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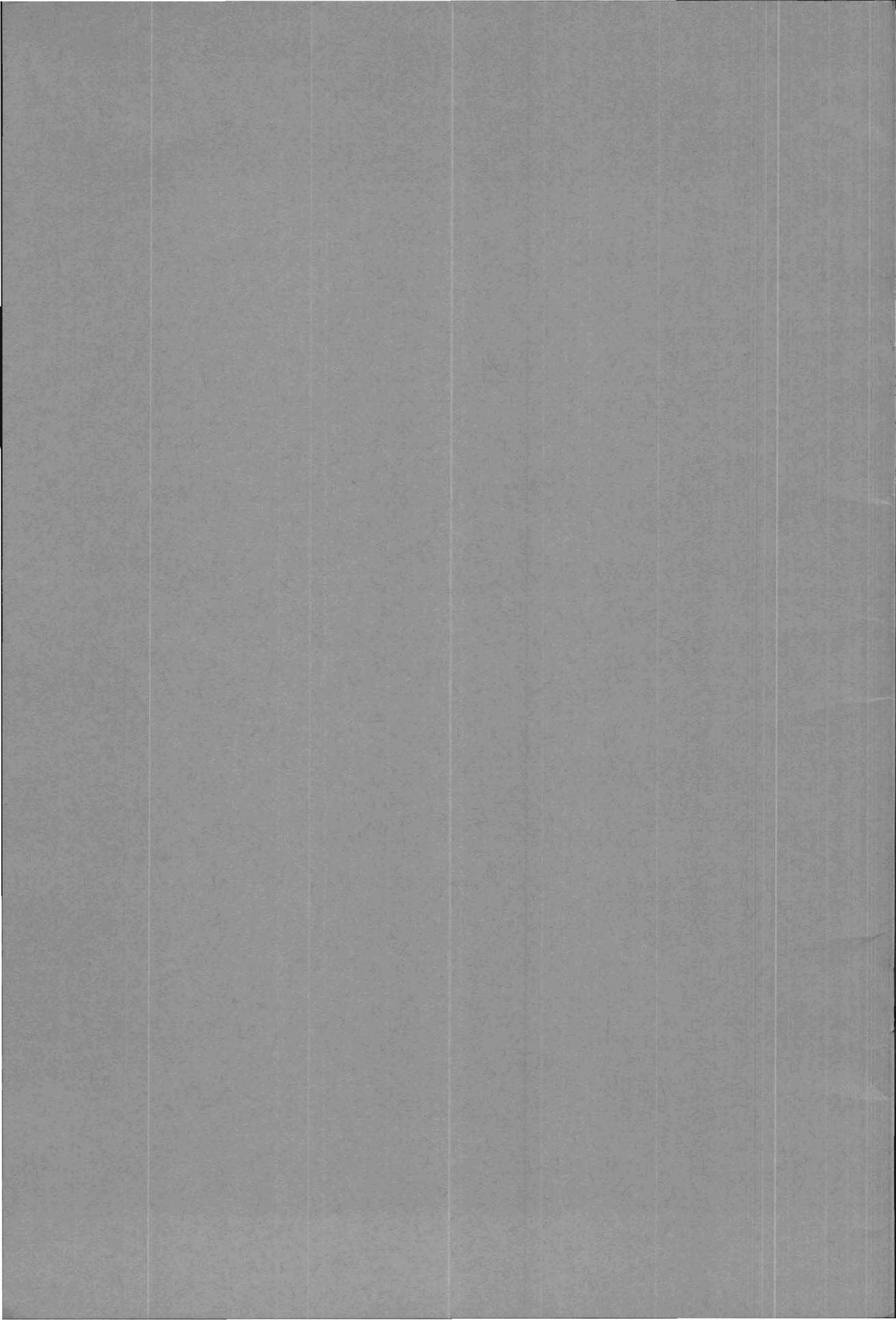
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BULLETIN

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APLA

BULLETIN

The APLA Bulletin is the quarterly organ of the Atlantic Provinces Library Association representing every type of library serving the provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland.

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CENTRAL MAILING ADDRESS

Typed manuscripts, advertising information and all general inquiries regarding the Association, should be addressed to: Atlantic Provinces Library Association, c/o School of Library Service, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 4H8

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Bulletin Deadlines

- February 1 Spring issue
May 1 Summer issue
August 1 Fall issue
November 1 Winter issue

News, notes and articles are welcome by the Editor at any time, but must arrive by the above dates to be included in the next issue. Don't forget the CLASSIFIED SECTION, to advertise positions, equipment, etc.

SPRING, 1976, VOL. 40, No. 1

From the President's Desk

The APLA Executive met in February, 1976, and concerned itself mainly with plans for the 1976 Annual Conference which has been scheduled for May 11 - 16, at St. Bride's College, St. John's, Newfoundland.

My congratulations to the first candidate to receive the Alberta Letts Fellowship Award—Alice Harrison, Associate Librarian, Atlantic School of Theology, Halifax, N.S. It is my understanding that she "will be studying methods of preserving rare books with conservation experts in Jamaica, the U.S., Britain and Europe as well as Canada. On her return she will be sharing her expertise with the libraries in the Atlantic Region where there is great need for a preservation programme to protect the physically deteriorating book collections". We are very pleased that Alice has been chosen since she was a very close friend of the late Alberta Letts.

It has been decided to adopt a theme for the conference and build the programme around it. The theme will be *self-sufficiency or sharing resources*. At a time when inflation is running wild and governments at all levels are beginning to hold the line, and in some cases cut back, those of us who are responsible for the operation of libraries would do well to consider the importance of sharing our resources, rather than attempting to become self-sufficient.

For the past two years two committees have been working to determine the feasibility of establishing an Atlantic Region Bibliographic Centre, and an Atlantic Region Book Storage Centre. Both would assist the four Atlantic Provinces in making known to each other what resources are available in this region.

These two committees will provide a major part of the programme through panel and group discussions. We think the time is ripe for frank discussions on these two topics, and hope that participation by the general membership attending the conference will provide a clear indication of the support needed in both areas.

A representative from the National Library of Canada will attend the conference and make a presentation on the services available to libraries through the National Library.

Committees are reminded that reports are expected on the year's activities and wherever possible should be available to the conference delegates when they register. In this way all will have a chance to make themselves familiar with the content of the report and any recommendations which may be included. Pearce J. Penney

It is very encouraging to note that many of the committees have been meeting and have discussed a number of important items, all of which have been forwarded to the Executive for information and in some cases action.

The local arrangement committees for the Annual Conference are very busy these days. The facilities at St. Bride's College are quite attractive. The self-contained unit even has a swimming pool and gym which will likely be available to us at certain times during the conference. We hope many of you will plan to attend, and we will do everything to make your stay a very pleasant one. Will see you at the Annual Conference in May.

