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MLA BULLETIN

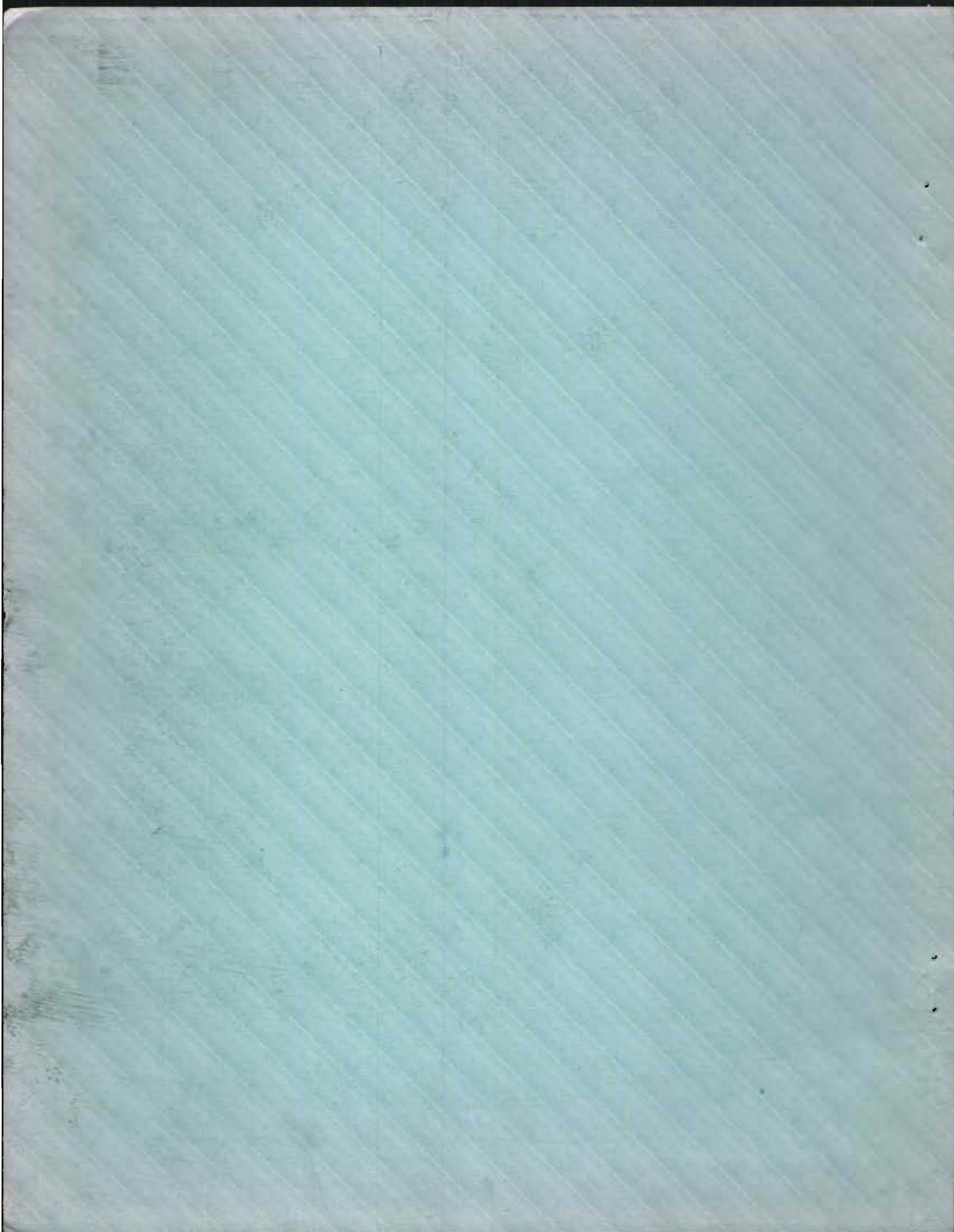
MARITIME LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
VOLUME 22 NUMBER 4 SUMMER 1958

Public Archives of Nova
HALIFAX, N.S.



LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY PROVINCE HOUSE HALIFAX NOVA SCOTIA

Established in 1862 the library occupies the chamber which was originally designed as the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia



M A R I T I M E L I B R A R Y A S S O C I A T I O N

B U L L E T I N

Volume 22

Number 4

Summer 1958

Editor: Miss Evelyn Campbell, Nova Scotia Research Foundation,
P.O. Box 1027, Halifax, N.S.

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Editorial	Special Libraries: Halifax Area
Nova Scotia - 200 years of Representative Government	Rept. of National Research Council
Nominations - MLA	Assoc. Comm. Scientific Information
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In the Spring Issue of the Bulletin we welcomed Don Redmond back to Nova Scotia from Ceylon, in this Summer Number we greet him again but as Editor, a post he will resume with the beginning of Volume 23 of the Bulletin.

"Our revels now have ended" and I wish to thank all my friends in the Association who have joined me in these "revels", by their written contributions, their encouragement and cooperation in other ways.

In this issue we are taking note of the bicentenary of representative government in Nova Scotia, and we are featuring some of the special libraries in the Halifax area.

The next issue of the Bulletin will have a different name, one that is more in keeping with the Atlantic region as it is now organized. However, "plus ça change...."

It is the wish of the Executive of the MLA that we shall all meet at the Annual Conference in St. John's, August 28, 29 of this year.

Thank you once again, and Good Luck, Don!

Evelyn Campbell
Editor

THE LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY OF NOVA SCOTIA

Shirley B. Elliott

Two hundred years ago, on October 2, 1758, "pursuant to a Summons from the Provost Marshall", Canada's first representative parliament, an assembly of 19 elected members, was convened in the newly founded city of Halifax. The building in which these first representatives gathered, the Court House situated on the northeast corner of Argyle and Buckingham Streets, passed out of existence many years ago. This year, on the anniversary of this first meeting, the members of the 46th Assembly of the Nova Scotia Legislature will be called together in the Assembly Chamber of Province House, the state building of classic dignity which since 1819 has witnessed the deliberations of our provincial parliament.

