

“Libraries are extremely relevant”

David Gale took up his duties as Director of the Provincial Public Libraries Service of Newfoundland in September 1993. He graduated from Memorial University with a BA in Political Science and a MBA. Prior to joining the Provincial Public Libraries Service, he was employed with the Provincial Treasury Board in a number of capacities, most recently as a labour negotiator. At Treasury Board, he was involved in the negotiations of most major public service contracts, including the Public Libraries own contract. He was also involved with Provincial budget preparation, as well as compensation and job analysis research.

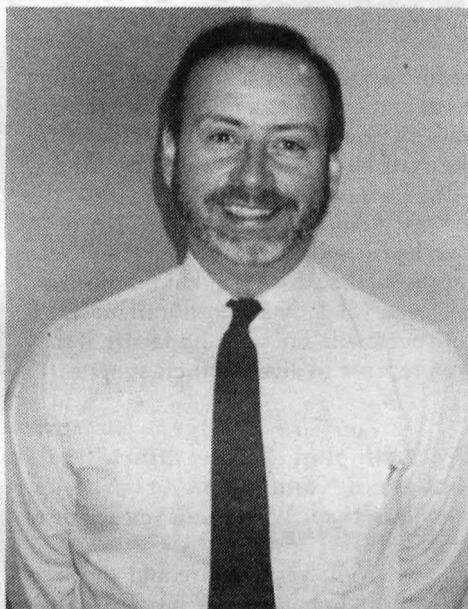
Elinor Benjamin, APLA Vice President (Newfoundland), spoke with Gale on February 14. Her interview follows.

You've been in your position for about 5 months now. Have you been able to get an overall impression of the service yet? What are your impressions to date?

My initial impression was the lack of computerization. The Public Libraries are not automated to a significant degree. This lack is making it difficult for the Library Service to operate as information provider. Another impression is that very little is known about the Service. The libraries have a very low profile. The public relations aspects of libraries have been underplayed.

What do you think are the greatest challenges facing the Provincial Public Libraries right now?

I think the greatest challenge facing the libraries right now is trying to anticipate



David Gale, recently appointed as Director, Newfoundland Public Library Services.

where the information revolution is going and what role the library is going to play in this. Part of the challenge is convincing people that the library does have a role to play in the process. We have to convince people that we are not only alive and well, but that we are relevant.

What is the biggest item on your agenda for Public Libraries right now?

Computerization! Everything is predicated on computerization.

The Provincial Public Libraries Board has been subject to some bad press in the past few years. Do you think this a

cause of concern for you and the Public Libraries Board? If so, what kind of steps are being taken to counteract the problem?

I'm not that concerned. I think that we need not so much to counteract the bad press but to try to generate some good press. We do have a service but there is very little knowledge about us. We have to promote what we do have and to try to raise our profile.

The Public Libraries Board has just been transferred from the Department of Culture and Tourism to the Department of Education. What implications do you think this has for the future of public libraries?

I should clarify something here. We have not been transferred to the Department of Education. What has happened is that we now report to the Minister of Education, rather than Culture and Tourism. We still operate at arm's length. It's difficult to know at this point what this will mean, but my initial impression is positive. Because we have such a broad mandate that also covers cultural and informational areas, we are not a perfect fit in any Department. Right now, with our strong role in education, this seems to be the logical place.

You are one of the first non-librarians in Canada to have been appointed to the position of Provincial Director. What kind of response have you been getting from the staff here and from your counterparts in other provinces?

PLEASE see page 2...

APLA supports first Information Rights Week

The Canadian Library Association is sponsoring Information Rights Week, April 11-17, 1994, on a national basis to provide a public forum to focus on Access to Information issues. There are many issues associated with Information Rights. These include: information and telecommunications policy, literacy, access to government information, retention laws for archival copies of materials, freedom of information legislation, individual privacy protection, intellectual property rights, the need for a citizen's charter of information rights, regulation of telephone and cable systems, and the development of the national electronic highway.

The APLA Executive decided to support this initiative at a recent Executive Meeting and will issue an APLA letter from Provincial Vice Presidents to supplement the CLA information package. Premiers will be asked to proclaim Information Rights Week in support of the public interest. Another sample letter is being composed which can be used by Vice Presidents to send to local media editors. Vice Presidents will also distribute information packages to the library associations in their provinces and will coordinate publicity wherever possible.

Libraries throughout Atlantic Canada are suffering from a severe funding crisis. In order to draw attention to this issue, the APLA letter focuses on the following questions: who needs information? what information do they need? why do they need it? where do they get it? and are the

PLEASE see page 4...

Atlantic Baptist College receives important collection

Dr. Ralph Richardson, President of the Atlantic Baptist College (ABC) of Moncton, New Brunswick, has announced that the College Library is now home to the George A. Rawlyk Collection. Consisting of some 8,000 volumes in all, the Collection focuses on themes in the history of Atlantic Canada, Canada, and North America. A portion of the Rawlyk Collection has recently been received and catalogued and is now housed in the College Library's Rawlyk Room. More books, periodicals, and related research material will be received in the near future.

A long-time member of the Department of History at Queen's University, Professor Rawlyk has honoured ABC

with the gift of his personal research library. The author of a number of works on the history of Atlantic Canada, Dr. Rawlyk's distinguished career has been shaped by an intense interest in the religious history of Atlantic Canada, particularly the Maritime Baptist experience. His research and writing has inspired a renewed scholarly focus on the evangelical tradition in Canada.

At a recent reception officially opening the Rawlyk Room, Dr. Gregg Finley, Professor of History at ABC, said, "This remarkable donation to Atlantic Baptist College serves as a poignant expression of the donor's love of God, his commitment to the discipline of History, and his belief in the high calling of a Christian liberal

arts education."

Dr. Finley went on to explain that Professor Rawlyk's generosity will have a significant impact on the College's B.A. program in History. "Now in its new home at Atlantic Baptist College, the Rawlyk Collection will provide students with enhanced opportunities to explore a wide range of themes in the history of religion and culture."

The Rawlyk Collection is available to students, researchers, and the general public on a noncirculating basis.

-Ivan W. Douthwright
Atlantic Baptist College

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From The President's Desk

Much is happening in the area of information policy throughout the Atlantic Provinces. Numerous focus groups, needs surveys, and other sorts of studies are being conducted to help government find the right direction. The opportunity for the library and archival communities to take a proactive stance on the various issues is vital. I hope that all types of library organizations will lend their support, no matter how small, to the CLA Information Rights Week celebration, April 11-17, 1994. (See separate article on p. 1).

The APLA Executive had a lengthy discussion on the state of our finances in January. The Finance Committee has been asked to do an analysis of the situation and to project revenues and expenditures for the next fiscal year to see if a fee increase needs to be recommended. It is clear that some adjustments will be required to balance the budget for 1994-1995. Because of increased costs and reduced revenues, we have transferred funds from a GIC Account to cover

current costs. Additional revenue generated from the Fredericton conference was very welcome. I will keep you informed about this matter as further study is undertaken.

By now, you will all know that the Library School survived and is recruiting students for the fall academic year. At the request of the Executive, I met with Mary Dykstra, Director of SLIS, to determine whether there would be any change in the program being offered. The Director told me that the program will continue with the same strength and orientation as in previous years.

On another note, the Maine Library Association decided to withdraw from the planning of a joint Conference in 1995 in St. Andrews, NB. In the interests of economy and the availability of human resources, it was not practical to continue planning the APLA conference at this site. Prince Edward Island has offered to host the conference in Charlottetown.

-Marion L. Pape

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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.

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"Libraries are extremely relevant"

•From Page 1 ...

I'll say what I said to the Board when I was hired. Every organization needs a broad mix of skills. I'm not being brought in to do library work. I won't pretend to be a librarian. There are sixteen librarians on staff and a great diversity of other skills out there. I'm being brought in to add a different skill to the organizational mix. My job is to provide a balance, and help the staff focus on where we want the Public Libraries to go, and how we are going to get there and help them to pull it all together. I see my role as shoring up an area in which the organization had some deficiencies. Having a non-librarian is perhaps new to libraries, but having a professional administrator isn't a new idea in other areas of the public or the private sector. I haven't had any negative reaction from the staff but then, that isn't the kind of thing I would necessarily hear about. As for my counterparts in other provinces, I've had a mixed reaction. They have expressed their concern that this position has been filled by a non-librarian, but it isn't personal. They've all added that they are prepared to give me their support.

You have taken on this directorship in a very difficult and challenging and, some might say, thankless, time. What made you decide to do it?

