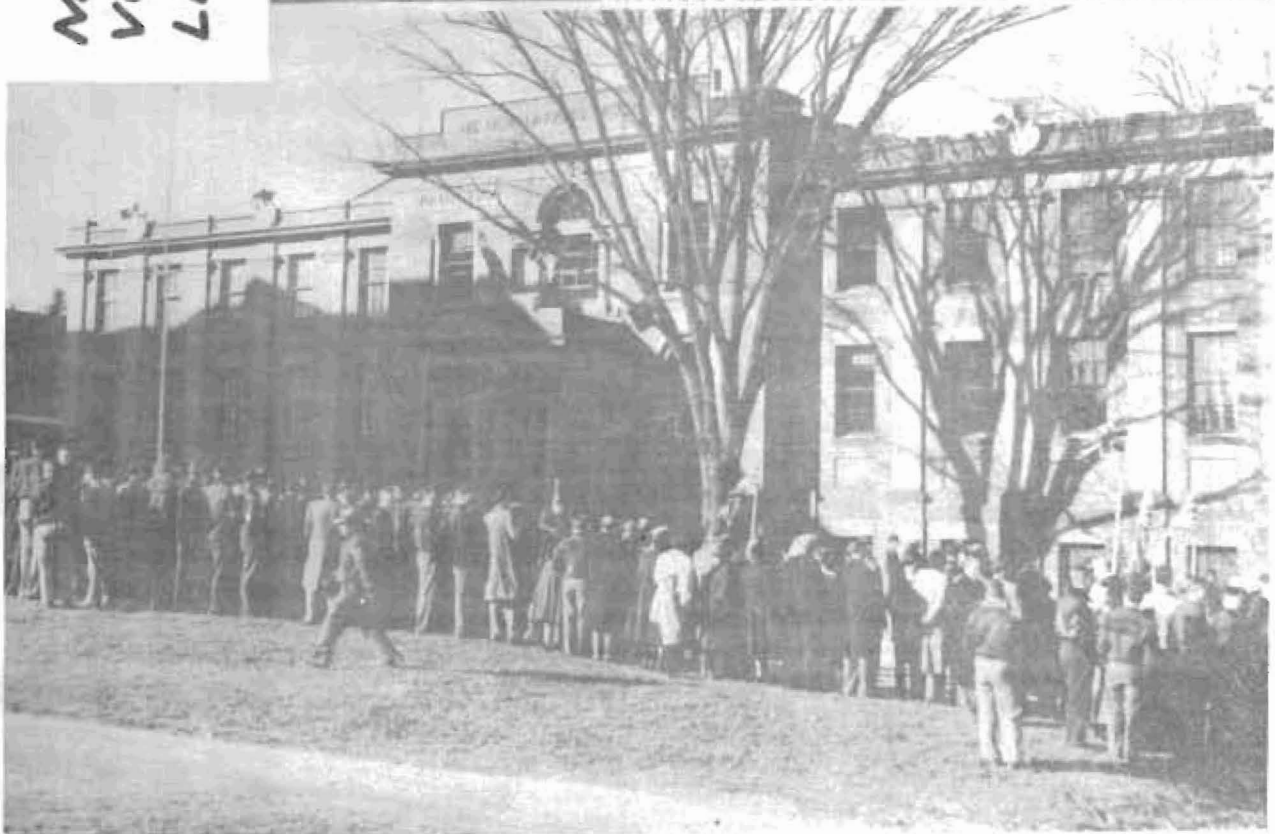


Public Archives of Nova Scotia  
HALIFAX, N. S.

305

# MLA BULLETIN

MARITIME LIBRARY ASSN.  
VOL. 19 NO. 3 SPRING 1955  
*Libraries in Fredericton*



Editor: D. A. Redmond, Librarian  
Nova Scotia Technical College  
Box 1000, Halifax, Canada

### COVER PICTURES

Top: Interior of the Legislative Library, Fredericton, N.B. Bottom: Bonar Law-Bennett Library, University of New Brunswick; the occasion was the visit of H.M. the Queen (then Princess Elizabeth) and the Duke of Edinburgh; Their Highnesses were within the library and the crowd was waiting for them to reappear.

### CONTENTS OF THIS ISSUE

Libraries in Fredericton: Sketches	43
Legislative Library	
Bonar Law-Bennett Library	
Central Library Services	
Teachers' College Library	
Dept. of Agriculture Library	
Fredericton Public Library	
Why Canadians Should Join A.L.A.	47
Prince Edward Island Libraries	48
Growth of Public Libraries in Newfoundland, by H. Newell	49
Changes in N.B. Libraries Act	51
Halifax Memorial Library	51
Quick Binding in the Library	52
MLA Nominations for 1955-56	56
College Library News	57

### REMEMBER THE

### MARITIME LIBRARY ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK

THURSDAY & FRIDAY, MAY 19-20, 1955

Meetings at Fredericton Public Library

RESERVATIONS: Please Make Your Own Hotel Reservations Now! Accomodation at Lord Beaverbrook Hotel, and other houses, motels, tourist homes.

### JOTTINGS DURING THE EXAM SEASON...

A review copy of CONTENTS IN ADVANCE, a new journal service for librarians, gives a rapid, interesting survey of current library literature through its reproductions of titlepages. Some of the reproductions (reduced-size offset) are blurred; arrangement is random, so it's really a survey, not an index. It won't take the place of either Library Literature (especially with that service recently improved) or Library Science Abstracts—one of which every alert librarian needs to keep posted—but with its annual union list will be a very useful supplement. Price is \$6 a year, from Box 7521, Philadelphia 1.

The College & Reference sectional discussion at MLA in Fredericton is among other things to discuss binding. Situation in this area is still that good library binding is done only in central Canada. Representations will probably be made to the Atlantic Economic Council that a bindery good be a good thing to encourage as local industry. Meanwhile, two local libraries offer their solution to the problem in this issue. READ IT, THINK ABOUT IT, TRY IT OUT. A bottle of plastic adhesive is a necessity in your library anyway; so is tape.