Adjacent to the Assembly Chamber and midway between it and the Red Chamber, at one time the domain of the now defunct Legislative Council, is the Legislative Library. To pass through its doorway is to step into the tranquillity and charm of a gentleman's library of 19th century England. Its high vaulted Palladian window, the graceful hanging stairways leading to the balcony, the intricate wood carving and delicate metal traceries topping the alcoves, the crimson upholstered armchairs and the oil paintings all combine to conjure up an atmosphere far removed from the bustle and noise of traffic passing unceasingly under its windows on Hollis Street. From the time of the completion of Province House in 1819, until 1862, when the Law Courts were erected on Spring Garden Road, this room was the Supreme Court of the province. The Judges' bench stood on the very spot where my desk stands today, and the judges robed in the adjoining room, which is now shared by the Clerk of the House and the Legislative Library. In the 43 years during which the Court held session in this chamber, many dramatic scenes were enacted within its four walls. In 1819, shortly after the building was completed, young Richard Uniacke, the son of the Attorney General, was tried for his life, having shot and killed a man in a duel, but since this was an affair of honour, and those were the days of the code, he was acquitted. Sixteen years later Joseph Howe, then editor of the Novascotian, in pleading his own case against a charge of criminal libel, discovered and revealed that power of eloquence which in later years was to make him Nova Scotia's foremost statesman. Again, in July 1844, six sailors of the barque Saladin, shipwrecked off Country Harbour, Guysborough County, were tried for piracy and murder on the high seas, four of them to be subsequently hanged on the South Common, on the site of the Victoria General Hospital.

When this room was designated a library in 1862, the ceiling, which originally extended two storeys, as in the adjoining two chambers, was lowered to its present height. The various miscellaneous collections of statutes and law books, which had been scattered about the building, were brought together for the first time, with the janitor, a Mr. Venables, appointed as librarian. Since heating was

carried out through a complicated system of stoves and fireplaces, 24 in all in the building, Mr. Venables doubtless served a useful purpose. One of the earliest books to be added to the collection was a slim volume entitled Smoking fires, their cause and cure, beautifully bound in marble boards and half leather, lettered in gilt.

From my observation, it seems that the largest single collection of books had belonged to the Legislative Council, which was then in its heyday. Another sizeable collection consisted of 120 folio volumes, presented to the Province in 1834 by the Duke of Wellington, which we still retain, more or less intact. Many of these are reproductions of the Public Records of Great Britain, for example. The Statutes of the Realm, The Domesday Book, Parliamentary Writs, Proceedings in Chancery, etc. - primary sources today for a student of English political history. Another considerable portion of books came to the Library from the far distant island of Corfu, by way of the Officers' Garrison Library, now the Cambridge Military Library. When, in 1863, the island was ceded to Greece, the British garrison was disbanded and the contents of the officers' library sent to Halifax, to be incorporated into the Garrison Library here. In the course of time, a large number of volumes was presented to the Legislative Library, and their title pages still bear the inscription in long-hand, CORFU GARRISON LIBRARY. The titles are frequently diverting and represent in many cases the best sellers of the early 19th century - a first edition of Byron's Correspondence with his Mother. Sir John Ross's Expedition to the Arctic, Captain Gromow's Reminiscences, and the Waverley Novels. Probably the most valuable acquisition in this collection, however, is the file of Army Lists, beginning with the year 1759, an invaluable reference source in military history and genealogy.

From its inception in 1862, until 1879, when the first Legislative Librarian, J.T. Bulmer, a local lawyer, was appointed, the library consisted mainly of a miscellaneous collection of books and newspapers in sad state of repair. Though in office only two years Bulmer, who acted in the dual role of Legislative Librarian and Secretary of the newly formed Historical Society, by his amazing zeal and industry increased the collection by approximately 23,000 volumes, laying special stress on material of local and historic value. He departed his office under a cloud, however - his endeavours seemed to have kept him more and more frequently away from his seat of office, with the fleshpots of Boston, Ottawa, Quebec City, and Toronto beckoning - in current parlance, he was guilty of running up too large an expense account, and the powers-that-be would have none of it. As a result, he was dismissed in 1882, and Mr. Francis Blake Crofton appointed his successor. Mr. Crofton was an Old Country man, a graduate of Trinity College, Dublin, a scholar and somewhat of a dilettante. He was the author of a study of Thomas Chandler Haliburton, Haliburton, the man and the writer, and some amazing tall tale stories for boys, including The Major's

Big Talk Stories, and The Hairbreadth Escapes of Major Mendax--Paul Bunyan yarns with a British accent. Rumour has it that he was not understood at home - consequently he spent long hours playing Bridge at the nearby Halifax Club, or dozing on a sofa in the ante-chamber. He was a man of intellect and vision, however - during his 24 years of office the library continued to grow, expanding in to the storeroom and attic above.

The minute books of the Library Commission during Crofton's regime make highly diverting reading. For example, on December 7, 1888, it is recorded: "The Librarian presented a letter, reporting reluctantly that his present assistant was slow, and defective in memory, and at times in sight also. He further stated that the assistant seemed too old to be teachable." On May 20, 1903, another problem is presented to the Commission: "The Librarian reported that mice had gnawed the backs or covers of over a dozen books and a cat twice shut up in the Library for the night without effect. He was directed to try tilting traps, and failing these to use poison."

Other topics, such as overdue books, the binding of pamphlets, and the congested state of the Library strike a sympathetic chord today. One is not so responsive to the item recording the concern of Sir Adams G. Archibald with the failure of the public to doff their hats on entering the Library.

When Mr. Crofton retired in 1906, Miss Annie Donohue, who came as his assistant in 1899, was appointed Librarian, a position which she filled until early in 1954. Her ready wit and charming personality won her many friends among the visitors who came to the Library during her term of office, which spanned over half a century. In 1954 the Library, which had previously been administered under a Board of Commissioners appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor, was incorporated into the Provincial Library, under the Department of Education. The Nova Scotia Historical Society collection, which had previously been a part of the Legislative Library collection, was separated and removed to the Archives, a continuing process which is still being carried on, as material buried in storerooms and attic is brought to light. It is a fascinating, and a very dirty job -- an Oak Island treasure hunt à la bibliothécaire, only in this particular case our efforts are well rewarded. The variety of subject matter seems unlimited -- an elephantine folio edition of Hogarth, published in London in 1822; a 15th century Book of Hours, illuminated by hand in colours unbelievably fresh today; a manuscript in Longfellow's handwriting explaining how he came to learn the Evangeline legend; the manuscript of a projected library collection for Halifax, drawn up by a professor at Christchurch College, Oxford, in 1791; a folio of mariners' charts of the 18th century, and every now and then an item of Nova Scotia incunabula, which sends one hastening after Tremaine's Bibliography of Canadian Imprints.

