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## Rural Library Catching On

If anyone is of the opinion that farm people and residents of the rural communities aren't interested in current events, culture and the world of abstract ideas, the intense interest of rural people in the county library movement tells a different story. Communities all over the Yakima valley are indorsing the rural library to bring its unique service to their locality.

The county library activities are yet in the initial stage because books have been unavailable. Last July the board of trustees entered into contract with the city of Yakima to give rural readers freer access to the library here. Non-residents heretofore have been obliged to pay \$1.50 a year for a card. Under the new contract rural readers may acquire a card as any city resident does and the county library board reimburses the city board 12 cents per book circulated.

The first two months this plan was in operation 500 rural people took out cards. In the past two months, as the idea has become more generally known, that figure has increased to 2088, and readers must come to Yakima to get the books. If farm people will take the trouble to drive to Yakima to get books to read, it's a good indication of how appreciative they will be of the rural services offered by the county library in their communities when branches and sub-stations are established.

Because the county library will have a large circulating book pool, some communities that have small established libraries are willing to have their libraries taken over and operated by the county. A contract with Union Gap has already been agreed upon and others are under discussion. In cases of this kind the county board assesses the community on the basis of a 2-mill levy.

Rural people do like to read and have a taste for good books. All they need is the opportunity.