

BULLETIN
OF
THE MARITIME LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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THE SEVENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The seventh annual conference of the reorganised Maritime Library Association will meet in the Library of Acadia University, Wolfville, N. S., Thursday and Friday, June 26-27, 1941. The program will be published in the next Bulletin. We hope for a large attendance.

THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Fellow-Members:

Twenty-three years ago on April 17, 1918, the first meeting of the former Maritime Library Association was held at Acadia University. The Minute Book and records of the first Association have recently been given to us by Dr. J. L. Dixon of Sackville, to whom we wish to express our thanks. It is gratifying to feel that our organization is carrying on the aims and ideals on which the former Maritime Library Association was based. In the Secretary's account of the first meeting President Cutten states as the reason for calling the conference "the need for improving existing libraries in the Maritime Provinces; for promoting library interests where no libraries exist; and especially the need for organization of those engaged in library work." In the years since then, our library problems have altered on the surface, but basically they remain the same. It indicates an advance in the efficiency of our libraries that rather more is expected of us now than at that time. The public looks to us not only for service but for guidance and leadership among the maze of books published today. So the need for conferences where we may discuss our common problems is even more essential now than in 1918.

Elsewhere in this issue you will find information regarding our own conference which takes place at Acadia University on June 26-27. The discussions will be built around the vitally important theme of "the responsibility of libraries and librarians in war time". If any of us are in danger of underestimating those responsibilities, let us remember the statement of policy adopted last December by the Council of the American Library Association which concludes with this call to action: "The social and intellectual unrest growing out of the present world situation may lead to confusion and despair; or it may lead to a renaissance of critical inquiry and constructive thinking. Whether the result will be one or the other will depend in no small measure on the ability of libraries and other agencies of enlightenment to adapt their services to present needs."

It is hoped that as many of our members as possible will attend the annual meeting of the American library association in Boston, June, 19-25. It is with these dates in mind that the time of our own conference has been chosen. With regard to passport and foreign exchange regulations the following advice from the American Consulate at Saint John may be of practical use:

"... Every temporary visitor to the United States is required to be in possession of a valid passport issued by the appropriate authorities of the country

to which he owes allegiance, and to obtain an American consular non-immigrant visa. Canadians may obtain their Canadian passports from the Department of External Affairs, Ottawa...

"After the passport above mentioned is obtained, application should be made to the American Consulate for a consular visa. Personal appearance at the Consulate is required, but in view of the large number of applications being presented, it is necessary for an appointment to be arranged in advance... It is advisable to submit with the request for the appointment, proof of the following:

1. That the applicant has a fixed domicile in Canada or other foreign country which he has no intention to abandon, that he will leave the United States when his visit is terminated, and that he will be able to do so, that is, that he will be readmitted to Canada...
2. That the applicant has a legitimate reason for proceeding to the United States, and that his presence there will not be contrary to the public safety. In this connection he will be required to submit letters in duplicate from high officials or distinguished citizens known to the Consulate.
3. The Consulate will require three photographs, 2½ x 2½ inches in size, on thin paper, taken with a light background and posed without a hat or other head covering. If the visit is for less than thirty days the photographs are not required, but even for such visits, with the exception of photographs, the requirements are the same as stated in this
4. The Consulate will require satisfactory proof that the applicant (letter. will have at his disposal sufficient funds for his journey in the United States. On account of the very stringent Canadian exchange regulations, it will be necessary to present in this connection permission from the Canadian Exchange Control Board on Form "H" to withdraw sufficient funds for the journey to the United States and return, as well as needs while there, or very convincing proof that ample provisions of an equally satisfactory nature have been made.

"With reference to the immediately preceding paragraph please note that Form "H" should be obtained from your local bank... United States officials may require it even in cases where the Consulate may, because of other proof, consent to waive its production."

- Winifred Snider

CLASSIFICATION OF BOOKS CONCERNING THE WAR

When Great Britain declared war on Germany, September 3, 1939, and Canada followed with her formal declaration on September 10, the people of this country committed themselves to carrying out a multitude of new tasks to help the war effort, and were faced with many problems that they had not before had to solve. Like Canadians all across the land, librarians, as private citizens, took on various extra tasks to help in the war effort. In their professional capacity also they energetically set about dealing with new situations arising out of the war.

