

# APLA BULLETIN

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Jan., 1981

## Le Centre d'études acadiennes

By THE CEA STAFF

The Université de Moncton is relatively young, but it has a century-long tradition. What outsiders may not know is that this university originated from the modest Saint-Joseph's College, the first French language college in the Maritimes founded at Memramcook (13 miles from Moncton) in 1864 by the Holy Cross Fathers. This institution was transferred to Moncton in 1953 where it became officially the Université de Moncton in 1963.

Since its foundation, Saint-Joseph's University had accumulated documents, books, publications and newspapers on the Acadians. But this was done in a haphazard manner until 1940 when Father Clément Cormier and Father René Baudry began a systematic search for books and documents on the Acadians. The collection was part of the library and was called "Les Archives acadiennes". It was only in the fall of 1965, at the opening of the new library building that its first full time staff was appointed. It consisted of a librarian and a secretary.

In the summer of 1968 the University Board of Governors approved the formation of "Le Centre d'études acadiennes". "Les Archives acadiennes" and its staff of two and a half were transferred from the library's administration to that of the newly formed Centre d'études acadiennes (CEA). Today, besides the director the Centre has a seven member professional staff: an archivist, a folklorist, a genealogist, a librarian, a linguist, and two secretaries.

Unfortunately information concerning the Acadians, like the Acadians themselves, is scattered all over America and Europe. In consideration of this fact, researching Acadian history becomes very impractical; that is why the CEA's aim is to collect and regroup at the Université de Moncton all available documentation on the subject. Microfilm and photocopying machines have greatly facilitated this on-going project. The CEA can therefore be defined as essentially a documentation and research centre which **intends on collecting as many manuscripts and publications as possible on Acadians, regardless of their origin: historical, genealogical, ethnic, sociological, archeological, folkloric, demographic, geographical, economic, and linguistic.** The CEA is presently divided into five major sections: archives, printed works, genealogy, folklore and linguistic.

In the Archives section we find original manuscripts and copies of manuscripts kept in other repositories. Most of these copies have the value of the original as they are microfilm or photocopies of the original. The originals of these copies are kept in France, England, United States and other Canadian repositories. The largest collections come from Les Archives des Colonies in Paris and the Public Record Office in London and comprise 900 reels of microfilm. These documents are not only of Acadian interest and anyone doing Maritimes history will find that they are a primary source of information.

The original manuscripts, made up principally of private collections, deal primarily with correspondence and genealogical and historical research on Acadian areas in New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia. Four hundred linear feet house a veritable wealth of records, particularly in the collections of Rameau de Saint-Père (1820-1899), Placide Gaudet (1866-1930), Emile Lauvrière (1866-1954) and Father René Baudry (1910-1972). All the CEA manuscripts, original and copies, are listed in the Union List of Manuscripts in Canadian Repositories.

The printed document's section or library has over 8000 volumes and brochures that contain information on the Acadians. Some date from the 18th century while others are just off the press. This section is completed by a collection of periodicals, maps, photographs and newspapers. It is here that you will find a collection of L'Évangeline published continuously since 1887 or the *Moniteur Acadien* the oldest French newspaper published in the Maritimes whose first issue dates back to the Canadian Confederation, July 1867. The CEA also keeps the unique collection of L'Impartial until recently the only French newspaper published in Prince Edward Island. It was published at Tignish from 1893 to 1915. These are only examples of the holdings. Copies of all the Maritime Provinces' French newspapers will be found here as well as many of the older English ones. Also to be found is a microcard collection of the early New England newspapers.

Besides many other genealogical sources the CEA has a copy of most church records of the Acadian parishes of the Maritime Provinces from the founding of the parish up to 1900. Many of these registers have been indexed. This is a most important source of reference for those

interested in Acadian genealogy.

Genealogy is an important section of the CEA, for it plays a primary role in reconstructing the history of Acadia, particularly for the period from 1750 to 1800 when many events disrupted the human geography of Acadia: deportation in 1755, and again in 1758 for the Acadians in Cape Breton and on Saint John Island, dispersion and scattering over all of eastern North America from Louisiana to Saint Pierre and Miquelon, and for some even a return to Europe, to England and France. In addition to research, classifying records, answering queries, and guiding those in search of their roots, this section is preparing for publication a genealogical dictionary of Acadian families. This is a gigantic undertaking but one which will answer most questions asked by those in search of their roots. This first volume, covering the beginning of the colony in 1632 up to 1714, should be ready next year. For this period almost 150 founders of families were recorded, and each family was "traced" with all information available. Another five years will be required before the publication of three more volumes, which will conclude with the dispersion in 1755. After this date, most of the work will be done by regions.

Folklore is part of the life and culture of a nation; that is why the CEA organized a folklore section. So far over 1600 seven inch reels of magnetic tape have been collected. These contain songs, stories and legends and are the work of individual collectors. Each collector records on tape the wealth of a village or a region. A good number of present collectors are students, taking folklore courses at the Université de Moncton. With their assistance, two summers ago, this section taped information on folk medicine which resulted in a book published early this year. The whole field of "material civilization", neglected until now in favour of songs, and more recently of stories and legends, must be scientifically studied and preserved. What treasures could be discovered in the course of a systematic study of traditional Acadian trades! A collection of tapes, photographs, drawings and sketches, objects and tools could bequeath to future generations real evidence of the traditions of Acadian culture.

Linguistics is the latest addition to the CEA. This section has only been in operation for the last two years. Its responsibility is to collect all available information on regional Acadian speech. All the published works on the subject have been collected. These works being very limited, a lexicon on 3x5 cards was begun to increase the information the linguistic researcher requires. This is an on-going project with continuous additions. These cards contain regional definition and pronunciation of the words. Two sources are used to compile the lexicon: taped interviews and written works, manuscripts or printed. These are inventoried and the Acadian words are inscribed on the cards. Some 20,000 words and expressions of Acadian speech have been gathered to date on these cards. The ultimate aim is the publication of a dictionary of Acadian speech.

As all organized research centres, the CEA has catalogues and indexes to its research material, though not all the material has been indexed—especially in the archives section. Of contemporary interest is the card index to the newspaper L'Évangeline which has been completed from 1887 to 1955. Annual printed indexes

are available for the years 1976 to 1979 inclusively.

Along with its regular and permanent research work, the CEA solicits private and government grants in order to establish specific and temporary research programs. Some of these grants were used to prepare a three volume bibliography of Acadian source material. The first volume of l'Inventaire général des sources documentaires sur les Acadiens published in 1975 contains 526 pages of references to manuscripts relating to the Acadians. The second volume is a list of books by subject and the third is an index of writings in 46 periodicals.

The latest research project was done for Parks Canada on the survival of the Acadians after the deportation in 1755. A multidisciplinary team of university and professional researchers was formed to work on this theme which had been practically untouched. This study resulted in a 691 page book entitled *Les Acadiens des Maritimes* printed this summer. An English translation of the work has been prepared and unless unforeseen complications arise this translation should be published early in the new year.

All the documentation gathered at the CEA is available for public consultation on the premises. The collection is a non circulating one; it is therefore not available on interlibrary loan. It is a unique collection as in no other place in the world has so much information been collected on the Acadians.

Anyone interested in using the CEA's facilities can do so from 8:30 to 4:30 except for lunch hour from Monday to Friday.

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## Upcoming Events

January 30 (Friday) **Industrial Special Libraries**. Talk to be given by Mary Ann Archer, Eastman Kodak Library, New York. To be held in Killam Library (Room 2622), Dalhousie University, Halifax, N.S. B3H 4H8.

February 13 (Friday) **Library Services to Art and Antique Collectors** 'Each collecting fashion or scholarly discovery inspires an avalanche of popular books, but novices can still uncover unexplored areas of collecting among the general library collections.' Instructor: Mary Williamson, York University. For further information, contact: School of Continuing Studies, University of Toronto, 158 St. George St., Toronto, Ontario M5S 2V8.

April 24-26 (Friday-Sunday) A series of

workshops on topics such as job interviews and collection policies are planned as well as tours of area library and archive facilities are part of the Nova Scotia Library Association annual spring conference to be held at the School of Library Service, Dalhousie University, Halifax. For further information, contact: Marie DeYoung, N.S. Dept. of Labour and Manpower Library, Box 697, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2T8. Tel.: 424-4313.

June 21-24 (Sunday-Wednesday) **Information Beyond the Oral Tradition**. The annual conference of the Association for Media and Technology in Education (AMTEC). To be held at Nova Scotia Teachers' College, Truro, N.S.

Cont'd on page 48

## From the President's Desk

The title of the column is really a misnomer—at least for this year. It should really be called "From the President's Kitchen Table," where I am constantly interrupted by important business—like filling the cat dishes and leaping up to rescue the coffee from boiling.

As usual my intentions were to get this column done immediately upon return from CLA Council, and as usual the plans went awry—so let's see what I can remember—besides the fact that Ottawa seems bigger every time I go back. Is that my creeping insularity (or peninsularity) or are the Feds really multiplying at an alarming rate? Sparks Street is now a veritable glass canyon.

From the provincial presidents' meeting I learned several interesting things—to wit:

1. The other provincial associations all get government support ranging from \$1500.00 to around \$20,000.00. This seems to me to indicate that, while APLA is stronger in numbers by being a four-province organization, it is actually weaker in political clout. Anyone for Maritime Union?

2. Ontario and Alberta have executive offices.

3. Ontario's membership fee is \$50.00, while B.C., Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Quebec have scaled fees—all of which are higher than APLA's. They all have institutional memberships, as well.

4. The other associations have from six to ten executive meetings per year.

—All of which adds up to the fact that APLA is indeed a bargain, and we downeasters must be very canny to have built up such a positive bank balance—about the spending of which I have to date had no suggestions (see previous column).

The Presidents' Meeting took place on Wednesday night, and we were feeling quite pleased with ourselves at having accomplished so much when we arrived at Council meeting Thursday morning—only to have the wind taken completely out of our sails. The Presidents had gone all over that ground the year before. And we're supposed to be in the information business? Future APLA Presidents please

take note.

At the Thursday meeting, the possibility of a Governor-General's Conference, similar to the White House Conference on Libraries was discussed. While there was some question of the usefulness of such a meeting, it was agreed that, if it does eventually take place, the Provincial Associations should be given guidelines, and play a prominent part.

CLA's response to "The Future of the National Library..." was accepted by Council, and will be submitted shortly.

Several new CLA interest groups were proposed and accepted: Library Instruction, Serials, Young Adult Services, and Library and Information Services for the Aging.

Missy Hillman presented a two-year plan on behalf of the CLA Continuing Education Coordinating Group, which included a needs assessment study, the formation of a clearinghouse, liaison with other associations, establishment of training assistance and advisory services, and a study of related issues. She wants to meet with the Provincial presidents in February, so if you have any concerns or suggestions re continuing education, I'll be happy to relay them.

The meeting ended with a tour of CLA Headquarters which was new to me, even though I had lived in Ottawa for seven years.

We are very pleased with the response to the Conference questionnaires. The Programme Committee will meet November 26th (future tense at the time of writing—past tense by the time you read) to make a selection for presentation at the Conference. From the detailed replies we're getting, we should be able to produce a Directory from the questionnaires without having to go back for more information. Thank you, everyone!

Also, by the time you read this, plans should be finalized for the mid-winter meeting. The topic may not be useful to everyone, but I hope to see many of you there.

Happy New Year.