Pearce J. Penney
President

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Editor
APLA Bulletin

Dear Peter:

M. Claude Potvin has recently very kindly presented to the Atlantic Provinces Library Association Archives some materials relating to the early activities of the Maritime Library Association. It occurs to me that it might be opportune to ask your readers to remember the existence of the APLA Archives which have been deposited at the School of Library Service, Dalhousie University, and say that we should welcome any items relating to the Maritime or Atlantic Provinces Library Association for additions to the collection.

At the same time we should also appreciate receiving for the School any superseded or no longer wanted texts relating to librarianship. These can be useful for historical and comparative purposes. We should be happy to refund postage on such items or send exchange items from our Occasional Papers list (see APLA Bulletin, Vol. 39, Summer 1975 (2), page 29).

Yours sincerely,

Norman Horrocks
Director
School of Library Service
Dalhousie University
January 26, 1976

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Atlantic Provinces Library Association Annual Conference

MAY 14 - 15 - 16, 1976
SAINT BRIDE'S COLLEGE, ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND
SELF-SUFFICIENCY OR SHARED RESOURCES

FRIDAY, MAY 14

1 - 11 p.m. Registration
7.30 p.m. Business Meeting
10 p.m. Reception (Cash bar)

SATURDAY, MAY 15

9 - 10.30 a.m. Panel discussion: Atlantic Region Bibliographic Centre
10.30 - 11 a.m. Coffee break
11 a.m. - Noon T. B. A.
Noon - 2 p.m. Lunch
2 - 3.30 p.m. Panel discussion: Atlantic Region Book Storage Centre
3:30 - 4:00 p.m. Coffee Break
4 - 5 p.m. T. B. A.
6.15 - 7.30 p.m. Reception
7.30 - 9.30 p.m. Merit Award Banquet
9.30 p.m. Nightcap party sponsored by the Dalhousie School of Library Service
(Cash bar and entertainment)

SUNDAY, MAY 16

9 - 10 a.m. Pre-business meeting: Buzz session on resolutions
9 - 10 a.m. Annual Meeting: Associated Alumni, Dalhousie School of Library Service
10 - 11.30 a.m. Business meeting: Resolutions
11.30 a.m. Inauguration of new President

Registration fee: \$10/\$15

Accommodation: Singles \$15 per night
\$10 per person per night

Banquet fee: Undetermined

Meals: Breakfast \$2 Lunch \$2.50 Dinner \$5

Resolutions to be presented to the Membership at the APLA annual conference,
May 11-16, 1976 should be mailed to:

Ian Wilson, Resolutions Committee Chairperson
Atlantic Provinces Library Association
c/o Saint John Regional Library
20 Hazen Avenue
Saint John, N. B. E2L 3G8

All resolutions should be postmarked not later than April 20, 1976. This will
enable distribution of the resolutions prior to discussion and voting.

The APLA Merit Award honours a person or persons deemed to have given
outstanding service to the libraries of the Atlantic Provinces. All members are
invited to submit nominations postmarked no later than April 20, 1976 to:

Katherine Le Butt
Past-President, Atlantic Provinces Library Association
c/o York Regional Library
4 Carleton Street
Fredericton, New Brunswick

Welcome to St. John's, Newfoundland...

PATRICIA RAHAL

Welcome to St. John's, Newfoundland, site of the 1976 APLA Conference. Apart from the Conference program, which promises to be both stimulating and thought provoking, and the social events which should equal those of the Fredericton Conference, we'd like to provide an introduction to the City and the Conference Site on behalf of the Conference Committee.

Discovered by John Cabot on the Feast of St. John the Baptist in 1497, and claimed for England by Sir Humphrey Gilbert in 1583, St. John's has had as long and as colourful a history as any Canadian City. A recent history by St. John's native Paul O'Neill proclaims it as *The Oldest City* (Press Porcupine, 1975).

St. John's was already a busy port with some settlement mostly in support of the fishery when Sir Humphrey Gilbert claimed Newfoundland for Elizabeth I in 1583. Imperial policy, however, militated against the development of a fully-fledged city, as for centuries Newfoundland was regarded as a training ground for England's navy. During this period settlement developed surreptitiously, housing was rudimentary, and it was not until the early nineteenth century that the restrictions were removed and a permanent type of habitation was established. The early forms of architecture owed much to those of Ireland, the country of the origin of many of the early settlers, and although the city has been destroyed by fire twice, some examples of the early nineteenth century remain. These, with other outstanding examples of a later period, have been recorded and described in *A Gift of Heritage*, published by the Newfoundland Historic Trust in 1975.

Like many other Canadian cities, St. John's has an active preservation movement. An area of Old St. John's is currently the subject of a study to determine the feasibility of establishing a Heritage Conservation Area in the city. This study, initiated by The Newfoundland Historic Trust, and jointly funded by the Provincial Government and Heritage Canada, could lead to the establishment of a project similar to that already underway in St. Andrew's, N. B., and, in the St. John's experience, would aim at the preservation of

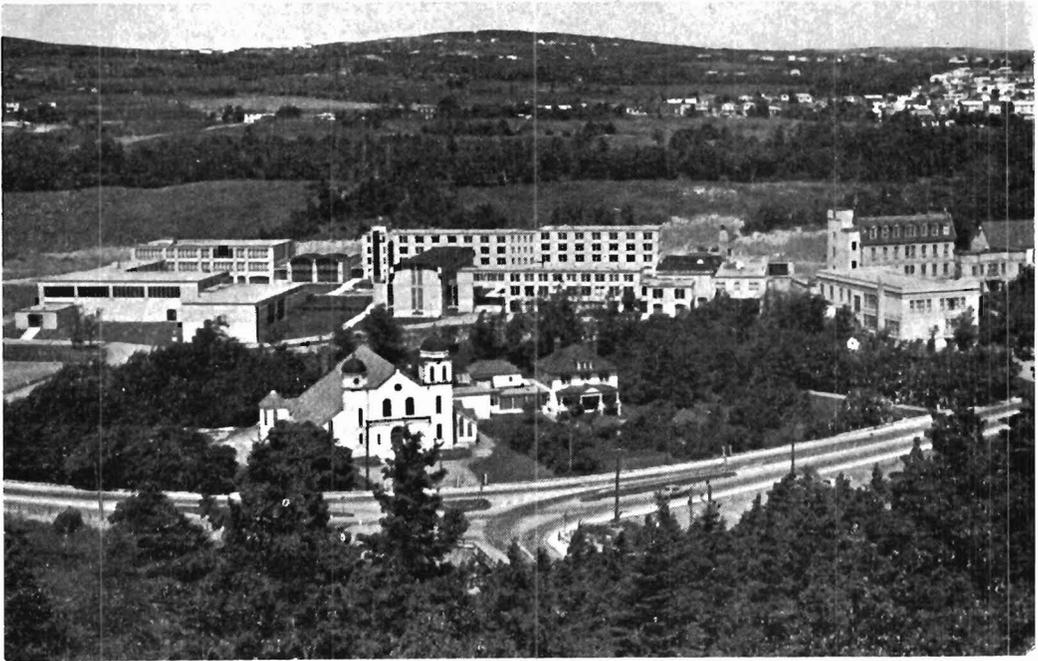
some of the characteristic row housing with its typical bay windows, as well as the development of the lanes, stepped streets and open spaces in the area.

