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DISPLAY OF CHILDREN'S BOOKS

NOVA SCOTIA FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS
TATAMAGOUCHE, AUGUST 8-10, 1959

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GREETINGS FROM THE EDITOR:

Well, here we are at the beginning of another season and here I am sitting on the edge of an unfamiliar editorial chair. But if material and information continue to pour in as they did for this issue, I'll soon be sitting back in comfort - so keep it up, please.

I'd like to thank all those who managed to find time amid summer vacations and conferences to send in material. Some of it was a little late for the Summer issue, but anything not too out-of-date will be found in this one.

You will notice that we have as Assistant-Editor Miss Evelyn Campbell, who will handle the technical end of Bulletin production, for which I am very grateful.

Shirley Coulter.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT —

Messages from presidents are like prefaces in books - seldom read and usually unnecessary. The important thing in the book is the content, and the important thing in an association is the membership. If the content of the book is of high literary quality, no one cares about the preface. If the members of an association are enthusiastic and energetic, the president should become only the mouthpiece of the members since it is they who decide the policies and undertake the projects.

To be president of an association like the APLA is indeed to feel like an unnecessary preface, for there is no doubt that our association is blessed with an esprit de corps which bespeaks success in all our undertakings. For a small group we have accomplished much. We have a reputation among Canadian librarians both for the work we do and for the future librarians we encourage.

At the conference in St. John in May, 1959, we undertook to provide a tangible proof of our desire to promote librarianship in the Atlantic Provinces. We committed ourselves to setting up a scholarship fund. Our enthusiasm ran high at that time and we had visions of a substantial scholarship within a few months. To date we have accumulated \$409.77. There is no reason to feel smug about this because \$200 of it was taken from Association funds, \$120.13 was contributed by the New Brunswick Library Association, while the remaining \$89.64 was contributed by SIX members. In other words, only about ten per cent of our membership has contributed voluntarily to what is probably the most important single project the Association has undertaken.

There are always calls being made on us for this worthy cause and that, but as a professional library group the promotion of the Atlantic Provinces Library Association Scholarship Fund should have a high priority. Let us continue to show other Canadian librarians what the Atlantic Provinces can do.

Perhaps after all this is a preface which is necessary and should be read.

Mary Cameron.

FLASH !!!!!!!!!!!!!

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association will sponsor the 1961 Conference of the Canadian Library Association which will be held at the Algonquin Hotel in St. Andrews, New Brunswick.

CORRECTIONS:

Please note the following corrections in the APLA Summer Bulletin:

Page 83, paragraph 4, line 2, should read, " ... Miss Cameron moved that the ALA dues NOT be paid this year ..."

Page 85, paragraph 2 should read, "Resolutions (1) to (7) were severally presented, seconded and carried. After some discussion, resolution (8) was NOT approved."

COPYRIGHT ---

The following paper, by Denys Noden, Law Librarian, University of Alberta Library, was part of the discussion on Book Acquisition given at the Edmonton Library Association meeting of January 16, 1959, and is reprinted here with the permission of the Alberta Library Association.

First of all, let me say that if any are wondering just what copyright has to do with book acquisition, I can sympathize with you. But however remote the real connection between the two, any discussion of copyright, in Canada at least, has inevitably brought up one aspect of book acquisition on which Canadian publishers feel very strongly, namely: who shall have the right to import copies, and who, if anyone, shall be barred from so doing. Equally inevitably, the discussion has been accompanied by a head-on collision between those who publish books and those who wish to buy them.

So what I am going to talk about, though at times I may not seem to be sticking very closely to the point, is not copyright itself so much as what Canadian publishers have been doing under pretext of the Copyright Act, and what they are urging the Government to allow them to do under the Act if it is amended. As you will know, a Royal Commission published its report on copyright in 1957 and, amongst other items, the publishers' position was aired quite thoroughly at the hearings and in some of the briefs presented to it. But the situation is extremely confused. For one thing, the publishers have been doing something which they appear to have had no legal right to do. For another, many of their strictures against the Act appear to be based on a questionable interpretation of its provisions, and are not borne out by the words of the Act itself. So you will understand when I say that I approach the topic with considerable apprehension.

Now I do not intend to go into the provisions of the Act in detail. But there are two sections in particular that we shall have to consider, both dealing with the importation of books. Section 27 is quite straightforward. It provides that no one shall import copies made outside Canada of any copyrighted work, which, had they been made inside Canada would have infringed copyright. To prevent such importation, it is necessary for the copyright owner to notify the Department of National Revenue that he objects. This is, of course, no more than fair protection for the owner of the Canadian copyright. Section 28, however, is by no means so straightforward, and in fact, appears to contradict itself more than once. It does not apply to books printed and published for sale in Great Britain or in any of the countries adhering to the Berne Copyright Convention. It does not apply to books whose authors are British subjects, other than Canadian citizens, or subjects or citizens of a Convention country. Subject to these conditions, the gist of Section 28 appears to be that it is unlawful:

1. To import any copyrighted book until fourteen days after its publication.
2. To import any book if the right to reproduce it in Canada has been granted by licence or otherwise.

To these prohibitions there are special exceptions which include public libraries and institutions of learning. These may import any copies at any time before a work is printed or made in Canada. Also, any individual may import for his use not more than two copies of any work published in a Convention country.

You will be glad to learn that, according to the leading Canadian authority on copyright, parts of this section appear to be "meaningless and futile". He adds that "until the section is amended, a difficult question is posed to any Court before which the interpretation of the section may come". So much for one half of the confusion mentioned earlier.