Ann D. Nevill  
President

## Memorial Library Director Appointed



Miss Williams takes up her new duties at a time when planning and preparation are underway to prepare for the relocation and expansion of the Main Library to the new Queen Elizabeth II Library, which is scheduled for completion in late 1981.

Born in St. John's, Miss Williams attended Presentation Convent and Mercy Convent schools before going on to complete her Bachelor of Arts Degree at Memorial University in 1953. In that year she joined the staff of the Library on the old Parade Street Campus where she was employed as Periodicals Librarian and later as Cataloguer. She obtained the Bachelor of Library Science Degree from the University of Toronto in 1961 and returned to Memorial in 1961 as Assistant Librarian on the Elizabeth Avenue Campus.

Miss Williams was head of Technical Services in the Library from 1968 to 1972, was appointed Associate Librarian in 1971 and was Acting University Librarian from 1972 to 1974. She was President of the Newfoundland Library Association from 1969 to 1971, served as President of the Canadian Association of College and University Libraries in 1973 to 1974, was member for two terms of the Board of the National Library of Canada from 1972 to 1976 and Chairman of the National Library of Canada Committee on Bibliographic Services for Canada from 1975 to 1978.

The Board of Regents of Memorial University of Newfoundland announces the appointment of Miss Margaret Williams, B.A., B.L.S., as University Librarian effective October 1, 1980. Miss Williams assumes responsibility for all library services at Memorial University including the Main Library, the Health Sciences Library, the Faculty of Education Library, Curriculum Materials Centre; and the Sir Wilfred Grenfell College Library.

## On-Line Bibliographic utilities: UTLAS, DOBIS

By DEBORAH NICHOLSON  
and  
RASHID TAYYEB

The most important development in the area of library automation has been the emergence of on-line bibliographic utilities. The on-line bibliographic utility may be described as "an organization that maintains a large on-line bibliographic data base and provides products and services utilizing that data base to its customer libraries". 1 "On-line" simply means that a system transmits data directly between terminal and computer via communication lines, such as common telephone lines.

This report surveys two on-line utilities now accessible and used by many Canadian libraries, namely the University of Toronto Library Automation System (UTLAS) and Dortmund Bibliotekssystem (DOBIS).

A conscious effort is made to explain the systems in as simple a terminology as practicable in order to reach a cross-section of readers—those who have considerable knowledge of systems as well as those whose expertise and exposure to on-line systems may be somewhat limited.

UTLAS

UTLAS has been by far the on-line cataloguing support system that has been

used the most, serving more than 500 individual libraries in Canada. Recently, UTLAS has started serving one library in the United States (Rochester Institute of Technology). 2

Inaugurated in 1973 as a non-profit service facility and a general catalogue support system, UTLAS was developed to be used by interested Canadian libraries. By 1975, UTLAS was fully operative and was producing such diversified products as catalogue cards, computer output microfiche (COM), printed lists, etc.

Today the users of UTLAS' catalogue support system (CATSS) derive benefits from a network data base which contains close to 10 million records (not all unique). The system is owned and operated by the University of Toronto and reports to the vice president of Business Affairs, University of Toronto. It is "classified by the University of Toronto as an 'ancillary enterprise' and as such has its own completely separate and self-sufficient budget." 3

UTLAS visualizes and determines priorities for new subsystems and enhancements. It meets with its users group periodically to discuss mutual problems and prospects, usually at the annual Canadian Library Association conference.

Cont'd on page 46

Vol. 44 No. 4

## APLA Bulletin

The APLA Bulletin is a bi-monthly organ of the Atlantic Provinces Library Association whose object is to promote library service throughout the provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland to serve the professional interests of librarians in the region and to serve as a focal point for all those in library services in the Atlantic Provinces, and to cooperate with library associations and other organizations on matters of mutual concern.

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June 1	No. 1
August 1	No. 2
October 1	No. 3
December 1	No. 4
February 1	No. 5
March 20	No. 6

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# Collection weeding

—York Regional Library—

By E. WINSCHÉ AND  
B. MOLESWORTH

York Regional Library has begun a comprehensive weeding programme following the methods outlined by Stanley Slote in his book, *Weeding Library Collections* (Libraries Unlimited, 1974). The method is adapted to the type of check out system in use in the library to be weeded.

Where books are stamped out by hand the borrowing history of each book can be immediately ascertained. In these libraries the actual weeding process can be undertaken with little delay. In the libraries which use the Recordak system, book use must first be established before going on with the weeding.

The Nashwaaksis Public School Library uses a hand stamp system and so weeding was a straight forward task carried out over the summer months. This particular library has experienced tremendous changes in the past few years. The size and circulation of the library has more than tripled due to a move into a new community school complex. It now serves a junior high school of 900 students as well as a growing residential community. It was quite obviously time to evaluate the collection and tailor it to fit the present users of the library.

With a book card check out system the core collection is determined by examining the cards as the volumes are signed out. We used Mr. Slote's simplified book card method. The book cards are collected from 400 consecutively circulated books. We tabulated adult and juvenile circulation separately believing a difference in use might be evident. We had to collect book cards several days in a row to reach 400 in each group. We eliminated paperbacks, picture books and books that were not part of our permanent collection. This material has different criteria applied to it for inclusion and we felt it might affect the tabulations. Disregarding the present due date we noted which year the book circulated in last, and whether it was fiction or non-fiction.

With all the data collected we were able to establish our core adult and juvenile collections. The core collection is that part of the collection that is actively circulating; thus the probability that any particular book will circulate can be determined by examining the usual shelf time of material and formulating a relationship to the actual collection. This

relationship is then used to make the first run through the collection.

In Nashwaaksis we discovered some interesting facts about our core collection. Ninety eight per cent of all the books circulating had also circulated at least one other time in the past three years (1978, 79 and 80). If the year 1977 is added to the shelf time then more than 99 per cent of our circulation is accounted for. This held true regardless of how the books were categorized: it made no appreciable difference if the book was fiction or non-fiction, adult or juvenile.

According to Slote, once this formula is established, we can now weed every book which last circulated in 1976 or earlier and our circulation would fall less than one per cent. In fact, we could move the cut off date up by a whole year and lose less than two per cent. A random check of the shelves gave us more information about the collection. We checked 400 adult and juvenile books and noted when they last circulated. We discovered that between 15 and 25 per cent of the books were not part of the core collection — they had not circulated since 1976 — and could safely be considered for elimination.

Since space is not the primary concern in weeding this library we can exercise considerable judgment in the weeding process. It is an established fact that a well weeded collection is more heavily used. Slote found that circulation jumped in libraries that had been ruthlessly weeded; material that is wanted is more accessible and browsing is facilitated.

In Nashwaaksis we can consider our role within the school and the community and weed accordingly. We have established a pattern of use and material which is less used can be judged with an eye to its lasting value and interest.

An interesting consequence of all the statistics and the dramatic results is the point it makes about what the library wants from the library. By looking at the charts of the results in Nashwaaksis it can be easily seen that an overwhelming number of books being circulated also circulated at least one other time in 1980. Considering that the statistics were collected in June of 1980 that is a resounding defeat for the proponents of balanced collections in small public libraries. The patrons want the new books and the tried and true books, be they children, students or adults, and given a selection they take the same thing every time.

Weeding at Oromocto and Fredericton, however, is a slightly longer process.

Because we use a microfilm book check system we have had to embark on the year long alternative described by Mr. Slote.

The intentions are the same; to establish which books go out, which areas of interest are most heavily used and, perhaps most importantly, what percentage of the total — our core collection — is used in a given period.

The method is fairly simple. By one of several systems (Oromocto is using brightly coloured adhesive dots, Fredericton an applicator gun that works on the same principle as supermarket price labelers) each book is marked when it is returned to the library. Each book is only marked once; if a book is already marked it is simply reshelfed, as successive circulations are irrelevant.

Results are apparent within a very short time, although in our experience, admittedly very brief so far, they are not running along exactly the lines expected.

We have only been conducting the experiment for three months, and the summer is our least busy period, so we now expect, extrapolating from already achieved results, that the vast majority of our books will have dots on them by the end of the year, somewhat along the lines of the almost astonishing results at Nashwaaksis mentioned above.

So, based on Oromocto Library's experience it seems safe to say that very little weeding will be done as a direct result of this project. This does not mean that it is by any measurement a waste of time.

In terms of our intentions it is establishing, in a very real fashion, a

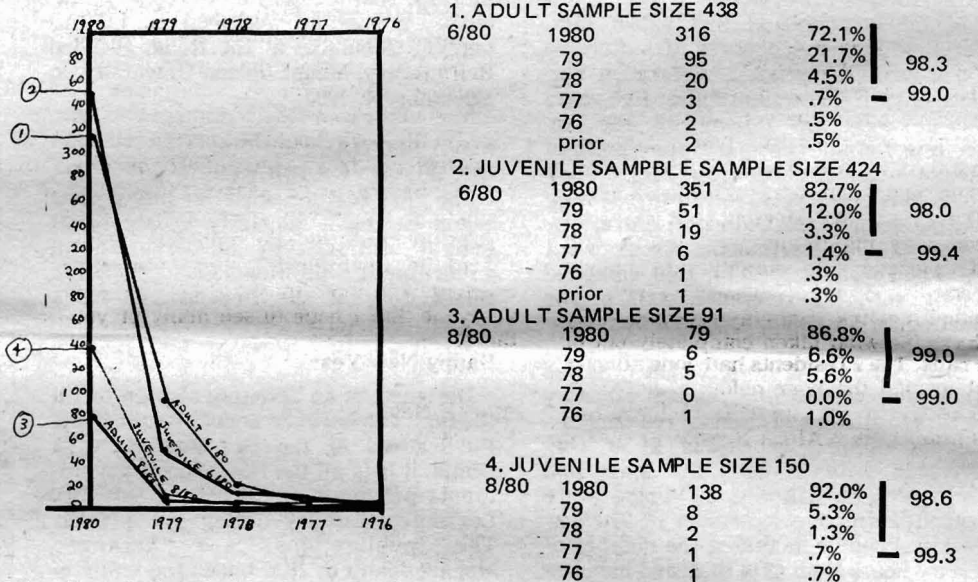
coherent view of the reading patterns of our patrons. It is crystalizing previously half formed impressions of which areas of the collection are most used. And, very positively, it is indicating a very high use factor that shows that the Region's collection development policy is generally on the right track.

In passing we might also mention a couple of welcome bits of information. Bright coloured dots on the spine of a book increase its interest to the next patron and can be seen to also increase its circulation. And, although there is a feeling among many that mending a book makes it unattractive to borrowers, it can be demonstrated that a book with spine tape and mended covers goes out as fast and as often as the rest of the collection.

Two problems that should be considered: the dots also attract the busy fingers of the younger patrons, a fact that could affect results. And, although a full year is given to the experiment so that the core collection can be most accurately identified, there are still books whose use cycle is longer than that. For instance, as happens here, those that are used for projects assigned every other or every third year.

As a result, weeding, as usual, ultimately depends on personal judgment of need and use, but this system can certainly aid in the development of that judgment.

Therefore, although we are nowhere near the end of the experimental period we think that it has already provided us with some very useful information and will be well worth pursuing.



Results of Circulation Count leading to establishment of Core Collection in Nashwaaksis Public-School Library.

E. Winsche

## Position Available

The Patrick Power Library of Saint Mary's University, Halifax, Nova Scotia invites applications for the position of Head, Catalogue Department.

### QUALIFICATIONS:

ALA accredited MLS, at least 2 years cataloguing experience (including some supervisory responsibility) preferably in an academic library. Knowledge of AACR2 and LC classification. Familiarity with automated cataloguing systems (e.g. UTLAS).

