



WASHINGTON NEWSLETTER

HOTEL CONGRESSIONAL . WASHINGTON 3. D. C.

Vol. 2

AUGUST 18, 1950.

No. 9

FEDERAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE PROGRAM APPROVED

ALA Council approved the program of the Federal Relations Committee as presented by Chairman Raymond C. Lindquist, July 21. The program was presented in the April 26 Newsletter. It gives first priority to a library service bill, designed to strengthen the library demonstration bill by permitting each state to use funds to develop the pattern most useful to it. The bill would be terminal, with a valuable matching grant. It would be a bill providing for the extension of service to, which does not eliminate using existing libraries as a base of operations and thus avoid unnecessary duplication.

The proposed bill would not include standards. While an ALA Committee working on standards would submit their report as a guide, the report would not demand arbitrary implementation.

Continued support of social security, (H. R. 6000), postal legislation (H.R. 2945), customs bill (H.R. 8304) S. 2496, the Care Book Bill, the Point-4 Program, and the American Information Libraries was encouraged. Council modified its previous stand on support of education to support public education.

SOCIAL SECURITY LEGISLATION PASSED

Senate action today followed House action yesterday on the adoption of the conference report on H. R. 6000. It now must be signed by the president before it becomes law.

As reported in the June 7 Newsletter public employees under a retirement system will be excluded from social security. Those librarians not included under a state or municipal retirement system are eligible if the state enters into an agreement with the Federal Government.

NOTE: State Presidents and Coordinators receive the Washington Newsletter free with the understanding that the information will be forwarded to members of their Association.

The conference report made changes regarding employees of non-profit organizations.

Method of Coverage: In the absence of affirmative action, as explained below, by the nonprofit organization (those exempt from federal income tax under section 101 (6) of the Internal Revenue Code - organized for religious, charitable, educational, etc., purposes), the employees of such organizations would be excluded from participation in this program. In such case, neither the organization nor its employees are subject to the social security taxes. However, if an organization wishes to bring its employees under the system it may do so by filing a certificate. The certificate filed by the organization must certify that at least two-thirds of its employees concur in the filing of the certificate. Commencing with the first day following the close of the calendar quarter in which the certificate is filed, the employees who have concurred in the filing of the certificate will be covered for social security purposes. Thereafter, the employing organization and the employees will be subject to the social security taxes in the same manner as a private employer and his employees. The employer will deduct the employees tax from his pay - until 1954 it will be $1\frac{1}{2}$ percent of his salary, not counting salary over \$3,600 a year. The employing organization must pay an equal sum as its contribution, and then sends both contributions to the United States collector of internal revenue.

Other Requirements: The certificate filed by the organization must be accompanied by a list containing the signature, address, and social security account number (if any) of each employee who concurs in the filing of the certificate. Employees who do not concur will continue to be excluded from coverage.

1. Such list may subsequently be amended by filing supplemental lists of additional employees who concur in the filing of certificates.
2. New employees who are hired after the organization is brought under the social security system will be covered on a compulsory basis.

Termination of Arrangement: The certificate filed by the nonprofit organization would be effective for a minimum period of ten years. The period for which the certificate is effective may be terminated by the organization upon giving two years' advance notice in writing of its desire to terminate the effect of the certificate, but only if the certificate has been in effect for a period of not less than eight years. If this is done, the organization loses the right thereafter to file a certificate bringing its employees under the system again.

If the Commissioner of Internal Revenue finds that an organization which filed a certificate has failed to comply substantially with federal law and requirements, or is no longer able to comply with such provisions, the Commissioner can give such organization a 60 days' advance note that he is terminating the period covered by the certificate. The Commissioner cannot give such notice of termination or revocation without prior concurrence of the Federal Security Administrator.

POSTAL LEGISLATION

Hearings on H. R. 2945 have been concluded. Committee action has been delayed on the bill. We have held up this issue of the Newsletter in the hope that the Committee would act but each day action is postponed.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SECURITY

Reorganization plan 27 was defeated in the House. There will be no further attempt this session to secure cabinet status of the Federal Security Agency.

