

# MLA BULLETIN

MARITIME LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
VOLUME 21 NUMBER 3 SPRING 1957



## PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, FREDERICTON, N. B.

Construction begun 1880 - The House of Assembly first met in this Building 1882 - Contains Legislative Assembly Chamber, Offices of the Lieutenant Governor and Assistant, Queen's Printer, Supreme Court and Law Library, and Legislative Library.

Replaced former Building of 1802, which was burned Feb. 25, 1880.

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Volume 21, Number 3

Spring 1957

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

The BULLETIN is published quarterly by the Association and is free to members. Membership fee: To individuals - \$1 a year; Institutions - \$2. Please address communications on membership to Miss C. I. Abernethy, Sec. Treas., Glace Bay Public Library, Glace Bay, N.S.

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Cape Breton welcomes the members of the Maritime Library Association for its annual conference to be held at the Isle Royale Hotel in Sydney on May 24 and 25. Every effort is being made to interest Mr. Weatherman to provide the Association with sunshine, but if it should be with rain, at least the spirit of the welcome will not be dampened.

The program planned by the Executive is indicative of the growth of our Association. Topics to be discussed range from those affecting the welfare of our Atlantic Provinces to special problems being discussed currently by other library associations across Canada and the United States. In fact, some topics whet the appetite for discussion and if, as Isaak Walton says "Good company and good discourse are the very sinew of virtue", then the members should feel virtuous after this conference. Complaints have been voiced in some library periodicals that books are seldom mentioned at library conferences. Such criticism seems to be refuted in this program. In addition to discussions planned around books, the dinner speaker Dr. G. G. Campbell is a well-known Nova Scotian author, scholar and educationist who is keenly interested in libraries.

As many members visited libraries in Cape Breton when the Association held its meetings in the area in 1953, a tour is not being planned at this time. However, visitors will be most welcome in each library, including branches of Cape Breton Regional Library, Xavier Junior College Library, Holy Angels' Parish Library, Holy Redeemer Library, and Baddeck Public Library.

It is hoped as many as possible will prolong their visit to tour the areas in which the libraries are situated, or to spend the week end seeing the splendours of the Cabot Trail.

Cape Breton Regional Library Board is taking an active interest in the conference and members and their wives will be on hand to extend their "CENT MILE FAUTE!"

Ruby Wallace, Director  
Cape Breton Regional Libraries

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.... OF INTEREST ....

SHOULD YOU BE A LIBRARIAN? - This is one of a continuing series of articles on career opportunities for young men and women sponsored by the NEW YORK INSURANCE COMPANY, which appeared recently in several leading magazines.

This article has been issued in pamphlet form and is available from the New York Insurance Company, 51 Madison Avenue, Dept. 24-5, New York City 10, for a very nominal fee.

The Maritime Library Association wishes to express its appreciation to THE NEW YORK INSURANCE COMPANY for its gift of 200 of these pamphlets for distribution at the MLA Conference.

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UNION LIST OF PERIODICALS IN THE LIBRARIES OF THE CANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE LABORATORIES AT FREDERICTON, N.B. - Mrs. Elizabeth Hagmeier writes that this list that she has prepared is primarily for the use of the personnel of the Department of Agriculture laboratories in Fredericton but may be of interest to other libraries in the Maritimes. For the most part the periodicals are in the fields of biology, forestry, horticulture and agriculture. Copies are available and can be obtained by writing to the Regional Librarian, Regional Library, Forest Biology Laboratory, College Hill, Fredericton, N.B.

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NEWFOUNDLAND REGIONAL LIBRARIES NEWSLETTER - Edited by Jessie B. Mifflin.

This interesting publication has been coming to our desk this year. Congratulations Jessie! and thank you!

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GROUND - A literary magazine, published in Halifax, N.S. Price 35¢ or subscription for three issues \$1.00. All communications should be addressed to GROUND MAGAZINE, 423 South St., Halifax, N.S.

MICROFILM VIEWER - "... A small microfilm viewer solves the problem of reading short lengths of 35 mm microfilm. Made of bakelite, it has an eye-piece which gives about 10 magnifications and is sufficient for reading microfilms of high reduction ratios. A dark shield permits reading with either eye. Microfilms may be read in any comfortable position. No appreciable eye strain is caused after long periods of use. The eye-piece may be adjusted according to individual requirements. No advertising has been possible because of the low cost. It is being distributed without profit at a price of \$2.00. Orders may be sent to Dr. Atherton Seidell, 2301 Connecticut Avenue, Washington 8, D.C." (Reprinted from SPECIAL LIBRARIES, March 1957)

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FIRE AT NEW GLASGOW - REGIONAL LIBRARY HEADQUARTERS DESTROYED

Miss Gladys Black reports that early in the morning of Sunday, March 3rd, the Town Hall of New Glasgow was destroyed by fire. The headquarters offices of the Pictou County Regional Library, with its New Glasgow Branch, both located on the ground floor of the building, suffered heavily, mainly from water, which, when the fire was over, lay inches deep on the floor of the offices. Firemen rescued the Bookmobile with its contents, and the catalogues and important records were carried to safety, but much of the furniture was damaged and the book stocks - headquarters reserve and New Glasgow branch stock - were a total loss.

The staff managed to salvage most of the book cards from the sodden wrecks of the books, and these, sent to the Provincial Library headquarters in Halifax, enabled the cataloguing staff there to evaluate the loss and provide figures for the insurance appraisers. The canny Scots of Pictou County had not neglected to take out adequate insurance, so, though it will be difficult if not impossible to replace some of the volumes on early

Pictou history and other rare items, Mr. McDougall will be able to purchase a fair percentage of titles to replace the 5800 volumes lost. With these and gifts generously offered by the Halifax Memorial Library and others, Pictou County Regional Library hopes soon to re-open its New Glasgow Branch.