### RESPONSIBILITIES:

Supervision of a support staff of approximately 5 people.

### SALARY:

Commensurate with qualifications and experience with a minimum of \$16,200.

### APPLY TO:

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# News and Notes

## NOVA SCOTIA

### COLCHESTER-EAST HANTS REGIONAL LIBRARY

On November 5th, 1980 Lynda Marsh joined the staff as Children's Services Librarian. A 1979 graduate of the Dalhousie School of Library Service, Ms. Marsh, a native of Toronto, succeeds Laura Draper, who moved with her family to Kentville.

At the Truro Branch on October 31st, Frances Balodis demonstrated her "Music for Young Children" programme, in which children, ages 4-8, develop musically in a fun, relaxed, group atmosphere.

"Family Violence—It's Everyone's Concern" was the title of a panel discussion sponsored by the Continuing Legal Education Society of Nova Scotia and the Library. Coinciding with a severe snowstorm, the lecture drew a small but appreciative audience to the Truro Branch.

On November 18th, to help us celebrate the 1980 Children's Book Festival, children's author Christie Harris gave a public reading at the Truro Branch to an enthusiastic audience of about 25 children and adults.

### HALIFAX CITY REGIONAL LIBRARY

At the beginning of September, Mrs. Christine Samek succeeded Mrs. Corinne Earle as a Librarian I, Reference Services. Mrs. Earle resigned after five years service with the library on the appointment of her husband to the Parish of Stewiacke and Shubenacadie. Mrs. Samek holds Masters degrees in Library Service and in German from Dalhousie University.

The Halifax-Dartmouth directory of clubs and organizations for 1980, compiled jointly with the reference staff of the Dartmouth Regional Library, was completed.

Book Trailer Services, which provides weekly circulation and readers advisory service to adults and children residing in a number of neighbourhoods at a considerable distance from the Main and North Branch Library buildings, were expanded effective September 16. The new weekly schedule increases the number of service hours from 43 to 66.25 and includes four extended stops of 5.5 to 6.5 hours in mainland Halifax. During October, the first full month of the expanded schedule, the number of items borrowed from the two trailers, — books, records, and magazines totalled 18,238 an increase of 61.5 per cent over October, 1979.

The Tuesday and Wednesday lunch hour series offered at the Main Library by St. Mary's University on the history of ethnic groups and minorities in Nova Scotia draws an average attendance of 70 to 80 people, some of whom are taking the course for credit.

In September, the North Branch Library Literacy Program resumed for its fourth year. Some 46 adult learners are participating in the Basic Education as well as the English and Math classes with a waiting list until more tutors can be recruited. The Reading Support Program started in October with 20 volunteers matched up with 20 students. The North Branch has been awarded a grant of \$900 by the Nova Scotia Department of Education's Ethnic Services for reading workshops for parents and volunteers over the coming year.

### PICTOU ANTIGONISH REGIONAL LIBRARY

Pictou Library opened in new quarters the first of November. Located in a new office building, the Library is spacious, attractive and a welcome relief for all, from the former cramped Library. Many favorable comments are being received from the public, with special mention being given to the wheelchair ramp entrance. It is a delight to be able to shelve all the books too!

### ACADIA UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

After twelve years at Acadia Pat O'Meara has entered the Atlantic School of Theology to study for the priesthood. Betty Jeffery, M.L.S., McGill, 1978, has joined the reference staff coming from two years employment as a school librarian on P.E.I. Tori Leger has also left Acadia to go with her husband to London, Ontario.

### DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY. KELLOGG LIBRARY

The staff of Kellogg will be teaching the Health Sciences Bibliography Course in Dalhousie School of Library Service during the winter term, 1981.

### SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY. PATRICK POWER LIBRARY

The Patrick Power Library, Saint Mary's University, joined UTLAS in the autumn of 1980. Several of the Patrick Power Library staff participated in an UTLAS training session conducted by Judy Sheppard and Linda Browning at the library in November.

Lynn Grant, Alice Hum, Cyndi Murphy and Rashid Tayyeb of the Patrick Power Library, Saint Mary's University, attended a one-day workshop on UTLAS tagging techniques at the Ralph Pickard Bell Library, Mount Allison University on November 4, 1980.

### NOVA SCOTIA LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY

The Nova Scotia Legislative Library has begun issuing a quarterly update to its annual bibliography of Nova Scotia government publications. Entitled *Publications of the Province of Nova Scotia: Quarterly Checklist* (ISSN 0228-0299), it was first issued in June 1980.

Designed as an updating service to fill the time gap between annual issues of the *Publications of the Province of Nova Scotia*, it lists all the Nova Scotia government publications received at the Legislative Library during the quarter. The publications are arranged alphabetically by title under the name of the issuing department or agency.

The Quarterly checklist has the added feature of noting which publications are available for sale at the Nova Scotia Government Services Bookstore and the price.

The Quarterly checklist is available on request from the Nova Scotia Legislative Library, P.O. Box 396, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2P8.

### NOVA SCOTIA HEALTH LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

Linda Harvey has been elected President and Donna Jensen elected Secretary. Both are for the 1980-81 term.

### NEWFOUNDLAND NEWFOUNDLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

This year's theme was "Libraries all around the circle". The Education Library at Memorial University celebrated the event by inviting its Education Faculty and Graduate Students to attend special coffee breaks during the week. Each day two author-educators spoke to limited (because of space) audiences about their past and pending publications. The guest authors for Monday were Senator Fred Rowe and Dr. Philip Warren; for Tuesday, Dr. Leslie Harris and Dr. William Summers; for Wednesday, Dr. Harry Cuff and Miss Grace Layman; and on Thursday, Ms. Audrey Hiscock and Dr. Frank Wolfe.

By all accounts, the week (Nov. 1-8) was extremely successful. There are many more educational authors who could be invited to a similar event and the staff is eagerly looking forward to next year's festivities.

September is the month when all departments and branches in the Saint John Regional Library System "gear-up" for the increased use of all library facilities by students who have returned to school and university.

Most organizations and business firms as well as industry, begin their preparation for programs, workshops and various activities which in turn results in a request for library participation via speakers, displays or direct information.

The Boys' and Girls' Department of the Central Library welcomed Leslye McVicar to the staff to replace Wendy Agar who moved to a part-time position at the East Branch.

Dr. Norman Skinner, Chairman of the Saint John Free Public Library Board and President of the New Brunswick Library Trustees Association was appointed that body's representative on the A.P.L.A. Trustees Association.

Mrs. Mardi Cockburn, Finance Chairman of The Saint John Regional Library Board and Vice-Chairman of the N.B. Library Trustees Association has been appointed that body's representative to the Canadian Library Trustees Association. Congratulations are also in order for Mrs. Cockburn who was recently appointed Vice-Chairman of the Board of Governors of the University of New Brunswick.

Programs were well underway in October at all branches of the Region. The Boys' and Girls' Department held their Annual Halloween party with games, movies, costume prizes and treats. During Children's Book Festival Week, Brian Doyle, author of *Hey Dad!* and *You Can Pick Me Up at Peggy's Cove*, gave readings to two classes from Princess Elizabeth School and to an after-school audience at the Sussex Public Library. Throughout the system, displays of Canadian books were very much in evidence.

The Boys' and Girls' Department is sponsoring a "Winter Sports Program". The first program, held December 2nd featured a discussion with the experts plus displays of equipment and books. Upcoming programs in this series will feature Figure Skating and Ice Fishing. This Department is continuing to feature the regular "Curious George Story Hours" every Saturday afternoon as well as the weekly Wednesday morning sessions of songs, stories, filmstrips and games. Again as in past years the Department will hold their "Special Christmas" films program; this year it will be held on December 17th.

The West and East Branch libraries are continuing to welcome class visits and in the West Branch, the highlight each week, not only for the pre-schoolers who attend but for the volunteers who assist—is the Story Hour. At present there are four active volunteers: two retired school teachers, one grandmother and one lady whose children have grown up. Three more volunteers have signified their intention to participate in the spring—one of whom is a great grandmother! Each story hour has two stories interspersed with games. Mme. Doiron, our French speaking volunteer, pantomimes a story, teaches the children a new song, or plays a game with the children. The hour is rounded off with the children doing handicrafts. The West Branch has made further contacts with Senior Citizens groups and one book deposit goes to the Fundy Senior Citizens Centre in Maces Bay, Charlotte County. School children in the area are now quite faithful borrowers from this deposit in the Senior Citizens Centre.

The West Branch were very pleased to have Mrs. Dorothy Pitman from Grand Bay, visit and give a talk on her doll collection. This Branch is located in the K-Mart Shopping Plaza and neighboring stores loaned dolls to the library to make a display as background to Mrs. Pitman's talk.

Borrowers have contributed to the library's display of objects made from following the instructions contained in the library's craft book section. The display included knitting, embroidery, crocheting,

stamp collecting, coin collections, ceramics, pottery and photography.

Liaison has been established with various schools throughout the region, and many of the branches display the art and craft work of the students from various schools.

The St. Croix Public Library, thanks to New Brunswick Library Service, now has several printed copies of its voluminous "Table of Contents" to Project Preservation. Project Preservation is the microfilmed result of a two-year local history effort covering Charlotte County, N.B. and Washington County, Maine.

With all of the increased activities throughout the region, time was set aside to hold three workshops on mending, conducted by Jane Davidson of the Central Library Adult Services Department. One involved staff from all branches of the region and the Ross Memorial Library of St. Andrews, the other two were for teacher librarians in School District 20.

Several staff members journeyed to Fredericton to attend the seminar given by John Parkhill, Director of the Metropolitan Toronto Library Board. The Workshop was sponsored by New Brunswick Library Service and Dalhousie School of Library Service.

Displays in the fall months included 70 books "about women by women" prepared for Kennebecasis Valley High School's Women's Week. Saint John Regional Library staff member, Fran Giberson, prepared a short book list to accompany this display.

Adult Services librarian, Barbara Cowan, prepared a special display for the annual meeting of the Saint John Chapter of the National Secretaries Association and staff member Debbie Sherrard prepared a special booklet for the School District 20 Career Expo.

Staff member Barbara Cowan and Board Member John Edwards attended the day and a half seminar on fundraising.

Branch Supervisor Howard Cogswell, continues his community involvement by accepting the challenge as chairman of the finance committee for the 1981 Canadian Conference of the National Association for Literacy Advancement.

The Saint John-based committee will be raising and administering a budget of around \$11,600.00 for a June 4-7 all Canada Conference of Laubach volunteers to be held in Moncton at Universite de Moncton.

The Board and staff of the Saint John Regional extend to all A.P.L.A. members best wishes for a happy and healthy 1981.

### MOUNT ALLISON UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

On November 4, 1980, a Workshop on Coding and Cataloguing of Library Materials was held at Mount Allison University Library. Sponsored jointly by UTLAS and Mount Allison, the workshop attracted 18 librarians representing 7 libraries in the Atlantic provinces. Several of the institutions represented will be joining the UTLAS network in the coming months.

Brian Morrell, Head of the Cataloguing Dept. at Mount Allison, provided instruction in MARC coding of monographs and serials, and Gwen Creelman, Music Librarian at Mount Allison, covered the coding of music scores and sound recordings. Jack Cain, Senior Products Design Officer at UTLAS, outlined the various products offered by UTLAS and explained how coding relates to those products.

### FREDERICTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Marjorie Clinton, formerly of Memorial University of Newfoundland Library (ILL) has been appointed Head of the Music Dept., Fredericton Public Library. She is a graduate of the University of Toronto.