Nevertheless, it is on the subject of these two sections that Canadian publishers made their strongest representations to the Royal Commission. To explain the background of the situation I cannot do better than quote in full a letter from the Department of Justice which is reproduced in the Commission Report. It reads as follows:

"I acknowledge your letter of January 23rd last with enclosure wherein you request an opinion as to the legality of certain practices which have arisen under Section 27 of the Copyright Act. As I understand it, the practice to which you refer is as follows:

The owner of copyright in a certain book in both Canada and the United States has copies of the book printed in the United States and distributed for retail there. He appoints a sales representative in Canada as his exclusive selling Agent here. Through his selling Agent in Canada, he notifies the

Department of National Revenue under Section 27 of the Copyright Act that he desires to have copies of the book prohibited from import into Canada. The book is then included in Schedule "C" of the Customs Tariff, and is excluded from Canada to all others except the exclusive agent.

I have considered this practice, and I am of the opinion that it is not supported by the relevant legislation. Section 27 of the Copyright Act provides that copies made out of Canada of any work in which copyright subsists, which, if made in Canada, would infringe copyright may be excluded by the procedure outlined above. Since the copies in question made out of Canada were made by the holder of the copyright, the same, if made in Canada, would not infringe copyright. That being the case, Section 27 is not applicable.

There is, of course, the further objection to the practice outlined above that even if Section 27 were available, the placing of the book in Schedule "C" of the Customs Tariff would bar it from importation into Canada even to the American publishers' own sales representative."

Alarmed at this opinion, which the publishers state will have a serious effect on the book trade in Canada, they urged the Commission to recommend legislation that would give the Canadian agent the sole right to import, whether the books were made legally or illegally in the foreign country. Quite rightly, the Commission resisted this suggestion, for as even

the trade magazine QUILL AND QUIRE agreed, such a policy appears to protect a trade agreement rather than copyright. As for the serious effects forecast, I cannot see that the publishers have anyone but themselves to blame. Section 27 of the Act is quite clear, and never did anything more than prevent the importation into Canada of books illegally published abroad. Having based their actions on a misinterpretation of the section, it scarcely lies in the mouths of the publishers to complain when their misinterpretation is corrected.

This brings us to the second cause for alarm in publishing circles, namely the right of public libraries and institutions of learning to import copies, and from here onwards confusion reigns supreme. In the first place, the publishers seem to have amalgamated Section 28, which purports to cover the problem, with Section 27, which has nothing to do with it. In his discussion of the new aspect of Section 27, the writer in QUILL AND QUIRE quoted earlier says: "Whether or not the relaxing of import restrictions actually means that libraries and booksellers can now import foreign works without reference to the Canadian copyright holder is unclear". Unclear it may well be, but importation with respect to the Canadian copyright holder is dealt with in Section 28. The Department of Justice opinion has no bearing on it whatsoever, but the confusion is evident in more than this article alone.

In the second place, as we have noted, Section 28 is in some places next to meaningless, though writers tend to refer to it quite glibly as though its meaning were crystal clear. One publisher says: "You find that any public library or institution of learning is entitled to import directly any quantity of any book regardless of copyright or exclusive agency arrangements, unless the book is printed in Canada. You will find that any individual can do the same thing." With respect to the publisher concerned, this is only half the truth. Regardless of exclusive agency arrangements certainly, but not regardless of copyright, for if the author is a subject or citizen of Great Britain or of a Convention country, excluding a Canadian citizen, none of Section 28 applies. This appears to leave the Canadian author in an uneviable position, but as the Commission reported: "Canadian agents of foreign publishers rather than the authors are, we think, the chief objectors. We cannot see that it is the function of copyright law to protect them."

Here, I think, we have the crux of the problem. The major portion of the Canadian publishers' business centres around the books they import from Great Britain and the United States. For the most part, they are not the owners of Canadian copyright in the books they import, but are exclusive selling agents of the copyright owners. They assert, no doubt correctly, that the agency aspect of their business must come first, before the publishing of Canadian books will be practicable. But if this is so, if they are chiefly concerned with preserving their exclusive distribution rights, then so far as copyright is concerned there will always be considerable irrelevance in their views, for generally speaking, the function of copyright is to protect the author. This is not to dismiss the problems of the Canadian publisher out of hand, but surely he is looking in the wrong direction for the assistance he desires.

Speaking of irrelevance, however, I am now straying far beyond my assigned limits. Before I conclude, it will perhaps be a relief for you to learn that the following prepared statement has been issued to the book trade by the Macmillan Company: "We wish to make it clear that there is no change in arrangements for securing our books, or those of the houses we represent in Canada." And there I will leave the matter.

The first floor of the Library is the lending department for adults with a total space of 235 square metres including seats for readers, a small room for special studies, a lending office and a packing room. There is a common charging and discharging desk for adults and children on this floor with a conveyor belt that takes the children's books to their department on the next floor. There is, of course, a staircase running parallel to this belt by which borrowers may proceed to the children's library. (Service does not extend to the conveying of readers!) The children's library has 140 square metres of space. On this floor, too, may be found offices for the librarian, cataloguing department, stack, cloakroom, and lunchroom for the staff.

Book stock in the adult library is 20,663 with 85,632 loans to 4,133 members. The last few years have seen a very heavy increase in circulation. The Library has one branch (for adults and children) at Høsterkøb, in the eastern section of the municipality. There are also two branches in a military barracks situated in a neighbouring parish. The children's library with 13,246 volumes had a circulation in 1958 of 49,300. There were 1,494 borrowers out of a possible 1,551, i.e. the number of children under school-leaving age (14) in the municipality. One school library with a lending room and reading room facilities is attached to the children's library. Two school libraries have recently been installed in municipal schools. Per capita circulation is approximately 11 books a year. This particular library is open the following hours:

	<u>Monday-Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
Adult Library	2:00 pm - 8:00 pm	10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Children's Library	2:00 pm - 5:00 pm	2:00 pm - 5:00 pm
	(Plus Wednesday 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm)	

Following the custom in Denmark, there are two library boards - one for the adult library and one for the children's library. This administrative duality is simply a means of getting more revenue from the state. There is a State grant of 80% on the first 25,000 Kr. raised by a municipality for library purposes, so by having two Boards two grants are received. The adult library Board has 3 members - all members of the City Council. The children's library Board has the same Board plus two representatives of the school authorities. Miss Gram is secretary and chief executive officer of both Boards. There is a staff of eleven, six of whom are librarians.