Well, yes. You could say it is difficult and challenging, but I couldn't say "thankless". I took this job because I saw the Public Library Service as an organization with great potential. I view the Public Library as a very interesting organization, performing a very relevant function. I have no trouble, in my own

mind, justifying the existence of public libraries in society. The difficulty a challenge comes in convincing others. The Public Library has great potential to be a vital part of government, especially given the direction our economy is taking. Lots of people, including some of my previous colleagues, tried to tell me I was taking on a thankless job, but I've had no second thoughts about it. You can't solve structural or organization problems, but an institution has no legitimate role to play any more, then you have problems. I don't believe that's the case here. Libraries are extremely relevant.

Since Gale arrived at the Public Libraries, he has directed the staff in beginning a strategic planning process and is devoting considerable efforts to negotiating with various government departments to try to persuade them that the Public Libraries Service is the right channel to distribute the variety of information they are trying to make available to the public. He is committed to making all our libraries capable of availing themselves of all modern technology and make information available widely and quickly. He has indicated that staff concern that improved children's services be another high priority goal. His knowledge of the workings of the Newfoundland government is already beginning to show positive effects on the operations of the Public Libraries in the Province.

-Elinor Benjamin
Vice President (Newfoundland)

Budge Wilson wins third annual Ann Connor Brimer Award

The Nova Scotia Library Association is pleased to announce the winner of the third annual Ann Connor Brimer Award for Atlantic Canadian Children's authors. Nova Scotia writer Budge Wilson was awarded the \$500 prize for *Oliver's Wars*.

Over 100 guests from the cultural community, including librarians, booksellers, publishers, writers, illustrators and members of Ann's family gathered at The Maritime Museum of the Atlantic in Halifax in November to celebrate children's literature and congratulate both the finalists and the winner.

Joining the celebration were Irene Aubrey, Head of Children's Services at the National Library, and Alison Bishop, Director of Cultural Affairs Division, Nova Scotia Department of Tourism and Culture. Both speakers noted Ann Connor Brimer's lasting contribution to the development of children's literature in Atlantic Canada. In accepting the award from Ann's son Gavin, Budge Wilson graciously noted that the other two short-listed titles (*Metallic Sparrow*

by Lance Woolaver and *Clearcut Dan* by Lesley Choyce) also deserved prizes. Wilson concluded her remarks with a reading from the book that clearly demonstrated its appeal to adults and children alike.

The Steering Committee now invites nominations for the fourth Ann Connor Brimer Award. Nomination forms may be obtained from:

Patty Healey
P. O. Box 36036
Halifax, NS
B3J 3S9

Completed forms must be received later than April 30, 1994.

Eligibility criteria include:

- * Author must be alive and residing in Atlantic Canada at time of nomination
- * Book intended for children up to the age of 15.
- * Book published in Canada between May 1, 1993 and April 30, 1994.
- * Book in print and readily available.
- * Fiction or non-fiction (except textbooks).
- * Steering Committee reserves the right to accept or reject nominations.

Back To Reality: Serving Users in a Virtual World

As the snow falls outside, I dream of sitting at the Inverary Inn in Baddeck in May, watching sailboats glide by. Of course, I don't expect that anyone will spend much time sitting at APLA 1994. With 26 sessions, three pre-conference workshops, two tours, lots of meetings, and a Cape Breton fiddler (or two), the sailboats may go unnoticed.

The theme of the conference "Back to Reality: Serving Users in a Virtual World" acknowledges the difficulty in remaining grounded in the face of both exciting technological advances and shrinking budgets. We must never cease evaluating how the services we provide are meeting the needs of the library users.

Catherine Ross, the keynote speaker, is a professor in the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Western Ontario. She has co-authored *Communicating Professionally* (Neal Schumann, 1989), *A Biography of Alice Munro* (ECW Press, 1992), and three information books for children (KidsCan Press). She has published articles on reading, readers' advisory service, and reference service, and has presented over fifty workshops on the reference interview to participants across North America.

In her keynote address, Dr. Ross will draw on her in-depth interviews with readers, as well as her recent research on users of reference service, to illustrate the users' perspective and discuss implications for providing and evaluating library services.

There are many speakers and topics. To name just a few:

Shelia Cole, Environmental Health Educator, will discuss air quality in library buildings;

Cerise Oberman, from the State University of New York College, will explore how instruction librarians can achieve a balance between technology and the educational needs of students;

Cindy Gorman, Nova Scotia Department of Human Resources, will talk about the application of total quality management in libraries;

Rita Joe, well known Mi'kmaq poet, will read from her recent work;

Dr. Michael Strangelove, University of Ottawa, will discuss current issues and trends in electronic journal publishing;

Dr. Bertrum MacDonald, Dalhousie School of Library and Information Studies, will focus on how research by librarians can help both the patrons and the profession;

Carol Lunau, National Library of Canada, will bring us up to date on proposed changes to the Library Rate;

Tracey Jones and Craig Smith from the Halifax City Regional

Library will discuss multicultural users in the virtual world; and

George Henaut, Pictou District School Board, will examine the role of the library in integrated holistic learning.

Many of the sessions deal with technology and the Internet. Literacy, information service in developing nations, and school/public library amalgamation are also represented.

This year we are trying out a new idea. Students at the Dalhousie School of Library and Information Studies have been invited to submit a paper for a competition. The winning paper (to be determined in early May) will be presented on Friday, May 27 at 5:00 p.m.

There will be tours to the Nova Scotia Highland Village Museum and the Gaelic College of Celtic Arts and Crafts. Both locations illustrate the importance of the migration from Scotland on the settlement and culture of Cape Breton.

The Conference hotels are the Inverary Inn and Giselle's. Both offer very comfortable accommodations paired with beautiful scenery—the cheesecake alone at the Inverary Inn is said to be worth the trip. Merit Award Dinner entertainers will include two of the younger Barra MacNeils, True MacArthur and other musicians from St. Ann's Gaelic College—and you won't want to leave Cape Breton without learning a wee bit of stepdancing.

So remember: May 26-29 1994, Baddeck, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia is a great place to meet new friends, greet old ones, learn, update knowledge, discuss issues, and become involved in the Association. Non-APLA members can obtain the program and a conference registration form from: Laura Peverill, University College of Cape Breton, Box 5300, Sydney, NS B1P 6L2, Phone: (902) 539-5300 Ext. 421, Fax: (902) 562-6949, Envoy: LIB.UCCB, Internet: PEVERILL@CAD.UCCB.NS.CA

*-Rita Campbell, Program Convener
St. Francis Xavier University*

Eat, Drink, and be Merry in Baddeck!

The Local Arrangements Committee would like you to reacquaint yourself with those friends and colleagues whom you haven't seen since last year's conference ... or was it the year before that? Start with the **Past-President's Reception on Thursday evening**. Enjoy fingerfood and

refreshments in a pleasant and relaxed atmosphere overlooking the Bras d'Or Lakes.

"Music to Talk By" will be provided by **Debbie Keating** at the **Friday evening reception**. A former CBC radio songwriting contest winner and soloist with the Cape Breton Chorale, Debbie currently teaches music and performs throughout Cape Breton. Now all you have to provide is the talk ...

