

MacLaren

MLA BULLETIN

PUBLIC Archives of Nova Scotia
HALIFAX, N. S.

SUNNY

Of the Eastern and Northern Parts
Of the Province.

In the Years 1801 & 1802.

With General Observations thereon.

ALSO, A SURVEY

Of the Lands between

Sackville (B. d. r. d.) and Shubenacadie.

And observations on the

Western Parts of the Province.

With a list of trees, shrubs, grasses,
and plants.

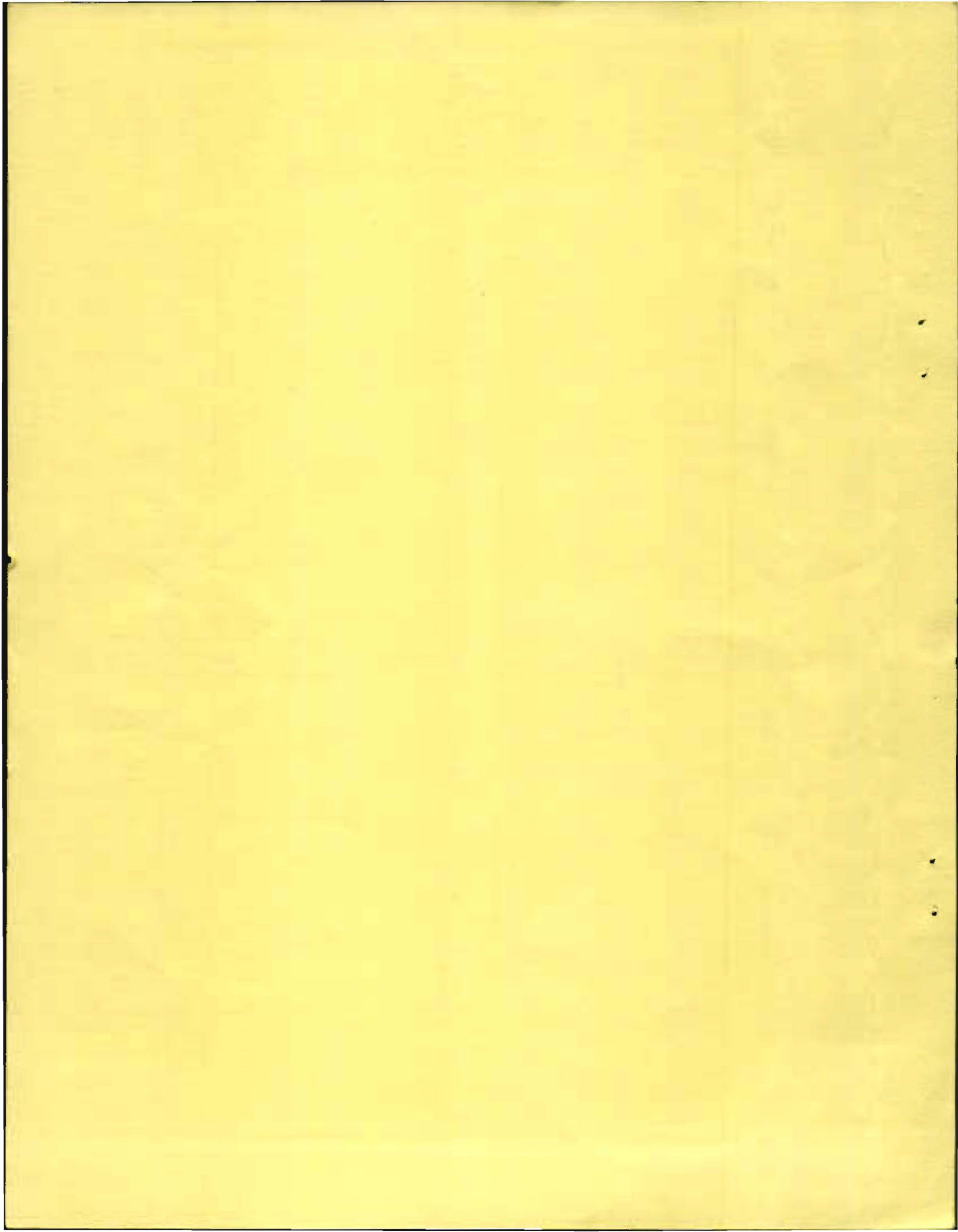
And observations on the nature and
uses of the trees

By Titus Smith, Jr.

HALIFAX

MARITIME LIBRARY ASSN.