The headquarters work in the meantime is being carried on in the McDougall home, where Mrs. McDougall is keeping her family on an even keel among filing cabinets, desks, stacks of books, and all the other paraphernalia of a library office and workshop. We have always known that Stan had a wonderful wife, but we wonder what effect this intrusion will have on the young McDougalls' choice of profession.

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UNION LIST OF SCIENTIFIC SERIALS IN CANADIAN LIBRARIES - National Research Council, Ottawa, 1957. (NRC No. 4200). Price \$25.00.

This is one of the greatest contributions to library reference work that has been made in the history of Canadian library development, and we wish to congratulate Mrs. Marjory Meleghy on a magnificent piece of work.

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PROFESSIONAL LIBRARIANS' GROUP

James F. MacEacheron

On the program of the Conference this year, there will be a discussion concerning the idea of forming a professional librarians' group. Miss Diane Arnison, Librarian of the Naval Research Establishment, Halifax, will give a short introduction to the discussion.

The idea was suggested by the Librarians' Committee of CLA for discussion at our Conference. The suggestion came at a relatively late date since the program had been fairly well settled last October. Nonetheless, members of the Executive felt that, if possible, it should be included.

The formation of such a group by one provincial association seems possible, if not probable, this year. There is also the fact that the Librarians' Committee of CLA has recommended that the national association "study the advisability of forming a professional librarians' section ..."

Mention of these facts is made only to indicate an apparent march of events and to point out a possible new trend in library association organization. It is with this "march of events" and this "new trend" in mind that the attention of MLA members is drawn to such articles as have appeared in March, 1957, issue of Feliciter.

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The following article is contributed by Mrs. G. Margaret Brunette, Supervisor of Extension Work for the Vancouver Public Library. Excerpts from it have appeared in Feliciter.

THE STATUS OF THE PROFESSIONAL LIBRARIAN - MUST IT BE EARNED?

The Council of the Canadian Library Association in 1956 established a new committee, called The Librarians' Committee, on a one year basis. Under its terms of reference it was to examine the specific needs and responsibilities of professionally trained librarians and to relate these to CLA, bearing in mind the desirability of raising the status of the profession of librarianship. WHY THIS NEW COMMITTEE NOW?

This year, as we are well aware, the Canadian Library Association is to consider at its annual conference a library's resources. Central among these are the librarians. We read in a recent Feliciter: "The heart of any library program good, bad, or indifferent, small or large, is the professional librarian. Do we need to clarify our conceptions of a librarian?...Should we be working on desirable standards in education and performance, and the means of achieving these?...In referring to standards, it is not merely higher standards of professional techniques that is meant, but a re-thinking and reformulation of the objectives of professional work."<sup>2</sup>

Librarians, in company with a variety of other groups that includes teachers, advertisers and dancers, to name only a few, are increasingly appropriating the term professional to describe their occupations. Is ours a careless use of the word? Mr. J. M. Cory<sup>3</sup> in the March 1955 issue

of the ALA Bulletin discusses the questions prospective librarians ask, such as: "Is there a profession of librarianship? What are the professional aspects of the work that justify all the training? When will I be able to concentrate on professional rather than non-professional tasks?" His final question is, he admits, rarely asked: "What can I do to maintain and improve the standards of library work?" If the discussion at Victoria is to get to central issues we will have to give these and like topics long thought. Furthermore, because the legal and financial basis for library service is largely a provincial concern, these questions are surely a responsibility of our provincial associations also.

It may help our thinking if we identify those few characteristics shared by all the established professions. The core professions, medicine, law, theology, are all characterized by disciplines based upon principles rather than rule of thumb procedure or simple routine skills. This distinction is clearly made by Socrates in a discourse on cooking and medicine: "...cookery in my opinion is only an experience and not an art at all, ...whereas medicine is an art and has principles of action and reasons in each case; cookery...works by experience and routine and just preserves the recollection of what she has usually done when producing pleasure."

A second characteristic of professions is a code of ethics. The purpose of the code is highly practical. These professions recognize that knowledge and specialized skills are not enough. Because of the essential nature of the services which their groups perform for society they assume responsibility for guaranteeing to the public the individual practitioner's high sense of obligation to give only the best service. We librarians perform an equally essential service; we also have a code of ethics. How often do we refer to our code?

Are we in our libraries and library schools giving sufficient emphasis to professional attitude? In this February's Wilson Bulletin there is a stinging article entitled The Heart of the Matter. The writer rejects the pedant in our group WITH HIS FAILURE OF VISION AND LIMITED SENSE OF SERVICE. She rejects the intellectually lazy and those of formal competence who remain unaffected by the explosive ideas which are their stock-in-trade. She calls for basic rethinking on the program of our library schools. To my mind this article overstates, but its emphasis renders a service. Are attitude and competence two aspects of the heart of the matter?

The established professions, then, are characterized by a special kind of knowledge, by emphasis on ethics and the individual's obligation to give quality service. A third characteristic is the guarantee by their associations of the competence and integrity of their members. These professional associations, without exception, I believe, are restricted to those who have the qualifications for practising the profession. The association in each case is assigned responsibility by society for setting standards which are then recognized legally. The association assesses the institutions assigned the training of its personnel. Then, recognizing that competence can only be acquired when education and training are reinforced by experience, it is prepared to test competency and is authorized to enforce its standards.