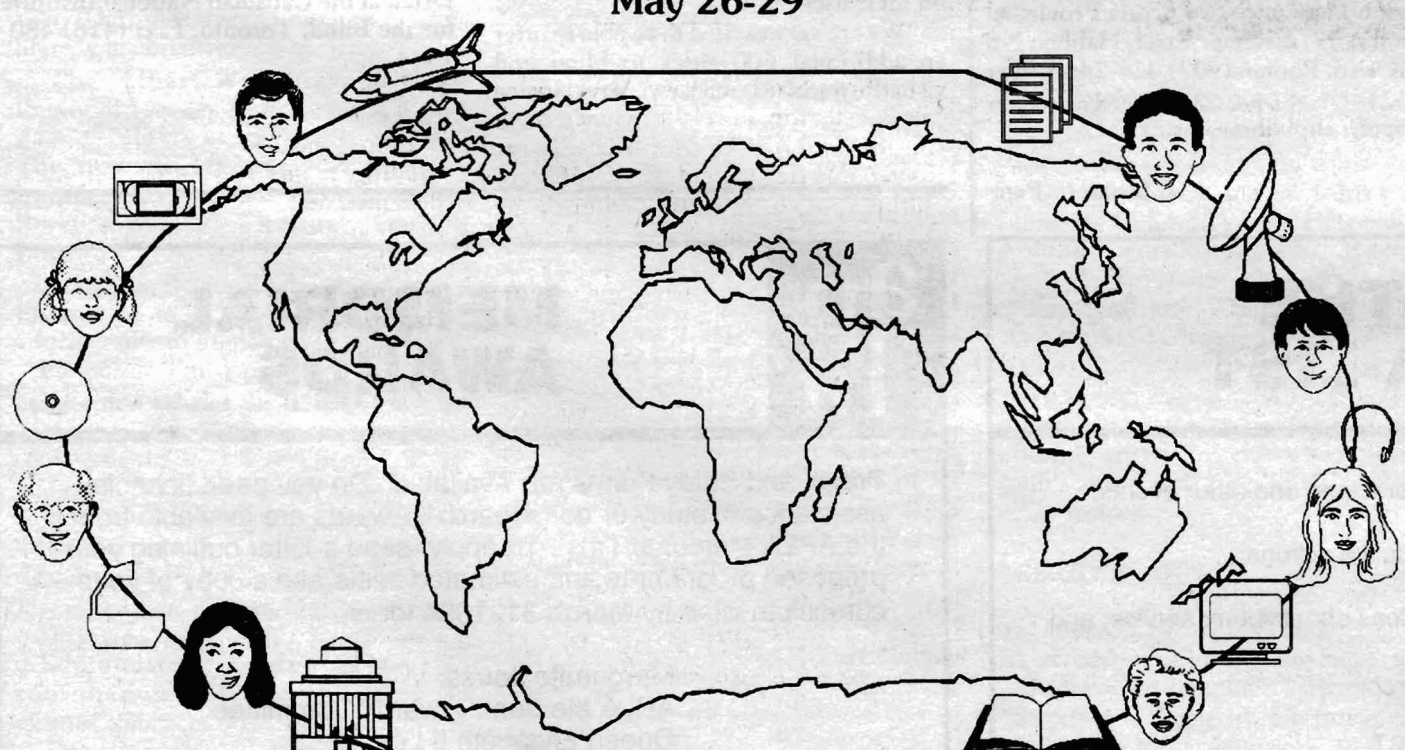
At the **Merit Award Banquet on Saturday evening**, along with great food prepared by one of Canada's finest chefs, APLA '94 will offer music performed by a few of Cape Breton's noted up-and-coming young musicians. **Ryan MacNeil** and **Boyd MacNeil** (younger siblings of the Barra MacNeils) will serenade you throughout dinner in the best Cape Breton tradition. Following dinner, wear off those extra calories by participating in our **Cape Breton Ceilidh**. **Ryan and Boyd** will be joined by friends from St. Ann's Gaelic College for an hour of Highland dancing, bagpiping, and stepdancing (including lessons for the more daring!). When everyone is warmed up, disc jockey **Francis Rozicki** will round the evening off by providing contemporary music. Don't worry, you can still stepdance if you want to! All of this for **only \$35** per ticket!

Tours of local sites and attractions are in the planning process. Times and fees will be announced in your program.

AND REMEMBER! APLA '94 coincides with the annual **International Cabot Trail Relay Race**. Be sure to make your reservations as soon as possible, as hotel accommodations will be at a premium.

*-Laura Peverill
University College of Cape Breton*

APLA 1994
May 26-29



Back to Reality: Serving Users in a Virtual World

Information Rights Week

•From Page 1

libraries in each province in a position to provide this information?

Many other organizations are also becoming concerned about the issues. Here is an excellent opportunity to work with human rights associations, journalists, freenet groups, social action groups, telecommunications workers, academics and students, and the many other groups with which libraries traditionally work.

Information policy initiatives are taking place in many jurisdictions across the country. Treasury Board, Industry Canada, and other federal government departments have a number of information policy initiatives underway. Provincial Governments such as those of British Columbia and Ontario have been very active on the scene. Nova Scotia and New Brunswick have launched into Information Highway activities in very significant ways, with New Brunswick naming a Cabinet Minister to take direct responsibility and Nova Scotia announcing a consultant study for the Nova Scotia Information Highway, which will include a recommended Information Policy.

No one could miss the media hype around the Information Technology Association of Canada (ITAC) Conference recently held in Toronto on the topic of the National Information Highway, but the issues relating to the public interest are still lacking. The library community in the Atlantic Provinces can raise awareness about the issues of access and affordability through the promotion of libraries. Please let your Vice President know what activities you are planning.

Kits are available which include: a bibliography of information policy issues; draft proclamation of Information Rights Week; list of suggested events, programs, and displays; list of CLA Information Policy Committee members; Information Rights Week poster; Information Policy issues brochure; draft CLA Access Principles policy paper; and an order form for additional materials. Please enclose a cheque or money order for \$2.00 for each kit. To order a kit, or obtain further information, contact:

Information Rights Week

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Intellectual Freedom Committee

The Intellectual Freedom Committee, through the APLA President, has recently taken political action on two fronts:

1. A letter opposing the passage into law of the Federal Government's *Bill C-128*, An Act to Amend the Criminal Code and the Customs Tariff (Child Pornography and Corrupting Morals), was sent to the Federal Justice Minister, the Hon. Alan Rock. The law, 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 child pornography to include all works of art or creative expression, whatever their origin or motivation. Anyone looking for a useful analysis of *Bill C-128* and its potential impact on libraries should consult Lesley Ellen Harris' excellent article in *Feliciter*, v. 39 (9/10), Sept./Oct. 1993.

2. A letter to the Ontario Attorney General protesting the ongoing Paul Teale/Karla Homolka publication ban, especially as it has affected libraries and raised questions about freedom of access to information about the cases in library collections within Atlantic Canada and across the Country.

The Committee has been working towards developing a session entitled "The Virtual Censor: Intellectual Freedom and the Internet in the 1990s", for presentation at the APLA 1994 conference in Baddeck, NS. The session will focus on the burgeoning issue of censorship in the electronic age, specifically as it relates to the Internet.

As Freedom to Read Week (February 28 - March 7, 1994) draws near, the Committee will be preparing a press release campaign geared to at least 50% of the commercial newspapers in the Atlantic region. The campaign will alert the public to the many faces and dangers of censorship.

-Stephen Field,
Convener

c/o British Columbia Library Association
110-6545 Bonsor Avenue
Burnaby, BC V5H 1H3
Fax: (604) 430-9633

The March issue of *Feliciter* will be oriented to information policy and will feature the Information Rights Week poster on the front cover. A conference session is being planned for the CLA Conference in Vancouver to further discuss the draft access principles included in the Information Rights Week package. APLA will be preparing a report on these access principles. If you would like to submit your comments, they will be incorporated in the APLA submission. Send your comments by **April 25** to Marion Pape at Nova Scotia Provincial Library, 3770 Kempt Road, Halifax, NS B3K 4X8, Phone: (902) 424-2456, Fax: (902) 424-0633, Internet: mpape@nshpl.library.ns.ca

-Marion L. Pape

CNIB Library offers unrestricted books

The CNIB Library for the Blind announced in January that it is now the sole distributor for Blackstone Audio Books Inc. in Canada. The American company produces full-length records of classic literature, poetry, biographies, and children's books, and has no restrictions on their use.

"We are very excited to be able to offer an additional 600 titles to blind and visually impaired readers," says Janice

Hayes, Director of Client Services. "Libraries have been interested in unrestricted books in order to provide access to both print-handicapped and sighted clients, and now we will be able to fill that gap."

For more information contact Michelle Lurch at the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, Toronto, Fax: (416) 480-7524.

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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"

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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

Newfoundland Library Association focuses on information technology

The Newfoundland Library Association held two information sessions on February 8 and 9, timed to tie in with Public Library staff meetings in St. John's.

On February 8, Barbara McDonald and Louise McGillis from Memorial University's Information Services gave a progress report on efforts to establish a Newfoundland and Labrador Freenet. The presentation began with a quote by Gloria Steinem from an address to the ALA in 1992: "Libraries are the last democratic educational institution...the most important and democratic source of information...and the last refuge of those without modems." McDonald gave an overview of the development of networking from its beginnings in 1969 in the U.S. military to the present day, with 40,000 networks operating in 80 countries with over 20 million users. She spoke of the formation of the Council of Public Interest Networks (CPIN) whose role is to provide advice to policy makers and promote efforts to integrate the electronic "Information Highway" and make it more accessible. Seen as a convergence of mail, computer and telephone technology, computer networks have emerged as a totally new media form which integrates image, video, sound, and text. Computer networking is now seen to be the fastest growing form of human communications in history.