SURPLUS PROPERTY AVAILABLE TO LIBRARIES

The Commissioner of Education, Earl J. McGrath has just announced a basic 100% benefit allowance to libraries for surplus property. Applications for the surplus property should be made to your state educational agency who will tell you if and when the property you desire is available. If you fail to receive the information needed from your state educational agency you might write the ALA Washington office for the name of the field man of the Surplus Property Division in your area.

S. 2496 CARE BOOK BILL

As reported in the last Newsletter the Care Book Bill passed the Senate, and is now before the House Foreign Affairs Committee for action. Members of the Committee to whom you should write about the bill are:

John Kee,	W. Va.	* Republicans	
James P. Richards	S.C.	* Charles A. Eaton	N.J.
Joseph L. Pfeifer	N.Y.	* Robert B. Chipenfield	Ill.
Thomas S. Gordon	Calif.	* John M. Vorys	Ohio
Helen Gahagan Douglas	Calif.	* Frances P. Bolton	Ohio
Mike Mansfield	Mont.	* Lawrence H. Smith	Wis.
Thomas E. Morgan	Pa.	* Chester E. Merrow	N.H.
Laurie C. Battle	Ala.	* Walter H. Judd	Minn.
George A. Smathers	Fla.	* James G. Fulton	Pa.
A. S. J. Carnahan	Mo.	* Jacob K. Javits	N.Y.
Thurmond Chatham	N.C.	* John Davis Lodge	Conn.
Clement J. Zablocki	Wis.	* Donald L. Jackson	Calif.
Abraham A. Ribicoff	Conn.		
Omar Burleson	Texas		

CONFERENCE ON AGING

The first National Conference on Aging was held at the Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D. C. August 13-15, 1950. It was called by the Federal Security Agency at the request of President Truman. Over 800 delegates assembled to discuss the economic, social, and personal problems arising from the increased number of citizens over 65. Economists, statisticians, doctors, lawyers, psychiatrists, labor, and business representatives, as well as teachers, adult education specialists, recreation leaders, welfare workers, insurance men, and librarians discussed ways to enrich the life of older people. The Education section passed two resolutions: One, asking for a survey or listing of libraries offering programs for older citizens, and the other requesting libraries to better publicize their facilities and holdings for older people.

ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTING LIBRARIES

A recent survey made by the ALA Washington office shows that the following organizations are actively supporting library legislation in the various states. The organizations are listed as a reminder to us of the varied organizations that can be helpful:

Adult Education Council	Farmers Union
The Agricultural Extension Division	Four H Clubs
American Assn. of University Women	General Federation of Women's Clubs
American Federation of Labor	Girl Scouts
American Legion	The Grange
American Legion Auxiliary	Home Bureaus
AMVETS	Homemakers Clubs
Business and Professional Women	Home Demonstration Council
Chamber of Commerce	Jewish War Veterans
Child Study Association	League of Women Voters
Congress of Industrial Organizations	Library Aid Associations
Consumers League	Library Development Committee
Council of Churches	Louisiana Municipal Association
Council of Common Good	Louisiana Police Jury Association
Council of Women	Michigan Rural Teachers Assn.
Daughters of American Revolution	National Congress of Parents and Teachers
Delta Kappa Gamma Society	Rotary
Disabled American Veterans	Veterans of Foreign Wars
Farm Bureau	Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary
Farm Bureau Associated Women	

FLASH!!! The American Country Life Association has copies of 1948 and '49 Proceedings available at reduced rates of 50¢ to public libraries. Since they contain extremely valuable information concerning rural life trends, libraries are urged to take advantage of this opportunity. Address your communication to:

Gunvor Johannesen, Treasurer
of the American Country Life Assn.,
The Wisconsin Agriculturist and Farmer
Racine, Wisconsin