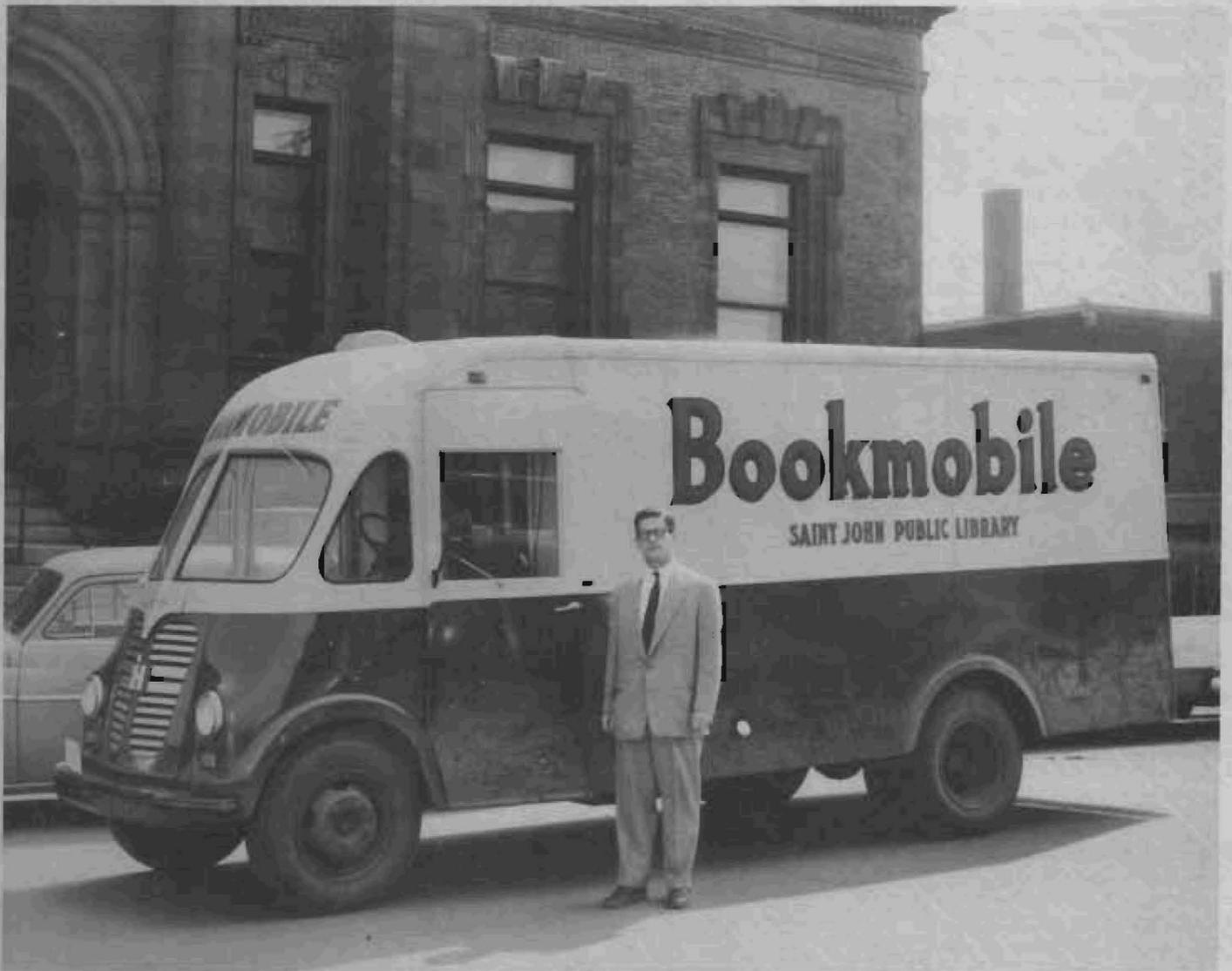


323

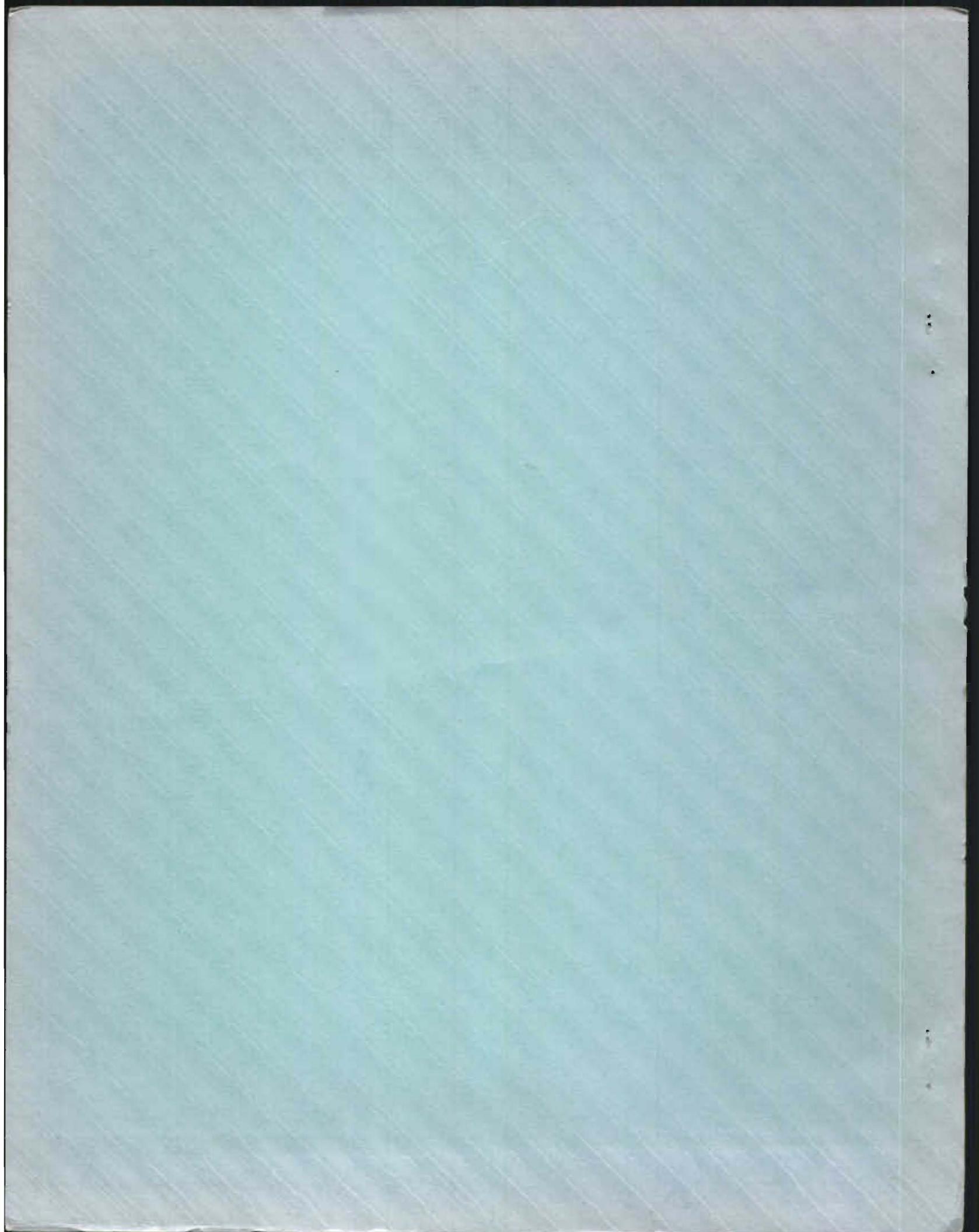
# MLA BULLETIN

MARITIME LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
VOLUME 22 NUMBER 3 SPRING 1958

Public Archives of Nova Scotia  
HALIFAX N.S.



ST. JOHN FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY — CITY BOOKMOBILE



MARITIME LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
BULLETIN

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CALLING ALL MARITIME LIBRARIANS

Get down the old lustre teapot from the kitchen cupboard and count your shekels to see if they are sufficient for your trip to Newfoundland to the MLA Conference come the last week in August. If not, do without that extra bathing suit this summer (probably you won't need it here) or refrain from buying that new record you so much desire, and put the savings in your travel fund - or better still, use your powers of persuasion on your Library Board, not forgetting to try to convince some of the members that they should accompany you. And while you're in a saving mood, save also a day or two of your annual leave so that you'll be able to stay over the Labour Day week-end.

We cannot serve you flippers at that season, nor even caplin, but we can offer you cod tongues and fish and brewis, served with 'lashins of scrunchions' (recipes will be forwarded on receipt of box-tops - any kind).

We cannot guarantee that the men of the party will be able to take home a stuffed caribou head as a souvenir of their trip, nor the women a moose or a man (stuffed or otherwise), but we can guarantee a warm welcome. Who knows? Perhaps we might even have a symposium like the one they had last year at Sydney! So let us have a large attendance of librarians as well as Board members.

See next issue for details concerning our agenda. Yes, we're going to work too! See you in Newfoundland.

Jessie B. Mifflin  
President, MLA

SAINT JOHN FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY - CITY BOOKMOBILE

David Fairweather

The Saint John Free Public Library's Bookmobile has been in operation since October 1957. It was built locally, to hold approximately 2000 books, both adult and childrens'. The bookmobile operates within the city limits only. A daily average circulation of 200 books is reached by operating five afternoons a week. We have just added one evening to our schedule, particularly for adults.

