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Participation, satisfaction, and quality of reference service in Canadian public libraries

By PETER F. McNALLY

Despite the harsh economic times in which we live, our society retains a strong concern for the quality of life. In keeping with the growing importance of the social sciences and their emphasis upon statistical data, evaluations of the quality of life are becoming less based upon philosophical analysis and more upon quantitative investigation.

Two obvious examples of this quantitative approach were brought to the attention of Canadians during 1982. First, from October 25 to 28, some forty social scientists from different countries met in Ottawa to attend an international symposium sponsored by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization on "Social indicators of the quality of life of ethnic and cultural minorities". The purpose of the symposium was to develop better statistical measures - social indicators - of the quality of life. The Canadian minorities most discussed at the symposium were not surprisingly, French Canadians, native people, and immigrants. (1)

Second, in February, York University's (Toronto) Institute for Behavioural Research issued the results of its latest survey, on social change in Canada. "Quality of life: recent trends in job satisfaction" indicated that during the five years, 1977-1981, there occurred a significant decline in the number of Canadians who derived a great deal of satisfaction from their work. (2)

	Very Satisfied	Fairly Satisfied	Not Satisfied
1977	31%	53%	16%
1981	21%	60%	19%

Although the number of "fairly satisfied" increased somewhat, there was a small increase in the number of "not satisfied" and a significant decline in the number of "very satisfied". This trend indicates that work provided fewer Canadians with an avenue of self-fulfillment now than it did a few years ago. This decline in job satisfaction was concentrated in two specific groups: the young, particularly those eighteen to twenty-nine years old, and to a lesser extent those thirty to forty-four and women over forty-five years of age. Of the forty-four years olds and under, no significant distinction was reported between men and women. Of the forty-five year olds and over, men did not reflect the changes noted among women or those forty-four and under. It should be noted that the young are usually less satisfied workers and that no worsening occurred in the actual jobs held by women during this period.

	1977	1981
18-29 yrs. old very satisfied	27%	14%
30-44 yrs. old very satisfied	33%	19%
Women 45 + yrs. old very satisfied	36%	19%
Women 45 + yrs. old not satisfied	15%	21%

Reasons for these declines in job satisfaction are first that workers think their chance of advancement are not good and second that they perceive a decline in their ability to influence superiors' decisions. The Institute provided the following analysis of this trend:

Both factors which declined are related to a worker's position in the organization, not to the nature of the work done. Poor chances of advancement and a lack of influence suggest that work organizations are becoming less flexible and more bureaucratized. Individuals are losing their present influence and the possibility of future power through better positions.

At the root of this problem, is the reduced economic activity affecting all parts of the country. In response, employers are eliminating jobs at all levels thereby shutting off advancement. They are also becoming more conservative, falling back upon established practices rather than responding to employee suggestions. Of course, an economic recovery will occur sooner or later. The question is, with the post World War II baby boom having largely entered the work force, will the economy of the 1980s and 90s expand sufficiently to provide higher level jobs for as large a proportion of the population as it did in the three previous decades? If not, workers of the 80s and 90s will have to accept that their chances of job advancement cannot be met. As for the ability of workers to influence organizational decisions through their suggestions, our era's economic malaise may be making it a permanent casualty. In neither case do current trends bode well for job satisfaction.

As an addendum to this section, it should be mentioned that the Institute found no change during the 1977-1981 period in worker attitude toward other job factors such as pay, security, and job interest, despite suggestions that they have suffered actual declines.

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There are important and far-reaching implications for Canadian librarianship in the York University report. Libraries have traditionally been labour intensive institutions. No evidence is yet available that this is ceasing, despite the capital intensive nature of automation. Staff cuts which many libraries are currently experiencing are due to budget

cuts not the computer. It is therefore essential that personnel management and related questions of job satisfaction receive close attention from library administrators.

If current economic considerations make it very difficult for all institutions - including libraries - to provide advancement opportunities, then the other major area of job satisfaction-dissatisfaction pinpointed by the York study, is the ability of employees to influence decisions. In other words, if job satisfaction cannot be provided through advancement, can it be provided through employee participation in library decision making.

Maurice P. Marchant is librarianship's primary advocate of participative management. For over a decade he has been researching and advocating this style of management. His most recent statement, in the April 1982 issue of *Library Journal*, provides a distilled version without statistical and methodological apparatus, of the ideas developed in his 1970 dissertation and 1976 monograph. (3) As the article is more readily available than the other publications, it will be used as the basis of discussion.

In Marchant's opinion it is beyond doubt that a direct correlation exists between participative management, job satisfaction, and the quality of library service. This opinion is based upon empirical research in which he analyzed the organizational behavior of twenty-two university libraries. The three variables which he measured and which are at the heart of his research, he has described as follows:

The primary casual variable was management style ... the intervening variable was job satisfaction, and the end-product variable measured the faculty's evaluation of library quality. (4)

In conjunction with management style he considered a number of other factors such as funding, collections, and staff differences. While he found that these other factors played a role in determining library quality, management style retained a crucial role. The management style which he found to reap the most positive results has been, of course, the participative management style. Participative management he defines as a sharing of decision making, a leadership style concerned with getting along with staff, a matter of staff confidence and trust in its leadership, participative communication, and use of committees.

To return to Marchant's three research variables, he contends that his empirical data proves that participative management results in a higher level of library service, particularly reference service. First, his data show that the job satisfaction of staff is highest under a participative management style than under other management styles. Second, both library staff and users (in this case faculty) rate the quality of service higher in those libraries where the level of job satisfaction is high. It follows, according to this argument that:

Staff job satisfaction serves as an intervening variable, acting as a gauge of the library's internal well-being. If it is high, production will likely be high, if it declines, production will drop. (5)

Or to rephrase it differently if participative management = A, job satisfaction = B, and productivity = C, then if A = B and B = C, it must therefore follow that A = C: participation = productivity.

Needless to say, Marchant has attracted both very strong supporters and equally strong opponents. His attempts to link participative management, job satisfaction, and quality of library service is a very appealing one. The humanistic background of most librarians makes them feel very much at ease with these ideas. In addition, the York University study does pinpoint lack of participation in decision making as a primary source for the general decline of job satisfaction in the contemporary Canadian work place.

As it happens, however, management literature on the relationship between participation, job satisfaction, and productivity does not indicate unanimous support for Marchant's contention of a casual relationship. Some writers do concur; appended are references to a selection of their writings. (6)

The difficulty is that many investigators have failed to observe a correlation among all three of the variables. That a correlation exists between participation and job satisfaction is frequently reported. Proving their casual relationship with productivity is always the problem. (7)

In a 1975 dissertation designed specifically to show the effects of participation on satisfaction and productivity, Gregory J. Spencer reported that participation related positively to satisfaction but not to productivity. (8) Writing in 1976, Edwin Locke who is a noted researcher on job satisfaction said:

Cont'd on next page

Upcoming Events

May 24-26 (Tuesday-Thursday)
Canadian Association for Information Science-L'Association canadienne des sciences de l'information is holding its eleventh annual conference in Halifax. This year's theme is 'Communication - From Originator to End User'. Information can be obtained from: Mary Frances Laughton, Publicity, 11th Annual CAIS Conference, P.O. Box 2323, Station "D", Ottawa, ON K1P 5W5.

May 25 (Wednesday) Indexing and Abstracting Society of Canada-Société

canadienne pour l'analyse de documents is holding its 1983 annual conference in Halifax. This year's theme is 'Indexing and Abstracting of Special Collections'. Information can be obtained from: IASC-SCAD, 53 William Street, Fredericton, N.B. E3A 4W7.

May 26-29 (Thursday-Sunday) Atlantic Provinces Library Association is holding its 1983 annual conference in Halifax. This year's theme is 'Interactive Communications in Libraries'. Further details are in this issue of the Bulletin.

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Participation, satisfaction, and quality

Job satisfaction, itself or in combination with the conditions (both in the individual and the job environment) which bring it about, has a variety of consequences for the individual. It can affect his attitude toward life, toward his family, and toward himself. It can affect his physical health and possibly how long he lives. It may be related (indirectly) to mental health and adjustment, and plays a casual role in absenteeism and turnover. Under certain conditions, it may affect other types of on-the-job behavior as well. However, job satisfaction has no direct effect on productivity. (9)

Little empirical research exists concerning job satisfaction in Canadian libraries to permit easy, direct comparison with either the York University study on the decline of job satisfaction or the Marchant hypothesis of a casual relationship between participation, job satisfaction, and productivity. It remains necessary, therefore, to use data collected by the present writer in a 1980-81 study of job satisfaction among people doing reference work in Ontario public libraries. Eighty-one people from the reference departments of ten public library systems in three regional libraries participated in this project, the methodology of which has been reported in some depth elsewhere. (10) Of the eighty-one people involved, forty-two had either Bachelor or Master of Library Science degrees, seventeen had Library Technician diplomas, and twenty-two people had neither but did have other qualifications ranging from high school to post-graduate university degrees.

Seventy-seven or 95.1 per cent of the eighty-one participants were women; four or 4.9 per cent were men. Forty-nine or 60.5 per cent were forty years old or younger and thirty-two or 39.5 per cent were forty-one or older. Both points are significant as the York University study noted similar levels of job satisfaction between the young women forty-five and older as opposed to men forty-five and older. No division between forty-four and forty-five is possible with the McNally statistics. As so few men participated in the present projects, no comparisons involving men at any age level have been possible.

Concerning productivity, or the quality of reference service which is so central to the Marchant hypothesis this study has relied primarily upon studies conducted in American public libraries which cast considerable doubt upon the quality of information provided. In their famous studies, Crowley and Childers reported that the reference departments of the public libraries they studied gave incorrect answers to between 36 per cent and over 50 per cent of questions received. (11) In a follow-up study, Childers reported that 33 per cent of questions received no replies from the libraries he was monitoring. If the non-answers were therefore considered wrong, "about half the time libraries delivered the correct answer to the query, and about half the time they did not." (12)

Concerning participative management, the present study found no evidence that it was employed deliberately as a management style in any of the ten participating library systems. This is not to say there were not participative elements in the styles employed. But all ten could be characterized primarily as employing a hierarchical system with authority and communication flowing down from the top.

In other words, this study occurs within a framework which permits some comparisons with both the Marchant and the York University studies. Marchant saw a positive correlation between productivity, job satisfaction, and participation in academic libraries. This study will consider job satisfaction in ten public libraries which don't consciously practise participation and where external evidence suggests there will be only a 50 per cent accuracy rate in answering reference questions. The York study found a marked decline in job satisfaction between 1977 and 1981 among all groups, except men aged forty-five and older, which was attributed to decreasing opportunities for advancement and participation. By comparison this study is based upon data collected in 1980. Neither a comparison between groups over time nor a comparison between older men and other groups is possible. On the other hand, since the sample is comprised almost exclusively of women, young and old, and since the libraries are characterized by slow advancement opportunities and low levels of participation, a degree of comparison will be possible.

As a prelude to presenting the data, a few technical explorations are in order. The tests used were the "Index of Organizational Reactions" by Frank J. Smith, and the "Self-rating scale" and "Ability and Willingness to leave" form both by Martin Patchen. The data have been arranged and interpreted in the light of Frederick Herzberg's intellectual framework. (13) He distinguishes between environmental-hygienic dissatisfiers and psychological-professional motivators. The dissatisfiers include such things as salary, status, security, working conditions, interpersonal relations, and organizational structure. If they are absent or inadequate dissatisfaction will result. But their presence or adequacy alone is not enough to provide satisfaction. Motivators include achievement, recognition of achievement, work itself, responsibility, advancement and professional growth. Their presence is required to ensure satisfaction. Their absence means no job satisfaction. Participative management is closely tied to psychological-professional motivators.

The first and most obvious characteristic of all these statistics is their very positive nature. Compared with the York University statistics, the "lows" are comparable, the "neutrals" are much lower, but the "highs" are much higher. Of course, there are internal variation which assume significance within the ranges used. Consideration will turn first to environmental-hygienic dissatisfiers.

A. Attitude Toward Supervisors had the highest level of dissatisfaction with an overall "low" of almost 18 per cent. Librarians were the group with the greatest level of dissatisfaction at 20.3 per cent.

	1 Total Population	2 B.L.S. or M.L.S.	3 Technicians With or Without University Degrees	4 University Degrees Not 2 or 3	5 High School or Less Not 2, 3, or 4
	81 people	42 people	17 people	16 people	6 people
1. High	62.0%	60.1%	69.6%	63.5%	52.8%
2. Neutral	20.9%	19.5%	16.7%	21.9%	27.8%
3. Low	17.7%	20.3%	13.7%	14.6%	19.4%

B. Attitude Toward Workload showed some dissatisfaction, but less than for supervision. Again, librarians were the group with the greater dissatisfaction and the smallest level of satisfaction.

	Total	Librarian	Technician	Bachelor Degree	High School
1. High	62.8%	60.7%	64.2%	65.7%	66.7%
2. Neutral	24.5%	23.8%	23.9%	26.6%	25.0%
3. Low	12.7%	15.5%	12.0%	7.8%	8.3%

C. Attitude Toward Co-workers revealed very little dissatisfaction. The level of satisfaction was the highest for any of the environmental-hygienic factors. Even so librarians were the second-most dissatisfied group after university graduates.

	Total	Librarian	Technician	Bachelor Degree	High School
1. High	78.2%	77.1%	81.2%	75.1%	86.7%
2. Neutral	16.8%	18.1%	14.1%	18.8%	10.0%
3. Low	5.0%	4.8%	4.7%	6.3%	3.3%

D. Attitude Toward Remuneration revealed a level of dissatisfaction almost as great as for A supervision. Of interest was the very high neutral rating, which received the largest rating from all groups except librarians. As 58 per cent of the total population reported annual library salaries of less than \$15,000, it might be questioned why the rate of dissatisfaction in this category was as low as it was. Librarians, while sharing this dissatisfaction, were the second least dissatisfied group and the most satisfied, which is not surprising as their salaries would generally be the best. Even so, only 53.3 per cent of librarians ranked themselves high.

	Total	Librarian	Technician	Bachelor Degree	High School
1. High	41.5%	53.3%	27.1%	29.2%	33.3%
2. Neutral	42.3%	34.8%	54.1%	44.3%	56.7%
3. Low	16.1%	11.9%	18.8%	26.6%	10.0%

E. Attitude toward Working Conditions showed much greater dissatisfaction than anticipated given the modern, well-designed libraries found in most places visited. Librarians revealed average levels of dissatisfaction and satisfaction, which placed them mid-point between the other groups.

	Total	Librarian	Technician	Bachelor Degree	High School
1. High	63.3%	63.9%	49.0%	78.1%	60.0%
2. Neutral	21.9%	23.0%	30.4%	7.3%	28.6%
3. Low	14.8%	13.1%	20.5%	14.5%	11.5%

F. Willingness to Leave this Job for Another in the Near Future is often indicative of job dissatisfaction. A large proportion indicated a willingness to leave soon, with almost 44 per cent of librarians saying they would be willing to do so.

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Date	No.
June 1	No.
August 1	No.
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February 1	No.
March 20	No.

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Typed manuscripts and advertising information regarding the Bulletin should be addressed to the appropriate editor c/o 53 William Street, Fredericton, N.B. E3B 4W7; other inquiries should be addressed to the appropriate officer c/o School of Library Service, Dalhousie University, Halifax, N.S. B3H 4H8.

