

LIBRARIANS URGE DAL TO SAVE LIBRARY SCHOOL

IN a statement issued on September 22, President Howard Clark of Dalhousie University outlined recommendations of the Budget Advisory Committee that would in effect close the University's departments of Music, Theatre and Costume Studies, Public Administration, and Library and Information Studies, because of an expected budget shortfall within the next few years.

It was proposed that the School of Library and Information Studies be closed as an independent unit, and its expertise and resources in information management integrated with those of the School of Business Administration.

While these recommendations are proposals only, a decision on them will be made in the spring of 1994. In response to this announcement,

professional librarians challenged the logic of Dalhousie University's announced plan to close its library school during a packed emergency meeting held at the Halifax City Regional Library on September 29.

Organized by the alumni of the Dalhousie School of Library and Information Studies, the two-hour meeting provided a forum for about 100 participants to express their anger over the proposed closing and provided an opportunity to organize further opposition.

Speaker after speaker called Dalhousie's plan both irrational and short-sighted, given both the unique nature of the school (the only library school in Atlantic Canada) and the key role librarians play as navigators in the information economy.

"Dalhousie is obviously out of touch with the Provincial

Government's direction reflected in the Speech From the Throne," said Provincial Librarian Marion Pape. "It identified public libraries as a key delivery point for the government's commitment to make information more accessible. This commitment needs to be reflected in the educational opportunities available in the region. Dalhousie's School of Library and Information Studies offers one of those unique opportunities."

Participants questioned how Dalhousie could claim to pursue its goal of being a centre of excellence and a national university while cutting an important school critical to the future of Atlantic Canada's economic and cultural life.

"Librarians are important

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WINNING ENTRY ANNOUNCED FOR "NAME THE SYSTEM" CONTEST

"NcompasS" is the winning name in the Nova Scotia Provincial Library's *Name The System Contest*. Bryan Savege of Shelburne submitted the winning entry in the province-wide contest to name the Provincial Library's new automated system.

The announcement was made by Education Minister John MacEachern at a reception during the joint conference of the Nova Scotia Library Association and the Library Boards Association of Nova Scotia.

"Compass conjured up both Nova Scotia's nautical tradition, and the ability to go in any direction," explained Mr. Savege. "The word 'encompass' suggests pointing in the right direction and charting the course." "NcompasS" will appear on the computer screens to welcome patrons as they begin a search on the Regional Library database, once the system is installed.

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SPRINKLER SYSTEM FAILURE AT MEMORIAL

Damages 22,000 volumes

THE Queen Elizabeth II Library at Memorial University was hit with three sprinkler head failures over the summer, resulting in the wetting of approximately 22,000 volumes. Approximately 18,500 were cleaned and air-dried successfully, while 3,500 volumes were moved to freezing facilities in the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Sciences. The 18,500 damp volumes were restored to general circulation within three weeks. The books in the freezing facility were to stay there at least three months.

The first sprinkler head failed on June 10, 1993 at approximately

2:15 a.m. above the bound journal collection. Approximately 5,000 volumes were wetted, 2,600 badly enough to require freezing. Many of the journals receiving heavy wetting were printed on coated paper. The second failure occurred June 19, 1993 at approximately 3:00 p.m. Around 17,000 volumes were affected, with about 1,500 requiring treatment other than cleaning and air-drying. The second failure occurred over the English literature section of the monograph collection. Finally, a third failure occurred September 23, 1993 at 2:00 p.m. over a student lounge area, wetting

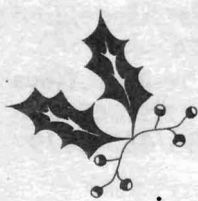
three lounging students, and a dozen computer terminals, but leaving the collection unscathed.

The clean-up process (now a standard procedure) involved four stages. In the first stage, cleaning crews addressed the problem of hundreds of gallons of water sitting on the floor, dripping through the floor, and generally getting in the way. Wet-Vacs were the order of the day for this period, combined with an attempt to drop the ambient temperature in order to combat the growth of mould. As soon as the standing water was removed,

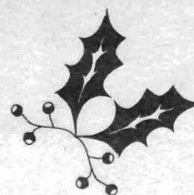
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Season's Greetings



From The Editors' Desk



"Into each life a little rain must fall" is a truism accepted by all without much thought. Your editors may be forgiven, however, for wondering why so many black rain clouds have been hovering over the production of the *Bulletin* for the past few months. Just when we thought we finally had our act together, the first glitch appeared on the horizon.

Your last issue (v. 5, #2) had already gone to press, in good time, when difficulties arose over the printing of the mailing labels. By the time this was straightened out by the Executive at their late September meeting, weeks had slipped by and still no mailout occurred. Our only comfort was that we felt we were in

good company when *Felicitier*, the publication of our national body, CLA, was equally late in appearing in its new format. Job ads submitted in good faith were past due by the time the issue was in members' hands. Sorry—that glitch was not something we could control, and we were equally upset that the issue was so long coming.

Glitch #2 occurred when our graphic designer notified us in July that he was accepting a fulltime position and would be unable to continue producing the *Bulletin*. He agreed to help us out by producing the first three issues, to give us time to find a new designer. However, as it turned out he was only able to

undertake the first two issues, so that we were suddenly left with not only editing material for issue #3 but also with finding someone to design it prior to printing.

This necessitated your editors coming down out of their ivory towers of academe at their busiest time, leaving this rural paradise and heading into the jungle of commerce, a.k.a. business Halifax, to interview prospective graphic designers. Like all ventures, that expedition proved to be a learning experience for us. We soon discovered the true cost of doing business in 1993 and realized that APLA had been fortunate over the years and that hard financial reality was setting in—along with Dr.

Savage's new Provincial Tax services. These facts will all have to be taken into account when the budget is drawn up.

We have now settled on Frontline Graphic Design with Bruce Hudson to produce our next issues. Thanks to Kathleen McConnell and Catherine MacKenzie of Ragland Editing Design for their services to APLA the past several years, and welcome aboard, Bruce.

We all join in sending greetings for Christmas and the New Year to everyone.

-Edith, Betty, and C

Publication Information

The *APLA Bulletin* is the official organ of the Atlantic Provinces Library Association. The Association seeks to promote library service in the provinces of New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, to serve the professional interests of librarians in the Region, 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.

Personal membership in the Association costs \$25 and includes a subscription to the *APLA Bulletin*. Institutional membership costs \$75. Institutions may subscribe to the *Bulletin* only for \$25. Single issues cost \$4.25. Subscriptions and claims for missing issues should be sent to the Treasurer of the Association. For more information write to the Atlantic Provinces Library Association, c/o The School of Library and Information Studies, Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS B3H 4H8.

The *APLA Bulletin* is published bi-monthly. Deadlines for submissions are February 15, April 15, June 15, August 15, October 15, December 15. Submissions, preferably in WordPerfect 5.1 format and accompanied by a 3.25" diskette, should be sent by mail to the Editor, Edith Haliburton, or the

Assistant Editor, Betty Jeffery, Acadia University Library, Wolfville, NS BOP 1X0; by Internet to HALIBURT@ADMIN.ACADIAU.CA or BJEFFERY@ADMIN.ACADIAU.CA; by Envoy to ILL.NSWA; by Fax to (902) 542-2128; by telephone (902) 542-2201 (Ext.1528 or 1403).

All correspondence regarding advertising should be sent by mail to the Advertising Editor, Chris Bull, Library, Kingstec Community College, Box 487, Kentville, NS B4N 3X3; by Internet to CBULL@FOX.NSTN.NS.CA; by Envoy to NSKKR.ILL; by Fax to (902) 679-1141; by telephone (902) 678-7341 (Ext. 43).

The *Bulletin* is indexed in *Library and Information Science Abstracts*, *Canadian Periodical Index*, and the *Canadian Magazine Index*, and is available online in the *Canadian Business and Current Affairs database*. Back volumes are available from University Microfilms, Ann Arbor, MI 48106.

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Librarians urge Dal

intermediaries in the new economy," said Susan McLean, Coordinator of Adult Lending Services at the Halifax City Regional Library. "Information needs are becoming much more complex, the resources broader. For Atlantic Canadians to compete in the information age they will require skilled librarians to make that information relevant and accessible."

School Director Mary Dykstra indicated a high percentage of placement among School graduates in school, special, corporate, and public libraries, in addition to other specialized information-based positions. More than three quarters of recent graduates have found work in their field despite the recession.

The closing of the School would mean that librarians would have to be hired from schools in other parts of Canada, denying Atlantic Canadians both educational and job opportunities in their own region.

"The potential lack of librarians educated in the region has chilling consequences for the cultural life of the community," said Ilga Leja, Director of Library Services at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design. "If librarians have to be solely recruited from other parts of Canada, how much knowledge of Atlantic

Canada's culture will they be able to bring to our libraries?"

Librarians criticized Dalhousie's lack of consideration of the Province's universities in its rationalization program. Dalhousie proposes cutting unique programs while maintaining programs duplicated by other Nova Scotia universities. Having the decision based solely on financial criteria, participants criticized Dalhousie for ignoring its responsibility to its taxpayers in establishing a program relevant to the needs of the Province.

The meeting expressed a sense of urgency in getting Dalhousie to reverse its plan, given the impact of the announcement on future enrolment at the school.

For more information on library developments, please contact:

- Marion L. Pape, President, Atlantic Provinces Library Association (APLA), 902-424-2457.
- Judy Dunn, Graduate Coordinator, Dalhousie School of Library and Information Studies, 902-494-2414.
- Martha Langille, Chairperson, Dalhousie School of Library and Information Studies Association of Alumni, 902-864-4414.
- Kevin Crick, Past President, Nova Scotia Library Association (NSLA), 902-421-6986/453-8511.