VOL. 20 NO. 1 FALL 1955



MLA EXECUTIVE MEETING³ MINUTES

The Executive of the Maritime Library Association met in Moncton, N.B., on Saturday, Oct. 15. Present were H. W. Ganong, President; James F. MacEacheron, Rev. W. A. Stewart, and Miss Mary Newsom, Vice-Presidents; Miss Isabel Abernethy, Secretary-Treasurer; and D. A. Redmond, BULLETIN Editor. Minutes of the Annual Meeting of May 1955, published in the BULLETIN, were taken as read; and the Treasurer reported a balance on hand of \$213.60.

Nominating Committee to submit a slate of officers for 1956-57 was appointed: Maurice P. Boone (chairman), Miss Dorothy Cullen, Miss Evelyn Campbell.

Amendments to the Constitution

Inclusion of Newfoundland representation in the Executive was discussed. In order to bring about this change, the following amendments to the Constitution were proposed:

Article II, now reading as follows: "The object of the Maritime Library Association shall be to promote library service throughout the Maritime Provinces, to cooperate with other associations on matters of mutual interest."

To be amended to read as follows: "The object of the Maritime Library Association shall be to promote library service throughout the Provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland, and to cooperate with other associations on matters of mutual interest."

Article IV, Section I—Officers, now reading as follows: "The officers of the Association shall be a president, a president-elect who shall be one of the three vice-presidents, one from each Province, and a secretary-treasurer. All of whom shall be elected at each annual meeting of the Association."

To be amended to read as follows: "The Officers of the Association shall be:

"(a) a President

"(b) a vice-president from each of the four Provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland, one of whom shall be designated as president-elect

"(c) a secretary-treasurer.

"All of the above shall be elected at each annual meeting of the Association. "The editor of the Association's periodical shall be ex officio a member of the Executive."

Notice of motion of the above amendments will be published in the Spring 1956 MLA BULLETIN, and they will be brought before the 1956 annual meeting of the Association.

Membership in the American Library Association

The President read a letter from ALA inquiring whether MLA intended to apply for re-designation as a Chapter of ALA under ALA's revised bylaws. On motion it was resolved to place the matter on the Annual Meeting agenda for 1956, and that ALA be informed of our present situation and intention to take up the matter at the next Annual Meeting.

M L A . BULLETIN

The question of change of name of the BULLETIN, so that it would be more distinctive and so that its abbreviation would not conflict with that of other Associations, e.g. the Massachusetts Library Association, was discussed. On motion it was resolved that change of title of the publication be held in abeyance. It was agreed that titles submitted in the recent contest be circulated to the members of the Executive who will choose the winning entry. By the rules of the contest this entry does not necessarily have to be used as the new title for the publication.

Mr. Redmond pointed out that the BULLETIN is now distributed free of charge to libraries in the Maritimes, to library schools and various other institutions. As the cost of producing the BULLETIN is increasing, and MLA is short of funds, and the BULLETIN is assisted by certain provincial government libraries in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, he asked whether these various institutions should be billed, and if not willing to subscribe should be removed from the mailing list. After discussion, it was on motion resolved that all libraries in the Maritimes be asked to become institutional members of MLA, and that complimentary copies continue to be sent to associations with whom there is an exchange of publications, to interested library schools and to people who have contributed to library welfare in the Maritime Provinces.

Mr. MacEacheron raised the question of editorial policy for the BULLETIN. He felt that in view of the increasing stature and circulation of the BULLETIN, editorials should in future be signed, or a note be inserted in the masthead stating that editorial comment did not necessarily reflect the views of the Association. Mr. Redmond agreed. Discussion followed as to the purpose of the BULLETIN, its contents and format. It was agreed to authorize Mr. Redmond to purchase a lettering outfit and to investigate the purchase of a typewriter, with a review of the Association's financial situation in two or three months' time with a view to buying a typewriter.

Atlantic Provinces Economic Council

After discussion it was agreed that the Association's representative at meetings of the APEC should be the Vice-President from the Province in which the Council is meeting, the Vice-President being permitted to use his discretion as to voting. The increase of APEC dues from \$10, as approved at the 1955 Annual Meeting, to \$25 was discussed. It was decided that this might be brought up at the 1956 Annual Meeting.

Committee on Publicity and Recruitment

Father Stewart reported on the meeting of the Committee held Oct. 15 prior to the Executive Meeting. Topics discussed were: Ways and means of circulating library recruitment materials; insertion of advertisements in college papers--- this was considered too expensive for MLA to undertake on any large scale--- use of poster displays; need for attempts to have librarianship recognized as a profession on a par with other professions; possibility of a display of recruitment material for the 1956 conference; contacting ALA and CLA for available recruitment material. The Executive authorized the Committee to implement its report.