At Victoria we will consider those activities and plans CLA has under way to further our needs as a profession. What justification is there for the claim that our provincial and national associations are giving due attention to legislative and administrative needs of library

service but insufficient attention to the problem of establishing recognized standards for librarianship? Can our problems be worked out within the framework of our present organizations? It is important to realize that our library organizations are startlingly different from the professional associations of medicine, law or engineering.

Certain groups within our associations have already given much thought to particular aspects of our topic. In its choice of convention emphasis, and in its action in setting up the Librarians' Committee, the Council of CLA was undoubtedly influenced by a request made by the 1956 Committee on Salaries and Personnel, Public Libraries Group. This committee, as a result of disquieting facts brought out by their questionnaire, asked that a committee be appointed by CLA to study the advisability of forming a professional librarians' section within CLA, this section to deal with the requirements of professional competence and other related matters of direct concern to the professional librarian.

The idea of a separate section for professional librarians is already under consideration in the Ontario Library Association. A special committee has been studying the suggestion for three years. In 1956 the committee went on record as unanimously in favour of some form of separate organization for librarians. OLA instructed this year's committee to draw up a suggested constitution for a Professional Section of OLA, to be presented for consideration at this year's conference.

Meanwhile, and independently, the B. C. Library Association had a committee investigating the resolution that persons holding professional positions in B.C. after one year's employment must become members of BCLA. The committee after two years' study did not recommend concurrence in the resolution. Automatic membership, it felt, would be relevant only in an association of professional librarians. BCLA was a library association which was, the committee contended, quite a different organization though an essential one. This unexpected development brought very lively discussion and sharp difference of opinion. No action was taken, but the Executive was instructed to consider the matter further. A Special Activities Committee, charged with reassessment of BCLA's aims, activities, financial structure and relationship with other organizations, is to report to a special session during BCLA's annual conference this coming May.

There is always need for periodic reassessment and healthy skepticism. Maturing takes time and effort. It is often far from comfortable. Are we in our staff groups and associations taking full advantage of such stimulating books as the anthology entitled Books - Libraries - Librarians and using them as a basis for discussion? They can bring a new awareness and a new perspective.

#### References:

1. Marshall, J.D., comp. Books, libraries, librarians; contributions to library literature. Shoe String Press, 1955.
2. Sing, Marjorie. A Survey, maybe, but of what type? (In Feliciter, v.2, March 1957, p.10)
3. Cory, John Mackenzie. The Undetermined profession. (In AIA Bulletin, v.49, March 1955)
4. Plato. Gorgias; a dialogue.
5. Paylore, Patricia. The Heart of the matter. (In Wilson Library Bulletin, v.31, February 1957, p.455-458)

## MARITIME LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Isle Royale Hotel

Sydney, N.S.

May 24, 25, 1957

Thursday, May 23

7.00 - 9.00 P.M.

## Registration

Sydney Public Library. Those who are in Sydney on Thursday evening are asked to register at this time.

Friday, May 24

9.00 - 9.15

## Registration

9.15 - 10.00

## Introduction

Business Items: Minutes: Secretary

Report: Treasurer

Report: Bindery Committee

Appointment of Resolutions Committee

10.00 - 11.00

Discussion Break

The meeting will break into groups according to interests, i.e., univ. special, public, children's & others. This will be an opportunity to discuss informally with one's colleagues elsewhere, points brought up in provincial reports which appear in this BULLETIN.

11.00 - 12.30

Topic: Atlantic Provinces Economic Council and the Maritime Library Association

A speaker from APEC will outline the role and the needs of the Council. A discussion will follow. This topic arises from the motion at last year's Conference that we attempt to discover the common interests of the two organizations.

2.00 - 2.45

Business Items

Report: MIA Bulletin

Membership in APEC

MIA as a Chapter member of

ALA



2.45 - 4.30 P. M.

Panel Discussion

Topic: BOOKS-BOUQUETS AND BEEFS  
 Chairman: Miss M. E. Cameron

A brief outline of this topic will be  
 found on another page of the BULLETIN

7.00 P. M.

Conference Banquet

Speaker: Dr. G. G. Campbell, Principal  
 of Sydney Academy. Subject: Cape Breton  
 Place Names.

Saturday, May 25

9.00 - 10.00 A.M.

Business Items

Report: Nominations' Committee  
 Discussion: Formation of a professional  
 Librarians' group.

The discussion of a professional group  
 has been suggested by the Librarians'  
 Committee of CLA. Article in BULLETIN

10.15 - 11.30

Panel Discussion

Topic: A Recruitment Program for MLA  
 Chairman: Sister Frances Dolores  
 Film: THE LIBRARIAN

Brief outline of topic in BULLETIN

12.30 P.M.

Luncheon: Guests of Cape Breton Regional  
Library Board

2.30 - 4.00 P.M.

Panel Discussion : Second-hand books  
 Chairman: Mr. H. W. Ganong-Outline in BULLETIN

4.00 - 4.30

Resolutions  
 New Executive  
 Adjournment

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Note: The Banquet this year will be the Association's own endeavour. The  
 charge for the banquet will be collected when the members register.

M L A Nominations 1957 - 1958

The Nominating Committee submits the following slate of officers for the year 1957 - 1958:

<u>President:</u>	Miss Jessie Miffen, Supervisor of Regional Libraries, Gosling Memorial Library, St. John's, Newfoundland
<u>Past President:</u>	Mr. James F. MacEacheron, Director, Central Library Services, Fredericton, N.B.
<u>Vice-Pres. for N.S. and President Elect:</u>	Mr. Douglas G. Lochhead, Chief Librarian, Dalhousie University, Halifax, N.S.
<u>Vice-Pres. for N.B.:</u>	Mr. Laurie Allison, Chief Librarian, Mount Allison University, Sackville, N.B.
<u>Vice-Pres. for P.E.I.:</u>	Miss Ena Murphy, P.E.I. Libraries, Charlottetown P.E.I.
<u>Vice-Pres. for NFLD:</u>	Miss Marjorie Mews, Gosling Memorial Library St. John's, NFLD
<u>Secretary-Treasurer:</u>	Miss C. Isabel Abernethy, Librarian, Glace Bay Public, Glace Bay, N.S.