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From The President's Desk



By now, it is certainly not news that the Dalhousie School of Library and Information Studies is under serious threat of being dismantled. Mary Dykstra met with the APLA Executive at our September meeting to present the issues and to answer questions. An action plan was developed which incorporated letter writing from all the Atlantic Provinces and brainstorming ideas about how to maintain the School as an independent unit. The efforts of an ad hoc group of library workers, students, and associations spearheaded by the SLIS Alumni Association has gathered momentum with a letter writing campaign, petition, posters, visibility at conferences, and award ceremonies being held in the Halifax area. Threats to all of our cultural institutions, including libraries, are

being waged. Public sector services are particularly vulnerable. Now, more than ever, it is important that we have one unified professional voice in support of SLIS. The very foundations of our profession are being challenged by the Dalhousie University action. Once again, the decision makers seem to have no concept about what are the fundamental values in librarianship. It is so easy to take for granted the services that SLIS performs for APLA. The most recent is the APLA Listserv which is now operational.

In spite of this crisis, however, life goes on, and the Executive is involved in many new initiatives. These include: a process to communicate with other library associations in Atlantic Canada intended to improve our awareness of each other's activities and to ensure that

information is exchanged; the transfer of responsibilities for the APLA membership database from the Treasurer to the Vice President (Membership); the preparation and presentation of an Intellectual Freedom report outlining guidelines and priorities for the Committee (Stephen Field and Lynn Murphy are to be congratulated for their work—highlights of the report will be presented in a later issue of the *Bulletin*); the tabling of a draft report from the Special Committee on Communications to the Executive meeting (the committee members will now proceed to write Terms of Reference and a work plan for the process); and the approving of the holding of a joint conference with Maine Library Association in 1995 at St. Andrews, New Brunswick. This is an exciting venture which will bring

many more conference participants together on an international basis. Marilynn Rudi of the Biological Station Library of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans at St. Andrews will take charge of local arrangements. The Program Convener will be determined in the near future.

The Finance Committee is eager to receive applications for the General Activities Fund. Please see the notice in this issue and think about how the GAF might be used by your group. Also, for those first timers who would like to attend the 1994 Conference in Baddeck, see the First Timers Conference Grant notice in this issue. Deadlines for both are January 15, 1994.

-Marion L. Pape

Sprinkler system failure

• From Page 1...

dehumidifiers and fans were brought in to deal with the moisture remaining in carpets and air and to keep the air moving. During the first phase, books remained on the shelves where their close-packed condition inhibited absorption of water.

In the second stage, books were removed from the shelves and graded according to the extent of the wetting. In the first incident, we used a five grade scale, but in the second we moved to three grades: air dry, freeze lightly, freeze long and hard. During this stage, temperature and air movement were important and rapid transfer to either dry shelves for fanning, or to the freezer, was a goal.

The third phase included waiting (for air drying in some instances, and the freezing process in others) and clean-up. Cleaning included cleaning with specially treated sponges flown in from the United States, which contained not only cleaning agents, but also mould inhibitors.

The last phase involved a review of the dried materials to determine whether they needed to be replaced, rebound, or treated in some other manner before being re-shelved. This has not been completed for the

freezer-treated volumes. However, a review of the 1,400 monographs which were removed from the freezing facility during the week of October 4, 1993 indicated that 60% can be returned to the shelf without rebinding. The remaining 40% will be similarly split between re-binding and replacement, with the large portion requiring rebinding.

As these procedures were taking place with regard to the collection, an investigation of the causes of the head failures was underway. Systems like Memorial's are normally considered to have a 99.6% reliability factor for the first fifty years. An American insurance company estimates that head failure itself should occur once in 16,000,000 head-years of operation. At this time, the cause is still uncertain, although a plan is in place to remove a random sample of heads and send them to the U.S. for testing. It is likely, if the experience of other institutions with clusters of head failures is any guide, that all heads will eventually have to be replaced.

- Richard Ellis
Memorial University

Winning entry announced

• From Page 1...

Mr. Savage will receive an IBM PS/1 personal computer and dial-in connection and training on the Internet. In addition, Western Counties Regional Library will receive personalized technical training to make further use of the system. Mr. MacEachern thanked sponsors IBM, Nova Scotia Technology Network, Sobeco, Ernst & Young, and Software Kinetics for these generous prizes.

Over 1,600 entries were submitted to the Provincial Library, and ranged from the serious to the lighthearted. Judges were overwhelmed by the variety and quality of entries, and had a difficult time choosing the winning name. "We finally decided on this entry because of its uniqueness and Nova Scotia content," said Marion Pape, Provincial Librarian. "We felt that it was a wonderfully imaginative

name with strong visual potential."

Contest judges were Jane Buss, Writers' Federation of Nova Scotia, John Chesley, Industry and Science Canada, and Marion Pape. "We wanted the winning name to reflect the vision of the network, reflect Nova Scotia culture, and be easy to remember, unique, and fun," said the judges.

The new system will address both the needs of the Provincial Library to automate its internal procedures, and the need to provide access to the collective holdings of the eleven regional libraries in Nova Scotia. The system will produce a "library without walls", so that a library patron in Yarmouth may search the library holdings in Sydney, Amherst, Halifax, or any other public library in the Province.



CNIB LIBRARY ANNOUNCES CHANGES

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB) Library has developed a new Access and Lending Policy which defines the services provided to registered users and more than 450 agencies. The Policy comes after months of extensive consultation with CNIB clients, public libraries, departments of education, and CNIB divisions. The CNIB has held meetings across Canada to review the lending arrangements and address jurisdictional concerns between agencies. As the Library is a private, non-profit agency, supported by charitable donations, the Policy stipulates that agencies will be charged on a cost recovery basis for materials they borrow or purchase.

The Build & Borrow Plan is an innovative programme, established by the CNIB Library, which allows public libraries to quickly and easily improve service delivery to people who are blind, visually impaired, or

print impaired (this includes persons with a physical impairment or learning disability which prohibits them from reading or handling printed materials). With Build & Borrow, public libraries build their own collections of alternate format materials while taking full advantage of the CNIB Library's collections and expertise.

What's in Build & Borrow? Under the Plan, public libraries have access to more than 9,000 talking book titles and 6,000 braille titles, including best sellers in English from the recreational reading collection, PrintBraille books, children's picture books which have been specially adapted for the shared use of blind and sighted readers, tactile books, talking magazines, and one of the largest braille music collections in the world.

The public libraries' existing collections can also be made

accessible with Build & Borrow. The Plan provides for the transcription of printed documents into braille or tape.

The Build & Borrow Plan offers three packages—Gold, Silver, and Partnership. You choose the package which best suits your needs. The Silver Plan, for example, gives you 25 cassettes, one subscription to a talking magazine, and a PrintBraille title so that you can begin to build your own collection. The borrow component includes two six-month loans of one tactile book, one PrintBraille book, 10 audio titles from the Deposit Collections, five loans from the Recreational Collection, a talking book machine, and transcription of four print pages into braille or audio tape. Of particular interest for libraries with small budgets is the Partnership Plan. This plan allows you to share resources with four other libraries.

The components of the pack would be circulated to the part throughout the year.

Twenty-one public libraries have already entered into this unique partnership with the CNIB Library and the number is growing. Participating libraries say Build & Borrow has attracted patrons and added much needed material to their collections.

The Plan is open to small and medium-sized libraries across the country. For further information on the Build & Borrow Plan, or for copies of the new Access and Lending Policy, contact:

CNIB Library
1929 Bayview Ave.
Toronto, ON M4G 3G1
Phone: (416) 480-7500
Fax: (416) 480-7700

CAIS CONFERENCE HELD IN ANTIGONISH

The Canadian Association for Information Science (CAIS) held its annual conference at St. Francis Xavier University, July 12-14. The conference theme, "Information As A Global Commodity—Communication, Processing and Use", attracted participants from all areas of the information field: librarians, computer programmers, and information technology experts. The three days were filled with innovative ideas, new research findings, and the latest technology. The speakers, from Chile, Taiwan, Belgium, the United Kingdom, and the United States, shared the latest developments in their countries, ensuring a global perspective.

The morning of the first day was devoted to Information Technology in Less-Developed Countries, while the afternoon centred on Information Technology and Libraries. The second day included sessions on

Information Technology issues, Informatics, and a presentation by Mike Martineau of NovaKnowledge. On the final day, sessions concentrated on Information Retrieval. In between the formal sessions, the coffee breaks, library visits, lobster supper, and especially the late night beach party provided an informal setting for communication and gave all our visitors a little bit of Maritime flavour.

As a practicing librarian, I found the sessions refreshing and fascinating. Although some of the sessions were extremely complex, the Conference provided me with an opportunity to become familiar with some of the important research going on in this area and to begin to understand the impact that it may have on library systems.

-Wendy Duff
NS Provincial Library

GRANTS AWARDED TO ASSIST AUTHORS

Two Nova Scotian authors have been awarded grants by the Nova Scotia Department of Tourism and Culture through its "Assistance to Established Writers" program.

The twentieth competition was held on May 19, 1993. Panel members Susan Atkinson-Keen, Writers' Federation of Nova Scotia, Anna Fiander, Atlantic Provinces Library Association, Don Harper, Atlantic Provinces Booksellers Association, Catherine Lassaline, Atlantic Publishers Association, and Peggy Walt, Cultural Industries & Research Officer of the Department of Tourism and Culture considered applications from four writers. The two authors chosen received grants totaling \$3,000 for assistance in preparing works in progress in order to ready them for publication.

Architect Scott Smith will receive \$1,000 to assist with the completion of the manuscript, *A Light in the Field*, to be published by the Boston Mills Press, Ontario. This is the author's third in a series of books about the architecture of Prince

Edward Island, looking at agriculture and the fishery.

Alice Walsh will receive \$2,000 to assist in the costs of completing *Pomiuk: The Little Prince of North*, to be published by Nimbus Publishing. Ms. Walsh is the author of *Something's Wrong With My Mother*, also published by Nimbus.

Now in its tenth year, the "Assistance to Established Writers" programme provides monetary awards to professional writers working on projects in which their publishers have expressed interest. Applications are reviewed by an Advisory Panel and are available from the Department of Tourism and Culture, Cultural Industries and Research Officer, Box 456, Halifax, NS B3J 2R5, telephone 902-424-6389. The deadline for the latest competition closed on October 1, 1993.

-Anna Fiander
APLA Representative
to the Advisory Panel

DEVELOPMENT OF THE NS PROVINCIAL LIBRARY

Regional Public Libraries emerged in Nova Scotia as a direct result of efforts by Father Tompkins' Antigonish Movement. A Central Provincial Library Department was created by the Act of 1937, and followed in 1938 by the appointment of both the Regional Libraries Commission and Nora Bateson as Director of Libraries. Full regional services were not developed until after World War II, under the direction of Peter Grossman and later, Alberta Letts.