Received from the Bonar Law-Bennett Library, University of New Brunswick, a duplicate list valid until June 1, 1955; items free for cost of transportation. Write for a copy. Rather than compile lists, I'm lazy enough to ship all the surplus to the U.S. Book Exchange; or list items on cards and send to the SLA Metals Division Duplicate Exchange (for special libraries, members only). These organized schemes have two advantages: they accept almost anything (by list or actual shipment); they accept requests and hold them until filled.

Do other college libraries have trouble with books (mostly texts and near-texts) which disappear all term, reappearing mysteriously on the shelves the day after the exam in that subject? And what about the ones that disappear for good? Will somebody volunteer an article on the subject?



# LIBRARIES IN FREDERICTON

43

## LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY by Maurice P. Boone

One of the oldest libraries in Fredericton is the Legislative Library. Although books had been purchased for the use of members of the House of Assembly and the Legislative Council almost from the beginning of the province, the Legislative Library really dates from 1841 when the libraries of the House of Assembly and the Legislative Council were combined.

As early as 1862, people living in Fredericton and within five miles of the city were allowed to take books from the library for an annual fee of ten shillings. This privilege was allowed as a substitute for the Fredericton Library, which had ceased to exist about this time. Even to this day the Legislative Library has books with the name "Fredericton Library" stamped upon their covers, books that were auctioned off by the old Fredericton Library. At that time the Legislative Library was open on Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The fire of 1880, which burned Province Hall, caused considerable damage to the Legislative Library. The present library building was built in 1882 and joined by heavy fireproof doors to the new Parliament Building, which had been completed that same year.

In 1930, the secretary of the New Brunswick Public Library Commission made a survey of the library, and submitted an interesting report which was tabled in the Legislature at the 1931 session.

By 1934, all residents of the province were allowed to borrow books from the library on payment of a subscription fee of \$1 a year. This rule remained in force until June 1, 1954, when the new Central Library Services took over the public library work of the Legislative Library. On the opening of the Fredericton Public Library in early January of this year, some of this work was, of course, absorbed by that library.

It was not until 1936 that the library was placed under the charge of a trained librarian. At that time the classification of the library by the Dewey Decimal Classification was started. With the appointment of a professional cataloger in June 1952, the cataloging of the library began.

In addition to housing the documents of New Brunswick, those of the other provinces of Canada, federal documents and selected British and American documents, the library has among its 35,000 volumes an interesting collection of biography, books of travel, and New Brunswickana. One of its special treasures is the four-volume double elephant folio Birds of America by Audubon.

Although the library now serves as a reference library for members of the government and the civil service, its facilities are available to all for reading and research. It also carries on an interlibrary loan service with other libraries.

As well as purchasing the type of book needed by a legislative library, the library is ever on the alert for items of New Brunswickana with the aim of building up as complete a collection as possible of material dealing with the province.

-----

The Fredericton members of the NEW BRUNSWICK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION, hosts to the 1955 conference of the Maritime Library Association, have prepared these sketches of the city's library resources.

BONAR LAW--BENNETT LIBRARY, UNIVERSITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK by A. Robert Rogers

The Bonar Law-Bennett Library may without undue exaggeration trace its origin to the latter part of the eighteenth century. The earliest reference occurs in a letter written by Governor Thomas Carleton in March, 1793. Among the books listed were: Lilly's Accidence Enlarged; Colloquies of Corderius; Excerpta ex Nove Testamento--Castellionis; Selectae e veteri Testamento Historia; Clark's Introduction; Exemplia Morialia; Electra ex Ovidio et Tibullo; Salustii Opera in Usum Delphini; Ciceronis Orationum Selectorium; Caesaris Commentarii; Ciceronis Opuscula; and Opera Virgilii in Usum Delphini.

The library grew rather slowly during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, though some very notable individual items were added. Several manuscript catalogs and a printed book catalog in 1884 bear witness to a steady increase in size.

The pace of growth began to quicken when the library was moved to the old wing of the present building, which was erected by the provincial government, furnished by Charles E. Neill, of Fredericton, and officially opened in 1931.

In 1933 the library acquired the Canadiana collection of Rufus H. Hathaway, a close friend of Bliss Carman and Sir Charles G. D. Roberts, both graduates of this university. A catalog of the collection was published by the university in 1935.

After the second World War, a program of vigorous expansion was begun. In the last ten years, the library has nearly trebled in size. It now contains 70,000 volumes, of which more than 14,000 have been provided through the generosity of Lord Beaverbrook.

Lord Beaverbrook's foresight and generosity were also responsible for the erection of the new wing which was officially opened in May, 1951. The stack capacity of the building was thereby doubled. The luxuriously-furnished Beaverbrook Recreational Reading Room is a delight to students, visitors and members of the staff.

The library also contains many interesting papers and documents. The largest and most valuable collection, the papers of Viscount Bennett, was presented by Lord Beaverbrook in 1948. The papers of Earl Lloyd George and Andrew Bonar Law have also been acquired by Lord Beaverbrook and are to be forwarded to the library. The papers of H.G.C. Ketchum, a graduate of U.N.B., contain information about the ill-fated Chignecto Ship Railway, of which he was the originator. The Loring Woart Bailey Collection of scientific reprints, letters and manuscripts dealing largely with New Brunswick geology was given by Dr. A. G. Bailey, Dean of Arts and Honorary Librarian. The library also contains a large collection of New Brunswick newspapers, some of which date from the late eighteenth century.

CENTRAL LIBRARY SERVICES by James F. MacEacheron

The Central Library Services is located in the center of the city at the corner of Queen and Carleton Streets. We are on the ground floor of the building now known as the Old Customs House.