The budget is as follows: (in Danish Kr.; 7.15 Kr. = \$1.00)

	<u>Municipality</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Total</u>
Adult	120,818	53,180	50	174,048
Children's	53,609	30,024	2,175	85,808

The budget is about \$3.00 per capita or nearly \$6.00 in purchasing power, I would say. You can see from this table the kind of support Danish libraries get, and I was told that Birkerød was not as well supported as some other libraries because the people in this area are not as wealthy as those in other places.

I mentioned at the beginning of this article that Denmark has complete library coverage. Here is an example of a library involved in that coverage. Here, too, is an example of Danish co-operation. Denmark has more than 30 central or county libraries covering the whole country, and Birkerød, along with

(Continued on p. 19)

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BOOKS AND LIBRARIES AMONG THE ARTS -

Books have always been a part of the Nova Scotia Festival of the Arts, which takes place every August at Tatamagouche. This past August, as usual, there was a display of books on Nova Scotia and by Nova Scotians arranged by the Book Room, Halifax, and for sale to interested visitors.

But this year for the first time libraries and library books were a part of this annual event. In the Children's Centre, a large tent at one corner of the grounds, two of the exhibits were concerned with books. "Around the World in 30 Books", a display of stories and travel books from the Children's Department, Halifax Memorial Library, was centred by an attractive, 3-dimensional poster, the work of Mrs. Betty Howard of the H.M.L. staff. (Photo on cover by Mr. E. Longard, N.S. Museum of Science, shows Mrs. A.B. Boland, volunteer worker from Parrsboro, with some of the "interested visitors") Lists of the 30 books plus an outline map of the world on which to trace their journeys were given to the children. Pamphlets on librarianship, provided by the Provincial Library, were available to adults and young adults. It was not possible to have a librarian on duty all the time, but the volunteer workers were very capable and made themselves as familiar as possible with the books and other material there in order to talk to visitors about them. The children enjoyed browsing - one little girl was so upset at not having time to finish a book, that her mother had to promise to buy it for her before she would leave (unfortunately, they lived in an area without library service). Many people asked about buying the books and took information about publisher, etc. for ordering purposes.

The other main exhibit was centred around one particular book - THE GOLDEN BOOK OF SCIENCE (with the enthusiastic approval of Simon and Schuster). Using it as a guide, the staff of the N.S. Museum of Science built a fascinating and informative display in which the GOLDEN BOOK OF SCIENCE "came to life". Children and adults visited this exhibit many times for it contained too much to take in at one viewing. (Visitors to the Halifax Memorial Library are having an opportunity to see this exhibit from Sept. 22 to mid-October. Anyone interested in having the display visit their district may contact Mr. Donald Crowdis, N.S. Museum of Science. It's really worth seeing!)

The "Library on Wheels" was another popular spot at the Festival. On Sat. and Mon., Aug. 8 and 10, the bookmobile from the Colchester-East Hants Regional Library was on the grounds with Mrs. Margaret Snyder and her staff on hand to greet visitors and answer questions. On display there, along with their books, were charts and maps of this particular regional library as well as information on the regional system in Nova Scotia as a whole. Mrs. Snyder reports, "Adults visiting the Bookmobile were from various places in the United States and Canada. Some compared our work with similar work in their own communities; many spoke appreciatively of the work of the Bookmobile. There seemed to be a good deal of genuine interest." And of course the boys and girls flocked to the Bookmobile where they received lapel-sized paper bookmobiles to wear, and where they could be found, five or six at a time, sitting on the floor at the back having a good "read" while yet another shower went on outside.

-SCHOOL LIBRARIES-

THE SCHOOL LIBRARY - FACILITY OR FRILL?

(An excerpt from an article by Alice B. Howard, School Libraries and Work with Children, Division of Library Extension, reprinted in the Bay State Librarian, Summer, 1959, from The Massachusetts Teacher, April, 1959)

A word too commonly applied to the school library and its service is "frill". Webster defines the word "frill" as "a showy superfluity in dress, manners, etc." By definition I reject the word as a description of the school library, which should at all times be accepted as a mental workshop, an area for mental disciplines.

Those who call the school library and its instructional programming (which supplements the curriculum) a frill would hesitate to describe the gymnasium program or the elaboration of the home-making courses by such a term. Strong bodies are, of course, important. Muscles must be developed for health reasons. Food must be nourishingly prepared and attractively served for the same reasons, yet who asks about the health of the mind? The mind has muscles also, and it needs alluring nourishment. The librarian who organizes, mixes, and intelligently offers food for sound mental muscles is as fully basic to the total school picture as the body expert and the food specialist.

Russia offers thoroughly organized training for the development of the minds and bodies of her young people. If recent reports from that distant area can be believed, school libraries and ample printed materials are readily available to the young people. To belabor this obvious competition between two strong nations is ridiculous; but I do most sincerely believe that our own way of life, its significance and meaning for young people, will be strengthened by providing a strong, deep program of education. If this point is valid, then the corollary which logically follows predicates full and complete support by the local school committees of the school library and its administrator. ... There are now and will be in the future increasingly new challenges to be faced. These will require sound, up-to-date resource materials as well as reference and curriculum books if the challenges are to be constructively answered and creatively projected. If today's school children, no matter what their mental age, are to develop their individual potentials, the school library and the school librarian will be the meaningful tool of that experience.