Technical Services of the Nova Scotia Provincial Library started during the 1940s. After several moves to various locations in downtown Halifax, they were joined in 1973 by AV Services, to share a common shipping and receiving operation. AV Services absorbed other similar units to form Education Media Services (EMS), a central media distribution and production agency supporting the Department of Education's various programs.

Meanwhile, the Provincial Library increased its centralized reference and acquisitions service in support of the Regional Public Library System. The Library took particularly significant steps in Union Catalogue development, first by establishing on UTLAS in Toronto a Regional Libraries' Catalogue which all Nova

Scotians could access on microfiche; then by inputting collections from other Nova Scotian libraries into the DOBIS database at the National Library of Canada.

In 1984 another move was necessitated and the NSPL and EMS

took over the premises of St. Andrew's School. By 1990, EMS had become responsible for distance education networks in Nova Scotia. The NSPL started to bring its database home by planning an automated system which will link all

Regional Libraries together on-line. Finally, in September 1992, EMS and NSPL took possession of new quarters at 3770 Kempt Road, Halifax—the first facility in their history designed for the provision of the specialized services for which they are responsible.

The Nova Scotia Provincial Library carries out its mandate to coordinate library services throughout Nova Scotia and promote library co-operation at national, regional, and provincial levels through the following major activities:

- * Providing funding support to regional libraries.
- * Providing expert consultation and training to public libraries.
- * Promoting resource sharing projects between Nova Scotia libraries and links with regional and national organizations.
- * Providing specialized direct services, such as Information Services, Talking Books, Multilingual Service, ILL, Professional Literature Awareness Service, etc.
- * Providing centralized technical services for regional public libraries.
- * Co-ordinating co-operation among all types of information providers.
- * Providing leadership at both the provincial and national level on matters affecting libraries.



Frank Oram, Professional Services Librarian, assists Faye Hopkins, Cape Breton Regional Library, in finding information in the NS Provincial Library's Professional Collection. The Collection contains approximately 3,000 monographs and 220 serials in the area of library and information studies, and is open for consultation by calling Frank at (902) 424-2480.

FINDING GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS IN ALTERNATIVE FORMAT

A fundamental aspect of the National Library's mandate is to make the information in its collections accessible. This goal is part of the Federal government's commitment to ensure that all Canadians can obtain the information they need. These related objectives are well served by one of the National Library's recent publications: *Federal Government Publications Issued in Alternative Format, 1981-1992*.

The bibliography lists publications under the names of the issuing departments or agencies and includes the DOBIS Document Number to assist researchers in locating complete bibliographic citations. The National Library also maintains

CANUC: H (Canadian Union Catalogue of Library Materials for the Print-Handicapped), a microfiche publication and online database that lists the alternative format holdings of 29 Canadian libraries and the names of alternative format producers.

The National Library also provides, on request, alternative formats of its own publications. Some publications are routinely produced in alternative formats: for instance, the *National Library News* is now published electronically (e/text) for a growing number of subscribers. An audiotape guide of the exhibition "Connections: Collections and Services of the National Library of

Canada" is available for vision impaired persons. Through its Adaptive Technology for Libraries Program, the National Library distributes matching contributions to help libraries across Canada purchase adaptive equipment, such as closed circuit television monitors, to make their collections more accessible to patrons with print handicaps. A second program intended to encourage Canadian publishers to publish more Canadian books in large print is now being launched.

In May 1993, Treasury Board used the recommendations of the report of the Interdepartmental Working Group on Alternative Format,

Doorway to Information, to prepare a guide on the provision of alternative formats to assist those responsible for the production of federal government publications.

[Note: Copies of *Federal Government Publications Issued in Alternative Format, 1981-1992* are available from: Publishing and Marketing, National Library of Canada, 395 Wellington St., Ottawa, ON K1A 0N4, Phone: (613) 995-7969, Fax: (613) 991-9871. The bibliography is available in conventional print, large print, audiotape, braille and diskette].

MAJOR CANADIANA COLLECTION ACQUIRED BY NATIONAL LIBRARY

An outstanding Canadiana collection dating from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries and comprising rare French official publications and other documents relating to the colony of New France has been acquired by the National Library of Canada from Montreal scholar-bibliographer Dr. Lawrence M. Lande.

The greater part of the collection was given by Dr. Lande as a gift to the nation. It consists of 635 French official publications dating from 1607 to 1809 and focuses on commerce and finance, the fur trade, cod and whale fisheries, and the colonization of the French Empire in North America. The collection is dominated by documents related to Scottish monetary theorist John Law, his Mississippi Scheme and the Compagnie des Indes, set up in the early eighteenth century, in part to help eradicate France's massive debt.

Also included in the collection are 193 rare books dealing mainly with economic policy and practices of the major colonial powers of Europe in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, particularly those of

France. This part of the collection was purchased by the National Library.

"The National Library is indeed pleased to have acquired this collection, which constitutes the largest collection of original French administrative documents now held in Canada," says National Librarian Marianne Scott. "We look forward to assisting research based on this remarkable collection."

Dr. Lawrence M. Lande started collecting Canadiana some forty years ago. He began with Canadian poetry, but soon branched out into music, constitutional history, exploration, and many other fields. Over more than a quarter of a century his collection grew to several thousand items, of which 1,200 were purchased by the National Library in 1979. He is the author of several bibliographical, historical, literary, and musical works.

For further information on this collection, contact Jean-Michel Catta, Media Relations Officer, National Library of Canada, telephone (613) 996-7375.

CACUL GRANTS AVAILABLE

The Canadian Association of College and University Libraries (CACUL), a division of the Canadian Library Association, has announced that grants are available to fund attendance at the 1994 CLA Conference, as well as to co-sponsor continuing education opportunities.

A maximum of two awards of up to \$1,000 each will be awarded to new librarians to attend the 1994 CLA Conference in Vancouver, British Columbia. Awards will be made on the basis of a draw from all eligible applications postmarked by **March 31, 1994**. These awards are to encourage involvement of new librarians in the annual CLA Conference, to promote membership in CACUL, and to provide financial assistance to those who do not have sufficient funding to attend the CLA annual conference.

Applicants must be new librarians who have received an MLS within the past two years from a library school in Canada, and must be personal members of CACUL. Preference will be given to applicants who have not attended a CLA conference.

Applicants who have received funding to attend the Conference from another CLA source will not be eligible for this grant. Recipients must be able to attend the CACUL AGM and provide a written summary of their conference experience for publication in *Feliciter*.

Also available are workshop incentive grants of \$300 per region or province for co-sponsorship of programmes. These grants aim to promote continuing education activities in academic librarianship across the country by providing funding support and encouragement for workshops and seminars at the local, regional, and provincial levels.

Applications are due by **June 7, 1994**, and should state topic and date of workshop, relevancy to college/university libraries, sponsoring bodies, estimated cost, and a contact person.

Send applications or enquiries to:
Kathleen DeLong
CACUL Director
Herbert T. Coultts Library
University of Alberta
Edmonton, AB T6G 2G5
Phone: (403) 492-5759
Fax: (403) 492-8302

NOVANET ISSUES ITS STRATEGIC PLAN FOR 1993/94

Novanet, a consortium of libraries whose members include the Atlantic School of Theology, Dalhousie University, Mount Saint Vincent University, the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, Saint Mary's University, the Technical University of Nova Scotia, the University College of Cape Breton, and the University of King's College, has published its mission statement and strategic plan for 1993/94.

It is Novanet's aim to be the model of library cooperation as a consortium of libraries whose purpose is to enhance access to information and knowledge through cooperation among the member institutions for the benefit of their user communities. A leader in Canada as a library consortium sharing a single bibliographic database of the members' holdings, Novanet will maintain this role by developing innovative approaches to resource sharing. The consortium operates on the principle of broad-based, multi-level staff participation.

In order to achieve the mission, Novanet drew up a list of goals. At its Planning Meeting held in November 1992, Novanet examined these stated goals and identified the five most important ones to address in 1993/94. These are:

- * Ensure the efficient operation of Novanet through a governance structure which guarantees effective communication, coordination and cooperation.
- * Ensure that sufficient financial resources be available to meet current and long range needs.
- * Facilitate intellectual access to the resources of Novanet through the enhancement of the shared bibliographic database.
- * Ensure optimum access to information and knowledge by using state of the art technology.
- * Expand sources of information and knowledge available to the user community by participating fully in local, regional and national networking and resource sharing initiatives.

To reach these goals, action plans

were initiated to be completed by December 1993. Other goals were identified as follows:

- * Encourage the participation of libraries whose membership will be of mutual benefit.
- * Assist member libraries in operating efficiently and effectively.
- * Facilitate physical access to the resources of Novanet libraries through effective document delivery mechanisms.
- * Maximize library resources by establishing cooperative collection development policies.
- * Provide cooperative access to externally created electronic databases.
- * Ensure optimum library service by promoting staff development through cooperative efforts.

Novanet may be reached by telephone: (902) 494-1785 and (902) 494-1868; by fax: (902) 494-1536; by e-mail: NOVANET@AC.DAL.CA; telnet to catalogue: NOVANET.NSTN.NS.CA; dial-up to catalogue: (902) 494-2500.



THE PAPERLESS SOCIETY ?

VIDEO REVIEW

Taming the paper tiger : paper management tips for librarians — s.l. : ALA Video/Library Video Network, 1991, Can\$ 119.00

When I first saw mention of this item and it wasn't something else to read, I said, "This is for me". My out-of-control desk of items pending a decision or action needed immediate attention.

The primary rule, that **Clutter is postponed decisions**, was stressed throughout the video. I therefore took an hour, and found that the best tool in the office was the waste basket. The question to be decided at this juncture was, do I need to take action on this? And if so, do I need to take action now or ever?

In many cases, junk mail, flyers,

old catalogues, etc. can be deep sixed in "file 13". There is no use in keeping something "just in case" or "I'll get around to it". Act on the material in front of you now. There are only 3 choices: 1) Toss it, 2) Take action on it, or 3) File it.

