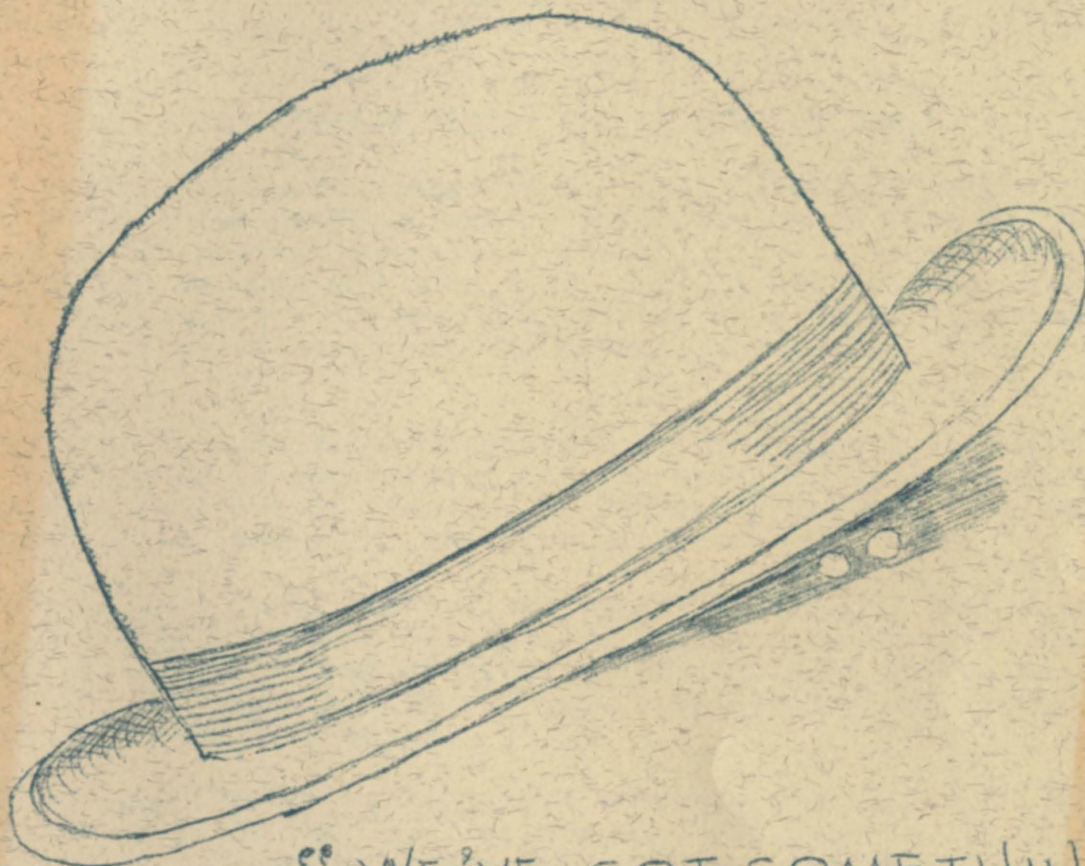




"WE'VE GOT SOMETHING
UNDER OUR HAT"

/ MOUNT AIRY JUNIOR / ~

~ / WOMAN'S CLUB /

BOOKS

These are the masters who instruct us without hard words or anger, without clothes or money. If you approach them, they are not asleep; if you interrogate them they conceal nothing; if you mistake them, they never grumble; if you are ignorant, they cannot laugh at you.

The LIBRARY, therefore, of wisdom is more precious than all riches, and nothing that can be wished for is worthy to be compared with it. Whosoever, therefore, acknowledges himself to be a zealous follower of truth, of happiness, of wisdom, of science, or even of faith, must of necessity make himself a lover of books. --General Federation News--

OUR LIBRARY 1961: THE PRESENT PICTURE

Our library now has outgrown all facilities and cannot possibly expand to meet the needs of modern civilization as long as it remains located in its present quarters. The building is heated without benefit of modern methods and this makes for quicker deterioration of books. It is a difficult job to keep the volumes in good reading condition, the shelves free of dust, and the overall appearance of the library attractive.

Just as you would be embarrassed to have guests view a cluttered home, you should be embarrassed for the appearance our library presents to visitors from out of town and to new residents who come seeking reading material there for the first time.

The Library Board and our two eager librarians, Miss Elizabeth Lovill and Miss Elizabeth Smith, work hard and do the best they can to maintain adequate library services under difficult operating conditions. They are to be commended for the fine job they do and for their devotion to the cause they serve.