McGillis spoke of the formation of the Newfoundland and Labrador

Community Network Committee and its mission and objectives. [Copies of the Committee's Mandate are available from Louise McGillis or Elinor Benjamin.] Librarians, said McGillis, are quick to understand the applications of community freenets because "librarians

1) are experts in organizing and disseminating information, 2) understand the value of information, 3) understand the research process, 4) understand how users access information, 5) have been using computer technology to access information for a long time, and 6) are



John White, Newfoundland Library Association President, and Louise McGillis, Information Services, Memorial University of Newfoundland, at the NLA-sponsored demonstration of Freenet at the information sessions held in St. John's, February 8 and 9.

best equipped to introduce users to this new technology."

She went on to state that public libraries are a natural access point for freenets because they are 1) perceived as a neutral source for information, 2) where people go to get information, 3) ready-made access points (106 of them in Newfoundland), 4) accessible to all members of the community regardless of social, economic, or education status, and 5) have taken a leadership role in providing information.

A discussion of the types of information available already on more than 30 freenets was followed by a demonstration of the Ottawa Freenet. Public librarians in the audience advised that the new Director of Public Libraries had just that day urged them to go back to their regions and form associations of people interested in starting up freenets around the Province to link into the provincial Freenet.

The presentation on the following night entitled "Take your Micro Apart" was given by Susan Cleyle, Systems and Planning Librarian at the Health Sciences Library at Memorial. Cleyle succeeded in de-mystifying some of the major terminology having to do with the hardware inside a computer, inspiring confidence and entertaining an eager audience with her candid and easy to follow presentation.

-Elinor Benjamin
Vice President (Newfoundland)

Atlantic Books Today distribution

APLA representatives on the Board of *Atlantic Books Today* (ABT) have recently debated the effectiveness of the ABT's distribution methods to libraries and librarians. The insertion of ABT in the *APLA Bulletin* results in expensive multiple copies, particularly for those members who also have access to free bookstore and library copies. *APLA Bulletin* distribution may not be cost-effective for *Atlantic Books Today*, but on the other hand, APLA members in rural areas may depend on their *APLA Bulletin* copy for information on new Atlantic books.

ABT is also available as an insert in the Saturday edition of the *Globe and Mail*, which is distributed to most areas of the Atlantic Provinces (with the exception of some areas of Newfoundland). About 8,000 bulk copies of ABT go to bookstores in the Atlantic Region.

The quantity of bulk distribution to libraries varies greatly from Province to Province: Newfoundland, 620; New Brunswick, 500; Prince Edward Island, 550; Nova Scotia, 1,570. Elizabeth Eve, ABT's Managing Editor, will be conducting a study of the effectiveness of bulk distribution, including libraries, this year. She will be working with the APLA representatives on the ABT Board as well as the APLA Provincial Vice Presidents.

Comments on the current distribution of *Atlantic Books Today* to libraries and librarians are welcome, as are volunteers

in areas underserved by current bulk distribution. Librarians may request a minimum of 25 copies for display and distribution to their users by completing the bulk order form in each issue. Please direct your comments to Holly Melanson (Fax: (902) 494-2062; Internet: HMELANSO@AC.DAL.CA), Linda Hodgins (Fax: (902) 464-2284; Internet: LHODGINS@NSD.LIBRARY.NS.CA), or Elizabeth Eve (Phone/Fax: (902) 429-4454).

-Holly Melanson
Dalhousie University

Business Information Centres link up with libraries

An important Federal-Provincial cooperative effort is underway with the development of Business Information Centres. The Canada-Nova Scotia Business Information Service Centre is a new avenue for the public, especially business people, to find government programs in support of the development of human resources, products, or domestic or export markets. The Centre has online and other computer databases, research material, and experienced staff who provide in-depth advice for people interested in starting or expanding their

own businesses. The Centre is located on Brunswick Street in Halifax, just up the street from the Halifax City Regional Library. A toll free number allows access from around the Province.

Library involvement with the Centre is being provided by the Nova Scotia Provincial Library, in an effort to ensure that the provision of information to the public is coordinated, that services and resources are not duplicated, and that libraries are well represented on any new project which is relevant to libraries in the Province.

Marion Pape, Provincial Librarian, has been invited to be a member of the Steering Committee for the Centre and to chair a Library Subcommittee to examine the ways in which libraries, which already offer business information, can cooperate with the new Centre and coordinate their services to the public in the most efficient and cost-effective manner. The Committee met on January 17 to begin sharing information. Laura Jantek and Eric Stackhouse represented the information services of Nova Scotia's regional public libraries.

-Donna Bourne-Tyson
Nova Scotia Provincial Library

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AST'S BIBLICAL LIBRARY

School's new facility rich in religious symbolism

The building is reminiscent of a basilica. Walls are rounded. Columns adorn the long centre aisle, and natural light streams through windows set high in the stone walls. The religious overtones are appropriate—the building is the new home of the Atlantic School of Theology's library.

The bond between libraries and churches dates back hundreds of years, says Kevin Moynihan, AST's director of development. "In fact, the first libraries were actually in churches."

This bit of history is not lost on Halifax architect George Rogers, who designed the library. He has incorporated religious symbolism into different aspects of the building. For example, the light fixture in the facility's second floor reading room is shaped like a nine-point star, symbolizing the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Head librarian Alice Harrison is delighted with the new building. "I love every smidgeon of it. It's a safe building. It's a functional building. And it's pleasing to the eye," she declares. She says careful planning is the reason for the building's success.

Library staff were extensively consulted during the planning stages. "One of our major concerns was that we wouldn't end up with a sick building," Ms. Harrison says. As a result, materials used in construction and decorating were chosen to prevent future health problems.

Ms. Harrison also emphasizes that the library is a "secure" building. "It is well lit. There are no dark corners."

The airy, spacious structure is a far cry from the dark, cramped quarters previously occupied by the library. AST's 70,000 books and bound periodicals, the largest theological collection east of Montreal, are now spread out over 20,000 square feet.

The new library is constructed mostly of brick, stone, glass and wood. The building's most striking feature is its pentagonal reading room on the second floor. With windows that stretch from

floor to ceiling, the room commands a spectacular view of the North West Arm. It is dedicated to the memory of Sister Margaret Flahiff, AST's first librarian, who died in 1990.

The third floor, with its vaulted ceilings, is home to more books and comfortably furnished study areas. It also boasts a large outdoor deck overlooking the Arm.

Technical services, periodical stacks and staff offices are found on the building's ground floor. A large bright room, dedicated to the University of King's College divinity school, is also located there.

The library's 4,000 rare book collection, including Bibles dating to pre-1500 and volumes from the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries, is displayed in a specially designed room with custom-made script tables.

A painting donated by Alex Colville will also hang in the room. "It is of three sheep, which is appropriate, incorporating the traditional symbol of Christianity—lamb of God. And the three could represent the Anglican, United and Roman Catholic churches," says Mr. Moynihan. The Pine Hill Room, as it is called, is dedicated to the United Church.

Esthetics aside, a big part of the library's charm is the fact it is debt-free. The \$3.1-million building was funded by donations from the Anglican, United and Roman Catholic churches, AST alumni, faculty, staff and government.

The new library is connected to the Novanet system, a computer program which keeps track of books in universities throughout the province. It can tell users where to find a book, and if it's available. Mr. Moynihan adds that the AST library mails books to users across Nova Scotia.

-Susan Hughes
reprinted courtesy of
The Chronicle-Herald
and The Mail-Star



Dalhousie University
SCHOOL OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STUDIES

OPAC USER STUDIES

On January 21, 1994, an attentive audience gathered in the Killam Library at Dalhousie University to listen to Joan Cherry's lecture on "OPACS and Beyond: User Studies in University Libraries". This lecture, the School of Library and Information Studies' first Friday lecture for 1994, introduced Dr. Cherry to the Halifax library community. Dr. Cherry, an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Library and Information Studies at the University of Toronto, joins Dalhousie University as a Researcher-in-Residence for the Winter Term.

Dr. Cherry described her research concerning online catalogues and user studies. She commenced by describing a study that she and Marshall Clinton completed in the winter of 1990 entitled "Surveys of OPAC Users at Five Ontario Universities". The five universities examined in this study each had different OPAC systems. Two observations from this study were described by Dr. Cherry: the correlation between user satisfaction and ownership of computers, and the high percentage of users who relied on online help or trial and error to learn how to use the OPACs.

The first observation found that users who owned computers were more likely to be dissatisfied with the OPAC systems. The implication is that computer owners tend to have higher expectations of the systems, especially with regards to access and the system's capabilities. Two specific expectations were wanting more OPAC terminals and expecting similar features from all OPACs. This observation is especially interesting, given the increasing number of computer owners, especially in the university setting.

