

## Contributors to the Mentone Bell Memorial Library

Hugh Rickel, \$63.00 on shaded glass for front windows.  
Miller Sheet Metal, \$100.00 reduction from their bid for installing furnace.  
Cooper's Store, discount on furniture and grass seed for lawn.  
Mentone Lumber Co., discount on paint.  
Northern Indiana Cooperative Association, discount on paint and other supplies.  
Mr. and Mrs. John Boganwright, \$5.00.  
Mr. and Mrs. Don Ernsberger, \$10.00.  
Mentone Fire Department, \$25.00.  
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Markley, floor lamp.  
Manwaring Leghorn Farms, two desk lamps.  
Farmer's State Bank of Mentone, Bell Memorial plaque.  
Beta Epsilon Chapter of Psi Iota Xi, Aluminum Memorial Lettering.  
Country Neighbors Club, two dozen folding chairs for the Children's Department.  
Jolly James Club, book return deposit box.  
American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary and Anthony Nigo Chapter of D.A.R., United States Flag and Indiana Flag.  
Mentone Lions Club, large world globe.  
Mentone Reading Club, large table lamp.  
Mentone Reading Club, brass book display rack, Memorial  
Gift in honor of Mr. Ora McKinley and Mrs. Harry Nye.  
Mrs. Ora McKinley and Dwayne McKinley, guest book.  
Wayne Tombaugh, gravel for back driveway and labor.  
Clarence Eiler, painted book return deposit box.  
Harry Meredith, lettering book return deposit box.  
R. O. Jones, Harold Markley, C. O. Eiler, Dale Baker, Kenneth Romine, Wayne Tombaugh, Lon Walters and Robert Whetstone, painting inside of building. Robert Kinsey paid for some labor.  
R. O. Jones, Harold Markley, C. O. Eiler, Rev. Dotson, Lon Walters, Russell Carper, moving the books and furniture from the old library to the new Bell Memorial Library.  
Marion Smith, Lyman Mollenhour and Harold Markley, installing light fixtures in main room.  
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Lackey, refinishing the old library furniture.  
Mr. Walter Lackey, making new library book cases.  
Mentone Lumber Co., Northern Indiana Co-operative Association, Ned Igo, Allen Herendeen, Loren Tridle and Marion Smith, trucks for moving.  
Robert Jones and Clarence Eiler, labor insulating furnace.  
Miller Sheet Metal, furnished insulation materials.  
Ned Miller, barrel for trash burner.  
The beautiful oil painting was hung in the library by the Beta Epsilon Chapter of Psi Iota Xi.  
Two trips were made in the interest of the new library, one to Cincinnati, Ohio, and one to Chicago by Robert Jones.



# OPEN HOUSE

for the new

## BELL MEMORIAL LIBRARY

### Sunday, April 24, 1960

2:00 to 5:00 P. M. (EST)

#### LIBRARY HOURS

12 noon to 6 P.M. Monday through Saturday  
Saturday evening 7 to 8

Children's Story Hour 2 P.M. beginning Saturday, April 30th.



LAWRENCE DALE BELL, 1894 - 1956

Lawrence Dale Bell was born in Mentone, Indiana, the son of Isaac Evans and Harriet (Sarber) Bell, and at the age of 12 years moved to Santa Monica, California with his parents. Inspired by the exploits of his brother, Grover, one of the early airplane pilots, he left school to take a position with the Glenn L. Martin Company, where, at the age of 18, he was shop foreman. By 1925 he was vice president and general manager. In 1928 left for Buffalo, N. Y. to be vice president and general manager of the Consolidated Aircraft Corporation. When this firm moved to California in 1935, Bell quit to start his own firm, the Bell Aircraft Corporation, which later became known throughout the world for the military aircraft it produced.

The Bell Memorial Library was made possible by a grant of \$20,000.00 in Mr. Bell's will, for the establishment of a memorial to his parents.

## HISTORY OF MENTONE LIBRARY

April 3rd, 1916 a petition of 55 citizens of the Mentone community subscribing a total of \$158 as a guarantee of good faith for a proposed Mentone Library, was presented to the judge of the Circuit Court, to the Mentone Council and to the Mentone School Board. The Court found the list was according to law.

A Library Board of Directors was appointed as follows:

By the Judge of the Circuit Court—Charles Dillingham, Mrs. Flavia Myers and Levi Jefferies.

By the Mentone Council—Mrs. Emma Yocum and Mr. W. LeRoy Smith.

By the Mentone School Board—Mrs. Allen Jefferies and Mr. George Ralston.

The newly appointed Library Board elected LeRoy Smith President; Mrs. M. G. Yocum, Vice President; Mrs. Flavia Myers, Treasurer, and Mr. G. W. Ralston, Secretary. The Library Board appointed Mrs. Allen Jefferies as Librarian for the first year. The Board of Education donated to the new Library all books in the Mentone School Library excepting reference books. A room was secured over the Farmer's State Bank to serve as a temporary library and a loan of 50 books was secured from the Indiana State Library. It was decided that the Library be open Monday, Wednesday and Saturday evenings and Saturday afternoon.

March 7, 1917 the librarian reported a total of 644 volumes in the library and stated that 53 books had been loaned. Miss Marie Heighway was appointed librarian for the following year.

Aug. 29, 1917 the Franklin and Harrison township Advisory Boards voted to issue a tax to support the new library as did the Town Council of Mentone.

Nov. 1, 1918 the library was moved to a room in the building owned by Mr. Carlyn Myers on the north side of Main Street.

Dec. 4, 1918 Miss Frances Clark was appointed librarian. She served until Sept. 3, 1919 when Miss Madge Lyons was named to the position. Mrs. Cora VanGilder was appointed to replace her Oct. 9, 1920 and she served until her death July 7, 1946. Mrs. Mabel Emmons served as acting librarian until August 1947, when the present librarian, Mrs. Walter Lackey, was appointed.

Jan. 7, 1936 the Mentone Library Board voted to purchase a building and lot from C. L. Ernberger on south side of Main Street for a consideration of \$1600 as permanent quarters for the library. The library remained at that location until January when it was moved to the new Bell Memorial Building. The library was opened to the public on Jan. 23rd, 1960.

The Mentone Town Board that made the decision to use the \$20,000 memorial fund for the building of a new library, was composed of Harold Markley, president; Forrest Miner and O. L. McFadden. Robert O. Jones was clerk-treasurer. Hugh Rickel of Palestine designed the building which was constructed by Mr. Bowen, of Claypool, Ind.