THE SCHOOL LIBRARY: VITAL FIFTH WHEEL

(Editorial - The Halifax Mail-Star, Oct. 5, 1959)

The inadequacy of the average school library - although there are exceptions in Halifax and elsewhere - has been underscored again. This time, the observation comes from an individual who is in a position to lend authority to what he says about a situation that most people suspect. I.K. Forsyth, supervisor of Dartmouth schools, has told the town's Board of School Commissioners that less than one-fifth of the desirable number of books are available to the local students.

12.

It is bad enough that books, which are so essential a part of the learning process, are not provided in many of the schools, not only in Dartmouth but throughout the province. Even more deplorable is the nature of the collections that may be found in some school libraries. Too many do not contain a representative selection which complements the curriculum; in a number of places these volumes are not properly catalogued or cared for. A glance at not a few libraries reveals a picture which is diametrically opposed to the main purpose of such institutions. Where there is a room, it is sometimes permitted to be a catch-all. Old school registers clutter shelves in disarray; a duplicating machine makes of one corner the local printing service; serious study is impossible in the environment where teachers mark papers, students eat lunch, and more than one prank is hatched.

School commissioners and trustees, as was the reaction of some members of the Dartmouth body in response to Mr. Forsyth's comments, shy away from the matter because of the cost. True, adequate libraries are expensive, but many existing facilities which are hopelessly inadequate could be improved at little cost provided some imagination and common sense were applied. Books are the tools of education and libraries are the repositories of these important instruments. It is a short-sighted policy, indeed, which ignores the vital quality of this agency of learning. The Lunenburg County individual who once remarked that a school library was about as useful as a fifth wheel on a car might well be reminded that, in the automobile, wheel number five is the steering wheel.

GROSSLY NEGLECTED SCHOOL LIBRARIES

(Editorial - Halifax Mail-Star, Oct. 7, 1959)

Further to our editorial of Monday concerning school libraries, there are other comments to be made. It is not because there is something new to be said that we turn again to the matter. Rather, it is because of our deep concern in what is a very serious situation and our hope that something may be done to rectify what is an omission in our provincial educational structure.

Generally speaking, school libraries in Nova Scotia are a disgrace. Inadequate selections of books, unsuitable facilities and lack of proper supervision have rendered quite useless what ought to be an integral part of the learning process. It is not our responsibility to assess blame. Actually, school libraries are under the jurisdiction of local school boards but those institutions, their activities curtailed by the persistent demand that they save money, seldom have the means at their disposal to provide the collections of books that are so essential. Some parts of the province fare better than others in the matter. In those counties where there are regional libraries, the bookmobiles call at the schools and provide volumes to the students. Other counties are less favored, although some provision for their needs is made through the Department of Education's Teacher's Central Library. That, then, is the general picture in this province of the libraries at the disposal of school children. The most obvious feature of it all is the inadequacy. It appears that there is an immediate need for a trained librarian operating in a supervisory capacity who can journey about the province in an effort to make the most of existing libraries. The provincial government is prepared to supply advice and some books to local collections but it is imperative that a properly trained individual be available to render these books most useful and useable. And since the heart of the situation is in the hands of the local school boards, it becomes a responsibility of every citizen to assure that the board will have the freedom and the means to set up the library facilities that are complementary to a proper education of the province's youth.

BIRCHWOOD JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY - A GOOD BEGINNING

The Library at Birchwood Junior High School in Charlottetown opened on Sept 2, 1958. It is a large, bright and beautifully decorated room with windows on the south side and shelves on the north and west walls. Without the loan of a thousand books from the Prince Edward Island Libraries, we would have started the year with empty shelves. The problem of arranging these books on shelves which could hold 4,000 needed careful consideration. The highest and lowest shelves were not used, and leaving whole sections between different groups of books gave a less barren picture. We received many donations, but accepted only useful reference books and some well bound classics. The School Board subscribed to twelve magazines and provided a built-in rack which is most satisfactory.

The financial situation of Charlottetown's two junior high school libraries is at present not good. Unfortunately, there is no grant for the purchase of books and equipment, and they must rely for funds largely on the Library Committees connected with the schools. In this way Birchwood received \$300 during the term with which we bought some equipment and books considered most necessary. We trust that before long there will be a regular appropriation available to both libraries.

Last year, Birchwood had a total enrollment of 576 students in Grades VII - X and most classes were able to have a 50 minute library period every two weeks, with time before and after school for reference work. The first part of the period was usually taken up with explanations and notes on the Dewey Decimal system, Shelf arrangement, library routines, etc. Additions to shelves and magazine rack were mentioned and sometimes a short talk given to introduce a new book. Some days there were reference assignments given by the teacher or librarian, and of course new books were selected by the students to take home. At times, the whole period was given over to reading, the older students preferring it this way. The lower grades will continue to have these notes and instructions, but later we shall be able to eliminate them to a certain extent in the higher grades when the pupils will have become familiar with the library. More time may then be spent on reference work and reading.

Working exclusively with children was a new experience for me, and it provided many surprises. The boys proved to be much better readers than the girls. The variety of subjects interesting them seemed inexhaustible. Grade IX and X glasses were much less enthusiastic than the younger children and it was a constant struggle to try to interest them. It seems to me that they are curriculum-bound, and I feel the fault must be shared by the course of studies, the system of examinations, the teachers, and the apathy of the students due in some measure to too many extra-curricular activities. I tried many projects in the effort to arouse their interest - book talks, reference assignments, book reports, getting them to help in the library, but still feel I had no great success. With the younger children all was different. They showed undiminished enthusiasm through the term and read well. I am hoping in a year or two, as the lower grades advance, to see the trend change and all become more library-conscious.

