

Three Veteran Librarians Have Retired

By Wally Trabing

Three librarians have recently retired from county branch libraries.

Mrs. Helen Wikkerink of Aptos, credited with founding the Aptos branch of the Santa Cruz County library, has left her post after 18 years of service.

Mrs. Wikkerink started pleading for discarded books in 1944 to begin a borrowing service, especially for the children of the area.

She started in a tiny space in the building now housing the Aptos market. Later she used an abandoned office near the Bay View hotel.

Fred Toney, who was constructing the Drug store building, offered to add space for a library at low rental. The Aptos Chamber sponsored a money raising party for furnishings.

The library was accepted as a permanent county branch, and today plans are under way to enlarge its facilities.

Mrs. Wikkerink's replacement is Vera J. Hodgson.

Mrs. Elma Bradley, former principal of the Carralitos school took over the Carralitos library duties in 1952. The books were housed in the old school, but were moved into the newly-constructed elementary in 1954 at 313 Corralitos road.

Mrs. Geraldine Work, head librarian, said that the Corralitos branch will be closed and expansion will be carried out at the nearby Freedom and Aptos libraries.

The third retirement was that of Mrs. Clara Bedient, 266 22nd avenue.

She was 10 years on the job there and saw her library partially destroyed by the 1955 floods in Soquel.

The library now has 4716 books. Mrs. Bedient will be replaced by Catherine S. Neate, 303 Peralto way.

Last Look At Library Files



Mrs. Helen Wikkerink, seated, retired recently as librarian for the Aptos branch, as did Mrs. Elma Bradley, from the

Corralitos branch. Not shown here is Mrs. Clara Bedient, who also announced her retirement from the Soquel library.