Cont'd on page 42

# Canadian Fiction: Stimulating Supplement to School Curriculum

By RUTH MacEACHERN

The Canadian Book Information Centre and Canadian Learning Materials Centre played hosts to a one-day conference on November 15, 1980. The subject under discussion was encouraging utilization of Canadian materials in schools, as presented from different perspectives by experts in various fields of learning.

The seminar was entitled "Canadian Children's and Young Adult Literature: Literature as a Resource for the Curriculum." A brief address from Angela Rebeiro of the CBIC introduced Fay Blostein of the University of Toronto Department of Education. Ms. Blostein dealt very capably with her topic, the unique perspective fiction can bring to the curriculum. She advocates the inclusion of literature, specifically Canadian literature, in the schools recommended reading lists because she has found that students react well to situations and characters in novels in a way that they will not respond to their teachers. While not necessarily providing a moral, fiction can establish a "genuine sense of place" that makes the rest of school curriculum less alien to the student. Ms. Blostein feels that Canadian literature of recent years is unique in that it is imaginative, warm, witty, and lacking in the didactic, moralistic quality which can spoil a story for many young people.

She pointed out that children are more affected by characters and situations than to plots. Appealing emotional situations can develop different perspectives for children and for education. Discussing the various fine works appearing in Canada in recent years, Ms. Blostein told of her experiences using fiction as means of reaching students in a learning situation. She found that students react well to the introduction of fiction, demonstrating new self-awareness while examining a familiar topic in a somewhat original light. Fiction is often overlooked by teachers and librarians as a teaching aid; in Ms. Blostein's experience it can be effective in breaking down barriers, establishing perspectives, and giving a sense of accomplishment to unenthusiastic students. Taken on the whole, her presentation was an enthusiastic yet practical display of methodology useful in supplementing and improving academic dealings with slow learners, social problems, economic conditions, learning disabilities, and standard curriculum offerings such as history. Ms. Blostein is the author of *Invitation-Celebration*, a guide to Canadian literature and its use at all levels of the learning process.

"School Library Collections and Collection Development" was the topic of an audio-visual presentation by Tahira Hussein, librarian for the Halifax City Board of School Commissioners. She stressed the need for co-operation between school and public libraries, and between school librarians and teachers, parents, students, administration and staff. High involvement leads to high standards, and feedback is useful whether it is delivered in person or by written suggestion. Since students are the main users of a school

library, their suggestions are to be especially encouraged.

Actual selection of materials involves selecting audio-visual, print materials, and supplies. Audio-visual equipment should be procured by the school as a whole, but A-V materials are selected by librarians in most cases. Supplies are essential for adequate maintenance and display of materials. The main focus of acquisitions, however, is still on print materials. Ms. Hussein touched upon the various types of tools available to aid in the selection of print materials, and mentioned the ways in which the budget may be extended through co-operation with other libraries in the area, or through the acquisition of paperbacks over hardcover editions where possible.

Censorship was an issue that was briefly touched upon, perhaps too briefly, in remarks on the librarian's sole responsibility to choose and defend the collection. Selectivity is a necessary part of the librarian's task, but should never be confused with censorship. Also mentioned was the problem of acquiring local materials, and the help which the Legislative Library can provide in this area.

A lively discussion arose over the deplorable lack of acquisitions funding felt by most school libraries in the area. The *School Library Bulletin* offered to help by publicizing suggestions for fund-raising events; these ranged from walkathons and bake sales to the sale of Christmas cards through the library. Delegates generally felt that the lack of government support reflected public apathy towards their contribution to the educational system, and that as well as short-term nickel-and-dime fundraising, librarians should be addressing themselves to the problem of increasing provincial and municipal support.

During lunch at the Dalhousie Faculty Club, Nova Scotian writer Joyce Barkhouse spoke on the state of the Canadian writing scene, and discussed and read the children's book *Anna's Pet*, which she co-authored with Margaret Atwood.

Peter Kidd opened the afternoon session with some brief remarks, then turned the floor over to Judith Newman of the Department of Education, Dalhousie University. Ms. Newman spoke on the librarians' role in school education. She placed particular emphasis on three aspects of good school librarianship: the librarian's need for familiarity with the collection, their need for awareness of available resources, and the need to teach users, especially students, how to research properly.

Ms. Newman explained that in her experience, librarians usually lack imagination in their use of available resources, either by focusing on the wrong aspect of the topic, or by overlooking recreational-type materials that could be used as sources of information and perspective. Using the sea as an example, she expounded at great length upon the variety of possible sources of information on the many aspects of the maritime issue. Then a delightful scavenger hunt was

organized among the delegates for books that would provide information on any aspect of the sea they chose; Ms. Newman thoughtfully provided a list of possible choices. At the end of the hunt, participating delegates were praised for their imagination and versatility in ferretting out so many sources of information, and Ms. Newman recommended that librarians try this technique in their own working situation.

Ms. Newman was perhaps not present at the morning lecture on collections-building, when librarians discussed the ramifications of the severely limited acquisitions budget. It would be interesting to see how well her scavenger hunt approach fared in a school library in rural Nova Scotia, rather than the well-equipped CBIC.

The final scheduled speaker was Newfoundland author Kevin Major, who spoke briefly of his own personal background before going on to speak on his work. He favoured the delegates with some readings from *Hold Fast* (1978) and explained that the plot and characters had been inspired by his teaching experience in Newfoundland. Mr. Major modestly attributed the critical acclaim which *Hold Fast* has received to the fact that the book appeared at a very favourable time for him. His aim was to produce more realistic, contemporary young fiction than was currently being written in Canada, thus, when he succeeded, the critics reacted favourably. Mr. Major feels that Canadian Young Adult fiction is only beginning to demonstrate its potential these last few years. More than enough Canadian books have already been produced portraying Canadian young people as apple-cheeked immigrants, serene farm dwellers, or spoiled suburbanites trying to come to terms with an orthodontic brace.

Mr. Major also read very effectively from his recently published novel *Far From Shore*, another realistic novel about the breakdown of family life in

Newfoundland today. This new novel is even more mature and hard-hitting than the first, and Mr. Major discussed with the delegates his problems with school boards, censorship, foreign (read U.S.) publishers, and his hopes for the future of Newfoundland writers. Librarians thanked him for continuing to write about adolescent males, as novels about boys have been noticeably lacking from young adult literature.

An unexpected pleasure was the appearance of writer Christie Harris during the afternoon. Ms. Harris celebrated her seventy-third birthday with the delegates, and spoke enthusiastically about her writing experiences and influences. Ms. Harris has written on several topics, but is best known for her works dealing with Haida Indian legends, which she retells with all the life and colour a live storyteller would have given them. By recording these tales, she popularizes West Coast literature which might otherwise have been permanently lost.

After reading one of her clever "Mousewoman" stories, Ms. Harris went on to discuss her pet thesis. In brief, she believes that Indian rituals, legends and lifestyles are based not on superstition, but on a link with supernatural forces which most cultures have never cultivated. She gave many examples of Indian practices and beliefs which are topics of interest to modern science, such as astral travel and communication with plants.

Through her literature, Ms. Harris tries to demonstrate what Canada is and what rich traditions we have to preserve. Her visit was an informative and invigorating demonstration of what one person with imagination and spirit can do to enrich their culture.

During the conference, the sponsors did a thriving business in sales of their extensive stock of Canadian literature. Many out-of-town librarians had an unexpected opportunity to acquire new materials while discussing their usefulness to the state of their profession.

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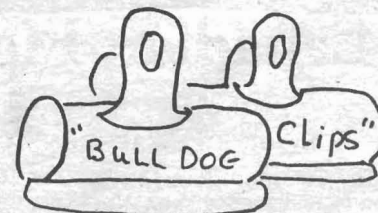
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# Conservation of Library materials



By ALICE W. HARRISON

The Summer, 1980, issue of the *American Archivist* has a remarkable article by Laetitia Yeandle, Curator of Manuscripts at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C. It is entitled "The Evolution of Handwriting in the English-Speaking Colonies of America," and is a revised version of a paper that she presented at the Society of American Archivists' convention in Chicago, September, 1979. The author, in the article, gives us good reasons for being interested in the development of handwriting. It enables us to read more handwritten documents more easily. It assists us in identifying and dating manuscripts when the author or date is not apparent, and also in establishing the genuineness of a manuscript. What makes the article "remarkable" to me is the profuse use of illustrations, clearly reproduced from documents, showing examples of the variety of handwriting, with detailed information as to the forms of the letters. The article comes out at a time when there seems to be a widespread interest in calligraphy. Publishers' catalogues are including more and more books on the topic, historical as well as the "how to do it". Courses are being offered formally through education institutions, as well as through community centres and in continuing education programmes. In Halifax you have to put your name on a waiting list to take a course. This interest in the return to a beautiful hand is most welcome.

To return to the Yeandle article, it was her brief mention of ink that interested me in the topic for this column. That, along with the examination of a number of books I have seen where the ink has apparently eaten through the page of a book. It is of interest to find out more about the reasons for this deterioration.

It is probably safe to say that most librarians are familiar with the terms "carbon inks" and "iron gall inks". It is unlikely, however, that many of us could identify the period in history of their use, know their composition or explain their effect on paper.

Yeandle, in discussing inks, says that these two kinds of ink were made at home throughout the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. The carbon ink was often made with lampblack suspended in a mixture of water and gum arabic. This type did not last as well because it remained on the surface of paper and had a tendency to flake off. The other ink, called "standard" by Yeandle, was made from galls or oak apples (providing the gallic or tannic acid), copperas or vitriol (providing the iron salts), gum arabic (which affected the viscosity) and a liquid (wine, vinegar, and/or water). (Yeandle, p. 296).

It is interesting to note the earlier history of these inks.

## HISTORY

### CARBON INKS

Cunha dates India ink (sometimes called Chinese ink) to as early as 2500 B.C. He says the carbon ink was used in the West until the nineteenth century and is still used for fine calligraphy.

Barrow writes of the carbon ink as being known to the Romans as "atramentum scriptorium", and speaks of it as the earliest known writing fluid.

Langwell also writes of the carbon ink as the earliest of inks.

### IRON GALL INKS

Cunha dates the use of iron gall ink for writing on vellum to about the seventh century, but goes on to say that some date it even earlier.

Barrow speaks of the use of iron ink, known as "encaustum" during the Middle Ages. He mentions that some investigations date its use to the time of Christ, but it does not seem to have been in general use until some centuries later.

Langwell notes that the Lindisfarne Gospels were written in iron gall ink on

vellum, probably dating from the seventh century. He says that these iron gall inks were in common use until about 1860.

(For the history of inks citations are made from Barrow, pp. 8-10, Cunha, pp. 41-44, and Langwell, pp. 46-48).

## COMPOSITION

### CARBON INKS

The carbon ink is made from soot, lampblack or some kind of charcoal, giving colour to the ink. Mixed with this is gum arabic and a solvent (water, wine or vinegar).

The gum arabic emulsifies the oils in the blacks, gives viscosity to the fluid, helps to hold the carbon particles in suspension, and forms a binder to hold the particles to the document. (Barrow, p. 8) The gum suspension penetrates the writing surface, especially porous writing material, and entraps the pigment amongst the fibers.

Cunha describes how the carbon ink is prepared in the East. There, he says, it is prepared by the "incomplete combustion of pine wood or oil. The soot so formed is mixed with glue size, scented with musk or camphor; it is molded into sticks and then dried. These sticks are dissolved in water when a supply of ink is required". (Cunha, p. 41).

