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Some suggested reading

International Human Rights

By SUE NICHOL

On 10 December 1948, 58 nations then members of the United Nations General Assembly unanimously adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Every year since, 10 December has been observed by member nations of the United Nations and by international non-governmental organizations as Human Rights Day.

This year, on the 35th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Amnesty International members and supporters in more than 100 countries in all parts of the world will present a petition requesting a universal amnesty for all prisoners of conscience (those detained for expression of conscientiously-held religious or political beliefs; for race, ethnic origin, language or sex -- who have not used nor advocated violence) to the United Nations. Already thousands of signatures have been collected.

Recently, when I asked a friend who is keenly concerned and actively working for human rights causes for her signature, she hesitated and remarked: "We hear of more human rights violations today than ever before. What good is the Universal Declaration of Human Rights anyway? Why observe Human Rights Day?"

Her questions set me thinking. Probably we do hear more about human rights violations today than ever before. Today human rights are a matter of general international concern in a way which would have been inconceivable even 40 years ago. Throughout history, human rights have depended on given social units -- the clan, the tribe, the city-state or the nation. For most of recorded history, "human rights" were assumed to be the rights of those who "belonged". Citizens enjoyed rights, including the exclusive domination over their slaves.

In time, institutions of servitude and slavery were abolished by governments. Russian serfs were freed in 1861. Only a few years later the 13th, 14th and 15th amendments to the Constitution of the United States abolished slavery which less than 100 years earlier had declared itself independent and its citizens free and equal before the law.

Human Rights, then, depended upon individual governments for their enunciation, guarantees and protection.

In the 20th century the experience of two world wars brought international awareness to the point that such piecemeal arrangements were clearly inadequate. Technology had "shrunk" the world; such geographical "safety margins" as oceans, mountains or distances were no longer protections for countries which had previously considered themselves "secure" because of their remoteness from external threats and "outside political involvements." Into such a world, the United Nations Organization was born in 1945.

Although member states did not give up national sovereignty upon joining the U.N., such membership indicated recognition of need and a willingness to work together in a number of areas. "The war to end all wars" was over. A way to keep inevitable incidents of hostility under

control had to be developed. Major military powers were permanent members, while smaller nations alternated in their participation in the Security Council, the major organ of the United Nations responsible for keeping peace. The Economic and Social Council provided a framework for cooperation in a variety of areas of vital concern, including human rights.

When the U.N. was established, human rights were, as mentioned earlier, matters of national concern. Beyond national guarantees, the Charter of the United Nations recognized the inherent dignity and "inalienable rights of all members of the human family."

If the U.N. were indeed to guarantee human rights of individuals, it would be essential not only to agree on the rights to be universally protected, but mechanisms would have to be developed which would ensure protection of the agreed rights. "National emergencies could not be excuses for abrogation of rights; persons must always be protected against interference with privacy, arbitrary arrest or torture. All would have the right to "a standard of living adequate for ... health and well-being" -- including rights to marry and have a family, to work, to be educated, to enjoy rest and leisure, to choose and practice any religion, to participate in cultural life, to join associations, etc.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by 58 nations on 10 December 1948 was only the first step. Once there was agreement that the rights specified in its 30 brief articles were to be universal, means of international protection needed to be devised.

Two covenants, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights were drawn up. These were completed and opened for signatures and ratification on 16 December 1966. Only when a sufficient number of countries (35) had ratified the Covenants would they have the force of international treaty law. It would take nearly 10 years for 35 countries to ratify the Covenants. The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights entered into force on 3 January 1976 and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights became a binding international treaty on 23 March 1976.

The three elements of the International Bill of Human Rights were then in existence. International assent had provided a framework for bringing human rights to millions throughout the world. Still, however, minorities would continue to be discriminated against and persecuted, economic problems would prompt governments of developing countries to argue that in their struggle to attain economic and social rights for their citizens they could not "afford the luxury" of granting civil and political rights.