St. John's is not only preoccupied with its past, there are also some high-rise buildings and a somewhat controversial Harbour Arterial under construction. The Harbour Arterial is intended to provide access from a new industrial park located on the outskirts of the city to the harbour, which, while still visited by the Portuguese White Fleet, is now equally likely to provide a haven for an oil drilling rig.

In recent years there has been considerable development in the arts and crafts. Much of the impetus for this has come from the Arts and Culture Centre, a multi-purpose building which was opened in 1967. The Centre houses the Provincial Headquarters of the Newfoundland Public Library Services and the chief St. John's library, as well as the Provincial Craft Training Centre, an art gallery, and an 1100 seat theatre. Apart from the obvious advantages provided by the increase in facilities, the Centre has meant a considerable change in the frequency, calibre and variety of performances for the city. Local groups have also flourished, both within the Centre and outside it. CODCO and the Mummers Troupe, two of these groups, have developed original dramatic material of social comment, and both have gained a measure of critical acclaim within the province and in their travels "on the mainland".

Musically the groups vary from the St. John's Symphony Orchestra, an amateur group which has made considerable improvement from its beginnings, to Ryan's Fancy, the Sons of Erin and Figgy Duff. Ryan's Fancy is a group of adopted sons—they emigrated from Ireland to settle in Newfoundland, and in addition to numerous night club appearances, they have a local television show. Figgy Duff is a less commercial group with a highly original folk sound.

Along Duckworth Street there is a number of boutiques which specialize in crafts. The Cod Jigger, The Newfoundland Weavery, and St. Mary's Bay Crafts, together with the longer established NONIA, offer a wide range of traditional and contemporary crafts, many with a Newfoundland flavour.



Restaurants run the gamut from Sergio's and the Starboard Quarter to the Galley and the Aquarium on Duckworth Street. As always, personal preference (and one's pocket-book) decides which is the best choice.

Our Conference site is St. Bride's College, Litledale. Located at the western end of the city in the picturesque Waterford Valley, the College has all the facilities for a very comfortable, self-contained conference. Built

in 1966 as a residential college for women pursuing university training in Arts and Education, recent trends in higher education have led to its development as a conference centre. The accommodation is both spacious and pleasant, and most important in these days of financial restraints, reasonable in cost. All our committees are hard at work and the arrangements are well in hand. St. John's looks forward to hosting the best ever APLA Conference, May 11-16, 1976.

CANADIAN LIBRARY PROGRESS

Review of Canadian Libraries

The last two issues of *Canadian Library Progress* have contained an annual review of Canadian Libraries.

For the fourth issue I plan to review the studies, reports, and research which libraries have done themselves or had consultants undertake, and larger studies such as royal commissions.

If your library has completed a study of *any kind* between the years 1973 and 1976 inclusive, I would appreciate receiving a copy at the following address:

S. D. Neill
School of Library and Information Science
The University of Western Ontario
London, Ontario
N6A 5B9

THE LIBRARY ENVIRONMENT UNDER THE SOUTHERN CROSS

Alan MacDonald is Librarian, Kellogg Health Sciences Library, Dalhousie University. This article is derived from notes for an address to the Halifax Library Association.

It is my hope that you will sympathize with my plight in attempting to describe a library situation, which is as complex as that of Canada, in only a few lines. What I will try to do is give you a thumbnail sketch, based on my travels in Australia and New Zealand, and highlighting those situations which may be of interest to Canadians. This is made difficult by the recent political crisis and national elections which have had some effect on the library world.

I went to Australia and New Zealand for my study leave mainly to examine my field of interest—organization of library systems which serve professional schools—in an environment which was similar to Canada but was far enough away that the librarians concerned could talk openly and honestly about their organizational problems. The results have fully justified these reasons.

Similarities

Australia is similar to Canada. It is a reputedly English speaking member of the Commonwealth. It is a very large country of some three million square miles with a population of about 13 million mainly clustered in cities on its coastal perimeter. It is an amalgam of former British Colonies. The Commonwealth of Australia was formed in 1901 by agreement of sovereign self-governing states. That state sovereignty still provides the essence of Australian politics.

But we should compare these similarities with caution. There are many geographical, political, constitutional and cultural factors which must temper comparison. There are many important differences which affect the library environment particularly when transplantation of systems is considered.

Differences

The most fundamental differences are constitutional and political. While many treatises are written on the subject, let me say simply that residual or unspecified powers are as-

signed to the States by the Constitution. Since 1911 the income taxing power has been in the hands of the Federal authority. This power of the purse led to many interventions into state affairs including libraries by the recently defeated government of Mr. Whitlam.

While my visit was in the extraordinary months which preceded the Constitutional crisis and therefore might be considered unusual times, I was surprised at the intensity of the conflict. It was like Canada at the worst of our recent constitutional disagreements but with four Quebecs and two Nova Scotias. This conflict between strongly independent states and a highly centralizing Federal Government exacerbated the normal reluctance for inter-state co-operation including library co-operation.

This situation has placed many limits on the activities of the National Library of Australia. It was becoming very difficult for the National Library to deal directly with individual libraries rather than State Libraries. Unlike the Provincial Library of Nova Scotia, no State Library has a statutory requirement to co-operate with its National Library. The National Library is limited in its ability to enter into contracts. At one point in 1975, even the Library's right to publish was brought into question.

Canada's closest neighbours are the U.S.A., the U.K. and the U.S.S.R. Australia's closest neighbours are New Zealand, Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore.

There seemed to be very little regional government and the multi-municipal organization such as our regional libraries are notable exceptions rather than the rule.

There are few national resource libraries outside the National, State and University libraries. Government libraries are a relatively new phenomenon. Thus there is no C.I.S.T.I. in C.S.I.R.O., no Statistics Canada Library, no National Health and Welfare Library. However, there were some movements in this direction but I expect many will be casualties to the current wave of economy.

Of all the problems which face libraries, I view the greatest to be the tyranny of dis-

tance. Sometimes we think we suffer in Canada, but my dissatisfaction was mollified after seeing Australia. This is a country concentrated in seven distant cities. Perth is nearer Djakarta than to Sydney.

Poor communications is still the norm. The Telex system is essentially that remaining from World War II and appears in few libraries. Although there are four television channels in most cities, there is no nationwide microwave system. There is no domestic satellite. There is not even an equivalent to the Trans-Canada Highway.

