

■ *The President Reads—President Ma and Other Notables Give a Recommended Reading List*

As a way to encourage young people to make use of libraries, on July 1st NCL lowered the minimum age requirement to enter the library to 16, much to the elation of many high school students. According to data, the number of patrons under the age of 19 that applied for library cards from July 1-17 was 623. This is 30% of the total number of cards processed during that time. NCL invited President Ma Ying-jeou and other influential people in society to generate a must-read booklist for teenagers, in hopes that this list will encourage youth to get in the habit of reading at this critical time when their personalities and values are taking shape. NCL Director-general Tseng suggested that high school students, especially freshmen, take advantage of summer break to read as broadly and as much as possible.

Those who received invitations to recommend books included the President, Vice President, the five Ministers, and many renowned persons in society. They were asked to submit their recommendations by July 20th. In all, 20 persons responded to our invitation, including President Ma, recommending a list 116 books long. President Ma recommended *Confucius in Modern Times: A Testimony for the Analects*, *Newspapers from the Republic of China*, *Chinese Culture: From Peiking University to National Taiwan University*, *Natural Sciences Made Easy*, *Seediq Bale: The First Historical Comic on the Wushe Incident*. All five of his recommendations share a common trait, that being they are written in an easy, light, and interesting manner to encourage interest in reading, and from there to see the beauty of Chinese culture, important developments in the establishment of the Republic of China, and important historical events in Taiwan's history. His list brings together historical and modern, scientific and literary,

evinced his expectations that students be familiar with history so as to help modern society and have deep cultural roots so as to ensure future progress.



Five books recommended by President Ma for teenagers.

A total of 20 people recommended 116 books in a variety of fields: literature (53), social sciences (16), history and geography (16), philosophy (11), applied sciences (6), natural sciences (5), general (4), art (4), religion (1), and tourism (1). The recommendations revealed the expectations leaders have for the youth of Taiwan and the diversity that exists in Taiwan's society.

■ *Looks Good, Sounds Good: NCL's Exhibition on Air*

NCL and the Police Radio Station produced the show "National Central Library's Exhibition on Air" every Monday from 11:45 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on 104.9 FM from June 13 to September 5. This marks the second time that NCL has co-produced a show with the Police Radio Station. The first time was from June to August 1992 when their program "Rosy Clouds Fill the Sky" aired a show called "National Central Library and You." The motivation behind this second program was to highlight the difference between NCL and other libraries, in addition to making the public aware of