The Central Library Services has been set up as the provincial headquarters for the establishment of regional libraries. By May, we perhaps shall have made a start on a union catalog, and when regional libraries are operating, we plan to develop a central cataloging service.



The present book collection is made up of children's and teachers' books of the former Department of Education Library and the fiction of the Legislative Library. Any expansion of the book collection will include children's books and adult nonfiction for a mail service available to anyone in the province.

Unlike our sister institutions in Fredericton, the book collection boasts nothing outstanding. Instead, we should prefer that you might see resemblances of a regional library somewhere between Sackville and Fredericton. Nonetheless, Miss Ruth Tétreault, Miss Alice Oulton and I will be pleased if you have the opportunity to pay us a visit.

#### TEACHERS' COLLEGE LIBRARY by Janice Elaine Malloy

From a collection of St. Martin's Classics in 1931, when the present building was opened, the Teachers' College Library in 1955 lists 10,238 books in addition to pamphlets, periodicals, pictures and maps which form a valuable current reference division of this library. The library has the splendid advantage of having the Department of Education Audio-Visual Bureau housed in its building with its excellent collection of films, filmstrips, records, etc., available to it at all times.

The library serves both students and staff of the Teachers' College and Model Demonstration School, its library facilities being available also to the teachers of the other Demonstration Schools, rural and urban.

The Teachers' College in instituting, in 1940, its courses in Library Science, was the first teachers' college in eastern Canada to incorporate this subject into its curriculum. This approved course, primarily planned to familiarize students with uses and selection of books and to facilitate their use of libraries, because of increasing library services, has the additional aim of meeting the demands of the student-teachers who in their actual teaching situations may find additional interests and responsibilities in the fields of school and branch library services. The library program covers, also, classes in Current Events.

Due to limitation of space, the Teachers' College Library is of necessity a combined lecture room, library and study hall. A trained librarian who is also a licensed teacher constitutes the staff.

#### DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE LIBRARY

This library is one of several set up by the Canadian Department of Agriculture across Canada in various laboratories. The library was established with a librarian in January 1954 to serve the Fredericton area, with the librarian's office located in the new Forest Biology Laboratory. This is on the U.N.B. campus, which facilitates cooperation between the two libraries. The various units are Forest Biology, Forest Pathology, Field Crop Insect Investigations, Plant Pathology, and Experimental Farms Service. As these units are widely separated the emphasis has been on coordination through the librarian's office rather than on physical amalgamation of stock. Since most projects and therefore text requirements are specialized, each unit keeps its own holdings, with a union catalog of books and periodicals housed in the Forest Biology Laboratory.

The librarian handles loans (about 800 annually), circulation of periodicals, and processing, which varies to suit the need of each unit. Stock is selected to provide basic texts, with the Main Library in Ottawa supplementing local holdings. Local policy and book selection is guided by a Library Committee which meets monthly and serves to keep units informed of library activities.

FREDERICTON PUBLIC LIBRARY by Hope Jarvis

The Fredericton Public Library is on the ground floor of the John Thurston Clark Memorial Building, which was formally presented to the City of Fredericton on Jan. 6 of this year. Originally a large private home with a warehouse at back, situated on the river bank in the business section of the city, this building has been remodelled to provide a very pleasant and attractive library, with a large room occupied by the V.O.N. (and also to be used for various meetings) on the same floor, while on the floor above are quarters for the York-Sunbury Historical Society and its Museum, with the top floor owned jointly by the Fredericton Art Club and the Fredericton Society of Artists.

The side entrance, by which one approaches the library, does confuse many of our visitors who expect the front door to be ours. However it means that the charging desk opposite the entrance is centrally located with space for a working area behind, and on either side the staff can supervise the children's rooms and the large adult room overlooking the river when that is ready for business.

The old-fashioned shutters inside the deep windows have been preserved and painted white to match the white marble fireplaces in the two children's rooms. The cornices in the old part of the house decided the color scheme for the interior--two shades of green and a creamy shade. The darker olive green has been used for doors and bookshelves throughout. These are wooden to fit the available wall space but with adjustable steel supports for the shelving. Toe-room has been left under all shelving and the charging desk, which--since it must do for both adult and children's work--is the rather awkward height of 33 inches.

The furniture is of highly finished native birch and was made in New Brunswick. The University Women's Club of Fredericton provided the furniture for the children and this is particularly attractive and solid.

The Reading Room is slightly apart from the line of active rooms. In it the carpenters built excellent plywood magazine racks, with lifting shelves and supports to hold them when storing older copies behind. The very comfortable and beautiful furniture is of Canadian design and construction, in a light finish.

The Children's Department only is open at present. Volunteer workers spend part of their time preparing adult books, which are all donations, but the children's work must be kept up and more copies of many books ordered or prepared before the adult books can be cataloged. Without any special effort to entice the children, beyond newspaper and radio publicity, the library "crept" open for circulation on Jan. 22. In the first 36 days actually open to the children we had 555 members and had let out 3181 books. Fortunately there was no rush that could not be handled, but the increase has been steady with the children learning their way around and pointing out favorite books to their friends.

It is an amazing library to work in. Not only the fact that it is a gift to the city, but that it is the result of a demand from the local Women's Council and its member clubs, who provide volunteer help on a nearly organized basis, beyond the staff of two--one professional librarian and a clerical helper--provided by the city. Hours open are from 12 to 9 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday. The evening hours are for Reading Room patrons, or for children accompanied by parents--some live a long way from the library.

The books from a \$350 grant from the Canadian Federation of University Women have arrived and will soon be ready since they are chiefly duplicates of books

(Continued on Page 47)



# Why Canadians Should Join the A.L.A.

47

## A Statement prepared by the Canadian members of the American Library Association Membership Committee

The American Library Association has been a strong and unifying force which in the past has brought about great benefits now enjoyed by libraries and librarians everywhere. Its efforts to advance the profession and to improve and extend library service continue. The value of membership is inherent in these efforts.