Our circulation for the year was 9,602 - about 17 books per student.

Mrs. Margaret Taylor, Librarian.

14.

AROUND THE CAPE BRETON HIGHLANDS IN A BOOKMOBILE -

by Miss Pauline Williams, librarian of the Victoria County Unit of the Cape Breton Regional Library.

(Miss Williams, who was born in Cardiff, South Wales, is a graduate of University College of Wales, Aberstwyth, and of the School of Librarianship, Loughborough, England. Her first position as a trainee librarian at University College gave her varied experience in all departments. In Hereford County, as assistant in charge of the Student's Section, she, with a staff of two, dealt with requests from county borrowers for subject and reference material and for specific books not available in the District or Travelling Library concerned. While there, she occasionally made trips in the Travelling Library. At the University of Western Ontario, to which she came in 1957, she assisted in the circulation and ordering departments and was responsible for display work. From her present headquarters in Baddeck she and the bookmobile travel the north-east coast of Cape Breton Island.)

.....

October 21st, 1958 - Election day in Victoria County! The new bookmobile set out on its rounds and polled 13 registrations. Nine months later we had registered 1500 borrowers out of a total population of 8,000, so that in the next election we should stand a fighting chance!

That day marked the culmination of months of preparation and activity in various parts of the province. The Victoria Home and School Association had organized committees to awaken in the people a consciousness of their need of a library. They had met with the heads of the Cape Breton Regional and the N. S. Provincial libraries to discover the requirements. The Victoria County Council had passed the necessary measures to finance and authorize the new venture. And then the activity began - in Halifax and Sydney the new book stock was being processed and accumulated; in Truro the bookmobile was being hammered into shape; in Baddeck local volunteers were renovating a basement to make the new Headquarters.



In September, the new librarian had arrived to be made at home at once with a Cape Breton cup of tea. The first thing to be done was to survey the new county and decide where halts were to be made. Key people in each community were contacted and I soon discovered the folly of asking for Alexander MacNeil. However small the district my only response would be "Which one?" All a person's given names were needed or his father's name or a description. So there were the "Red Rory" MacNeils

or D.J. MacNeil's children became Robert D.J. or John D.J., etc. In one area of one hundred borrowers, forty-eight are MacNeils and in other areas MacLeods and MacDonalds may be as plentiful. Ministers, schools and stores were contacted and they helped to distribute advance publicity.

Although the population is small, the area to be covered is quite large. Capstick, the furthest point, is 105 miles from Baddeck. So stores, post offices and schools were chosen as central points for stops and even so, borrowers often have to come two or more miles to get books. We have a lady who comes in on a tractor with requests on geology. One borrower lives nine miles out in the Atlantic on the lighthouse island of St. Paul's. He sends his books in by mail-boat. But everyone makes for the nearest stop to get books and once we were on the road nothing kept them from coming - short of a funeral. For in this very warm-hearted society a sixteenth cousin is a dear and close relation and if you aren't someone's sixteenth cousin, you must be a foreigner (probably from "down in Nova Scotia") and you'll get a good send-off anyway to help make up for not having been Born in Cape Breton.

After the whole area was surveyed and the location and duration of each stop decided, and the schedule drawn up, publicity was sent out describing the service and giving the halts, times and dates of the first visits. And then we were out on our first trip. We had just made one round of the country when winter set in and its hold wasn't released until May 1959. Icy roads and steep hills made travelling an uncertain adventure. As soon as we crossed Smokey we were sure to be met by snow and biting winds, but although people must have concluded that the bookmobile contained storms as well as books, no one was deterred.

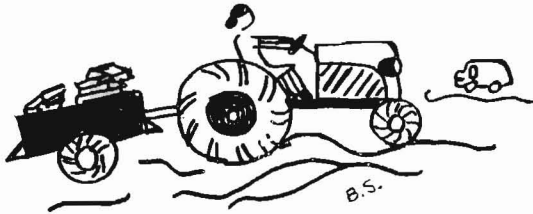


Sometimes crawling behind a snow plough, the road too narrow to let us pass, or struggling up an icy mountain, we were a little late getting to a stop. But we were sure that when we got through we would find people waiting for a book on embroidery, the Tudors, cabinet making, grasses, sea stories, westerns, jets and rockets, electric motors, antique furniture, etc. And at this time we were allowing just two books per borrower as our book stock was not yet up to strength. Once, we were stuck in a snow drift for three hours waiting for the snow plough to come and pull us out. We thought we might still get round to the schools so that the children would get books, but at one stop when we arrived at 1 p.m. (having been due at 10.20 a.m.) we found a lone woman still cheerfully waiting to get books for her family on blacksmithing and boatbuilding.

Rough travelling also made it necessary to discover some means of keeping the books on the shelves; the ordinary slope wasn't enough. Then I discovered the advantage of having a driver who was also an upholsterer when we threaded our shelves with tough webbing which was hooked on one side and easily unthreaded and threaded again at each stop. And come what may, those books stayed on the shelves!

Roads weren't our only trouble during those winter months. There was also the problem of whether the four ferries which we used to cover the county would be kept running. On one trip we leave the bookmobile overnight and travel back and forth to Baddeck by boat. In the winter we made a brisk two mile hike across the frozen Bras D'Or lake with my breath hanging in icicles on my scarf and my eyelashes continually freezing to my cheeks. But through all the winter we missed just one stop which we couldn't reach because of a frozen ferry. And always we had borrowers; even when the schools were closed with an onslaught of influenza those children that could come to meet the bookmobile. And then - with a few pulls and pushes we were through the winter (for one push we were rewarded with a shovel-ful of smelt.)

