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Former School Teacher Member Of Library Board

(Editor's Note: This is one of a series of sketches dealing with members of the County and City Library Boards which make up the Regional Board which in turn operates the Yakima Valley Regional Library.)

A one-time school teacher with a desire for travel has given up a large part of her personal life for the satisfaction she gains from being a member of the Yakima Library Board.

She is Mrs. Reba McArdle who taught at Washington Junior High School for 21 years, took a year off to travel abroad, and then put in another two years at Franklin Junior High School before she retired.

Second Newest Member

She was named to the board early this year and thus is the second newest member. But she has all the enthusiasm and gains as much personal satisfaction from her work, she said, as if she were a veteran member like most of her colleagues.

Mrs. McArdle was on an extended trip in the East when her name came under consideration for a spot on the city board. The City Board with the County Board sets the pace by which the operating Regional Board runs the county's far-flung library system.

Constant User

She has been a constant user of the library since her arrival here with her husband (who has since died) from South Bend, Wash., in 1919.

"The first thing we did was to take out a library card," she said. "And she's been just as enthusiastic about the place ever since."

Mrs. McArdle received her education at Knox College, Galesburg, Ill. A native of Dwight, Ill., she moved to South Bend as a school teacher in 1916.

Satisfying Work

"There is nothing more satisfying for a person in retirement than



MRS. REBECCA McARDLE

this work with the library," said Mrs. McArdle. "It keeps a person busy and there is a great deal of personal satisfaction in doing things for others without material gain."

It's hard to stay at home, she added, but some of the desire for travel rubs off easily when she thinks of the work that is needed with the new library fast becoming a reality.

Large Family

Despite her school teaching and other responsibilities Mrs. McArdle has found time to rear a large family, five sons and daughters. Two of them still live in Yakima.

A daughter, Mrs. Mary Spence, is a teacher at Nob Hill School, and a son, John W. (Bill), is an attorney.

A daughter, Katherine, lives in New York City; a son, Joseph, is a Marine Corps major stationed at Camp LeJeune, N. C., and the youngest son, Robert P., is a lieutenant in the Navy's air arm, stationed at San Diego.

There are nine grandchildren.