The National telephone system which is operated by the Post Office was twice as expensive as our own when I was there and there has been at least one major increase since then. Long distance charges even with the equivalent of direct dialing are twice as expensive. Postage now costs nearly two cents Canadian a gram. Thus, a ten page Inter-library Loan photocopy might cost up to 60 cents Canadian to mail. There are no library or Book Rates.

One of the most difficult situations to accept was a tradition of local self-sufficiency which has greatly hindered co-operation. There appeared to be few of the signs of a highly mobile population particularly in the smaller cities. Intra-state travel seemed as low as inter-state travel. Very high travel costs have not helped this situation. The basic structure of the Library Association of Australia (L.A.A.) is state chapters.

Therefore, any framework for an examination of Australia library systems must take into consideration the two key factors of communications problems and reluctance toward interstate activities.

Public Libraries

Public library coverage of the population varies from 100% in Tasmania and in the Australian Capital Territory (A.C.T.), where the National Library operates the local public library system, to about 55% in South Australia. The basic components of the public library system are a State Library Board, a State Library and individual municipal and community libraries.

The Library Boards which were established between 1939 and 1951 were made responsible for the development of public library service in each State and for the provision of a State reference, research and bibliography service. In New South Wales the State Library is not overseen by the Library Board.

Until the post WWII era, State Libraries were seen to carry on a National Library function and until the University boom they were the principal research resources in the country. While they continue the co-ordinating function, they have been unable to finance continuation of resource primacy.

In most states the State Library also provides the principal lending library in the capital city as well as some form of extension or country lending service by mail to those areas not served by organized local libraries.

The public library movement has deep roots in the mechanics institute movement. However, the institutes did not die off as in Canada or the U.K. but many continued to flourish as complementary institutions with the Public Libraries or as interim facilities until municipalities acted to establish public library service. In some areas due to political abilities, the institutes flourished often in opposition to the Free Libraries movement.

In 1972 there were 182 Institute libraries functioning in South Australia with government subsidies. While government policies seem to be the disappearance of Institute libraries, they have proved to be a hardy breed.

Funding of public libraries varies from state to state. The basic forms are:

- (a) Matching dollar grants to per capita maximums (N.S.W. is 3 to 1).
- (b) Provision of central technical services.
- (c) Provision of founding book stock.
- (d) Subsidies for use of professional staff.
- (e) Assistance with funding of facilities.
- (f) Central book pool available for rotation.

While the legal impediments to regional services were removed in most states in the 1960s, regionalization has been slow ranging from 100% in Tasmania to almost nil in South Australia. The dollars for libraries in recent years have fallen well behind normal growth demands and the exceptional Australian inflation. Both N.S.W. and Victoria have had studies recommending more funding but libraries have not seemed to be an important political issue at the state level.

The other alternative is federal involvement in this area of state responsibility. The L.A.A. and other library organizations have sought federal funds since the 1940's without much success. This view seemed to be revised in 1975 when the federal government appointed a Royal Commission on public libraries, en-

titled the Public Library Inquiry. This Inquiry threatened to thrust public libraries to the front line of the Federal-State battle. The work of the Inquiry has slowed since the change of government and we can only guess at the attitude of the Fraser government. What is sure is that the States cannot provide adequate funding and serious slip-page continues. These are not dull times in Australian public libraries.

School Libraries

While the pattern of school libraries in Australia would not seem too unfamiliar to Canadian librarians, some of their funding has taken a different twist of late. In 1968 the Commonwealth Secondary Schools Library Program was established. During the next seven years, some A\$60 million was granted to secondary schools by the Federal Government. Initially these funds went mainly for books and facilities but later grants included support for professional staff. In 1974 some A\$20 million was allocated to primary school libraries.

In 1972 W. J. Campbell of the University of Queensland prepared a "Report on the evaluation of the Commonwealth Secondary School Library Program". In his judgement, "The evidence from a variety of sources . . . tells a remarkably consistent story of the grant making available a greatly enriched stock of facilities which are supporting and making possible, if not coercing new patterns of teaching and learning. These new patterns include more individualization of instruction, more opportunities for learners to participate in their education, to be more enthusiastic about it, and to be more responsible for their progress".

These programs suffered as did most grant programs during the recent crisis. I have not yet heard what the attitude of the new Government will be.

University Libraries

In 1915 there were six Universities in Australia. In 1975 there are 19 Universities in Australia. While many of the individual Universities would seem reasonably familiar upon examination, the university system is quite different. In a number of stages, the national government has acquired full control of higher education in spite of its allocation to the States under the Constitution. The instrument of this federal intervention is the Australian Universities Commission which

funds almost all University activities. It also controls building programs and standards. For libraries this latter power has been a mixed blessing. While the A.U.C. designated libraries as the first university facilities to be carpeted and air-conditioned, it also decreed that 120 lb. per square foot was sufficient floor loading for libraries. This latter decree has greatly affected the capacity of some new libraries.

The A.U.C. operates in a manner similar to the M.P.H.E.C. although it makes triennial rather than annual grants. The Commission also has the power to make supplementary grants. The A.U.C. recognizes libraries as an important factor. It has a chapter for libraries in each report and makes specific grants for libraries at a rate of 1-5% of overall expenditure.

The most interesting activity of the Commission from the librarian's point of view has been its recognition of the costs of materials as a capital item. As a result the percentage of various equipment grants has been designated for purchase of library materials. This recognition of book costs as something other than an operating expense is rare in Canadian academic libraries.

The co-ordinating body for academic libraries is the Committee of Australian University Librarians (CAUL) which, unlike Canada's CARL, provides a common meeting ground for all academic chief librarians.

Now you may think that that's a fair thumbnail sketch of tertiary education in Australia. That is not the case. There is a second system of higher education in Australia which is also federally controlled and funded. These are the colleges of advanced education which were established in 1965/1966 to diversify the routes to higher education. These institutions tend to be career and professionally oriented normally granting diplomas. These institutions have been started from scratch or are upgraded specialized institutes like schools of education, mines, agriculture, technology, etc. In my opinion they have tended to be understaffed and underfunded with very weak libraries. They number some 77 and range from Western Australia Institute of Technology (WAIT) with 11,000 students to the Burnley Horticultural College with under 200.

There is still some state participation in such institutions particularly in teacher training. Because of their more localized nature they seem to be more of a political football. It

appears Australian politicians have built colleges as our's build post offices and wharves. There is no agreement as to which is the most productive route for public higher education. These two systems along with free tuition and weekly student stipends have certainly created a very muddy situation indeed.

The situation has not been clarified by the new government but it has not yet overturned the Labour decision to freeze the 1976 A.U.C. grants at 1975 levels.

Education for Librarianship

The matter of education for librarianship is deep in this higher education morass. There is no agreement as to the best arrangement of such education. As a result there were at least 17 institutions at last count which were training some form of librarian at either the diploma, bachelor, or graduate level. The existence of both national (LAA) and state accreditation bodies has not simplified the situation. Most people I spoke to agreed there were too many schools even with the current shortfall of librarians but no one seemed prepared to make the first move to rationalization. Only the school at WAIT has surveyed the potential market for its graduate. This study is similar to that now being undertaken by Dalhousie.