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Participation, satisfaction, and quality

	Total	Librarian	Technician	Bachelor Degree	High School
1. High	39.0%	43.9%	35.3%	37.5%	33.4%
2. Low	58.0	53.6	64.7	62.6	66.6

The next concern must be with psychological-professional motivators. While the results in this section were somewhat lower than in the environmental-hygienic section, they were still very positive.

G. Attitude Toward the Job showed the highest level of satisfaction in this section. This substantiates the comments made by participants in most libraries visited, that they enjoyed reference work and considered its enjoyment a prerequisite for doing it. Librarians ranked very "high" and were surpassed only by high school graduates.

	Total	Librarians	Technician	Bachelor Degree	High School
1. High	79.7%	82.0%	79.5%	71.8%	86.1%
2. Neutral	17.1	14.8	19.6	21.9	13.9
3. Low	3.1	3.2	1.0	6.3	0

H. Future with this Library revealed a much lower level of satisfaction and more dissatisfaction. There was obviously a significant group which considered that it had little chance of advancement. This substantiates the generally held view that advancement in libraries is slow, and often nonexistent. That librarians should be the most satisfied and the least dissatisfied in this category is not surprising, as they have the greatest chance for promotion. Yet even they displayed significant dissatisfaction. As an aside, it should be pointed out that the questions dealing with job security - a hygienic factor - showed high satisfaction. People were dissatisfied with their chances for promotion, not with job security. Even so, the level of satisfaction is remarkably high.

	Total	Librarian	Technician	Bachelor Degree	High School
1. High	53.3%	56.0%	44.7%	55.1%	53.5%
2. Neutral	28.0	28.0	31.8	23.8	28.6
3. Low	18.8	15.9	23.5	21.3	17.9

I. Attitude Employees feel Library has Toward Them showed relatively poor satisfaction and a large "neutral" rating. At the very least, this suggests staff uncertainty about the employers' attitude toward them. Librarians and university graduates both had 50 per cent of their groups rank themselves "high".

	Total	Librarian	Technician	Bachelor Degree	High School
1. High	47.3%	50.2%	43.5%	50.0%	30.0%
2. Neutral	35.9	34.0	36.5	36.3	46.7
3. Low	16.8	15.8	20.0	13.8	23.3

Sections J, K and L deal with attitudes which are indicative of job motivation and satisfaction.

J. Quality of Work Compared to Co-workers saw no one rank themselves "low". Rather the group split itself almost evenly between "high" and "average". That librarians should have the smallest "high" rating and the largest "average" of any group, might be indicative of lower effort and motivation, or of greater modesty, or of more realistic self-evaluation than other groups.

	Total	Librarian	Technician	Bachelor Degree	High School
1. High	50.7%	44.4%	54.0%	52.1%	86.6%
2. Average	49.4	55.6	46.0	47.9	13.3

K. Involvement in the Job, Degree of Extra Effort indicated that librarians and university-high school graduates were tied for first place in "greatly involved" at 50 per cent each. In short, librarians were no more or no less inclined than any other group except technicians to invest extra time and effort in their jobs.

	Total	Librarians	Technician	Bachelor Degree	High School
1. Greatly involved	47.3%	50.0%	36.8%	50.0%	50.0%
2. Moderately	40.7	39.3	50.0	34.4	41.7
3. Little involved	12.0	10.7	13.2	15.7	8.4

L. Transferability of Knowledge and Skills to Other Jobs provided, therefore, rather surprising results in the light of sections J and K. All groups, but particularly librarians, considered their knowledge and skills to be transferable to other jobs to a degree which much surpassed the ratings they gave themselves on J. Quality of Work and K. Involvement in Job. Only high school graduates showed restraint and ranked "transferability" lower than "quality".

	Total	Librarian	Technician	Bachelor Degree	High School
1. Very	78.4%	83.3%	73.5%	75.0%	66.7%
2. Somewhat	19.8	15.5	23.5	21.9	33.3
3. Little	1.8	1.2	2.9	3.1	0

A number of conclusions can be drawn from these results. First, despite being better paid and having greater professional advantages, librarians do not seem more satisfied or less dissatisfied than other groups. Indeed in several categories, the other groups express much more job fulfillment and less dissatisfaction than librarians. Only in D. Remuneration, G. Attitude Toward the Job, and L. Transferability did librarians show themselves to be appreciably more satisfied and motivated.

Second, these results indicate reference staffs who despite some obvious areas of dissatisfaction are still remarkably satisfied. Compared with young people and women generally, as indicated in the York University report, the level of satisfaction-motivation is extremely high, and the level of dissatisfaction is no greater than for other groups. Two areas of potential difficulty are D. Remuneration where groups other than librarians expressed high "neutral" ratings and significant dissatisfaction, and I. Attitude Employees feel Library has Toward Them where two groups showed relatively low satisfaction.

Third, a rather different correlation between participation, satisfaction, and productivity emerges from the one suggested by Maurice P. Marchant. None of the libraries involved in this study is administered consciously in a participative style. Nor is there reason to think

that the quality of information service in Ontario public libraries is superior to that in American libraries - as reported by Crowley and Childers - which appears at best to be mediocre. Yet at the same time, there is a very high level of job satisfaction. The inescapable conclusion must be that reference staffs of the Ontario public libraries involved in this study are of average competence, enjoy their work and colleagues, and experience high job satisfaction despite being poorly paid and having little opportunity for advancement or participation in the administration of their libraries.

Footnotes

- (1) Canadian Commission for UNESCO. *Communique*. "Social Indicators of the Quality of Life of Ethnic and Cultural Minorities: Theme of an Important UNESCO Meeting." Ottawa, October 14, 1982. 2 pp. (Press Release)
- (2) York University Communications Department. *Quality of Life: Recent Trends in Job Satisfaction*. Toronto, February 17, 1982. 3 pp. (Press Release)
- (3) Maurice P. Marchant. "The Effects of decision making process and related organizational factors on alternative measures of performance in university libraries". (Ph.D. dissertation, University of Michigan, 1970)
- (4) Participative Management in Academic Libraries. Westport, Ct., Greenwood, 1976.
- (5) "Participative management, job satisfaction, and service". *Library Journal* 107 (April 15, 1982), pp. 782-4.
- (6) Marchant. "Participative management, job satisfaction, and service". p. 782.
- (7) *Ibid.*, p. 783.
- (8) L.E. Greiner. "What Managers think of participative leadership". *Harvard Business Review* 51 (March-April, 1973), pp. 111-17.
- (9) T.R. Mitchell "Motivation and participation: an integration". *Academy of Management Journal* 16 (December, 1973), pp. 670-79.
- (10) P.G. Herbst "Work Organization at a Banking Branch; Towards a Participative Research Technique". *Human Relations* 30 (February, 1977), pp. 209-42.
- (11) "Participative Management at Work". *Harvard Business Review* 55 (January-February, 1977), pp. 117-27.
- (12) R.S. Schuler "Role Perceptions, Satisfaction, and Performance Moderated by Organization Level and Participation in Decision Making". *Academy of Management Journal* 20 (March, 1977), pp. 159-65.
- (13) G.J. Spencer. "Effects of Participation on Satisfaction and Productivity". (Ph.D. dissertation, University of Michigan, 1975) (For a good summary see *Dissertation Abstracts International*, 1976, B, v. 36, no. 10, p. 5328)
- (14) Edwin Locke. "The Nature and causes of Job Satisfaction". in Marvin D. Dunette, *Handbook of Industrial and Organizational Psychology*. (Chicago: Rand McNally, 1976), p. 1334.
- (15) Peter F. McNally. "Job Motivation and Satisfaction of Reference Staff in Public Libraries". *Argus* 11 no. 1 (January-February, 1982), pp. 9-15.
- (16) Terence Crowley and Thomas Childers. *Information Service in Public Libraries: Two Studies*. Metuchen, N.J.: Scarecrow, 1971. pp. 51, 139-140.
- (17) Thomas Childers. "The Test of Reference". *Library Journal* 105, no. 8 (April 15, 1980), p. 926
- (18) Frederick Herzberg. *The Managerial Choice: to be Efficient and to be Human*. Homewood, Ill.: Dow Jones-Irwin, 1976. pp. 58-60.

MARGARET WILLIAMS TRUST FUND

Donations are now being sought to the trust fund in memory of Margaret Williams, long-time librarian at Memorial University of Newfoundland and University Librarian at the time of her death. The Fund has been established by her friends and former colleagues to promote the development of librarianship in the province of Newfoundland and Labrador by providing funds for scholarships, research, special projects and work exchange opportunities.

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Recurring problems in the public libraries of Atlantic Canada

By CARIN SOMERS

First of all I must acknowledge that this article is based on the responses from Atlantic Provinces librarians who answered my request for suggestions in the spring of 1982. I thank the regional chief librarians from New Brunswick and Nova Scotia who were candid in their views and in the points they made. I thank my provincial colleagues from Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island who shared their concerns with me. The delay in compiling this information is my fault alone - one of the lasting effects of total hip replacement surgery is an inability to sit for lengthy periods of time!

Since various aspects of funding constitute the major problem for public libraries in the Atlantic Provinces we must understand that, in New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island, operating costs of regional public library service are totally funded by the province whereas in Nova Scotia the operating costs are shared between the Province and the municipalities.

One cryptic comment illustrates the funding situation: "Inadequate funding for adequate service." Pearce Penney's summation of the Newfoundland situation explains the problem shared by all of us: "Economic restraints affect the quality of service we are able to provide through the various library systems. While it is fair to say that over the past ten years there has been a gradual increase in our funding ... it merely enables us just to keep pace with inflation ...". A Nova Scotia librarian adds that the majority of problems affecting public library service are common to all services and they are financial and inflation related, e.g. the rise in postal rates, commodity prices such as books, etc.

Fiscal restraints have a negative bearing on sound and long-term planning. For several years now there has been pressure every year by the Department of Education (Nova Scotia) to keep budget requests at or below the annual rate of inflation. Thus, no planned development is possible. Even though the Provincial Library Council (N.S.) has the mandate to recommend to the Minister on the grant amount to be paid for regional public library services, it also has the mandate to assess and recommend on public library services development. But, with a 10 per cent increase limit on grants in 1982 and a possible maximum increase of 6 per cent in grants for 1983, no improvements or new services can even be considered. On the contrary, it has been an agonizing exercise in paring existing services which, in almost all regions, were at a minimum level to start with.

New Brunswick regional libraries are also unable to plan on a long term basis since major decisions "are out of their hands" such as, for example, the establishment of new libraries or addition to staff complement as the need arises.

Fiscal restraints also affect short term planning. How can you plan adequately "when you are serving over 50 communities of widely differing size, outlook, structure, etc.; increasing population in the urban areas, decreasing in the rural?" And you have no idea what your fiscal resources will be for the balance of the current year, let alone the following year or, the year after that.

Fiscal restraints have made some librarians rethink the role of the public library. "Should we be all things to all people or go 'back to basics'?" Another librarian asks: "What are the basic services libraries should be providing? We've had increasing requests for toys, video, films, filmstrips, equipment for media, on-line information." The Chairman of the (N.S.) Provincial Library Council threw out the idea of a "core program" for libraries at the October 1982 N.S. Library Association Conference in Annapolis

Royal. After all, the Walker Commission recommendations on education funding also zeroed in on a core program. So far N.S. regional librarians' reaction to defining a core library program has been mixed. Could it be that the interests of metro libraries and those of the other regional libraries are once again on tracks which will never converge?

While still on the role of the public library - a N.B. librarian singles out the lack of money for innovative programs. A N.S. librarian expands on the problem: "Regional disparity affects our thinking; narrows our vision of what we could be offering via our public libraries because we know the funds aren't there. We are, therefore, far less innovative than, say, Ontario public libraries." Working year after year in an environment where you must, of necessity, concentrate on how best to deliver even the most basic services within the confines of ever decreasing purchasing power, will eventually dull imaginative and creative practice of librarianship. Discouragement and yes, even professional burn-out, are seriously affecting the potential performance capabilities of librarians in the public library field.

What to do about this Sword of Damocles the lack of funding, the uncertainty of funding, the ever present threat of further cuts in funding? We are aware that it is the chief librarian's responsibility to "sell" the annual budget to the board with sound and comprehensible documentation. Board members, in turn, must "sell" the needs of the library to their appointing bodies, be it the Province and/or local municipal councils, or, both. I do believe the question has to be asked: do librarians put enough effort into this process? are librarians utilizing (or, learning how to utilize) modern management methods and techniques to compete effectively with the presentations of Engineering & Works departments, for example. Can we produce arguments and use statistics that will stand up in competition with other provincial and municipal services and, effectively prove that library services are as important as social welfare services, road improvements or public schools operation? An immersion in the Planning Process might just provide public libraries with sound community data and convincing use statistics. Could this kind of "homework" be the first step towards correcting a New Brunswick librarian's assessment of the current state of affairs: As to "funding commitment in the political realm" - public libraries are "up and down on the fringes". It is indeed imperative for the public library community to find a method to correct this summary of the status quo: "We often suffer a lack of visibility except when it comes time to reduce budgets." The following statement from a Nova Scotia librarian deserves consideration in the context of a chief librarian's responsibilities and in relation to the need for sound documentation: "Perhaps we continue to think too small and ask for only a little each year for little improvements instead of asking for a big increase for bigger improvements."

Another Nova Scotia librarian acknowledges the problem this way. "Another difficulty is changing the priorities municipal leaders have on the best ways to spend their funds. In the past public libraries have not been high on their list - maybe because they are not aware of libraries in any depth. I suspect this is partly due to the lack of interest or concern by individual board members and/or perhaps the lack of knowledge or guidance they are given. If this awareness is missing, then we can hardly expect to receive much support in promoting public libraries." The same librarian relates the problem to a matter of "education"

(presumably, of Board members), "evaluation and establishing of aims and objectives." How many of our regional public libraries have in place now a procedure for periodic evaluation of services offered? a statement of aims and objectives? with which the board is familiar and has been involved in formulating?

Still on the subject of library boards, this statement from Nova Scotia must be included as one of the recurring problems facing public libraries: "Constant changes in Board membership. Some municipal units change all their representatives every year. If it were not for the many dedicated Board members that we have and have had, I would list as a separate problem Board members' lack of interest in and any understanding of what libraries are doing and refusal to accept instruction and become educated." New Brunswick obviously experiences somewhat the same difficulty as echoed in this observation: "Library trustees who quickly lose enthusiasm for their duties, once the more visible things have been done."

Funding, or, rather, a lack thereof also directly affects local public libraries. In Nova Scotia provision and maintenance of local public library or, branch library, facilities is the responsibility of the city, town or municipality concerned, with a grant from the Province up to a limit of 50 cents per capita. In New Brunswick pretty much the same situation exists except that there is no provincial grant. In unincorporated areas the provision, equipping and maintenance of a public library is the responsibility of the local Public Library Board. To the best of my knowledge local library boards in Newfoundland have no funding obligation. In Prince Edward Island there are no library boards and public library service is totally funded by the Province.