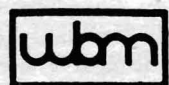
Dr. Cherry then described her research, which has looked at how to design better online OPAC instruction. One project involved the development of a stand-alone Apple hypercard OPAC tutorial. The tutorial was concept-based and was found to benefit students with lower prior abilities in OPAC searching. It was found that students who used the tutorial performed search tasks better than those with no instruction at all.

Currently, Dr. Cherry and her associates are evaluating an experimental learning module they have designed and mounted on the University of Toronto's OPAC system. Called UTLearn, it mixes concept and procedure based instruction and contains about 350 screens. The initial results indicate that users are spending about five minutes in UTLearn, and do not look at many screens at any one session. A more detailed analysis of the usage of UTLearn may give further insights into users' expectations and practices.

Another interesting project on which Dr. Cherry is working involves an examination of the use of the Internet at the University of Toronto. The Internet can be accessed through the University of Toronto's online catalog, and the project is administering surveys at random to users of this access point. Interesting results so far show that 82% of the users are male and that 55% are using the Internet for their personal interests.

It was clear from this lecture that Dr. Cherry is involved with several interesting projects. The audience was eager to question her about them, and asked for more information about the procedures and results.

-Alison Hopkins
MLIS student



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New Brunswick Workshop focuses on Distance Learning and Libraries

Information Services and Distance Learning was the topic of a workshop held in Fredericton on January 13 and 14, 1994. The workshop brought together over 50 participants representing universities, public libraries, hospital libraries, and the government departments of Education, Advanced Education and Labour, and Municipalities, Culture and Housing. The purpose of the workshop was to explore multitype library cooperation in order to meet the information needs of distance learners. Sponsored by TeleEducation NB, the Faculty of Education of the University of New Brunswick, and the UNB Libraries, the workshop was a mix of group discussions and presentations.

A number of initiatives lent impetus for the workshop. The major ones include the establishment of TeleEducation NB, the rapid development of the telecommunications infrastructure, including the completion of NBTel's province-wide digital network, and the Premier's Task Force on the Electronic Highway. It is expected that these initiatives will contribute to the rapid growth of distance education opportunities, and that this trend will have a considerable impact on libraries.

Rory McGreal, Director of TeleEducation NB, a distance education network that facilitates the development and delivery of quality education and training in New Brunswick, explained to the audience that learning centres or "electronic classrooms" are being established around the Province in partnership with local communities and educational institutions. Of major concern to the Provincial Government at the present time is the creation of learning and training opportunities for people living in rural areas. Mr. McGreal also demonstrated the computer-based audiographic teleconferencing system used to deliver courses.

David McNeil, Director of Computing Services at UNB, spoke about the Canadian Network for the Advancement of Research, Industry and Education (CANARIE), an organization funded by the research and business communities and government. Mr. McNeil is on the Board of Directors of CANARIE, which has as its mission to stimulate the creation of an electronic communications infrastructure that would benefit both the public and private sectors.

Other speakers included Lynn Copeland of Simon Fraser University, Joyce Rumery of Maine, and Judith Snow of the University of Toronto, as well as a number of New Brunswick librarians. Two nurses, one from Chatham and the other from St. Stephen, recounted their experiences as distance learners working to upgrade their qualifications and confirmed the necessity of library services that respond to user needs.

From the small group discussions and the wrap-up session a number of immediate and long-term projects emerged that would enhance the quality of distance education in the province. These projects fall under four headings: 1) equity of database access and document delivery, 2) cooperative collection development, 3) the user, and 4) human resources.

In the discussions it became clear that there is a general feeling that for too long, some areas of the Province have been information rich while others remain information poor. In developing any plan, "equity" is a factor that cannot be ignored! A report, including recommendations, is being prepared. These will be used to identify opportunities for innovation and cooperation among institutions.

-Jocelyne Thompson
Vice President (New Brunswick)

GERARD LAVOIE 1947 - 1994

Les membres de l'Association des bibliothécaires des Provinces de l'Atlantique sont attristés d'apprendre qu'ils viennent de perdre un de leurs grands bibliothécaires. Gérard Lavoie, bibliothécaire-en-chef de la bibliothèque du Centre universitaire Saint-Louis-Maillet, est décédé des suites d'une longue maladie, le 17 janvier dernier à l'âge de 46 ans.

Gradué du Collège Saint-Louis d'Edmundston, il a obtenu un baccalauréat ès arts, mention français, en 1971. La profession de bibliothécaire l'ayant toujours intéressé, il s'est inscrit à la Dalhousie University School of Library Service, pour obtenir une maîtrise en bibliothéconomie en 1974.

Ses premiers contacts avec la profession se sont faits lorsqu'il a été nommé directeur de la Bibliothèque publique d'Edmundston, 1974-1977. En août 1977, il accédait au poste de bibliothécaire-en-chef du Centre universitaire Saint-Louis-Maillet de l'Université de Moncton.

Au cours des années, Gérard Lavoie a toujours été prêt à accepter de nouvelles responsabilités: entre autres, il était actif au sein de quelques organisations professionnelles et s'est vu nommé vice-président pour le Nouveau-Brunswick de l'Atlantic Provinces Library Association (APLA) 1987-1989, ainsi que président de regroupement des membres francophones de l'APLA dès sa mise sur pied en 1989-1993. Surtout, il a été le président fondateur du Salon du livre d'Edmundston, événement annuel depuis 1986, et qui est le projet qui lui a tenu le plus à coeur au long de sa carrière. C'est avec grande fierté qu'il aimait dire en parlant du Salon: "Le but n'est pas de présenter uniquement un exposition de livres mais de créer un événement culturel et littéraire de qualité bénéficiant à toute la région du Madawaska", car il était convaincu qu'un bon livre est un

véritable jardin pour l'intelligence et le progrès de l'humanité. Pour ce qui est de ses amis et collègues, nous nous souviendrons de lui comme un homme de service, de bonté et de dévouement: aussi, son bon rire franc et jovial restera toujours avec nous.

The APLA community has been saddened to learn of the death of one of its leading librarians. After a long illness, Gérard Lavoie, Chief Librarian at Centre universitaire Saint-Louis-Maillet, passed away on January 17 at the age of 46.

In 1971, Gérard received a Bachelor of Arts (Honours French) from the College Saint-Louis Edmundston. Librarianship always appealed to him. In 1974, he completed a Masters degree of Library Science at the Dalhousie University School of Library Service.

Gérard was appointed Librarian in charge of the Edmundston Public Library in 1974, and remained there until 1977. In August 1977, he was named Chief Librarian at the Centre universitaire Saint-Louis-Maillet de l'Université de Moncton.

He was always willing to accept new responsibilities and gave generously of his time. He was APLA Vice-President (New Brunswick) from 1987-1989. He became the first Convener of the APLA Groupe d'Interêt francophone/Francophone Interest Group in 1989, a post which he held until 1993. His prize project was the founding of the Salon du livre d'Edmundston—an annual event since 1986. He firmly believed that the Salon was not only a book fair but a cultural and literary event that benefitted the whole Madawaska Region.

His friends and colleagues will remember him as a very kind and devoted person, and will greatly miss his hearty laugh.

-Fernande Goguen
Université de Moncton

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LIBRARY TECHNICIANS INTEREST GROUP

The articles on this page are the third and fourth 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.

Library Technician Program Halifax Campus, Nova Scotia Community College

The Library Technician Program at the Halifax Campus, Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC), has been operational since September, 1988. What is the measure of success of the program?

Perhaps a clue to the success of any Community College program can be found in the employment or employability of its graduates. Rabab Naqvi, in her article "Library Technicians - Hidden Resource," in *Library Mosaics: The Magazine for Support Staff*, Jan./Feb. 1994 issue, writes on the development of the Documentation and Library Systems Program at John Abbott College in Quebec. This program, like our Halifax program, was not necessarily intended to be an adult learner program but, as Naqvi states, "our students are in search of a career, they are not always in need of upgrading their academic credentials." The majority of graduates of the Halifax program have maturity and impressive academic credentials, and when I look through the *Directory of Nova Scotia Libraries*, I see they are attaining their career goals. Their names are listed, followed by the designation "Library Technician", or some specific library activity such as Interlibrary Loans.

The Community College system was introduced to Nova Scotia in the Spring of 1988. The Halifax Regional Vocational High School became the Halifax Campus of the Nova Scotia Community College system—a system identified as one college, with eighteen separate campuses. As part of their new role as Community Colleges, various campuses undertook the development of new courses. A logical choice for the Halifax Campus was the Library Technician program, a program well-suited to the resources of the City and one which could offer employment opportunities. The program was mandated by the Minister of Education to maintain small class numbers—ten students—and was up and running in September, 1988.