Where our library had a signed membership of 1,716 in 1931, and approximately 10,000 in 1945, we now have close to 16,000 people registered to sign out books. There are days when the files are so full of signed cards that it is impossible to thumb through them without moving some out to make room. There are days when the librarians are so rushed with loaning and reclaiming duties that they have no time for the many other jobs which are so vital to a busy operation.

There is no room on the shelves for many books. Some are resting horizontally across fully stacked cases; others must remain in inaccessible locations where they cannot be readily seen. Children's books are often too high for children to reach them without aid from the librarian, and many adult books are at floor level, making it hard for our senior citizens to consider them useful.

The library building, with its many small rooms and many doors and windows is hard to keep comfortable. It is poorly lighted and is expensive to heat in winter. Truly it is not a credit to the forward looking citizens of Mount Airy.

Let us take a look into the future and try to imagine what our town library could look like if every one of us were to work, either as individuals or with our favorite club, towards the goal of a Cultural Center that we would be proud to point out to visitors and even prouder to have for our own use.

19???: MOUNT AIRY PLANS FORMAL DEDICATION OF NEW CULTURAL CENTER

(The following article is a preprint of one which some day should appear in the Sunday section of the big city newspapers. Unfortunately at present there are none of the accompanying future photographs ready for distribution.)

Next Tuesday will be an important day in the lives of the citizens of Mount Airy, one of our neighboring communities. At 7 P.M. the Mayor and the Chairman of the Library Foundation will formally open the new Library-Cultural Building, the culmination of a dream close to the hearts of many Mount Airy citizens for a period of years.

The new building is unique in that it marks the first time that all clubs and organizations of the Town of Mount Airy have joined hands in supporting one tremendous project. Businesses and individuals have been equally generous with their time, efforts, and money. Without this unity of purpose the building could never have been completed in so short a time.

Centrally located, close to the center of town and the Reeves Y.M.C.A., the new building will serve as a library and a meeting place for all lovers of arts and crafts. It is hoped that classes in many constructive handicrafts will be scheduled for adults and children in the near future.

The exterior of the building is harmonious to surrounding structures and adjoins a large convenient parking area which opens directly into the lower level of the building. Upon entering the main doors one is immediately impressed with the inviting cheerfulness of the library.

Interior design has been arranged on the special advice of library technicians, and arrangement of books has been effected for maximum display and utility. Children's books are within easy reach to encourage young people in their search for knowledge. Adult volumes are classified and cross-filed by author and by title, making it easy to locate any volume at a moments glance.

A special reference room has been arranged with adequate desk space for students and the very latest set of Encyclopaedia Britannica has been donated by an anonymous friend. Other reference books are well marked according to subject matter and even the younger children can find information on any subject without aid.

The librarian's desk in the main hall is a picture of functional beauty. It affords a clear view of the entire space and has an inter-com for communications with people using the reference room. As the facilities grow this inter-com will be useful for people using the Arts and Crafts Department downstairs.

It is hoped that the North Carolina Gallery of Art in Raleigh will vote to include Mount Airy in their list of towns throughout the state which now receive works of art for loan exhibitions. This fire proof, electrically heated and cooled building could provide safe housing for such exhibits.

One downstairs room has been wired suitably for use as a projection room and it is hoped that in the future there may be a film library or perhaps a microfilm periodical library established for public use.

The String Quartet from the North Carolina Symphony Orchestra will

furnish music for the opening festivities and refreshments will be served by the Junior and Senior Women's Clubs of Mount Airy. The dedication speech will be made by the State Library Chairman after a brief greeting from the chairman of the Mount Airy Library Foundation.

The public is invited to attend.

OPERATING EXPENSES: A PROBLEM OF THE FUTURE

One of the problems which has plagued the Library Board is lack of sufficient funds for operating at maximum efficiency with the high prices of today's market. This problem would be intensified once the ideal future library becomes a reality.

Increased local support would be necessary to maintain the enlarged, improved library which the Library Foundation hopes to see established. The American Library Association recommends \$3.00 per capita population of the town, or about ten times the amount now being provided. This includes operation on a full time schedule, replacement or discarding of worn books, and enough increase in library staff to permit time for needed cataloging duties and clerical work.

There are some brighter spots to the picture which, as time goes on, will be elaborated on in future news articles. The Library Services Act, passed in Congress in June 1956 authorized generous federal funds as grants to the states for the extension and improvement of rural library service. A rural area is defined as any place of 10,000 population or less.

