

Yakima Valley Libraries History of Leadership

Margaret Buck – Librarian, Yakima Public Library (March 1929 – March 1931)

Margaret Buck (1902-1976), who was also a graduate of the University of Washington Library School, was hired by the Yakima Public Library as an assistant librarian in October of 1926 at a salary of \$110.00 a month. Buck was appointed Acting Librarian from March to June of 1929, and then Librarian in June of 1929, a position she held until her resignation in March of 1931.

The Great Depression, which began in 1929, coincided with Buck's years of service. The board meeting notes mention financial problems several times,¹ wages were frozen², and some maintenance was deferred³

The meeting minutes do not mention any notable changes made by Margaret Buck during her term as librarian, other than beginning the practice of mailing reports to board members before scheduled meetings.⁴

Margaret Buck left Yakima in 1931 to marry a young journalist whom she followed to Hollywood, where she became Executive Director of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. In 1971, the Academy's library was named the Margaret Herrick Library in her honor.

¹ Board of Trustees, Yakima Public Library. "Minutes ... November 1924 – October 1938," 99, 109, 129.

² Ibid., 114.

³ Ibid., 129.

⁴ Ibid., 130.