MLA Conference in 1956

Mr. Ganong proposed May 24-25. Advance registration was deemed advisable to determine if members prefer hotel or university residence accomodation. It was decided to have two full conference days, and devote all the first morning to the business meeting.

NBLA CONFERENCE

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Adoption of an active policy on archives by the New Brunswick government, new action on the sales tax on books, and scholarships for library school students, were urged by the New Brunswick Library Association at its annual meeting on Oct. 14 in Moncton.

Executives of the NBLA for 1955-56 are Laurie M. Allison, Mount Allison Memorial Library, President; Rev. René Baudry, St. Joseph's University, Vice-President; R.R.B. Murray, Saint John Free Public Library, Past-President; Miss Judith Waterson, University of New Brunswick, Secretary-Treasurer; Mrs. Arnold Ferguson, Grand Falls Public Library, and Mrs. P. J. Dowd, Sussex, Councillors.

Regional libraries in New Brunswick were the subject of a panel discussion under Mr. Allison's chairmanship. Participants were Hubert Button, chairman of the Moncton Public Library Board; Mrs. E. A. Skene, Fredericton, chairman of the Library Advisory Council; and James F. MacEacheron, Director of Central Library Services for New Brunswick. Discussion began with comment on the Libraries Act, and the grants available to counties in the Province. It moved quickly to comment on what has been done in York County to date, and what can be done in others. Ways of reaching the public were discussed, and it was clear that newspaper and radio could do only so much and that personal contact, through service clubs, women's organizations, and efforts of the NBLA itself, would be the most valuable way of bringing the importance and value of this to the public. There was discussion about the per-capita rate as well.

Several important resolutions were adopted at the NBLA meeting. They were:

Archives The Association recommends that the Government of New Brunswick adopt an active archives policy, to ensure the preservation of all historical material in New Brunswick of an archival nature... and suggest further that the Dominion Archivist or some other competent Canadian archivist be asked to make an impartial report on the archives situation in New Brunswick.

Sales Tax During the past year, the sales tax on textbooks was removed. The NBLA has now requested that the tax on all remaining books be removed.

Scholarships The NBLA repeated the same resolution sent to the provincial government last year: a request for scholarship aid to graduates of New Brunswick universities who wish financial aid to continue to a Canadian library school, on condition that they return to work in the New Brunswick field after graduation for a specified time.

The Union Catalog for New Brunswick was discussed under the leadership of Mr. MacEacheron. Robert Rogers spoke of the need for a new bibliography of New Brunswick writers. The last one was done in 1895, and then applied to English language publications only. The one Mr. Rogers proposes will be a long-term project and will include both French and English language publications. A committee will be set up to look into this.

At a luncheon meeting the Association heard W. Graham Allen, editor of the Dalhousie Review, discuss the current Canadian literary scene. Mr. Allen's speech is reported elsewhere in this issue of the BULLETIN.

6 ENGINEERING STUDENTS and their College Libraries

BY D. A. REDMOND

How much do engineering students use the college library?

It's hard to answer this question--but easier to answer it, than to answer the more general one: How much does any college student use the library?

At Nova Scotia Technical College there is an interesting opportunity to examine the library habits of a group of fourth-year engineering students. Nova Scotia Tech receives students from the various colleges in the Maritime Provinces, students who have had a uniform three-year pre-engineering course, and after two further years graduates them with the B.E. degree. One of the compulsory courses in the first term of the Junior (i.e. fourth) year is Technical Literature, a two-semester-hour course which begins by teaching the use of the engineering library.

Students fill out a course registration card which includes a brief quiz, reproduced below. Results of this quiz can't be taken as conclusive. Still, I believe the variety of answers which may be checked offers some inducement to the student to answer sincerely. Several hundred students, in several years' classes, have answered the quiz. Take this year's class as typical.

Half Have Two Years of College English

Of 116 students, 69 took two English courses in colleges in the Maritimes. Two took more than two courses; only four had no college English courses (i.e., had matriculate credit for Grade 12 English). The reaction of half (63) to these courses may be taken as neutral ("OK" or no pronounced opinion--probably not a true expression). One quarter (33) gave favorable reactions ("Interesting").

All but four of these students, then, should have had ample exposure to their college libraries in one or two English courses, at the very least.