National Library

As in Canada, Australia's National Library (NLA) is an important element in the library environment. The mandate of the NLA is very broad. To create a similar institution in Canada we would have to merge all the services of our National Library, most of CISTI, the Public Archives of Canada, the National Gallery, some of the National Museum functions, part of the Library of Parliament, part of the National Film Board and many of the large departmental libraries in Ottawa.

Much of 1974 and 1975 have been taken up with the definition and development of ALBIS - Australian Library Based Information System. This attempt to fill most of the nation's information needs was a good illustration of the old story of a camel being a horse designed by a committee. In addition to shaping by the National Library staff and an Interdepartmental Committee (IDC) even the cabinet is said to have tinkered with it. At that point the consumers of the system were asked to add their requirements to the system. The result

was a conglomeration of data base requirements, a central secretariat and subject units. One of these units, the Australian National Science and Technology Library (ANSTEL) was actually created within the NLA to service the sci-tech collection. Medlars and Science Citation Index with more data bases to follow. Similar organizations were proposed for the Social Sciences and Humanities.

It appears that ALBIS is now in fiscal limbo. There was much opposition to ALBIS on three quite different grounds. To some it was seen as a massive unwarranted Federal initiative; to others there was insufficient advance consultation with consumers of its services, i.e. other libraries; to a third group the system was too computer/subject oriented. This is particularly important in view of the communications problem which make on-line activities incredibly expensive. As one librarian said to me, "What good is citation retrieval at blinding speed if it takes eight weeks for the document to come by mail". Several libraries quoted the performance of the British Library to be faster than the NLA.

The future of the NLA and its many, many programs must be in question at the moment due to the financial crunch. If essential services such as the National Union Catalogue and the Australian National Bibliography are to be maintained, one must anticipate serious reductions in the area of new developments.

In view of the startling rate increases for interlibrary loans introduced by some Canadian institutions recently, you will be interested to hear that this problem exists in Australia as well, where all interlibrary loans are handled without charges even for photocopying. The only response from net lenders so far has been the proposal by one to discontinue honouring ILL requests from out of state. As we can see, the situation down under is as unhealthy as our own.

Some of the many other developments which space restricts me from discussing are the use of computers in libraries and the preference for mini-computers; the ERIC-on-line experimental network; Australian MARC; professional unionization; a librarian's strike against high pay (and a discriminatory classification); national salary rates; medical libraries; the survey of Law Libraries which used Canada as a model; the instances of the Bliss and Moyes classification systems; the conviction of the University of New South Wales for copyright infringement because it did not supervise its coin-operated copiers; the incredible paucity of female chief librarians;

New Zealand's highly integrated library system; National Library funding of sci-tech specialists in public libraries; NUC locations by facsimile transmission; a national collections policy following a National Collections survey that used Dalhousie as a benchmark.

Under the Southern Cross the nature of the

library environment may be different in many ways but one thing is immutable — that is the desire to provide good service to library patrons. Some things never change.

If you wish to read further on this subject, I recommend: Balnaves, John. *Australian Libraries*. 2d ed. London, Clive Bingley, 1975.

APLA Cooperative Storage Centre

A few months ago APLA formed a new Committee with the term of reference "to study the possibility of establishing a Central Cooperative Storage Center for the less used library materials".

A questionnaire was sent to every library in the Atlantic Provinces in relation with this study. All comments are most welcomed.

Forward these comments to:

A. Hall, Chairperson, APLA Storage Center Committee
N.B.L.S., Box 6000, Fredericton, N. B.

ADVERTISING EDITOR SOUGHT FOR BULLETIN

Applications for the position of Advertising Editor of the *APLA Bulletin* are now being sought from among members of this Association. Position is open as of May 1976, (Annual Conference).

The Advertising Editor solicits advertisement placement in the *Bulletin* and seeks to maintain current accounts. This Editor works with the Treasurer of the Association and the Bulletin Advisory Board in the financing of the *Bulletin*.

Applications should be forwarded to: Linda Harvey, Kellogg Health Sciences Library, Tupper Building, Dalhousie University, Halifax, N. S.

NEWS and NOTES

NEWFOUNDLAND

Newfoundland Public Library Services

BRENDA RYAN assumed her position as Assistant to the Head of Technical Services in early November.

In order to solve a space problem, the Public Library Services recently installed Lundia Storage Shelving to house little used materials. The new addition provided 9700 linear feet.



A new library was opened at Conception Bay South in November, 1975. The area served by the library has a population of 13,000. The librarian is RUTH METCALFE.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Prince Edward Island Provincial Library

PAMELA FORSYTH, formerly Bookmobile Librarian with the Provincial Library, is now Chief Librarian of the Confederation Library.

Robertson Library, U. P. E. I.

The Robertson Library at the University of Prince Edward Island in Charlottetown was formally opened by Chancellor Gustave Gingras during ceremonies held in conjunction with a fall convocation on September 27, 1975.

Named after Samuel N. Robertson, Principal of Prince of Wales College from 1901 to 1937, the \$3 million complex incorporates a computer centre, language laboratory, auditorium, audio-visual centre and classrooms. The library itself has space for 350,000 vol-

umes with provision for expansion to 500,000. Its facilities include a media centre, special collections area and the University Archives. It has a seating capacity for 678 persons, individual study carrels for 101 students, eight study rooms and two typing rooms. Library stacks are open, with borrowing privileges for members of the University community and Island residents in general.

During the convocation ceremony honorary Doctor of Laws degrees were conferred upon Jean-Guy Sylvestre, National Librarian; Mary E. P. Henderson, Director of the School of Library Services, University of Alberta and Past-President of CLA; Louis Vagianos, Vice-President (University Services) Dalhousie University; and H. Bramwell Chandler, retired Superintendent of P.E.I. Libraries.

William Ready, University Librarian at McMaster University, received an honorary Doctor of Letters and delivered the convocation address.

Following the recessional procession to the new library, Chancellor Gingras presided over the opening ceremonies. Participants in the traditional key-passing ceremony were Louis G. Vagianos, representing Leslie R. Fairn & Associates, Architects; J. Norman MacLeod, General Contractor; J. Regis Duffy, on behalf of the Board of Governors; Ronald J. Baker, University President; and C. Merritt Crockett, University Librarian, the keeper of the key.

NEW BRUNSWICK

York Regional Library

York Regional Library has opened its thirteenth branch in Chatham. The library opened its doors on December 4, 1975. The Province had approved its establishment in the 1075-76 budget providing the funds for materials and staffing.

MARIANNE RONCIN and MARION MacMILLAN have been employed as library assistants, the former having had experience in circulation and cataloging at the University of Winnipeg and the latter with several years of experience working in DND school libraries.