We hear much these days about international cooperation. The special membership rate set for Canadian librarians is an outstanding example of it. If you are a member of the Canadian Library Association--and surely being a member of the profession warrants that--you may join the ALA for \$3 per year, irrespective of salary. Your library can join for \$6.

Canadians can be and are elected to the Executives and Councils of the Association and its various divisions and are invited to serve on committees. This gives us a voice in matters that are important to us. The ALA pension scheme takes care of librarians in the many libraries that have no such provision.

The divisions, through their meetings and publications, provide contacts with librarians who are doing similar work. Included among their publications are such periodicals as Public Libraries, College and Research Libraries, Journal of Cataloging and Classification, Top of the News.

The ALA is constantly working to improve library standards. Advisory services are available at Headquarters. Library surveys have been encouraged. Standards for library service have been formulated and published. All libraries benefit, whether county, special, university, school or public.

The extensive non-profit cooperative publishing program of the ALA provides us with indispensable tools. Booklist and Subscription Books Bulletin are used constantly. Direction and guidance is provided in such publications as The library in the school, Buildings for small public libraries, ALA cataloging rules for author and title entries.

In short, here is an international organization in which Canadians can practice cooperation thereby receiving the benefits it provides and assisting in the provision of benefits for others.

-----

Robin R. B. Murray, Librarian, Saint John Free Public Library, is the representative of the ALA Membership Committee for eastern Canada.

Donald A. Redmond, Librarian, Nova Scotia Technical College, Halifax, and editor of the MLA BULLETIN, is the Maritime Library Association's representative on the Council of the ALA.

### FREDERICTON PUBLIC LIBRARY (Continued from Page 46)

already cataloged. One hundred pounds (sterling) worth of books presented by the British Council are also here--these are for adults and will brighten up that collection until there is money to buy new adult books. Numerous other groups and people have sent contributions of money or books.

The enthusiasm of the adults (and their impatience for their own library!) and the enthusiasm of the youngsters at the variety of books is very satisfactory and is a lift for any librarian, even at the weariest moments.

## Prince Edward Island Libraries

reported by DOROTHY CULLEN

During January the Souris branch library was moved to a new location in the Town Hall. These quarters are slightly larger than the old ones and are centrally located as well as being near one of the schools. An immediate and outstanding increase in circulation was noted after the move. Average circulation for each week in February was as great as that for the whole month of January.

The Summerside Public Library has taken on a much more attractive appearance since it was redecorated in pastel shades of green with dusty coral trim. A section of counter-height shelving has been put in to divide off the children's corner and provide more space for books. Since the Summerside Town Hall was burned during February, discussions about replacing it (official and otherwise) usually include plans to provide space for the library in the new Town Hall.

The P.E.I. Libraries have placed about a thousand books in the library of the new Queen Charlotte Junior High School in Charlottetown. This is just the beginning of the library which will be supplemented by the School Board. Mrs. Ruth MacKenzie has been engaged as part-time librarian, and it is planned to open the library after Easter.

A collection of books is being assembled for the new Stella Maris School, North Rustico, which replaces the building burned a year ago. The library for the use of this ten-room school will probably include later some adult books for the use of the community.

### SHIP AHOY! AND OTHER READING CLUBS

Reading clubs for boys and girls are mushrooming all over Prince Edward Island. These are informal friendly get-togethers in our branch libraries for a half hour or so once a week after school. What do they do at these meetings? They enjoy the simple pleasures of reading aloud; giving book talks and reading book reports; talking over books read by each member of the club; discussing good movies and radio programs; listening to talks by special speakers; taking part in book quizzes and contests; having demonstrations of and talks about things made from books on handicrafts; having discussions on books on other lands.



The clubs fall into two age groups—the junior, or age nine to twelve, and the senior, or age thirteen to seventeen—with from eight to ten members in each club. As soon as a member has attended eight meetings and read at least five books he becomes the proud wearer of an attractive Pied Piper Reading Club pin. Already clubs are flourishing in Hunter River, Bradalbane, Mount Stewart, Murray River, Tyne Valley, Wellington, Montague, Georgetown and Souris, and 93 pins have been presented. Although everyone wears the same pin, the youngsters use their own originality in naming their clubs. In Montague we have the Ship Ahoy Club, and the officers include a captain, first mate who to quote the press agent "reads the log of the last meeting", project officer, book agent and press agent. The press agent sends weekly reports to the local newspaper thus gaining excellent publicity for the Prince Edward Island Libraries. We expect great things from this lively group led by their enthusiastic young librarian, Miss Norma Hilchey.

END



# *Growth of Public Libraries in Newfoundland*

by H. NEWELL.

Reprinted from the Newsletter, Newfoundland Regional Libraries,  
March 1955. Mr. Newell is Secretary-Librarian for Public Library  
Services in Newfoundland.

Half a million books borrowed! Thousands of requests for information! Two hundred thousand books in the book collection! Libraries in most of the chief towns of the province! These figures serve to indicate the present extent of the Public Library Services. Let us take a look backward and see how these services have grown since their beginning in 1934.

In January past the Public Libraries Board had its twentieth anniversary. Officially it had its beginning on Jan. 1, 1935, when the Public Libraries Act was passed but actually it was at work in the fall of 1934. The commencement of the services was marked by the opening of the Gosling Memorial Library in St. John's in January 1936 with a book collection of 8000 volumes. It was an immediate success for at that time many people were unemployed and money for the purchase of books was scarce. There was in consequence a great demand on the services of this library. A boys' and girls' department was opened in the following month of May and in the fall of the same year 1936, the Newfoundland Travelling Library, which had been in operation since 1925 and had rendered good service to outport schools, came under the management of the Board.