Nearly 2000 children have joined the bookmobile and many who were already members of the library are using the bookmobile as well.

Staffed by a driver-assistant and another staff member, the bookmobile stops in areas not easily accessible to the main library. One afternoon is spent at a shopping centre, while most of the other weekly and bi-weekly stops are made at schools. Weekly publication of the bookmobile's schedule has helped the public become aware of this added library service. Co-operation from the staff of all city schools concerned, has helped enormously in informing the children of our schedule and also in seeing that books are returned. The schools have also helped us greatly by supplying lists of subjects being taught, to coincide with our stop, so that topical books will be available.

The days of the bookmobile staff are brightened considerably by the comments and actions of the children. A little girl bursting in the door shouting "Has Mother Goose gone yet?", - or, in the case of a book that was overdue three or four months, the excuse "I had to go to a party", - or, the little girl who very firmly announced "I have decided to resign". and seemed rather distressed that a Board Meeting was not called to consider the matter. These are but a few of the wonderful afternoon bookmobile tales.

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EPISTLE OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND REGIONAL LIBRARIAN TO THE MARITIMERS

Jessie B. Mifflin

Now it came to pass that since I lifted up my voice and spake to you concerning these matters, lo, these twelve months ago, four libraries hath been set up in the land.

And the first of these was at a place which is called Port-aux-Basques. Now in times past a library had been established there, but for divers reasons it alone of all they that had been set up, failed to prosper, and alas, these five years since, its doors were closed. And there was weeping and wailing and gnash-

ing of teeth. So it was with rejoicing that we beheld once again that its doors were opened, and now it flourisheth like the green bay tree. Furthermore, the people purpose in their hearts to erect soon a great building, so that it will be established that it cannot be moved.

Now when the summer was ended, there came unto us out of Cow Head, which is from the city a Sabbath day's journey, a clergyman who entreated us that we might set up a library there, and we could not, for there dwelleth therein less than 400 souls. Then again he came unto us and said "peradventure there be 500 souls that we may serve, will ye not now set one up?". But we hardened our hearts and spake unto him in a loud voice saying, depart from us for wist ye not that there must be nigh 700 souls ere one can be opened? And he was sore amazed and went away sorrowing. And yet a third time came he unto us and said "peradventure there be 600 souls, will ye not consider them", for he proposed to go out into the highways and byways of his parish and compel them to come in. So when we did perceive how that he was a man of zeal, and how that he did make a vow that to all the hamlets in his parish would henceforth be vouchsafed the blessings of the library, we did repent and did say unto him "Yea, verily it shall be done even as thou hast said, because of thine importunity". And he went away rejoicing and when the year was far spent we did grant him his desire. And the people gathered together and killed the fatted calf and made merry one with another.

Then in the third month of this year of our Lord, the people of Stephenville did open a library. And when it had been noised abroad that there was need of help before it could open, the people who dwell therein gathered together, some bearing tools, some with furnishings and some with shekels, and with one accord they did lend their aid. And there was not found such co-operation no, not in Israel, so that in the fullness of time the doors were opened and all who would, might enter and partake of the feast of knowledge which was spread before them. And the people rejoiced with exceeding great joy.

Finally brethren, in the fourth month of the year there was opened a fourth library and the name of the place was Fox-trap, which lies from the city a few leagues hence. And the name of the library is the South Shore Conception Bay Library, for lo, it will serve not only the place in which it is but other villages hard by. Now, he who besought us to set up this library hath in places where he hath been a teacher of the young taken unto himself the task of bringing it to pass that the people may be given books to read, so that now there be four libraries throughout the length and breadth of the land that he may claim his own. May it be counted to him for righteousness!

And now there abideth Port-aux-Basques, Cow Head,

Stephenville, and Foxtrap, and the greatest of these is Stephenville.

And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of King's Point and Deer Lake, of Springdale and St. George's of Corner Brook and Glovertown and of many more libraries which at sundry times and in divers manners I did visit. But alas, when the year was spent there yet remained many places that had received no visitation, for there now lacketh but one of two score and ten libraries and there still be but one of me, (albeit of no mean size) and so it must ever be, until the time shall come when I shall be multiplied. And we trust that the day will not be far distant that this shall be brought to pass. Selah!

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#### CENTRAL LIBRARY SERVICES - NEW BRUNSWICK - FRENCH AREAS

Ruth Tétreault

In August, 1954, I was appointed to Central Library Services in Fredericton. My chief occupation has been to stimulate interest in reading in the French areas of the province and to pave the way for the establishment of regional libraries.

The French element is very pronounced in New Brunswick. The Acadians form 45% of the population and they live mostly in Madawaska, Restigouche, Gloucester, Kent, Victoria, and Westmorland counties.