Cunha also includes "Bistre" and "Sepia" in his discussion of carbon inks. "Bistre" was made from the smoke of burning resins and is brown in colour... "due to the bitumens in resins" (Cunha, p. 41). The appearance is similar to that of old iron gall inks. "Sepia", he goes on to say, "is a thousand-to-one dilution of the dark pigment discharged by frightened cuttlefish".

### IRON GALL INKS

The composition of these inks included copperas (ferrous sulphate) mixed with oak galls, (or some other kind of vegetable tannin) and a solvent, such as water, wine or vinegar, and thickened with gum arabic. Cunha is again helpful in explaining the chemistry of the product. The tannins from the galls combine with the ferrous sulphate to form ferrous tannate. This is colourless, but after drying on paper it oxidizes to ferric tannate, which is black. This often fades to brown. The brownish inks (iron gall, bistre and sepia) are usually thought to be unstable and therefore bleaching can't be used. (Cunha, p. 42).

## EFFECT ON PAPER

### CARBON INKS

According to Barrow the carbon particles of this ink do not fade over a period of time and they are not affected by light rays or by bleaching agents. Also, as a rule, the carbon particles and the gum arabic contain no compounds which are injurious to paper. (Barrow, p. 8).

The two criticisms of its use are: the possibility of it smudging during damp weather and the ease with which it can be washed from documents.

### IRON GALL INKS

Earlier mention was made of the word "encaustum" used, during the medieval period for this ink. Because it means "to burn in", we are given a good idea of the characteristics of this ink. Barrow's description of its effect on paper tells the story:

"...the sulfuric acid produced by the interaction of ferrous sulfate and the organic acids of the galls does burn into the paper, and in some cases where there are heavy deposits of ink, it burns a hole through the paper. The oxidation of paper by sulfuric acid, found in concentrated iron gall inks, is much slower but similar to that produced by fire. If this acid is present in sufficient quantities, it will migrate to surrounding areas of writing, and in time produce a dark brown, and in some instances, almost black discoloration in the paper. The latter condition is found only occasionally, but it

is accompanied by extreme embrittlement of the paper, poor visibility of the writing, and difficulty in photographing. Even when the concentration of this acid is not quite so great, it still migrates to adjacent sheets, discoloring the fibers and producing reversed brown writing. In some instances, this causes confusion when reading a photographic reproduction." (Barrow, p. 17)

## OTHER INKS

### PRINTING INKS

The early printing inks were made by mixing carbon (soot) with boiled linseed oil. Now lampblack is mixed with varnish and some fast drying agent. These seem to remain permanent with little damage. If one discovers deterioration to paper caused by printed ink it is probably due to the use of fish oil instead of linseed oil or the use of rosin size to speed up drying. (Cunha, p. 44).

### COLOURED INKS

Some of the natural dyes are fairly permanent, but on the whole, the criticism of them is that they are usually soluble in liquids and do fade in light.

### BALL POINT INK

These inks are usually made from a light fast dye and an oily solution. The disadvantages are solubility in a liquid solvent and, because they don't penetrate the paper, they can be removed through erasure or use of spirits. (Langwell, pp. 49-50).

### TYPEWRITER INKS

The black inks on the whole are permanent, fast to light, erasure and to solvents. (Langwell, p. 55). This could be significant to archivists.

*Cont'd from page 40*

# News and Notes

## CAMPBELLTON CENTENNIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY

The 1980 Children's Book Festival in Campbellton, N.B. was celebrated by a co-operative effort of the Campbellton Centennial Library, the Restigouche Gallery, and the local school board. Grade six students prepared and illustrated their own short books which were put on display at the Gallery while grade five students drew posters. Prizes of Canadian books were offered to the top entries in each category. The children's own stories were displayed on a large bulletin board. The Campbellton Library also had a display of approximately 100 Canadian children's books at the Restigouche Gallery, featuring works by such known authors as Farley Mowat, Elizabeth Cleaver, Christie

Harris, William Kurelek, Ann Blades, Margaret Laurence, James Houston and many others.

The featured events took place on November 19 when close to 200 students in three groups listened to selections from Carole Spray's book *Will o' the Wisp*, read by Campbellton Librarian, James Katan. This is a collection of New Brunswick folktales and legends collected and edited by the Fredericton author. Students whose stories had won prizes read their works to the other students, their teachers and parents who also attended the event. All participants and organizers were pleased with the results and are looking forward to the next Book Festival.

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# Library Clerk Programme

## NEW BRUNSWICK COMMUNITY COLLEGE — WOODSTOCK CAMPUS

By PEARL HAZEN

After several years of interest, inquiry, research and discussion — re: a non-university library programme — the Principal, Mr. J.A. Budden, initiated, in 1978, the Library Clerk Programme as an option in the Business Education Department of the Woodstock Campus. His inquiries had shown that (a) Woodstock couldn't meet the requirements for staff and library materials for the Library Technician Programme; (b) Public Libraries were offering in-service training and a Library Assistants Course (after one year's satisfactory service) through the New Brunswick Library Service; (c) some

schools were hiring persons with a commercial background for library work and (d) the Minister of Education had issued a policy statement for school libraries re: professional and non-professional staffing.

A programme outline which included both business and library courses was drafted by the Woodstock Campus, accepted by the College and offered during the 1978-79 course year. I, a professional librarian with several years experience in public and special libraries, was hired to fill in the details in the library part of the programme — to choose texts, library materials and books and to teach. I was assisted in doing this by the information that already had been collected; by con-

versations with school and public library personnel on the local level; by discussions with staff in a Library Technician Program and by attendance at the Ontario Library Educators Meeting and N.B.T.A. School Library Media Council Meetings.

Students began with office practice, the first cycle of accounting, communications (spelling, grammar, punctuation and proofreading) and typing. To this programme were gradually added the library options. These included general background information on libraries; library organization and management; an introduction to reference books; children's literature; and cataloguing and classification of books and non-book materials. All of the library courses included both theory and practical experience through the use of a practice collection at the College and the collection of the local public library.

Workshops in mending, audio-visual equipment and non-book materials were held through the York Regional Library and the Woodstock High School. In addition, each student was required to have four weeks of practical experience under supervision. Most students spent two weeks in school libraries and then two weeks in public libraries. One student, a University graduate, did half of her practice work in a special (government) library.

In the first year of our course, mid-October 1978 to mid-June 1979, the business and library components shared equal time — approximately four months in each. In the second year, we started in September and this provided us with an additional month for library courses and an earlier closing.

Our first class of students (1978-79) came from throughout the province (Fredericton to Plaster Rock and Newcastle), and were between 18 and 45 years of age. All had high school graduation or equivalent — two had some University courses, a few had previous library experience in public or school libraries. Of the twelve students, nine completed the programme (one had dropped out due to lack of interest in the business part of the programme, one due to ill health and one for family reasons).

The graduates have had difficulty in obtaining employment in libraries due to budget restrictions, hiring practices, competition with persons having more academic education (including unemployed teachers), unionization of library assistants in local schools and lack of mobility. Currently, two of the graduates are employed as library clerks by York Regional Library; one has been doing volunteer work in a school library; one is working part-time cataloguing books at the request of a local book store — as well as working part-time for a local newspaper; one is working in the Registrar's office at Dalhousie University; one is working in her constituency office in Ottawa and one is teaching crafts for the Red Cross.

This year's class was smaller (ten students - dropping to five) and younger, 19 - 33 years of age. Most were from this area - with two exceptions: one student from Dalhousie and one from Moncton. Of the four students who successfully completed the programme, two are planning on continuing their education in the fall and two are looking for work in the local area — either in library or office work.

Some of the weaknesses in the programme have been -  
- lack of ongoing public relations throughout the province  
- lack of input and commitment by libraries, schools and others who would benefit by hiring one of the graduates  
- lack of a clearly defined student selection policy.

Some frustration was experienced due to the business nature of the programme and it would probably be difficult to obtain any credits in a library technician programme as the base of that programme is more academic than business. However, I think the programme is adequate for certain library situations. Library training is needed within the province.

There is, at this time, a need for the Department of Education to standardize requirements and decide on training for school library assistants; for New Brunswick Library Service to take another look at its programme; for the various libraries of the province to decide what they are going to do about A.A.C.R. II; and for the New Brunswick Community College to decide what role it is to have in the future training of library workers. Because of these and other factors, the Community College has decided not to offer a library programme this fall.

## UNB Honours N. Gregg



(Photograph courtesy of Ian Brown).

By ROBERTA WEINER

One hundred and forty people gathered in the Harriet Irving Library on May 15, 1980 for the dedication of the Nan Vesta Gregg Room. Colleagues, friends and fellow citizens, they came to honour the "institution within an institution" who for thirty years had done so much for town and gown in Fredericton and at the University of New Brunswick. Officially, Nan Gregg was the chief reference librarian at UNB for most of those years, 1946 to 1976. Unofficially, she was a pioneer and a catalyst, stimulating interest in painting, music, theatre, literature and the other arts. She worked early and late for the Creative Arts Committee, she distributed tickets, she allowed many a picture from her own collection to hang for long periods in the Library, the Faculty Club or other University buildings.

During the ceremonies of the 151st Encaenia of UNB, the Acting President, Dr. Tom Condon, officiated at the unveiling of the 15" x 10" plaque recognizing Nan Gregg as "a patron of the fine arts and long time head of the Reference Department."

Drawing on the reminiscences of long time faculty members and library staff, Mrs. Roberta Wilson Weiner, Circulation Librarian, stressed two of Nan's outstanding characteristics: her emphasis on quality—in books, in scholarship, in education, in the arts—and her sense of personal service.

"What is in your room?" asked one of the many old friends and former students who sent letters, cards and telegrams. It is an exhibit hall, approximately 40 x 25 feet, with tables for fifteen to eighteen displays, with a picture rail for paintings or prints or hanging signs, and with comfortable chairs and opaque drapes for slide lectures.

"I'm being thanked for doing something that made my life more agreeable," said Nan graciously, in acknowledging the honour. One hundred and forty people signed their names in a specially inscribed guest book to help Nan Vesta Gregg remember the happy crowd, the book exhibits and speeches.



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# Atlantic Canada Music ... 1775

By BERT DEVEAU

On est pas Québécois. A cause nous autres  
On est fait comme ça.  
Dans l'Acadie vive le U.I.C.  
On fume pis on boit. Pis nous autres  
Ça nous dérange pas  
En Acadie vive le U.I.C.

On a cold winter night three years ago, four musicians stepped outside a pub in Moncton where they had just finished a night's performance. They were glad it was over, for the crowd had not been friendly. The four young men had been cursed, mocked, threatened.

The four were Roland Gauvin, Kenneth Saulnier, Donald Boudreau and Ronald Dupuis — all Acadians. Collectively they were known as 1755.

As they walked toward their car four men, holding tire irons and looking not too friendly, started to give chase. The

four musicians ran quickly to their car and sped off. They felt lucky but confused: their songs, or perhaps the language in which they were sung, had angered the patrons.

Not that much of this was new to them. Certain individuals at CBC Moncton felt the group should not be aired. The lyrics of certain songs were thought vulgar — a bastardization of both the English and French languages. And the four had been told to clean up their act.

But now consider this: in the fall of 1979, the same four arrived in Nice, France, to take part in the Festival International Francophonie. Up for grabs was le Palm d'Or — the much coveted first prize for best musical interpretation.

