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Leaves

from the Mynderse Library
Vol. 2, No.3 Winter '76 - '77 Ed. Leone Wayne

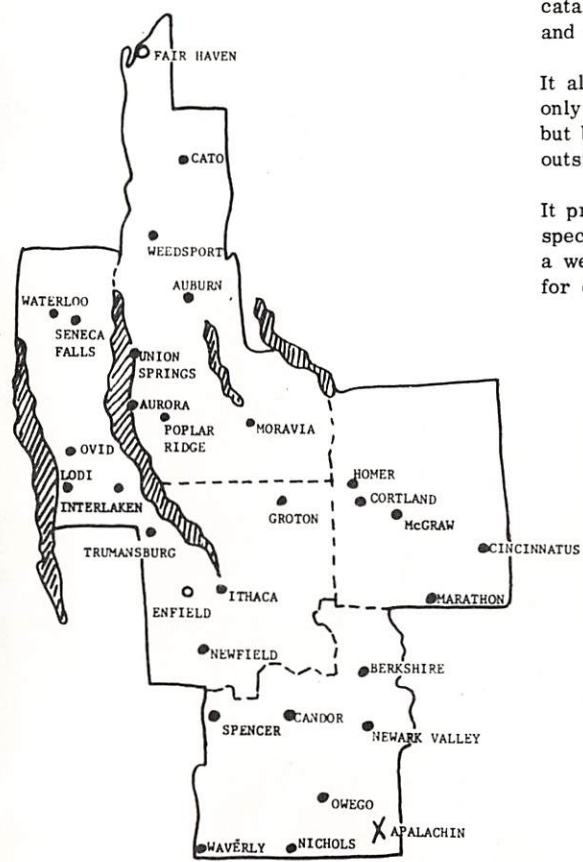
The Finger Lakes Library System

The Finger Lakes Library System covers the counties of Cayuga, Cortland, Seneca and Tompkins. It began in August 1958 with 17 member libraries. Auburn and Ithaca are the only city members, four more are villages of over 5,000 population, all the rest are in rural areas. Currently there are 28 libraries in the System.

The System is financed by the state, and is governed by an eleven member Board of Trustees. Donald E. Cramer of Seneca Falls and Walter A. Connelly of Waterloo represent Seneca County. The Tompkins County Library in Ithaca is headquarters for the System. Services include the bookmobile to rural areas, centralized processing and purchasing, cataloging and preparation of the books and catalog cards.

It also facilitates interlibrary loans, not only between libraries within the System, but borrows unusual books from libraries outside the state.

It provides consultants on problems and special services. Mary Carey has been a welcome participant in the Story Hour for children as one example.



Map of Finger Lakes Library System Service Area

- MEMBER LIBRARIES
- DEPOSIT STATIONS
- X READING CENTER

For Mynderse Leaves From the Friends of the

The Friends of the Mynderse Library have been keeping the display case at the Library filled with a variety of exhibits.

In November, in honor of Children's Book Week, a display of characters from children's literature was exhibited.

In keeping with the Christmas season, Mrs. Eileen Carmer lent her collection of Christmas seals through the years for Library-goers to see.

This month, Mrs. Joan Doshi has arranged a display of African artifacts entitled: Shedding Light on the Dark Continent. With the current interest in Roots following the eight day television presentation, this exhibit of African culture is a timely one.

"American History as Seen Through Quilts," is the subject of a talk and display of quilts to be given by Mrs. Grace Munn on Tuesday evening, March 15, at the Library. You may remember the quilt exhibit on Barge Days last summer. It evoked so much interest that we asked Mrs. Munn to return to tell us more about her favorite subject.

Mrs. Gayle Knox is in charge of the annual art display scheduled for April at the library. This year's exhibit will feature a program from the Art Dept. at Mynderse Academy.

Ever think of collecting buttons? Mrs. Harry Lynn will demonstrate this fascinating hobby with an exhibit scheduled for May.

Winter storms have not deterred Seneca Falls pre-schoolers from turning out on Wednesday mornings for story-hour at the Mynderse Library. Mrs. Dorothy Sember, our reader, reports between 13-20 enthusiastic children at every session. She is assisted by volunteers, Mrs. Joan Doshi and Mrs. Kay Budd. Maybe we should start a weekly program for the mothers.

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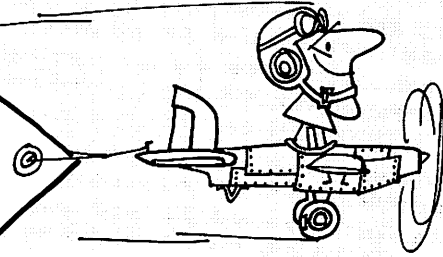
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by John Masters

C. 1975--Doubleday; 324 Pages

Announcing the Arrival of New Library Books



John Masters' first novel, The Night-runners of Bengal, appeared in 1951, a best seller. The setting was India during the 1875 mutiny. His latest novel, The Field Marshall's Memoirs, is set in England in modern times.

The chief character is Field Marshall Sir John Durham, a hero in two World Wars, the master mind of the Balkan and Italian campaigns. On the eve of his 80th birthday, he decides to tell the true story of his life and career--to publish his memoirs.