A mail service already existed when I arrived here. It was to provide books freely to teachers and their pupils. The English section was much more developed than the French one.

Thanks to Mrs. Boylen's generous gift, the English children's librarian, (she was then Miss Alice Oulton), and I could develop the children's section, so that each young member individually would receive his books by mail.

I had about 500 juvenile French books ready for circulation when Young Canada's Book Week was at its height in November, 1954. The means that I used to advertise these books was to publish a graded list, each day of that week in "L'Évangéline", the Acadian newspaper. The results were far beyond my hopes. Teachers, parents, children wrote in great numbers. Letters piled on my desk, so that I had folders of requests, a week late. The director, Mr. MacEacheron, when he examined the statistics, felt that more money should be devoted to French books. For the last three years, although our French section has expanded, the number of our members has increased, and I must confess that when the circulation hours are over, not very many French books are left on the shelves. The picture books and the fairy tales

sections are almost depleted each day.

I am extremely happy about the response of the Acadian children. They constitute an enthusiastic clientele and by their letters I can see that they are not only interested readers but also eager apostles for our library. They write: "Chère amie, my girl friend has shown me some books that she borrowed from your library. I found them so beautiful that I want to become a member of your library." "Dear librarian, my schoolmates told me about the interesting books that they had from your library. Could I join?"

May these youngsters, when they become adults, remember the happy moments that they have spent reading library books and be willing to pay a few dollars extra to support regional libraries!

My contacts with the adults have been through different associations: Le Foyer-Ecole, Le Club Richelieu, La Fédération des Cultivateurs. I have met these groups in Edmundston, Campbellton, Moncton, and in various places of the French counties. The subjects discussed at those meetings are: the New Brunswick Library Service Act and children's reading, the latter topic being illustrated by an exhibition of books. (In passing, we have a selection of English and French books to display for an organization which wishes to use them). As far as the Regional Library Act is concerned, New Brunswickers seem to think the establishment of regional libraries would be excellent to provide "good" books for their children. They do not seem to feel the same necessity for themselves. They have grown up without books and they seem to think that they still can live without them. And, of course, that question of increased taxation is very distasteful.

Our efforts were crowned with success when the City of Moncton agreed to support a regional library, in January, 1957. In Moncton, 40% of the population is French-speaking. Therefore, a French librarian should be appointed at the Public Library. All the attempts to obtain a French librarian have been in vain so far. This spring, the Albert-Westmorland-Kent Regional Library Board asked me to buy French books for them.

At Central Library Services, we are also willing to work with teachers. In the "Forum of New Brunswick Education", published monthly by the Dept. of Education, I have written articles in French on famous children's authors, and I have pointed out to teachers some notable books or lists of our latest acquisitions.

Last year, at the request of the Department, Mrs. Roberta Weiner, the Provincial Children's Librarian, and I prepared a bilingual list of juvenile books. That list is in four booklets entitled in French: "Livres pour la Jeunesse". It includes 2000 highly recommended titles. A supplement should be available in

the fall. The list is provided to principals of schools.

During the summer, 1957, the Director of the School of Education at St. Joseph's University invited me to lecture on children's literature, a credit course for those taking the Bachelor degree of Elementary Education and an elective course for other students. For that course 138 teachers registered. There were 17 lectures dealing with picture books, fairy tales, fantasy, animal stories, child stories, historical fiction, adventures, biographies, science, history. In the room at my disposal, I had displayed 300 books.

The teachers showed particular interest in the book display. They read them, made lists of the different titles that they liked. Many declared: "I did not know that so many well done children's books existed!"

From September to January, 1957-1958, I have been lecturing at Teachers' College. There were 142 French-speaking students taking the course. The lectures served as an introduction to children's literature.

During the year, teachers who are preparing essays on pedagogy or literature write to me for special books. I have here a small professional and adult collection which is really not large enough. The Union Catalogue comes to my rescue many times. The universities have good collections of French books and through inter-library loans I can often supply the required material.

I think I have touched on all the items of my work here. I did not mention the purchase of the books, the cataloguing, the classification which I also do. But that is common to all the librarians.

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#### ANNAPOLIS VALLEY REGIONAL LIBRARY - 1958

Mary Beth Harris

The Annapolis Valley Regional Library, which was the first library to be established in the Nova Scotia Regional Library system, has grown by leaps and bounds. It is all the staff can do to keep up the pace. Looking back on what has been happening recently in the Annapolis Valley, we find things have been extremely busy. There has been little time to publicize the Regional Library service, but our public has been doing this for us and it is all we can do to carry out their ideas.

Two new branches have been opened; one, housed in the Community Centre at Hantsport in comfortable and convenient quarters was opened last December and the other is in the very

attractive Community Centre which has just been completed in Port Williams. This brings the total number of branches in the region to eleven. There have been changes in several other branches: Wolfville moved to a new room in the Town Hall, and Berwick Branch has recently been shifted to new quarters near the school which has greatly increased the juvenile circulation.