DEPARTMENT	Chemical	Civil	Electrical	Mechanical	Metallurgical	Mining
PREVIOUS COLLEGE	Acadia	Dalhousie	Memorial	Mount A.	St.F.X.	St. Mary's UNB
ENGLISH COURSES	taken there	None	One	Two	More	
INCLUDED	English Literature	Composition	Modern Lit.	Technical English		
THEY WERE	Interesting	O.K.	Meant for Arts students	Dull	Terrible	
I USED THE LIBRARY	Once a day	Once a week	One a month	Never		
I FOUND	What I wanted	Assigned readings	New books	Textbooks	Junk	
LIBRARY WAS ARRANGED BY	Technical information	Old books	Magazines	Something to read		
	Dewey classification (100, 200, 300, etc.)	Library of Congress (PE, QD, TA, etc.)	Don't know how arranged	Never understood it		
I USED THE CARD CATALOG	To find a book I wanted	To find material on my topic	To find something to read	Never		
LIBRARY STAFF HELPED ME	To find a certain book	If they were asked	Never			
	If they saw me looking worried	If I was stumped				
	If they weren't busy	Under protest	Always			
I LEARNED to use the library from	A librarian	Lecture in an English course	An engineering course	Trying	Never	

There are no right or wrong answers. Don't try to please the instructor.

Your candid answers will be most helpful.

Frequency of Library Use

Over one-third (46) said they used the library weekly; one-tenth (12) said daily; one-third (47) monthly; only a few (6) said never. Daily use was concentrated at colleges with the library in the classroom building.

Two-thirds use the library for required reading. Only one-quarter (37) of these engineering students say they found technical information. Technical books and magazines are there--whether in the main library or in branches. What then is the reason for this small response? Only a few students mention magazines, or give answers which could be interpreted as meaning recreational or free reading.

Catalog, Classification and Staff

Half knew how the library was arranged (Dewey or L.C. classification, and nearly as many (54) didn't know. But how important is it for them to know what the classification system is? This question was put into the quiz as a "check". More important is it that a college student learn that the same number (with all its details) is found on the catalog cards and on the back of the book they represent; and that numbers, in whatever system, are in order on the shelves.

Half (62) apparently used the card catalog for finding books whose authors they knew; one-third (43) used the catalog's subject cards. There is of course some overlap between these two groups. But more important: nearly one-quarter (24) say they never used the card catalog. Isn't this the group which comes to the library only to go straight to the open reserve shelf? Or brings its own books to the library's handy waiting room?

All but five agreed that the library staff helped them--but only one-tenth (17) seemed to have had help offered to them without asking. Library staffs being overworked, and having no more than the usual number of eyes and other (non-psychic) senses, this is no justification for any indictment of them. It may point the need for more reference librarians, more reader's advisors or counselor librarians or whatever one may wish to call them--as will the next point.

Students say they were taught how to use the library by librarians (22), or by the English department (20), but never by engineering instructors. Nearly half (52) say they learned by trying, and another fifth (22) say they never learned how to use the library. More than two-thirds of these engineering students, then, do not really know how to use the general college library. Certainly experience in the Technical Literature course at Nova Scotia Tech shows that they don't know anything about an engineering library.

Far too many students, in other words, are never properly helped to use the college library. It is easy to say this, but libraries resemble measles: few college students willingly expose themselves for long enough to catch the bug.

Some Unwarranted Conclusions

Frequency of use seems to be connected with "campus tradition" or teaching program. At Acadia and Dalhousie, more students said they used the library weekly, but from St. Francis Xavier twice as many said "monthly". There also seems to be far less use of the subject catalog at St. Francis Xavier, and the staff there seems much more helpful. Are these phenomena connected?

I rather doubt that number of English courses taken has any deep relation to library attitude, as far as science majors are concerned. Humanities majors would

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be a different situation. These engineering students seem to be willing to use, or resigned to using, the library, but they are not being shown how. The library staffs are doing no more than the English departments.

The engineering departments are not showing their students the use of technical books and journals, nor the need of using the library in their profession.

And librarians are spending a lot of time on catalog cards which many students never use. Are the catalogs designed for the needs of these students, the intended users? Are librarians wasting time typing cards when they could use L.C. cards? Are they forgetting to spend as much time showing students how to use this complicated tool, as they are building it?

These are some questions arising from a hasty examination of one sample. Extended study, of not only engineering students but other special disciplines, is needed. The homogeneous group of students, separated from the atmosphere of a general college, yet bonded by their special discipline, is easier to examine. It is also a group which traditionally has made little use of the general college library—yet which by the nature of modern technology is compelled to use the library to keep up to date.

If they are to be good citizens, cultured and educated men, should they not know the use of books in their general life? Yet here it is an uphill task to show them even the use of library resources in their chosen profession.

NAME THE BULLETIN CONTEST WINNER

The winner of a five-year free membership in the Maritime Library Association, for submission of the suggested title MARITIME LIBRARY REVIEW, is Douglas G. Lochhead, Librarian, Dalhousie University.