No account of the Legislative Library is complete without reference to what is probably our most valuable item, the manuscript journal of the 1st Assembly of the Legislature, and the three succeeding Assemblies. Within this journal is recorded, from October 2, 1758 to June 17, 1765, the day by day account of the proceedings of the first representative assembly in Canada. Even under present standards, it is an amazingly legible and well constructed record, penned with painstaking care on heavy rag paper of incredible durability, complete with marginal headings and a reasonably adequate index. Until this past year the journal has been in a sad state of repair, encased as it was in its original brown boards, but within recent weeks a skilled Swedish book binder working with a local firm has employed his craftsmanship in repairing the neglect of years. Rebound in royal blue cloth and half calf, with a specially constructed slip case, the manuscript journal will be the one tangible link with 1758 when the commemorative Assembly convenes in Province House on October 2.

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MLA NOMINATIONS

The Nominating Committee submits the following slate of officers for the year 1958-1959:

President: Mr. Douglas Lochhead, Chief Librarian, Dalhousie University, Halifax, N.S.

Past President: Miss Jessie Miffen, Regional Supervisor of Public Libraries in Newfoundland, St. John's, Newfoundland.

Vice-President for N.S. and President Elect: Miss Mary Cameron, Chief Librarian, Halifax Memorial Library, Halifax, N.S.

Vice-President for N.B.: Miss Marian Gardiner, Regional Library Supervisor, Albert-Westmorland-Kent Regional Library, Moncton, N.B.

Vice-President for P.E.I.: Miss Mary Newsom, Legislative and Public Library, Charlottetown, P.E.I.

Vice-President for Nfld.: Miss Elizabeth Jeffers, Librarian, Legislative Library, St. John's, Nfld.

Secretary-Treasurer: Miss C. Isabel Abernethy, Librarian, Glace Bay Public Library, Glace Bay, N.S.

Nominating Committee: Maurice Boone
Jean Gill
Mary Fraser, Chairman

MARITIME LIBRARY ASSOCIATION - ANNUAL CONFERENCE

St. John's, Newfoundland August 28 - 29, 1958

PROGRAMME

- Wednesday, Aug. 27, 8.30 p.m. Preliminary Registration. Book Fair, Newfoundland Hotel
- Thursday, Aug. 28, 9.00 a.m. Registration, Board Room, Dept. of Education
- 9.30 a.m. Business Meeting
 President's remarks
 Discussion and motion to change name of the Association
 Report of Nominating Committee
 Appointment of Resolutions Committee
 Atlantic Provinces Checklist, Report
 Scholarship Committee Report
 Discussion of Annual dues increase
 Public libraries. Young Canada's Book Week. Second hand books.
 Membership renewal in APEC
 Naming of MLA C unseller to ALA
 Bulletin Report
- 11.30 to 12.30 a.m. Address of welcome. Officials of Government and City. Official opening of Book Fair.
- 2.30 p.m. National Library. Rept. by P. Hardesty
- 3.30 p.m. Visits to City libraries
- 4.30 p.m. Tea at Memorial University Library
- 6.15 to 7.15 p.m. Symposium dinner. (Guests of the Nfld. Public Libraries Board.
- 9.30 p.m. Book Fair.
- Friday, Aug. 29, 9.00 a.m. Short report of CLA Certification Committee
 Publicity-Broadcasting
- 9.45 a.m. Workshop Groups - Public libraries, University, and Special.
 Recruitment: Showing the N.S. film "Roads to Reading".
- 11.00 a.m. Addressograph-Bookamatic film and demonstration.
 Book Fair
- 12.30 p.m. Luncheon and speaker-guests of the City of St. John's.
- 2.30 p.m. Business. Resolutions. Turning over to new Executive.
- 3.30 p.m. Visits to Regional Library
 Adjournment of Conference.

CLA CONFERENCE - 1958 - REPORTS

Report No. 1

Anne McCormick

Surrounded by the majesty and grandeur of Quebec, this year's CLA Conference moved at a somewhat more leisurely pace, giving us an opportunity to chat with friends, and to enjoy the excellent food which had a French-Canadian flavour. We braved the elements and took the boat trip, saw Montmorency Falls from the port hole - not too big a view but it was wonderful to thaw out afterwards at the Vendome for dinner.

The Book Fair was specially good this year with more space allotted to the exhibits. Mr. Hammond, the recently appointed editor of Quill and Quire, spoke at the Library-Publishers' luncheon on Monday and mentioned the publication of a list of Canadian books in print. What a blessing!

We were very proud of Alberta as she conducted the first general session on Monday night - and the corsage of red rosebuds from MLA was beautiful. Alberta keynoted the Conference by discussing the general role of libraries in every field of communication. It was an interesting forerunner of the fireworks at the Tuesday session which considered the new pension scheme. But, we do have a pension scheme that will be put into effect.

I am wavering between Roger Lemelin and Pierre Berton as my candidate for the title of most attractive man at the Conference. Mr. Lemelin's chuckles about his own jokes as he told them and his delightful inside glimpses into the problems of a TV writer were infectious. We met Mr. Berton at the panel discussion chaired by Dr. Corbett. That panel was lively - Dr. Corbett had the soft word when Mr. Berton and Marion Gilroy crossed swords - but Mr. Berton's idea of "talking books" and means of meeting space problems left us thinking that there is a point which must soon be reached, where no more new buildings can be built - where no more storage space can be found.

The discussion of the establishment of a public libraries section worries me. I feel very strongly that we should have some meetings which are particularly slanted to problems specific to regional or county systems. I did like the use of the term "public libraries" as all-inclusive of all types of libraries dealing with the public.

The Champlain banquet was delicious and Dr. Bruchesi's comparison of rivalries between Montreal and Quebec was fascinating.

Home was very restful after the babble of many, many voices!

Report No. 2

Edith Clare

The Cataloguing Section was fortunate in having Dr. Andrew Osborn as its speaker at the conference. Dr. Osborn is Associate Librarian at Harvard and a liaison officer of the ALA Catalog Code Revision Committee. He spoke mainly of the great need for an international cataloguing code. To satisfy this need, the Council on Library Resources has granted funds for an international conference on cataloguing rules. It is hoped that this conference may be held in 1960 or 1961. It will test the new approach of Seymour Lubetzky, which Dr. Osborn discussed briefly. Dr. Osborn said that there is a real advantage in various countries having their own codes too. For example, an Indian code would make a contribution to the correct use of their proper names. Speaking of international cooperation in the field of classification, Dr. Osborn said that each country could develop its own history classification more satisfactorily than Dewey has done.