Funds under a State submitted plan may be used for salaries, books and other library material, library equipment and operating expenses, but not for the erection of buildings or purchase of land. Funds are allotted to the States on the basis of their rural population and are matched by the States on the basis of their per capita income.

The determination of best use of funds, the administration of public libraries, the selection of personnel and library books and materials - insofar as is consistent with the purpose of the act - shall be reserved to the States and their local subdivisions. Under this plan for operation it is encouraged that community libraries in a natural area should band together with a central library to form a system of libraries .. BUT, AND THIS IS IMPORTANT .. with each community library retaining local control.

This is a brief report on a lengthy subject, one which will be brought out in greater detail as we present more varied publicity on our local library in the future.

JANUARY 1961: A BRIEF MESSAGE TO PONDER

The Town of Mount Airy is alive with new ideas, new industry, and new faces. Families arrive to make their homes in our city and parents and children are encompassed in our town's welcoming spirit.

These new families soon become well acquainted with facilities necessary to everyday living. They are quick to learn which stores are best suited to their own needs; they open accounts with a local banking house; they join the Y.M.C.A. for physical development; they become part of the congregation of their local parent church and are as-

sured spiritual development and support. One facet of man's craving for improvement they often fail to recognize.

How many of us have been surprised to discover that many of our newer citizens, perhaps even some of our long standing residents, do not know where the Mount Airy Public Library is located! How many of these families who plan so carefully for physical and spiritual well-being forget the satisfaction of stimulating literature for a well developed mental growth.

Complacency is about to ruin our library. In the story of the library's growth one fact becomes apparent - as long as civic interest and unity of purpose prevailed our library grew. When the war years and other more pressing local problems caused Mount Airy citizens to become blind to the stagnant lag in library development the beautiful library described in a 1944 newspaper began to deteriorate. The library board needs the favorable help of every individual to correct the existing situation.

The Mount Airy Junior Woman's Club, in full cooperation with the Library Board and the Library Foundation, is attempting to stimulate city-wide interest in our public library. We hope that this publicity campaign will help to unite all Mount Airy civic organizations in working together to build a new library-cultural center, to offer mental stimulation equal to the physical and spiritual guidance now available to Mount Airy citizens.

The Mount Airy Junior Woman's Club is eager to show its concern for the needs of our community, and its faith in this project --

THE CULTURAL CENTER.

We will begin our campaign for funds with the Follies. Please read on for a brief description of the program we propose, as well as a resume of our club's other attempts to serve through Community Service and Adult Education.

THE FOLLIES

The Follies, to be produced by the Mount Airy Junior Woman's Club early in 1961, is a "means" to help Mount Airy reach an "end". This "end" is a new library building, modern, well equipped, and readily accessible. It is hoped that the building can also serve as a center of culture for the community.

Juniors hope that this concentrated surge of talent and fun will provide funds to help us reach the goal of new library facilities--but we hope even more to stimulate the general feeling that it is nothing short of being a local disgrace and an injustice to its youth for the town to provide only the minimum of the one existing facility that covers everything from table setting, travel and entertainment to space, thermonuclear war and philosophy--namely good books. It is sincerely hoped that the citizen's will be alerted to the needs and will unite to give our young people their chance to succeed.

Jerome H. Cargill, a producing agency with headquarters in New York, makes a business of producing shows in small towns such as ours. After careful study of similar programs in other communities the Juniors have signed the contract with Cargill to produce the Mount Airy Follies. The agency employs directors currently active on Broadway, in television, and in movies. One of these directors, preceded by business men, local committees, and hard work, comes to town for three weeks. During this time the show is put together and presented. With Cargill's help we will present, among other exciting features, the homespun housewife--transformed into a queen in the chorus line!

Cargill has been presented in the Saturday Evening Post as being unique and highly successful. Our contract puts a limit on how much the company may make and guarantees that we will at least break even! We cannot lose, but we are interested in succeeding! Reports from other communities are most exciting and we are sure that through the Follies the Mount Airy Junior Woman's Club can make a fine start in the drive to obtain a new library for this area.

Our club members are organized into committees and are continuing the work that began in October, 1960, in preparation for the Follies. The Follies will be presented March 24th and 25th in the evening. Mrs. Richard Belton is serving as general chairman, assisted by Mrs. Fred Preddy and Mrs. Lewis Bolen.

Our show will be a musical comedy, a mixture of real talent and the people you never thought would be seen on a stage. It will be a night of fun and frolic. It will be sold out! It will be remembered!