The video, although only 24 minutes long, goes into how to set up a filing system and how to keep control of files which might multiply under synonymous headings.

All in all, this video is a good investment of 24 minutes and could serve as a great focus for a staff or professional development seminar.

In the Region, this is available on ILL from NSKKR or NSHPL.

-Chris Bull

Kingstec Community College

GUIDELINES FOR CARE FOR PEOPLE WITH ALZHEIMER DISEASE

Guidelines for Care, a 28-page booklet developed with a grant from the Seniors Independence Program, Health and Welfare Canada, is available without charge. The publication provides a comprehensive overview of the components which should be in place to ensure that people with Alzheimer disease receive the special type of care which reflects the unique nature of the disease. The *Guidelines* are intended for use by family members and paid caregivers working in community agencies and long term care settings.

A companion document, *Guidebook for Care*, offers an

elaboration on the *Guidelines*. Structured and written in an accessible and easy-to-understand format, the *Guidebook* provides information on how to identify the characteristics of quality care and what family caregivers should look for in seeking appropriate facilities and services.

You may order copies of the *Guidelines* or *Guidebook* from your local Alzheimer organization, or from the Alzheimer Society of Canada, 1320 Yonge St., Suite 201, Toronto, ON M4T 1X2. Phone: (416) 925-3552, Fax: (416) 925-1649.

LITERARY AWARDS PRESENTED

Two of the Atlantic Region's most prestigious literary awards were presented in Halifax on October 29.

Authors Sally Ross and Alphonse Deveau were presented with the 1992 **Evelyn Richardson Memorial Literary Award** for their book *The Acadians of Nova Scotia; Past and Present* (Halifax, Nimbus, 1992). The work and its authors had previously been honoured by receiving the 1993 **Dartmouth Book Award** in the non-fiction category. This is the first work to deal exclusively with the Acadians of Nova Scotia. Sally Ross, a fifth generation Nova Scotian, has taught the history and culture of French Canada for ten years and now works as a learning

resource consultant. Alphonse Deveau, an eighth generation Acadian, was the first director of the Centre Acadien at the Universite Sainte-Anne and has published many historical works on the Acadians.

Newfoundland-based author John Steffler was awarded the 1992 **Thomas Raddall Atlantic Fiction Award** for his first novel *The Afterlife of George Cartwright* (Toronto, McClelland and Stewart, 1992). The award includes a \$2,000 cash prize. The novel also won the **W.H. Smith /Books in Canada First Novel Award** and in 1992 was nominated for a Governor General's Award.

STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOP LONG ON SUGGESTIONS, HIGH ON ENTHUSIASM

At the NSLA/LBANS joint conference held in Halifax, October 23-24, a very fruitful session on the Regional Libraries Strategic Planning process was conducted, with facilitator Lorne Ferguson and over seventy-five participants.

In small group settings, library workers, trustees, and other interested people discussed the issues facing public libraries in the province. Their task was to examine the draft *Mission Statement and Summary of Issues Affecting Public Libraries* paper, ensure that the key issues were accurately described, and begin making preliminary recommendations on a plan of action. Issues included human resources, technology, funding, public perception, and the disparity of services.

The importance of the public perception of public libraries as an essential service, the need for more proactive marketing of library services, and the necessity of a stable source of core funding were areas of strong consensus. It was also agreed that further education of all funding bodies is needed concerning the economic

benefits, both current and potential, to be derived from the provision of public library services. Information on community economic development should be made available through the existing public library infrastructure, to ensure that this information reaches the public in the most timely and cost-effective manner possible.

There was a very positive sense that solutions are available to current financial difficulties and that public libraries will have an important role to play in the lives of all Nova Scotians in the new learning society.

All recommendations will be incorporated into the final draft of the *Mission Statement and Summary of Issues Affecting Public Libraries* paper, which will then in turn guide the structure and content of the final Strategic Plan.

-Donna Bourne-Tyson
NS Provincial Library

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INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & CANADIAN COPYRIGHT LAWS SHARE THE STAGE

The first of 1993's Friday Lecture Series organized by Dalhousie's School of Library and Information Studies brought a pair of distinguished guest speakers to address two very important issues facing today's librarian. Margaret Beckman spoke on the changing relationship between information technology and the role of the librarian. Graham Hill delivered an informative lecture on the current copyright laws existing in Canada and the United States.

The message of Margaret Beckman's thought-provoking lecture, entitled "Technical Directions in University Libraries", was loud and clear: if librarians fail to broaden their vision and keep up with the rapidly advancing pace of technology, then the entire library profession is in jeopardy of being pushed off to the margins of society. As end-users become more sophisticated with computer technology, coupled with increasing competition from the private sector to deliver fast, quality information service, librarians are currently facing some crucial challenges to their role in society.

Ms. Beckman is an expert in library automation and her name is synonymous in Canada with the subject. Beginning her lecture by reviewing developments in library automation over the last thirty years, she stated that automation has served the library profession well, improving the more tedious, internal tasks of the library's circulation, cataloguing, and acquisitions departments. The next wave of automation, however, must be directed outwards, towards meeting the public's ever-growing demand for quicker and more efficient means of information service. Because of this, Ms. Beckman stressed that the concept and definition of what a library means today is rapidly changing. Instead of functioning as stand-alone

institutions, libraries, in particular public and academic libraries, are quickly becoming libraries without walls. She presented to her audience several different library scenarios of the future, including the "virtual library". Imagine in a few years' time, users accessing the library's wealth of information from their home computers, reading full-text documents as if they were sitting in the periodicals room, and ordering their computers to print out a hard copy right at home. Inherent in this futuristic view, however, is the danger of the traditional library becoming a museum, or worse, an extinct dinosaur.

Several concerns were raised from the audience as to whether books as we know them will disappear from library shelves in the future or if actual discrimination based upon "information haves" and "information have-nots" will be the end result of the recent technological advances. Ms. Beckman acknowledged these issues as both important and quite possible. She pointed out, however, that another possible consequence of technological change will be the actual forfeit of the library as the primary mechanism of information in society. To avoid this potential disaster from occurring, librarians, she said, must broaden their vision, keep pace with technology, and use both of these qualities to effectively anticipate and respond to patron's needs.

The second lecture of the afternoon, entitled "Copyright Legislation in Canada and the Difference between U.S. and Canadian Copyright Law" was given

by Mr. Graham Hill. An acknowledged expert in the field of copyright, Mr. Hill has served on many important copyright committees in his career, including the Federal Department of Communications Consultative Committee on the Library Uses of Copyright. His discussion clarified many of the contentious issues involved in copyright matters in Canada.

From the outset, Mr. Hill painted a humorous picture of the complexities and concerns of Canadian copyright legislation, likening it to a full-blown soap opera, full of jingoist nationalism, starving artists, bureaucratic ineptitude, and corporate greed. In reality, however, copyright law affects everyone

involved in the use and dissemination of information: authors, publishers, booksellers, researchers, scholars, teachers, and, of course, librarians. Copyright law, Mr. Hill pointed out, is of prime importance to

librarians because its existence affects the library's desirability to maintain ready, low-cost public access to information, as well as to provide minimal interference in the exchange of ideas and other information. Librarians would certainly agree with Mr. Hill's observation that an "unreasonable burden is being thrown on the consciences and amateur legal expertise of all librarians" as they try and figure out a way to deal with the knotty problem of copyright and photocopying protected works.

Mr. Hill outlined the principal events that have taken place in copyright legislation in Canada, emphasizing, however, that

copyright law does not possess a high priority on the political agenda and little activity has in fact taken place in Parliament. On the other hand, Mr. Hill stated that U.S. copyright legislation is more stringent and defined provisions under law for the concept of fair dealing, fair use, and single copy exemption. Mr. Hill drew the interesting analogy of copyright law being a three-legged stool, with creators, publishers, and users equally making up the three legs. Canadian copyright, he said, continues to teeter on two legs, the general attitude from Ottawa being "Don't worry—we'll get it to work sometime."

Librarians as a whole, Mr. Hill stressed, do indeed want to see authors and publishers fairly rewarded for the use of their work. He explained that the Canadian Reprography Collective, better known as CanCopy, was formed to provide easy legal public access to copyrighted material by issuing blanket licenses to Canadian libraries and universities. Although a convenient mechanism for paying a fee for photocopying multiple copies of copyrighted works, CanCopy, Mr. Hill pointed out, is currently in a general state of disarray and still has much to be resolved. Mr. Hill ended his discussion by saying that librarians are aware that the well-being of each part of the community of authors, publishers, and users of information affects the well-being of every other part. He also noted, however, that librarians are adamant in their defence of the principle of fair dealing in copyright law, a principle that recognizes the importance of keeping access to information as equitable as possible for all Canadians.

-David Vein

MLIS '93, Dalhousie University

**"Don't worry -
we'll
get it to work
sometime"**



ap
la**MEMORIAL
AWARDS**

Travel and Study Funds are Available. Do you need financial assistance to study or do research? Awards are available from the APLA Memorial Trust. To apply, send a letter outlining your proposed programme and estimated costs and a copy of your curriculum vitae by **March 31, 1994** to:

Marguerite Jones
APLA Memorial Awards Committee
Queen Elizabeth II Library
Memorial University
St. John's, NF A1B 3Y1
Fax: (709) 737-3118

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la**GENERAL
ACTIVITIES FUND**

Provides funds for projects or activities which will further the aims and objectives of APLA.

- . Applications will be considered based on availability of funds.
- . Applications should state topic and date of activity, relevancy to the Atlantic library community and APLA, sponsoring bodies, estimated costs and revenues, and a contact person.
- . Send applications by **January 15, 1994**, to:

Marion Pape
Nova Scotia Provincial Library
3770 Kempt Road
Halifax, NS B3K 4X8
Fax: (902) 424-0633

ap
la**MERIT AWARD
NOMINATIONS**

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association invites nominations for the Association's Merit Award. The Award is conferred on an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to library service in the Atlantic Provinces. Nominations, with the appropriate accompanying documentation of the nominee and her/his contribution(s) should be sent by **January 10, 1994** to:

Suzanne Sexty
APLA Past President
92 Old Topsail Road
St. John's, NF A1E 2A8
Fax: (709) 737-3118

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la**FIRST TIMERS
CONFERENCE GRANT**

**Never been to an APLA annual conference?
Want to go to Baddeck, but cannot afford it?**

Apply for APLA's First Timers Conference Grant

Any person applying for the First Timers Conference Grant must be:

1. A personal member of APLA.
2. Residing in an Atlantic province.
3. Planning to attend her/his first APLA annual conference.