Travelling in the summer has been pleasant and the countryside is beautiful, but borrowers are fewer as they are claimed by the seasonal occupations of lobster fishing, tourists, etc. But the children are still with us, running and dashing ahead on bicycles to make sure they get to the stop on time. One school-teacher reported that the inspector had said that her pupils were several grades ahead in their reading, which she attributes entirely to the coming of the bookmobile.



Librarianship is a rewarding profession, but too often one gets disheartened at not seeing results. But bookmobile work never causes a jaundiced outlook with every mile an adventure and every stop a renewal of acquaintances and a discovery of new treasures as the "right book is got to the right person at the right time."

"MAGNETIC TAPE MAY REVOLUTIONIZE OUR LIBRARIES" -----

The following excerpt is from an article in the October 1959 issue of the READER'S DIGEST entitled - Magnetic Tape: The Mind's New Tool by Wolfgang Langewiesche.

"Magnetic tape may revolutionize our libraries. It's not the books that will go on tape, but the catalogue. The aim is to help locate all the information that is actually in the library. Now, the loss of time is horrendous. American industrial mathematicians recently spent 15 man-years vainly trying to solve a certain problem. The solution had been printed in a Russian journal five years earlier and reprinted in an English one. A Steel executive says it is cheaper to spend up to \$100,000 on an experiment than to search the libraries to find out whether someone has already tried it. Now there's promise in a library-search machine, in experimental operation at Western Reserve University.

The machine was developed by Professors James Perry and Allen Kent. Here's how it works. First, an engineer writes an abstract of a book or article. It might say in part: "Titanium sheet can be given added tensile strength by rolling." This is translated semi-automatically into machine code which goes on the tape. A reader's inquiry is similarly coded and fed into the computer. The computer then runs down the tape. When it comes on a group of the proper symbols, it types out the catalogue number of the book or journal.

A transistorized version of this search machine, now being constructed by the General Electric Company, will go into use early next year. It will scan 100,000 abstracts per hour and can search them for 15 questions at a time."

SQUAWKS FROM THE GOSLING -

The little old lady sidled up to the Reference desk. "Pardon me." she said timidly, "but I'm looking for a book."

The librarian looked up. "Can you tell me the name of it?" she asked smiling and reminding herself not to sound too efficient: efficiency just terrifies this type of inquirer.

"I - I don't know what it's called."

"Do you know who wrote it?"

"I can't say ... Some man, I think ..."

"I wonder what it's about?"

"I don't - don't know," she stammered. Then she added helpfully: "It's a big book - a red one!"

Reference librarians get some tough questions and those at Gosling Library in St. John's have recently had their share as part of a continuous trend showing a marked increase in the number of inquiries on all sorts of subjects from "which foot goes behind which when you curtsy to the Queen" to figures showing the value of Canada's crude oil trade. More university and high school students have been using reference facilities than ever before, and more use from all quarters has been made of the Newfoundland source material both current and historical.

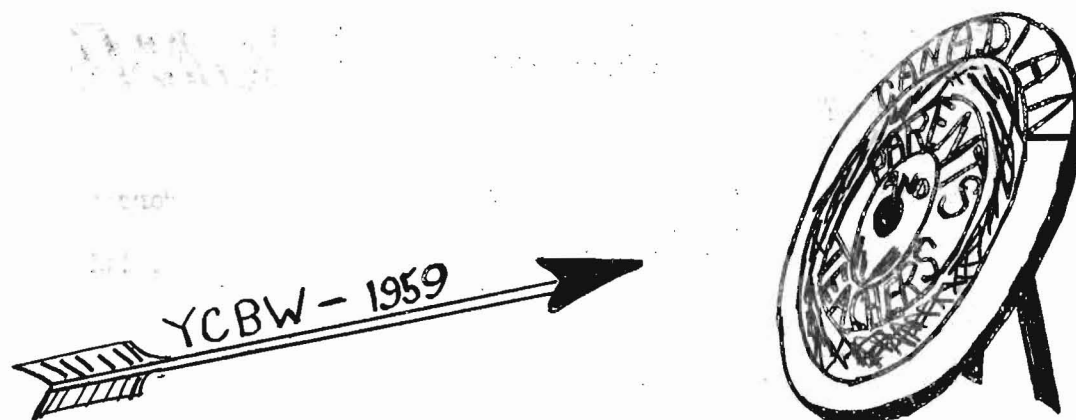
According to the Circulation Department, the reading of biography has increased in recent months but fiction of course still takes the lead in general book borrowing, with Pasternak's Doctor Zhivago in greatest demand, even out-doing You-Know-What by the fellow with the other Russian name.

Critics of TV feel very concerned these days about the effect of television on the malleable ("capable of being shaped by hammering") mind of the young child. But as far as the children's department of the Gosling is concerned, the Monster (TV, not the child) has if anything encouraged juvenile reading which has increased quite noticeably, and not only in the consumption of IVANHOE.

The opening of a brand new Regional Library at Bell Island met with an immediate and gratifying response from the public. The children kept the librarian so busy for a time that she could give very little attention to the adults who didn't seem to mind but gloried in the whole proceedings.

Newfoundland librarians take library services for their Province pretty seriously. People still want books, they say - and in their minds they firmly add, "If they don't, they should!" And the librarians aim to provide two great classes of same - "the books of the hour, and the books of all time". (Source of quotation: John Ruskin in SESAME AND LILLIES).

G. B.
St. John's
Newfoundland.



TARGET FOR Y.C.B.W. - 1959

by Alice E. Kane, National Chairman, Young Canada's Book Week

Young Canada's Book Week, which is to be celebrated for the eleventh time this November, is not really a children's festival at all. Its target is grown-ups.