The lack of capital funding provision in the Nova Scotia legislation and the low level of cost-sharing for branch library facilities have caused municipalities to force libraries into existing municipal property which is often most unsuitable for a public library. Thus branch libraries, with few exceptions, are too small, badly furnished, poorly designed and located outside the mainstream of public traffic. They lack access for the handicapped, facilities for programming services for adults, and children, sufficient space to accommodate even a basic collection and, in some cases, they even lack public washrooms. A committee of the (N.S.) Provincial Library Council has been working on a new funding formula for regional public libraries. It is hoped that such a formula will include provision for capital cost-sharing.

The budgeting process is another recurring problem and an impediment to efficient operation and sound planning. In Nova Scotia the regional libraries operate on the municipal fiscal year, i.e. on a January to December year, whereas the Province's fiscal year runs from April first to March thirty-first. This is one problem that public library service does not have to contend with in the other three provinces. The time frame of the budgeting process is a common concern. Estimates are prepared as much as six months ahead of time when only very hazy cost increase predictions can be made. Then there is the long wait and continued uncertainty as government departmental estimates are scrutinized time and time again before they even reach the floor of the House of Assembly. The ever present threat of cuts and further cuts seriously affects day by day management of regional library operations. One Nova Scotia librarian writes: "the uncertainty

of the budget ... the long delays in finding out what your operating budget is." This results in "going easy with money for much of the year until things are finalized and then spending quickly (particularly on books) at the end."

This cryptic comment highlights another major issue: "Understaffing at the professional level - librarians are worn out and the library is underpromoted." This statement illustrates an all too common situation: "Lack of staff often affects quality and types of service being made available ... When we have our 'down slump' and many staff are off work due to illness, vacations, etc. all at the same time our service is certainly affected negatively. While this is only a temporary situation, it tends to happen too frequently and is a recurring problem."

A New Brunswick librarian cites two items related to staffing: "Hiring new librarians with realistic expectations and with knowledge of financial limitations. Also, "our lack of participation in negotiations between unions and government authorities affecting the library employees, with the result that some agreements may contain articles detrimental to library services (shift work, etc.)."

Staff training: "How to adequately train staff for their positions when there is insufficient back-up to take them from their jobs." The topic of continuing education and promotion opportunities for non-librarian staff is mentioned by a Nova Scotia librarian who writes: "Generally not much advancement possible for clerical and library assistant staff although the L.A. Course is a step in the right direction. Non-librarian staff don't have much chance of getting to a major conference."

Newfoundland perceives a need for "an adequate training programme for the people who are in the small local libraries. They are doing a noble job as best they can with the limited training that they have had ... from time to time they are called upon to provide the kind of information that should only be thrown at people who have had adequate training, enabling them to select the proper methods in the provision of the information." I am quite certain that this is a problem common to all four Atlantic provinces.

Collections: "Book prices are escalating faster than our budgets, with resulting loss of ground for book collections." The inflationary factor is only one aspect of the problem. "In times of tight money, it is always the materials budget which is affected by cut-backs. This goes on year after year as though the purse-string holders are incapable of grasping the simple fact that books are the main ingredient in the feast offered the public through the small regional library system." While this quote came from a Nova Scotia librarian I know it is equally true for the other provinces. A ten year Nova Scotia regional public libraries statistical comparison points up the following: between 1972 and 1981 personnel expenditure (as a percent of total expenditure) rose from 61.31 per cent to 69.5 per cent. Materials expenditure (as percent of total expenditure) dropped from 18.89 per cent to 16.94 per cent.

Considering the necessity of getting the most value out of the library material dollar I cannot help but wonder how many of our regional libraries have carefully thought out collection development policies which are reviewed periodically to ascertain whether they still meet the need of the area and changing user requirements. Are library boards made sufficiently aware of such policies and are they involved in developing them?

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Cont'd from p. 68

Recurring problems in the libraries

One topic which was singled out by librarians in each province was technology: the "unacceptable delay in the use of the new technological tools such as computer terminals, information data banks, videodiscs, microcomputers, etc.". The statement was made that, in many cases, public libraries lag far behind their university colleagues in utilizing library technology because they "lack the computer centre expertise which seems to be so available to our campus colleagues." It was suggested that the "National Library should provide a greater coordinating role to ensure that public libraries share the latest technological developments in bibliographic control, computerized reference services, etc."

Since these comments were written Telidon demonstrations have taken place in Fredericton, Halifax City and Saint John Public Libraries. During the summer of 1982 Dartmouth and Halifax City made microcomputers available in their children's departments. The National Library of Canada and the Nova Scotia Provincial Library have signed a contract for a pilot project whereby the Provincial Library will have on-line access for 15 months to the federal DOBIS system. Instead of inputting Nova Scotia libraries' accessions to the Canadian Union Catalogue manually (which we have done since 1950) we will now do this via DOBIS on-line. Also we will be able to access the Canadian Union Catalogue via DOBIS for interlibrary loan locations not found via UTLAS REFCATSS or the old N.S. Union Catalogue (on cards). It should be noted here that this contract constitutes the first expansion of DOBIS beyond the federal library system.

Newfoundland Public Library Services and the Nova Scotia Provincial Library have been using UTLAS for their centralized cataloguing, classification and processing services for regional libraries, since late in 1980.

While the Nova Scotia Provincial Library has provided a traditional reference back-up service to the regional libraries since the 1950s, an increasingly large portion of the questions is being answered using computerized databases since the fall of 1979.

I mention these things by way of demonstrating that some progress has been made in utilizing the new technology for public library purposes. But much still needs to be done to provide equal access to the public library user so that he/she can benefit from the improved methods of information delivery.

Both my Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island colleagues make a point of our apparent inability to work towards regional goals or regional programs. In this connection Don Scott cites the AAU-BNA project "as a healthy move. Not because it was an especially effective program but simply because it was a joint effort from the different provincial jurisdictions and different types of libraries." Pearce Penney recalls the efforts "to establish a bibliographic centre and to come up with a computer system which would tie together the four Atlantic Provinces into one regional automated system, that would see a sharing of our resources and increase the capability of providing adequate information to our clientele." Pearce adds: "We just do not seem to be able to get all the various types of libraries working together in one concentrated effort, to establish that kind of system." Cooperative solutions are of special concern to Don Scott because of Prince Edward Island's small population base and limited resource. He also refers to the National Library of Canada's promoting regional networks tying into a national service.

In this period of severe fiscal restraint

seriously affecting libraries of all types in the four Atlantic Provinces, the fragmentation of effort is indeed a matter of serious concern. This is the time when librarians should work together to find the most cost-efficient and effective methods to share the meagre resources contained in Atlantic libraries which were, to a large extent, acquired from funds collected from the taxpayer.

The topic of utilization of library technology obviously involves consideration of the Atlantic library scene as a whole - not just public libraries. I must now return to a public library specific problem, that of equalization of urban and rural services. Is it possible to equalize the level of service delivery? Should it even be attempted? At what cost? Today's rural resident is better educated and more sophisticated than was the case thirty years ago. Has he/she not the right to have his/her informational, cultural and recreational needs met? Evidently these questions are uppermost in the minds of some of our regional librarians. One of them writes that "cost-effectiveness of services is not totally possible as services to more rural, spread-out populations are time consuming and costly, especially in relation to the number of people served. Yet the isolation of the communities results in heavy use of the library for the size of the population and, demand for varied and up-to-date materials." Isolation, geographic and cultural, is a factor mentioned repeatedly. It also affects staff training and support. "There is a tendency to provide less frequent supervision of these branches because of travel time, but again, isolation results in the need of staff to be kept up-to-date on policy, and to receive the support of being part of a larger region." P.E.I., in particular, worries about its "ability to deliver an adequate level of service to a heavily populated (relatively speaking) rural area." Don Scott states that "in spite of what is happening elsewhere, I still see the bookmobile continuing as a strong part of our service. It seems to provide a reasonable compromise for recreational reading." Yet he adds "Easy access to reliable information sources is not going to be available until we have some sort of videotext facility tied into a large database."

The future of bookmobile service is the subject of much cogitation in both New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Newfoundland has phased out bookmobile service and switched to a centralized books-by-mail operation. I am sure readers of this article would be interested in an eventual evaluation of the Newfoundland books-by-mail service. In Nova Scotia two regional libraries are currently testing a limited books-by-mail service.

The escalating costs of bookmobile service are one factor. But there has also been an "awareness for some time of the shortcomings of bookmobile service from a standpoint beyond that of mere economics."

In certain parts of Nova Scotia where householder stops have been considered the most appropriate method of library service delivery for many years, the bookmobile "has become an almost unaffordable luxury in certain areas where branch service is within a reasonable distance. The question is of course, what is a reasonable distance? But there is no question that we shall have to turn to smaller vehicles with fewer personnel." To the best of my knowledge both Haut-St-Jean and Albert-Westmorland-Kent Regional Libraries are already using smaller vehicles.

Mary Fraser, who has retired as Cape Breton's chief librarian, addressed the N.S. Library Association in the fall of 1982 in Annapolis Royal. She made a point of

the fact that rural life has changed, that there is hardly a family now who doesn't travel to a larger centre for their shopping, banking and other necessary errands.

It is time for those regional librarians who have not already embarked on a reexamination of rural services, to do so. As mentioned earlier, the establishment of new branch libraries, relocating older ones, or, possibly even closing those that are not viable - are associated with great difficulties, particularly in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. But, existing legislation and practices can be changed and, librarians have a responsibility as planners, both to their boards and funding governments.

In this connection I found it interesting that New Brunswick and Nova Scotia librarians complained about the "lack of flexibility to change methods of service as the needs of the region and costs change because of investment in staff, vehicles, etc." An additional difficulty was perceived "in quickly meeting the changing needs and requests of the public due to many factors."

New Brunswick and Nova Scotia would seem to have a lot in common including complaints about the provincial library service agency. "In New Brunswick, a lack of leadership from the provincial office responsible for library services and a lack of keen interest in libraries by the Minister responsible for the Libraries Act." There is one major difference in Nova Scotia: we have been most fortunate to have had a Minister, since 1978, the Honourable Terence R.B. Donahoe, who has demonstrated a consistent interest and belief in the value of public library services. He has participated in library functions and fought for provincial library funding support before his Cabinet colleagues of Management Board and the House of Assembly. On the other hand, the criticism of lack of leadership from the N.S. Provincial Library has also been levied repeatedly (and I thank those of my colleagues who had the courage to tell me so verbally). In response, I will simply say this: Those of us involved directly with services to the regional public libraries, try to do our level best to respond to expressed needs and priorities. We attempt to provide leadership in technical support areas such as Reference and Technical Services. In our capacity as consultants and advisors we endeavour to assist, when asked. Nevertheless, being a government agency within the Department of Education, we cannot very well organize a crusade for increased provincial funding, for example.

Yet another criticism of provincial library services was made (N.S.) but, I dare say, this would apply to the four of us, equally: "more consultation between the Regions and the Provincial Library regarding deadlines for reports, summaries and other information - with more consideration for Regional Libraries staffing and schedules (such as vacations, etc.)."

I have now covered recurring problems in the public libraries common to all four provinces or, at least, shared between two Atlantic provinces. The following subjects have been mentioned by Nova Scotia librarians only:

"The disparity of children's services in various public libraries - from library to library services differ, caused by the philosophy of service of the particular library and available funding. As an example, preschoolers in one area may have many programs available at the public library, and in another area have no programs at all (story hours, puppet shows, crafts)."

Public relations and publicity programs: "how to develop and maintain an adequate PR and publicity program with lack of staff, a changing population, and lack of understanding at the funding level of the need for the programs."

"The underdevelopment of school libraries in N.S., bringing about recurring demands for joint libraries and ...

cooperation between school and public libraries." "Our relationship with school libraries: defining our respective roles for ourselves and our funders. With inadequate school libraries in many areas, the heavy load of projects falls on public libraries. As funds grow tighter public libraries may grow to resent these project-related services that are eating up their staff and book budgets."

User fees or no user fees? In my opinion a well thought out and reasoned approach to this question has to be prepared.

Intellectual freedom and censorship are recurring issues which have affected public and school libraries time and time again. Yet, there are pitifully few book selection or, collection development, policies which have been adopted by either regional library or district school boards.

"Theft: why are so many library materials stolen from libraries? Does the public see us as something they pay for in their taxes, and therefore they're 'entitled' to steal books?" This brings up "the cost of installing book-theft security systems."

Another librarian mentions "the tantalizing prospect of joint purchasing power of all the regional libraries which disappears when actual attempts are made to purchase something jointly." In this connection it must be remembered that considerable discounts have been obtained from certain book suppliers because of the volume of Nova Scotia regional libraries purchases.

Two of my respondents suggested that this "article could take a couple of paragraphs to tell what we are succeeding at." I agree that "our regional library structure", be it in New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia or Prince Edward Island is the result of sound planning by those forward-looking library pioneers who preceded us. Also, our legislation (with the exception of P.E.I.) constitutes a solid basis. It may require certain changes but constitutes a good foundation on which to build. Nova Scotia prides itself on the 100 per cent municipal participation in the regional public library system.

Ever increasing use of our public library facilities and services is obvious testimony to the fact that we are doing something right even though our methods of measuring performance may need to be scrutinized in light of the Planning Process. But what counts most is "the real appreciation of what we are doing expressed by hundreds of readers during a year" (Colchester-East Hants).

It is these readers and users of our public libraries who have to be our focus when we reexamine our services and structures. It is in their interests that we must sharpen our management skills. It is for their sake that we must work even harder, together with our boards, to achieve credibility with our funding agencies.

Indeed, we "have promises to keep, and miles to go before we sleep."

The Editor's final diary

Thank you for your support, your articles, your assistance.

A special note of thanks to Elizabeth and Patricia, respectively the Managing and Advertising Editors.

And especially a 'thank you' to Lynne Swanick.

Best wishes to the incoming editors. We have learned a great deal (we were even tempted to reprint our first issue to prove it) and have enjoyed the experience.

However as a precautionary measure, I am in the process of having my name changed.

Eric L. Swanick
Editor

Travel in the Maritime Provinces, 1750-1867: A Bibliography

By SHIRLEY B. ELLIOTT

The following bibliography of travel accounts within the Maritime Provinces encompasses a period beginning with the settlement of Halifax in 1750 up to the time of Confederation.

These accounts were written by visitors to our shores; nowhere is a native born author represented. In some instances the visitor's period of stay was brief, as in the case of a person from the Old Country embarking at Halifax whose final destination was the Canadas. Others, as in the case of William Moorsom, were stationed in the provinces during a tour of military duty which often afforded the opportunity of travel within the region. The majority of entries is concerned with travel in the provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, although a few relate to Newfoundland, when the author's route covers more than one province.

Acknowledgement is made to the excellent bibliography in *Early travellers in the Canadas, 1791-1867*, ed. by Gerald Craig (Toronto: Macmillan, 1955), which served as both an inspiration and a guide.

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Librarians learn about census

Over the course of the past twelve months, Statistics Canada has been busy churning out the results of the 1981 Census of Population and Housing and the 1981 Census of Agriculture.

At the same time, the federal agency has also been busy teaching librarians more about the Census. Through library newsletters, seminars, promotional brochures, personal visits, etc., staff from the St. John's and Halifax Regional offices have created a better understanding among librarians in Atlantic Canada of the wide range of products and services available from the Census.