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In connection with the nominations, attention is called to Article III, Sections II and III of our By-Laws:

" Up to one month after the date of publication of the report of the Nominating Committee, the President may receive proposals for additional nominations provided such proposals are signed by not fewer than three members of the Association.

No person shall be nominated who is not a member of the Association and whose written consent has not been filed with the Secretary of the Association.

Nominations determined as herein provided shall be placed before the members of the Association on a ballot at least two weeks prior to the Annual Conference.

The Executive shall appoint a Committee on Election which shall have charge of the conduct of the regular election and shall report the results to the Association at the Annual Meeting."

Nominating Committee: Gladys Black  
Ruth Miller  
Dorothy Cullen, Chairman

MARITIME LIBRARY ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE - REPORTS ON PANEL DISCUSSIONS

A RECRUITMENT PROGRAM FOR THE MLA

A five-year Recruitment Campaign is under way for all of Canada, a similar one has already been gathering powerful momentum in the United States. Our present effort is under distinguished auspices.

However, our task at this forthcoming MLA Convention should be to formulate ways and means of recruiting on the regional level, librarians to meet the expansion that is promised in the province of New Brunswick; librarians to cope with the steadily growing demand in various types of libraries in Nova Scotia and by the same token, to satisfy present staff requirements in areas of the regional system where it is still difficult to attract trained personnel; librarians to fill the vacancies and help ease crushing professional burdens in Prince Edward Island; librarians for the larger university and public library program which is shaping up in Newfoundland.

We need well prepared, adaptable, enterprising-in a word, qualified personnel. What shall our recruitment program be? Is there any one method of approach more effectual than another in our general or particular set-up?

1. Recruiting Literature is a sure-fire approach, much of it is already well known to us. We shall have the opportunity of viewing and discussing the CLA 12-minute film on Librarianship with its accompanying promotional aids. Do young people come into library work because of such promotional material, or because they have had an opportunity of learning from a librarian or a library job about libraries and the possibilities they offer?
2. Are we fully exploiting "the personal-contact potential" with clerical assistants, students, counselors, teachers, parents and the general public with whom we daily come in contact? As some one put it recently: "Every librarian-a Recruitment Committee of One." What about requests to speak on programs, "arranging" invitations for parent-teacher meetings, career days, visits to schools, colleges, etc.?
3. How up to date and dynamic is our public relations program with the Press, Radio and TV? Their interest, understanding and promotion of a profession whose business is public service can have tremendous impact not only on young people-our potential librarians-but on tax-payers and policy makers alike. With respect for and appreciation of our libraries, comes realization of the responsibility to improve librarians' salaries if their library concerns are not to be left behind in the bid for the best. Selling the "library standard" is after all a most powerful indirect recruitment technique, and a challenge to our public relations in any library community including college and university. (The far-reaching possibilities of a public relations program has just been demonstrated on a national scale by the New York Insurance Company's advertisement Librarianship as a Career, in three top-flight magazines of recent issue.

In the last few years, there has been a growing dissatisfaction with the type of book which is being published. The general public has always had its share of complainers, of which we as librarians are well aware, but recently even the librarians have questioned the responsibility of the publishers in publishing certain books. With such opinions being expressed, this panel should spark lively discussion.

Miss M. E. Cameron, Chief Librarian  
Halifax Memorial Library

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### SECOND-HAND BOOKS

Among the items to be discussed are problems in getting second-hand books and the methods which libraries have found useful. Attention will be given to second hand dealers, the purchase of private libraries, advertising for books, exchange agencies and compiling lists of reliable second-hand book dealers. Also to be considered are aids for checking purposes—catalogues and searching services.

H. W. Ganong, Librarian  
Acadia University

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### A READING LIST FOR THE ATLANTIC PROVINCES—AN APEC-MLA VENTURE

The idea of compiling a current reading list of material to include books, pamphlets, certain government publications, and magazine articles relating to the Atlantic Provinces, has been discussed a good deal this year. The latest occasion was a meeting held in Fredericton in early April at which the President of MLA, Mr. James MacEacheron; a representative of APEC, Mr. Stephen Branch; and the writer were present. The purpose of the meeting was to examine in detail the purpose, scope, and dimensions of the proposed reading list, and to decide whether the time has come to discard the idea or to proceed with it.

Those present at the Fredericton meeting reached the unanimous decision that the time is ripe to give serious consideration to the compilation of the list. It was felt that the proposed reading list would be an ideal way for the Association to co-operate with the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council in a manner that would be beneficial to all concerned.

The entire matter is to be discussed at the May meeting of the Maritime Library Association. Here, in brief, is the Reading List as it is envisaged at this stage:

1. It should be published for the following reasons:
  - a. to arouse greater interest in the region
  - b. to provide more widespread information about the region
  - c. to promote greater use of libraries.

2. It should be selective not exhaustive and should contain information about available current books; pamphlets, government publications, and magazine articles and other material relating to the Atlantic Provinces,
3. It should be essentially a popular, easy-to-read list, rather than a formal bibliography or a librarian's reference source, as these functions are already covered by Canadiana and the Canadian Periodical Index (but these publications will provide a large percentage of items included)
4. It should be flexible in style and content and capable of alteration by its editors to meet existing needs.
5. It should be published at least every four months, i.e. three times yearly ( this may have to be altered, depending on the amount of material available)
6. It should be published in a reasonably attractive format.
7. It should be reviewed in a year's time as to its purpose, usefulness, etc.