From its inception the program has relied on the Canadian Library Association *Guidelines for the Education of Library Technicians* for guidance in course development. As well, a review of courses in similar programs at other community colleges across Canada has

provided suggestions for the balance of course offerings. This, and an initial close relationship with the Provincial Advisory Board for Library Technician Programs in Nova Scotia, has helped with producing graduates with skills transferable to any Library Technician position in Canada. Part of the development process for the program has included talks to the Halifax Library Association and the Nova Scotia Library Association, as well as informational sessions for graduates and students on association membership. In the Fall of 1992, the Halifax program completed a self-study questionnaire in preparation for a Professional Review to be undertaken by Anne Galler and Donna Duncan on behalf of the Canadian Library Association. The successful completion of this review has given further credence to the program and created the opportunity for new developments.

The move of selected courses to evening times has made them available to the part-time student already working in the library or library-related field. The program has also evolved from a four semester program, with four months in each semester, to a regular two-year format. The twenty courses of the program are maintained, still allowing students exemptions from academic courses for which they have university credit. Each course of the program runs for approximately ninety hours. Cataloguing offers three courses, to cover all of the complexities of the topic. Other courses in the Technical Services grouping might offer only a single ninety-hour session. In Public Services, two Reference courses are offered and two Media courses, with the first course of each being a pre-requisite for the second course. As well, there are courses in Para-Professional Management, Records Management, and the grouping of Academic courses. All of which, together with thirty days of field placement, ensure that the graduate is ready for the workplace.

-Carole Compton-Smith
Nova Scotia Community College,
Halifax Campus

Library Technician Program Kingstec Campus, Nova Scotia Community College

THE R's

Kingstec's Library Technician Program is often called intense, and it is. Every aspect, from recruitment to program delivery, is driven by a serious dual responsibility—to library employers, and to the technicians they will employ. Every decision is screened for its relevance in today's "real" library world. The result is a challenging course load, and a requirement that staff and students be adaptable to change.

To facilitate this connection to the "real" library world, Kingstec includes currently working librarians on staff in both its full-time and part-time LT programs. As well, teaching staff participate actively in library projects, committee work, and interlibrary communication on both provincial and national levels. This ensures that the environment in which Kingstec library technicians learn will not become stagnant, out-of-touch, or out-of-date.

Responsible, reality-based course planning yields courses which do more than meet *CLA Guidelines for the Education of Library Technicians*. Course coverage expands as necessary, to meet the needs of today's working technician. Each summer these courses are reviewed and updated to accommodate recommendations made by employers and graduates in academic, public, special, and school library situations.

Besides enjoying a challenging course load, Kingstec students develop confidence and competence through 300+ lab hours, using automated and manual procedures in all library service areas. Students participate in the functioning of a real library; they interact with actual clients and practice supervising clerks.

Most importantly, this experience focuses on crucial intangibles: attitude, occupational ethics, communication and interpersonal skills, co-operation, team participation, and committee skills.

Unlike other LT programs, Kingstec sets all six weeks of external field work in the student's second year, when participation in the full range of technician-level activities is possible. Thus, employers meet these students at their best level of competence.

FLEXIBILITY, DISTANCE EDUCATION, CONTINUING EDUCATION

Responsibility to students also entails flexibility. In addition to the regular two-year program, Kingstec offers a 16-month accelerated program to students with previous university education. Individualized schedules are also provided for those who wish to spread their course work over a more than two-year period.

Most recently, a part-time program using Network Nova Scotia's teleconferencing system allows working library clerks and assistants to earn their Library Technician Diploma through evening attendance at their local Community College campus, without having to move or interrupt their employment.

These evening courses are also available to graduate library technicians who wish to update their knowledge and improve their mobility in the field.

Regardless of which scheduling option is selected, Kingstec LT students are encouraged to undertake enrichment projects and electives related to their individual interests.

A DECADE OF DEVELOPMENT

The quality and success of the Library Technician Program continues to be a priority for the Kingstec administration. Significant growth in the Library, the LT facilities, the research collection, and the options available to students are evidence of this commitment.

Developments in the Library Technician Program attest to its serious partnership with the library community.

For more information or to request a copy of the Course Guide, contact: Laura Draper, Program Co-ordinator, NSCC Kingstec Campus, P.O. Box 487, Kentville, NS B4N 3X3; Phone (902) 678-7341; Fax (902) 679-1141.

-Laura Draper
Nova Scotia Community College
Kingstec Campus

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NEWS FROM THE REGIONS

NEW BRUNSWICK / NOUVEAU- BRUNSWICK

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

As an initial result of Jane Beaumont's automation study, the report of which was presented to the Minister and senior executive of the Department of Municipalities, Culture and Housing in January, **New Brunswick Library Service** has begun the retrospective conversion of public library materials not currently listed in the Inlex database of provincial holdings 1990-. This is a pilot project undertaken with special funding from the 1993-94 budget and will run to the end of March. There is great hope that NBLS will receive further funding to continue with recon in 1994-95.

The **Sackville Public Library** has provided a temporary home to the local Community Academic Services Program, an adult literacy program just begun in this municipality.

Anticipating a double anniversary in 1994, the Sackville Public Library held parallel poster contests in December for Grade 4 students (10 years in the new library) and for Grade 8 students (60 years of library service in Sackville). Winners were declared and rewarded with bookstore gift certificates, and an anniversary poster was produced and is being displayed around town.

At a thank-you tea for all library supporters held in January, the Sackville Public Library Board announced the establishment of a memorial fund to honour George Crawford, an educator and long-time board member who died last year. The fund is for the purchase of adult literacy materials.

The **Albert-Westmorland-Kent Regional Library Board** elected a new slate of officers at its January meeting. The new officers are: Chairperson, Lynne Owen; Vice Chairperson, Roseline Maillet; Treasurer, Gregory Boyd.

In January, Regional Librarian, **Claude Potvin**, sat on a Canada Council jury to award grants to French book publishers.

En raison d'un surplus enregistré au budget des salaires de la **Bibliothèque régionale du Haut-Saint-Jean**, une somme de 15 000 \$ sera réaffectée au budget d'opérations. Ce montant servira à mettre sur pied un projet-pilote de disques compacts. Ce projet a pour but d'équiper la bibliothèque principale du réseau, en l'occurrence la **Bibliothèque publique Mgr W. J. Conway** d'Edmundston, d'un poste de consultation et d'une collection de disques compacts.

Dans le cadre du Carnaval d'hiver d'Edmundston, la Bibliothèque régionale du Haut-Saint-Jean a tenu une grande vente de livres usagés à la Bibliothèque publique d'Edmundston Mgr W. J. Conway. Cette vente, la première

d'envergure dans la région, a connu un succès inespéré. Les livres étaient laissés à 50 cents chacun. Près de 3,000 livres ont été vendus.

La **Bibliothèque publique Mgr Plourde de Saint-François** présente l'exposition "*The Landscape of Craft*"; une collection de 25 oeuvres portant sur l'artisanat.

Le projet de construction de la nouvelle **bibliothèque de Saint-Quentin** avance à grands pas. La construction devrait être achevée au printemps 1994. Le conseil municipal a reçu un montant de 50 000 \$ du gouvernement du Nouveau-Brunswick et un montant de 871 545 \$ du gouvernement fédéral pour la main-d'oeuvre et les matériaux.

The **Fredericton Public Library** and the **Nashwaaksis Public-School Library** have both recently installed Kurzweil Readers. The machines were purchased with funds obtained from the Library Board, the City of Fredericton, and the National Library.

The **Moncton Public Library** unveiled its own Kurzweil Reader at a ceremony held on February 10. On this occasion, the CNIB and the Canadian Council of the Blind presented MPL with a Certificate of Merit for its special contribution to the well-being of blind and visually impaired Canadians.

The **Saint John Regional Library Board** was pleased to welcome to its January meeting Julian Walker, Deputy Minister of Municipalities, Culture and Housing. Mr. Walker was accompanied by **Jocelyne LeBel**, Director of New Brunswick Library Service. The need for library automation was emphasized at the meeting.

Employee recognition certificates were recently given to **Pamela Galbraith, Kathryn Coloris, Jean Cunningham, Ron Buckley, Constance Long, and Ofelia Lloyd**, who have given a combined total of over 70 years of dedicated service to the Saint John Regional Library.

The **Saint John Free Public Library** is currently featuring an exhibit of mixed media paintings by Barbara Tracey-Larocque. Ms. Tracey-Larocque received her degree in fine arts from Mount Allison University. Also on display is a collection of crafts including clay bowls and plates by David Eastwood, vases and plates by Peter Powning, handbound books and wooden pens by Jon Sawyer, and a collection of toys from Performing Toys of Fredericton.