Many librarians in turn have decided to create a greater awareness of Census data in library patrons by putting on displays of Census publications and promotional brochures as well as distributing Census bookmarks etc. St. Mary's University in Halifax, for example, declared November 'Census Month' in which they mounted displays of Census publications and distributed promotional materials to students using the library.

"The Census is the single greatest source of information about the people of Canada", says J. Kevin Power, Statistics Canada's Regional Director for the Maritimes. "We ask questions such as age, sex, marital status, mother tongue, income, occupation etc. As librarians are often the first contact for individuals seeking this kind of information, they must be familiar with Census data."

Statistics Canada maintains two

Regional Offices in Atlantic Canada, one in Halifax which serves the three Maritime Provinces and one in St. John's to serve people in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Each office has a knowledgeable inquiries staff to assist clients with their data requirements. Many librarians have also learned to rely on the inquiries staff for assistance in locating Census information.

Each Statistics Canada office is also equipped with a toll free telephone number so that anyone in Atlantic Canada can call one of the offices at no charge. In Newfoundland the toll-free number is ZENITH 07037, while in the Maritimes, the Halifax office can be reached at 1-800-565-7192.

"Librarians come in contact with so many different kinds of people—students, businessmen, professors, public servants, etc. who are seeking information for policy planning, community studies, market and social research," says Boyd Underhay, Regional Director for Newfoundland. "By having a more in-depth knowledge of the Census, librarians are better able to help people who may otherwise not be made aware of the vast source of information so readily available."

Librarians wishing to obtain more information about Census products and services or wish to have a census seminar in their area should contact one of the Statistics Canada offices mentioned above.

Maine State Documents

By MARY LOUISE COBB

The state of Maine has been officially collecting its documents since 1833 as a result of a legislative resolve that required the clerk of the House of Representatives, during each session of the Legislature, to retain twenty copies of every document printed by order of each branch of the Legislature, and the documents to be bound at the end of the session. This resolve was passed one year after the removal of the seat of government from Portland to the State House in Augusta in 1832. The first volume issued under this resolve contains the customary departmental and miscellaneous reports for the year 1832.

There is still some vagueness concerning what official Maine publications were printed from statehood in 1820 to 1831, as Adelaide R. Hasse noted in her *Index of Economic Material in Documents of the States of the United States, Maine, 1820-1904*. In her preface she reviewed the early documents, stating that it appears that from 1820 to 1822 no annual reports were published. In addition to the laws, reports known to have been published in pamphlet form during this period are the governor's message of 1820, the militia act of 1821, the treasurer's report of 1822, and the land agent's reports for 1825 and 1827. After 1827 and up to 1832 there have been found the treasurer's reports from 1827, the prison reports beginning in 1829, and the bank abstracts beginning in 1829.

State documents were the basis for development of the Maine State Library's collection. The collection was expanded in 1836 when the Secretary of State was authorized by legislative resolve to purchase a library under the direction of the Governor for the use of the Legislature. A state library was authorized by legislation enacted in 1839. Shortly thereafter, the Library participated with other states in book exchanges, using state documents as the prime source of materials for exchange. A state "depository law" for public documents was born in 1891 when a law was enacted that placed responsibility on the State Librarian for distributing the laws of Maine and state reports. The State Librarian was charged to procure such number of each volume of the Maine reports and of the acts and resolves when published, and to distribute the same to such corporations, officers, institutions and persons within the state as the legislature may designate. He was also to obtain from each department of the state government a sufficient number of its published reports to transmit one copy to each public library in the state and to schools and other public institutions that desired them. In 1839 the law was revised, expanding the distribution. The law stated that the duty of the Librarian was to distribute "all the reports of the departments and institutions of the state, and all books and documents published or purchased by the state, to such nations, counties, municipalities, corporations, institutions and persons as are or may be by law entitled to receive the same." This legislation also required the maintenance of a documents department in the Library.

The depository library program in the United States has been well researched and defined by Margaret Lane in her monumental work on *State Publications and Depository Libraries*. She explains that the depository programs are designed to bring state publications to the depository libraries systematically, to increase the resources available to the citizens of the state, and to insure easier access to the publications for everyone. She answers the question "What is a depository library program?" with "It is a plan, established by law, that governs the flow of state publications from the state

agencies, through distribution center, to designated libraries, for the use of the public."

State publications (the terms publications and documents are used interchangeably in this report) generally include four issuing agency categories: legislature, state departments, agricultural experiment stations, and state universities. The functions or purposes of these publications are legislative, administrative, service, information and research. In Maine, the State Library is the depository for state department and agency publications. The State Law and Legislative Reference Library, which became a separate library under the auspices of the Legislature in 1971 (until that time it was a section of the State Library), is the depository for legislative documents -- bills, laws and statutes, legislative calendars and reports, the record of legislative debate and action, and for administrative adjudicatory agencies' reports and judicial reports. An exception is the legislative committee reports which were included in the 1943 revision of the "depository law" as one group of the publications which were to be delivered to the state librarian for depository purposes.

Subject areas covered by agency publications represent activities of the office of the Governor, the Secretary of State, financial administration, personnel administration, military and civil defense, public welfare, commerce, public utilities, agriculture, education, cultural services, geology, conservation, energy, legislative committees -- that is, every facet of government. The publications include serials, monographs, pamphlets, maps, brochures, and any other materials not specifically intended for internal use, e.g. memoranda, forms, correspondence, etc.

The current Maine law on publications of state agencies (*Maine Revised Statutes Annotated* (1964), tit. 1, sec. 501-A) states that 55 copies of any annual or biennial report not included in the *Maine State Government Annual Report* shall be delivered to the State Librarian, immediately upon receipt by the State Purchasing Agent for exchange and library use. At least 18 copies of all other publications, including periodicals, bulletins, pamphlets, leaflets and special reports issued by any agency or by any legislative committee shall be delivered to the State Librarian. "Agency" is defined in M.R.S.A. (1964), tit. 1, sec. 501 as "a state department, agency, office, board, commission; or quasi-independent agency, board, commission, authority or institution."

There is no specific mention of depositories in the Maine depository law, although the copies of reports to be delivered to the State Library were intended for library use and distribution to libraries in the state, and for exchange as was stated in earlier laws. The depository law implies through the number (18) of each state publication to be delivered to the State Library that the State Library is the chief avenue of public access to government information.

The State Library serves as the distribution center for materials sent to the state depository libraries. Twelve libraries in the state serve as depository libraries and receive one copy of each publication issued and deposited with the State Library. Ten of the libraries are college and university libraries; one is a large public library and one is the Library of Congress. The University of Maine at Orono and the Library of Congress each receive two copies of each agency publication. The state Library keeps and maintains three copies of each publication, one for an archival collection and two for circulation.

When the 18 copies of a publication are

received, the State Library's three copies are set aside and the remaining copies are processed for weekly shipment to state depository libraries. The State Library's copies are assigned classification numbers from the Maine government documents classification scheme, which is an agency-based system similar to that of the U.S. Superintendent of Documents classification system. One copy of each publication is placed in the archival collection, and the two circulating copies are shelved in the state documents collection, which has been maintained as a separate collection as was mandated in the 1893 law. A shelflist record in Maine document class order is maintained in the Documents Office. Many documents have been cataloged and catalog cards filed in the Library's public catalog.

The depository libraries for state publications are expected to make the state publications available to anyone desiring to use them. There are, however, no written guidelines or requirements for the depositories at this time, only the implied responsibilities of preservation and accessibility to the public, the public being both the clientele served by a library and any other Maine citizen.

Acquiring state agency publications poses some problems today and requires vigilance on the part of the State Library to discover them. The early laws set the responsibility for delivery of all documents to the State Librarian in the hands of the binder or printing office. In 1919, an act relating to publication of state departments and institutions stated that ten copies of each periodical, bulletin, pamphlet or leaflet issued by any department or institution of the state "shall be deposited in the State Library." Thus the responsibility for depositing the documents other than the annual reports rested in the agency rather than the state printer or binder. In recent years maintaining personal contacts with the agencies and remaining ever alert to any public comment or newsreport on state agency reports is essential, for sometimes there is a failure to deposit with the State Library, either through oversight or the staff's ignorance of the law. An annual letter to agency heads serves as a reminder of the requirements of the depository law.

Bibliographic control of Maine state

publications is sorely limited. The chief means of access to the state documents collection at the State Library are the classification shelflist file and the public card catalog. The only published index to the collection is the *Hasse Index* that spans the period 1820-1904. This index covers only the printed reports of administrative offices, legislative committees, special commissions of the state, and the governors' messages for the period since 1789. There is no general guide to the documents collection, but the *Maine State Government Annual Report* issued by the Bureau of the Budget since 1974 serves as a guide to state government. Some agency publications are noted in the Report for agencies which regularly publish reports or periodicals.

The chief bibliographic aid is the *Maine State Library Government Publications Checklist*, which is issued bi-annually. The first number of the checklist was printed in January 1941 and was issued quarterly through September 1976. The checklist is not a complete list of all Maine state publications but does include every item received by the State Library. The *Monthly Checklist of State Publications* published by the Library of Congress includes Maine publications. Like the *Maine Checklist* the Library of Congress *Checklist* does not include a complete record of Maine publications. Both these bibliographies are useful for an overview of publications issued during a particular year. An index to the monographs listed in the *Library of Congress Monthly Checklist* is published annually.

Finally, the value of the Maine state documents -- acquired, distributed, classified, preserved -- is evident when people use them. Although the collecting of state documents and the purchase of a library in the early years were ordered for the legislature's use, collections in the Maine State Library, and more recently, the State Law and Legislative Reference Library, have been serving the needs of the State, its government, and its people for all but a few years from statehood. Since 1891 a "depository law" has been serving the government information needs of the State. This law, revised over years, is likely to undergo other changes as there is need to ensure the public's "right to know" their government's activity as recorded in both print and non-print formats.

From the Presidents Desk

This is the time of year when our minds turn to thoughts of spring (and maybe even summer by and by).

With zero-increase budgets, or the infamous 6 per cent and 5 per cent, you may not be able to afford the luxury of student help this summer. If you do hire students in your library and you are involved in task assignment, remember some of the monotonous duties you were given as a student -- mounds of photocopying until your blood hummed and clicked in tune with the copier; heaps of cards to be filed in the public catalogue until your hands dried out and cracked from handling so much paper; shelf reading by the mile (or should I say kilometre?) with only the occasional year-old sandwich or apple core to relieve the tedium. I know these things must be done, all those housekeeping chores which get "shelved" because of the pressures of the day-to-day running of a library, but, this year, give your student(s) a break! Try to give them the occasional meaningful or important job to do, say, once a week. Their productivity will increase and they might even have charitable thoughts about libraries in the future!

Conference time is drawing nigh. You should have all received your registration kits by now. Note that some of the workshops are restricted (not x rated) but size-restricted, so read the programme carefully and send in your pre-registration instructions. See you in May.

University of Toronto becomes CIP agent for Eastern Canada

Under the terms of a contract signed on October 18, 1982, with the National Library of Canada, the University of Toronto Library will assume the role of Cataloguing in Publication (CIP) agent for English-language trade publications in eastern Canada, effective January 1983. The activity has been performed by York University Libraries since the inception of the current CIP program in 1976.

The CIP Coordinator may be reached at CIP Office, University of Toronto Library, 7th floor, 130 St. George Street, Toronto, Ontario, M5S 1A5. Telephone: (416) 978-6716.

Atlantic Canada Music

The Music of Miramichi

By STEVE HECKBERT

"There is not, nor ever will be, any law in Miramichi." So a local magistrate was heard to mourn in the first years of the nineteenth century. Though deficient in strict observance of the King's law, inhabitants of the river that drains New Brunswick's midsection have never been without song.

For two hundred years and more, as refugees arrived in Miramichi from the conquest of Louisburg, revolution in America, potato famine in Ireland, highland clearances in Scotland and urban congestion in Ontario, there have been songs to accompany every task. Songs of the woods and of the water, ancient songs portered in memory from across the oceans, songs to pillory the object of an author's ire.

The mode of Miramichi singing is altogether distinctive. Singers perform alone, without musical accompaniment, using gapped or modal scales that can sound monotonous to ears accustomed to the slick, orchestrated productions popular today. Theatrical gestures are kept to a minimum, implying that the function of these songs is not so much to entertain as to preserve and pass on the ways of a bygone time. The last line or few words of a performance are spoken rather than sung, a practice known elsewhere only in parts of Australia.

The a capella singing of Miramichi developed in a distinctive, recognisable fashion precisely because the river community has been something of a backwater—an English island in a French sea, fully a century removed from the crossroads of wooden-ship commerce. Miramichiers sang to enrich a journey, to lighten a task of work, to add meaning to a long winter evening.

It seems fitting that the earliest surviving song indigenous to Miramichi, the bitter "Mullins Boom", was composed in 1823 by prisoners housed in Northumberland County Gaol at Newcastle on the heels of a vicious fight between local and American lumbermen. The latter likely worked at the upriver operation founded three years before by the Yankee Thomas Boies. "Those Sharks that bore our wealth away" (1) has from that day to this remained a prolific theme in Miramichi folklore. Mullins was the name of the gaoler, and the word 'boom' came to signify the confinement of men, as well as of logs. Not to soothe Miramichi's fabled irreverence for due legal process, the Grand Jury hearing the charges against the prisoners promptly forbade the singing of 'Mullins Boom', a prohibition which quite failed to obliterate it. Beyond a doubt, the spirit of rebellion is endemic to the Miramichi river. Even today it is a sorry fireside singalong which does not include a rendition of 'The Wild Colonial Boy'.

Two years after the altercation recorded one-sidedly in 'Mullins Boom', a disaster of unparalleled scale swept over eastern New Brunswick. In a mere ten hours, on the evening and night of October 7, 1825, the Miramichi fire laid to waste over 6,000 square miles—nearly one-quarter the land area of the province. The death, destruction and subsequent suffering caused by the calamity inspired a spate of poetic laments rendered in song. This manner of responding to catastrophic events has survived intact to the present day, as was evinced by the songs commemorating the 35 fishermen who perished in the Escuminac disaster of 1959. Perhaps the best-known of these was written by Alex Milson of Chatham, who sang it at the annual Miramichi Folksong Festival until his untimely death in 1981.

Probably the best-loved of all Miramichi songs is the mournful 'Peter Emberley' (also spelled 'Amberley'), which has been performed by a multitude of singers and

spread across the continent. It was penned by John Calhoun of Boiestown, who helped carry young Emberley down to the home of his employer after he had been mortally injured, in 1880, by a falling log. When finished, Calhoun's lament was sent to the singer Abraham Munn, who set to it the air of an old Irish ballad. The song's dominant theme, "There's danger in the lumber woods, for death lurks sullen there" (2) is central to the Miramichi psyche, recurring in 'The Jam on Gerry's Rock', 'The Dungarvon Whooper' and many more.

Of uncertain origin, 'The Jam on Gerry's Rock', like 'The Lumberman's Alphabet', is a song of surpassing popularity, thanks largely to repeated reprints in the now-defunct *Family Herald*. Unlike these two, though, 'The Dungarvon Whooper' is cut unmistakably from the purest Miramichi cloth. It tells of the mysterious death of a lumber-camp cook, scripted in superlative verse by 'the poet of the Renous', Michael Whelan. Suspecting the camp foreman of murder and robbery, and utterly terrified by blood-curdling yowls thought to issue from the ghost of the deceased, all hands abandoned the camp with no little haste.