One of the special problems that the war presented to the cataloguer was the matter of assigning classification numbers and subject headings to the books which soon began to be published relating to the war. The method used in the Prince Edward Island Libraries will be outlined in this article.

In our catalogue the subject headings used are those of the Library of Congress; we therefore simply adopted their new heading "European war, 1939- " with the same subdivisions as used under the subject "European war, 1914-1918". Our library is classified according to the Dewey Decimal Classification, and no numbering scheme for this new subject based on it was immediately available.

With books like De Wilde's "Handbook of the war" and Cooper's "The second world war" ready to be put into circulation it was urgently necessary to decide how this library should classify such books. My limited experience in recataloguing books has given me an aversion to the task and has convinced me that one should leave plenty of room in any scheme for future enlargements of the subject. So, it seemed to me that we should not be too prodigal in our use of decimal subdivisions. Dewey assigns the number 940.5 to the later twentieth century, and assuming that this earth will remain in existence for some time yet, there will probably be many distinct divisions of history that will require separate numbers. A sympathetic consideration for the librarians of the future demanded that we should not, by using up all the subdivisions, force on them the disagreeable task of reclassifying a whole section of the library. Since the many books that had been written on the history and politics of Europe during the years 1918 to 1939 have the number 940.5, the events that followed after those could reasonably be given the next number in order, 940.51. This then was the number adopted here as the general number for the European war, 1939-. After this decision had been put into effect, we found that the Booklist and the Book Review Digest (both of which we find helpful in determining classification numbers) were using 940.53 as the general number for the war. This meant that the system for the war of 1914-1918 could be used simply by inserting a 5 after the decimal point, viz.:

940.3 War of 1914-1918
940.53 War of 1939-

This association of the two might make it easier to remember the numbers for the new expansion, but there might also be danger of becoming confused by the similarity. However, these ideas came to our notice after we had several books classified according to our scheme and it seemed just as well to retain it since it too could be subdivided in the same way as the numbers 940.3 and 940.4 of the 13th edition of Dewey's classification, the rule being that for .3 is substituted .51 and for .4 is substituted .52

Some examples of how the system is applied will no doubt make it clearer than any amount of explanation. The first of each of the following pairs of books is about the European war, 1914-1918; the second deals with European war, 1939-.

European war:

940.3 Liddell-Hart, B. The real war, 1914-18
940.51 Woolf, Leonard The war for peace

Causes of the war:

940.31 Fay, S. F. Origins of the world war
940.511 Hollis, Christopher Our case

Military history:

940.4 Carey, G. V. Outline history of the Great War
940.52 King-Hall, Stephen History of the war

The war at sea:

940.45 Corbett, J. S. Naval operations
940.525 Dorling, H. T. The navy in action

Personal accounts:

940.48 Hankey, Donald A student in arms
940.528 Bartlett, Sir Basil My first war

One section of the classification, that on campaigns and battles, could not be applied to this war, and a new one had to be invented. These are the subdivisions I have used so far:

Special campaigns:

940.5221 Poland, September, 1939.
.5222 The western front, Sept. 1939 - June, 1940
.5223 Norway, April, 1940
.5224 Holland, Belgium and France, May and June, 1940

We are hopeful that this section will not need much more expansion and that we shall soon be applying the classification number 940.5114 for "terms of peace".

- Dorothy Cullen

LIBRARY SERVICE ON A SHOESTRING
I. O. D. E. Camps Libraries in New Brunswick

The Camps Libraries Service of the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire was inaugurated at the request of Brigadier W. W. Foster, Director of Auxiliary Services, Department of National Defence, Ottawa. In New Brunswick this patriotic, recreational, and educational work is carried on by means of a Travelling Library System, so that all inclusive service can be given to the army, the navy, the air force, the merchant marine, the home guard and the trainees, regardless of place or period of encampment. Of necessity, this tremendous volunteer venture is made possible by mutual understanding and cooperation, together with minimum financial assistance.

In January the work commenced in Saint John with a regular whirlwind campaign of talks to help spread the library idea, in a province, which has never even known a travelling library service of its own. The forty-four N. B. chapters of the I. O. D. E. were asked to donate old and new fiction and non-fiction, as well as a small amount of money toward the operating expenses. In this way five thousand books were obtained and also the funds to buy the necessary forms to prepare books for circulation. Fortunately these volumes were not the cast off rummage sale type of material that one might expect to find in such a set up.