The framework, for all its comprehensive assurances, would not in itself ensure genuine universal observance of its highest ideals and goals. The United Nations, through its instruments, organs, and associated specialized agencies,

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APLA interviews Agnes C. O'Dea

APLA: When did you become interested in collecting Newfoundlandia?

A.C. O'Dea: In 1935 I was appointed Assistant Librarian at the Gosling Memorial Library to help organize the first Public Library in Newfoundland which opened in 1936. The basic collection consisted of the larger part of the Legislative Library of the defunct Government of Newfoundland and the extensive private collection of the late William Gilbert Gosling, first Mayor of St. John's. Ella Morris, the former librarian of the Legislative Library, had collected a considerable amount of Newfoundlandia. Once the public library was established other private collectors donated some of their treasures, and so the Newfoundland collection grew rapidly. At this time, use was made of the bibliography in Prowse's *History of Newfoundland*. R.G. MacDonald, a member of the Public Library Board who was also a member of the Royal Geographical Society in London, drew to my attention the work of W.D. McGrigor who was compiling a bibliography of Newfoundland. McGrigor's bibliography included the relevant holdings of the RGS, periodical article references and many more often incomplete citations culled from footnotes and so forth. This was acquired on cards in 1939, and I began working on it but this ceased when I moved to Toronto to work with the Toronto Public Libraries the same year.

APLA: When did you begin to work on the Bibliography?

A.C. O'Dea: In 1955 the Memorial University of Newfoundland, with the backing of the Provincial Government, applied for a Carnegie Grant for Newfoundland historical research to identify and collect the printed and archival records of this history. This was under Dr. Gushue's presidency and with the support and encouragement of Professor Moses Morgan, then Professor of Political Science and Dr. G.O. Rothney, Head of the Department of History who fathered Newfoundland Studies at Memorial. Harvey Mitchell was appointed Archivist and I was appointed to compile a bibliography of Newfoundland. Our mandate was to collect "everything on Newfoundland."

APLA: That was quite a challenge. How did you begin?

A.C. O'Dea: It was both exciting and a bit intimidating. The first step was to review the collections existing in St. John's. The Gosling Memorial Library gladly opened its door to me and the staff were extremely helpful. It was the most important first source and then we searched through government departments for buried reports and papers. Many of these, which in prosperity would have been printed and published, existed only in typescript and were in danger of being lost forever. As the work on the bibliography became known, private collectors were delighted to give access to their libraries. Mrs. Vera Titford was a tower of strength to me throughout this operation. She looked after the voluminous files in shoe boxes, typed the catalogued entries and checked locations. Unlike many bibliographies which were compiled

from existing bibliographies, each entry which I located and saw was catalogued by me as there was no existing comprehensive bibliography.

These collections were by no means a complete record of all publications on Newfoundland. The two fires which all but obliterated St. John's in the nineteenth century destroyed many printed records. For example, many printed reports of the government of that period recorded in the Journals of the House of Assembly as having been "laid on the table" have survived only in the Appendices to these journals.

APLA: You have mentioned some bibliographies you consulted. Were these helpful in the expansion of the bibliography?

A.C. O'Dea: Prowse's *History of Newfoundland* originally published in 1895 was the most definitive history. He had hired the researchers to comb the British Museum Library catalogues for sources and his bibliography contained about 500 items covering earlier histories, accounts of exploration and discovery, colonization, some British and Newfoundland government reports and some periodical articles.

The McGrigor Bibliography which I mentioned earlier was also useful.

The Royal Empire Society Library, Subject Catalogue included Newfoundland in its volume 3, published in 1932. This had a geographical arrangement, subdivided with subject headings with the entries arranged chronologically under these, plus an author index. It included books and pamphlets, periodical articles and learned papers.

Tanner's Bibliography on Newfoundland-Labrador developed from his work on the *Outlines of the Geography, Life and Customs of Newfoundland-Labrador* and

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Upcoming Events

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

May 25 (Wednesday) Indexing and Abstracting Society of Canada-Société canadienne pour l'analyse de documents is holding its 1983 annual conference in Halifax. This year's theme is 'Indexing and Abstracting of Special Collections'. Information can be obtained from: IASC-SCAD, 53 William Street, Fredericton, N.B. E3A 4W7.