These were the points of agreement reached at the meeting in Fredericton. It is hoped that after a general discussion of the matter at the Conference, it will be possible to reach decisions about the editorial policy and the methods of publication and distribution.

It should be stressed that the proposed Reading List is designed primarily for business men, professional workers and all those interested in matters pertaining to the Atlantic Provinces. It is felt that by demonstrating to an interested public what material is currently available and how it may be obtained, that the role of libraries in the life of these Provinces will become both more prominent and useful.

Douglas G. Lochhead

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RECRUITMENT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

A. Robert Rogers

In the 1940's, the UNB Library was a good recruiting ground for the profession and a respectable number of our student assistants went on to library school. Our record since 1950 is black by comparison. This year, we've tried a slightly new twist in the hope that better things may follow.

The central point in our new approach is to secure the interest

and co-operation of the faculty. Universities across Canada expect to double in size during the next ten years. Library staffs must keep pace with this increase or the universities will suffer, and faculty members engaged in scholarly research will suffer most of all. To protect their own academic future, faculty members must co-operate with university librarians to encourage some of the best students-the duds simply won't do-to consider librarianship as a career.

A special display on this theme was held in the Library from November 26 to December 1. Centerpiece in the display was a book (prepared by Mr. James MacEachern, Director of Central Library Services) which contained leaflets of all kinds on the subject of library work. Faculty members were asked to announce this display to their classes and to say that the Librarian would welcome inquiries.

In addition, a copy of the leaflet "Librarian" ( prepared by the Guidance Centre, Ontario College of Education, University of Toronto, 371 Bloor St., W, Toronto 5) was sent to each member of the faculty along with a letter from the librarian. Key paragraphs from the letter are given below:

"Canada is suffering from a critical shortage of librarians. The Director of the McGill University Library School reports that over 700 jobs were offered to the 32 graduates in the class of 1956. University, public, business, government and research libraries are facing curtailment of essential services or loss of efficiency through the use of untrained personnel."

" The time has come for increased effort to make students aware of the opportunities and openings in this field. Although most librarians are graduates in Arts, there is a growing demand for people trained in the pure and applied sciences."

" A bachelor's degree from a recognized university is a prerequisite for admission to Library School. A year's post-graduate course will lead to the Bachelor of Library Science (B.L.S.) degree and to recognition as a librarian. Advanced courses, leading to the M.L.S., may be taken after successful completion of the B.L.S. program."

Copies of the leaflet "Librarian" have been sent to student assistants ( of whom we have eleven this year) and to the Public Relations Officer ( who, in our University at least, arranges for interviews with students when representatives from business concerns visit the Campus each year looking for recruits).

In other years, material has been mailed to students in the spring. However, past experience seems to indicate that they have already made up their minds by that time. Accordingly, our efforts this year are being carried out in the fall.

It is too early to evaluate the success of this new approach, but a preliminary evaluation may be possible by the time ILLA meets in the spring for its annual conference.

LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT IN THE ATLANTIC PROVINCES

Nova Scotia

Miss M.E. Cameron

Since the last conference of the Maritime Library Association, progress in the libraries of Nova Scotia has continued at a steady if not spectacular pace. End of the year statistics reveal that the five Regional Libraries circulated 1,186,311 volumes to a population area of 329,506. University and Special libraries continued to serve an increasing number of users.

Probably the most publicized event of the year was the opening in July at Dalhousie University of the beautiful Kipling Room, which houses one of the world's finest Kipling collections. Of equal importance to the growing university library is the additional stack space provided in the new wing where the Kipling Room is located.

In common with the other provinces in Canada, Nova Scotia continues to feel the shortage of librarians. The President-elect of the Canadian Library Association in a report to the Association states that in March 1956 there were twelve vacancies for professional librarians in the Province. Six of these were in Halifax. The seriousness of these shortages is even more evident when it is realized that there are rumblings and sporadic bursts of enthusiasm from parts of the Province not now serviced by a library. When these signs of activity become a more sustained campaign for the establishment of Regional Library service—and they will—we may well find ourselves in the embarrassing position of not being able to meet the request for library service for the lack of librarians.

With such a shortage, many Boards and Administrators have reviewed and revised salary scales with the result that we now find beginning salaries in the Province are in the vicinity of the \$3000 set as a standard by the Canadian Library Association. Unfortunately, prevailing rates in other parts of Canada have moved up another \$200 or \$300 for junior positions, and more for senior ones.

Under these circumstances, it is not surprising to see some librarians moving in a westerly direction. However, despite the salary differential, the obvious challenge of library development in Nova Scotia can attract and hold librarians. The danger lies in this differential growing greater. Should that happen, we may reach the point where librarians cannot afford to work in Nova Scotia.

Library circles in the Province suffered a loss in the departure of Mr. Donald Redmond for Ceylon in December, where he accepted a year's appointment under the Colombo Plan. Miss Barbara Murray, formerly of the Dalhousie Library staff took over his work in the Nova Scotia Technical College Library, while Miss Evelyn Campbell is ably carrying on his duties as Editor of the MLA BULLETIN

Nova Scotia has always been very proud of its contribution of talent to the national scene. This year, the Canadian Library

Association, after only four years, turned again to Nova Scotia for its president-elect. Miss Alberta Letts, Director of the Provincial Library, becomes the national president following the conference in Victoria and will chair the sessions in Quebec City in 1958.