How this decision deeply affects his family--a daughter Lois, not so much cynical, as flat, his son-in-law, Martin (his former aide de camp) now bored with his life, his marriage, and his grandchildren. Caroline, a young college student with radical ideas, Clive a susceptible young man with antagonism toward his grandfather--makes an engrossing story.

The viewpoint shifts from the present to the past--so that the events of his life--the secrets of his superior officers, the theft during wartime of a valuable art collection, scandals involving a troop of U.S. infantry, a mutiny, an unnecessary bombing--his tragic relations with his wife, revelation of his former loves--make for a sometimes kaleidoscopic piling of facts.

The story (unlike so many of Masters' earlier ones) is not one of action, but rather the recording of mostly past action. The characters (often rather unpleasant) are not too highly motivated. At times they do not seem real, but symbolic--to illustrate the premise that "field marshalls are not saints, or heroes, or supermen but men with human failings, weaknesses, vices."

The marshall himself is motivated (it seems almost suddenly) by the sense that honesty is not a policy, but a fact. Also he seems moved by his "alter ego"--a man called by Caroline as evil--a devious individual, the negative side of the marshall's positiveness; irresponsibility vs. responsibility.

Thus by a determination to publish his memoirs John set in motion far-reaching opposing forces. The efforts of those in power to stop this publication were strong and concerned the British government, the military in England and the United States, the artistic community--even the Mafia.

Also as a very direct consequence he could be stripped of his decorations, be forced to resign--his daughter's long kept secret would be known, but most of all he would still know himself as a murderer, a looter--as one who has gained his greatest fame in a state of total incompetence.

Nevertheless, he persists in his determination to tell all (omitting one romantic episode, however).

Caroline, who had attempted to help in his writing of the memoirs, guesses his secret. John now faces himself--asks himself the question. Will he be the old field marshall who tears apart many veils for the sake of duty--or will he be the silent soldier who goes silently--for love?

Impelled by Caroline's eloquence and her apparent concern, he selects the second course so his "alter ego" is assured of his knighthood, his superior can become prime minister, his daughter's secret, all the secrets of the past are safe from disclosure. Still motivated by love, still subconsciously aware that someone needs him, he, in a surprise move (instead of committing suicide)--returns to Italy.

Louise Shannon

Non-Fiction, Juvenile

- Arcona, George. And What Do You Do?
Behrens, Jane. Colonial Farm.
Bergaust, Erik. Colonizing the Planets.
Donahue, Parnell. Germs Make Me Sick.
Greennowe, Jean. Costumes for Nursery-tale Characters.
Haverstock, Nathan. Paraguay in Pictures.
----- Uruguay in Pictures.
Hopkins, Lee. Good Morning to you, Valentine.
McGonagle, Bob. Careers in Sports.
Parish, Peggy. December Decorations.
Weiss, Harvey. Model Airplanes and How to Build Them.

Large Print

- Christie, Agatha. Elephants Can Remember.
Craven, Margaret. I Heard the Owl Call My Name.
Herriot, James. All Things Bright and Beautiful.
Holt, Victoria. Lord of the Far Island.
Lofts, Norah. Knights Acre.
Whitney, Phyllis. Spindrift.

Non-Fiction, Adult

- Collins, Alice. Family Day Care.
Collins, Carol. Needlepoint.
DeRosis, Helen. The Book of Hope.
Dornberg, John. The New Germans.
Everett, Burtis. A History of Nichols, NY
Goode, Ruth. A Book for Grandmothers.
Graham, Frank. Potomac.
Haley, Arthur. Roots.
Kearns, Doris. Lyndon Johnson and the American Dream.
*Kenny, Alice. Stubborn for Liberty.
Klein, Dave. The Game of Their Lives.
Leek, Sybil. Inside Bellevue.
Levine, Louis. Heart Attack!
MacCracken, Mary. Lovey.
Mead, Robert. Ultimate North.
Montgomery, Ruth. The World Before.
Olson, Sigurd. Reflection from the North Country.
Rosten, Leo. 3:10 to Anywhere.
Sagov, Stanley. The Active Patient's Guide to Better Medical Care.
Thompson, Thomas. Blood and Money.
Van Deusen, Edmund. Astrogenetics.
*Zimiles, Martha. Early American Mills.

- Higgins, George. The Judgement of Deke Hunter.
Holland, Isabelle. Grenelle.
Kotker, Zane. A Certain Man.
Luke, Mary. The Nonsuch Love.
MacDonald, Malcolm. The Rich are with You Always.
Stevens, R.T. The Summer Day is Done.
Vonnegut, Kurt. Slapstick.

Fiction, Juvenile

- Christopher, Matthew. The Submarine Pitch.
Corbett, Scot. The Black Mask Trick.
----- The Hockey Girls.
Duncan, Lois. Summer of Fears.
Honig, Donald. Hurry Home.
St. George, Judith. The Girl with Spunk.

Easy

- Carrick, Donald. The Deer in the Pasture.
Ernst, Kathryn. Mr. Tamarin's Trees.
Kroll, Steven. The Tyrannosaurus Game.
Mayer, Mercer. Ah-choo.
Nolde, Gunilla. This is Betsy.