Applications should include name, business address, chosen means for contacting (mail, phone, Fax, electronic mail), estimated costs (travel, registration, accomodation, meals), and a signed statement acknowledging compliance with eligibility requirements.

Recipients will be expected to write a short report, for the APLA Executive and the *Bulletin*, summarizing their conference experience.

Grants will be allocated, consistent with general APLA guidelines, to meet conference related expenses: travel, general registration fees, accomodation, and meals. If more applications are received than can be met by the Fund, then money will be awarded by drawing from the names of all eligible applicants received by **January 15, 1994**.

Interested members should submit applications to:

Marion Pape
Nova Scotia Provincial Library
3770 Kempt Road
Halifax, NS B3K 4X8
Fax: (902) 424-0633

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la**USE THE
APLA-LIST**

- * to post notices about workshops, seminars, and other events;
- * to get information about APLA Executive actions;
- * to share questions, answers, and ideas about library service; and
- * to post job advertisements.

TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE APLA-LIST:

Send the message "subscribe APLA-List" to "mailserv@ac.dal.ca"



The Atlantic Provinces Library Association

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WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

ap
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<p>Pauline Simard Champlain Library University of Moncton Moncton, NB E1A 3E9</p>	<p>Anne Ronan 3 Pine St. Dartmouth, NS B2Y 2W4</p>	<p>Nicole Zwicker P. O. Box 147 Bridgewater, NS B3N 1W4</p>
<p>Beatrice Adams Middle East Pubnico Yarmouth, NS B0W 2A0</p>	<p>Michelle Wallor 18 Glenmore Ave. Halifax, NS B4V 2W8</p>	<p>Betsy Beattie 5729 Folger Library University of Maine Orono, ME 04469-5729</p>
<p>David Hansen Halifax City Regional Library 5381 Spring Garden Road Halifax, NS B3J 1E9</p>		<p>Daniel Boivin Sobeco Erne st Young 505 Rene Levesque Blvd Montreal, PQ H2Z 1YZ</p>

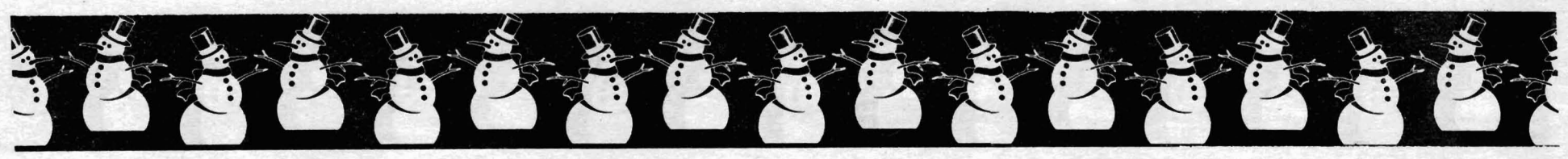
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la**CALL FOR
NOMINATIONS**

The Executive offices requiring nominations for 1994/95 are:

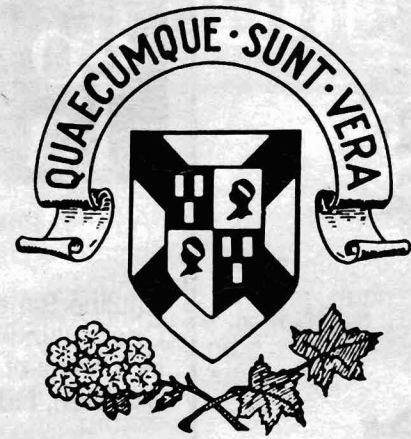
Vice President, President Elect
Vice President (Newfoundland)
Vice President (Nova Scotia)
Vice President (Membership)
Treasurer

Guidelines:

1. No member of the Nominations and Elections Committee is eligible for nomination.
2. Any APLA member may nominate any other member for elective office.
3. Every person nominated shall be a personal APLA member in good standing and shall file a letter of acceptance with the Secretary of the Association.
4. The Treasurer shall reside in the Province of Nova Scotia.

Please send nominations, postmarked no later than **February 28, 1994**, to:

Suzanne Sexty
APLA Nominations and Elections Committee
92 Old Topsail Road
St. John's, NF A1E 2A8
Fax: (709) 737-3118

**St. Francis Xavier
University**

**invites applications and nominations
for the position of
University Librarian**

The Library supports the academic and research work of the Faculties of Arts and Science in a university of 3000, primarily undergraduate students. The Library collection numbers in excess of 450,000 monographs and 1600 current periodical titles. There is a library staff of 37 including 9 professional librarians. The annual operating budget is \$1.9 million.

The University Librarian reports to the Academic Vice President and is responsible for the overall administration of the Library. Major responsibilities include the management and development of the collection, staff management, the formulation and allocation of the library budget and planning for and directing the future of the library. The University Librarian must be able to effectively represent the library within the University and externally.

Candidates should have professional qualifications in librarianship and successful administrative experience, ideally in an academic institution. Applications should be accompanied by a curriculum vitae and names of three referees and must be received by **January 30, 1994**. They should be addressed to:

Dr. John T. Sears
Academic Vice President
St. Francis Xavier University
Antigonish, Nova Scotia
B2G 1C0



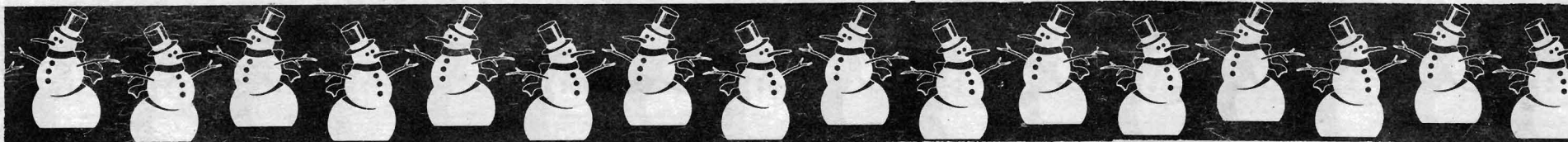
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FREEDOM TO READ WEEK

**FEBRUARY 28 -
MARCH 7**

The Book and Periodical Council has announced that the tenth annual Freedom to Read Week will be held February 28 to March 7, 1994.

In announcing the 1994 dates, Les Fowlie, Chair of the BPC's Freedom of Expression Committee, expressed concern over recent actions by federal, provincial, and local governments to deny citizens the right to decide for themselves what they choose to read. The attempts of special interest groups to deny others access to the widest possible range of reading materials is of equal concern.

Associations and community organizations are encouraged to work together to champion this fundamental right during Freedom to Read Week. Public readings and debate, and classroom discussion, provide unique opportunities for communities to fully appreciate the principles at stake.

The 1994 Freedom to Read Kit is now available. It includes provocative articles, suggested activities and topics for discussion, and an updated list of reading materials banned or challenged in Canada. The Kit, including the 1994 Freedom to Read Week poster, is priced at \$12.00, plus .84 GST. To order the Kit, or obtain further information, contact:

Book and Periodical Council
35 Spadina Road
Toronto, ON M5R 2S9
Phone: (416) 975-9366
Fax.: (416) 975-1839

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Intellectual Freedom Committee

There have been several developments on the Intellectual Freedom front since the May 1993 annual meeting of APLA.

In May, the *Globe and Mail* reported that a mother and her son had discovered that the Toronto Public Library was practising self-censorship in the banning from its collection, books written by noted children's author, Roald (*Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*) Dahl. The news story reported an alleged encounter with a librarian, who acknowledged to the mother and son that Dahl's works had been banned from TPL collections for a number of reasons, including Dahl's supposed depiction of elitist English society. The TPL was quick to respond to this potential public relations nightmare, mounting a publicity campaign and having a response to the original article of May 6, 1993 printed in the May 14, 1993 issue of the *G & M*. The TPL article, written by TPL Chief Executive Officer Gabriele Lundeen, denied that the TPL engaged in any form of censorship and that its selection policy was open and able to accommodate a variety of works expressing different points of view.

On June 15, the Parliament of Canada passed into law *Bill C-128*, An Act to Amend the Criminal Code and the Customs Tariff (Child Pornography and Corrupting Morals). This Act, which makes illegal the importation, sale, distribution, and possession of materials deemed to be examples of child pornography, is very broad in scope and potentially extends the definition of what constitutes child pornography to include all works of art or creative expression, whatever their origin or motivation. The implications of this legislation on libraries is potentially serious.

More recently, the Principal of Barton Secondary School in Hamilton, Ontario, had *To Kill a Mockingbird* removed from the Grade 10 curriculum (but not from the library) after complaints were received from the parent of one of the school's students. The parent was the Executive Director of a local group called Black Youth Achievement.

Currently, the Intellectual Freedom Committee is keeping its eye on a developing feud over a recently published Newfoundland Grade 12 textbook entitled *Finding the Balance for Earth's Sake*, by Newfoundland authors Dennis Minty, Heather Giffin, and Dan Murphy. The work, already considered to be a landmark textbook concerned with environmental issues, is the subject of controversy owing to its alleged bias towards the Labrador's Innu people in its portrayal of the question of the environmental impact of low-level flying by Canadian and other war planes in Labrador. Responding to complaints from some residents of the Lake Melville area of Labrador, the Provincial Minister of Justice, Ed Roberts, has hinted at future "revisions" to the text for subsequent reprintings. In the meantime, the publisher, Breakwater Books of St. John's, has taken a stand and denied that it is contemplating any changes to the text in the immediate future.

Those of you who maintain an ongoing interest in intellectual freedom issues should note that there is a particularly interesting newsgroup available on the Internet operating out of Dalhousie University. Subscribe by sending the message "subscribe ifreedom" to listserv@snoopy.ucis.dal.ca

-Stephen Field
Convener



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Continuing Education Interest Group

To the APLA Membership:

One of the goals of our Strategic Planning Action Plan deals with the collection of data. With more data available, we can plan effective continuing education initiatives for our organization.