Another development of great interest to cataloguers was described by Dr. Osborn, i.e. cataloguing at the source. This is written up in the Library of Congress Information Bulletin, June 30, 1958 on pages 331-333. "Prepublication cataloguing of books by librarians so that publishers may print cataloguing information in the books themselves. It is hoped that this may save delay in getting books to readers, cut high cataloguing costs, and provide greater standardization in the identification of books generally. Library of Congress has received a grant from the Council on Library Resources to conduct a one-year pilot project of cataloguing at the source, with the cooperation of ALA and a variety of book publishers."

A third item of interest was the cataloguer's camera being developed by the Council on Library Resources. It is to sell for \$200. and will reproduce a complete catalogue card every ten seconds at a cost of 2 cents a card, using a principle similar to xerography.

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Report No. 3

Beryl Anderson

Reference Section Meeting. Miss Martha Shepard of the National Library outlined a proposal for publishing a cumulation of the Canadian Catalogue (1921-1949). Since the entries had already been mounted on 3 x 5 slips and arranged in classed order in the same way as Canadiana entries, French entries being interfiled with English, it would be possible to mount the slips and produce the cumulation by photo-offset. In the interests of putting the cumulation into the hands of Canadian librarians within a reasonable length of time, entries prior to 1926 would be disregarded since they would be covered by Tod and Cordingley's Checklist of Canadian Imprints 1900-1925; only sufficient editing would be done to ensure uniformity of entry; and the cumulation would be arranged by subject with

an author index. This procedure would have the advantage of speed and of uniformity with the Tod-Cordingley list and Canadiana.

In the ensuing discussion Mr. Campbell of Toronto Public Library expressed disagreement with the plan since he felt that an author and title cumulation of the kind now maintained for the Catalogue on cards at Toronto would be preferable. However, Toronto has no specific plans for publication at this time.

Second General Session. The proposed pension scheme, as outlined in the Association's pamphlet, was approved. A pleasant surprise was the announcement of a gift of \$1300. to the Association from a British Columbia donor for a scholarship; terms of the award to be given later.

McGill Library School Alumni Meeting. Miss Gifford's suggestion that the alumni sponsor a scholarship was approved. The scholarship, when established, will be awarded at the discretion of the Director to a student taking the B.L.S. course.

Research Section Meeting. Mr. Campbell of Toronto Public Library announced that Toronto proposed to publish the material now being accumulated on cards in the Hallam Room for use of the business librarians. The published index would cover about 47 selected Canadian business and technical periodicals not now adequately indexed. Libraries interested in receiving such an index should contact the Toronto Public Library.

PERSONAL NOTES

Alberta Letts

D.A. Redmond

Last month in Delhi, India, the temperature soared past 112°, and scores of people died. This was just a news item to most Canadians, but to Alberta Letts it was another small worry. For Alberta, with the CLA Quebec Conference past, is trying to plan what to put into her 20 kilograms of luggage allowance for a year's trip to India.

Miss Letts is leaving for a Colombo Plan assignment as advisor to the Union Government of India on library science training, and on problems of regional library organization for the union and state governments. She will be based at Delhi, but expects to make trips to other parts of India.

The Indian government, which has staggering problems of literacy, education, language, and information on its hands, has for years been aware of the part which libraries can play in adult education. Funds have, of course, been a limiting factor, and trained librarians another. There are now several library schools

in India, and India has produced librarians of stature, the outstanding name being, of course, that of Dr. S.R. Ranganathan. The Madras Library Association, founded by Dr. Ranganathan, has done work having an influence far wider than its city in southeast India. As an example of strong public libraries, the Delhi Public Library was described by UNESCO in 1956, and the report of that name is required reading for all urban librarians, especially those in cities with polyglot or illiterate communities within their scope.

Miss Letts goes to her year's advisory job with rich experience and many misgivings. She should be well enough known to all Maritime librarians to need no summary here, and to all Canadian librarians after her year as President of CLA. Her experience has been in all types of public and regional libraries; she has taught at the University of Toronto Library School, and has been in Nova Scotia since the first regional library was set up in Annapolis County in 1949.

The two chief irritations to Westerners (i.e. all North Americans, and many Europeans) sent to the East are the climate (already mentioned), and the timelessness. The latter is known in Latin America as *mañana* - or what's the hurry? It produces in the efficient Westerner an acute frustration. Alberta is well equipped to survive such situations; her pleasant personality and easy capability, in administration of the Nova Scotia Provincial Library and development of regional libraries in the province, will stand her in good stead. And it has been learned that even as a youngster, she learned to wear the national dress of India - the sari.

Barbara Murray

D.A. Redmond

Miss Barbara Murray joined the staff of the University of New Brunswick on July 1 as chief of circulation services in the Bonar Law-Bennett Library. Miss Murray, a native of Dartmouth, N.S. has left Nova Scotian library circles for the third time. She obtained the B.A. degree from Dalhousie University, and first, after a year on the Dalhousie University library staff, she went to Columbia University for the B.S. degree in library service (1947), and then to the Windsor Public Library for a year. Rejoining the staff of Dalhousie as reference librarian in 1948, she stayed until 1956 when she resigned, and from January 1957 to May 1958 she was Acting Librarian at Nova Scotia Technical College while the Librarian was on his Colombo Plan assignment. Miss Murray did a very capable job of fort-holding in a difficult technical field. U.N.B. may consider itself fortunate to have lured Miss Murray away from her original intention to do further study in library science in the United States this year. We can hope that her family ties in Dartmouth will keep her reasonably close to Nova Scotia.

Mrs. Roberta Wilson Weiner who is holidaying in England this summer will join the staff of the Fredericton Public Library in October as children's librarian. Mrs. Weiner has had a wealth of library experience, including being a member of the first Council of the Canadian Library Association, being visiting lecturer at the University of Toronto Library School for seven years, and being one of three delegates from Canada to the UNESCO Conference on Librarianship, in 1950. From January, 1956 to May, 1958, Mrs. Weiner has been Provincial Children's Librarian at the Central Libraries Services in Fredericton. (Barbara Murray)

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Miss Marilyn Hilton of Fredericton is working temporarily at the Central Library Services.

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Miss Constance Oakley, Head of the Cataloguing Department, Bonar Law-Bennett Library, U.N.B., reports that 32 students (10 of them men) took her course in Library Organization, given at the UNB Summer School. Indications are that enrolment in the library course will double next year. Miss Oakley now is off on a two-month tour of Great Britain and Europe.

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Miss Eileen Wallace gave a course in children's literature to students attending the Teachers' College Summer School at UNB.

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Mrs. Judith Waterson Sund, Beaverbrook Librarian at the Bonar Law-Bennett Library since July, 1954, resigns in September. She has no work plans for the immediate future. Mrs. Sund was largely responsible for the hanging and administration of the display of paintings by Sir Winston Churchill. The exhibition, July 9 - 14, drew almost 9,000 spectators.