The contest closed Aug. 31 and entries were judged by the members of the Executive following the Executive Meeting Oct. 15. Under the terms of the contest, the winning entry need not be accepted as the title of the Association's present or future publication.

MANY COMPETENT, MANY DULL, ALLEN TOLD NBLA

Highlight of the New Brunswick Library Association meeting in Moncton, Oct. 15, was a luncheon address by W. Graham Allen, Editor of the Dalhousie Review. He gave a provocative speech on Canadian literature as seen through our fiction, poetry, creative non-fiction, and through the eyes of periodicals up and down the country. He stressed the many worthy books, by new and first-rate writers, coming to light each year. But in addition, Mr. Allen said, to some notably competent writers appearing on the Canadian scene, there are many inept, dull, or both.

"Here in Canada, we have done original things in writing and broadcasting and in moving picture making. But when we set out to be dull, we can do a masterful job," he said.

Nevertheless, good Canadian writing is making itself felt and should develop, Mr. Allen declared. He said librarians everywhere can do much to help this development and stimulate reading in general. Like banks, libraries are no longer the forbidding institutions they were 25 years ago. Both libraries and banks have learned it is the best policy to make patrons feel welcome and to offer them friendly service.

NEW BRUNSWICK NEWS⁹

ROGERS, ALLISON HEAD COLLEGE LIBRARIES

A. Robert Rogers, who has been Assistant Librarian of the Bonar Law-Bennett Library, University of New Brunswick, was appointed Librarian on Sep. 1. A graduate of UNB (B.A. 1948) and the University of Toronto (M.A. in Philosophy), Mr. Rogers went to the University of London on a Beaverbrook Overseas Scholarship in 1950. In 1953 he received an academic post-graduate diploma in librarianship. He had been head of the archives division of the UNB library since 1951, secretary of the NBLA from 1951 to 1954, and editor and business manager of *The Fiddlehead*, New Brunswick poetry magazine.

He succeeds Mrs. Marjorie Thompson, who is retiring after 14 years as librarian. Mrs. Thompson will remain at UNB as Acting Head of the Archives Division. Mrs. Thompson was honored, together with Miss Elizabeth Morton, Executive Secretary of CLA, at a dinner party in Fredericton Oct. 6.

Laurie M. Allison, Associate Librarian of Mount Allison Memorial Library, was appointed University Librarian effective July 1.

Mrs. Elizabeth Hayes Jost, B.A. (Mount A., 1954), B.L.S. (Tor., 1955), has joined the staff of the Mount Allison University library as assistant librarian in circulation and reference, effective July 1.

The I.O.D.E. Children's Library of Sackville, New Brunswick, sponsored by the Lord Sackville Chapter, I.O.D.E., has moved from its former quarters in the Mount Allison University Library to new quarters on the university campus. Interest in this library runs very high, and story-time periods are held each Saturday with assistance from the staff of the university library.

Robin R. B. Murray has resigned as Librarian of the Saint John Free Public Library to take a position in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Miss Ruth Miller has been appointed librarian at Saint John, it has been reported to the BULLETIN. Mr. Francis Johns, reference librarian in the Saint John library, has left to attend library school.

Miss Eileen Wallace has been appointed librarian of Teachers' College, Fredericton. The new librarian of the Dominion Department of Agriculture branch library in Fredericton is Mrs. Hagmeier.

Mrs. Patricia Hart, former librarian of the Saint John Free Public Library and well known to Maritime librarians, has left the Aluminum Co. library in Montreal and gone to Toronto, according to the Bulletin of the Montreal Chapter, SLA.

Miss Diana Arnison, a graduate of the McGill University Library School, is the new librarian at the Naval Research Establishment, Dartmouth, N.S. Miss Arnison was formerly in the Commerce Library of McGill University. She replaces Miss Isabel Abernethy, who accepted the position of librarian of the Glace Bay branch, Cape Breton Regional Libraries, in August.

¹⁰ **HALIFAX LIBRARY NEWS**

Dalhousie University Appointments reported by D. G. Lochhead

Mr. A. W. Yeats, Associate Professor of English at Sam Houston State Teachers' College, Huntsville, Texas, has been hired by Dalhousie University to edit a descriptive catalog of its newly-acquired James McGregor Stewart collection of Kipling material. The term of Mr. Yeats' appointment is for one year.

Miss E. D. Horlock (B.A. Hons. English, Bristol) has joined the staff of the Dalhousie University Library as Secretary to the Librarian. Before moving permanently to Canada Miss Horlock worked at the Foreign Office during part of World War II and later at the London headquarters of the Church Missionary Society. Miss Pat Norman, a 1955 Dalhousie graduate, has been added to the staff of the circulation department as a sub-professional.