Of course children will take part in the celebrations, and those adults who read book reviews in periodicals and watch literary programmes on TV will, for a week, consider books for boys and girls, as well as what is new in adult reading. But the Canadian Library Association and its co-operating organizations (which represent many different aspects of Canadian life) have a wider aim than reaching the people who are already interested in reading. Its aim is to bring home to every adult Canadian the importance of providing good books for boys and girls to read.

Nowadays, almost everyone in Canada can read. It is very unusual to come across a man or woman who is unable to decipher the hockey scores or follow the directions on a package of cake mix or figure out the exemptions on an income tax form. Yet in spite of this national "literacy" there are many boys and girls who have no books to read and many more who find no pleasure in reading.

It is only when adults become aware of the importance of books in a child's development that boys and girls will become readers. Reading is not a passive thing. A child has to bring something of himself to the reading of a good book. In return for the effort he makes, the rewards are enormous. His interests are broadened, his sympathies enlarged, his imagination quickened and he becomes joyously more himself, for a book is a personal, rather than a mass experience. Some children take naturally to reading as some take naturally to swimming or painting. Others need grown-ups to set an example or take an interest or give encouragement before they are able to claim this joy as their own.

All reading is not rewarding. Too many books are written for children which are dull in conception, poor in style and lacking in great and imaginative qualities. Books of this sort will not encourage a love of reading. The responsibility for providing books that are worthy of a child's time and interest rests upon adults. If there is no informed adult opinion about children's reading, young Canada will be impoverished.

19.

This year in Young Canada's Book Week let us make sure that every Canadian from Newfoundland to British Columbia hears something about children's books. Let us make sure that no flicker of interest is allowed to die. Let us not be content with the grown-ups who know about books. We need all Canadians to celebrate Young Canada's Book Week with us.

Let's have a record Young Canada's Book Week in the Atlantic Provinces this year!

We know that the scarcity of children's librarians limits activities in many libraries, and the shortage of time and funds prohibits too extensive celebrations, but most libraries are able to buy at least one YCBW poster and it doesn't take long to put it up in some prominent spot, so let's start thinking about it now!

Be sure to save pictures, clippings and accounts of your YCBW activities and send them to your provincial representatives as soon after YCBW as possible. Provincial representatives for YCBW this year are as follows:

New Brunswick - Miss Beatrice Phillips, High School Library, Fredericton

Newfoundland - Mrs. Catherine Tobin, Gosling Memorial Library, St. John's

Nova Scotia - Miss Shirley Coulter, Halifax Memorial Library, Halifax

Prince Edward Island - Miss Dorothy Cullen, P.E.I. Libraries, Charlottetown.

Miss Elizabeth Morton, executive secretary of the Canadian Library Association, has been touring the Maritime Provinces these past few weeks. Her trip began in New Brunswick where she has been working on the micro-filming of N.B. newspapers. During her visit to Halifax last month, she continued this project with Miss Shirley Elliott at the Legislative Library. While in Newfoundland she will meet with the custodians of the various branch libraries.

(continued from page 9)

almost 50 other libraries of varying size in the district, co-operates with one of these central libraries. The Central Library for North Zealand has its headquarters in Helsingør and in addition to serving the City of Helsingør (pop. 42,000) this library assists all libraries in the area, including Birkerød, by providing professional assistance, centralized cataloguing, etc. A reader in Birkerød requiring a certain book that is not in his town library will be able to apply to the Central Library in Helsingør for it. If it is not there he may apply to the State Library in Aarhus or elsewhere. Thus no person in Denmark need be stopped in his efforts to locate the book of his choice. To all intents and purposes, Denmark is one big co-operating library.

- NEWS FROM N.B. -

Bookmobile service began in two New Brunswick counties this past year. In 1957, the Albert-Westmorland-Kent Regional Library was formed, involving an agreement between the City of Moncton and the Minister of Education. There was provision in the same agreement to allow any of the other municipalities within the region to join Moncton and provide library service on a joint basis.

Albert County was the first of these municipalities and Miss Gardiner, the Regional Librarian, commenced bookmobile service there on April 1. The York Regional Library, made possible by a grant from the Canada Council, was formally established on January 1, 1959 by Fredericton City and York County. The Fredericton Public Library has been operating as part of the region since that date and the bookmobile began operating in the county on May 19.



Mr. Stanley MacDougall, formerly Librarian of the Pictou County Regional Library, is now Librarian at the Saint John Free Public Library.



Miss Julia-Anne Lévesque has joined Miss Eileen Wallace on the staff of the Teachers' College Library.



A grant of \$10,000 from the Canada Council has been given to the Canadian Library Association to administer for the purpose of microfilming New Brunswick newspapers. For the past months, Miss Elizabeth H. Morton and Miss Sheila Egoff, secretary of C.L.A.'s Microfilming Committee have been in the Province in connection with this project.



Mrs. Marjorie J. Thompson, who has been acting-librarian of the University of New Brunswick Library for several years, has resigned because of ill health.



Dr. Gertrude Gunn, a graduate of the University of London and who has studied library science at Simmons College, Boston, has been appointed chief librarian of the University of New Brunswick Library.



-NOTES FROM N.S.-

21.

Mr. Henry J. Arsenault, librarian at the Kentville Research Station for the past seven years, has been appointed to a position in the main library of the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa. Taking his place at the Research Station is Mrs. Lewis Aalders (Catherine Hebb) former assistant to Miss Gladys Black, Provincial Library.

Miss Alice Mairs, who has been with the Annapolis Valley Regional Library for a year, has returned to St. Paul, Minnesota.

After a year as Circulation Librarian at the Bonar Law-Bennett Library, University of New Brunswick, Miss Barbara Murray has returned to Halifax as librarian at the N.S. Technical College while Mr. Don Redmond is on leave of absence.