The group sang much the same as it had in the Moncton pub. They received a standing ovation. They sang more. The audience asked for more. They sang songs that were neither purely French, nor purely English — just Acadian. And again they received standing ovations. Finally

they sang la Mauditte Guerre, a lament about the tragedies of war. And then they had to leave because of earlier commitments in Canada. Upon their arrival in Montreal, they received a telephone call from officials of the festival. Yes, they had won the famous Palm d'Or!

Their music is not easily described. If you guessed 1755 as the year of the expulsion of the Acadians, you were right. But if you concluded the date was somehow linked to their songs, you were wrong. The group is not political and will go out of their way to say so. "Stompez les pieds" they will yell out. "We're here for fun".

The biggest clue to understanding their music is that they're Acadians. Truly Acadians, and not a bit ashamed of it. That's why "C.B. Buddie", an account of an Acadian trucker in Waltham who decides to return to his native Acadie, is so powerful. The language is identical to that in use today in Cheticamp and other Acadian communities.

## C.B. BUDDIE

J'm'achèterais un morceau d'terre  
"banké" su l'bord d'la mer,  
Pis j'traderais mon vieux truck pour un  
bateau.  
J'démancherais mon vieux C.B. mes  
miroués pis mes broches,  
Aussi, pis j'installerais toute ça sur mon  
vaisseau.  
Pis un jour quand j'flotterai sur l'eau  
J' "switch'rai-on" ma radio  
"Pour saluer mes "chums" dans leur  
convoy  
J'leur parlerai de vivre en plein air  
De pêcher des heures sur la grande mer  
A poigner du homard, du hareng, pis  
giguer du maqu'reau.  
Salut C.B. Buddie, hallo Honkey Turkey  
J'su "tired" de m'ouère promener sur les  
highways.  
Ten four there Teddy Bear  
Right on rolling vagabond,  
J'su tired de m'ouère promener su les  
highways.

Now if to this inelegant verse you add a musical arrangement that is a mix of rock, blue grass and folk, you have an effect that will stay with you for a long time. It's powerful, honest. But it's not easy to categorize. It is the kind of arrangement that prompted a perplexed music critic in Edmonton a few months ago to describe 1755 music as Rock and Reel. The group liked that...

The group's ability to clearly reflect Acadian patois and attitudes is what sets it apart strikingly from other Acadian groups. And while it is undoubtedly the quality that won it le Palm d'Or, it is also the one that perturbed earlier listeners.

Acadians have traditionally felt uncomfortable about their language which most often, is a mixture of English and French. Most Québécois will tell you Acadians speak nothing but "shiak", that many of them cannot be understood.

And Quebec-trained priests working in Acadian communities continually mirror their disapproval over what to them is censurable French; although to be fair there are a few who value such things as honest accounts of the events of people.

The lyrics in the song U.I.C. is certainly one such honest account. "On est pas Québécois" says the song. "On fume pis on boit" - it adds shamelessly, "Pis nous autres ça nous dérange pas." It's the sort of frankness Acadians will joke about among themselves, but hardly the kind of statement one would want to make public.

"Vie de Fou" comments on Acadians living in the big city. It's a depressing account that toward the end hints at hopelessness. "La tivi vague" (certainly no Québécois would understand this) "Personne l'écoute" meaning the television howls, no one listens. Then, "On décolle pour la taverne, on décolle pis on rests pris!"

"Confession", by Pierre Robichaud, admits that young Acadian males, and I suppose females, "do it" in the back seats of cars, derriere la maison, et en haut de la grange. At least, that's where it starts. But there is a suggestion that those of the cloth who embody godliness and who rant and rave about this are not quite lily-white themselves...

But it is all said in good fun. "Stompez les pieds" they insist, "On sommes icitte pour le fun". And they do have fun. So there's no effort on the group's part to pontificate. No one talks down at you. There are no strong political statements intended. The songs are simply everyday accounts of Acadians, told in everyday language, embellished with rich "rock and reel" sounds that leave some of us transfixed, wondering by what magic they've been able to pull all of this off.

Try them. Look for their records at any record shop. Ask for '1755' (Presqu'île PE 7512) and 'Vivre a la Baie' (Presqu'île PE 7519). And stompez votre pieds!

## Cataloguing in publication program for Nova Scotia government publications

The Nova Scotia Legislative Library, with the co-operation of the Information Division of the Nova Scotia Department of Government Services, has undertaken a pilot project to implement the Canadian Cataloguing in Publication (CIP) Program for Nova Scotia government publications.

Coordinated by the National Library of Canada, the Canadian CIP Program now covers a majority of the trade publications in Canada and the government publications of British Columbia. With the addition of the Nova Scotia Legislative Library as an agent library, Nova Scotia will be the second provincial government to add its publications to the CIP Program.

The purpose of the CIP Program is to provide cataloguing information to be printed on selected government publications, thereby allowing libraries to catalogue and process these items more quickly and accurately. This feature also guarantees the inclusion of these publications in Canadiana and ensures that information about newly published Nova Scotia Government titles be made more readily available to the Canadian book trade and library community.

The role of the Legislative Library is to supply pre-cataloguing information to the government publisher, based on galley proofs submitted prior to publication. Beginning November 1980, non-serial publications handled through the Information Division of the Department of

Government Services will be receiving CIP. Excluded from the CIP Program are serial publications, confidential reports, internal documents, brochures, press releases and promotional materials.

Additional assistance is being provided by the Nova Scotia Provincial Library in the form of cataloguing support and advice.

For the present, the Nova Scotia Government involvement with the Canadian CIP Program is as a pilot project only. The success of the project will determine whether a permanent program can be feasibly undertaken.

Questions or comments about the Program may be directed to:

Ilga Leja  
Assistant Librarian  
Nova Scotia Legislative Library  
P.O. Box 396  
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2P8.  
Telephone: 424-5932

## Nova Scotia

### Historical Quarterly

The Public Archives has assumed the management and editorial responsibility for the Nova Scotia Historical Quarterly.

With this change in management also come other changes, namely that the Quarterly will be published twice yearly and the name will be changed to Nova Scotia Historical Review (the subscription rate is reduced to \$7.50 per annum).

All correspondence should be addressed to: B.C. Cuthbertson, Nova Scotia Historical Review, Public Archives of Nova Scotia, 6016 University Ave., Halifax, N.S. B3H 9Z9.

For the Review to be a success, the number of subscriptions must be doubled.

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# Documents Update

Since vacuum land has not produced any response to our 'documents update' column, we have decided to continue it. Again my thanks to Ilga Leja for her contributions. (Ed.)

## GENERAL

Atlantic Lottery Corporation.

Annual report for fiscal year 1979-80. Moncton, 1980. 16 p. - issued also in French - P.O. Box 5500, 860 Main St., Moncton, N.B. E1C 8W6.

## NEW BRUNSWICK

Chaleur Regional Industrial Commission Inc.

Industrial directory for the Chaleur region (Bathurst and region) - Répertoire des industries de la région Chaleur (Bathurst et environs). Bathurst, 1980. 62 p. - P.O. Box 640, 435 King Avenue, Bathurst, N.B. E2A 1P6.

Kent Industrial Commission Inc.

Industrial directory for the Kent County region... - Répertoire des industries de la région du comté de Kent... Bouctouche, 1980. 52 p. - P.O. Box 490, Bouctouche, N.B. E0A 1G0.

N.B. Dept. of Education.

School directory, school year 1980-81 - Répertoire des écoles, année scolaire, 1980-81. 1980. 1 v. (unp.)

N.B. Dept. of Municipal Affairs. Community Planning Branch. Village plans for Minto, Quispamsis, St. Stephen, Doaktown, Saint Hilaire and Nackawic.

N.B. Workmen's Compensation Board.

Employees' handbook on workmen's compensation - Guide de l'employé sur la loi des accidents du travail. 7th ed. Saint John, 1978. 16, 16 p. - write c-o WCB, P.O. Box 160, Saint John, N.B. E2L 3X9.

Restigouche Development Corporation Inc.

1980 industrial directory for the Restigouche region. Campbellton, 1980. 32, (8) 1. - P.O. Box 825, Campbellton, N.B. E3N 3H3.

## NEWFOUNDLAND

Newfoundland.

Managing All Our Resources: a Development Plan for Newfoundland and Labrador, 1980-85. St. John's, 1980. Nfld. Dept. of Fisheries.

- in honour of 'Newfoundland Seafood Days', the Dept. has issued a number of colourful booklets featuring seafood recipes: Best Seafood Recipes of Newfoundland and Labrador; Favorite Newfoundland Seafood Recipes; Traditional Seafood Recipes of Newfoundland and Labrador. Nfld. Petroleum Directorate.

Economic Analysis of the Hibernia Development. St. John's, 1980. 53 1. - promised as the first in a series of publications on the petroleum resources of the province.

## NOVA SCOTIA

N.S. Consumer Services Bureau.

Who are we, what do we do. Halifax, 1980. 6 p.

N.S. Dept. of Development. Economic Analysis Section.

Nova Scotia economic review, 1980. Vol. 1, no. 1 - August - Halifax, 1980. ISSN 0225-560X.

----- Statistical Services Branch.

Halifax metro area fact book. 3d ed. Halifax, 1980. 73 p. ill. Cost. \$1.85.

N.S. Dept. of Labour and Manpower. Research Division.

Labour organizations in Nova Scotia, 1980. Halifax, 1980. 176 p. ill.

----- Labour Research Division.

Selected labour statistics for Nova Scotia, 1979. Halifax, 1980. 48 p. ill. N.S. Dept. of Mines and Energy.

Minor and trace element variations in

Wisconsinian tills, eastern shore region, Nova Scotia, by R.R. Stea and J.H. Fowler. Halifax, 1979. 30 p. ill. (Paper, 79-4).

## PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Greater Summerside Chamber of Commerce.

Federal Service Directory. Summerside, 1980. 67 p. Cost: \$3.00.

P.E.I. Dept. of Health and Social Services.

Inventory of Health Manpower by Marilyn Bell. Charlottetown, 1980. 47 1.

P.E.I. Dept. of Tourism, Industry and Energy.

Tourism Plant Analysis Study. Charlottetown, 1980. xiv 1. P.E.I. Highway Safety Div.

Winter Tires for Winter Driving. Charlottetown, 1980. Brochure.

P.E.I. Information Service.

Government of P.E.I. Quick Reference Guide. Charlottetown, 1980. - one page poster listing of P.E.I. government departments and senior officials.

# Publications Noted

The APPSA Papers - Etudes de l'AEPPA. Vol. 2, no. 1, Fall, 1980. Fredericton: APPSA, 1980. 90 1. (Chairman, Editorial Board, Atlantic Provinces Political Studies Assoc. (APPSA), c-o Dept. of Political Science, University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, N.B. E3B 5A3). Cost: \$3.50. Note: Vol. 1, no. 1, Spring, 1978 (the only other issue) is still available, cost: \$1.00.

The Aged in Society, edited by Dermont Stewart. Saint John, N.B.: UNBSJ, 1979. 81 p. (Social Science Monograph Series, vol. 3, Spring, 1979) ISSN 0381-5714; ISBN 0-920114-03-2 (Division of Social Science, University of New Brunswick at Saint John, Saint John, N.B. E2L 4L5) Cost: \$5.00.

Issues in Regional - Urban Development of Atlantic Canada, edited by Neil B. Ridler. Saint John, N.B. UNBSJ, 1978. 136 p. (Social Science Monograph Series, vol. 2, Spring, 1978) ISSN 0381-5714; ISBN 0-920114-03-2 (Division of Social Science, University of New Brunswick at Saint John, Saint John, N.B. E2L 4L5) Cost: \$5.00.