Once the Public Library in St. John's had been established to serve as a center for operations, the Board lost no time in planning a system of public libraries for the rest of the province. The plan was to set up libraries in the chief towns to serve as centers for neighboring towns and villages--in short, a system of what are called regional libraries. An estimate showed that to start out with trained librarians, library buildings and large stocks of books would be a very expensive undertaking, quite beyond the means of the country at that time when government revenue was low. In the end the people of Catalina under the leadership of the late Mr. Joseph Clouter showed the way. Mr. Clouter collected books and with the support of a body of enterprising and far-seeing citizens of that town succeeded in establishing a library at Catalina. They even sent books to neighboring communities, thus establishing the first regional library. With this example of local initiative before it, the Public Libraries Board felt encouraged to proceed with its plan for a system of regional libraries. This plan was approved by the Commission of Government in 1942 which also provided grants to help finance the project. At the same time the Carnegie Corporation of New York gave the Board the sum of \$10,000 to buy books. Of necessity these libraries had to be kept small in the beginning but it was felt that if the scheme succeeded they could easily be enlarged and if it failed no great loss would be incurred. The fact is, each of these central libraries has grown amazingly and they are now serving not only the towns in which they are located but also many neighboring communities including the schools.

One of the first towns to take advantage of the new scheme was Grand Bank which set up a Library Board, acquired premises, appointed a librarian and raised funds to augment those provided by the government through the Public Libraries Board. It succeeded in establishing a first-rate library. Since then this Board has erected a splendid modern library building on a 50-50 basis--the government, through the Public Libraries Board, paying one-half the cost and the people of the town the other half.



Another example of a fine regional library is that of Twillingate. The Board there has acquired two buildings for library purposes, one on either side of the Harbour. It operates a branch library at Durrell's Arm and supplies all the schools on Twillingate Island with books. It has a most capable and energetic board.

The library at Carbonear may be mentioned as one of the most outstanding of these libraries. Besides serving the people of the town, it is gradually extending its services along the North Shore of Conception Bay. It too has a very enterprising board. It has succeeded in erecting a fine modern library building and has plans in hand for further development.

In all there are 26 of these larger libraries now in operation and time will not permit me to tell in any detail what each has done, but all have done remarkably well. There are libraries at Bay Roberts, Bonavista, Botwood, Brigus, Buchans, Burin, Carbonear, Catalina, Claronville, Corner Brook, Fogo, Gander, Grand Bank, Harbour Grace, Lewisporte, Placentia, Pouch Cove, St. Anthony, St. George's, St. Lawrence, Springdale, Trepassey, Twillingate, Wesleyville, Searston and Winterton. Besides these larger centers there are a number of smaller centers associated with one or the other of the larger ones. These are Fortune, Ramea, Burgeo, Greenspond, Marystown, Durrell's Arm, Harry's Harbour, Happy Valley. New libraries in this latter group about to be opened are Spaniard's Bay, Freshwater (Placentia), Harbour Main and Witless Bay. Each of the larger centers sends books to neighboring communities usually to the schools, which undertake to distribute them to their pupils and to the people of the community generally. There are over one hundred schools doing this. Such an arrangement goes by the name of a deposit station. . . . .

An important development is presently taking place at Corner Brook. A new Library Board has been appointed and a substantial grant provided by the government for the purpose of extending the services of the present library there. In time it is hoped that this library will be in a position to serve neighboring communities and possibly the major part of the Northwest Coast.

Thus it will be seen that from small beginnings the library services have grown until the whole province is covered with a network of libraries. The network is however not quite complete, since there are still many gaps not filled.

The Travelling Library is filling some of these gaps. It sends, on the average, 24,000 volumes to some 200 schools annually. It works in close conjunction with the regional system. It has withdrawn its services from places which can be served by the regional centers and endeavors to supply schools in the more remote areas.

The Public Libraries are making a very special effort to provide books for young people. According to the last census there were 82,559 persons in the group from 5 to 14 years of age and over 80,000 volumes are now available for this group. These books are, as already noted, distributed through the schools. In the age group 15-19 there are 30,000 persons and special effort has been made to provide these with suitable books also. No separate record is available as the books are considered part of the adult collection.

To sum up: commencing in 1936 with two units--the Gosling Memorial Library and the Travelling Library, having a combined book collection of less than 20,000 volumes, the Public Library Services have grown until there are now 27 large Central Libraries including the Gosling Memorial Library, each serving its neighborhood or region, with the Travelling Library serving a considerable number of schools in the more remote places. The total book (Continued on Page 51)



## *Changes in N. B. Libraries Act*

51

The following pieces of legislation were recently passed by the Legislature of New Brunswick, it was announced by James F. MacEacheron, Director of Central Library Services. A measure to aid public libraries states that if the board administering a public library expresses its willingness to enter a regional library scheme, the board may, with the approval of the Director, borrow books from the Central Library Services.

An amendment to Section 11, subsection 3(b), of the Library Services Act alters it to read "A Regional Library Board may" (i.e. instead of shall) "purchase books, periodicals, pamphlets and other articles or objects of an educational or artistic value for the purpose of the library as recommended by the Regional Library Supervisor."

## *Halifax Memorial Library* reported by Shirley Coulter

Miss Falconer reports some statistics for the Circulation Department: The average daily circulation in March 1955 was 1266, or 215 more than in March 1954; and for the first six days of April 1955, average daily circulation was 1515, or 526 more than in the same period of April 1954. In March 1955, the average daily registration of borrowers (including re-registration) was 26; in March 1954 the average daily registration was 18. Miss Webster reports that 643 reference questions were worked on during March 1955. This is 85 more than the previous largest month, which was March 1954.

The Boys' and Girls' Branch at Chebucto Road School is proving very successful with an average daily circulation over 200.