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

APLA Conservation Committee ----

Interim Report

Since its revitalization last year, the APLA Committee on the Conservation of Library Materials has convened two meetings in Halifax. The Committee is presenting a workshop at the upcoming APLA Conference entitled "Preserving Our Heritage: Conservation of Library Materials in the 80's". Joyce Banks, National Library of Canada is the keynote speaker. She will discuss conservation and preservation activities and research in Canada with particular emphasis on the

work of the National Library. John Barton, Archivist, Ontario Archives will do a demonstration of 'VACUDYNE' unit (a fumigation and drying system for documents). Professor Fred Matthews, Dalhousie School of Library Service will discuss the conservation activities of the Library of Congress. A tour of the Nova Scotia Archives is also planned for anyone interested.

Besides the Conference programme, the Committee is also involved in

disseminating bibliographic information on preservation and conservation. Two bibliographies entitled, "Catalogue of the Audio-Visual Aids to the Conservation of Archival and Library Materials in the Atlantic School of Theology" and a list of twenty-four journals on conservation of library materials have been prepared by Alice Harrison, a member of the Committee. These are available free of charge from Rashid Tayyeb, Convener of the Committee or from Alice Harrison, Librarian, Atlantic School of Theology, Halifax.

The Committee is also entertaining the idea of a film festival on conservation, around mid-winter. Alice Harrison and Fred Matthews are preparing a 'Disaster Manual' which will outline the resources, and the information to deal with the unexpected. The manual will be published

as an occasional paper through the School of Library Service, Dalhousie University, and will hopefully be available before the Halifax Conference.

The Committee would welcome any suggestions, ideas, comments from the Atlantic Library community on conservation, as well as the tasks this committee may undertake in future. The Committee also solicits news on conservation activities underway, or planned, in the Atlantic area libraries. These information briefs will be consolidated and published in the Bulletin on a regular basis. Please send all information to:

Rashid Tayyeb
Head of Technical Services
Patrick Power Library
Saint Mary's University
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3H 3C3

Government Information Access Policies, Their Effect on Libraries in Canada

By HARRY CAMPBELL

As Canadians proceed further and further into the decade of the 1980s, more and more questions are being asked concerning the design and management of Federal and Provincial government information access policies. This article seeks to examine what has been the impact in the past few years of new Federal and Provincial government policies with regard to the provision of computer based information for the citizen, and to speculate on the effects of these for the future.

The need for such an investigation is prompted by the declared policy of the Federal Government to make available more and more machine readable data bases which supply information on the services of the government, and on other matters. In 1983 the Government of Canada's information access involvement, as this can be determined from actual performance, as well as from stated objectives, covers the following areas:

- scientific and technical data and information dissemination
- economic and social data and information dissemination
- cultural data and information dissemination

In the first category the example of the Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information, (CISTI) shows that out of 200,000 requests for

documentation which it received in 1981-82, 70,000 came from the Government itself, 40,000 from universities and 90,000 from industry. The requests have been increasing at around 10 per cent for the past decade. (1)

Similar examples can be found for governmental information activities in the social science, economic and cultural areas. (2) The key word in government policies is "dissemination". We are all fully aware that the Federal Government of Canada is the largest collector, and analyst of machine readable data and information on our territory. It is also the largest disseminator. Its more than 10,000 offices and bureaus across the country are designed to reach every citizen and respond to a very wide range of needs. While the Federal Government may share its efforts with intelligence services and commercial agencies elsewhere in North America and Europe, it remains sovereign in terms of Canadian content and control. (3)

This is important in an age when many countries in other parts of the world cannot establish jurisdiction over the collection and analysis of their intellectual output. More than a half of the countries of the world are having their intellectual production measured, analysed and recorded in machine readable form by foreign information agencies, mainly in

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From the President's Desk

This year's conference is shaping up to be an interesting one from the view point of variety and content. The idea was to attempt a blend of the humanistic side of communications, with the technological side of communications. The humanistic side is represented by verbal encounters (of the first kind) between staff members, library instruction, storytelling and social impact, while the technological side is represented by Prestel, Telidon, software collections and systems design. The keynote speakers also tie in with this blend, one showing social impact of new media technologies and the other speaking about technology and the end user.