The Chatham Public Library will feature a collection of cassette tapes, a photocopy machine, stereo sound equipment and a starting collection of 1000 - 5000 books. The furnish-

ings for the children's area will be the new and colourful modular units designed by Cameron-McIndoo Ltd.

The L.P. Fisher Public Library, Woodstock, N. B., has been completely renovated at a cost of over \$100,000. The downstairs is now the Children's Department and is connected to the main adult floor by a broad and beautifully designed central stairway. The downstairs area has been done in tones of bronze, orange and gold with white walls and color highlights in furnishings. The adult library reflects the cool shades of blue and green with white walls. The library is carpeted throughout. The panelled Canadiana Room will house the historically important Raymond Collection. The architects were successful in merging the old with the new. The original mahogany shelving imported from Honduras when the library was first established in 1906, was retained for the main floor.

Perth-Andover Public Library will soon begin work on an addition that will double its size. The addition, designed by one of Canada's leading architects, will result in a unique building of cedar dependent on solar energy for much of its heat and lighting. Perth-Andover with a population of approximately 2500 has extended its services to include cassette tape borrowing, photocopying. Fine stereo equipment and earphones permit library users to listen to music in the library, and a reader-printer is being increasingly used for research projects.

ARLENE RICHES, a graduate of McGill Library School, began work in September, 1975, as librarian in charge of the Perth-Andover Public Library.

CHAI-HEE LEE began work in November, 1975, in the Fredericton Public Library. He will be responsible for personnel and co-ordination between the Public Library and Headquarters. His duties will include supervision of staff and the development of the Fredericton collection. His background in mathematical physics (Ph.D, University of Edinburgh) will introduce a new element. The other staff members all reflect training in the humanities. Dr. Lee is a graduate of the Library School, University of Western Ontario.

The Fredericton Shopping Mall was the site of the first Educational Fall Fair in which a large number of educational organizations participated. The York Regional Library displayed various types of materials held, such as cassette tapes, talking books, microfilm, as

well as juvenile, youth and adult books. Lists were made available and book marks were prepared for handouts and sample bibliographies displayed.

In November at the Labour Education Conference, University of New Brunswick, a large coloured map of N.B. library regions was prepared along with small leaflets containing the same map, but listing all public libraries as well. A selected bibliography on labour and related topics was available and many books on the list were used as display items. The display was extremely successful. Many conference delegates had no idea of the services offered by regional libraries and were delighted to return to their unions with lots of hard information.

Albert-Westmorland-Kent Regional Library

TERENCE AMIS was recently appointed Acting Assistant Regional Librarian with the Albert-Westmorland-Kent Regional Library, Moncton, N. B. He has replaced EDITH BUTTON who retired after 26 years service.

NOVA SCOTIA

Dalhousie School of Library Service

At the annual meeting of the Commonwealth Library Association held at Kingston, Jamaica, in November, 1975, Professor J. CLEMENT HARRISON, School of Library Service, Dalhousie University, was elected President for a three year term. From January 1976 to December 1977 he will be Visiting Professor at the School of Library Service, University of West Indies.

The two courses to be offered in Summer School, 1976 are LS 712, Services to Children and Young Adults, taught by Elizabeth Dolan, Graduate School of Library Science, McGill University—May 17 to June 30; and LS 701, Popular Literature: its Development and Readership, taught by Victor E. Neuburg, Senior Lecturer, School of Librarianship, Polytechnic of North London, who offered this course in the 1975 Summer School.

For information write to Bernadette Coyle, Assistant to the Director for Continuing Education, School of Library Service, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 1H8

The three remaining meetings in the School's Friday morning lecture series are the following:

April 2 — "Jesse Spera and the theory of bibliography — revisited" by B. C. Brookes, Reader in Information Studies in the School of Library, Archive and Information Studies, University College, London, England.

April 3 — "Display methods for libraries" Workshop led by Georgina Calda, Graphics Department, Dalhousie University.

April 9 — "Library networks" by Martha Stone, Librarian, Department of National Health and Welfare, Ottawa.

All meetings will be held in the MacMechan Auditorium of the Killam Library at 10:30 a.m.

Saint Mary's University

As of March 1, 1976, RONALD A. LEWIS is the University Librarian, succeeding RUTH HAFTER. The new librarian arrived from the State University of New York at Binghamton where he had been Head of the Cataloguing Department. Previously he was Librarian of the Wheaton College Graduate School of Theology in Illinois, and Assistant Head Librarian at Swift College, University of Chicago. He is a graduate of the Kent State University School of Library Science.

NOTES FROM ALL OVER

Publications received

Ahoy! an Atlantic magazine for children. No. 1 (January, 1976). (P. O. Box 3380, Halifax South Postal Station, Halifax, N. S. B3J 3J1).

Bulletin of outstanding acquisitions of the Metropolitan Toronto Central Library. v. 4, no. 2 (December, 1975). (Metropolitan Toronto Library Board, 211 College Street, Toronto, Ontario M5T 1R3).

Canadian materials; an annotated critical bibliography for Canadian schools and libraries. III/1 (1975-). (Canadian Library Association, 151 Sparks Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5E3) \$5.00 per year. ISSN 0317-1651.

Evans, Gwynneth. *Women in federal politics: a bio-bibliography—Les femmes au fédéral: une bio-bibliographie.* Ottawa, 1975. (National Library of Canada, 395 Wellington Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0N4).

Danish Public Libraries Summer Seminar

Det danske Selskab, The Danish Institute for information about Denmark and Cultural Cooperation with other Nations, announces its seminar PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN DENMARK, August 3-12, 1976.

The seminar will be conducted in English by a leading expert and will present the public library system in Denmark through lectures, study visits and discussions.

The cost, Danish kroner 1800, includes accommodation, meals, transport in connection with the programme, lectures, and study excursions.

Detailed programme information is obtainable from DET DANSKE SELSKAB, Kulturvet 2, DK-1175 Copenhagen K, Denmark.

Fourth International Graduate Summer School For Librarians

Following the success of its three predecessors, a fourth annual International Graduate Summer School will be held at the College of Librarianship Wales this year from 1st July to 21 August. The School will be organised jointly by the College and the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Library and Information Sciences.

Since its inception in 1973, the Summer School has attracted participants from over forty different countries, and it is expected that this year at least sixty students will assemble in Aberystwyth on 1st July. The eight weeks of the School will consist largely of lectures and seminars at Aberystwyth, but there will be a mid-term break of approximately ten days when students will be taken on a guided study tour of major British libraries and cultural centres.

While the Summer School will provide options from the whole range of librarianship, school and children's librarians will find four papers of particular relevance.

BOOKS-BY-MAIL IN NEWFOUNDLAND'S CENTRAL REGION

Joel Levis is Regional Librarian, Central Region Libraries, Newfoundland Public Libraries Board, in Grand Falls, Newfoundland.