Miss Zaidee Harris, King's College Library and N.S. Archives, has returned from a trip arranged by the Overseas Education League. She spent most of the summer in England and Scotland, with a short jaunt to the continent.

Miss Marilyn Hilton has been appointed Bookmobile Librarian for the Colchester-East Hants Regional Library.

Mr. and Mrs. Luc Sinnema, whose marriage took place in May, spent the summer in Holland and are now making their home in Winnipeg. Mrs. Sinnema (Ruth Cummings) was cataloguer with the Provincial Library before her marriage.

Miss Barbara Smith, formerly with the Reference Department of the Halifax Memorial Library, and whose cartoons adorn this issue of the Bulletin, spent an interesting summer visiting the British Isles and Italy. While in Ireland, Miss Smith took a course in water-colour painting at the Glens of Antrim Summer School, Cushendun, County Antrim.

Mr. Alexander MacLeod has been appointed acting-librarian of the Pictou County Regional Library, New Glasgow.

Miss Marjorie Wickwire, formerly with the Polymer Laboratory, Sarnia, Ontario, has been appointed librarian at the National Research Council.

Miss Mary Falconer, former head of circulation, H.M.L., has been appointed reference librarian at the Macdonald Memorial Library, Dalhousie University.

The Rev. Arthur Cotter, S.J., formerly librarian at Saint Paul's College Students' Free Library, Winnipeg, has been appointed librarian of Saint Mary's University Library, Halifax, in place of the Rev. William Stewart, S.J., who has been appointed Dean of Men at that University. Librarians in the Maritimes and across Canada will be sorry to lose Father Stewart from the "ranks" but members of the APLA will welcome Father Cotter to the Maritimes.

An extremely interesting and exciting evening was spent by the Halifax Library Association at its October meeting when Miss Alberta Letts, attired in a beautiful blue and gold sari, took the members on a brief but comprehensive tour of India illustrating her remarks with many of the photographs which she took during her stay there. Miss Letts was sent to India for 9 months by the Department of Trade and Commerce under the Colombo Plan in answer to a request for someone who could give advice on organizing provincial libraries, who was experienced in regional library work, and who was familiar with library school curricula and federal and state library legislation. In a future Bulletin, we hope to have an article by Miss Letts on her work there.

Copy of a letter received recently by a Nova Scotia library from a New Brunswick library:

"We wish to report to you regarding the book "PRACTICAL COURSE IN MODERN LOCKSMITHING" by Whitcomb Crichton, which we borrowed from you, through inter-library loan, and which should have been returned to you on July 4th last.

We regret to advise you that the book has not been returned to us, and after extensive inquiries we find that this man has very recently been sentenced to a term in Dorchester Penitentiary.

... Trusting you will understand our predicament in this connection, we remain -"

NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED LIBRARIES:

A 14-page, mimeographed index to Volumes 1 - 31 of the collections of the Nova Scotia Historical Society has just been completed.

Anyone wishing a free copy may write to Miss Shirley Elliott, Legislative Library, Halifax.

- MISCELLANEOUS -

NATIONAL LIBRARY:

At the 20th Annual Conference of the APLA in May, 1959, Mr. Douglas Lochhead, president at that time, was directed to write to the Prime Minister to express the feeling of the membership over the delay in the erection of the National Library and concern over the fact that no provision for this building had been made in the 1959 estimates of the Public Works Department. Mr. Lochhead did so and received a reply from the Prime Minister's secretary which said that the representations had been brought to the attention of the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration who was more directly concerned with the matter. The reply also drew attention to the statement made by the Minister of Public Works (see Hansard, July 2, 1959) in which he said, "I am afraid that construction (of the National Library) cannot begin this year. ... we have been busy building post offices across Canada ... We cannot construct all these buildings at once."

It was decided at the October meeting of the Halifax Library Association that a letter similar to the one sent by the Atlantic Provinces Library Association should be sent to the Prime Minister.

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH LIBRARY:

A very interesting exhibit is on its way to Canada and will be seen for the first time in this country at the Halifax Memorial Library during Young Canada's Book Week. This exhibit consists of 350 prize-winning children's books from 14 countries collected by the International Youth Library in Munich. While the display is not complete, owing to the difficulty of obtaining exact information from all countries, it will be added to continually and will provide an international documentation serving all those interested in juvenile literature.

In the preface to the catalogue of these books we read, "The standards of judgment of the books are as varied as is the overall picture of the individual prizes and a comparison is fascinating. If in one place a jury is desired which should possibly include all groups of persons connected with the youth book, efforts are being made in another place to let the children themselves voice their critical judgment of the manuscripts. And how apparent in the sometimes quite lengthy lists of selected books is the domination of a certain viewpoint: that of publishers, literature critics, librarians and pedagogues. For the all too cautious pedagogue restricts the world, while the librarian, guided by his profession seldom disregards the aspect of a widespread use of books. The lists of the best books, finally, leave the evaluation of the content to other criteria and approach the book from the viewpoint of harmony between artistic conception and perfect form. Almost all prize regulations, however, include the expression "an outstanding book" - a constant challenge to check one's own critical measurements."

The majority of these books will be on display at the H.M.L. with possibly a small selection at some of the N.S. Regional Libraries. It is expected that the exhibit will go on to the other Maritime Provinces from there. But even if your library is not able to handle this large exhibit, it might be a good time to display your own copies of Canadian Book of the Year medal books, Governor-General's awards, Carnegie Medal books, Newbery and Caldecott awards, and Hans-Christian-Andersen Award books. You could use this as your theme for YCBW. Anyone who would like a list of these awards may write to the Editor of this Bulletin.

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