Miss Jean MacLeod, a graduate of the Toronto library school, will join the H.M.L. in August as reference assistant. Miss MacLeod has worked in the H.M.L. and the Nova Scotia Research Foundation Library as a student assistant. Mr. James MacLauchlan, an M.A. student at Dalhousie University, who has worked part-time for the H.M.L., will be a fulltime assistant in the Reference Department this summer.

---

### LIBRARIES IN NEWFOUNDLAND (Continued from Page 50 )

collection has grown from less than 20,000 volumes to over 200,000 volumes and the number borrowed from 100,000 volumes annually to well over 500,000 volumes.

Books are provided for all grades of readers—from those who are beginning to read to those who can read difficult works in Literature, Philosophy and Science; from the adult who can manage only a simple type of story to those who can enjoy the highest flights of the poet and novelist. Nor are the practical readers forgotten. The carpenter, plumber, mason, engineer, may all find books to suit their needs. In fact apart from works of the imagination it is books on plumbing, heating, refrigeration, the automobile, radio, engineering, etc., that are in most demand. The Gosling Memorial Library alone lends about five thousand such books annually to say nothing of those lent by the other libraries throughout the province.

It will be seen therefore that the Public Library Services have shown a remarkable growth over the twenty years of their existence. A great deal however remains to be done. But that is another story.

# Quick Binding in the Library

by JAMES BRITTEN and D. A. REDMOND

Mr. Britten is assistant in charge of binding, St. Mary's University Library, Halifax; Mr. Redmond is Librarian, Nova Scotia Technical College, and the Editor of the BULLETIN.

Plastic adhesives and adhesive tapes have made quick and sturdy binding possible in the library using unskilled help. St. Mary's University Library and Nova Scotia Technical College Library have developed methods of this type which produce sturdy, neat, permanent bindings for magazines, without being confined to ready-made cases or specific brands of products.

## A Note about Materials

All brands of plastic adhesives and tapes can be used. The white liquid adhesives sold for library use are vinyl acetate polymer emulsions in water. If they settle (especially if any water is added) vigorous mechanical stirring should re-emulsify them. They are sensitive to freezing and to excess water. Brands available include Texper, Bindart and Magic-Mend. The adhesive tapes, made from plastic-surfaced cotton bookcloth coated with adhesive, vary in surface texture, width and range of colors; brands include Mystik, Book-Aid and Demco-Seal.

## Gaylord Case-Binder Method

Gaylord Bros. Inc. produce ready-made binders for magazines. Their method consists of: (1) Pile the magazines in a press with the backs even. (2) Make sawcuts in the back edges. (3) Insert tape or cord into the sawcuts. (4) Coat the backs with plastic adhesive. (5) Select a ready-made binder of the proper page size and back width for the volume, and glue the binding strip in the case. (6) Insert the volume, jog and rub down, and let dry. The binders are produced in widths from 3/4 to 2 inches in 1/8 inch intervals, and of page size to order. The finished job is workmanlike and sturdy.

## St. Mary's Method

The volume bound by this method is durable enough for above-average usage, and has a neat appearance on the shelf. To gain these characteristics, we find the cost is not the lowest but is well below any known commercial rate.

The tools needed are: book press (we use a Gaylord); handsaw; 1/2 inch paint brush; paper cutter; scissors. Materials needed are: plastic adhesive; adhesive tape; bookbinder's mull; twine; millboard (No. 18 or 20); light bristol board; 1-1/2 inch gummed holland.

1. Arrange periodicals in proper order, with care taken to ensure that the spines and tops of the issues are even. We want the spines level to facilitate the binding process, and with even tops we get a neater volume. With side-stapled magazines, advertising is removed (where practicable) and the staples hammered flat to take up the slack.
2. Place in book press with the spines uppermost. Make three sawcuts, varying in depth plus or minus an eighth of an inch depending on the size of the volume.



3. Coat the spines with adhesive, taking care that the sawcuts are at least moistened. Twine the size of the notches is then inserted into the wet sawcuts, and more adhesive is added to cover the twine and fill any cavity.
4. Over this damp surface place a piece of mull, 1/2 inch shorter than the volume and one inch wider. Coat the top with adhesive again to ensure proper adhesion, allowing the projecting wings to remain dry. Allow the glued area to harden.
5. While drying continues, cut from millboard two covers 1/4 inch longer and 1/8 inch wider than the page size of the volume.
6. Cut a piece of light bristol board to be used as backing for the spine. This should be as long as the cover, with the width the same as the thickness of the volume.
7. Using plastic adhesive tape of sufficient width to give at least a half-inch edge on the cover, place the backing (Step 6) in the center of the strip. Then cut the strip of tape from the roll, allowing 1/2 inch of tape longer than the bristol board at top and bottom.
8. Place front and back covers on the adhesive tape, allowing the thickness of the board (about 1/8 inch) separation between cover and spine strip. Fold over the overhang of tape at each end. Turn over the assembly and smooth any wrinkles. The jacket is now ready for the dried volume.
9. Place the volume into the jacket so that there is a border of 1/8 inch of cover on top, bottom and fore-edge. Open one cover and trim the twine flush with the volume. Soften the mull "wings" with plastic adhesive and press them against the inside of the front and back covers. As each cover is glued, lay into the gutter between cover and end leaf a strip of gummed holland, creased lengthwise, gummed side out. This strengthens the joint and keeps the mull from sticking to the end leaf of the volume. Allow the volume to dry before using.
10. Letter the spine. St. Mary's uses Higgins white ink, and sprays the lettering with a coat of "Bookote". The electric stylus, used at Tech, is also effective but perhaps takes more time when there are several lines of lettering.