Since the beginning of the Fall term the Dalhousie University Library has adopted new hours. In the past they were 8.50 am to 5.30 pm, 7.30 pm to 10 pm. Now they are from 8.50 am to 9.30 pm without a break at the supper hour.

Nova Scotia Technical College

Ruth E. Donald (Mrs. Ian Donald) is temporarily employed by the Nova Scotia Tech library. Mrs. Donald holds a B.A. degree from the University of Toronto and was formerly employed in the University of Toronto library.

Extended library hours at Tech are being well used by students. The library is now open 9 am to 5.30 pm, and 7 to 9.30 pm, Monday to Friday, and Saturday mornings. Heavy use of the library is occasioned by the compulsory Technical Literature course, but apparently the "library habit" has been successfully implanted in many students.

Halifax Memorial Library reported by Shirley Coulter

Miss Margaret Martin, a graduate of the University of Toronto Library School, has joined the staff of the Cataloging Department. Before coming to HML, she was employed in the Cataloging Department of the Widener Library at Harvard.

The Children's Department is looking forward to Young Canada's Book Week, Nov. 15-22, when the new branch at Mulgrave Park School is expected to open. The library will be situated in the new school building in a spacious, attractive room and will serve the children from several large schools in the district.

The Halifax Regional Library Board has formally requested permission from the Halifax City Council to employ an architect to draw up plans for a branch library building to be erected in the north end of the city.

Medical Record Librarians Meet in Halifax

The Canadian Association of Medical Record Librarians held its annual convention in Halifax Sep. 27-29. The 1955 president of the association was Sister Margaret Clare of Halifax Infirmary. The Canadian association was formed in 1942 and regulates training of student record librarians who study medical and biological science, psychology, ethics, and record librarianship.

LIBRARY LITERATURE NOTES

In response to general request, the BULLETIN will try to publish abstracts or notes about interesting and useful articles from library publications received on exchange or by Halifax libraries. Coverage of the literature will not be systematic. Librarians not having access to publications mentioned may request them from the Library, Mount St. Vincent College, Rockingham, N. S., where many will be filed.

Metcalf Leaves Harvard

The retirement of Keyes D. Metcalf from the librarianship of Harvard University has been noted in library journals (e.g. Coll. Res. Libs. v.16 no.4, Oct.1955, p.419-20) but Time offered comments which deserve framing over processing department desks. "Because of the intricacies of cataloguing, filing, labeling and binding even a free book costs Harvard about \$5.75." "There are people," says Metcalf, "who will spend a whole day cataloguing one book, if we don't stop them." Like old soldiers (hashed simile), librarians don't retire; they go to other jobs—Mr. Metcalf to the faculty of the Rutgers University library school.

Reference Books for Small Libraries

The Alberta Library Association Bulletin, v.2 no.4 (undated) contains Part II of "Reference Suggestions for the Smaller Public Library" by Belle Grant. It begins with Premise I: "The reference section of any public library should intimately reflect the interests and needs of that community," and continues with Premise II:

"The budget of a well established library resembles that of a well established home in that its resources are primarily concerned with meeting basic family needs of everyday living. Joyful splurges now and then are permitted and even encouraged in the direction of interests peculiar to that family or community.

"It may be no disgrace to be poor, but it is powerful frustrating and humiliating if one's library cannot supply the assistance and information needed by the community. As librarians with modest budgets, the only sensible attitude, surely, is that of honesty--of recognizing our situation for what it is:

- (a) a definite and limited budget
- (b) needs of the community as a whole (e.g. encyclopedias, yearbooks, dictionaries, etc.) and
- (c) interests, needs and activities of groups within the community (e.g. Women's Institute, irrigation farming, music groups, etc.)

We cannot have everything to begin--we can, each year, add one substantial stimulating reference." The body of the article continues the useful list of reference tools, many with special Canadian emphasis.

The Library of the Winnipeg Free Press is shown in action in an article by Ruth Buggiey in the Manitoba Library Association Bulletin (v.3 no.2, June 1955, p.9-12). The atmosphere of the special library is fascinatingly shown: that it must produce exact information under pressure of deadline, and that its patrons unhesitatingly rely on it to produce the right answer. Prospective library school students might catch the interest of library work in situations other than the usual public or college library.

File and Forget, or Find Again?

"Information retrieval" is the term used for the theory of library catalog operation. Those concerned with catalogs of technical reports, such as AGARD and AEC material, have been much concerned with the problem. New systems of subject cataloging such as Taube's "Uniterm" have been advanced as better than the system of subject headings, tracing, and cross-references.

It means merely, if certain information is put in the library and cataloged, can it be found again in answer to a question? (Disregarding the librarian's own memory, which has limitations.)