The Mount Airy Junior Woman's Club was organized in October, 1947, under the leadership of Mrs. Jack Myers, Mrs. Ed Early, and Mrs. Jim Vaughn. Twenty-nine charter members held their first meeting in November, 1947, at which time they were also chartered by the North Carolina Federation of Women's Clubs.

During the years of 1948-1949-1950, the Club sponsored the Cancer Control Drive as its major project. In addition, the Club cooperated with the Community Chest in collecting toys for the Empty Stocking Fund. The State projects of World Peace and World Government were carried out with high school peace speaking contest, and gifts of food and clothing sent abroad, as well as foreign correspondence by individual members. In November, 1950, a permanent club clothing closet was established. The Club also undertook support of the Children's Home Society. These are both permanent State Junior Projects.

Club year of 1950-51 had as its theme, Community Recreation. In conjunction with other civic clubs a Halloween Carnival was planned and executed. The Cancer Control Drive, Empty Stocking Fund and World Peace Speaking Contests were continued. Club members participated in two National projects during this year: Collection of Stamps for Wounded Veterans and Books for Overseas.

Youth Conservation and Community Service were the Club projects in 1951-52. Proceeds from the projects were divided between the Veterans' Park and the Reeves YMCA.

Support of the Caswell Training School was added to the Club's activities in 1952-53 as a third Junior project. Work was continued on Stamps for Wounded Veterans and the Americanism Campaign was adopted as a National Project. The local elementary schools and the Reeves YMCA shared in the proceeds raised through local fund projects.

The year of 1953-54 found the Club carrying their four projects: Caswell Training School, Children's Home Society, Clothing Closet, and Americanism. In addition to these, the Club carried out five local service projects: Sponsored Antique Show, Band and Glee Club Concert, City-wide School Art Contest, Campaign for State and local Bond elections, and contributed service to the YMCA Circus. Funds realized from Club projects were distributed among the local elementary schools, Reeves YMCA, and Veterans' Park.

The Club in 1954-55 completed a three-year project of donations to the YMCA and the three elementary schools. In addition, the Club participated in local drives, state projects, and the residential canvass for Community Chest, with the Clothing Closet and stamps for wounded veterans being the most outstanding projects. An attempt to make a change in the town charter concerning the School Board resulted in the appointment of two new members to the Board and an increased interest in local government.

Highlighting the year 1955-56 was the organization of the Hospital Auxiliary. The Club in this same year was given state recognition for its year book, clothing closet achievements, and stamps for wounded veterans project. The Club also sponsored the Bloodmobile, adopted the National Saving Stamps Project, and contributed to South Main Junior High School.

The year 1956-57, we contributed warm clothing, sorted and sized, to the Red Cross after the Flat Rock School fire, and we contributed to the Beasley Memorial fund following the fire. We helped with the

Empty Stocking Fund, Membership drive for the YMCA, and took part in the "Get Out the Vote" for National election which won us a certificate of merit. We also donated Memorial books to the Mount Airy School Library. A certificate of merit was awarded to us in our Clothing Closet Project and one in Our Stamps for Wounded Veterans Project. Our year book won a blue ribbon for the second consecutive year. At the opening of the Northern Surry Hospital, we, with the Mount Airy Woman's Club, gave the hospital staff and employees a reception.

We concentrated all our efforts on the Children's Clothing Closet in 1957-58. During the summer we moved the Closet to a home donated to us by James Bray. We sent to Caswell Training School used Christmas cards, bathing suits, and records. Also, we transported one baby to the Children's Home in Greensboro. We won fifth place at the State Convention for our Stamps for Wounded Veterans' Project. For our work in conservation we received a Merit Award. Moreover, we received a Merit Award on Education for the retreat we had last summer for officers and committee chairmen. Our year book rated second in the State. We donated a Croupette to the hospital. This summer we sent some underprivileged girls to camp.

In the year 1958-59 we helped sponsor Bundle Day in connection with the Children's Clothing Closet, participated in the United Fund Drive, and sent assorted accessories to Caswell Training School. Twenty-five activity books, which we made, were sent to the Handicapped children's center here in Mount Airy. The sale of 800 pounds of pecans helped us to get our art and craft classes started. A choral group was organized and sang at our meetings. Our press book won second place in the district and our year book won third. We received certificates of Merit in Four-Fold Fitness, Citizenship and International affairs.