This collection of data has two facets: a) finding out what our needs are as regards continuing education; and b) finding out where the resource persons, consultants, experts, etc., are who can address those needs.

WE WOULD LIKE TO ASK FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE IN THE COLLECTION OF THIS DATA BY COMPLETING A PHOTOCOPY OF THE FORM BELOW, AND RETURNING IT, BY DECEMBER 31, 1993, TO:

Judy Reade
 Convener, APLA Interest Group on Continuing Education
 School for Resource and Environmental Studies
 Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS B3H 3E2
 Phone: (902) 494-1359; Fax: (902) 494-3728

Thank you!

(A) CONTINUING EDUCATION.

WHAT KIND OF TRAINING DO WE NEED? AND ON WHAT TOPICS?

(B) BUILDING A DATABASE OF RESOURCE PERSONS.

WHO DO YOU KNOW, OR WHO DO YOU RECOMMEND, AS AN EXPERT, RESOURCE PERSON, CONSULTANT, ETC., AND WHAT IS HER/HIS SPECIAL FIELD?

NAME	WHERE WE CAN CONTACT HER/HIM	AREA OF EXPERTISE
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
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User Education MAILBOX

Compiled by the APLA Library Instruction Interest Group



The following question was submitted to the User Education Mailbox:

More mature or adult students are becoming a significant portion of library users to-day. What, if any, adjustments have been made in bibliographic instruction to accommodate this changing population? Have teaching methods, scheduling, course content, or any other factors been altered to address this non-traditional student population?

Please forward responses to this question, or any additional questions related to user education, to:

Georgette Landry
 Service de la référence
 Bibliothèque Champlain
 Centre universitaire de Moncton
 Université de Moncton
 Moncton, NB E1A 3E9
 Télécopieur: (506) 858-4086
 Envoy: PEB.NBMOU
 Internet: JULIENL@UMONCTON.CA

GRANT AVAILABLE FOR BUYING CHILDREN'S BOOKS

The Canadian Federation of University Women is offering a Public Library Grant of \$2,000 for the purchase of children's books for the use of Rural Public Libraries or for Regional Library Systems serving rural public libraries.

CONDITIONS: The staff member in charge of the children's department must be a qualified librarian or an experienced children's library assistant, working under a qualified librarian; or a staff member of a regional library system directed by a qualified regional director. Application forms may be obtained from:

Kathryn Dean
 506-333 Wellington Crescent
 Winnipeg, MB R3M 0A1

The closing date for receipt of completed applications is March 15, 1994.

LIBRARY ASSISTANT PROGRAM AT UNB

The Library Assistant Program (LAP) has been training New Brunswick library personnel since 1985. As a certificate program offered under the auspices of the University of New Brunswick's Department of Extension and Summer Session, LAP provides job training to paraprofessional staff in public, school, academic, and special libraries. Experienced professionals conduct class sessions, while a coordinator is responsible for the day-to-day administration of the program. Overall direction and planning take place in consultation with an advisory committee whose members represent various segments of the library community.

Level I

The basic library science course (i.e., Level I) offers 100 classroom hours of instruction in basic library science over two terms. The course consists of one three-hour evening session a week for 26 weeks (13 weeks in each of the Fall and Winter terms) and approximately four Saturday workshops.

The Fall term emphasizes technical library services with sessions on the following topics: history of libraries, collections development, acquisitions, basic cataloguing and classification, conservation and preservation, and professional development.

The Winter term focuses on public services in the library including the following topics: circulation, reference, interlibrary loan, government documents, library instruction, library ethics, library management, library cooperation, library promotion, history of the book, and computers in libraries.

Level I is offered via audioconferencing to students unable to commute to Fredericton. In its eighth year of operation, the course has now reached seven New Brunswick communities and graduated more than 250 students. In the 1993/94 academic year, 60 students are participating in the course in four locations.

Level II

In 1989, the Library Assistant Program began to offer advanced, Level II, courses in specific areas of interest. Thus far four courses, Cataloguing and Classification, ABCs of Library Promotion, Collection Development for Children, and Collection Development for Young Adults, have been developed and are offered as registration permits. Level II courses offered in Fredericton have reached 85 students thus far.

This year, for the first time, a Level II course is being held outside Fredericton. Cataloguing and Classification is being offered in Saint John. If this proves successful, other locations will be added.

LAP has developed plans for a Level II certificate program permitting specialization in public, school, special, or academic libraries. In its proposed form, this program would consist of 150 classroom hours of required and optional coursework. Unfortunately, further course development is on hold due to lack of funding.

Through Library Assistant Program courses, students become aware of the entire field of librarianship and gain a greater appreciation for their place in it. They develop contacts and establish a network—both of instructors and fellow students—which will offer them continuing support. Most importantly, they gain confidence and improve their ability to perform their jobs. If cooperation between LAP and other Atlantic Provinces training programs enhances this service or makes it available to a wider audience, it must be viewed favourably.

For more information contact: Susan Lovenburg, Coordinator, Library Assistant Program, Department of Extension and Summer Session, University of New Brunswick, P.O. Box 4400, Fredericton, NB, E3B 5A3 Tel: (506) 453-4646.

- Susan Lovenburg
University of New Brunswick

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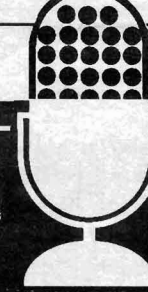
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LIBRARY TECHNICIANS INTEREST GROUP

The above article is the first in a series of articles, sponsored by the Library Technicians Interest Group, describing each of the paraprofessional education and training programs available in the Atlantic Provinces. The series will culminate in a forum discussion at the 1994 APLA Conference which will focus on how these programs might cooperate to better meet the needs of the Region's paraprofessionals. Comments and suggestions are welcome and should be addressed to Susan Lovenburg, Convener, Library Technicians Interest Group, Department of Extension and Summer Session, University of New Brunswick, P.O. Box 4400, Fredericton, NB, E3B 5A3, telephone: (506) 453-4646.



NEWS FROM THE REGIONS



NEW BRUNSWICK / NOUVEAU- BRUNSWICK

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

The public library system underwent a three-day strategic planning exercise in August. Priorities were discussed and established for the next three years. Among the issues given greatest priority were automation, marketing, professional development, the upgrading of collections, and literacy. There remains a considerable amount of work to be done on the strategic plan, which must receive departmental approval before it becomes the blueprint for public library development in the near future.

Phase II of the provincial automation project is underway. During this second phase, the five regional headquarters are being brought online to the INLEX database at the New Brunswick Library Service (NBS). The regions will now be able to add item records to the catalogue, specifying the location of each book or video within the region. As well, a consultant will be hired this fall to review automation plans for the system. One of the mandates of the consultant will be to recommend alternatives to the present microfiche catalogue.

The 1993 Summer Reading Club was a province-wide success and planning is already underway for 1994. The **Albert-Westmorland-Kent Region** is coordinating next year's program, for which a circus theme has been chosen. All those from out-of-province who may be interested in purchasing graphic materials (poster, bookmark, certificate, etc.) for their own summer programs are urged to contact **Nancy**

Cohen at the Moncton Public Library.

Staffing is always a problem in public libraries during the summer months. This year the System benefitted not only from the regular, government-sponsored student employment program, but also from a rather unique Youth Exchange Program. The program was instituted five years ago as a work/cultural exchange program that has as one of its goals to promote harmony and understanding between anglophones and francophones in the Province. This is the second year that the public library system participated in the program and the first that NBS coordinated it. Twenty-two university students were hired this summer to work in twelve libraries. The response from the library system has been so positive that more libraries have requested to participate next year. The program is jointly funded by the Departments of Municipalities, Culture and Housing, Intergovernmental Affairs, and Advanced Education and Labour, and by the Secretary of State for Canada.

The regional chairpersons and regional directors met with the Honourable Marcelle Mersereau, Minister of Municipalities, Culture and Housing, on October 13 to discuss issues of importance to the public library system as a whole, as well as to the individual library regions. This annual meeting is the mechanism that has been established to replace the Minister's annual meeting with the Library Council. The Library Council was abolished last spring.

Pour la deuxième année consécutive, la Journée des employés de la **région Chaleur** fut un succès pour les trente-sept employés qui y participaient. En effet, lors de cette occasion, tous les employés se rencontrent afin d'échanger et profiter de différents ateliers. Cette année, Mme Joanne LeBlanc de la firme Pro-Résultats anima la journée dont le thème était «L'équipe fait la force». Dans une région où il faut voyager environ trois heures pour atteindre la bibliothèque la plus éloignée, ce type

d'atelier est très apprécié.

Un comité ad-hoc au sein de la **Commission régionale des bibliothèques Chaleur** s'est constitué afin d'améliorer les services de bibliothèques publiques dans ce secteur de la région qui ne possède pas même un bibliobus pour desservir les nombreuses localités sans bibliothèques. Une première réunion eut lieu le 29 septembre à cette fin à laquelle assistèrent une trentaine de personnes.

En septembre, quelques membres de la Commission régionale Chaleur ont assisté à la réunion de la **Commission régionale des bibliothèques du Haut-Saint-Jean** à titre d'observateurs. Ces invités spéciaux ont apprécié l'expérience qui leur a permis de mieux connaître une région voisine. Ils ont pu visiter les locaux de la bibliothèque régionale et ceux de la bibliothèque publique d'Edmundston. En Octobre, la Commission du Haut-Saint-Jean rendait visite à Chaleur.

The **Shediac Public Library** has produced a video to introduce preschool children to the library. The video, featuring a young clown named Page and an original song, has already been shown to several groups of children.

As part of International Literacy Day activities, the **Moncton, Riverview, and Dieppe libraries** participated in the "Twenty Minute Reading Challenge" organized by the Greater Moncton Literacy Advisory Board. The three libraries also organized special events to underline the day. In Moncton, a noon-hour program featured Dorothy Silver who spoke about her experiences as a learner and as a tutor. In Riverview, a town councillor read stories to children, and in Dieppe, the Library organized volunteers to read to children and to seniors.

