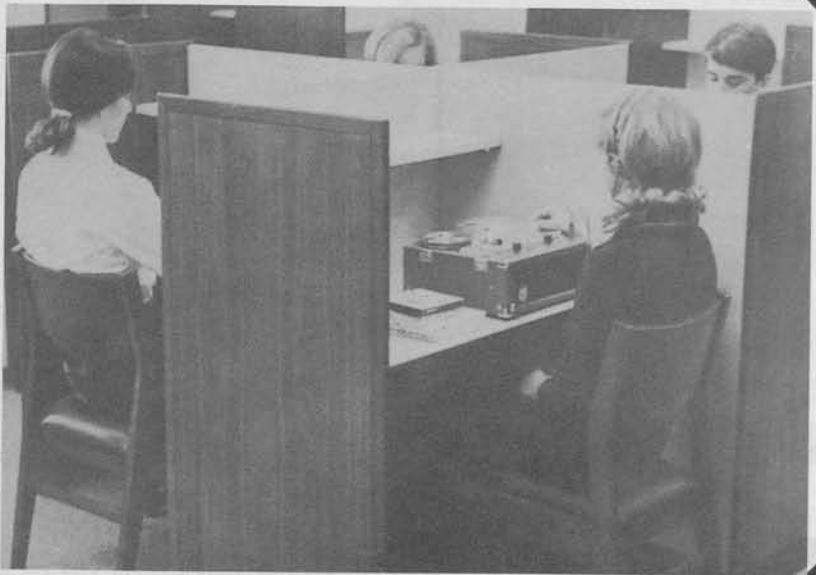
Newfangled & High
North Carolina Libraries

Interlibrary loan gets a boost with the new teletypewriter in 1959.
[NCL17 (Jan. 1959): 72.]



Lamination is touted as cutting-edge technology in this 1961 photo.
[NCL 19 (Winter 1961): 32.]

Listening centers add a new dimension to library services in 1969.
[NCL 27 (Spring 1969): 60.]



Library students pay homage to the filmstrip previewer in 1971.
[NCL 29 (Fall 1971): 142.]