The headquarters of the Provincial Travelling Library Service is at Fredericton under the direct supervision of Miss Doreen Harper, New Brunswick Camps Libraries, Convener for the I. O. D. E., assisted by Mrs. J. M. Bell, the recently elected Municipal Convener in the Fredericton District; Mrs. C. McN. Steeves, Municipal Convener in the Saint John District; and Miss Betty Condon, Municipal Convener in the newly established Moncton District. The preparation and distribution of the books is carried on by volunteer I. O. D. E., and other workers in these three districts.

The work rooms, furnishings, typewriters, travelling library boxes, book covers, etc., are all donations to the cause. Likewise, both the Canadian Pacific and the Canadian National Railways are carrying the books throughout the province without charge. Thus the only actual operating expenditure is an average of two cents per book, for the supplies, such as the book pockets, cataloguing cards, etc.

The books are systematically prepared according to the Dewey Decimal system of classification, and a simplified method of cataloguing, and charging so that they may render the most efficient, effective and economical service possible. The requirements for this service in the Atlantic area are by far the heaviest in the Dominion and in spite of day and night work, the great problem is how to meet the ever increasing demand for books and more books.

The requests for books are received from the District Auxiliary Service Officer Military District No. 7, Captain C. J. Osman. Appropriate space is provided for them in the camps and competent men are detailed to act as custodians, except in the case of the Fredericton Trainees Library Hut where, at the request of the authorities, the members of the I. O. D. E. are themselves the librarians. The return of books by the borrowers is a matter of military discipline. The Air Force, for instance, has a library examination for its men before they are transferred, and the navy collects fines and gives the money for new books.

Deposit collections of dictionaries, atlases and encyclopaedias are being placed in the different camps. The special appeals for material are met by supplementary loans from local libraries, and the buying list, small though it is, is made up from the requests of the men themselves. Practically every camp library has been visited and each town has its own chapter library convener to act as a field worker and check up on the local situation.

3,000 books are out in circulation at the present time, and over a thou-

sand have been given to British and Canadian ships with a note asking them to pass them on if they have enjoyed them. Likewise magazines without number have been collected, sorted and distributed whenever and wherever wanted throughout the province. Recently at the request from another province 1,200 magazines were sent for use on a convoy. All Geographics, because of the particular demand for them are bound before being sent out. In August a separate magazine exchange for Saint John District was established under Mrs. Sidney Jones. This service is to be continued though elsewhere this work will be handled by the Young Men's Christian Association.

A general province wide campaign for books was held during the week of November third to the tenth, and the results far exceeded expectations--some 11,000 old and new books were collected as well as \$150 toward the purchase of special books, thus making 16,000 volumes available through the Travelling Library Service within twelve months.

Interest and enthusiasm is rapidly developing for the library work, where, not so long ago, was open opposition. Special mention should be made of the splendid assistance received from the start from the Saint John Municipal Convener, Mrs. C. McN. Steeves, who has been tireless in her efforts to make the provincial scheme a success; and thanks should be extended to Captain C. J. Osman, District Auxiliary Service Officer, for his cooperation and also for his kindness in making a personal donation to the library funds. To all others who so generously give of their time and assistance most sincere thanks is extended, because only through mutual co-operation can this camps library scheme continue to function.

As books are the very foundation on which our whole civilization rests, they are absolutely indispensable in times of war, so also are they in times of peace. Therefore this travelling library service established on a shoe string continue to be carried on after the war is over, so that books, the greatest treasure on earth, can be made available to every man, woman and child in the most remote districts of our province.