The Labour Companion; a Bibliography of Canadian Labour History Based on

Materials Printed from 1950 to 1975, compiled by G. Douglas Vaisey... Halifax: Committee on Labour History, 1980. 126 p. (Committee on Labour History, Dept. of History, Dalhousie University, Halifax, N.S. B3H 3J5).

Papers of the Bibliographical Society of Canada - Cahiers de la Société bibliographique du Canada. No. 18, 1979. Toronto: BSC, 1980. 126 p. ISSN 0067-6896 Membership: \$20.00, individual; \$30.00, institutional.

Poland: Commentary and Text of Gdansk Agreement, 1980. New York: Helsinki Watch, 1980. (U.S. Helsinki Watch Committee, 205 E. 42nd St., N.Y. N.Y. 10017) Cost: \$5.00.

Towards a Better Understanding of the Consumer Price Index (by) M.C. McCracken, E. Ruddick. Ottawa: Dept. of Supply and Services, 1980. 32 p. ISBN 0-660-10670-1 (Canadian Government Printing Centre, Hull, Quebec K1A 0S9) Price: Canada, \$3.50; other countries, \$4.20.

Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow; the Canadian Law Information Council - Conseil Canadien de la documentation juridique, 1978-1980. Ottawa: CLIC, 1980. 32 p. Free. - issued also in French.

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# From page 38

## UTLAS-SERVICES

UTLAS makes available an on-line shared cataloguing system and a union catalogue for current cataloguing. A Batch CATSS system facilitates retrospective conversion services. An on-line authority file linked to the bibliographic record and an on-line retrieval facility for inter-library loan searching called REF CATSS is also available.

Libraries enter into contractual agreements directly with UTLAS. Once the contracts are finalized it usually takes about 2-3 months before telephone lines are installed and the system is operative.

Presently UTLAS employs close to 100 people to run the system and plan for future growth.

The system is available 14 hours each working day and plans are underway to expand the services on Saturdays as well.

Let us examine these services in some detail.

## ON-LINE SHARED CATALOGUING

This allows the libraries, via a cathode ray tube-terminal, (CRT) to ask the central computer (data base) if it has a specific record which the library is seeking.

Let us assume that a library knows the LC card number of a particular book to be catalogued. Using the correct inquiry terms, the search instructions are entered and a few seconds later the computer system returns the information to the library's CRT display screen. The operator of the terminal may then carry out a variety of tasks. A copy of the record display on the screen may be printed if a printer is attached to the terminal. Cataloguers may then review the copy for correctness of information and make any desired changes to the data to conform to local call numbers and other cataloguing standards. The operator may add any information with respect to library's holdings and generate necessary products.

In the event that the required record is not available through the data base, the item may be set aside for a time awaiting either LC copy or another library's entry. The system can be asked to check this record automatically after 3-4 weeks. This procedure is called 'cycling' a record. If the record is still not available it may be input as original cataloguing.

In order to make use of another library's records some cataloguing standards must be maintained. Usually libraries tend to conform with LC's practice. UTLAS emphasizes that such standards be adhered to. Continuous inputting of erroneous data may lead to blocking a library's access to the data base.

## BATCH CATSS

UTLAS offers a batch cataloguing system primarily for retrospective conversion. Using an optical character recognition (OCR) typing element on a selectric typewriter, the library types search key information (e.g. LC card no., ISBN, ISSN, etc.) on forms provided by UTLAS. A machine then reads these forms and the information is converted to magnetic tape for batch input to the CATSS system. Matched records are added to library's own data base. The remaining unmatched records may have to be fully coded as original records and may be input using OCR or the work may be catalogued on-line. Approximate charges for retrospective conversion are about one dollar per record.

## ON-LINE AUTHORITY FILES

UTLAS allows the access points (e.g. names, subjects, series, etc.) to be managed independently of the bibliographic record in which they belong. This is achieved by removing them from bibliographic files and storing them in separate authority files with linkages being kept between the two files. So when the access point changes for some reason (e.g. Toronto University changed to University of Toronto) it then only needs to be changed once in the authority record thus causing conversion of that name in every bibliographic record which is linked to it.

Authority records can automatically create 'see' and 'see also' references as well as history notes and products generated from files linked to the authority records.

Source authority files currently available are:

- LC name authority file.
- Laval subject heading file.
- National Library of Canada name authority file.
- Library of Congress Subject Heading tape up to 1978.

A group of UTLAS users have joined together to maintain and create a single authority file. The SHARAF (Shared Authority Files) group meets periodically to set standards and discuss mutual concerns. 4

## ON-LINE ACQUISITION

UTLAS produces on-order and claim lists which can be sent to vendors. A full on-line acquisitions module capable of interacting with the CATSS system is under design.

## INTER-LIBRARY LOAN

Ohio College Library Center (OCLC) is the only on-line utility now offering this service to its users in the United States. UTLAS is working to develop this capacity so that terminal to terminal switching and communication is possible.

## CIRCULATION CONTROL

UTLAS is in the process of developing this module and offers the package to be run via mini-computers or via direct link with the central facility at reasonable cost. Serials control and check-in will also be a part of the acquisitions package when fully developed.

## PRODUCTS

- UTLAS offers:
- Accession lists.
  - Book cards, pocket and spine labels.
  - Book form and COM catalogues.
  - Catalogue cards.
  - Cataloguer's worksheets.
  - Special bibliographies.
  - Standing search requests. These allow libraries to enter a standing search request into a file which is periodically run against the data base in anticipation of a record being added to the data base by MARC or as original input by other libraries. After a designated period of time the search request is terminated.
  - Magnetic tapes. Libraries may obtain copy of their records on tape which may be used to generate COM products or print various other lists. All necessary software to produce any products from the tape are the individual library's responsibility or can be given to a vendor who may handle it.

## COMMUNICATION ACCESS MODES

Without going into too many technical details it would suffice to state that access to the on-line UTLAS is available via a dedicated telephone line (i.e. Data Route, TYMNET) based on a monthly fee. A simple terminal is required for hook up. Response time for an inquiry is about 5 seconds.

## SIZE OF DATA BASE

UTLAS is the second largest data base in North America (OCLC is number one). The following source files are available:

- Complete copy (1968-) of LC MARC (Monographs and Serials).
- CAN MARC monographs and serials.
- All CONSER (Conversion of Serials Project) records that have been authenticated by LC and the National Library of Canada.
- LC films.
- National Library of Medicine records.
- Fichier MARC Quebecois (FMQ) data base.

UTLAS hit rate (i.e. finding an item in the data base) is about 75 per cent on the average for all types and sizes of libraries.

## ACCESS POINTS

- The data may be searched via:
- System's ID number.
  - LC card number.
  - ISBN, ISSN.

- Author (Main entry and added entries)
- Title (May include PRECIS strings at user's discretion)
- Series title.
- Corporate body, conference name (main and added entries)
- Library accession number.

## RELIABILITY

UTLAS is continuously updating its hardware and it has recently acquired one of the most sophisticated computers and other hardware. Satisfaction with the data base may be subject to adherence of members to maintain high standards.

## TRAINING

UTLAS provides good training prior to system set up, and user's exchange meetings are held periodically to discuss mutual problems.

## DOBIS

In 1976, the Government of Canada acquired the rights to use and distribute the software of the University of Dortmund's Bibliothekssystem (DOBIS). The system was purchased to support services provided by federal libraries, and to improve the union catalogue services, inter-library loan services, and the production of Canadiana and CAN-MARC. The government also envisaged that DOBIS would "help in the realization of an automated Canadian library network". 5 The system was modified to meet Canadian requirements and is now being used in the National Library, the Library of Parliament, the Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information, the Finance Treasury Board Library, the Public Service Commission Library, and the Atomic Energy Control Board Library. Other federal libraries will begin to use the system in 1981.

In 1978, IBM acquired rights to market the DOBIS cataloguing and searching modules and in 1979 obtained from the

University of Leuven rights to market the Leuven Library System (LIBIS), an acquisitions, circulation, and batch report system. The College Bibliocentre is using a version of DOBIS similar to the IBM package, and Ryerson Polytechnical Institute is using the circulation module.

## GOC-DOBIS

The Government of Canada version of DOBIS provides searching, union catalogue, and cataloguing functions. Authority control is an integral part of the structure. In addition, GOC-DOBIS is acquiring the LIBIS acquisitions, circulation, and serials control modules and they are expected to be operational in 1981. Purchase of the system would include these and any other future developments.

The GOC-DOBIS staff consists of more than thirty people who would assist in setting up the system. Installation would take about one year.

## SEARCHING

The data base can be searched by name; permuted title (i.e. by the first word and all key words); subject; permuted corporate and conference entries; Library of Congress number; Canadiana number; ISBN; ISSN; call number; document number; and other control numbers. The system does not presently allow boolean searching (using more than one term joined by "and", "or", or "not"), but this is being developed. Information in the data base can be accessed as soon as it has been added. Dialogue can be in English or French. DOBIS is called "user-friendly" because the user is presented with a list or "menu" of possible responses. To save time, the more experienced user can "chain-command", or give responses without having the menu displayed. The system displays a page, or screen, in the time it takes one character to appear.

Cont'd on page 47

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## From page 46

Because the system's files are integrated, the user can access the source data base and the institution's own data base simultaneously.

### CATALOGUING

The cataloguing function consists of four steps: searching the data base; input of data other than points of access; adding access points not already in the data base and attaching existing access points to the record; and adding links between records (e.g. series entries). The function also includes catalogue maintenance, which allows the user to add or delete information to existing records.

### UNION CATALOGUE

To accommodate the needs of the union catalogue, the system was modified to facilitate the addition of holdings information from any number of on-line users or reporting libraries. Inter-library loan users are now provided with access to new entries sooner than was possible with the manual system. The addition of CONSER (Conversion of Serials) records to the data base made possible the regular publication and updating of union lists of serials.

The National Library is working at developing communication between DOBIS and other computer systems to facilitate the direct reporting of holdings, searching for locations, and other functions. This facility would be "an important element in the development of national and international library and information networks". 7

### AUTHORITY FILE

Authority headings are entered once and are linked to records associated to the heading. The heading is not repeated in each record, so changes to authority headings are easily effected. At present, CAN MARC and LC MARC authority records cannot be utilized, but the GOC-DOBIS staff is developing loading and maintenance programmes that should be functional in 1981. They are planning to load the LC name and subject authority files, the National Library name authority file, Canadian Subject Headings, and the Laval subject heading file.

### DATA BASE

A conversion programme is required in order to load MARC bibliographical records on the system. The Government's data base may, however, be available for purchasing along with the software package. 6 As of October 1, 1980, this data base included 1,400,000 records, which included 1,100,000 LC MARC records, 128,000 CAN MARC records, 90,000 CONSER records, and 82,000 records created by on-line users. UK and French MARC tapes will be loaded in the future, and other source files are being investigated as possible additions to the data base.

Because the system eliminates redundancy of data, records are not duplicated for different library functions or for individual libraries. Local files that cannot be accessed by other libraries can be established for local data. Security is provided by codes that are assigned each user to tell the system what functions they are allowed to perform. A verification code has been established to accommodate varying standards of quality and levels of completeness.

### PRODUCTS

A conversion programme is necessary to produce records in MARC format. The system currently produces machine-readable tapes, micro-fiche catalogues, printed lists and catalogue cards.

### DOBIS-LIBIS

The IBM package, DOBIS-LIBIS, includes cataloguing and searching functions, as well as the LIBIS acquisitions, circulation, and report generating functions. IBM is providing support for the system until 1982. 8 Installation would take about one year.