Tradition has it that the Dungarvon Whooper (possibly a vocal panther) continued to strike fear into the hearts of the countryfolk from 1912 until Rev. Edward Murdoch, parish priest at Renous, came to Dungarvon and read the Roman Catholic service of exorcism, whereupon the spirit of the luckless cook found and kept his peace. The Whooper name, though, has refused to succumb quietly; it was attached to the train which plied the Canada Eastern Railway between Newcastle and Fredericton till 1936, thanks to a curious habit of the devil-may-care woodsmen aboard, who whooped riotously whenever the train's whistle sounded. More recently it was reincarnated as the name of a Chatham beverage room beside which there rests, aptly, an old-fashioned railway caboos.

Whooping at the conclusion of a song is, at least for men, still an accepted practice, sometimes accompanied by a flourish of dance steps. Strangely similar to the yells one hears in some of Louisiana's Cajun music, and some of our regional Acadian performances, the Miramichi whoop is delivered: HA-WOOO!, as opposed to the western YA-HOOO! Such exuberance affirms the joy in living felt by a singer, no matter how sombre may have been the mood of his song, and clears the air for the next performer.

Another musical genre dear to Miramichi is the satirical song, whose master craftsman has been the much-

loved and much-feared Larry Gorman, whose listeners laughed one moment and winced the next as came their turn to be skewered. Perhaps best known for 'The Scow on Cowden Shore', Larry was reportedly run out of Miramichi for the unprintable 'Donahue's Spree'.

The nettlesome 'Duffy's Hotel', which describes some unruly goings-on centered about the establishment that stood across from the Boiestown rail station, is of the same satirical vein, as are some new songs of my own authorship. The genre is sometimes known as the cante fable, wherein a light-hearted anecdote builds to a climactic insult.

There is of course other music in Miramichi, of the sort commonly heard on radio, ably played on electrified instruments. For the most part, this music might be heard anywhere; there is not much regionally distinctive about it. The a capella songs of the lumber woods, though, bear a unique Miramichi stamp. That they have been so well preserved for our awareness and enjoyment is due to the care of the singers themselves and to the dedication of Dr. Louise Manny.

It was in 1947 that Dr. Manny, a native of Maine, was commissioned by Lord Beaverbrook, whose name derives from the Miramichi hamlet of Beaver Brook where he was reared, to seek out and record what she could of the local folksongs still extant. Her research, aided by singers and interested parties too numerous to list here, resulted in the disc recordings of the Lord Beaverbrook Collection, storing songs in English, French and Micmac. An important source was the scrapbook of May MacLean of Strathadam, detailing the wealth of singing talent in that tiny community.

Those disc recordings, Dr. Manny's related research and some additional recordings by John Mitchell and radio station CKMR formed the basis for the publication in 1968 of what became overnight the bible of Miramichi folksongs. Titled simply *Songs of Miramichi*, co-authored by Louise Manny and James Reginald Wilson, a schooled musician born in Ludlow, the authoritative text contains the words and musical notation to 101 folksongs, 50 of them identified as indigenous to the river and its environs. (Preparation of the present article has drawn heavily upon that book.)

Masterful in its erudition, *Songs of Miramichi* handles each song like a jewel; it is never condescending, always patient, and peppered with heart-warming reminiscences. A subscript to 'The Blue Bird', for instance, reads as follows: "Martin Sullivan, who wrote The Blue

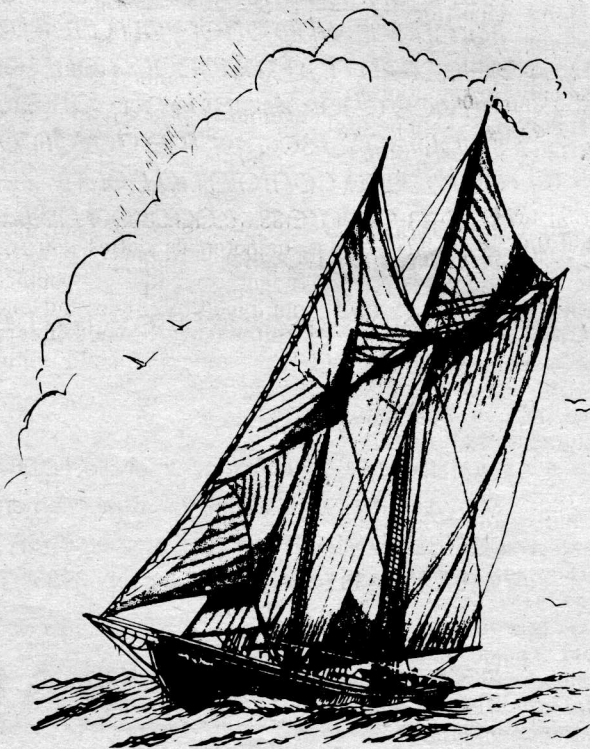
Bird, was a cow-doctor who lived in Kouchibouguac. He was noted for his satirical verses on various topics. One of his songs, which unfortunately has not survived, described ghosts rising from their graves at Moorfields to vote for Lemuel J. Tweedie in an election—at least that is how Martin explained the fact that Mr. Tweedie was elected by a majority of 200 votes, when there were only 103 voters in the parish." (3) Manny and Wilson's book ensures that the sauce and substance of Miramichi folksongs will endure, even if the living, oral tradition expires.

There are disturbing signs that this may soon occur, for the iron edge of attrition is mercilessly at work among the aging performers. Missing from the 1982 Miramichi Folksong Festival, the showcase staged each summer in the auditorium of Newcastle's town hall, were three stalwart faces: Frank Estey, whose duets with his brother Joe were long featured; Alex Milson, the show's affable master of ceremonies for many years and himself a composer and singer; and the legendary Wilmot MacDonald, patriarch of Miramichi singers, felled by an incapacitating stroke. Of the senior generation of singers, only Marie and Perley Hare, Allan Kelly, Charlie Butler, Velma Kelly and Harold Whitney remain.

These people cannot be replaced. They might, perhaps, be succeeded, were there sufficient interest in the young adults of today's Miramichi. But apart from the talented foursome Donegal Tweed, and myself, few care enough to learn the traditional songs and sing them onstage. The once-supportive radio station in Newcastle has become conspicuously indifferent in its effort to sound trendy. Hopefully this article will not have to serve as an obituary. One can underestimate the resilience of folklore which incorporates the spirit of a people; the jurymen who banned 'Mullins Boom' in 1823 doubtless figured they would outlive the song, but the passage of 160 years has proved the reverse.

From a cultural standpoint, though, it is worrisome that the era of the highway, radio and television has brought the isolation of Miramichi to an end. Influences arriving in person from Galway have been displaced by electromagnetic signals beamed from Los Angeles, where the only tradition seems to be the lack of tradition. To many the songs of old sound backward, painful and obsolete. Their wonderful gaiety and irreverence, which qualities one can find in riverfolk any day

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Atlantic Canada Music

of the week, are no longer heard.

Though traditional singers are declining in number, musicians are not. The fiddle will be popular as long as people go about in boats. Most of the fiddling at the Festival is handled by the nimble Willie LeBlanc and Clarence Lynch. Nevertheless, most would agree that the best fiddler in Miramichi is Matilda Murdoch of Loggieville, who has lately released a second album of her own compositions. Fiddling contests held in conjunction with Newcastle's Canada Days and Chatham's Pioneer Days are enthusiastically received.

Preeminent among stepdancers is Francis Taylor, whose quick-footedness never fails to elicit the cry "Drive'er, Francis!" from the crowd. Also widely favoured is the harmonica, whose ablest player is Billy Brideau of Chatham. Efforts to coax from retirement the inimitable crowdpleaser Willie Farrah, of Miramichi Sanatoria Club fame, may yet succeed. The North Shore Regiment Band has brightened our lives for a generation. And for every musician who performs onstage there are a score who play only in the kitchen.

Younger talent has taken up different instruments. Carter Dickson of Chatham is as skilled and tasteful an electric guitarist as can be found. John Aubey of Newcastle excels at the five-string banjo. The two play regularly with Whiskey River, the Miramichi's premier country-rock band, who recorded a year ago a single containing two of Carter's songs. More in a country and western vein, Joe MacDonald's group Black Diamond and Ernie Taylor's band are consistent favourites at community halls on both sides of the river. May I apologise to those whose contributions have gone unmentioned here; this list is by no means exhaustive.

Scientific and technical information: help build our national system

You are invited to a meeting of librarians, information specialists and end users of scientific and technical information (STI) sponsored by the Advisory Board on Scientific and Technological Information (ABSTI) in Room H-19 at the Technical University of Nova Scotia, 1360 Barrington Street, Halifax, May 20, 1983 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

ABSTI was established by the federal government in 1969 to provide advice and make recommendations to the National Research Council (NRC) on policies and plans for the development and implementation of a scientific and technical information (STI) network in Canada. ABSTI members are drawn from the academic, government and industrial sectors across Canada. Current membership includes Mr. J. Clair Callaghan, President, Technical University of Nova Scotia and Dr. Norman Horrocks, Director, School of Library Service, Dalhousie University.

The purpose of the meeting is to provide an overview of the program of the Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information (CISTI), to advise you of new mechanisms by which you can access CISTI's STI resource base, to discuss new technology applied to the improvement of STI services, especially the deliverability of STI, and to discuss any problems you may have in obtaining STI in Nova Scotia which ABSTI may address.

Please advise the Technical University of Nova Scotia, Public Relations Office, P.O. Box 1000, Halifax, N.S., B3J 2X4, telephone (902) 429-8300, extensions 118 or 183, if you plan to attend.

As regards composing, we are enjoying a revival. Most authentic, in my view, are the fiddle tunes of Matilda Murdoch. Hers are carefully crafted compositions, from 32 to 128 bars in length, perfect for step-dancing. My own songwriting, whether satirical or serious, has attempted to retain a feel for the Irish-Acadian rhythms adopted on the river. A Chatham expatriate, Tim Crawford, published a book called *La Dance Tympan* (Montreal 1980), which included the two original songs 'Bay du Vin Boys' and 'Black River Bridge', the latter co-written with Sharon Fraser. Betty Buckley of Chatham, whose life was taken in a car crash during the summer of 1982, and Alex Milson rendered songs of their own making at the Festival each year. Aubrey Stewart of Chatham and Randy Watling of Napan are writing good songs which have yet to be widely heard. Again, the list is far from complete.

Although the traditional a capella songs of Miramiehi seem headed for a period of

neglect, there are signs of a new direction. As always, this will bring distress to some quarters, disinterest to many, enthusiasm to a precious few. In summation, one cannot improve upon the accuracy of that grand poem of Hedley Parker of Derby, 'The Days of Duffy Gillis'. I came to discover his magnificent composition in a book of New Brunswick folklore, and set myself to sing it at the 1982 Festival. None of the old-timers knew the air to which it ought to be sung, and so I had to fabricate from what little I knew of our predecessors. The 1899 poem's final verse is pure prophecy:

"But where'er her sons are scattered,
There still the past intrudes;
Whether in the city's maddening rush,
Or Minnesott's woods,
And down the glint of memory
Like a vision from the west
Come the days of Duffy Gillis
From the Sou-ou-West." (4)

Footnotes

1-Manny, Louise and Wilson, James Reginald. *Songs of Miramichi*. (Fredericton: Brunswick, 1968), p. 44.

2-Ibid., p. 161

3-Ibid., p. 65

4-Spray, Carole. *Will O'The Wisp*. (Fredericton: Brunswick, 1979), p. 129

Among the recordings of Miramichi music there are two that focus exclusively on the a capella songs which bear the river's signature. Ironically, both are American.

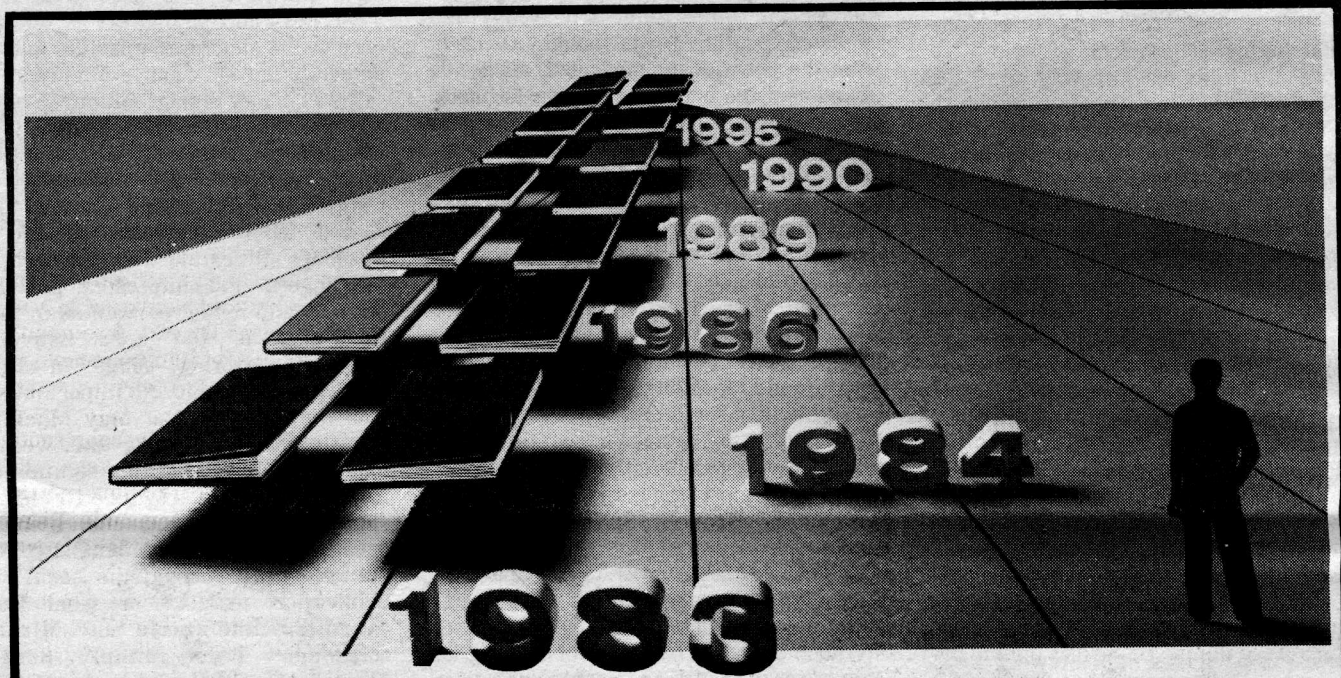
Folk Legacy Records of Huntingdon, Vermont have issued a recording devoted to Marie Hare, arguably the most sensitive and knowledgeable of Miramichi singers. Inquiries concerning the disc (Folk-Legacy FS9) should be directed to Marie or Perley Hare of Strathadam, Northumberland County, N.B.

Folkways of America have recorded a number of our singers—Wilmot MacDonald, Marie Hare, Allan Kelly, and others.

Matilda Murdoch has released two albums of her own compositions, entitled simply volumes one and two. Copies may be obtained by writing her in Loggieville, N.B.

The single 'Down on the Farm' can be ordered from Whiskey River's Carter Dickson on Isiah Drive, Chatham, N.B.