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Mr. J. Russell Harper has returned to New Brunswick from Europe, and is temporarily doing research in history at UNB.

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Mr. Laurie Allison, Librarian at Mt. Allison University, and his wife, Betty Cooper Allison, spent the month of June vacationing in England.

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At its semi-annual meeting in July, the York County Council expressed its intention to apply to the Canada Council for funds to operate a bookmobile in the county for five years. Results of the move have not yet been made public.

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Moncton and its suburbs have acquired a bookmobile, and the extension in public library service went into effect in late June.

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New Brunswick was represented at the Quebec CLA Conference by Hope Jarvis, Fredericton Public Library, Eileen Wallace, Teachers' College Library, Maurice Boone, Legislative Library, James MacEachern, Central Library Services, Marian Gardiner, Albert-Westmorland-Kent Regional Library, and D.W.Prescott, newly appointed staff member of the Saint John Free Public Library.

Donald B. Gammon.

SPECIAL LIBRARIES - HALIFAX AREA

Library of Atlantic Regional Laboratory,
National Research Council

Grace Tratt

When the National Research Council of Canada established its Maritime (now Atlantic) Regional Laboratory on the campus of Dalhousie University in 1952, space was allotted for a small basic reference library. The holdings now comprise 1280 books, 2700 volumes of bound periodicals, 189 volumes of periodicals on microcard, and 221 current titles. The books are mainly reference works and advanced texts in restricted fields. Selection of periodicals, especially back files, is influenced by the holdings of other scientific libraries in the area, with the aim of complementing the holdings of these other libraries, and avoiding unnecessary duplication. Book arrangement is Library of Congress; periodicals are shelves separately by title and there is a dictionary catalog of the holdings. Library services are, of course, almost entirely in-building. Interlibrary loan is unrestricted.

The work at the Atlantic Regional Laboratory is now organized in four sections: biology, chemistry, reactions at high temperatures, and engineering. Current library purchases are in these fields. There are small holdings in physics but our periodical purchases in this field were largely discontinued in 1957. There is the problem of space and, when possible, desired back files (especially of early volumes) are obtained on microcards. All purchasing is carried on through the central purchasing office in Ottawa.

The library staff consists of one person who is occupied mostly with the routine tasks necessary to keep the library efficient. The filling of requests through interlibrary loan also looms large for in a library of this size and scope, which serves a clientele engaged exclusively in research, great reliance is placed on loans from other libraries. Many of these are obtained locally and from the Main Library of the National Research Council in Ottawa. The photocopying services of other libraries are thus constantly used. The photocopying done in our own library is strictly an in-building service.

In common with other libraries in the area we report our new holdings to the Nova Scotia Provincial Library for listing in their Union Catalog and for forwarding from there to the National Library. Among the most outstanding items of the library's holdings are all volumes published to date of Gmelin's Handbuch der Anorganischen Chemie, 8th ed. in 54 volumes; Beilstein's Handbuch der Organische Chemie, 4th ed. complete with 1st and 2nd supplements in 80 volumes; Houben-Weyl, Methoden der Organischen Chemie, 4th ed. in 9 volumes; Elderfield, Heterocyclic compounds in 6 volumes; and Tabulae Biologicae in 29 volumes. There are also periodical files which up to the publication of the Union List of

Scientific Serials in Canadian Libraries (National Research Council, Ottawa, 1957) were not listed as being available elsewhere in this area. These include Annales Mycologici, Revue Algologique, Archiv für Protistenkunde and Journal of Marine Research complete, and shorter runs of Protoplasma, Kolloid-Zeitschrift, Justus Liebig's Annalen der Chemie, Zeitschrift für Zellforschung un Mikroskopische Anatomie, Journal of the Association of Official Agricultural Chemists and Recueil des Travaux Chimiques des Pays-Bas. The library also has an unusually complete list of botanical journals and journals associated with the more fundamental aspects of the iron and steel industry.

A library is more than a collection of books. It must be a functioning unit of service to many. Association with a small library attached to a research institution always presents a challenge as new ways are constantly being sought for quicker, and easier access to the ever-increasing output of information.

Naval Research Establishment Library
Defence Research Board

Harold Greer

Naval Research Establishment had its beginning during the early years of World War II. In 1940 a naval research group was established at H.M.C. Dockyard, Halifax, to provide scientific service for the Royal Canadian Navy of the Atlantic Coast. The first work undertaken by this original research group was on protective measures against German acoustic mines. This was followed by other defence studies with emphasis on corrosion reduction on ships. In 1947 Naval Research Establishment became a part of the newly formed Defence Research Board, but it was not until 1952, however, that the Establishment moved across the Harbour to its new location on Grove Street in Dartmouth.

The first librarian was appointed to the staff in 1949, and provided with a librarian assistant. During the past decade the library collection has grown to its present size of approximately 4500 books, 150 periodical subscription titles, and 4000 pamphlets. There is a small collection of microfilms and microcards in the library, and it also has the facilities of a photocopying machine for rapid copying of printed material required by the Establishment. The library collection covers mainly oceanography, mathematics, chemistry, physics, hydraulics, mechanical and electrical engineering, and metallurgy. An example of one of the special subjects of the collection is corrosion. The library receives the current numbers of the periodicals, Corrosion, Corrosion et anticorrosion, Corrosion prevention and control, and Werkstoffe und korrosion; also such reference works as the Bibliographic survey of corrosion published by the National Association of Corrosion Engineers and complete from the year 1945 to date.

Abstracting journals are of much importance in the location and procurement of reports, papers, and other printed data required by the scientific staff. Chemical abstracts, British Non Ferrous Metals Research Association Bulletin, British Shipbuilding Research Association Journal, Electrical engineering abstracts, Physics abstracts, and U.S. Atomic Energy Commission Nuclear science abstracts are used extensively for this purpose. The techniques used for the handling of the printed material received and distributed to the staff are a mixture of the conventional and those of interest to the research library. Books and periodicals are classified and catalogued by the Library of Congress system; while pamphlets (or documents) are filed by source numbers. It is necessary to maintain detailed records for the circulation of the latter and in many cases signatures by recipients are necessary.

Although Naval Research Establishment Library is a special subject type to serve a relatively small clientele, it has one purpose that is common to all libraries. That is to say the broad principles of librarianship are always kept in mind and modified according to the needs of the persons using the facilities of the library. One is always able to experiment with new methods and techniques, and even to resort at times to a trial and error method. The degree of success may be judged from the speed and efficiency with which the librarian can supply the scientist with the references required for his work.