Displays of selected books have been supplied to several Farm Folk Schools sponsored by the Department of Adult Education and some of these have gone into areas which do not have Regional Library service. Many books were borrowed from the other Regions through inter-library loan.

This year we were pleased to have requests from Bridgetown and Annapolis Royal High Schools to include in their career conferences the subject of library work as a vocation.

The bookmobile covers the counties of Annapolis and West Hants, with 70 adult stops and 76 school stops (about 143 classrooms). Because of school consolidation in certain areas a number of school stops were cancelled during the year. In some cases this has meant increased registration in the town branches where the larger schools are situated. This is particularly true of Annapolis Royal. To take care of the situation there, it has been found necessary to open the library from 12.30 to 2 o'clock on two days a week so that children from rural areas may have access to books. During the past winter on bookmobile calls at the schools we found a large increase in the numbers of children in the lower grades. One of our most serious problems has been to try to supply easy reading and picture books for these young children. We wish someone would make a contribution towards easing this situation.

Continuing interest has been shown in establishing Regional Library service in Kings County, but nothing definite has been done to date.

Our borrowers are most appreciative, and one grateful reader has said that the supply of books is just as vital to his well-being as the supply of oxygen - to be deprived of either would be fatal. This, we feel, is an indication of the importance the library service has assumed in the lives of the Valley people.

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CIRCULATION IN THE HALIFAX MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Mary D. Falconer

I have been asked to write a short article about the Circulation Department of the Halifax Memorial Library. Many of you will have read much of what I have to say in the Library's Annual Reports, but I can perhaps gather this information to-

gether, and tell you something about the habits and reading interests of our borrowers.

We have been open now for seven winters and each year we have continued to become busier and busier. I do not wish to quote too many statistics, but a few figures will help to illustrate this point. In 1952, our first full year of operation, the number of books circulated in our department was 180,142 and by 1957 the figure had jumped to 337,381. Again, in 1952 we considered that a daily circulation of 1200 books indicated an exceptionally busy day. Last year we reached the 2700 mark on several occasions.

In spite of these very gratifying gains, however, we know that we are not giving the best service possible to the City of Halifax as a whole. Further expansion in the present building is well nigh impossible, and a branch library in the north end of the city is a pressing need. In addition to providing more accessible service for people who live at some considerable distance from Spring Garden Road, it would release space in the main library, and enable us to do some of the things that have been dreams since our earliest days. A really good collection of books on Art and Music is one of these dreams, and lack of space has also prevented us from developing, as we should, our Young Modern section. There is no need surely to emphasize the importance of this work with High School students.

At the moment, however, we have insufficient space for even the essential books to cover the subjects that are in constant demand in any library. In order to accommodate new titles we have had to pack many of our older books, and it is surprising how often requests come for these which are, alas, not available. The only thing to be said for this situation on the credit side is that it does completely do away with the problem of "dead wood".

I suppose it is natural for any library to feel that it has a particularly interesting borrowing public. I know that that is how we feel. Perhaps because we serve the whole city we have a more diversified group than most cities where branches look after individual communities. We are asked for every conceivable type of material from modern poetry to diesel engines, and from the classical novel to the latest romantic fiction - in fact I would find it hard to think of any subject for which there has not been a request.

People often ask us what are the most popular types of reading. This is rather hard to determine. I can say, however, that we have a great many extremely good readers with a wide range of interests and very catholic tastes - history, travel, memoirs, philosophy, art, music, and drama are all in great demand. It is interesting, too, to note that at any time during library hours you will see at least one or two people browsing

at the shelves marked "Religion", and it is by no means only the popular type of religious book that circulates widely. Do the tastes of the reading public change from year to year, is another question often asked. This is, I think, the same in Halifax as it would be in any community. Tastes do not change radically but are influenced by trends and events. Rocket tests will stimulate an interest in popular science, a TV or radio programme will bring a request for some special line of reading and of course the usual seasonal interests return each year. One type of book for which the demand remains constant and insistent is the sea story. This is, I suppose, natural but it becomes a problem to find enough new titles. Halifax readers are very loyal to their local authors, but that again is doubtless a universal characteristic.

We are fortunate in having very pleasant as well as interesting borrowers. There are, as is always the case, some difficult ones and many characters, but these only serve to give the group its distinctive quality. I think it would be no exaggeration to say that the Library has come to be a popular spot and a meeting place for many. On a Saturday afternoon, for instance, you may see a typical family - the children in the Children's Room, the mother reading periodicals in the Reference Room, while the father looks over our books on how to build a retaining wall on his recently-acquired property.