In ASLIB Proceedings, v.7 no.3 (Aug. 1955) p.153-156, Cyril Cleverdon writes on "Some Aspects of Information Retrieval". He quotes the Thorne formula for the efficiency of a subject catalog. "The analysis involves comparison with the cost of finding material in the library stock when no subject catalogue is available. The actual test to be put to the catalogue consists of preparing 100 test questions which are believed to be typical of the type of questions normally put to the catalogue and based on material which is known to be included in the collection. If A is the total number of answers which include a reference to the original documents on which the questions were framed, A may be called the probability of success." The formula then compares the cost of searching, the cost of cataloging and the cost of hand sorting a sample of the material, for the size and growth of the collection.

In other words: Could our own subject catalogs stand the test? Can material put into the library be found again and made use of? Do patrons get the information they want?

Free Urban and Public Regional Libraries, 1954

(Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa, 1955; 25p.) The DBS Biennial Survey of Libraries, published for twenty years, has proliferated as have Canadian libraries. The latest statistics are up to date, too, unlike previous issues, and this 1954 survey is important to all reading Canadians. Some items catching the eye included these: "Average expenditure each time a book was loaned was \$0.29." Who said free public libraries? Does the public know what a bargain it gets? And Nova Scotians must be ardent seekers of information. The one N.S. library reporting a reference department answered 5454 "comprehensive, requiring research" questions but has no figures available of "simple inquiries". Unfortunately, data for regional library services are not given in a comparable manner, for Regional Libraries HQ in Halifax is just as busy searching, yet figures aren't given in the survey.

Careers in Information Work

This four-page leaflet is issued by ASLIB (1955) as a recruiting aid for special librarianship in England. Rather heavy reading, perhaps not attractive advertising by North American standards, it well summarizes the need for this scarcest type of librarian, and the difference between British and our practice, training and salaries.

Margaret Mann Citation Open for Nominations

ALA Division of Cataloging and Classification seeks nominations for the 1955 award. Division members who have made a distinguished contribution to the profession through cataloging and classification are eligible. Nominations, due Jan. 1, are being received by Miss Mary D. Herrick, Chenery Library, Boston University.

WHAT DOES PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICE MEAN TO THE AVERAGE CITIZEN?

Mr. J. S. Russell, St. Boniface Public Library, Manitoba, addressing the fourth general meeting of the Manitoba Library Association (May 18, 1955) is quoted in that MLA Bulletin (v.3 no.2, June 1955, p.3):

"And now I come to the question, 'What does public library service mean to the average citizen in our country?' Is he familiar with our thoughts of what libraries should have and be able to offer and of what is needed in the daily provision of book service to the community? I fear that the answer is 'No.' 'No' is the answer because the average person, thinking of a library as a place filled with books all sitting neatly in rows, knows very little, if anything, as to how they got there, what work was involved in their selection and processing, whether they were donated or bought, whether the staff is volunteer, temporary, or permanent, whether the library is tax-supported or still living off Andrew Carnegie's generosity. Likewise, what do we know about the operations of a meat-packing concern, of a bank or insurance company or department store. But these businesses do not need to acquaint the public with their processes, but with their products, by which they keep solvent and accordingly make very sure that we of the public understand well enough. Public libraries, however, depend on taxes and grants, and surely one reason why they are inadequately financed here and elsewhere in Canada is that our efforts at public relations are ineffectual: we have not eliminated wrong conceptions of library work, and to many a sum of \$10,000 is perfectly tremendous to be spent on a public library, despite the C.L.A. recommendation of a minimum \$37,500 annual budget for a community of 25,000...

"Our job is not to try to convince people that reading is wonderful. Most people like to read and learn. There is no need to sell the library idea. Our task is to tell them what library service involves--the costs, the personnel needed, the cultural and recreational objectives that the library is seeking to reach for the community...

"I want to suggest that we begin at once a campaign, national or provincial, aimed at informing our fellow-citizens that more money needs to be spent if we are to provide the type of libraries they want. Let us have a 'Committee to Inform Canadians of What Library Service is All About.' "

College Library Administration

In the May 1955 Wilson Library Bulletin is a group of articles for all library administrators. "Suggestions to First Year College Librarians" by Charles W. Sem-bower (p.708, 717) advises liberal and cooperative ordering, and prompt placing of new books into use; neck-breaking despatch in cooperation with a business manager; use of a library operating manual to keep continuity under a new administrator; assurance to staff that things should progress and operate as under the previous chief; cooperation with the faculty committee; and immediate attention to "bad pennies" or minor but recurring complaints.