The searching and cataloguing functions are similar to those of GOC-DOBIS. Because the system has an operational

acquisitions mode, however, the user also has access to order records as soon as the orders have been placed. Access to the data base is by permuted title, name, subject, call number, published, user name, vendor, account, LC number, ISBN, ISSN, and other numbers. The file structure is also similar to that of GOC-DOBIS with a similar security code. In addition, the system is able to control which terminals can be used for which functions.

### ACQUISITIONS

The acquisitions package maintains all order records on-line. It produces current information on commitments, expenditures, and balances. It automatically converts currency and claims outstanding orders. The system will also maintain bindery records. Products include purchase orders, lists, claims, and form letters.

### CIRCULATION

The circulation system uses a bar code and an optical scanner. It will automatically provide notification that a book returned has been reserved and will check the borrower's right to sign out books. Overdues are produced automatically. Information can be provided on who has a title, which books are used by which patrons, when books are due, who owes the library and how much. The system facilitates inter-library loans, recording requests on-line, the receipt of the book, the circulation, renewal, check-in, and return; and then removing the record.

### COST

No attempt is made here to give precise cost figures for either of the two systems. A general framework for cost analysis is noted here. Obviously, the cost would depend upon the extent of use of data base and the requirement for products.

#### I. Non recurring costs

1. File set up and training.
2. Installation of communication equipment (e.g. terminals, printers, etc.)

#### II. Communication costs

1. Rental of communications equipment.
2. Telephone and port charges (Data Route)

#### III. On-line services

Connect time charges.

#### IV. Searching, displaying and deriving catalogue

Records from the data base.

#### V. Record Processing

#### VI. Data storage, security and maintenance.

#### VII. Products (e.g. tape, lists, catalogue cards, COM, book catalogues, etc.)

UTLAS has a price structure based on 'connect time' or products delivered. Some feel that this is a cost effective way of pricing the services rendered. Others maintain that it is unpredictable and complicates a library's budget preparations. DOBIS costs, on the other hand, are not necessarily aligned to connect time, since a screen can be viewed for any length of time. DOBIS costs also involve additional software development costs, e.g. system expertise and programming support to load the source files and to make necessary adjustments to meet local needs.

### CONCLUSION

On-line systems are designed to facilitate networking and resource sharing. This should encourage smaller libraries which do not have substantial acquisitions to participate in a consortium or cooperative ventures in order to reduce their operating costs. This type of arrangement not only allows small school, special or public libraries access to a large data base but also expedites their cataloguing operations and enables improved and effective services to their patrons.

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## BEIRS — Baseline Environmental Information Retrieval System

By PETER B. EATON

Environment Canada has a new information service called BEIRS which was introduced to the public and other governmental agencies at a National Workshop "Offshore Environment in the 80s" held in St. John's, Newfoundland in early December. BEIRS (Baseline Environmental Information Retrieval System) is a concept developing out of the Department's Baseline Studies Program, a program which has as its main focus the review and expansion of existing baseline environmental information and data. Baseline studies can be broadly defined as those investigations which provide an understanding of environmental systems and data describing the present state of the environment. Baseline information is required to predict the impact that a particular development will have on the environment, to judge the significance of the predicted impacts, and to prescribe measures to reduce undesirable impacts. Because of the widespread need for baseline environmental information amongst various government and public agencies, Environment Canada has started compiling references involving baseline research and data, and is making these references available through WATDOC, the computerized reference system operated by the Inland Waters Directorate through Q.L. Systems. These baseline references will be identified with BEIRS and will be stored in the Canadian Environment database of WATDOC.

The first major effort of BEIRS has been to cover documents dealing with the offshore environment and energy exploration, and to concentrate particularly on hard-to-get documents such as consultants reports, internal government reports and other unpublished documents. A large backlog of documents has been abstracted and a number have already been placed on-line by Q.L. Systems. Most of the on-line documents presently deal with the east coast and eastern Arctic areas, however, this is a national program

and is being expanded to include the west coast and relevant international documents. Unpublished or one-of-a-kind documents identified by BEIRS are being copied or placed on microfiche and will be available on interlibrary loan from the Environment Canada Library in Ottawa. One exception will be documents published by the petroleum industry in which case copies must be obtained through the individual company involved.

A unique feature of BEIRS will be the ability of users to search documents using geographical co-ordinates, for example, documents dealing with the Gulf of St. Lawrence would also be coded for geographical location, i.e. 47-00N, 50-00N - 60-00W, 64-00W. Any search using co-ordinates within that region would retrieve those documents coded for the Gulf.

It is anticipated that this database will be particularly useful to governmental and industrial agencies involved in preparing or assessing environmental impact studies or in developing impact strategies. The text searching capability, full abstract and keyword display, and geological co-ordinate location capability of this WATDOC system makes this facility quite versatile and easy to use by anyone with a computer terminal or portable telephone hookup. There is no expectation that this system will become a totally comprehensive authority on baseline data, however, many of the documents contained herein will not be retrieved by other systems that concentrate only on published data.

## Amtmann Circle

Founded on 14 May 1979, by the Antiquarian Booksellers Association of Canada, the objective of the Circle is to commemorate Bernard Amtmann's name by sponsoring scholarly projects in the fields of his interest—bibliography, Canadian history, bookselling and book-collecting.

The Circle's first publication will be on Bernard Amtmann, a short biography. A newsletter is planned with Robert Stacey as editor. A series of talks is also being considered.

There are three categories of membership: Endowing Members who contribute over \$500., Founding Members who contribute \$200-499., and Sustaining Members who pay a yearly fee of \$25.

Further information may be obtained by writing to John Mappin, 598 Argyle Ave., Montreal, Quebec H3Y 3B7.

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# Book Review

**THE CANADIAN SCHOOL-HOUSED LIBRARY**, edited by L.J. Amey. Halifax, Nova Scotia: Dalhousie School of Library Science, 1979. 488 p. (Occasional paper, no. 24) \$8.00.

By CLAUDE POTVIN

About ten years ago while working on a paper at McGill University, I had the opportunity to dig into the literature pertaining to the concept of a school-housed public library. There was at that time a general consensus that this was an unworkable concept for many reasons which do not need to be repeated.

It was with interest, therefore, that I began to read the voluminous document (488 pages) by Professor L.J. Amey on the Canadian experience in this field. I was expecting to see this concept totally buried, but new experiences have been started, new failures have been brought to light, the same arguments for and against repeated ad nauseum, the same sensitivity shown by most respondents.

In the year 2000, there will still be school-housed public libraries; the arguments for the opponents and defenders of the concept will be the same.

Why? There will always be someone somewhere who believes she/he has the complete answer, the enthusiasm and the dynamism to make the concept entirely workable, not only from a school point of view but also from a public point of view. There will still be politicians forcing this type of concept on librarians. There will always be someone who will try to protect her/his pride by claiming, without qualifying, that in her/his case the concept is great and definitely working.

Professor Amey has rendered a great service to the Canadian profession by dealing with this subject. Now we do not need to refer to American experiences. In the same document, we have everything-we-wanted-to-know-about-the-Canadian-situation-but-were-afraid-to-search-for: The Coquitlam experience, after having been brandished as the ultimate positive experience, has failed; the Province of Quebec and the Province of

Newfoundland have a strong stand on the issue; the Province of Alberta is reviewing the concept because it gives "neither school nor public library service" in most situations; the Province of New Brunswick will "less likely than formerly" approve joint ventures (to add to Mrs. Katherine LeButt's report, it is important to point out that the report of the task force on school libraries in New Brunswick (1977) considered the concept of the amalgamated public-school library and "rejected this system as a general solution to the problems of school library development, especially as the needs of each clientele are so diverse."); in Saskatchewan, combined services are regarded as unacceptable, even if 16 school-housed public libraries are operating more or less effectively; on the whole, the number of supposedly-working mergers is so minimal that they only prove to be the exceptions to the rule.

The debate is still open and will remain so for many decades. We do not seem to learn, but sometimes the doors must remain open, even if only one piece of paper can get through, because we, as librarians, are not the ones to make a final decision. Mrs. LeButt (p. 74) expresses it well: "If the local public library board, the local school board and the municipality are all in favor, it would be unlikely the regional library board would veto such a request." But if, while discussions take place on the issue, we list as objectively as possible the pros and cons of such a merged system, it is highly improbable that the concept will get through. Over the last five years in our region, we had to discuss this concept many times in communities looking for expanded or new libraries; every time, the people who had to make the final decision could not help but reject the concept. It is our duty as librarians, therefore, to list the advantages and disadvantages and to let the political appointees make a decision. Common sense will normally prevail. There is enough literature on the subject to help us, and Professor Amey's work is an invaluable tool in this regard.



By M. EDEL TONER

The blurb on the back cover outlines the information to be found in *The Canadian School-Housed Public Library*. It can best be described as a collection of reports which give the history of school-housed public libraries, an outline of the legislation encouraging or discouraging such arrangements, detailed descriptions of important examples and an indication of the direction now being followed, for each of the ten provinces and two territories of Canada. Floor plans and photographs of joint facilities in operation, maps showing the location of each school-housed public library by province and territory, and special reports from librarians, teachers, library boards, school boards, and provincial authorities involved with school-housed public libraries are included, as are sample agreements drawn up between library boards and school boards to govern the operation of joint facilities. Also included is a directory of Canadian school-housed public libraries giving information on size, location, size of school and community, type of school, hours of operation, and nature of governing body. There is an extensive bibliography with special emphasis on material describing the Canadian experience to date in order to help those who

are planning a joint facility or those who are attempting to decide whether or not such a facility is a viable option for their community. It is in this regard that the book falls short. While the experiences of the provinces and the territories are extensively described, no attempt is made to pull all the material together to describe "the Canadian experience". The report is very careful to avoid drawing any conclusions about school-housed public libraries in Canada. It avoids making any type of statement that might be construed as being controversial by making no statement at all.

As a person who works in a school-housed public library I am disappointed with *The Canadian School-Housed Public Library*. I want to know what the Canadian consensus is. Can a library situated in a school effectively serve both the students and the general public? (a question the blurb asks!) If you examine the reports province by province the answer would seem to be, in general "no", yet joint facilities continue to be built. School-housed public libraries are here to stay in Canada. I am looking for a philosophy to work within. I'm looking for practical suggestions to help solve certain problems specific to joint facilities. *The Canadian School-Housed Public Library* is good as far as it goes but it doesn't go far enough.

## Library History a call for papers

The Library History Interest Group of the Canadian Library Association is planning to hold a one day symposium on Canadian library history at the Association's Annual Conference in Hamilton, Ontario, June 1981.

Selected papers may be published in a theme issue of the *Canadian Library Journal* dealing with library history.

Papers are solicited which fit any one of the following categories of Canadian library history:

1. Overviews and syntheses.
2. Studies of particular institutions or developments, which provide generalizable interpretations or else serve as case studies.
3. Methodological studies which look at various aspects of research in library history.

It is anticipated that papers will probably be based upon work done during the course of a personal, funded, or degree research project. Papers should not have been published elsewhere. They should also be fully documented and be accompanied by photographs where appropriate.

Deadlines: February 1, 1981 - outlines or drafts. May 15, 1981 - completed papers.

For further information or submission of outlines, drafts, and papers please contact: Peter F. McNally, Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Library Science, McGill University, 3459 McTavish St., Montreal, Quebec H3A 1Y1. Telephone: (514)-392-5930.

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## From page 37

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