1959-60 found our Club calendar being changed to coincide with the actual calendar year. Our activities included a contribution of twenty-five dollars to the United Fund, and fifty of our fifty-four members actively participating in the 1960 United Fund Campaign. In December we helped to bring Christmas to a family by contributing Twenty-five dollars towards food, etc. We also gave financial support of Twenty-five dollars to the North Carolina Little Symphony. In the fall of 1959, we with the Senior Woman's Club assisted in a Cancer Research Survey. We contributed One Hundred and Twenty-five dollars to the support of a foreign student here at Mt. Airy High School. The spring of 1960 found us contributing about Seventy-five dollars to two of our own students for trips abroad during the 1960 summer. We also contributed about fifty dollars to CARE.

We have been active, especially among our own members, in promoting "Get-Out-The-Vote" programs. In 1960 we worked with the Jaycees presenting tags about voting. We have also organized car pools to get voters to the polls, called the telephone listings for registrations and voting reminders.

Early in 1960, we held our annual Fashion Sewing Contest with the Senior Woman's Club and the White Plains Woman's Club to encourage members in this art.

Youth Fitness Week was sponsored in 1960, the highlights of which were the teen dance and the presentation of the Youth Fitness Trophy to the outstanding example of physical, spiritual, social, and mental fitness. The Executive Director of the Government's Youth

Fitness Council spoke at the High School under our sponsorship. Several years ago we offered our support of the Emergency Rescue Squad and now we are actively engaged in helping to support this new organization in our town.

The Clothing Closet is continuously distributing clothing to needy families in cooperation with the Welfare Department. The Club participated in the Empty Stocking Fund and in sorting out the clothing.

We have sponsored the Adult Reading Class over Television for two years. The third such class is now in progress, and the class has been responsible for teaching twenty people to read and write to the third-grade level.

The Mount Airy Junior Woman's Club has accomplished its aims in its efforts to serve the community and to uphold adopted State and National projects, and it has maintained continuously a 100% rating with the North Carolina Federation of Women's Clubs.

PAST PRESIDENTS

Mrs. Robert Perkins - - - - - 1947-48
1948-49

Mrs. Ed Lewis - - - - - 1949-50

Mrs. Buck White - - - - - 1950

Mrs. Ed Early - - - - - 1950-51

Mrs. Eugene Rountree - - - - - 1951-52

Mrs. Ros Francisco - - - - - 1952-53

Mrs. Henry Rowe - - - - - 1953-54
1954-55

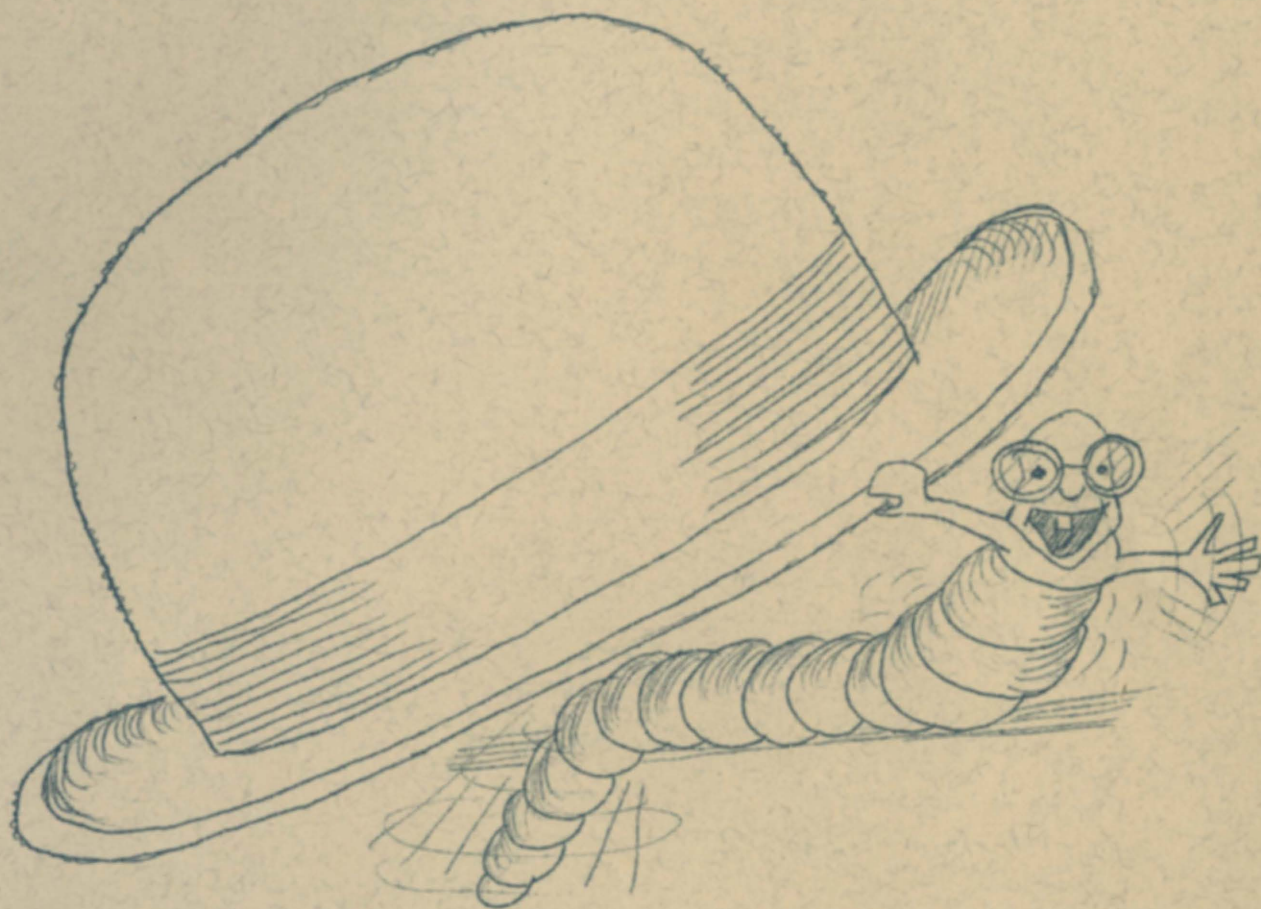
Mrs. Joe Fowler, Jr. - - - - - 1955-56
1956-57

