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PRINCIPALS AT LIBRARY PROGRAM—Each of these four persons made speeches in the Yakima Valley Regional Library as 60 years of library service were commemorated Wednesday. Mrs. Bruce Coombs, left, spoke of the challenges to libraries in the years to come. Mrs. Sarah Nagler remembered

the early days of Yakima's library. Mayor Jack Larson contributed an anecdote or two about the city and its library in years past. C. Ross Carter mentioned significant dates in local library history. Yakima's first public library building was opened in April 1907.

Local History

Library History Remembered

Six decades of Yakima library service were remembered Wednesday but library patrons also had their minds on the future.

Speakers at a commemorative program paid duty to the past, spoke of present library developments, then pushed into the years of library work ahead.

Said Regional Librarian June Thurston: A library has to be as new as space ships and as old as dinosaurs.

Said the new president of the American Library Trustees Association, Mrs. Bruce Coombs: The tools of learning are now in many forms in many types of materials. All fields are bursting with new information and new trends.

The program took place before 100 library, city and county officials and library patrons in the Yakima Valley Regional Library. On the same site, 60 Aprils ago, the Carnegie Library was dedicated.

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Among those present Wednesday was Mrs. Sarah Nagler, 712 N. 2nd St., Yakima, a 90-year-old friend of the library. Her husband's orchestra played at the dedication of the former library.

Mrs. Thurston said a library must provide information on a vast array of subjects. "It has to be able to provide information on such subjects as masons and lazers, on modular scheduling in education, on rocket fuels and LSD and Twiggy fashions," she said.

"It has to know what's going on today in Congress, in Vietnam, and Korea, and ... in the Washington State Legislature." At the same time, the regional librarian said, "The library is traditionally a guard-

ian of the heritage of the past, a preserver of history, a libraries in this nation up to standards. That is why it is so important that right in the midst of our planning for the future we should stop occasionally and take a look at our past."

Mrs. Thurston told of the beginnings of Yakima library service, which has led to the regional concept with 16 branch libraries in the Yakima Valley.

Mrs. Coombs, a Yakima resident, interjected a serious note in the afternoon program when she stated that there are still not nearly enough citizens utilizing libraries.

Too many persons do not have access to libraries, can't read, do not know about libraries, do not know how

to use them, or cannot get to them, or do not feel at home in them, said Mrs. Coombs. She said she believes libraries must serve students in every way possible, then went on to relate how it will take billions of dollars to bring libraries in this nation up to standards.

A third speaker was Mayor Jack Larson, who brought greetings to the library staff from the people of Yakima. Master of ceremonies was C. Ross Carter, assistant regional librarian.

Following the program, the audience adjourned to coffee, cookies, reminiscences—and books.

Another page in remembering the 60 years of library service will be turned Friday at 8 p.m., when Spokane author, storyteller and musician Simon Oliver (Natchuck) will speak at a public program in the library. He wrote "The Smoky Sea" and "Back To The Smoky Sea."