At the suggestion of a satisfied patron, the Saint John Region has embarked on a Tape Saver Program in support of its Talking Book Collection. Grocery tapes from IGA, Save Easy, Sobeys, and Village Stores are collected and redeemed for cash from the respective grocery stores.

The **Ross Memorial Library Board** has elected the Reverend Robert Murray as Acting Chairperson until July. Mrs. Phoebe Magee will assume the Chair in July.

SCHOOL LIBRARIES

As a result of parent pressure to remove Stephen King's *The Shining* from library

shelves, **District 16 School Board** has passed two already-existing but unofficial policies, one on the selection of library materials and one outlining procedures for dealing with challenged materials.

ASSOCIATIONS

The **Library Council of the New Brunswick Teachers' Association (NBTA)** will hold its Spring Workshop in conjunction with the Combined Councils of the NBTA from May 4-6, 1994 at l'Université de Moncton. For further information, see Upcoming Events on p. 12.

The **Canadian Council of Teachers of English Language Arts (CCTELA)** is also meeting in Moncton during the same three days. One of their keynote speakers will be Mordecai Richler. Many other authors will also be spotlighted. Contact: Catherine Cox, Teacher Librarian, Moncton High School, 207 Church Street, Moncton, NB E1C 5A3. Phone/Fax: (506) 856-3481.

-Jocelyne Thompson
Vice President (New Brunswick)

NEWFOUNDLAND

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Public Library staff met in St. John's February 8-11 to participate in Session 2 of their Strategic Planning exercise and attend regular staff meetings. The need for automation, better staff training, and improved public relations are emerging as high priorities for re-vitalizing the service, which has been going through a difficult period. No action has been taken by government as a result of the Report of the Ministerial Review Committee which was completed and passed to the previous Minister in the summer, nor has the Report been released to the public.

On February 5, the **St. John's City Libraries Children's Library** sponsored a public workshop, "*The Magic of Stories*", featuring Katherine Grier, professional storyteller and educator. The workshop focused on introducing books, storytelling rhymes, and finger plays to very young children. Grier has previously worked with the Library in offering storytelling courses both in St. John's and at staff training workshops in other regions.

SCHOOLS

The Department of Education is now in its second year of development for a province-wide computer network called "StemNet". The network is intended for use by all K-12 educators, and post-secondary users. It will allow teacher-to-teacher communication both in the Province and throughout Canada, and provide access to Internet, and through Internet to the Canada-wide SchoolNet.

Teachers now have access to Memorial holdings on ELIOT and the ERIC database. At present, only ERIC citations are available, but it is hoped that eventually articles, videos, and other media will be available for downloading through the system. According to Keith Payne at the **Western Integrated School Board Office**, the development of StemNet is "not even in what we could call the pilot stage yet", as there are many bugs to be ironed out, but the potential is enormous. What has made the development feasible to this stage is that the Department has received separate funding through a Human Resources development grant of \$4.5 million over a five-year period. A considerable portion of the grant is covering the hefty telecommunications costs in providing the service to rural areas without Internet nodes. "No school board could have done it on their own," said Payne. At present Payne says that the project is running in approximately 140 schools and school board offices. It is too early in the project to gauge teacher response, especially as the system cannot yet be called "user friendly".

ASSOCIATIONS

The **Newfoundland Library Association (NLA)** held two information sessions on February 8 and 9, timed to tie in with Public Library staff meetings in St. John's. [Read about them on p.5]. The NLA Library Week Committee has put together a Library Week package that is brimming with interesting items. This year's theme is "Looking at Ourselves through Libraries". The theme promotes the idea that in our libraries are collections that relate our past, reflect our present, and help fashion our future. Among the products offered to help promote Library Week, April 24-May 1, is a T-shirt made of Eacotex™, a synthetic fabric produced from recycled plastic pop bottles and new plastic. Information about Library Week can be obtained from the Newfoundland Library Association, P. O. Box 23192, Retail Post Office, Churchill Square, St. John's, NF A1B 4J9.

-Elinor Benjamin
Vice President (Newfoundland)

NOVA SCOTIA

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

The Regional Libraries Funding Formula Review Committee submitted its Report to the Deputy Minister of Education just before Christmas. Further positive discussions were held with the Minister and Deputy Minister in early February to determine the next stages of a

consultation process and action plan. The Report is being printed and will be broadly distributed. A limited number of copies are available from the Provincial Library (contact Debbie Ross at (902)424-2457 or by Internet at dross@nshpl.library.ns.ca).

The Regional Libraries Strategic Planning process will produce a final strategic planning document by June. The Planning Team met January 14 at the Dartmouth Regional Library and made a number of recommendations to the Steering Committee for inclusion in the document. Among these were the desire for a province-wide marketing strategy for promoting library services, the need for an affirmative action policy to reflect the community on library boards and staff, the possibility of a regional technology implementation committee, and the importance of staff training. A small Report Writing Committee was struck to write the first draft.

Provincial and Regional library staff have been working on the development of the Chebucto Freenet prototype. A province-wide umbrella group is also forming to facilitate in the development of freenets across the Province.

At the Provincial Library, automation is proceeding well. The new system is now being used for all acquisitions and cataloguing functions. The new email package, PC Eudora, will be installed during February in all Regional Library headquarters, along with a more powerful gopher. Shortly after that, it is hoped to begin sending ILL messages via email on the Internet. Donna Bourne-Tyson is filling in as Acting Coordinator of

Technical Services while Wendy Duff is on leave of absence.

ASSOCIATIONS

The Halifax Library Association (HLA) has another busy year planned. New President Janice Fralic-Brown and her executive have organized a number of tours and demonstrations, including a tour of the Mount Saint Vincent University Library, a tour of the Drug Dependency Library, a demonstration of the upcoming Community Network for the metropolitan area, a tour of the new Information Management program at Mount Saint Vincent University, an Internet workshop, and a tour of the new library at the Atlantic School of Theology, which will also be the site of the upcoming AGM in April.

The membership has decided not to change the name of the Association. It had been suggested that a new name be chosen to better reflect the geographic area represented by the membership. However, after much discussion it was decided to retain the established name and acronym, and to make changes to the wording of the constitution to clarify the geographic coverage of HLA.

-Edith Haliburton
Editor



PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

The Working Group on Library Futures has completed its report on the future of public library service in the Province. The Group held four public meetings throughout the Province; in addition, there were a number of written submissions and private presentations.

The semi-annual workshops for Eastern and Western branch library staffs were held with the cooperation of Mother Nature. A number of topics were discussed at the sessions, including the procedures manual, Library Week (April 24-30), the Summer Reading Program, the professional collection held at the Provincial Library, and the French collections for branches.

The Provincial Library, in partnership with Kentucky Fried Chicken (KFC), is participating in a readership incentive program for elementary school children. A bookmark distributed at public libraries and at KFC outlets will be stamped when children borrow materials from their local library. When five books have been borrowed, children will be able to redeem their bookmark for a KFC treat.

The Provincial Library is reintroducing and expanding on the former *Branch Library Newsletter*. The *Provincial Library Service Newsletter* will

offer a wide array of information, service tips, and news to all employees of the System. It is hoped that this will be a bi-monthly publication.

ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

Ed Hanus, Head of the Cataloguing Department at Robertson Library, UPEI, has announced his intention to retire in June. Hanus has been with the University since its inception in 1969.

SCHOOL LIBRARIES

The teacher-librarians in School Units 3 and 4 organized an after-school workshop on using Micro-Cat's administrative capabilities. Among the resource people for the session were Ron Moore, Richard Baker, Judy Davies, Karen Jollimore, Judy Gaudet, and Leona Dalton.

ASSOCIATIONS

The Library Week Committee of the P.E.I. Professional Librarians' Association is hoping to distribute a poster with the theme "Take Five and Read" to all libraries in the Province. A number of related organizations (other library groups, publishers, literacy councils, etc.) have been invited to participate in the event; in exchange for financial support for the production of the poster, each group's name will appear on the poster.

-Nichola Cleaveland
Vice President (Prince Edward Island)

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The Internet : A Selective Bibliography

This select bibliography on the Internet includes items available on interlibrary loan from the Nova Scotia Provincial Library's Professional Collection. The items were selected to provide an overview of the Internet system and its features.