At one time on a very rainy day, and this happens not infrequently in Halifax, we used to say, "Well, we won't be busy today." Now we make no such mistake. Bad weather does not seem to have any effect on Halifax borrowers. The only thing that will keep them at home is bitter cold, and we have had our quietest days during the few times when the thermometer has dropped to the near-zero mark.

It is high time to wind up this rambling account. May I close by saying that during the seven years in which we have been open I have never known a dull moment in the Halifax Memorial Library.

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NOTES FROM THE GOSLING MEMORIAL LIBRARY, ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND

Marjorie Mews

Pick up any brief report from any average medium-sized library, and ten to one you'll read something like this:

The tremendous current interest in science is largely due to the launching of the Sputniks and other satellites, and television, radio, newspapers, and magazines have contributed in no small degree. This interest in scientific matters has resulted in a noticeable increase in the borrowing of books on

rockets, missiles, satellites, as well as science fiction, which applies to the Boys and Girls' Department as well as the adult library.

The reading of non-fiction increased last year with emphasis on the how-to-do books in a wide variety of subjects - building and furnishing, hobbies, business practice, gardening, housekeeping, foreign languages and the arts.

Perhaps the most notable advance has been in the use of books, pamphlets and newspapers in the Reference Department. Questions brought to the Reference Desk or telephoned increased in 1957 by 26%, and have almost doubled since 1955. Use of our local collection has also been greater and for important purposes. During the past year six students sought help in the writing of M.A. or doctoral theses, and a number of authors appealed to the Reference Department for material for books they were writing.

Well, anyway - that's what happened down our way, and I would be willing to bet that people are much the same everywhere and have much the same tastes in reading.

One or two items to add: the Boys and Girls' Department had a bumper year in 1957, with an increase of over 6000 books circulated and over 350 new borrowers. This department supplies book deposits to schools in St. John's, and last year the number of books reached nearly 4000. But enough of figures. The type of book most widely read by the youngsters is biography; next come fairy tales, hobbies, and religious books. You never know with children.

Our libraries try to serve the cultural life of the community in other ways besides providing books. Gosling Memorial Library, for instance, as well as having the usual book displays, posts notices of theatrical activities, lectures, and art exhibitions, arranges prominent displays such as that showing the winning designs for modern homes sponsored by the Canadian Housing Design Council, or an exhibition of works by the Society of Canadian Painter-Etchers and Engravers, or pamphlets and books on the international situation sponsored by the Canadian Institute of International Affairs.

Speaking of culture, we had a request from a high school girl for a book by Victor Hugo as supplementary reading. We suggested "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" as being not quite so hard going as "Les Miserables". We casually asked her if she knew much about Victor Hugo, and she replied "Isn't he an orchestra leader?" She wouldn't be thinking about Victor Young, would she?

Radio, TV, and movies all have their place in the cultural life of the community, but we are convinced that more important still are the books to be found in our libraries.

A SELECTED LIST OF NEW BRUNSWICKANA

NOTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY, FREDERICTON, N.B., DURING 1957

Maurice P. Boone  
Donald B. Gammon

Atlantic almanac, 1957. Fredericton, N.B., Atlantic  
Advocate, 1957.

Belliveau, John Edward, 1913-  
The Coffin murder case. Toronto, Kingswood House [1956]

Brewster, Elizabeth Winifred, 1922-  
Roads and other poems. Toronto, Ryerson Press [1957]  
(Ryerson poetry chap books. 174)

Butler, J. Edward P.  
Recollected in tranquillity, a selection of poems.  
[Chatham, N.B., The Author, 1956.

Canada. National Museum.  
The Malecite Indians of New Brunswick, by Wilson D. Wallis  
and Ruth Sawtell Wallis. Ottawa, 1957. (Anthropological  
series. no.40)

Chapman, Robert Harris, 1903-  
Initiation à la pédagogie [par] R.H. Chapman [et]  
Rose-Marie Comeau. Toronto, Gage [1957]

Conference on Current Problems in Education in New Brunswick,  
University of New Brunswick, 1957.  
Report. Fredericton, N.B., 1957.

Dunton, Arnold Davidson, 1912-  
Freedom for minds, 1957. Fredericton, N.B., The University  
of New Brunswick [1957] (Founders' Day addresses. 1957)

Forest Hill Rehabilitation Centre, inc.  
Forest Hill Rehabilitation Centre. Fredericton, N.B., 1957.

Ganong, Joan  
Angie and the Arab. Fredericton, N.B., Brunswick Press [1957]

[Henryson, Robert, 1430?-1506?  
The testament of Cresseid [tr. by] Fred Cogswell. Toronto,  
Ryerson Press [1957] (Ryerson poetry chap books. 168)

Jenney, C.P.  
Exploration. in New Brunswick, 1932-1957. Fredericton, N.B.,  
1957.

LeBlanc, Emery

Les entretiens du village. Moncton, N.B. L'auteur, 1957,

Little, George E.