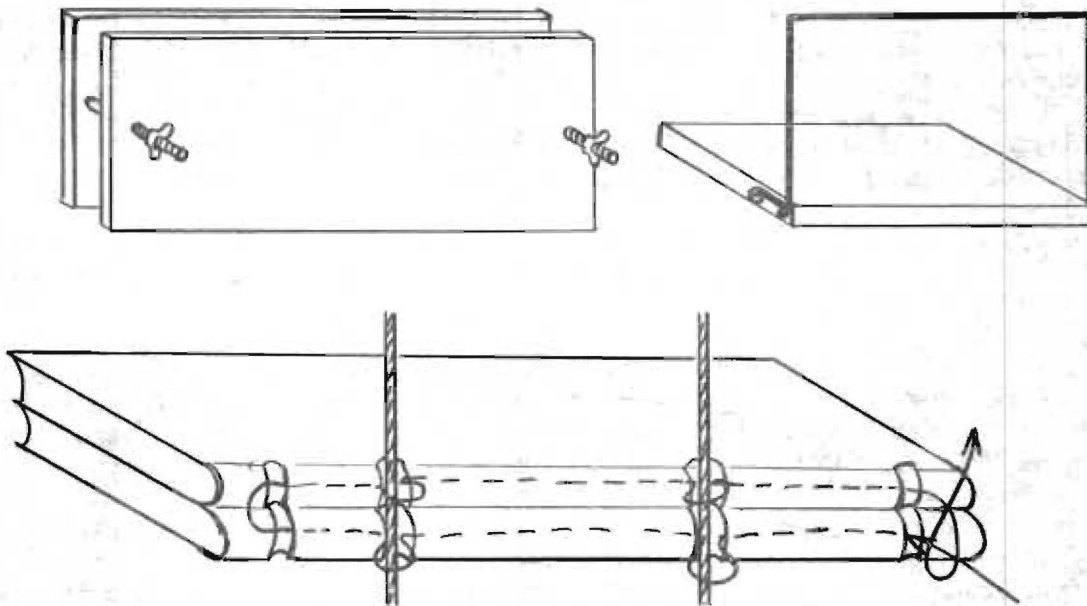
Some volumes (notably news-weeklies) bound by this method have had constant and vigorous use during the past year and have stood the test very well. A much longer time, of course, is needed to prove the worth of the method.

#### Tech Method

At Nova Scotia Technical College the method used is essentially the same. However, many volumes of thin, saddle-stitched magazines have been sewn for more strength and flexibility, instead of relying only on the cord in sawcuts across the back for holding pages.

Saddle-stitched items are simplest to consider. They are prepared by removing the staples, jogging flush to head and back, clamping in a light press and making sawcuts at about two-inch spacing along the back. The sawcuts must penetrate to the center of each section--hence the thicker the saddle-stitched journal, the deeper the sawcut.

**IMPROVISED BINDING EQUIPMENT:** At left, two pieces of 3/4 inch plywood, 8 by 16 inches, and two long bolts make a press. At right, the end of an orange crate, and a straightened coathanger, make a sewing frame.



**SEWING:** Shown greatly exaggerated are sawcuts in the back of each section, and taut cords stretched on the sewing frame. Linen thread (use a tapestry or darning needle) fastens each section to the cords and at the end is "caught" to the end stitch of the preceding section.

The sewing requires a sewing frame (see sketch above). Cords are tied to the wire and stretched down to be thumb-tacked to the edge of the board, in positions corresponding to each sawcut. Using linen bookbinder's thread (No. 18 is a good weight) and a coarse needle, each section is sewn onto the cords. This is quite easy and rapid. When all sections have been sewn on, the cords are cut leaving a "slip" or tail on each side about 3/4 inch long. The sewn unit is clamped in the press and the back coated with plastic adhesive, working it well into the sawcuts and stitching. When this dries, the ends of the cords are frayed slightly and glued down to the front and back leaves.

Another way of sewing is to do without the frame and cords, catch-stitching each section to the previous one at each hole. This is slower and not as strong.

Another home-made product can be used rather than a sheet of plain mull as used in the St. Mary's method. Two strips of mull, about 3 inches wide, can be stitched together in any domestic sewing machine. Use two parallel rows of stitching, the same distance apart as the width of the back of the volume. Several sizes of this can be made up beforehand in lengths of a couple of yards. Bookbinder's mull costs about 30¢ a square yard; or crinoline can be found in a drygoods store at a higher cost.

Home-made double-stitched binder of the correct width between stitching is then applied to a fresh coat of plastic adhesive on the volume and rubbed down. Two outer flaps of the binder remain free to attach the covers.

The case is made of binder's board (millboard) and tape as in the St. Mary's method, coated with adhesive and jogged onto the book, with waxed paper between cover and book to keep end leaves from sticking.



For side-stapled magazines, one additional step is recommended in this method. Staples are removed, and the magazine re-sewn with bookbinder's thread, through the staple holes and additional holes punched with a fine awl. This also gives an opportunity to remove advertising.. The stitches can then be given a drop of plastic adhesive to ensure tightness. The method can then be followed either using cords worked into sawcuts, or sewing the magazines onto cords. Sewing produces a more flexible book; but where side-stapled magazines have a flatter back and larger surface for glue and mull to adhere, the sewing is not much stronger than plain gluing. However, one or two side-stapled issues can be sewn into a saddle-stitched volume quite readily in this way.

### Requirements of a Library Binding

A binding, even for a seldom-used magazine, must meet several needs:

It must have a stiff cover to protect the edges of pages from wear.  
 It must not depend on the original wire staples, which rust.  
 It must hold each leaf adequately; it must open readily and stay open.  
 Its spine and boards must be stiff enough to stand well on a shelf.  
 It must be permanent--it must last twenty years, with prospects of being good for fifty or a hundred--and must continue to protect its contents this long.

Commercial library binding does all this and more, but costs MONEY. Some libraries in the Maritime are saving money by doing their own full library binding. But a substitute method to be used in the library must also meet these criteria. Also, a substitute method must not need expensive equipment or lots of supplies.