The most serious setback of the year was the disastrous fire which wiped out the headquarters of the Pictou County Regional Library and the New Glasgow Library. Over 5800 volumes were lost. Although there was good insurance coverage, and offers of practical assistance from other libraries were immediately forthcoming, a formidable task of reorganization confronts Mr. Stan McDougall and his staff.

A report of the year's activities cannot be complete without some mention of the serious problem being faced by nearly all the libraries in the Province. That problem is lack of space. Because of the comparatively recent development of library service in Nova Scotia, growth, of necessity, has been unusually rapid. Civic officials in setting up libraries in 1949, 1950, and 1951 did not visualize the mounting demands to be made by citizens on the new libraries nor the need for future expansion. The unfortunate coincidence is that this need becomes most critical at the same time as municipalities are faced with a tight money market. Somewhere there is a cure, but at the moment it is no longer a symptom exhibited by one or two. It is an outright epidemic.

#### New Brunswick

Mr. Laurie Allison

The reports from New Brunswick librarians for the year 1956-1957 indicate a year of definite growth, expansion of services, and the setting up of new libraries. The year has been one of consolidation and advancement.

The St. John Free Public Library, like the Fredericton Public Library, reports increased circulation. Saint John has added to its stack area, and in planning to increase its public service through the purchase of a bookmobile for use in the city. A series of lectures on the English novel was held in the library in the autumn. Fredericton reports an increased public awareness of the value of the library, with statistics to show increased membership, circulation, and increased financial aid.

Central Library Services reports the establishment of the Albert-Westmoreland-Kent Regional Library effective June 1. The city of Moncton will be the initial participating municipality, although other municipalities within this area may join at any time. The new librarian will be Miss Marion Gardiner, of the Colchester-East Hants Regional Library.

Other new services offered by Central Library Services include the publication of four graded bi-lingual lists of books for school libraries, which will be guides for primary, intermediate, junior and high school groups. A course on French children's literature will be given this summer at St. Joseph's University, and similar courses on English children's literature will be available to New Brunswick universities granting the degree of Bachelor of Elementary Education

Regular articles continue to appear in the Forum of New Brunswick Education.



Mr. MacEacheron also adds that two new categories of library workers have been established by government legislation: (1) Librarian; (2) Librarian Assistant. Six of the latter group are now following a correspondence course prepared by the Central Library Services.

Central Library Services continue to act as a clearing house for duplicate library books. Any New Brunswick library may deposit up to one hundred books at this office, and in turn, this office will compile and circulate a list to libraries inside and outside the province.

New Brunswick's Union Catalogue is becoming larger and more effective. During the year the holdings of the St. John Free Public Library and the New Brunswick Museum were added, and half of the Mount Allison University holdings. The Union Catalogue holdings now total more than 130,000 books and periodicals.

The Legislative Library reports a desperate need for new stack space, and more office space. Two of the excellent services this library is providing are the publication of the Checklist of Documents, and the partial distribution of New Brunswick government documents.

The University of New Brunswick is currently advertising for a new head librarian, another cataloguer, and a circulation librarian. The loss of Mr. Robert Rogers, former head librarian, is felt not only by the University of New Brunswick, but by the profession as a whole in the Atlantic Provinces. Mr. Rogers contributed greatly to the Bonar Law-Bennett Library, and his enthusiastic and generous support of the New Brunswick Library Association has been greatly appreciated by the membership. Mr. Rogers began his duties in a new post at the Detroit Public Library in January 1957.

The Bonar Law-Bennett Library is currently buying microfilms of Books printed in England prior to 1640. Publications of the Early English Text Society, and Publications of the Hakluyt Society on microcards. The University is co-operating with the University of Rochester in the development of the Canadian Studies: Microcard Series.

Like the Bonar Law-Bennett Library or the University of New Brunswick, the Mount Allison University Memorial Library has experienced a year of increased activity; and in spite of staff shortages, Mount Allison has been able to maintain an adequate professional standard in its service to faculty, students and public.

During the past year, the income from an endowment for the Mary Mellish Archibald collection of poetry, drama, music and folklore became available. As a result, much valuable material in book, periodical, disc, and tape form has been added.

The catalogue department has benefited greatly from the purchase of the Library of Congress National Union Catalogue, beginning in 1942. Plans are also under way for the preparation of a bibliography of the Methodist Archives Collection at Mount Allison, which will eventually be published by Ryerson Press. The library has recently become a full depository library for Canadian Federal documents, and is a depository

for publications of the U. S. Geological Survey.

This survey, although not complete, will serve to indicate the growth of library services in the Province, and will indicate, too, the ever present need for more professional staff, more financial assistance, and more active general interest in library work.

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Prince Edward Island

Miss Agnes McQuaid

It is nearly ninety years since the bearded Fathers of Confederation signed the British North America Act, and the wisdom of the steps taken then is being evidenced in the very city where these signatures were made—in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, but in particular in the Legislative and Public Library there.

Library activity of all kinds flourished in the Legislative Library and circulation only dropped slightly in 1956, even though the library closed while the painters took over and re-decorated the reading room in a charming wedgewood blue, the newspaper room in flamingo red. Television—that product of scientific and cultural development from Toronto—made its inroads on circulation figures but had its opposite effect when people rushed to read the story that was being dramatized on the video screen.

Students pursued work that would be impossible were it not for the fast communication that brings in books on inter-library loan from other provinces. By the same token, communications within the province provided Women's Institutes with study material and drama groups with selections of plays. General readers varied their requests among biography, travel, history and literature, while the "do-it-yourself" trend reflected itself in a demand for explanatory books. The children of the City of Charlottetown, with their teachers, showed great energy and imagination in their appreciation of the librarians' efforts to make Young Canada's a success. At a tea held at the Queen Charlotte High School Library, girls dressed as book characters served. They represented Tom Sawyer, Huckleberry Finn, Anne of Green Gables, Diana Barry, Alice in Wonderland, Meg March, and others, and all young and old, were unanimous in their praise of the "plasti-Kleer" covers used for the first time in 1956.