The collection 'Bottoms Up!', by Steve Heckbert and the Shadbangers, is available at Box 31, Chatham, N.B.



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Bilingual dictionaries and glossaries in library and information science

By DOUGLAS ROBINSON

The English-French, French-English dictionaries and glossaries in the accompanying list vary from short glossaries without definitions to rather lengthy technical dictionaries. The glossaries or word lists are useful in that they provide the exact term in the other language but they assume that the user knows the definition of the term. For example, Côté's *La bibliothéconomie en quelques mots* is up-to-date, helpful and handy but like most glossaries does not attempt to be comprehensive. By contrast, Duchesne's word list is selective within a very specialized area but gives lengthy definitions. In general, the works mentioned in the list have short definitions in either English or French as indicated, or in both, and English-French or French-English word lists.

A feature of recently published works such as Côté's and You said it is the addition of terms used in the computer or electronic data processing fields and the identification of the terms as such. This is particularly helpful if no dictionary of computer terms is immediately available.

Unfortunately, no single dictionary is so comprehensive that it picks up all terms in the library and information science fields. It is therefore necessary to select from a number of dictionaries those which meet the bulk of the library's needs.

The bibliography does not include any works that are out of print nor any of the numerous unilingual library science dictionaries in English or French. Many of these are listed in *Library and information science dictionaries and glossaries-Dictionnaires et glossaires d'informatique et de bibliothéconomie* compiled in 1980 by Claire Renaud-Frigon. This bibliography is available on request from the Library Documentation Centre, National Library of Canada (Ottawa, ON K1A 0N4).

The bibliography does include price, when known, the brief annotations on the content of the items. The prices quoted are those given in *Books in Print* (1982-1983), *British Books in Print* (1982) and *Les livres disponibles* (1982) but they are subject to change. Addresses for the few organizations that are not commercial publishers are given here for convenience in ordering. They are:

Corporation des bibliothécaires professionnels du Québec
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360 rue LeMoyné
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Midwestern Regional Library System
637 Victoria St. North
Kitchener, ON N2H 5G4

Foreign Standards Sales Section
International Standardization Branch
Standards Council of Canada
2000 Argenta Road, Suite 2-401
Mississauga, ON L5N 1V8

Public Relations Office
National Library of Canada
Ottawa, ON K1A 0N4

Bibliography

Allen, C.G. *Manual of European languages for librarians*. New York: Bowker, 1975. 803p.
Price \$65 (U.S.) for the 1976 printing.

A useful general manual which gives library terminology in various European languages as well as some grammatical points to help with identification of the terms.

Camille, Claude and Michel Dehaine. *Harrap's French and English dictionary of data processing*. London: G.G. Harrap,

1980. 127 p. Price 16 pounds.

Covers data processing and the related fields of electrical engineering, electronics, and telecommunications. English-French and French-English sections.

Canada. Dept. of Public Works. *Bilingual glossary of terms and expressions used in the office-Lexique bilingue de termes et expressions utilisés dans les bureaux*. Ottawa: Information Canada, 1972. 20, 19 p. Price \$3. French text on inverted pages.

Canada. Travaux publics. *Lexique bilingue de termes et expressions utilisés dans les bureaux-Bilingual glossary of terms and expressions used in the office*. Ottawa: Information Canada, 1972. 19, 20 p. Prix \$3. English text on inverted pages.

This glossary has been reprinted five times and covers general office terminology. It is not comprehensive but is inexpensive and useful as a companion volume to any bilingual library science dictionary.

Clason, W.E. Elsevier's dictionary of computers, automatic control and data processing. In six languages: English-American, French, Spanish, Italian, Dutch and German. 2d rev. ed. of *The dictionary of automation, computers, control and measuring*. Amsterdam: Elsevier Pub. Co., 1971. 474 p. Price \$81.50 (U.S.)

A rather technical work with brief definitions in English and the equivalent term in French, Spanish, Italian, Dutch and German. For each language, there is an alphabetical list of terms cited.

Clason, W.E. Elsevier's dictionary of library science, information and documentation. In six languages: English-American, French, Spanish, Italian, Dutch, and German. Amsterdam: Elsevier Scientific Pub. Co., 1976. 1v. Reprint available with Arabic supplement. Price 39 pounds.

Gives short definitions of terms in English with the corresponding terms for the other languages following.

Côté, Camille. *La bibliothéconomie en quelques mots-Current words in library science*. 2e éd. revue et augmentée. Montréal: Corporation des bibliothécaires professionnels du Québec, 1981. 64 p. Price \$5 from Corporation des bibliothécaires professionnels du Québec.

This is strictly a glossary without definitions. The words are listed alphabetically, and when there is more than one possible translation, they are posted in order of importance. French terms of feminine gender are indicated by (f) and "inform" (informatique) is added to words used in the computer field. A handy inexpensive glossary.

Data Processing: vocabulary-Traitement de l'information: vocabulaire. Geneva: International Organization for Standardization, 1982. 360 p. (ISO standards handbook; 10) Price \$50.25 from Standards Council of Canada.

A compilation of the various parts of international standard ISO 2382, published separately over a period of years and each dealing with a specific aspect of the subject. Terms are defined in both English and French.

Drieux, Jean-Pierre et Alain Jarlaud. *Let's talk D.P.: Lexique d'informatique*. 2e éd. rev. Paris: Dunod, 1978. 121 p. (Dunod informatique: Phase formation) Price 42 French francs for 3e éd. rev. 1981.

The third edition not seen. The second edition is a glossary with some bilingual definitions of certain important words. It

Dictionnaires et lexiques bilingues de Bibliothéconomie et d'Informatique

Par DOUGLAS ROBINSON

Les ouvrages répertoriés dans la bibliographie ci-annexée vont des petits lexiques bilingues sans définition jusqu'aux grands dictionnaires techniques anglais-français, français-anglais. Les lexiques ou listes de termes sont utiles car ils donnent l'équivalent exact d'un terme dans une autre langue, mais leurs auteurs présument que l'utilisateur connaît la définition du terme en question. Ainsi, *La bibliothéconomie en quelques mots* de C. Côté est un ouvrage à jour, pratique et facile à consulter, mais comme la plupart des lexiques, il n'est pas détaillé. Par contre, le lexique de R. Duchesne ne donne que certains termes très spécialisés, mais avec de longues définitions. En général, les ouvrages figurant dans la bibliographie comprennent de brèves définitions en anglais ou en français ou encore dans les deux langues, ainsi qu'un lexique anglais-français ou français-anglais.

Les ouvrages les plus récents comme *La bibliothéconomie en quelques mots* et *You said it* comprennent également des termes propres à l'informatique ou au traitement électronique des données qui sont clairement identifiés, ce qui est particulièrement utile lorsqu'on n'a pas de dictionnaire d'informatique sous la main.

Il n'existe malheureusement aucun dictionnaire suffisamment complet pour qu'on y trouve tous les termes de bibliothéconomie et d'informatique. On doit donc choisir parmi un certain nombre de dictionnaires ceux qui répondent le mieux aux besoins de la bibliothèque.

La bibliographie ne comprend aucune publication épuisée et aucun des nombreux dictionnaires unilingues français ou anglais de bibliothéconomie. Beaucoup de ces ouvrages figurent dans *Dictionnaires et glossaires d'informatique et de bibliothéconomie-Library and information science dictionaries and glossaries*, répertoire établi par Claire Renaud-Frigon en 1980. Cette bibliographie peut être obtenue en s'adressant au Centre de documentation sur les bibliothèques de la Bibliothèque nationale du Canada (Ottawa (Ontario) K1A 0N4).

De plus, le prix, s'il est connu, ainsi qu'une brève description du contenu de chaque publication sont indiqués dans la bibliographie. Les prix indiqués ont été tirés de *Books in Print* (1982-1983), *British Books in Print* (1982) et *Les livres disponibles* (1982) et peuvent être modifiés. Pour vous faciliter la tâche lorsque vous passerez des commandes, voici les adresses des quelques organisations qui ne sont pas des éditeurs commerciaux:

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Mississauga, ON L5N 1V8

Bureau des relations extérieures
Bibliothèque nationale du Canada
Ottawa, ON K1A 0N4

Bibliographie

Allen, C.G. *Manual of European languages for librarians*. New York: Bowker, 1975. 803 p. Prix \$65 (\$ américains) pour l'impression de 1976.

Ce guide général d'une grande utilité comprend la terminologie de la bibliothéconomie dans diverses langues européennes ainsi que certaines explications grammaticales qui facilitent l'identification des termes.

Camille, Claude et Michel Dehaine. *Harrap's French and English dictionary of data processing*. London: G.G. Harrap, 1980. 127 p. Prix 16 pouds.

Ce dictionnaire contient des termes d'informatique et des domaines connexes tels le génie électrique, l'électronique et les télécommunications. Il comprend une partie de l'anglais au français et une autre du français à l'anglais.

Canada. Dept. of Public Works. *Bilingual glossary of terms and expressions used in the office-Lexique bilingue de termes et expressions utilisés dans les bureaux*. Ottawa: Information Canada, 1972. 20, 19 p. Prix \$3. Version française tête-bêche.

Canada. Travaux publics. *Lexique bilingue de termes et expressions utilisés dans les bureaux-Bilingual glossary of terms and expressions used in the office*. Ottawa: Information Canada, 1972. 19, 20 p. Prix \$3. Version anglaise tête-bêche.

Ce lexique qui a été réimprimé cinq fois comprend la terminologie générale du travail de bureau. Il n'est pas détaillé.

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Bilingual dictionaries

contains 1650 British and American terms and the same number of French terms under 34 chapter headings.

Duchesne, Roderick M. *Quelques termes relatifs au réseau canadien de bibliothèques-Selected Canadian library network terms*. Ottawa: Bibliothèque nationale du Canada, 1982. 9, 8 p. (Documents sur les réseaux canadiens; no. 4) French text on inverted pages.

Duchesne, Roderick M. *Selected Canadian library network terms-Quelques termes relatifs au réseau canadien de bibliothèques*. Ottawa: National Library of Canada, 1982. 8, 9 p. (Canadian network papers; no. 4) French text on inverted pages. Free from Public Relations Office, National Library.

Provides definitions in English and French of certain terms which are basic to library networking.

Ginguay, Michel. *Dictionnaire d'informatique anglais-français*. 4e éd. rev. et complétée. Paris: Masson, 1975. 170 p. (Les techniques de base de l'informatique) Price 90,64 French francs for 1979 printing (not seen)

An English and French electronic data processing dictionary. A useful feature is a list of over 1100 English abbreviations and a list of French abbreviations.

Ginguay, Michel. *Dictionnaire d'informatique français-anglais*. Paris: Masson, 1976. 152 p. Price for 2nd ed. 1981 (not seen) 107, 12 French francs.

A French into English data processing dictionary with some 7000 entries. The first edition has a useful addition - a list of over 1100 English abbreviations, a list of French abbreviations and a list of frequently encountered signs (punctuation and miscellaneous symbols) often used by programmers.

Information and documentation-vocabulary-section 3a : acquisition, identification, and analysis of documents and data - *Information et documentation-vocabulaire-chapitre 3a* : acquisition, identification et analyse des documents et des données. (Geneva) : International Organization for Standardization, 1981. 23 p. (ISO 5127) Price \$33.40 from Standards Council of Canada.

This vocabulary presents, in English and French, terms and definitions of selected concepts relevant to the field of information and documentation and identifies relationships between the entries. Has an English and a French alphabetical index.

Milsant, Jeanne. *Lexique d'informatique des mots et des idées: logique câblée, ordinateurs et microprocesseurs avec index alphabétique anglais-français*. Paris: Eyrolles, 1981. 122 p. Price 60 French francs.

An electronic data processing dictionary in French with an English-French glossary at the back.

Orne, Jerrold. *The language of the foreign book trade: abbreviations, terms, phrases*. 3d ed. Chicago: American Library Association, 1976. x, 333 p. Price \$15 (U.S.)

A multilingual glossary in 15 major languages of basic terms, abbreviations and phrases used in the book trade.

Traitement de l'information: vocabulaire international de l'informatique. Paris: Association française de normalisation, 1980. 373 p. (AFNOR Z61-000) Price \$85.25 from the Standards Council of Canada.

Terms are defined in English and French. Permuted index of subject headings. French-English and English-French.

You said it. T'as dit ça. library terminology-terminologie de bibliothéconomie, prepared by the Subcommittee on Terminology of the DORLS Technical Services Committee-préparé par le Sous-comité sur Terminologie du Comité des services internes de DBRO. Edited by Rédigé par Audrey Mark. Kitchener?: DORLS, 1981. 61 p. Available for \$3 from Midwestern Regional Library System.

Definitions of and expansions for upwards of a thousand terms and acronyms used in the library world, with a bias toward Ontario usage. English and French terms are arranged in one alphabetic sequence and each term is paired with its English or French equivalent. Many terms relating to electronic data processing have been added and these are identified by (EDP-TED) preceding the definition.

Wersig, Gernot and Ulrich Neveling. *Terminology of documentation-Terminologie de la documentation...* A selection of 1,200 basic terms in English, French, German, Russian and Spanish. Paris: Unesco, 1976. 274 p. Price \$24 (U.S.)

Terms are defined in English and the equivalent term is given in French, German, Russian and Spanish. Followed by alphabetical indexes in the five languages and a Universal Decimal Classification (UDC) index.

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Dictionnaires bilingues

mais il est peu coûteux et complète très bien tout dictionnaire bilingue de bibliothéconomie.

Clason, W.E. *Elsevier's dictionary of computers, automatic control and data processing*. In six languages: English-American, French, Spanish, Italian, Dutch and German. 2d rev. ed. of The dictionary of automation, computers, control and measuring. Amsterdam: Elsevier Pub. Co., 1971. 474 p. Prix \$81.50 (\$ américains)

Cet ouvrage plutôt technique comprend de brèves définitions en anglais ainsi que des équivalents en français, espagnol, italien, hollandais et allemand. Une liste alphabétique des termes cités figure dans chacune des langues.

Clason, W.E. *Elsevier's dictionary of library science, information and documentation*. In six languages: English-American, French, Spanish, Italian, Dutch and German. Amsterdam: Elsevier Scientific Pub. Co., 1976. 1 v. Réimpression comprenant un supplément en arabe actuellement en vente. Prix 39 poids.

On trouve dans ce dictionnaire de courtes définitions en anglais suivies des équivalents dans les autres langues.

Côté, Camille. *La bibliothéconomie en quelques mots-Current words in library science*. 2e éd. revue et augmentée. Montréal: Corporation des bibliothécaires professionnels du Québec, 1981. 64 p. Prix \$5. (S'adresser à la Corporation des bibliothécaires professionnels du Québec.)

Il s'agit d'un lexique sans aucune définition. Les mots sont par ordre alphabétique, et lorsqu'il y a plusieurs équivalents, ils sont indiqués par ordre d'importance. En français, les termes féminins sont identifiés par un (f), et les termes du domaine de l'informatique sont suivis de l'abréviation "inform". Ce lexique utile est peu coûteux.

Data processing: vocabulary-Traitement de l'information: vocabulaire. Genève: Organisation internationale de normalisation, 1982. 360 p. (Manuel no. 10 des normes de l'ISO) Prix \$50.25. (S'adresser au Conseil canadien des normes.)