The **Saint John Free Public Library** was represented at the Seniors Expo held in Saint John in September. Coordinator **Valerie Bauer** reported that more than 80 seniors stopped by the booth to view

the videos, books, and other materials on display. Of special interest were the children's picture books which the Library encourage seniors to borrow to share with the grandchildren or other young friends. In addition, many of the seniors were interested to learn that talking books are available for the print handicapped.

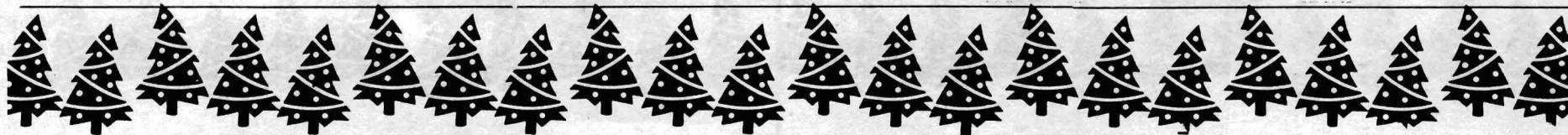
On September 22, the **Saint John Regional Library** closed all of its service points so that employees could attend an Employee Development Day. The theme of the day was *Working Towards Healthier You* with sessions focusing on Employee Assistance Program (EAP), stress management, backcare, personal organization, assertiveness, and health management. The day was sponsored by the Regional Library Board. Of the forty-five staff who attended, all gave the day a high rating and most commented that the best part was meeting staff from other service points in the region. The organizing committee for the day was composed of **Jean Cunningham, Bronwen Woods, Mireille Mercure, and Valerie Bauer**.

Stanley Public Library will be moving into the local school complex later this fall to become the ninth public-school library in the **York Region**. Stanley School serves kindergarten to grade 12.

ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

La **Bibliothèque Champlain** de l'Université de Moncton met à la disposition de sa clientèle cinq microordinateurs reliés au réseau Interne. En plus de donner accès à des services comme UnCover, le réseau permet de consulter des centaines de catalogues de bibliothèques à travers le monde. À noter que la bibliothèque fait aussi régulièrement ses interrogations d'ISM (Utlas), de Dialog, et bientôt de Dobis par le biais du réseau.

La bibliothèque a des abonnements courants aux disques compact suivants: ERIC, Canadian Business and Current Affairs, StatsCanada, Waves, CINAHL: Nursing and Allied



Sciences, ACOA, TIERS, CRTC, Repère, et La Bibliothèque québécoise. Ces disques sont tous consultables en bibliothèque pendant les heures d'ouverture. En commande: FRANCIS et PASCAL.

Afin de diminuer les abus, la bibliothèque vient d'installer un compteur sur l'imprimante laser qui dessert ses micro-ordinateurs en référence. Les mêmes cartes qui actionnent les photocopieur permettent maintenant d'imprimer les informations recueillies des CD-ROM ou du réseau Internet. Le coût d'une impression (8 x 14) est de 10\$.

SPECIAL LIBRARIES

John Booker has recently joined the **Dr. Garfield Moffatt Health Sciences Library** at the Dr. Everett Chalmers Hospital in Fredericton in the position of full-time library assistant. As a result of the additional position, library hours have been extended on a trial basis from September to December. The Library has recently switched Medline and CINAHL (Nursing and Allied Health) to Silver Platter CD-ROM products.

SCHOOL LIBRARIES

Stephen King's *The Shining* was recently pulled from the library shelves in **School District 16** as a result of pressure from the parent of a Blackville school student. The Blackville school covers kindergarten to grade 12.

The School Board is presently working on two draft policies, one regarding school library learning resources, and the other, procedures

for dealing with challenged materials. The Board is to examine the two policies at its next meeting.

In July, the **Library Council of the New Brunswick Teachers' Association** sponsored a Summer Institute on "the administrator and the school library" in Chatham. Eighteen people attended, among them eight principals and vice-principals, four district staff, and four teacher-librarians. The two-and-a-half day session was led by **Jane Thornley**, Supervisor of School Libraries in the Halifax County-Bedford District School Board. Topics discussed included automation and technology, resource-based learning, and a vision for the future.

ASSOCIATIONS

The **Association des bibliothécaires professionnel(els) du Nouveau-Brunswick/ Association of Professional Librarians of New Brunswick** held its first Annual General Meeting and workshops on October 2 in Fredericton. Over twenty librarians were in attendance. A new Board of Directors was formed composed of: **Muriel Morton**, president; **Sylvie Nadeau**, vice-president; **Jean-Claude Arcand**, treasurer; **Marilynn Rudi**, secretary; and members-at-large **Kenda Clark** and **Jeanne Maddix**.

- Jocelyne Thompson
Vice President (New Brunswick)

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

The Summer Reading Program drew to a satisfying conclusion in late August. It proved to be a very exciting enterprise; there were a number of activities in various libraries and a great deal of media attention.

New Brunswick author Herb Curtis read from his new work at the **Confederation Centre Public Library** on November 2.

November is Crime Prevention Month; the theme is "Communities Make the Difference — Literacy is the Key to Crime Prevention". In conjunction with the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Program of the Department of Health and Social Services, programs have been arranged for 12 public libraries. Members of city and town police, as well as members of the R.C.M.P., will conduct story-times for young listeners.

Plans are underway for Canadian Children's Book Week, when Julie Johnston will be the guest author. Her first novel, *Hero of Lesser Causes* (published in 1992 by Lester Publishing), won the 1992 Governor General's Literary Award and the 1993 IODE National Book Award. The novel is intended for an audience in the range of grades 5-9. Among other activities, a tea is planned for the Children's Library at **Confederation Centre Public Library**. Honourary guest will be Marion Reid, Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island.

Among the staff changes, library technicians **Sandra MacPhee** and **Stephane Ferland** have resigned their positions to work at the GST Centre in Summerside.

ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

The **University of Prince Edward Island** has received funding through Employment and Immigration Canada for the hiring of two people to

assist in the continuation of the recon process. It is anticipated that at the end of their six-month term, they will have added 20,000 more records to the database; 50,000 records will then remain to be converted.

SCHOOL LIBRARIES

The **Prince Edward Island Teacher-Librarians' Association** is holding its annual professional development day in November. The theme of the day is "Navigating Stormy Waters: Maintaining the Links". Sessions planned include **Elaine MacLeod**, teacher-librarian at **Parkside Elementary School** speaking on "Golden Links to Science"; **Norine Hanus**, Unit 3 Board Office librarian, and **Judy Davies**, Department Head for School Libraries (Unit 3), assisting in "Staying Current"; and **Larry Amey**, School of Library and Information Studies, Dalhousie University, encouraging participants in "Hoisting the Sails of the Library". The meeting will take place at the new library in the renovated Colonel Gray Senior High School.

Ray Doiron, presently on leave pursuing doctoral studies in curriculum and instruction at the University of British Columbia, has a feature article in the September/October issue of *Emergency Librarian*.

ASSOCIATIONS

The **Prince Edward Island Professional Librarians' Association** presented a seminar entitled "Exploring the Electronic Highway: A Brief Introduction to the Internet" in late October to interested people.

The annual meeting of the Association took place November 18, at which time the new executive was installed. The meeting was hosted by **Don Carter**, librarian at Colonel Gray Senior High School.

- Nichola Cleaveland
Vice President
(Prince Edward Island)

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NOVA SCOTIA

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

In September, the **Provincial Library** hosted an Interlibrary Loan Conference which was attended by many ILL workers in the regional libraries. Topics discussed included ILL procedures and policies in the various regional libraries, and changes and enhancements to Provincial Library's procedures. The new automated system will give the regional libraries access to the catalogues of all the public libraries in Nova Scotia and, as a result, will facilitate inter-regional loans.

Wendy Duff will be taking a leave of absence from her position as Technical Services Coordinator to pursue a PhD in Library Science at the University of Pittsburg. **Marg D'Arcy**, Technical Services, is retiring at the end of November. **Arlene Watts** has returned to work in User Services.

The **Halifax City Regional Library** successfully applied for a National Library of Canada Adaptive Technology Grant to provide fifty percent cost-sharing for four PCs, one at each of the Library's outlets. These PCs will have print enlarging and synthetic voice capabilities. The National Library's share of the cost is \$9,192.

The Adult Lending Services Department of the **Main Library** was closed for August and the first week of September for renovations, with partial services offered by combining the adult and children's circulation desks on the first floor, and setting up temporary staff work areas. Public and staff are delighted with the results of the renovations, which have brightened the public areas and improved the circulation and information desk areas to accommodate automation.

The **North Branch Library** of the **Halifax City Regional Library** has undergone renovations, as well. These changes have focused on equipping the Auditorium with a kitchenette, projection/control booth and room divider to accommodate upgrading classes and individual tutoring. The Puppet/Pre-school Film Room has been relocated to the Main floor.

The planned completion of the re-roofing of the Captain William Spry Community Centre forced the **Mainland South Branch Library** to move to temporary quarters on the main level of the South Centre Mall at the end of June for a minimum of six

months. This move has attracted new users as well as the regular clientele. This disruption in service from the Community Centre has offered an ideal opportunity to expand to the second floor of the Centre and to acquire an additional 4,200 square feet of library space.

ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

Kelly Campbell has joined the staff of **Acadia University Library** in the two-year sessional position of General Librarian, working half-time in Cataloguing and half-time in Public Services.

LIBRARY EDUCATION PROGRAMMES

An Open House was held on November 17 at the **Kingstec Campus of the Nova Scotia Community College**. The Library Technician Programme sponsored a program where employers, potential students, and the general public responded to the theme "Library Technicians: Masters of Detection". The focus was the attraction of this field to those who enjoy logic, attention to detail, and precise, interesting work. Staff and students were on hand to answer questions about the Kingstec Programme, where students learn in a small-group, practice-centred environment. Other important features include the program's comprehensive research collection, the learning facilities, and the provisions for flexible study planning. For further information contact Laura Draper, Program Coordinator (902) 678-7341, ext. 143; FAX (902) 679-1141.

Twelve students graduated in the 1993 class from the **Library Technician Program at the Halifax Campus**. Initially, no one had a full-time position. Since May, ten graduates are now employed in a variety of positions. Following current employment trends, graduates take term and part-time employment. Sometimes, it is several years before a regular full-time position opens up.