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Library, Technological Station
Fisheries Research Board of Canada

Marjorie McPhail

This library, like most government libraries, was designed primarily for the use of staff members, and all purchases of book-stock are made with their needs in mind. The staff comprises physical, analytical and organic chemists, biochemists, engineers, and bacteriologists. However, the library is now serving other government departments and also outside institutions, since our "special" holdings are on fishes and the fisheries of the world, with particular emphasis on Canada's Atlantic coast.

The library contains journals on fisheries from countries such as Britain, France, Denmark, Germany, Japan, India, Italy, Norway, Spain, South Africa, U.S.A. and recently from the U.S.S.R. Many of these publications, since they might be considered government documents, were not listed in the Union List of Scientific Serials in Canadian Libraries, but a list of periodical holdings is available upon request.

We have almost complete holdings of publications by the larger fisheries technology institutions, viz. U.S. Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, South African Fishing Research Institute (Cape Town), Torry Research Station (Aberdeen), F.A.O. (Fisheries Division) of the United Nations, and Wood's Hole Oceanographic Institution.

Both the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and F.A.O. publish abstracts of articles on all phases of fishery science. These are clipped and filed under subject headings. This year the Biology Branch, Fisheries Division of F.A.O. started to distribute a new publication entitled Current bibliography for fisheries science. They have also prepared in draft form A world periodicals list for fisheries science.

While this Board's biological stations are concerned with living fish, the technological stations are concerned with research on landed fish. This work covers:

Preservation and quality of fresh, frozen and salt fish.
Storage, freezing, transportation.
Fish proteins - the study of the components of fish muscle
By-products: fish flour, liver meal, visceral meal, glue, oils and detergents.

The results of this work are published regularly. Publications appear in the following forms:

Journal of the Fisheries Research Board of Canada. Contains scientific papers on biology, oceanography, and technology.

Annual Report of the work carried out under the direction of the Board.

Bulletins. Contain authoritative accounts of particular subjects either from the technical or popular standpoint.

Atlantic Progress Reports, and Pacific Progress Reports. Consist of brief articles on investigations of the Atlantic and Pacific stations of the Board.

Reprints of papers written for journals other than the Board, are collected and bound each year in a volume entitled Studies Series.

Each of the Board's Stations publishes its own series of Circulars. These are on various practical subjects. The latest from this Station is A selected bibliography of salt cod, compiled by the librarian.

Titles of all circulars of the Board have been indexed and published as Circular No. 47, Biological Sta., Nanaimo. Bulletin 110 is Index and List of Titles, Publications of the Fisheries Research Board of Canada, 1901-1954. These are available through the Secretary, Fisheries Research Board of Canada, Ottawa.

Fisheries scientists and technologists from many countries use our library facilities and it is always a great pleasure to meet and know them. One cannot help but feel that through the mutual need and understanding of scientists, the way to world peace may be found.

Medical-Dental Library
Dalhousie University

Charlotte Allan

Medical and dental school libraries serve the faculty and students of the teaching centre of which they are a part, the staff of the associated hospitals, doctors and dentists of the community, and those practising in other localities. The library must be geared to meet the varied needs of this public.

In addition to giving instruction in the use of the library, the librarian spends a considerable portion of her time in scanning the literature for articles of current interest, and searching for information on specific subjects.

At Dalhousie Medical-Dental Library we keep a card index of articles of current interest. For example we index under subject articles dealing with the uses of new drugs. As the drugs are often mentioned in the literature under different trade names, we cross-index under these names also. This index helps to fill the gap between the publication of the article, and its listing in the periodical indexes.

We also keep a card index of references compiled on special subjects. We record the name of the person requiring the information and the date. We are quite often required to do the "literature searching" for follow-up studies, and find this file a convenient starting point.

Our cataloguing problems are similar to those in a general library. We attempt to have subject entries for all types of material in the library. Many of our pamphlets and reprints are not fully catalogued. We have filed a card for each subject reading "Library has also pamphlet and reprint material on this subject." A note is added giving the location of the material - pamphlet box, vertical file, etc. The collection is weeded at intervals and articles of transient interest are discarded. At that time the relevant subject cards are removed from the catalogue. Pamphlets and reprints which seem likely to be of permanent interest are fully catalogued.

We keep a subject heading authority list based on lists published by the National Library of Medicine and the American Dental Association. We check the headings used in the Quarterly Cumulative Index Medicus, the Current List of Medical Literature and the Index to Dental Literature, and note changes and revisions on our list.

In common with all libraries we have our problems of over-due loans, and missing numbers of unbound journals. Our clerical staff spends a great deal of time in writing over-due cards and making phone calls in an attempt to restore the material to the collection. We have not arrived at a satisfactory solution to this problem.

In regard to missing numbers of unbound journals, we find the

checklists of the Medical Library Association Exchange of great assistance in filling gaps in our files.

Health Laboratories. In connection with this reference work we have had occasion to acquaint the borrower with interlibrary loan services. We have found that our borrowers have been most appreciative of the services rendered by the co-operating libraries.

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Nova Scotia Research Foundation Library

Evelyn Campbell

The Nova Scotia Research Foundation, a recommendation of the Dawson Commission - Royal Commission on Provincial Development and Rehabilitation, 1944-45, was established in 1947. Its purpose was to sponsor basic research and to help industry with research problems that could not be economically solved by small businesses.

The following year the Foundation, by Order-in-Council, took over the Provincial Science Library. The basic collection of this library was that of the Nova Scotian Institute of Science, a scientific society founded in 1862. This library consisted of the journals, proceedings and transactions of scientific societies from almost every country in the world.

The Foundation Library was formally opened in April 1949, to provide scientific and technical information for the Foundation's staff and research workers, government departments, other libraries, and the general public. To the nucleus of the collection of the Institute, were added reference works on science and technology and books on general science, physics and chemistry, spectrochemical analysis, fuel, technical processes, refrigeration and preservation of foods, aerial photography and mapping, geophysics, marine biology and certain aspects of oceanography, and other specialized subjects.

About 200 journals come monthly to the Foundation. A certain proportion of these is checked for references of interest to the research workers and to certain others in allied government departments. These references are put on subject and author cards and kept in special card files, subject cards being filed by date. Periodically, subject bibliographies are sent out to the research staff who select and request those references of interest to them. These are obtained either from the library's collection or through interlibrary loans.