The Gaylord method is designed, of course, to sell ready-made case binders. Both this and the St. Mary's method leave staples in the magazines, and this can have bad effects within twenty years. These methods are somewhat difficult, or less certain, with saddle-stitched magazines--to give an adequate grip on each section requires deep sawcuts and makes a rather stiff back.

The use of a double-stitched binder--two strips of mull sewn together with two parallel lines of stitching--gives a greater grip on the volume--sides as well as back--without sticking down end leaves. However, a stock of different sizes is needed. Commercial stock may be sturdier, but short pieces of seldom-used sizes can be made "at home" more cheaply.

Sewing is slightly slower, and is not well adapted to side-stapled magazines. Note that good library binding is side-sewn on special machines, and this is really the only way to bind heavy magazines effectively. Sewing many sections tends to swell the back of the volume--and this "home" method is not adapted to a swollen back. A swollen back needs a rounded, flexible back, as done in full library binding. Sewing is best for saddle-sewn materials up to twelve moderate or thick sections--not for a volume made up of many thin sections, such as weeklies.

### Cost

A fifty-pound bundle of millboard, No. 18, cuts into 144 pieces 8.5 by 11 inches, or costs under 10¢ per volume. Large rolls of tape, thirty yards, cost under 10¢ a volume. Mull and plastic glue cost less than 5¢. For less than 25¢ in materials, and 30 to 40 minutes using the Tech method, a satisfactory binding can be produced. St. Mary's has estimated total costs at 80¢ per volume.

In one year, Nova Scotia Technical College has saved perhaps \$600 doing 200 volumes this way--or rather, 200 volumes that would not otherwise have been done, are now bound and durable additions to the shelves.

## *MLA Nominations for 1955-56*

The Nominating Committee submits the following slate of officers for the year 1955-56:

President: Mr. Harry Ganong, Acadia University Library, Wolfville, N.S.

Vice Presidents:

New Brunswick: Mr. James F. MacEacheron, Central Library Services,  
Department of Education, Fredericton

Newfoundland: Miss Jessie B. Mifflin, Supervisor of Regional Libraries,  
St. John's

Nova Scotia: Father William A. Stewart, St. Mary's University, Halifax

Prince Edward Island: Miss Mary Newsom, Public Library, Charlottetown

Secretary-Treasurer: Miss C. Isabel Abernethy, Naval Research Establishment,  
c/o Fleet Mail Office, Halifax

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: Grace Campbell  
Hope Jarvis  
Shirley Elliott, Chairman

The Editor regrets that illness among staff at Nova Scotia Technical College has caused delay in publication of the Spring issue of the BULLETIN which has prevented sufficient advance publication of the report of the Nominating Committee for receipt of additional nominations. This is probably highly illegal.

### TWO MARITIME LIBRARIANS LEAVING

Miss Helen Cummings is leaving the Cape Breton Regional Library in Sydney to go to the Sudbury Public Library, Ontario.

Morven Austin (Mrs. Peter Austin) has resigned from the librarianship of the Maritime Regional Laboratory, National Research Council, Halifax, to return to England.



# College Library News

57

## ACADIA UNIVERSITY LIBRARY reported by Harry Ganong

During the year we have been making various attempts to interest promising students in the possibility of a library career. We have been doing this largely through personal interviews, but in addition to these we had a Library Science display Feb. 14-26. The display consisted of such material as leaflets on librarianship, posters, library school calendars and advertisements for librarians such as those appearing in the C.L.A. Bulletin and Civil Service notices.

In consequence of these efforts at recruitment we cannot show any spectacular results, but one student has definitely decided to go to library school next year, and there are two or three other prospective candidates whom we are hoping to persuade to enter the library field.

At the present time it is our pleasure to have a New Zealand book exhibit on display at the Acadia Library. This small but attractive collection covers a variety of topics and is arousing a fair degree of interest among the students, faculty, and other citizens of Wolfville.

## UNIVERSITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK reported by A. Robert Rogers

"Plans have now been completed for a six-week observation and conference tour which I am planning to take in late May and the month of June. Leaving Fredericton immediately after the Maritime Library Association Conference, I shall arrive in Vancouver May 24. Mr. Neal Harlow, librarian of the University of British Columbia, has very graciously made arrangements for me to spend three weeks observing administration methods, technical processes, etc., in his library. After Vancouver, I shall spend a week observing in the University of Alberta Library and then two days visiting the University of Saskatchewan Library, just prior to the Canadian Library Association Conference. A four-day visit to the University of Manitoba Library will conclude the trip."

The Ryerson Press will this fall publish The White Monument, one of the Ryerson Poetry Chap-Books, which is Mr. Rogers' first book.

## NOVA SCOTIA TECHNICAL COLLEGE reported by Don Redmond

What is the octane rating of naphtha? When did Joukowski do his work in hydrodynamics? What is the composition of an infrared-sensitive cell used in furnace control? How do sawdust burners perform? Answering questions like these, and an active program of duplicate exchange, were highlights of 1954-55 at Tech mentioned in the Library's annual report. The U.S. Book Exchange provided 950 items, and the S.L.A. Metals Division Duplicate Exchange brought material from libraries as far apart as Trail and Texas. Probably because of the required Technical Literature course, students use the card catalog assuredly. In the Fall term they borrow an average of 1.5 books per student/month; in the Spring term, about 0.7; the difference is due to the demand for material in the Tech. Lit. course in the Fall term. Displays which attracted student attention included British technical journals, donated by the U.K. Trade Commission and a local periodical agent; and books about bridges, at the time of the opening of the Angus L. Macdonald (Halifax-Dartmouth) Bridge. This display included a 1776 volume on bridge-building which was from the original Halifax Mechanics' Institute Library, founded 1831. The library's shelves of biography of engineers, moved to prominent shelves near the card catalog, got much more attention than previously.