ASSOCIATIONS

The **Nova Scotia Library Association (NSLA)** and the **Library Boards Association of Nova Scotia (LBANS)** held a successful joint conference at the Halifax Hilton, October 22-24.

- Laura Jantek
Vice President (Nova Scotia)

NEWFOUNDLAND

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

The new **Director, David Gale**, took up his duties on September 20 and has already visited most of the regions for general briefing. All public librarians met in St. John's, October 19-22. The regular fall meetings were followed by a two-day strategic planning session at the request of the new Director, who is hopeful that the Strategic Plan can be in place by the beginning of the next fiscal year. Watch for an interview with Gale in the next issue of the *Bulletin*.

There has been no action on the Report of the Ministerial Review Committee which was submitted to the Minister in August. The Report contained a number of budget reduction proposals which were proposed by the Library Board in May in an effort to stay within this year's budget. However, as the fiscal year is more than 50% over, it is obvious that the reductions proposed, even if acted upon within October, as previously promised by the Minister, will not result in the required savings being achieved this year. Either the Government will have to provide

additional funding or the Board will find itself in a situation where it will have to make serious cuts late in the fiscal year.

I reported in my last column that the contract had been awarded for Readmore books for the supply of new books, but it was not until late August that ordering began and very few books have actually been received in the regions. Complaints from the public over the lack of new books have been many and varied.

The **Provincial Reference and Resource Library** recently received a grant of \$1,000 under the Conservation Plan for Archival Records (CPCAR). The Program is funded by the National Archives of Canada through the Canadian Council of Archives. The funds have been used to purchase acid-free folders, which will replace acidic ones in the catalogued files collection of the Newfoundland Collection.

The **Public Library at Cape St. George** has been relocated from the Council Building to Our Lady of the Cape School at the request of the Council which wanted the space for other purposes. The Council has agreed to provide an annual grant of \$400 in lieu of providing the space and utilities in the building, to which the Public Libraries Board has contributed some capital costs. The Public Libraries Board is about to conduct a review of its public library facilities located in schools.



David Gale, the new Director of Provincial Public Libraries, Newfoundland, attends a board meeting at the Corner Brook City Library during his visit around the regions. From left to right: Harry Coates, Treasurer, Lynne West, City Librarian, John Snow, Chair, Corner Brook City Library Board, David Gale, Director of Provincial Public Libraries.

ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

The **Queen Elizabeth II Library of Memorial University** has received a number of MUCEP (Memorial University Undergraduate Career Experience Program) grants for projects, including: researching biographical and/or historical background on Newfoundland individuals, families, corporations, etc.; weeding duplicates in the Q-QA range; assisting with the index to Newfoundland periodicals; and, using GEODEX to index Canadian hydrographic charts.

The Library has also received Adaptive Technologies Grants from the National Library of Canada Adaptive Technologies Program. These grants have been used to purchase a voice synthesizer (Arctic) and a screen enlarger (Vista) to provide the visually impaired with access to the public online catalogue and also to purchase a closed caption television to enlarge the information in print materials.

Memorial, Acadia and UNB have applied jointly for a CISTI grant to develop the Atlantic "Global Library." If approved, the grant will be used to develop software which will provide a common interface to a wide variety of databases both locally and around the world.

As reported in an earlier column, several Queen Elizabeth II librarians are currently on sabbatical. **Angela Lonardo** is in Paris at UNESCO developing an international database. **Joy Tillotson** is at the University of Toronto working on the identification of relevance in retrieval terms, and **Alberta Wood** of the Map Library is working on an inventory of Newfoundland maps.

SCHOOL LIBRARIES

Your correspondent has once again sent membership dues to join the elusive **Learning Resources Council of the Newfoundland Teachers Association** in an effort to stay abreast of developments, or lack of developments, on the school library scene. The task should be a little easier this year, as the new President is **Angela Murphy** who works with the Roman Catholic School Board here in Corner Brook. Angela, however, is no longer working as the Library Consultant for the Board but is back in the classroom, as the Consultant position is "on hold".

ASSOCIATIONS

The **Newfoundland Library Association** held its Fall Meeting on October 19 in St. John's with guest speaker **Stephen Field**.

-Elinor Benjamin
Vice President (Newfoundland)

ELECTRONIC ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

In the fifth lecture of the 1993 Friday Lecture Series, the School of Library and Information Studies was pleased to present Mary Margaret (Maggie) Parhomovich, Assistant Librarian, Government Documents, at Arizona State University. Maggie was in Halifax as the recipient of a Library Fellowship award sponsored by the U.S. Information Agency and the American Library Association. As her special area of expertise is government documents, particularly concerning electronic publishing, her lecture focused on the increasing trend for the provision of government information in electronic formats.

Entitled, "Problems of Access to Government Information: the Experience South of the Border", Maggie pointed out that although the inclusion of electronic formats in depository library programs has increased public access to government information, it has also created several serious concerns for librarians. She began by reviewing in broad terms the evolution of government information policy, beginning in the 18th century with the creation of the Library of Congress, up through the last two hundred years until the passing of the Freedom of Information Act in 1966. Illustrating quite well how fragmented and decentralized—some say chaotic—the U.S. government's information policy really is, she presented "information policy" as a mosaic of public and administrative laws and regulations, spanning three branches of the U.S. government. With the

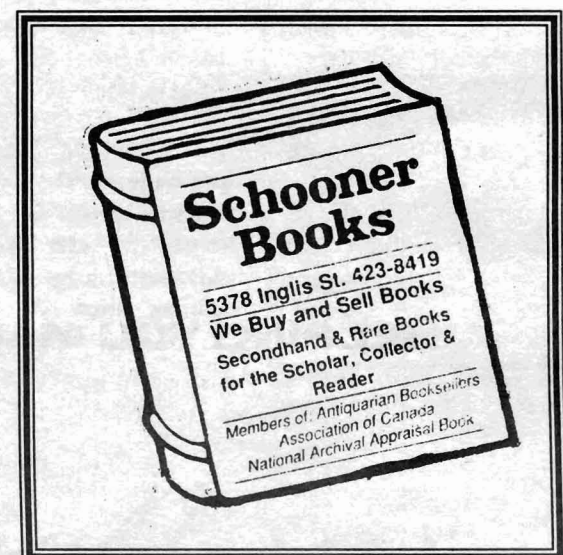
advent of electronic publishing in the form of CD-ROM technology and online databases, the situation has become quite desperate as federal agencies, librarians, and commercial database vendors all struggle and compete against each other.

Some of the concerns brought to the audience's attention include bibliographic access, physical access, lack of standards, and cost factors. Bibliographic access is a problem because government agencies consider bibliographic control of government-sponsored databases and CD-ROMs as not part of their responsibility. The reason for this is because these forms of information technology do not technically fall under the definition of "government publications", little effort has been made to bring them under bibliographic control. Because the bulk of government-produced electronic databases and CD-ROMs are virtually unavailable to the general public, physical access is also a problem. Those that are available are often not affordable to most potential users. In effect, government information is quickly becoming cost-driven rather than user-driven. The lack of standards was also an important issue raised by Maggie. For all intents and purposes, she said, the U.S. federal government has no set standards concerning database development or CD-ROM software. Agencies across the board are developing uncoordinated, incompatible systems that simply do not work together. As well, very little

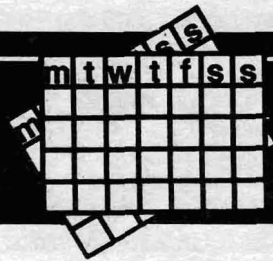
user input is being considered into how government databases and CD-ROMs are being developed. Cost factors and cost equity is also a large concern for librarians to consider. Most printed documents are distributed free to depository libraries, and free or at low cost to the general public. In contrast, electronic databases and CD-ROMs are provided on a cost-recovery basis, in order to avoid unfair competition with commercial database vendors. The end result is a grim situation of information "haves" and information "have nots".

Maggie pointed out to her audience that librarians must recognize that they are stationed on the front lines for public access to electronic information produced by the government. They must be aware of Canada's information policy and be persistent in ensuring open access to government information. Librarians, she said, can provide meaningful input to information policy-making basically because they have both a firm grasp of the nature and value of information as well as a deep commitment to guarding the public's interest.

-David Veinot
MLIS '93, Dalhousie University

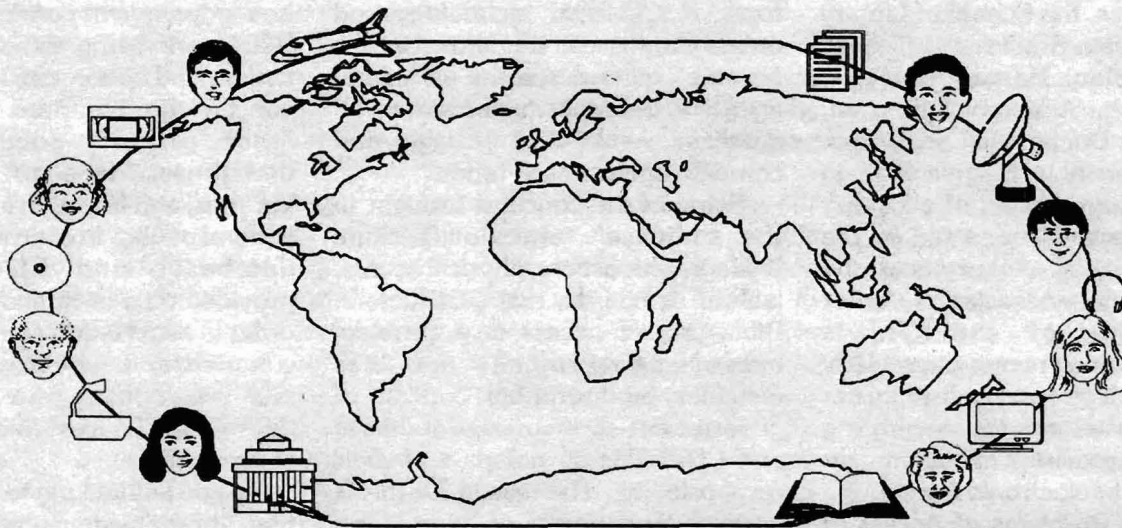


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