Mrs. Lassie Kirkman - - - - - 1957-58
1958-59

Mrs. Haywood Merritt, Jr. - - - - - 1959-60

MOUNT AIRY JUNIOR WOMAN'S CLUB
RESUME OF HISTORY, ACCOMPLISHMENTS, CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR COMMUNITY

<u>Children's Home Society</u> (plus gifts of layettes services, publicity)	955.08
<u>Caswell & Murdock Schools</u> (plus gifts of therapy & crafts materials, services & publicity)	555.00
<u>Birthday Remembrance</u> (to children in reform schools from our area--plus our services)	91.30
<u>Mt. Airy High School</u> (student equipment)	501.81
<u>Rockford School</u> (phonograph, reference books, etc.)	352.53
<u>North Main School</u> (books, phonograph, library blinds, etc.)	289.88
<u>South Main School</u> (books)	94.50
<u>Bannertown School</u> (phonograph, library books, etc.)	352.53
<u>Junior High School</u> (to this, & all other schools, services such as subscriptions to conservation magazines, conservation art materials, study materials, etc.)	
<u>J. J. Jones School</u>	
<u>Book Memorials</u> (Public Lib. & School Libs.)	155.00
<u>Recreation Equipment - Veterans' Park</u>	557.19
<u>Y. M. C. A.</u> (gym equipment, tables & chairs for club rooms, help at circus, chaperoning dances, etc.)	1,479.18
<u>Recreation-Halloween Carnivals</u>	150.00
<u>Stamps for Wounded Vets</u> (cash only sent for this project is estimated--thousands of stamps have been sent)	58.00
<u>Speaking Contests</u> (our sponsorship, plus prizes)	70.00
<u>Ten Penny Art Fund & Art Contest</u>	122.00
<u>Girls' State</u> (sponsorship of a girl)	20.00
<u>Girl Scouts</u> (camperships)	75.00
<u>Independence Hall Restoration</u>	35.00
<u>Exchange Student</u>	200.00
<u>CARE</u>	50.00
<u>Music Contests & Little Symphony</u> (plus services & publicity)	87.00
<u>Hospital Auxiliary</u> (organized this group, sponsored it until independent; services; croupette for hospital)	223.62
<u>Children's Clothing Closet</u> (Bundle Day) (value of clothes we've handled & distributed, plus our gifts of money)	79,109.92
<u>United Fund</u> (Community Chest-other drives in past) (this is a very rough estimate for health drives, etc., preceding days of United Fund, & does not include all we have raised for any of these)	11,140.00
Partial listing of money we have contributed through gifts, services.	<u>\$96,698.74</u>



"GET A WIGGLE ON,
AND JOIN US"