

**THREE COUNTIES**

# Aiken Named Headquarters For Demonstration Library

AIKEN (Special) — Aiken has been named the headquarters for a new three-county regional demonstration library which is aimed at giving superior library service to the counties at less cost.

Announcement of the arrangement between Aiken, Barnwell and Edgefield counties was made by W. S. B. Winans, newly named chairman of the Aiken-Barnwell-Edgefield Regional Library Board.

The new setup will qualify the regional library for federal aid in the amount of approximately 40 per cent of its budget. The aid comes through the Library Services Act and is distributed by the state with no strings attached.

Ten percent of the budget will be supported by the state and the remaining 50 per cent will be carried by the three counties.

The regional setup will not mean an increase of the library budget for each county, therefore giving better services at no extra cost. An annual budget of \$100,000 is anticipated.

Miss Josephine Crouch, Aiken county librarian, has been named regional director.

The plan has been under consideration for around three years.

The setup here will be the largest such operation on the Eastern Seaboard. Aiken will also be the center of the largest multi-county library structure in the state.

The present county library and branches will remain as they are but will join in the three-county pool thus providing a wider range of services.

*The State:*

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