MONOGRAPHS:

Big Dummy's Guide to the Internet. Electronic Frontier Foundation, 1993. (NSHPL Call# 384.3 Gaf)

Internet Connections: A Librarian's Guide to Dial-Up Access and Use. Chicago: American Library Association, 1993. (NSHPL Call# 021.65 Int)

Kehoe, Brendon P. *Zen and the Art of the Internet: A Beginner's Guide.* 2nd edition. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, c1993. (NSHPL Call# 384.3 Keh)

Krol, Ed. *The Whole Internet: User's Guide & Catalog.* Sebastapol, CA: O'Reilly & Associates, 1992. (NSHPL Call# 384.3 Kro)

Lane, Elizabeth S. *Internet Primer for Information Professionals.* Westport, CT: Meckler, 1993. (NSHPL Call# 004.67 Lan)

LaQuey, Tracy. *The Internet Companion: A Beginner's Guide To Global Networking.* Reading, MA: Addison-Wesley, 1993. (NSHPL Call# 384.3 Laq)

Library Resources on the Internet: Strategies for Selections and Use. Chicago: Reference and Adult Services Division, American Library Association, 1991. (NSHPL Call# 025.31 Lib)

Public Libraries and the Internet/NREN: New Challenges, New Opportunities. Prepared by Charles R. McClure. Syracuse, NY: Syracuse University School of Information Studies, 1992.

Tennant, Roy. *Crossing the Internet Threshold.* Berkeley, CA: Library Solutions Press, c1993. (NSHPL Call# 004.67 Ten)

Travelling the Information Highway: An Internet Workshop for Public Librarians. Halifax, NS: Dalhousie School of Library and Information Studies, 1993. (NSHPL Call# 384.3 Tra)

PERIODICAL ARTICLES:

Denton, B. "E-Mail delivery of search results via the Internet". *Online* 16:50-3, March 1992.

Engel, G. "User instruction for access to catalogs and databases on the Internet". *Cataloguing & Classification Quarterly* 13(3-4):141-56, 1991.

Engle, M.E. "Electronic paths to resource sharing: widening opportunities through the Internet". *Reference Services Review* 19(4):7-12, 1991.

Grundner, T. "Whose internet is it anyway? - a challenge". *Online* 16:6-7+, July 1992.

Kalin, Sally W. "Beyond OPACS...The wealth of information resources on the internet". *Database* 14(4):28-33, August 1991.

Keays, T. "Searching online database services over the internet". *Online* 17:29-33, January 1993.

Kesselman, M.A. "The Internet". *Wilson Library Bulletin* 66:76-8, March 1992.

Kollasch, M. "School media matters: modem operandi". *Wilson Library Bulletin* 67:65-6, May 1993.

Ladner, S.J. "Using the Internet for reference chart". *Online* 17:45-51, January 1993.

Lukanuski, M. "Help is on the W.A.I.S. (wide areas information servers protocol)". *American Libraries* 23:742-4, October 1992.

Nickerson, G. "LIBSOFT: the library software archive (to help librarians use the internet)". *Computers in Libraries* 12:56-7, November 1992.

Nickerson, G. "Networked resources (databases on the Internet)". *Computers in Libraries* 11:38-42, December 1991.

Notess, G.R. "Gaining access to the Internet". *Online* 16:27-34, September 1992.

Notess, G.R. "The Internet meets online". *Online* 17:84-6, March 1993.

Perez, E. "PSILINK: Internet connection with just a PC and a modem". *Library Software Review* 11:6-11, September/October 1992.

Polly, J.A. "NREN for all: insurmountable opportunity". *Library Journal* 118:38-41, February 1, 1993.

Polly, J.A. "Surfing the Internet: an introduction". *Wilson Library Bulletin* 66:38-42+, June 1992.

Quint, B.E. "Connect time: online meets the Internet". *Wilson Library Bulletin* 66:78-80, March 1992.

Ratzan, L. "The Internet Cafe". *Wilson Library Bulletin* 67:79-81, May 1993.

Sexty, Suzanne. "Confessions of an Internet convert". *APLA Bulletin* 57(2):1-2, September-October 1993.

Simmonds, C. "Searching Internet archive sites with archie: why, what, where and how". *Online* 17:50+, March 1993.

Tenopir, C. "Online searching with Internet". *Library Journal* 117:102+, December 1992.

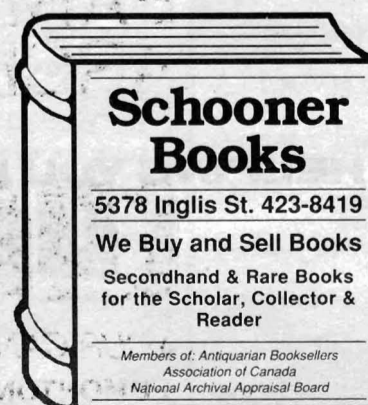
Tillman, H.N. "Special librarians and the Internet". *Special Libraries* 83:127-31, Spring 1992.

-Frank Oram
Nova Scotia Provincial Library

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Building on Strengths: A Workshop on Document Delivery in Nova Scotia, April 21 (1:00-4:30 p.m.) and April 22 (8:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.), Dartmouth, Bedford Institute of Oceanography. Sessions will increase participants' awareness of trends in document delivery in Nova Scotia and Canada and provide an opportunity for librarians to evaluate potential partnerships in cooperative ventures that will improve document delivery in the future. Estimated cost of registration is \$30. The Workshop is organized by the Nova Scotia Resource Sharing Committee. Contact: Anna Fiander, Chair, Nova Scotia Resource Sharing Committee, c/o Bedford Institute of Oceanography, P. O. Box 1006, Dartmouth, NS B2Y 4A2. Phone: (902) 426-3675/ Fax: (902) 426-2727/ Envoy: DFO.LIB.BIO

Library Council of the New Brunswick Teachers' Association, Spring Workshop, May 4-6, 1994, Moncton, Université de Moncton. Session leaders will include: Mark Bartlett, Head of Technical Services at Technical University of Nova Scotia, explaining MARA record formation; Jean Brown, Professor at Memorial University, speaking on transformational leadership; Jude Carson, National Film Board, showing latest releases; Lesley Choyce, owner of Pottersfield Press, speaking on YA literacy; Lorraine Julien, Reference Services at Université de Moncton, demonstrating CBCA; and Robert Munsch, children's writer, and Frank Smith, whole language proponent, both speaking to the Combined Councils of the NBTA. There will also be tours of local school libraries with different automated systems, book displays, and social activities. Registration fee for NBTA members is \$35. Contact: Catherine Cox, Teacher Librarian, Moncton High School, 207 Church Street, Moncton, NB E1C 5A3. Phone/ Fax: (506) 856-3481.

National LOEX Library Instruction Conference (Change in Reference and BI: How Much Help and How?), May 13-14, 1994, Ypsilanti, MI. Tentative sessions include "Reference Support for Good Assignments", "Two-tiered Reference Desk", "Removing BI from Reference", "Internet Training for Students", "Internet Workshops-Basic for Faculty", and "Using Teaching Portfolios for BI and Reference". Registration is limited to 180. Payment (\$US180) must be made by April 1, 1994. Contact: LOEX Clearinghouse, University Library, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI 48197. Phone: (313) 487-0168/ Internet: LIB_SHIRATO@EMUNIX.EMICH.EDU

Workshop on Instruction in Library Use (Making Connections/Créer des liens), May 18-20, 1994, Ottawa, University of Ottawa. Contact: Janice Crichton Patterson, Bladen Library, University of Toronto, 1265 Military Trail, Scarborough, ON M1C 1A4. Phone: (416) 287-7502/ Fax: (416) 287-7507/ Internet: crichton@macpost.scar.utoronto.ca

APLA '94 (Back to Reality: Serving Users in a Virtual World), May 26-29, 1994, Baddeck, Cape Breton.

Learned Societies Conference, June 3-18, 1994, Calgary, University of Calgary. Contact: 1994 Learned Societies Conference Registrar, University of Calgary, 2500 University Dr. NW, Calgary, AB T2N 1N4. Phone: (403) 220-8094/ Fax: (403) 289-4338.

Bibliographical Society of Canada Conference (Bibliography and Western Canada), June 7-8, 1994, Calgary, University of Calgary. Contact: Bibliographical Society of Canada, P. O. Box 575, Postal Station P, Toronto, ON M5S 2T1.

CLA 49th Annual Conference (Delivering Quality in Tough Times), June 14-18, 1994, Vancouver, BC.

Canadian Networking Conference (Networking '94), June 21-23, 1994, Saskatoon, University of Saskatchewan. Contact: Heather Friesen, Dept. of Computing Services, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, SK S7N 0W0. Phone: (306) 966-4836/ Fax: (306) 966-4938/ Internet: Net94@Usask.ca

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