



DIBOLL PUBLIC LIBRARY came into being in this small 12x12 building in 1961 when Latane Temple (right) and other Dibollians got it repaired and painted and ready for use. For about three years, librarian Mrs. Gertie Mae Lawrence (left, center photo) checked out books that had been



donated by Dibollians and other friends of the library. School classes, like the late Mrs. Birdie Pate's class at right, toured the small library to learn its uses. The small frame building served as Diboll's library until the present T. L. L. Temple Memorial Library was completed in 1964. Now



that library is in need of expansion and a campaign is now under way to solicit funds to accomplish that expansion. Letters are being mailed this week asking citizen support for the expansion.

(Free Press Photo)

Diboll volunteers helped originate library in 1961

By ELLEN TEMPLE
Trustee T.L.L. Temple
Memorial Library

Diboll's had a library, in one form or another, since the early 1900's.

Some years after T.L.L. Temple founded Diboll in 1894, his Southern Pine Lumber Company built a guest house known as The Library. The Library housed Mr. Temple and officials of the company headquarters in Texarkana who regularly visited Diboll. It also served to house some employees until their families could join them.

Why call that building "The Library"? On the bottom floor was a large living room — a recreation room. And at one end of the room were bookshelves lined with books for guests to read.

Mrs. Fannie Farrington, the pioneer lady from St. Louis who Mr. Temple convinced to come to Diboll in the late 1890's to help

establish a community, managed the book collection. There was no public circulation. Overnight guests at "The Library" read the books. At some point the collection was lost, but "The Library" building still remains and is now the Love Wood Products office.

Dibollians had access to a public library when in 1934, Lufkin's Kurth Memorial Library opened its facilities to Angelina County residents. Under the direction of the late Mrs. Ora McMullen, Kurth Memorial Library established book stations in outlying communities, including Diboll.

County history related that the stations supplemented the Kurth collection with books of their own. But no one seems to know where Diboll's station was located or who helped run it.

As Diboll's population grew, the need for a library to circulate books to readers grew. Arthur Temple Jr. recognized the need and

started the wheels rolling toward creation of a Diboll library. In February 1960, T.L.L. (Latane) Temple III, who was at that time vice president of Temple Industries, secured a 12 x 12 frame building from the company, set it up in the shopping center and called for book donations.

Mrs. Arthur Porter Sr. was the first Dibollian to donate a box of books to the new library.

People were generous. They dipped into their own collections and donated about 1,200 books — some excellent and useful books and of course some that were too worn to circulate.

Many volunteer helpers — housewives, secretaries, teachers and whoever could spare the time — at noon, after school or after work — helped get the books ready for circulation.

In April, 1961, the Diboll Booster Club, the library's sponsoring organization, ap-

pointed a nine member board of trustees to oversee operation. A. Jewel Brown, Paul Durham, Calvin Lawrence, William Massey, Mrs. Julia Schinke, Lamar Collins, Mrs. Beth Stubblefield, Mrs. Alpha Bilbo, Arthur Temple Jr. and James L. Love were the first board members. Mr. Love was elected chairman of the board.

Jim Love brought a wealth of experience to his position as chairman of the Diboll Library board. In Louisiana he served as chairman of the Louisiana State Library in Baton Rouge, 1953-1957. And he was president of the Citizen's Library Movement in Louisiana from 1953 to 1958. In Texas he began his term as president of the statewide Friends of Texas Libraries in 1961, the year he was elected chairman of the Diboll board. Mrs. Love is a certified librarian who also shared her skills in getting Diboll Library off to a good start.

At its first meeting, the board named the tiny library the Diboll Memorial Library and hired its first librarian, Mrs. Gertie Mae Lawrence of Diboll. Mrs. Lawrence and her husband Calvin were totally dedicated to making the new library one of the best in Texas. They worked nights, weekends to make Diboll's library a success. The newly organized Friends of Diboll Libraries raised \$800 which became the library's first operating budget.

Mrs. Lawrence organized the collection in the small building. And reading Dibollians checked out 160 books during the first full month of operation. In 1962 Temple Industries and Love Wood Products made regular donations as did the Temple Foundation and Angelina County Community Chest.

And then in 1963, the Diboll Booster Club placed Diboll Day proceeds in a Library Building Fund. The money raising effort, which was to culminate in a beautiful new library building had begun.



DIBOLL'S FIRST LIBRARY BUILDING
Now the offices of Love Wood Products

Points to Ponder

One of the most knowledgeable and successful men we know, listed some of the reasons for his success.

He explained how he set out to learn the facts of life — and then learned to live with those facts. He learned not to carry a chip on his shoulder because he was neither prepared or willing to fight over foolishness. He learned buck-passing always turned out to be a boomerang. He learned that any job or business could operate without him, as eventually it must anyway. He learned people stationed below him are human, have flesh and blood, heart and sentiment the same as he. He learned it does no harm to smile and say "Good morning" — even if it is raining. He learned other people are just as ambitious, just as capable as he. And he also learned some people have more brains than he has. He learned to sympathize with youngsters in his business because he remembered how bewildered he was when he started out. He learned most people are generally alike and that "getting along" depended about 99 percent on his own behavior.

With that sort of blue print for learning, is it any wonder he is so knowledgeable and successful?.....ELWYN GIPSON, GIPSON FUNERAL HOME, Lufkin, Texas 634-4411.

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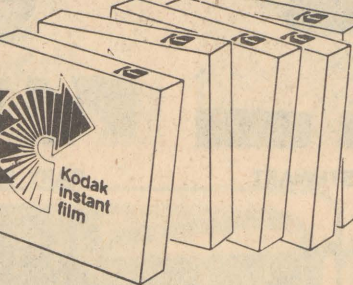
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Vaseline Intensive Care Lotion	\$2.09	\$1.61
Magicubes	\$3.39	\$2.09
Flex Shampoo	\$2.35	\$1.89
Gillette Foamy	\$1.87	\$1.42
Vicks 44	\$2.15	\$1.66
J&J Baby Powder	\$1.95	\$1.48
J&J Baby Shampoo	\$2.30	\$1.74
Kodak C110-20 Film	\$2.20	\$1.90
Kodak C126-20 Film	\$2.20	\$1.90
Listerine 12 oz.	\$1.79	\$1.43
Loving Care	\$2.65	\$1.99
Loving Care Foam	\$3.80	\$2.84
Maalox Liquid	\$2.85	\$2.15
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Mylanta 12 oz.	\$2.75	\$2.07
Nyquil	\$2.75	\$2.11
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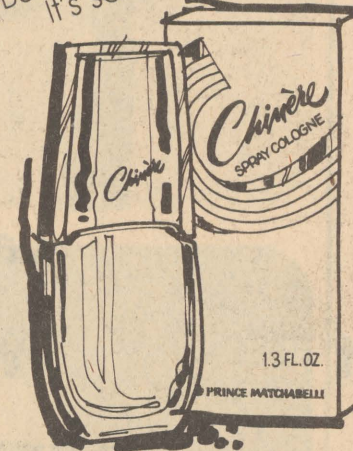
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