The newspaper room brought many visitors—residents of Prince Edward Island and tourists—pursuing historical research in the birthplace of Confederation. Modern developments initiated by the Canadian Library Association, with the cooperation of the librarians of Prince Edward Island, found many of the newspapers wanted on microfilm and used with a microfilm reader. As a consequence, reference questions increased in number and variety as the facilities developed.

In addition, the accessioning and cataloguing of 550 books in the Legislative Library and 300 in the Public Library, added up to a very busy life at the library, but a satisfying one for the librarians who work there.

The Summerside Library was moved to a new location early in January 1957. It now occupies a spacious room on the ground floor of the new Civic Auditorium. As it is in the same block as the elementary school and the high school, the library is now circulating a greater number of children's and young people's books.

The Morell branch library benefited considerably by a change of location. It had been in cramped quarters where there was room for only about 600 books. It has been placed in a room in the new High School where both shelf space and floor space are greatly increased. About 500 books were added to the collection with the result that the adults are showing renewed interest in the library. Needless to say, the school children are patronizing the library to a great extent also.

Mr. H.B. Chandler, former Director of the Prince Edward Island Libraries, has been appointed to the post of Assistant Chief of the International Division in the Distribution Branch at National Film Board Headquarters in Montreal.

Newfoundland

Miss Jessie Mifflen

### Regional Libraries

New stars have been appearing on our Regional Library map this past year with increasing rapidity. Five of them are fixed stars, which being interpreted means that libraries have actually been set up in the places designated, while others less scintillating indicate that the people in the places they represent are weighing the vexed question whether to read or not to read. If even one-third of those so considering decide in favour of reading, then we shall have fifty libraries by this time next year, for already we have forty-five, twenty-six of these being Regional Centres and the other Community or Branch libraries. But let us not count our chickens before they are hatched, but rather concentrate on those already out of the shell.

All five of them are Community libraries for the present, but one may yet become a Regional Centre, since the population justifies it. They have been established at King's Point, Mount Carmel, Port Elizabeth, Deer Lake and St. Kyran's. What, you have never heard of these places, gentle reader? Well, one of them made Chatelaine in March, though it was called Deer Park instead of Deer Lake (the author couldn't get away from her Toronto environment!). True, not one of them can be called a great centre of commerce, or industry, and they would appear as but eruptions on the face of Montreal and Toronto, but at least the people are enterprising enough to take the initiative in getting a library established, for as always the request comes

from the people themselves.

One of them, perhaps, shares with its sister library set up last year, the distinction of being unique in Canada, for St. Kyran's is but a tiny village with a population of less than two hundred which, of course, is not sufficient to justify having a library established. It is, however, head-quarters of a Roman Catholic parish which owns a parish boat, and the priest in charge and his two assistants make themselves responsible for providing library service from this library to the ten or twelve places in that part of the parish through the medium of the schools and by means of the boat, which might be regarded, therefore, as a boatmobile, so even though we do not have any of the "common or garden variety" of bookmobiles, we are not so far behind other provinces after all! The same parish priest was responsible for setting up the "sister" library in the other part of his parish last year, which operates in a similar manner and means that all of the twenty or more small communities in his extensive parish have library service. We wish he could be multiplied a hundredfold!

In addition to the forty-five libraries there are about one hundred and fifty deposit stations, which are served from the Regional Centres, so that nearly two hundred communities are served through the Regional Libraries.

In late September and early October a Training Class and Conference was held, which lasted for two weeks, the first week of which was devoted to instruction in the technical part of the work and was attended only by those who had not previously taken the course, and these - nine in number - were joined the next week by eighteen others for a week of discussion, lectures and visits to places of interest, as well as some enjoyable social activities.

We had hoped there would be almost 100% attendance at the Conference, but, of course, that is really expecting too much, since some of the librarians are housewives who have families, which naturally they could not leave for two weeks. Those who did attend, though, not only enjoyed it but, we believe, gained a great deal from the instruction as well as from the contact with their colleagues. I might say that this Training Class and Conference is held every two years, and is, we feel, an important part of our program.

An important addition during the year to the staff at Headquarters, which now numbers eight, was an Assistant to the Supervisor of Regional Libraries, who is responsible for the work while the Supervisor is in the Field. This staff does not include cataloguers, as this part of the work is taken care of by the Gosling Memorial Library staff.

In conclusion, to take care of those communities which are not large enough for a library, or too far away from a Regional Centre to take advantage of it, there is the Travelling Library, which sends out boxes of books to schools or groups of adults in the less populous areas and which, during the year, served about two hundred communities. Altogether, then about four hundred communities in Newfoundland have this year been receiving library

service to a greater or lesser degree.

Gosling Memorial Library

Miss Marjorie Mews

The big event so far this year, was the celebration of our 21st anniversary which took place in January past. The signs on the outside of the building had a face-lifting for the occasion, and in addition, over the dignified arched Edwardian doorway flamed a new sign, depicting a map of Newfoundland superimposed upon a book, and a legend proclaiming 21 years of library service in Newfoundland by the Gosling Memorial Library, the Regional Library, and the Travelling Library. Floodlit at night it could not possibly be overlooked, and visitors who couldn't avoid reading about the anniversary in the newspaper or hearing about it over the radio decided it was just as well to come in and see what was going on. Incidentally Miss Miffen, Supervisor of Regional Libraries, and I sacrificed our pride for the good of the cause and appeared in an interview on television. T.V. does not usually enhance one's looks - rather the reverse!