"Good Reading is Hard to Find" by Robert D. Harvey (p.710-11) says college library books are not sufficiently available to students to interest them to the point of use. University of Vermont library uses a \$30 collection of paperbound books, added to by faculty and student donations, available without any formality such as charging, and considered expendable. "Improved public relations between student and library resulting from the lack of any restrictions in the use of these books is an important byproduct of the experiment."

P. E. I. News

NEWSPAPER ROOM FOR CHARLOTTETOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY

A 42 by 21 foot newspaper reading room has been laid out in the basement of the Harris Memorial Library in Charlottetown. Extensive newspaper files which have been in basement storage will be placed in twenty steel lockers, and five steel cabinets for oversize material, characteristic of some early Island printing.

The newspaper collection includes such rare items as a complete file of the Prince Edward Island Register, founded in 1823. Other old P.E.I. newspapers are available on microfilm, including the Island of St. John Gazette and Miscellany (1792-1793) and The Islander (1860-1873). A microfilm reader is available.

H. B. Chandler, superintendent of the P. E. I. Libraries, emphasized the wealth of local history to be found in the newspaper files, when he announced the newspaper project. Expense of the service is borne by a special grant from the Legislative Library Committee in 1954. Arrangement of the files will take some time but formal opening of the room is to be made as soon as possible.

"The brightest and most attractive room in the library" has been the comment about the new room.

CAPE BRETON COMMENTS reported by Ruby Wallace

Staff of the Cape Breton Regional Libraries some time ago had some discussion on the effect of television on reading. One of the libraries had been rather hard hit so the following note came in with the monthly circulation report:

Not moocha da book-a biz
Damma da Tele-viz!

Not long ago we were talking over the need for more space for the New Waterford Library with a resident who is an ardent reader. His remark was, "That's no library. You can only squeeze in, grab a book quickly and back out. A library needs to be a place you can miss busses from."

Miss Helen Cummings has left the Cape Breton Regional Library, and joined the Sudbury (Ont.) Public Library as cataloger in June. Her place in Sydney has been taken by Miss Mary Fraser, a Haligonian and no stranger to Maritime librarians. Miss Fraser was formerly in charge of cataloging and processing at the Skidmore College Library.

UNIVERSITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK LIBRARY ISSUES GUIDE LEAFLETS

A mimeographed letter welcoming faculty members for a new academic year, accompanied by a ten-page mimeographed Faculty Guide, was distributed this fall by the U. N. B. Library. A matching Student Guide, punched to fit looseleaf notebooks, was distributed to students. It emphasizes the reference services available, and includes a ten-question "Library Exercise" which involves use of many standard reference works. Copies of the guides are available from A. Robert Rogers, Librarian.

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Nova Scotia Research Foundation, Box 1027, Halifax, has copies for distribution of the Directory of Libraries in Halifax, 1954, and the Union List of Scientific and Technical Periodicals in Libraries of the Maritimes, 1951.

THE COVER: TITUS SMITH'S JOURNAL

The titlepage of a manuscript journal compiled by the "Old Dutch Village Philosopher" forms the cover of this issue of the BULLETIN. Titus Smith, Junior, botanist, land surveyor and classical scholar, made the first systematic description of Nova Scotia flora, and drafted boundaries of what are now busy suburbs of the Halifax area. His journal is in the Nova Scotia Archives.

Born in Granby, Mass., Smith came to Nova Scotia around 1800. His father, a graduate of the New England School of Theology, educated his family himself for there were then no schools in the area of Preston. At 12, Titus was a scholar in Latin and Greek as well as English, and like his father a student of botany.

He became a friend of Joseph Howe and was considered one of Howe's chief aides. As the family removed from Preston to Dutch Village (now Fairview) Smith earned the nickname of "Dutch Village Philosopher". In the 1830's the government, anxious to settle the Halifax area more widely, asked Smith to survey the area, and the journal gives the results of surveys along the southern and eastern shore of Nova Scotia as well as around Halifax.

In 1850 Smith died at the age of 81, and his grave is marked by a monument in a Fairview cemetery long disused and nearly obliterated. (See "Titus Smith, a Pioneer of Plant Ecology in North America" by Eville Gorham, Ecology v.36 no.1, p.116-123, Jan. 1955; and the Halifax Mail-Star, July 21, 1955, p.12)

TENTATIVE PROGRAM FOR THE 1956 M L A CONFERENCE

<u>First Day</u>	A.M.: Business Meeting	<u>Second</u>	A.M.: Recruiting and Publicity
	P.M.: Library Binding	<u>Day</u>	Certification and Accreditation
	Dinner Meeting		P.M.: Specialization and Cooperation among Libraries