The Littles of Galloway and the County of Kent. Moncton, N.B., The Author, 1957,

Lockwood, Philip A., ed.

Canada and the West Indies; speeches by Sir Grantley Adams, Professor Alexander Brady, and others. Delivered at Mount Allison Summer Institute, August 8-10, 1957. Sackville, N.B. Mount Allison University, 1957, (Mount Allison University. Publications. no.2)

Marysville, N.B. United Baptist Church.

One hundredth anniversary, 1857-1957. Marysville, N.B., 1957,

Massey, Vincent, 1887-

Uncertain sounds. Sackville, N.B., Mount Allison University 1957, (The Josiah Wood lectures. 1957)

New Brunswick. Dept. of Education.

A manual of civics and citizenship, part one - grades I - VI. Fredericton, N.B., 1957.

New Brunswick. Dept. of Education.

A manual of civics and citizenship, part two - grades VII-XII. Fredericton, N.B., 1957.

New Brunswick. Dept. of Education. Central Library Services.

Library books ... comp. by Roberta Wilson Weiner. Inverted, Livres pour la jeunesse, comp. par Ruth Tétreault. Fredericton, N.B., 1957.

4 v.

New Brunswick. Dept. of Health and Social Services. Health

Branch. Maternal and Child Health Division. Nutrition Services. Where to find it; sources of nutrition and health education materials for home economics teachers, dietitians, nutritionists, nurses, club leaders, extension workers. Fredericton, N.B. 1957.

New Brunswick. Dept. of Industry and Development.

New Brunswick's rising industrial potential; proceedings of a symposium on the industrial chemical development of New Brunswick, held by the Maritime Section of the Chemical Institute of Canada, in Fredericton, N.B., September 8, 9, 10, 1955. 1956.

New Brunswick. Dept. of Industry and Development. Handicrafts Branch.

The Blue book of New Brunswick craftsmen and handicrafts shops, 1957. Fredericton, N.B., 1957.

New Brunswick. Electric Power Commission.

Beechwood, New Brunswick's greatest hydro development. New Brunswick's Beechwood hydro development. Fredericton, N.B., 1957.

New Brunswick. Forest Development Commission.

Report. Fredericton, N.B., 1957.

New Brunswick. Legislative Library.

New Brunswick government documents, a checklist of New Brunswick government documents received at the Legislative Library, Fredericton, N.B., during the calendar year 1956. Fredericton, N.B., 1957.

New Brunswick. Travel Bureau.

New Brunswick travel tips ... [six folders, Fredericton, N.B., 1957.

New Brunswick Teachers' Association.

Brief ... for presentation to Hon. Hugh John Flemming, Premier of New Brunswick and the Members of the Executive Council, October 31, 1957. Fredericton, N.B., 1957.

Roberts, Dorothy Gostwick

Dazzle. Toronto, Ryerson Press [1957, (Ryerson poetry chap books. 175)

Saint John, N.B. Exmouth Street United Church.

One hundredth anniversary, 1857-1957. [Saint John, N.B., 1957,

Urban Renewal Study Group, Saint John

City of Saint John urban renewal study, Georges Potvin, director. Saint John, N.B., 1957.

Walker, David Harry, 1911-

Sandy was a soldier's boy. London, Collins, 1957.

Wright, Esther (Clark) 1895-

Blomidon rose. Toronto, Ryerson Press [1957,

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#### NOTE

If any one has a spare copy of Ground a literary magazine, v. 1, no. 1, Spring, 1957, it would be gratefully received by:

Mr. Basil Stuart-Stubbs  
 Serials Division, Library  
 University of British Columbia  
 Vancouver 8, B.C.

LIBRARY LITERATURE NOTES

Barbara Murray

Instead of becoming a technician, the library trustee should understand the professional techniques of librarianship said Francis Bergan in addressing the Library Trustees Foundation of New York. Understanding should be gained of the practices of selection and discarding of material, cataloging, public demands and guidance. Mr. Bergan understands that although the techniques of librarians look deceptively simple, they are complex and they demand a depth of scholarship that must be respected. When informed in this manner, the trustee can interpret the library's needs to the tax-supporting public. (ALA Bulletin v. 52 p. 323-327 May 1958)

Libraries that are served by the Philadelphia Union Catalogue are recognizing the efficiency of teletype. Teletype, combining as it does the speed of telephone inquiry with printed accuracy, costs less than telephone. By experiment, a reference takes two minutes and forty-five seconds for two trained librarians to communicate by phone while by means of teletype the same reference takes about forty-five seconds. (Library Journal v. 83 p. 1325-1329 May 1, 1958)