Central Region became operational in 1972 with eleven libraries and one bookmobile to provide a basic public library service to 60,000 people living in an area in excess of 10,000 square miles in size. Since that time, both the size of the region and the number of libraries have been increased. On-going studies indicated that the bookmobile was not providing a minimum level of service that even approached the accepted ALA Bookmobile Standards due to the long distances involved with accompanying travel periods. Further, there was a considerable percentage of the residents who was not being served at all. In percentage terms, 60% of the residents was served by our permanent service points, 20% was receiving inadequate, irregular bookmobile service and 20% was not being served at all.

Our research indicated that the overall situation could be improved by making two basic alterations to our service programme. First, the bookmobile service would be withdrawn to an area within a radius of 60 miles from Grand Falls. The benefits were quickly and easily recognized. There would be a reduction in travel costs, maintenance costs on the unit would be reduced, and bookmobile service in line with ALA Bookmobile Standards would be provided to residents. Second, a Mail Order Delivery Service would provide regular in-home access to library material regardless of roads, weather conditions, work schedules or the myriad of other reasons that can affect the patron's use of a bookmobile in rural areas. The most important consideration however was the large number of residents with no access to materials, and the excessive cost of bookmobile service in relation to the quality of service being provided.

It was decided to use paperbacks wherever possible in the BOOKS-BY-MAIL programme to reduce both the cost of postage and the investment in books themselves. A separate book collection is maintained for the programme. It is not possible to provide paperbacks for every title, but cloth copies are kept to an absolute minimum. Annotations were produced by the

Regional staff and the entire catalogue production process was then turned over to a graphic artist firm in St. John's. The result was a highly professional catalogue which was readily accepted in our "mail-order catalogue" oriented communities. We have been producing only one edition of the catalogue per year at this point in time although two would be more useful for the programme. Duplicate mailings are made at six months intervals which produces as nearly a massive response as the original mailing. Stuffers are being used to keep readers aware of new titles added to the programme.

Although we had not anticipated any problems with the Post Office, we were not unprepared. A public relations programme directed towards the local post-masters was carried out and it is felt that this effort resulted in an excellent relationship which helped make the service a success. To demonstrate this point, it should be noted that *not one shipment* in over 7500 was lost in the mail!

The entire clerical process is carried out by one staff member; two would make the clerical duties more efficient. However, only one person was available.

There are no charges to the borrower for this service. Business mail is used for the request post-cards and for the return of loaned materials. Many requests are returned with books which has assisted us in reducing our in-postage bill by nearly 50%. The only occasion which requires a charge is for the non-return of materials which is calculated according to the original price of the book.

We had anticipated that the re-usable mailing bags would create a problem if not opened at the stapled end. We solved this problem by removing the zip opener with the result that mailing bags were used an average of over nine times before it was necessary to discard them.

As a spin-off of the programme, we were the recipient of a large number of requests for materials not listed in the catalogue. These requests were treated as regular Interlibrary Loans quite separate from the BOOKS-BY-MAIL programme, but were most useful in enabling us to establish direct links with many people in isolated communities.

On the basis of statistical studies based on the performance of the first eight months, the programme was approved for an additional year. In statistical terms, we processed over 7500 requests which accounts for a total circulation of over 23,000 volumes. This was for the first eight months of the programme and despite the fact that a new catalogue has been issued in 1976, we are still receiving requests based on the old catalogue. In financial terms, we had circulated only 2300 volumes in one full year on the Baie Verte Peninsula alone when bookmobile service was provided. We were reaching only 10% of the potential population and cost per circulation was \$1.57. Expanding the BOOKS-BY-MAIL programme to double the population served saw the cost per request shrink to approximately \$0.12 per request of which 60% was absorbed through staff costs, an average of 20% for postage and the remaining 20% for supplies. The cost of the catalogue is not

included in these calculations just as the depreciation on the bookmobile was not included in that calculation. The Yield Rate (number of requests received per catalogue) was 1.8; the Circulation Performance Ratio (number of books circulated by the number of catalogues issued) was 5.5. These are useful figures in determining future progress and when compared with similar results for similar programmes elsewhere compare quite well.

In an attempt to improve the service even more, we are currently beginning a reader-reaction survey of the users to determine their preferences in reading materials, to determine their reactions to the service itself, and to learn something about the people who read in small isolated communities. This will take the form of a questionnaire and it is hoped that the results will enable us to bring even better public library service into the homes of Central Region.

Alberta Letts Memorial Trust Fellowship

The first award of the Alberta Letts Memorial Trust Fellowship has been made to Mrs. Alice W. Harrison, Associate Librarian, Atlantic School of Theology, Halifax, N. S.



The fellowship was established by the Atlantic Provinces Library Association shortly after the death of Alberta Letts in 1973, who at the time was Director of the Nova Scotia Provincial Library. It reflects her firm belief in the benefits of foreign travel for experienced librarians to enable them to make contacts with libraries and librarians in other countries for the exchange of ideas and to discuss common experiences and problems. Because of the continuing contributions it is hoped the fellowship can be awarded several years.

Mrs. Harrison will be studying methods of preserving rare books with conservation experts in Jamaica, the U. S., Britain and Europe as well as in Canada. On her return she will be sharing her expertise with the libraries of Atlantic Canada where there is great need for a preservation program to protect the physically deteriorating book collections.

Mrs. Harrison graduated with a Master's degree in library science from the University of Illinois. She also holds a degree in education from Northwestern University. During her twenty-five years of active library service she has held positions in school and public libraries and has also lectured at the School of Library Science, University of Illinois, and the School of Library Service, Dalhousie University.

Cataloguing Costs in Atlantic Canada

Anna Oxley is the Assistant University Librarian for Technical Services at Dalhousie University Library, Halifax.

At the June, 1975, meeting of the Atlantic Universities Computer Study Group—Libraries, I was assigned the task of surveying the College and University libraries of the Atlantic region in order to obtain cost figures for "Cataloguing and Card Production". Such costs were necessary for the AUCSG to determine the possible cost benefits of a computerized cataloguing support system.

Using a list of the members of the Atlantic Association of University and College Libraries, I contacted each Chief Librarian by telephone and explained my assignment. At the same time, I asked for their suggestions as to how answers could be solicited. A date and time for a site visit was also arranged during these conversations.

My next task was to formulate a questionnaire which would give me all the relevant information needed to calculate comparative cost figures for cataloguing and card productions. Such a form had to be applicable to a varied size range of both libraries and staff complements. The final product was composed of five parts: (a) labour costs and staff duties, (b) total production, (c) supplies, equipment and cataloguing services (d) overhead costs, and (e) catalogue card production.