Ce recueil comprend diverses parties de la norme internationale ISO 2382 qui ont été publiées séparément au cours des dernières années et qui traitent chacune d'un aspect particulier du domaine. Les termes sont définis en anglais et en français.

Drieux, Jean-Pierre et Alain Jarlaud. *Let's talk D.P.: lexique d'informatique*. 2e éd. révisée. Paris: Dunod, 1978. 121 p. (Dunod informatique: phase formation) Prix 42 francs francs pour la 3e éd. rév. 1981.

La troisième édition n'a pas été examinée. La deuxième est un lexique

accompagné de certaines définitions bilingues de termes importants. Il comprend 1650 termes en anglais et en américain ainsi que le même nombre de termes en français classés sous 34 rubriques.

Duchesne, Roderick M. *Quelques termes relatifs au réseau canadien de bibliothèques-Selected Canadian library network terms*. Ottawa: Bibliothèque nationale du Canada, 1982. 9, 8 p. (Documents sur les réseaux canadiens; no. 4) Version anglaise tête-bêche.

Duchesne, Roderick M. *Selected Canadian library network terms-Quelques termes relatifs au réseau canadien de bibliothèques*. Ottawa: National Library of Canada, 1982. 8, 9 p. (Canadian network papers; no. 4) Version française tête-bêche. Est distribué gratuitement par le Bureau des relations extérieures de la Bibliothèque nationale.

Cet ouvrage comprend des définitions en anglais et en français de certains termes de base dans le domaine des réseaux de bibliothèques.

Ginguay, Michel. *Dictionnaire d'informatique anglais-français*. 4e éd. rev. et complétée. Paris: Masson, 1975. 170 p. (Les techniques de base de l'informatique) Prix 90,64 francs français pour l'impression de 1979 qui n'a pas été examinée.

Un dictionnaire anglais-français d'informatique comprenant une liste très utile de plus de 1100 abréviations en anglais ainsi qu'une liste d'abréviations françaises.

Ginguay, Michel. *Dictionnaire d'informatique français-anglais*. Paris: Masson, 1976. 152 p. Prix: 107,12 francs français pour la 2e éd. 1981 qui n'a pas été examinée.

Un dictionnaire français-anglais d'informatique comprenant quelque 7,000 notices. La première édition contient une annexe utile: une liste de plus de 1,100 abréviations en anglais, une liste d'abréviations en français ainsi qu'une liste de signes (ponctuation et divers symboles) que les programmeurs utilisent le plus souvent.

Information and documentation-vocabulary-section 3a : acquisition, identification, and analysis of documents and data - *Information et documentation-vocabulaire-chapitre 3a* : acquisition, identification et analyse des documents et des données. (Genève) : Organisation internationale de normalisation, 1981. 23 p. (ISO 5127) Prix \$33.40. (S'adresser au Conseil canadien des normes.)

Cet ouvrage comprend divers termes et définitions en anglais et en français du domaine de l'information et de la documentation; des rapprochements sont

Cont'd on p. 77

Proposed amendments to APLA Constitution

Please be advised that the following By-Law changes will be brought before the Annual General Meeting in May, 1983.

By Laws Article V Section I
(i) Finance Committee

To be added:

—to serve as trustees and administer the APLA Memorial Awards Fund and submit a detailed financial statement at the conclusion of the fiscal year.

By Laws Article VI Section I

(vi) Alberta Letts Memorial Fellowship Committee

To read as follows:

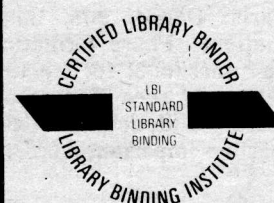
(vi) APLA Memorial Awards Committee

—to solicit contributions to the APLA Memorial Awards Fund

—to select the award recipients

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APLA Bulletin interviews Shirley Elliott

APLA: I believe the best place would be to start at the beginning. How did you decide to become a librarian?

S. Elliott: I believe that my mother was the first professional librarian in the Maritimes. My parents were classmates at Acadia. When my father decided to go to Harvard Medical School, my mother went to Simmons College to obtain her library science degree. She was the first professional librarian at Acadia. She set out to catalogue Acadia's collection. She also instituted two library science courses at Acadia: one being a basic procedures course and the second being a library history course. I believe she was also instrumental in seeing that quite a few of her students went on to get library science degrees. In fact, one of her proteges, Ethel Wigmore from Saint John, became the director of the library of the World Health Organization in Geneva.

APLA: So your mother set an example for you and you decided to become a librarian?

S. Elliott: Oh yes. As a child, my mother taught me simple cataloguing, and I had my own small collection of catalogued books.

APLA: You chose Simmons because your mother had been there?

S. Elliott: Yes. I almost went to Toronto, but decided on Simmons. They have a very good reputation as a school.

APLA: Where was your first position?

S. Elliott: My first job was as a reference librarian at the Brookline Public Library. Even then, it had a very good reputation and the standard of the collection was marvelous. The clientele was most interesting—writers, artists, musicians of the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Later, I moved on to become Assistant Librarian at the University of Rhode Island.

APLA: Why did you work in the United States?

S. Elliott: Well...in those days there just weren't many jobs available in the Maritimes for professional librarians. The job opportunities were much better in the

United States than they were in the Maritimes. But by the time I was at Rhode Island I really wanted to return to Canada.

APLA: This is why you decided to work at the CLA office?

S. Elliott: Yes. I had a brother living in Ottawa, so I decided to take a job working as an indexer for the *Canadian Index*. I spent one year there. It was a good experience, for one thing after having been away from Canada for 9 years, I came to know Canadian journals very well.

APLA: Then you came to Colchester-East Hants as the regional librarian?

S. Elliott: Yes. At the CLA Conference in Montreal, in 1950, Peter Grossman, the first Director of the Provincial Library in Nova Scotia, urged me to come back to Nova Scotia to organize the regional library in Truro. It was a big change for me to come from an academic background to a library with a total budget of \$20,000.

APLA: That must have been a challenge?

S. Elliott: It was that. During the first year I worked on the bookmobile throughout the region by day and at night I coped with the office work.

APLA: In 1954 you became the Legislative Librarian in Nova Scotia?

S. Elliott: That's right. I had been at Colchester-East Hants for four years when Peter Grossman asked me if I was interested in the position. I was very interested, though I had no definite knowledge what it entailed.

APLA: Peter Grossman seems to have played an instrumental role in your career. He brought you to Nova Scotia by asking you to become regional librarian in Truro and then again, he brought you to the Legislative Library.

S. Elliott: Yes. I have to say he was a key person in my career. I was very good friends with him and his wife, Doris. He died in 1973, but Doris, who is living in West Vancouver, and I still maintain our friendship.

APLA: Tell us something about the first days as Legislative Librarian.

S. Elliott: As you know, I was the first

professional librarian at Province House. My predecessor, Annie Donohue, had been the librarian for 55 years. She started in 1899 as assistant to the librarian—who at that time was Francis Blake Crofton. She took over as librarian in 1906 and held that position until her retirement in 1954.

When I came the collection was not catalogued. It was like walking into darkest Africa. One never knew what one would find, and there were always some marvellous surprises. The library was absolutely filthy. One of my earliest remembrances was after a day's work I'd come back in the evening in old clothes with Peter and Doris Grossman to explore the stacks. Together we found many fascinating things.

APLA: What needed to be done first?

S. Elliott: There was so much to be done. Many of the materials needed to be discarded, since they had no bearing on our mandate, so we offered them to other institutions. They just didn't belong in the Legislative Library.

Secondly, the Nova Scotia material was set aside and catalogued separately from the rest of the collection. Today it represents about 11,000 items. In conjunction with it I contributed a column to the *Journal of Education* dealing with Nova Scotia material. I've compiled these columns over the past 25 years and the material is all from the Nova Scotia collection. It is very heavily used by many people—students, researchers and the general public.

APLA: You have edited and published an interesting assortment of materials. I'd like to ask you something about the things you've done.

First, you edited all but one volume of the *Atlantic Provinces Checklist*. How did this publication start?

S. Elliott: At that time the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council wanted to have a library input in their organization,

and more importantly, the librarians wanted to have a share in it. This checklist that Doug Lochhead and I edited was the result of our involvement with APEC. They funded the project for nine years. When they decided not to fund it any longer it wasn't possible for us to continue. I think it is a useful tool. It gives a picture of the Atlantic region at that particular time—the years 1957 to 1965. But it took a lot of work and a lot of time, which is why I could no longer continue working with it.

APLA: You also produced *Nova Scotia in Books, 1752-1967*.

S. Elliott: Yes. Ellen Webster and I produced this bibliography as part of an exhibit that was mounted by the Halifax Library Association in honour of Canada's Centennial. I'm quite proud of this because it shows how far back Nova Scotian printing and literature really go. It began as an exhibit in the Provincial Museum at the Citadel, but I think it is still very useful as a bibliography, as a record of early Nova Scotia authors as well.

APLA: My personal favourite is the *Nova Scotia Book of Days*.

S. Elliott: I worked on that in evenings while on duty when the Legislature was in session. As a change from the political scene I used to turn to bibliography. However, the *Book of Days* began because of one particular question which came to me three times—"When did Nova Scotia switch driving from the left hand to the right hand side of the road?" The date happened to be the 15th of April, 1923, and it occurred to me it might be a good idea if there was a permanent place in which some of these dates of provincial significance were recorded. So I started searching in every available reference and historical source to fill in the calendar.

APLA: What was the hardest date to find?

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Dictionnaires bilingues

également établis entre les diverses notices. Il comprend aussi des index alphabétiques en français et en anglais.

Milsant, Jeanne. *Lexique d'informatique des mots et des idées: logique câblée, ordinateurs et microprocesseurs avec index alphabétique anglais-français*. Paris: Eyrolles, 1981. 122 p. Prix: 60 francs français.

Un dictionnaire d'informatique en français comprenant un lexique anglais-français à la fin du volume.

Orne, Jerrold. *The language of the foreign book trade: abbreviations, terms, phrases*. 3e éd. Chicago: American Library Association, 1976. x, 333 p. Prix: \$15 (\$ américains)

Un lexique en quinze langues comprenant des termes de base, des abréviations et des expressions du commerce du livre.

Traitement de l'information: *vocabulaire international de l'informatique*. Paris: Association française de normalisation, 1980. 373 p. (AFNOR Z61-000) Prix: \$85.25. (S'adresser au Conseil canadien des normes.)

Cet ouvrage comprend des termes et des définitions en français et en anglais ainsi qu'un index permuté par mot-vedette, français-anglais et anglais-français.

You said it. T'as dit ça. *library terminology-terminologie de bibliothéconomie*, prepared by the Subcommittee on Terminology of the DORLS Technical Services Committee—préparé par le Sous-comité sur Terminologie du Comité des services internes de DBRO. Edited by: Rédigé par Audrey Mark. Kitchener?: DORLS, 1981. 61 p. Prix: \$3. (S'adresser au Midwestern Regional Library System.)

Plus de 1,000 termes et sigles du domaine de la bibliothéconomie sont définis dans cette publication qui met l'accent sur leur usage en Ontario. Les termes anglais et français sont par ordre alphabétique, et chacun d'eux est accompagné d'un équivalent. De nombreux termes d'informatique ont été ajoutés, et leur définition est précédée de (EDP-TED).

Wersig, Gernot and Ulrich Neveling. *Terminology of documentation—Terminologie de la documentation ... A selection of 1,200 basic terms in English, French, German, Russian, and Spanish*. Paris: Unesco, 1976. 274 p. Prix: \$24 (\$ américains)

Les définitions sont données en anglais, suivies des équivalents en français, en allemand, en russe et en espagnol. Cette publication comprend également des index alphabétiques en cinq langues et un index de Classification décimale universelle (CDU).



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MEMBER OF APLA

DOBIS and the Nova Scotia Provincial Library

By FRANK ORAM

The implementation, on January 4, 1983, of the DOBIS pilot project between the Nova Scotia Provincial Library and the National Library of Canada heralded the beginning of a new era for the Nova Scotia Union Catalogue. The Nova Scotia Union Catalogue has been strictly a manual operation since its inception in 1950. The Union Catalogue has been the core of our location service for many years and has served Nova Scotia libraries well. However, in recent years, some problems have arisen with the manual system which

threatened the overall effectiveness of the Union Catalogue as a location tool. Among the more serious problems has been the manpower required to maintain the Union Catalogue. Union catalogues consume many person hours performing the tedious tasks of editing and filing. We have been struggling to keep the Nova Scotia Union Catalogue reasonably up-to-date with our present staff.

The sheer size of the file was another significant problem. The Nova Scotia Union Catalogue consists of approximately one million records housed in 960 catalogue drawers. With annual

growth at the rate of approximately 50,000 new accessions, we were facing the difficulty of how to accommodate an ever expanding Union Catalogue.

Time lag is yet another pitfall which has resulted from the manual operation of the Union Catalogue. After a participating library has acquired a book, because of its cataloguing procedures, it takes from 6 months to a year before a record arrives at the Nova Scotia Union Catalogue. Although it is available for location purposes, the title still has to be edited and incorporated into the Union Catalogue. Once this is done, the next step is to report the title of the Canadian Union Catalogue. There is a time delay of about one month before the item is included in this central file because of the enormous volume of accessions sent by libraries across Canada. Time delays thus inhibit access to recently acquired items in Nova Scotia libraries for libraries outside of the province.

The fact that the Nova Scotia Union Catalogue is a main entry file is another inconvenience. The main entry of a book must first be determined before the file can be successfully searched for locations.

There are certainly other disadvantages associated with a manual union catalogue and we have for some years studied library automated systems as a possible solution to many of these problems. In fact, the DOBIS Project was the culmination of four years of planning for the implementation of an automated system.

The DOBIS project is scheduled to run for a fifteen month period which is renewable. In accordance with the contract, the Nova Scotia Provincial Library has the responsibility for: 1) providing location service to all Nova Scotia libraries, 2) inputting locations for a selected list of Nova Scotia libraries, 3) accepting the standards of the Canadian Union Catalogue for on-line input, 4) encouraging Nova Scotia libraries to report directly to the Canadian Union Catalogue in machine readable form according to National Library Standards.

The DOBIS Project will provide on-line access to the holdings of Nova Scotia libraries for searching purposes. It also involves the inputting of monographs to the Canadian Union Catalogue on-line. No serials will be included. The DOBIS System is to be used for searching and inputting records; it will not be used to generate products such as printed catalogues or COM fiche. There will be no retrospective cataloguing of existing Nova Scotia holdings.

Training for the implementation of the DOBIS Project was completed in December 1982. The training involved N.S. Provincial Library staff attending an eight week training program at the National Library. We are now actively involved in inputting locations for titles. As of the end of January, we have added 2,300 locations for titles held in Nova Scotia.

From the National Library's experience

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Shirley Elliott Interviewed

S. Elliott: December 19th. It seemed impossible to find anything of consequence had happened in Nova Scotia on that date. I told the staff at the library I wouldn't return the following day until I'd completed the calendar. At 2 a.m. I turned up a suitable but insignificant date and thus the calendar was complete, with every day accounted for.

APLA: You have also done the editing and indexing of the sessional journals of the Nova Scotia legislature.

