Deltas Win American Library Award

Hundreds At ALA Meet In Chicago

Active participants in the 150 seminars and workshops at the 75th annual convention of the American Library Association meeting at the Palmer House and the Stevens hotel last week were more than 100 professional Negro librarians from all over the country. They ranged from county supervisors, hospital librarians, teachers in schools of library science, and catalogers in children's librarians and representatives of the public library.

In addition to the regular schedule of business meetings, many interesting exhibits and social affairs made the week a full one, long to be remembered.

Special Exhibits

George Cleveland Hall library featured a special exhibit on John Jones, pioneer Negro citizen of Chicago who made bequests to the Chicago public library when he died in 1879.

The works of four Negro authors were included in the display on Chicago writers in the library of the main public library. They are: Greenjohn Brooks, Rea Belle Thompson, Anna Bonetta and Willard Handy.

Elizabeth Yates, winner of the 1950 Newberry award, annually given for the best children's book, was honored at a tea at Hall street where the authorgraphed copies of her book, Amber Fortune, Free Man, and told how she came to write the story of the ex-slave.

At the closing session of the convention in the grand ballroom of the Stevens hotel, Mildred J. Watkins, chairman of the national library committee of Delta Sigma Theta sorority accepted the 1950 Library award for the Delta Sigma Theta bookmobile.

Library on Wheels

The award is made annually to a library for distinguished contributions to enlightened public opinion on an issue of primary or continuing importance.

The committee voted unanimously to give this year's citation to the Delta's library-on-wheels which serves the readers in rural counties in northwest Georgia.

Mrs. Charlotte Rollins, children's librarian at Hall branch, was elected to the Newberry-Caldcott award committee, the first Negro to be named. She is also a member of the central council of the association, and chairman of the branch library section of the public library division.

Other Officers

Other Negroes who hold offices are Dr. Virginia L. Jones, director of the Atlanta Library School who is secretary-treasurer of the Association of School Libraries.

Dr. Neal P. Delany librarian of the venerable hospital at Tuskegee and Mrs. Mattie L. Lee, superintendent of Negro libraries of North Carolina are both members of the central council of A.L.A. Noted among the delegates were Mrs. Margaret Huntly, Clark university, University of Brooklyn; Verna Shaw of Detroit, whose story-telling programs are banned over the Voice of America; Anna Brown, librarian at Fisk university; Mrs. Mattie Brooks, librarian at the Atlanta library school; Mrs. Hazel Hubbell and Mrs. Lillian Hall, Indianapolis; Melvin Power, Detroit; Esau Alsberry, Montgomery; Mrs. Alice L. Davis, Morgan State College, Baltimore.