The library has a photoduplication department and sends out most of the references in photostat form. A special card is used on which appears the complete reference with the name of the library from which the journal has been borrowed. This card is photostated on one of the pages of the article, so that the borrower has a record. The card is then filed in a classified

file in the library. The library does not restrict its photostat and reference services to its staff, but cooperates with other libraries in the Atlantic area.

The Technical Information Service, a division of the National Research Council of Canada, has its Nova Scotia headquarters with the Research Foundation and the library provides information for it as well as assistance in the setting-up of a subject file.

Since so much important work has been done abroad on subjects of interest to the Foundation, translations have been made for our research workers and in some instances for other libraries. A file of these is kept in the library and a copy of each translation is sent to the Special Libraries Association Translations Pool located in the John Crerar Library in Chicago. A card listing the translation is sent to the National Research Council at Ottawa for inclusion in their Canadian Translation Index.

In addition to assisting in the preparation of certain of the publications of the Foundation, the library issues at intervals A Selected Bibliography on Seaweeds, no. 4 of which is now ready for distribution. This includes references not only on the utilization of seaweeds, but also on the biology, physics and chemistry of algae and other aspects of algal research.

This is, of course, in addition to the regular work that goes on in a library, of which no description need be given to librarians. While circulation of books is not so large as in a public library, a number of people come fairly regularly to the library to consult the Library of Congress catalogue, to search for information in the indexes, the Canadian Patent Office Record, or in the Dominion Bureau of Statistics files, to obtain some special information, or just to borrow books or periodicals.

The library is equipped to do in a somewhat smaller way, for the Atlantic area, what the National Research Council does for Canada. At a time when more scientific information is required and when research in various fields is expanding, it is hoped that the Research Foundation library can parallel these developments and provide increasing aid to other libraries.

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NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

Associate Committee on Scientific Information

The Associate Committee on Scientific Information of the National Research Council, held its first meeting on June 12 - 13, 1958. The Committee is concerned with all aspects of the collection, organization, and dissemination of scientific information. The emphasis is on information for scientists rather than for the public. Among other things, the Committee discussed:

1. The functions of a national science library.
2. The availability of foreign scientific literature.
3. The operation of scientific liaison offices.
4. The operation of a technical information service for industry.
5. The availability of unclassified reports sponsored by military or other government agencies.
6. Canadian participation in international meetings on scientific information.
7. Abstracting and related services.
8. Research in the field of scientific information

There are 18 members on this Committee of whom five are librarians. Two of the librarians are from the Atlantic region, and Mr. Douglas Lochhead, a member of the Committee will report on the first meeting at the Conference in St. John's, August 27, 28. This report will be published in the Fall Bulletin.

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RUSSIAN JOURNALS IN TRANSLATION

Subscribed to by Special Libraries in Halifax

Atlantic Regional Laboratory - National Research Council

Microbiology

Plant Physiology

Biochemistry Section-Proc. of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR

Botanical Sciences Section - ditto

Naval Research Establishment - Dept. of National Defence

Soviet Physics - Technical physics

Acoustics

Chemistry Series - Proc. of the Academy of the USSR

Technological Station - Fisheries Research Board of Canada

Biochemistry. (Biokhimiya) v.22, 1957-. Academy of Sciences of USSR.

Colloid Journal (Kolloidnyi Zhurnal). Journal of Theoretical and

Applied Physics and the Chemistry of Colloids. v.19, 1957-

Academy of Sciences of USSR.

Nova Scotia Technical College

Applied Physics Section-Proc. of the Academy of Sciences of USSR

(Reports on Biophysics, crystallography, electrotechnics, hydraulics, hydromechanics, mechanics, mineralogy, theory of elasticity).

Nova Scotia Research Foundation

Geophysical Series - Bull. Academy of Sciences of USSR

Chemistry Technology Series - Proc. Academy of Sciences of USSR

Agrochemistry Series.

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Geochemistry Series.

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PRINCE EDWARD ISLANDIANA - 1955 '56 '57

Jean C. Gill

- Blanchard, J. Henri
Acadiens de L'île - du Prince - Edouard. n.p., L'imprimerie.
Acadienne Ltée. 1956, 143 p. illus.
- Bonnell, John Sutherland
Heaven and Hell; a present day Christian interpretation. N.Y.
Abingdon, [c1956]. 62 p.
- Croteau, John T.
The Acadian grain banks of Prince Edward Island. [Baltimore,
Agricultural History Society, 1955, 4 p. (Reprinted from
Agricultural History, July 1955).
- Harvey, D.C. ed.
Journeys to the Island of St. John or Prince Edward Island,
1775 - 1832. Tor. Macmillan, 1955. 213p.
- Lea, R. Gordon
A new educational era begins for Charlottetown. Tor. n.p., 1956.
35-40 p. (Excerpt from School Progress, Feb.-Mar. 1956).
- Macqueen, Malcolm A.
Hebridean pioneers. Winnipeg, Henderson Directories Ltd., 1957.
104 p. front.
- Prince Edward Island. Historical Society.
Folklore of Prince Edward Island. [Charlottetown, The society,
1955, 69 p.
- Prince Edward Island. Historical Society.
Historic highlights of Prince Edward Island. [Charlottetown,
The society, 1955, 127 p.
- Prince Edward Island. Historical Society.
Historic sidelights - Prince Edward Island. [Charlottetown, The
Society, 1956, 98 p.
- Prince Edward Island. Travel Bureau.
Come to Prince Edward Island, Canada. [n.p., n.d., unp. illus.
- Prince Edward Island. Travel Bureau.
Prince Edward Island, Birthplace of Canadian Confederation.
[Ottawa, Canadian Geographical Society, 4th. ed. 1957, 30 p.
illus.
- Prince Edward Island. Travel Bureau.
Touring Prince Edward Island, Canada's garden province, your
guide to places of interest, - scenic and historic. [Charlotte-
town, The bureau, n.d., 51 p.
- Ridley, Hilda M.
The story of L.M. Montgomery. Tor. Ryerson, [c1956, 137 p. illus.

LIBRARY LITERATURE NOTES

Barbara Murray

The Western Editor of Charm Magazine, Marjorie Lenz, gives tips on what to wear at the San Francisco ALA Conference in July. She calls her article "Style in a Suitcase". The wardrobe she suggests might easily be adapted to St. John's, Newfoundland for the MLA Conference. She covers the ladies from top to toe. For the gentlemen there is nothing. (Library Journal, v. 18, no. 12, p. 1858-60, June 15, 1958).