Having enticed the Public inside the library we had to provide something to entertain them. We exhibited in locked glass cases some of the treasures of the vault; old manuscripts dating back to 1706, ancient maps and records, old photographs and older prints. In contrast we had a show of modern Newfoundland painting by Newfoundland artists loaned through the courtesy of the Vogue Galleries. Other displays of books in various categories were arranged, and a veritable rash of fluorescent cardboard labels and signs broke out, guiding visitors to the books on their particular interests.

The newspapers published feature articles liberally illustrated with more or less flattering photographs of staff members, past and present Chairmen of the Board, and interior and exterior views of the Library. The radio stations were very generous too with their publicity, and carried the voices of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor in a congratulatory message, and other speakers in talks, interviews and discussions.

The story of those twenty-one years - the modest beginning, the growth of the Gosling Library in St. John's, the expansion of the library services all over the Island through the Regional and Travelling Libraries, the great increase in administration funds, in books, in readers - is summed up in a booklet especially compiled and printed for the Anniversary. It is a chronicle of an interesting, even thrilling chapter in our Newfoundland cultural development, and taking courage from the success of the past efforts we look forward to even greater accomplishments in library service during the next twenty-one years.

NOTICE OF AMENDMENT TO M.L.A. CONSTITUTION

In accordance with the motion passed at last year's conference, the Secretary of the Maritime Library Association has sought Chapter Member

status in the American Library Association. The Chairman of the A. L. A. Constitution and By-Laws Committees has written to say that it is his Committee's obligation to ascertain "that there are no essential conflicts between the constitution and by-laws of any group seeking chapter status and that of the A. L. A."

To comply with the requirements of A. L. A. and M. L. A.'s own constitution, notice is hereby given of the following amendments to the Constitution of the Maritime Library Association to have:

(1) Article 111 (Section 1) read: "Any individual, institution or other group may become a member on payment of the fees provided for in the by-laws".

INSTEAD OF

"Any individual, institution or other group approved by the Executive Board may become a member on payment of the fees provided for in the by-laws;"

(2) Article 1X (Section 1) added to read: "This Association may affiliate itself with any other library association and with any organization upon the consent of a majority of the membership, and may elect representatives and pay a membership fee required by the constitution or by-laws of that association or organization."

James MacEacheron, President  
M. L. A.

#### LIBRARY LITERATURE NOTES

PHOTO COPY SERVICE: A new service - photo copy while-you-wait - is being provided by the Toronto Public Library Reference Department. This is TPL's response to the demand for extracts of articles and illustrations in periodicals and books in the reference library. The service is available also to libraries and business firms outside Toronto, if they send in requests by mail. (Quill and Quire, February 1957)

A progress report on the whole matter of photocopying and copyright, by R. S. Bray, Chairman of SLA's Photographic Reproduction Committee, appears in Special Libraries, March 1957.

UNION LIST OF SERIALS: "The Rockefeller Foundation, which contributed to the editorial cost of the second edition of the Union List of Serials, has again supported union-list activities by making a grant of \$6000 to the Library of Congress." Wyllis E. Wright, for 15 years chairman of the Joint Committee on the Union List of Serials, will spend three months, mostly at the Library of Congress, compiling the information which will enable the Committee to map out the program for producing a new Union List. "The general

aim is the establishment, at the Library of Congress, of a Union Catalog of Serials on punched cards ... Mr. Wright will figure how the data can be gathered as effectively as possible from the research libraries of Canada and the United States." (Library Journal, March 15, 1957)

PAPER-BACKS: The wide choice of high standard books, both fiction and non-fiction, now available in paper-backed books and their usefulness in public libraries is being recognized by many librarians. Louise Riley, of the Calgary Public Library, writing on the subject in the Alberta Library Association Bulletin, March 1957, cites some of the titles appearing in such series as Penguin Books, Pan Books, Modern Library, Viking, etc. She is prepared to recommend to the Library Board "that paper-back books be bought and circulated in all our adult libraries."

THE LIBRARIAN'S ROLE: At the 65th Annual Convention of the Wisconsin Library Association, the convention keynote speaker, T. V. Smith, expressing his opinion on the role of the librarian, named three duties or privileges; "(1) to help people solve their problems by giving them facts, (2) to enable people to resolve their predicaments by pointing the way to compromise, and (3) to absolve people from a sense of guilt by helping them appreciate themselves." (Wisconsin Library Bulletin, Nov.-Dec. 1956)

INTER-LIBRARY LOAN: This subject keeps turning up, and in the Library Journal, February 1, 1957, p.31-, we find this anecdote: "The inter-library loan is a wonderful thing, and our library is still borrowing just slightly more than we are lending, and we like to lend in response to any reasonable request, but we thought this one was going too far: Will you lend us the following volume which we understand you have in your collection ... We have a copy in our Genealogy room for use there only, and the book is needed at one of our branches ....

"The volume in question is reasonably rare and infrequently used, but it just seemed to us that if a requesting library cannot trust their own branches, then we shouldn't risk our copy. Clarence S. Paine, Director of Libraries, Oklahoma City, Okla."

#### NEW BRUNSWICKANA - 1956 - SELECTIVE LIST

##### PREPARED BY LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY AND CENTRAL LIBRARY SERVICES

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- Lenentine, Charlotte Maxine. Madawaska, a chapter in Maine-New Brunswick relations. University of Rochester Pr., 1956. (University of Rochester Canadian Studies Series, no.22) 5 cards. Microprint copy of typescript.
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