Birmingham in England has a Shakespeare Memorial Library that has been in operation since 1868. It now houses 36,000 volumes in 70 languages exclusively on Shakespeare. A popular belief is that Birmingham collects everything on Shakespeare but this is not strictly true, for this is a library where selection is the basis. Otherwise the Shakespeare Memorial Library would be a mausoleum. The Shakespeare music collection comprises 2,000 pieces - songs, operas, incidental music, etc. Gramophone records are bought of famous actors and actresses speaking Shakespeare. This collection is unlike the great Folger Library in the United States. At the Folger the collection has been widened to include the whole of English literature during the Tudor and Stuart periods. Because the Shakespeare Memorial Library is part of a larger system, it has been able to concentrate its budget exclusively to Shakespeare. (Library Association Record v. 60 p. 120-122 April 1958)

A Columbia university press release contains this information: 'The rise of a specialist's specialist is one inevitable result of the increasing specialization that marks our age. Known professionally by such labels as "research specialist", "information officer", and "documentalist", among others, he is most accurately called the "Special librarian"\*. According to Dr. Robert D. Leigh, Dean of Columbia University's School of Library Service, the special librarian is the "reflection of advancing scholarship and technology" in "combining familiarity with a special subject, a wide knowledge of information and research materials within the field, and the librarian's tech-

niques of organizing materials so that they are quickly and fully available to the user'. \*(Special Libraries, v. 49 (3) p. 136 March 1958)

Storytelling is coming into its own in the view of Frances Clarke Sayers as she tells of the growth in popularity of this direct and personal communication throughout the United States. (Top of the News, v. 14 (3) p. 10 March 1958)

Because of the success of the Storytelling Festival at last year's Miami Beach ALA Conference, a Poetry Festival is being arranged to precede the San Francisco ALA Conference. The speakers are outstanding and there will be exhibits of poetry books and many examples of poetry reading on records for browsing and listening. The dates are July 10-12, 1958, at Villa Hotel, San Mateo, California.

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#### ATLANTIC PROVINCES CHECKLIST - REPORT FROM EDITORS

Shirley B. Elliott  
Douglas Lochhead

Since the distribution of the initial issue of the ATLANTIC PROVINCES CHECKLIST in late March, acknowledgements from all over Canada and the United States have continued to be received by both the Executive Office of the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council, and the two editors. At the time of its publication, the Halifax Chronicle Herald contributed a highly complimentary editorial, calling it 'a marvellous attack on an important problem', while the French language newspaper L'Evangeline referred to it as 'un instrument de travail' ... 'qui mérite des félicitations'. During the past month notices have appeared in several of our national magazines and trade journals, including the Atlantic Advocate, Industrial Canada, Financial Post, Commercial News, and Monetary Times, while the Library Journal has acknowledged a review copy with the hearty comment: 'Here's a contribution to a neglected area of bibliography that will be welcomed all over the world.'

Many libraries in both the United States and Canada have shown their appreciation by letters, in which they have expressed the hope that our initial venture will be continued annually. These letters come from such widely distributed libraries as the National Library, Ottawa, University of British Columbia, Texas Woman's University, University of Chicago, University of Washington, Carleton College, Boston University, College of Liberal Arts, Collège Militaire Royal de Saint-Jean, Provincial Library of Saskatchewan, Library of Congress, Harvard College, and Duke University.

The Atlantic Provinces Economic Council has received

letters from the Departments of Education in the four Atlantic Provinces commending the Council and the Maritime Library Association on the CHECKLIST, and unanimously endorsing its continuation. As the result of press and periodical notices, requests for copies have been received from banks, publishing houses, industrial concerns, and private individuals, including the Canadian Construction Association, Philips Industries Limited, National Industrial Conference Board, Chatelaine magazine, Brantford Board of Trade, Canada Foods, Canadian Pacific Railway, and Canadian Industries Limited.

A comprehensive report on the ATLANTIC PROVINCES CHECKLIST will be presented by the editors at the annual meeting of the Maritime Library Association in August. The foregoing statement will acquaint the members of the Association, in some measure at least, with the undoubted success of the CHECKLIST in its early stages of publication. In the meantime, the members will be gratified to know that the CHECKLIST is to be available as a primary reference tool when the new Atlantic House is opened in Trafalgar Square, London on May 26.

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#### PERSONALS

We are very much pleased to welcome Mr. D.A. Redmond back to Nova Scotia, and look forward to an account of his experiences in Ceylon.

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Congratulations and best wishes go to Mr. Harold Greer, librarian at the Naval Research Establishment, Dartmouth, on his marriage on April 22 to Miss Ina Estabrooks.

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We wish Mary Beth Harris, librarian at the Annapolis Valley Regional Library, a speedy recovery from her recent illness.

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Mrs. Jean MacLeod Carter, who was employed in the Cataloging Department of the Windsor Public Library, has returned to Halifax. Welcome back, Jean, we hope you plan to remain in your native province.

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