The Depository Corporation of Grandview, Missouri, had an exhibit at the ALA Conference that showed what can be provided for people who can only return books to a library after it is closed. This standard model 1112SD "Depository" unit consists of three basic sections: Front frame with engraved words "Book Depository"; "Fish proof" Deposit hopper and Door; housing with baffle fingers and stainless steel chute. It can be installed in a wall or door and adapted for other special applications. (ALA Bulletin, v. 52, no. 6, p. 463, June, 1958).

An American librarian visiting Canada was unprepared to find that it was impossible for some Canadians to communicate with other Canadians because of a difference in language. Alice M. Dugas took her first journey outside of the United States in 1939 and in Quebec encountered Alberta tourists who were unable to get directions from the natives because they understood no French. "So it wasn't physical distance that kept people apart...nor yet could a common national government bring them together; it was something that went deeper, culture - one manifestation of which was language". (Wilson library bulletin, v. 32, no.10, p. 702, June, 1958).

A new post created by the New York Public Library is that of children's specialist in the Library for the Blind. The appointee becomes the first children's librarian in any North American public library assigned to work with sightless boys and girls. In addition to providing expert reading guidance to blind children and their parents and encouraging use of the library's resources, the librarian is making a survey of existing library facilities for her group and she is determining and developing standards of satisfactory service. The results will be published. The Library for the Blind in New York was established in 1895 and integrated into the New York Public Library system in 1903. When the Library of Congress began to produce books for young blind readers in 1952, the service to children by the Library for the Blind began. (Library of Congress Information Bulletin, July 7, 1958).

Robert L. Collison, Reference Librarian, City of Westminster Public Libraries, London, writes "On being a librarian". Mr. Collison explains that the library profession is the smallest of

all the professions (with the exception of museum keepers) and because he is occupied with day to day routines, the librarian lacks the frequent contacts with other members of his profession, contacts which members of other branches of social work enjoy. The literature of librarianship is too much concerned with techniques and gadgets and not enough with fundamental and basic concepts. "If the librarian is to serve his community faithfully and well he must keep in constant contact with all its activities - industrial and commercial as well as cultural - and with its aspirations. He must be prepared to serve on many committees in his spare time and to help with other outside projects whenever and wherever he can be of practical assistance." (UNESCO bulletin for libraries, v.12, no. 7, p. 153-5, July, 1958).

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I LEARNED ABOUT REGIONAL LIBRARIES THE PLEASANT VALLEY WAY

M.A. Mowat

When Elizabeth's letter reached me on one of Cleveland's gray January days, the offer of First Assistantship at the Ventura County California library was irresistible and immediately resigning from my East Cleveland position, I wrote to say we would arrive early in February.

Elizabeth Topping had been in the same boarding house during my senior year at New York State and we had become good friends. She invited Mother and me to stay with her until we could look around. We were very glad to have a shelter for the day of our arrival coincided with the beginning of the Rainy Season.

For the first few months, while the rains kept us indoors, I was only working on letters and lists to guide me in book selection. Then when the brief, magical California spring arrived Elizabeth taught me to drive her little Ford, we packed Lizzie full of the latest requests and started on a tour of the County.

Fillmore County was one of our first stops. Here, for the first time, I noticed the painful efforts made towards the desegregation of Mexicans and Americans. The Mexican children were very shy and quiet, and seemed retarded because they had so little English. Elizabeth, as was her custom, heard some recitations and then took the floor to tell a story suitable to the grade. Afterwards we talked to the teachers where we found out what their pupils liked, suggested some new titles and left for the next library stop.

Oxnard was just a single whitewashed room that sat in the midst of miles of great sand-dunes. These are the same sand-dunes that are used for Movie Deserts and Army training manoeuvres. It was a grim spot with a tired teacher and a handful of listless children. Then we began to talk books. The teacher dismissed the children

and poked into our treasure chest. Tiredness and boredom were forgotten. It was both inspiring and pathetic, but we couldn't linger for there were so many places to visit.

Later we left the sea-coast and climbed up into the Yerba Buena Hills. We drove Lizzie as far as she could go, picked up a couple of horses and had saddle bags strapped on. When I viewed the horses from the ground, they had seemed the usual size but once upon my beast's back, he seemed to grow ten feet under me. I was in constant terror that he would decide to jump the fences rather than wait for the bars to be removed and I felt sure that we would part company suddenly and painfully. We had been told that there was a nearby forest fire and warned to watch the wind in case it changed and we became trapped. We could smell smoke and see a haziness toward the east, so we kept a sharp lookout. After several hours of riding we came to just another little house but here the householder was a teacher and to his family of five he added the few neighbor children for lessons each day. He had a neglected little farm but everyone was fat and healthy. We shared a homey meal with this family where we retired sleepily to the noises of the farmyard.

After we rode back to our car we drove to a cross-roads before turning into the hills around Pleasant Valley. Our destination was an old ghost mine. The roads were narrow and rough and at times they were just trails through the grassy plains or the hollows of dried-up river beds. Lizzie turned and squirmed, panted and hissed. We had gained real altitude where noon drowsed burning hot, where rattlers coiled quiescent, but where night-time would ice over the streams beneath myriad, distant stars.

In Pleasant Valley the young people were taking up homesteads. They were building their simple homes, working at their irrigation schemes, shooting snakes and coyotes. Some whom we met would never have time to read a book; to others we appeared as manna from Heaven. This day ended around supper-time at the Mine. The Caretaker was away but his assistant who was a war veteran assigned us rooms. When he heard that we could ride, he suggested a trip by horseback to the Lookout the following day. This was one of our Stations and it seemed a good idea to make a picnic out of our trip.

It was a perfect day and from the forest lookout we could see the whole country-side for miles around. We planned to leave the next morning but our host had another suggestion. He wanted a big picnic at his homestead where we could have a really informal get-together with the Valley folk.

When we drove over around noon we found that a regular feast had been spread on a makeshift table. I had my first fried rabbit fried southern style. This was the chicken of that region.

We had reached our outermost point and from here we were homeward bound by the shortest possible route. This was down the famous Ridge Route, a scenic highway that connects Bakersfield with Fillmore. In great sweeping curves, the wide paved road ran steeply down the thousands of feet to sea-level. A moment's inattention or a brake failure, and Lizzie would be somersaulting down a thousand-foot mountainside. As we proceeded downward, the thin mountain air changed to the soft haze from the ocean. It was dark when we reached Fillmore, so we stayed overnight with friends where we related some of our experiences and dreamed by the olive-root fire before staggering off to bed.

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Editor's note

Mrs. Mowat worked as first assistant Ventura County Libraries in the 1920's. The County Libraries are the predecessors of the present regional library systems. Mrs. Mowat is now a member of the Cataloguing Department of the University of New Brunswick.

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