- Doreen Harper

NEW BRUNSWICK LIBRARY COUNCIL

The New Brunswick branch of the National War Service Library Council has recently been organized. Dr. Fletcher Peacock, Fredericton, provincial director of educational services, was elected president of the council. Also elected were: Vice-president, Miss Doreen Harper, provincial librarian, Fredericton; Secretary-treasurer, Lieut.-Col. the Rev. C. Graham of the Young Men's Christian Association. The council is composed of the following: Capt. C. J. Osman, district auxiliary services; T. A. McAvity, New Brunswick supervisor, Canadian Legion War Services, Inc., Military District No. 7; Dr. Fletcher Peacock, Canadian Association for Adult Education; Mrs. A. T. Macmurray, Provincial President, I. O. D. E.; and Miss Doreen Harper Camps Library Convener, I. O. D. E.; Lieut.-Col. the Rev. C. Graham of the Young Men's Christian Association; L. Urban Pierce, Knights of Columbus War Service, Inc.; Major E. H. Green, Salvation Army Red Shield Home and War Services; Rev. A. Babb, Hebrew War Effort Committee, and the French-Canadian representative, Flt.-Lieut. G. Vadboncoeur, Saint John.

The council aims to facilitate the supply of books to the men of the armed forces, by working in conjunction with and through the Canadian Legion War Service Educational Committee for technical books, and the I. O. D. E. Camps Libraries for the general books.

The members of the council have approved and are supporting by the assistance of their workers, and also their books and money the satisfactory service already being carried on by the I. O. D. E. Camps Libraries. Through cooperation of this nature it is felt that the members of His Majesty's forces will benefit to the greatest possible extent.

A REGIONAL LIBRARY

A Regional Library and its Readers: a Study of Five Years of Rural Reading, by H. B. Chandler and J. T. Crêteau. New York, American Assoc. for Adult Education, 1940. 136 p., map, tables, diagrams. \$1.00.

Here is a book of great practical value to any librarian, and one of vital interest to everybody, who knows the Maritimes, especially Prince Edward Island, the gem of the northern seas. "This study is an analysis of the reading habits of 25,000 people who have read over 1,000,000 books in a period of five years. Their reading habits are analyzed according to the sex, age, education, occupation, and residence of the readers." The promise in these quoted lines the authors fulfilled in masterly fashion. We are shown how Islanders read. It will be remembered that in 1933 Prince Edward Island was chosen by the Carnegie Corporation as a field for a regional library demonstration. Before this time, though the Islanders had an intellectual bent, and many had gone out into the world to do brilliantly in the learned professions and in public life, there was no free circulation of books. Now conditions are vastly different. There is a central distributing library at Charlottetown and in different towns and villages there are twenty-four branch libraries through which a constant stream of books is circulated. The carefully compiled statistics in this book show that the people are becoming avid readers. Intellectually the effect on the population should be more than development, it is rather a metamorphosis.

-M. K. I.

THE CLARK GENEALOGY

On page 6 of the December Bulletin appeared a notice of the genealogy of the Clark family recently compiled by Dr. Esther Clark Wright. The book is sold by the Kentville Publishing Company, Kentville, N. S., for \$1.25, not for 75 cents as we erroneously stated.

NOTES AND PERSONALS

Miss Charlotte Allan writes:

Members of the Halifax Library Club have been doing voluntary work in the Canadian Legion War Services Library, under the direction of Miss Bateson. The books are being sent out now. We have enjoyed our share in the work of getting them ready for distribution.

The February meeting of the Club was held in the Legion Library. Miss Bateson, who has been appointed a member of the Canadian Library Consultants Council of the A. L. A. spoke on the work of that group. She also referred to the questionnaire on a Canadian Library Association sent out by the Ottawa Library Association.

Miss E. Archibald of the Dalhousie University Library is much better in health, but she is not yet able to take up her work.

Miss Mary A. Currie of Woodstock, N. B., a graduate of Acadia University and of Pratt Institute, has been appointed librarian of the Young Women's Christian Association at Montreal, and assumed her duties 3 February.

We regret that Miss Mabel Sterling, Librarian of the University of New Brunswick, has been seriously ill.

The newly elected directors of the St. Croix Community Library at St. Stephen, N. B., named officers for the year 1941 as follows: Chairman, W. W. Quartermain; vice-chairman, Mrs. E. V. Sullivan; secretary-treasurer, Harold Haley. The board re-appointed Miss Cawley, librarian, and Miss Doris Inches assistant librarian. Also re-appointed was the book purchasing committee, consisting of Mrs. A. E. Vesey, chairman, Thomas Wilson, R. G. Mowat and Miss Emma Veazey. Mrs. Harold Haley replaces Mr. Haley on this committee. Mrs. E. V. Sullivan is press and publicity convener.