The questionnaire was printed and then sent to each member of the AAUCL along with instructions and a letter confirming the time and date of my visit. During July I travelled to each library in the survey, collected the completed questionnaires and interviewed the people who had filled them out. The combination of personal interview with a questionnaire enabled me to answer more completely each query and this, in turn, resulted in more meaningful and accurate results. The questions were phrased in such a way that they required basic answers from statistics and a minimum of calculations. After all the data had been collected, I calculated the cost figures and reported them to the chief librarians and to the Atlantic Universities Computer Study Group—Libraries.

In order to answer the questionnaire, a number of statistics and other basic cost figures were needed. Although most libraries keep enough basic information to answer very

simple questions about number of items catalogued, many do not break that statistic down into categories such as number of originals, with copy, and added editions, etc. processed. The most difficult part of the questionnaire was the section on staff duties. It says a great deal about librarians and their work patterns to realize that few job descriptions exist in libraries. As a result, it was a hard task to break up each staff member's work week into specific duties and procedures, and then to assign a percentage of time spent on each duty. An example of the type of answer provided in the staff section of the questionnaire follows:

Professional librarians:

- (a) total salaries of professionals in the department (exclude chief) \$20,000.
- (b) what percentage of their time is spent in the following activities:
 - (1) cataloguing originals 10%
 - (2) cataloguing items
with copy 10%
 - (3) cataloguing AE, AC & AV
(books or orders) 5%
 - (4) searching
 - (5) filing %
 - (6) typing %
 - (7) supervision 15%
 - (8) training and teaching 20%
 - (9) other (please indicate)
reference work 5%

Unless some type of staff diary of activities is kept, the answers to such questions must be educated guesses. This, unfortunately, inserted an element of uncertainty into the questionnaire which some librarians thought was reflected in the results.

Few university administrations could provide overhead costs and many libraries had very little idea of supplies costs. These sections on many questionnaires remained blank and could not be used in the calculation of final figures.

Even if extensive statistics are kept, such a questionnaire does not reflect a typical circumstances during the survey year. Major moves of the collection, special cataloguing projects and the heavy staff turnover may all affect the total production of a library but are impossible to factor in overall costs.

In general, July and August are a poor time to do a cost study. Many librarians involved in providing answers were on vacation or just arriving back. The questionnaire itself was lacking in a number of respects. Some areas were not as clear as they might have been and some things were omitted entirely. More definitions of terms could have been provided, and fewer abbreviations used. One of the problems with the form was that it is difficult to design a questionnaire for all libraries, regardless of size. However, I felt that if a different questionnaire was provided for each size library, the comparative qualities would be lost.

It was unfortunate that just cataloguing and card production were involved in the study. It might be easier to do all of technical processes in one study, since in many libraries, staff members are flexible and are moved

about according to work load. However, I feel that the study was valuable. It represents the first time all the university and college libraries of an entire geographical area participated in a cost study using one basic questionnaire. This was indeed a landmark in library cooperation.

Ranges of results:

production per card set	\$.50 - \$ 3.77	average \$ 1.53
cataloguing per title	\$2.67 - \$15.66	average \$ 6.23
cataloguing per volume	\$2.15 - \$12.91	average \$ 5.38
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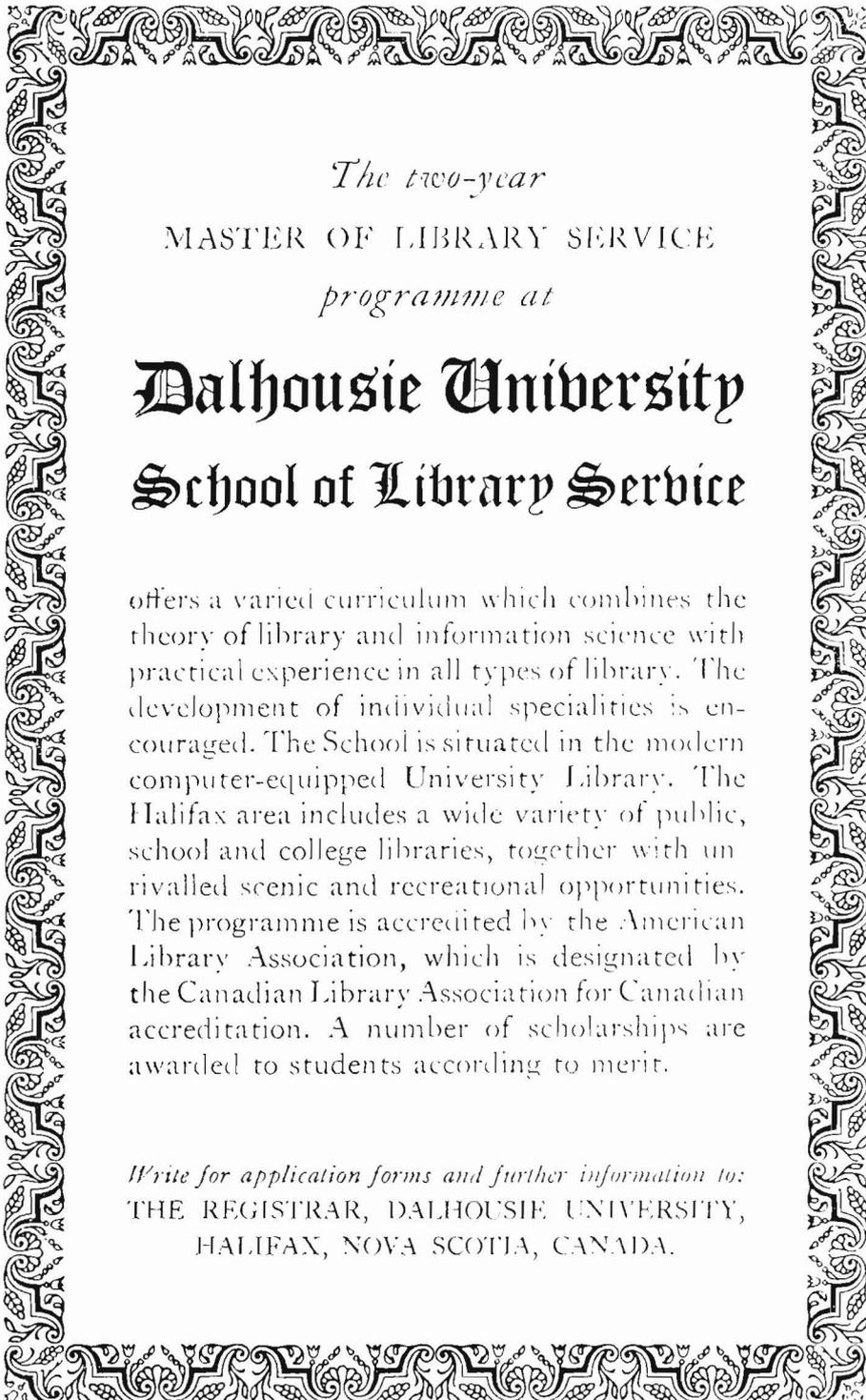
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