S. Elliott: "Yes, I have been doing this since 1962. Each year it has grown into a larger and more involved project. In 1970 there were 10 resolutions introduced in the House. In the 1982 session 540 odd resolutions were introduced. So you can see the complexity of keeping this type of material on record.

APLA: In 1974 you attended a conference in Vancouver called the National Conference on the State of Canadian Bibliography. Your paper on the state of bibliography in the Atlantic provinces made several recommendations. Some of these included: a Maritime bibliography on how the sea has affected the lifestyle of the people, a bibliography on Micmac Indians, a checklist of local school texts, a genealogical index of the region, a comprehensive bibliography of T.C. Haliburton, and finally, a dictionary of publishers, printers, booksellers, stationers in the Atlantic provinces. To my knowledge, none of these have been done with the exception of the last. How do you feel about that?

S. Elliott: All the recommendations were endorsed by the Conference and I still feel they are very worthwhile projects and need to be done, because I believe they would all serve a very useful purpose.

At one point Douglas Lochhead and I were working on a Dictionary of Publishers, Printers, Booksellers, and Stationers in the Atlantic Provinces, 1751-1900. We were both very busy with our other work, so we finally had to set it aside. We did quite a bit of the preliminary work on this project and recently three of us locally have resumed work on it, with the original notebooks as the basis for our research. As with all the above recommendations, this project could easily be a full time job. Most librarians who are interested are otherwise committed.

APLA: What are some of the highlights of your career?

S. Elliott: I have been very fortunate in my career. It has been very diverse and I've had the opportunity to work in several different types of libraries. Working at Province House has been very interesting. I've been especially fortunate in that the other staff members through the years have been so congenial and supportive.

I've enjoyed working with the public, as well as the many political figures who have walked through the library door. All the premiers, of which there have been six, have been a pleasure to work with. Meeting the Queen Mother and chatting

with her was a highlight. I also had fun participating in the Duke of Edinburgh's Commonwealth Conference in 1962. I was one of the two librarians for the Conference, my job being to put together a library that was to travel by train to the various locations where the Conference met across Canada.

APLA: What are your thoughts of the profession?

S. Elliott: One of the first things I think of is the increasing impact of library automation. It is very good that all these technological advances are aiding the profession, but I must admit, at this stage in my career, it is a little daunting to me.

It is also marvellous what libraries have accomplished in Nova Scotia in the past 25 years. When I came back to Nova Scotia, after having been in the United States, there were relatively few professional positions and today librarians and librarianship have penetrated into many places and there is such a wide choice in the types of librarianship. We are much more to the forefront, which is a very good thing for our profession.

APLA: What now?

S. Elliott: I'm on the Minister's Advisory Task Force on Canadian Content in Schools. I'm the Honorary Librarian at Cambridge Military Library.

APLA: Have you done any work in this position?

S. Elliott: Oh yes, on a voluntary basis, I'm sure they would like to have me full time! I am in the process of cataloguing the Corfu Collection. It is a collection of books brought from the Officer's Library in Corfu to the old Halifax Garrison Library over 117 years ago. They were not housed in the best condition but the contents are fascinating, largely dealing with the 19th century.

APLA: You have a special interest in library history.


S. Elliott: Oh yes, I feel quite committed to that. Two years ago at the Parliamentary Librarians Conference, the Province of Alberta came out with a hard cover book of the history of the Alberta Legislature Library. I feel if they can do it with their comparatively short history, we can most certainly do it in Nova Scotia. I believe it is important to Canada to have a history of librarianship. I noticed in the last Feliciter that the CLA Library History Interest Group has a call for papers for the 1983 Conference. I think this is very good.

I also love to travel. I'm very fond of England, I have friends there and I usually try to spend some time there every year.

APLA: Have you anything else to tell us?

S. Elliott: If anyone ever told me at the beginning that I would find legislative library work so intensely interesting I would never have believed them. I've been a very lucky person.

(Editor's note: this interview was conducted on behalf of the APLA Bulletin by Terri Tomchyshyn of the Nova Scotia Provincial Library.)




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Notes on the Bliss Carman Collection at Queen's

By DEREK F. CRAWLEY

The superb collection of printed and manuscript works of the noted Canadian poet, Bliss Carman (1861-1929) in Special Collections at the Douglas Library, Queen's University, is probably the most complete anywhere—although the

Cont'd from p. 78

DOBIS and the library

to date, it is obvious that DOBIS is the system of choice in providing a solution to the ongoing problems of maintaining a union catalogue. DOBIS (Dortmunder Bibliothekssystem) is an integrated library management system which was acquired by the National Library from the University of Dortmund, West Germany, in 1976, following a detailed study and evaluation of several systems which had the potential to satisfy the Library's automation requirements. DOBIS provides on-line facilities for catalogue searching, cataloguing, accounting, and interlibrary loans. From the Nova Scotia Provincial Library's point of view, the most desirable features of DOBIS are that it is a huge database consisting of more than two million records, that many of the large federal libraries are already using DOBIS so that it is possible for us to gain access to their holdings and most important of all, that DOBIS is the tool used by the National Library in maintaining the Canadian Union Catalogue.

The Nova Scotia Provincial Library and the National Library of Canada have maintained a very close working relationship since the establishment of the Nova Scotia Union Catalogue in 1950. Through the DOBIS project we will cooperate with the National Library in maintaining the Canadian Union Catalogue online which will be ad-

collection at the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton (Carman's birthplace) is possibly a close second. Of the 107 entries of first editions in Sherman's "Checklist" in Shepard's Bliss Carman (Toronto, 1923) Queen's has 63; it also possesses artifacts such as his famous Buddha, and oddments ranging from a hat

vantageous to both libraries. The major benefit for the National Library is that the project saves it the time it takes to input Nova Scotia accessions and the project fits in well with the National Library's plans to decentralize some of its national services—in this case, the location service. From the Nova Scotia Provincial Library's point of view, we see advantages in the form of: 1) greater efficiency in the inputting of Nova Scotia locations, 2) solutions to many of the problems associated with maintaining a manual union catalogue, 3) enhancement of our ability to coordinate a local network for resource sharing, 4) providing a better location service to Nova Scotia libraries and 5) improving our ability to provide quality information services.

The DOBIS project has already had an impact on one of our services to Nova Scotia libraries. A new format for our telephone location service to metro area libraries will be introduced starting March 1, 1983. Instead of offering just provincial locations in response to telephone requests, the Nova Scotia Provincial Library will be offering national locations as well by use of either UTLAS REFCAT-SS or DOBIS. There will obviously be other changes brought about by the implementation of the DOBIS project. We hope these changes will be beneficial and will result in more efficient service to Nova Scotia libraries.

given the poet by E.J. Pratt (who despised Carman's old one) a walking stick, and large manuscript holdings in the Queen's University Archives.

One of the interesting features of the book collection is the numerous writings on the flyleaves and elsewhere; for instance, a facimile manuscript inscription tipped in to Sappho (Boston, 1904) reads:

These lyrics were written in the Catskills one summer long ago "on order" and at the suggestion of my friend Mitchell Kennerley. I have never had greater pleasure in getting together any volume.

Bliss Carman

At the front of another copy of Sappho (Toronto, n.d.) is this note of Carman's copied by Dr. Lorne Pierce, Carman's close friend and literary executor:

These hundred lyrics, adaptations, renderings and imitations of the fragments of Sappho, were begun June 1902 and finished in December of the same year. The places where they were written are indicated in each instance in this original draft.

B.C.

26 December, 1902

22 West 9th Street
(New York City)

Lorne Pierce has added Carman's marginal notes and dates throughout the text.

In a copy of *Later Poems* (Toronto, 1921) that has "Yours very truly, Bliss Carman" on a front page, there are marginal notes throughout in pencil, obviously written by one of Carman's intimates. Beside the poem "The Givers of Life" is the statement "Written in a N.Y. apartment during the great feminist movement." Beside the second verse of "A Fireside Vision" is the note: "Written in New Canaan waiting for M.P.K. to come home from town." On the page where "Dance of the Sunbeams" is printed is the statement:

"Written at Sunshine House watching the sunbeams on a rippling lake. Written for a dance exercise for a group of children." At the top of the page where "A Painter's Holiday" is printed, we are told that this poem was "Written in Sunshine House after seeing Mirzah, a pupil of 'April's' as she appeared on a N.Y. stage in a Persian Sun Dance." "November Twilight" we are told was "Written after a late Autumn visit to his sister at Northampton."

The reference to M.P.K. above is to Mrs. Mary Perry King (who gave Carman the Buddha) and Sunshine House was on the estate of Mrs. King's husband, Dr. Morris Lee King. For over thirty years Mrs. King played a major role in Carman's life as is evidenced by innumerable references to her in the book inscriptions; for instance, Lorne Pierce has written on the flyleaf of *The Word at St. Kavin's* (Nelson, New Hampshire, 1903):

Containing revisions found in Mrs. King's copy by B.C.

"Dear Mrs. King:

Pray accept a copy of this poem which your reading has made acceptable to many people—including your friend who wrote it."

Changes and additions to the text of various poems are to be found on some pages in this book.

That Mrs. King was more than a close friend is established in a letter to Lorne Pierce from Mitchell Kennerley:

Mrs. King spent a lot of time with Carman—most afternoons at 16th St or 57th St—but King in those days was always along at public meetings, and nothing much was thought or said about it. Mrs. King was beautifully devoted to Carman...there was nothing tragic about it...On rare occasions they had intimate relations at

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Book Review

By LINDA PEARSE

Our World-Children's Creative Writing and Art Work. Saint John: Saint John Regional Library, 1981. ISBN 0-9690941-0-8.

My Inside Self-Writings and Pictures by Children of Newfoundland and Labrador. St. John's: Newfoundland Library Association, 1980.

Publishing collections of children's works must be a risky business at best. The desire to be supportive of individual children's efforts may not always coincide with the need to maintain artistic standards for an audience beyond family and friends. Two such collections, *Our World* and *My Inside Self*, had their origins in the International Year of the Child and serve to illustrate both the hazards and the benefits that can occur when librarians become publishers.

Our World was published by the Saint John Regional Library and consists of works selected from various schools in the region. Given the low-budget nature of the book, it is attractively presented, although the drawings and pairings suffer from the brown-on-beige reproductions. One would like to see Jennifer Ann Rowell's "Miss Purple" in full colour and Mike Campbell's finely drawn dragons reproduced in a larger size. Still, the drawings suggest a

certain exuberance and vitality which seems generally lacking in the writing. Most of the prose and poetry have the ring of a school assignment, with little sense that they spring from the children's particular observations or feelings. The rhymes are often hackneyed and the images stereotyped. There are a few gems, however, including Corey Cook's "Snow In the Country" where:

"The street cars are like frosted cakes—
All covered up with cold snowflakes."
There is also Michael Steen's delightful "Snow Man":
"I am a friendly snow man
I never shiver,
But when the sun comes out,
I turn into a river."

As with *Our World*, *My Inside Self*, published by a committee of the Newfoundland Library Association was also selected from children's classroom work. However, it appears that this committee had a larger number of submissions from which to select, and also, that it had more generous funding. At any rate, the finished product is both attractive and interesting. Some of the paintings have been reproduced in full colour, and the works presented in black and white seem specially chosen because they suit that format. The pictures range from

finely drawn landscapes such as Grant Pinsent's sailboats and Garfield Woodward's seal hunters to individual animals such as Kim Connor's dignified penguin and Wade Whiteway's striking bird linocut. The written work also contains some strong imagery and original perceptions. Examples abound, but I particularly enjoyed Jason Nelson's tall tale, "Lawrence's Magic Sword" and Kelie Fitzgerald's

"Mouse
Tiny squeaky
Scampering, nibbling, hiding
Scared, hungry, trapped, brave
Cheese eater."
Even the various titles suggest the

creative talents in this collection: "My Inside Self", "The Deepest Dive Ever", "The Star Cleaner", "The Doggy Blahs" and "Grandma-What a Lady".

Of the two collections, I cannot help but be more enthusiastic about *My Inside Self*. While that publication may have been blessed with a larger budget and a greater pool of work, I suspect that the Newfoundland committee also had more rigorous standards of selection. However, I do commend the Saint John Board for its support and recognition of children's creative work in its region. Let's hope that it will not take another Year of the Child before we see more such collections from other parts of Atlantic Canada.

Cont'd from p. 79

Bliss Carman collection

10E 16 which they always advised me of by leaving a bunch of violets, Mary Perry's favourite flower, on the pillow of my bed. (1)

Even after Carman died, Mrs. King was one of those participating in discussions regarding publication of the poet's work. On the flyleaf of a copy of *Sanctuary* (N.Y., 1929) her signature and those of her husband and Mitchell Kennerley, Odell Shepard and Frank Dodd appear as evidence of their attendance at a meeting the purpose of which is explained by Lorne Pierce:

Saturday evening, Nov. 23, 1929, the following met at Sunshine House for the purpose of agreeing upon some method of publishing Carman's poems in one vol. Kennerley, in view of Dodd's reticence to oppose L.C. Page, who refused to cooperate, declared that he himself would fight Page, and bring out a selected work—Shepard and I to prepare the text for him.

On the flyleaf of still another copy of *Sanctuary* (N.Y., 1929) is the information given above, and this additional statement in Lorne Pierce's hand:

The poems chosen to go in this book, *Sunshine Sonnets* were selected by M.P.K. and L.P. The latter asked Pedraic (i.e. Padraic) Colum to write the prefatory note.

In spite of her devotion to Carman, Mrs. King destroyed all his letters to her but turned all of hers to the poet over to Lorne Pierce who, in turn, deposited them in the Queen's Archives. Because Bliss Carman was always discreet in his letters and never a gossip, it is unlikely that his epistles to Mrs. King contained any definite evidence of an intimate relationship between them; and certainly her letter to Carman are not dramatically passionate.

The two copies of *Sanctuary* mentioned above are part of a collection of seven in Special Collections at Queen's. Of an edition of twenty copies bound in yellow,

Queen's has numbers 1, 3, 4, and 19. Numbers 1, 3, and 4 on the title page have the following printed statement:

This copy contains a page of original manuscript
his last photograph
his signature.

Number 19 has on the flyleaf under a photograph of the poet:

HIS LAST PHOTOGRAPH
MAY NINETEENTH, 1929
(Vancouver, B.C.)

Among the most interesting artifacts in Special Collections is Carman's Buddha—which is made of soapstone according to a plate under the base, but is described by Carman in one of his three sonnets written about this object as being made of "Burmese alabaster". On a small plate attached to the front of the wooden base is the following statement:

This Buddha, brought home from abroad, was presented to Bliss Carman by Mary Perry King. It stood for years in the East Room at Sunshine House. Carman composed three sonnets to this Buddha that appeared in "Sanctuary", his last book.

In the first of these sonnets, Carman gives a detailed description of it:

In Burmese alabaster white and smooth.

Two thousand years ago the workman cut.

And pricked with gold, fine scarlet and dull blue.

This seated image of the Lord of Life.

The face still wears its infinite regard;

The mouth still curves with its ineffable smile;

The hand lies open in the folded lap.

No vestiges of gold or bright colour now adhere to the alabaster—if, indeed, it is alabaster—and, in fact, they may have existed only in the poet's imagination.

Footnote: (1) H.P. Gundy, "Lorne Pierce, Bliss Carman and the Ladies," *Douglas Library Notes* 19 (no. 4, 1965), p. 19.

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