The social activities of the conference should not be ignored by the members, although we always talk of the "content" of the programmes first. (Everything in its place) There will be sufficient time for eating, drinking and socializing throughout the conference, with en-

tertainment at the banquet function being provided by the Jarvis Benoit Quartet.

At the time of writing this letter, I see the year as having been a quite successful one. All of our committees have been active through the year.

It looks now as if we may not be able to hold a "winter" executive meeting due to financial constraints. It may just be the case that in future we will have to suffice with one main executive meeting in the fall or winter, with additional meetings held at the time of the annual conference. Travel expenses to bring together executive members from all four provinces is prohibitive.

We have as yet not acquired a new editorial staff. How about a few volunteers? Here is your chance to attain journalistic recognition (if not notoriety). Write or call Peter Glenister today!

Anna Oxley
President

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APLA Bulletin

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

Individual membership to the Association is \$15.00, May-April and institutional subscription to the APLA Bulletin is \$15.00 per calendar year. Single copies: \$3.00.

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Typed manuscripts and advertising information regarding the Bulletin should be addressed to the appropriate editor c-o 53 William Street, Fredericton, N.B. E3A 4W7; other inquiries should be addressed to the appropriate officer c-o School of Library Service, Dalhousie University, Halifax, N.S. B3H 4H8.

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provides an essential base for the realization of international human rights. However, this alone is not enough to guarantee that persons everywhere will actually be allowed to enjoy these fundamental rights. Non-governmental organizations, by providing well-documented and accurate information and their own active dedication and efforts would have more will, energy and determination than would representatives of nations.

One simple example can illustrate: the U.N. Commission for Human Rights is one of several standing commissions meeting regularly. As a result of an important resolution passed on 27 May 1970 (Resolution 1503), a procedure was established whereby the Commission can carry out a thorough study or investigation on the basis of reliable information which reveals "a consistent pattern of gross and reliably attested violations of human rights." Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council provide such information to the Commission. Special working groups may be set up by the Commission as a result.

International human rights, then, depend both on the framework of consent provided by the U.N. and on the knowledge and efforts of international NGOs. Major efforts will be necessary to ensure that the initial steps are carried out and that further necessary actions are outlined and taken. The U.N. Covenants, for example, are in force as international law, but they have been ratified by fewer than half of the member nations of the U.N. Progress is being made, but it is more a trend toward sometimes dimly-defined and often suspiciously-viewed or even opposed terms of reference than it is firm forward steps.

I have begun this bibliography with two major parts -- the first devoted to books about the U.N. and the second to NGOs. Needless to say, neither of these, particularly not the second, pretends to be in any sense comprehensive. Following these two major sections, brief mention is made of a few other sources on international human rights. Finally, addresses are given for Canadian affiliates of a number of the organizations mentioned in the article. Local contacts in the Atlantic region for Amnesty International and the United Nations Association are included.

Other organizations, particularly religious and peace action groups, of course also make important contributions, but time and space would not permit listings of these.

Before proceeding further, I would like to thank those who assisted me in the research necessary for this article -- specifically those associated with the University of Ottawa Human Rights Institute, the United Nations Association in Canada and the Canadian Commission for UNESCO.

THE UNITED NATIONS

Human Rights: A Compilation of International Instruments. N.Y.: U.N., 1978. 132p. (ST-HR-1-Rev. 1) \$9.00 (U.S.).

The original compilation was made in 1966 and a revision published in 1973. A new revision has been completed, is now in process of publication and will be available in the very near future. Included are authentic English texts of all resolutions, declarations and conventions and-or in force as of 31 December 1977. Dates of adoption and entry into force are given for all instruments. Subjects covered are:

The International Bill of Human Rights
The Proclamation of Teheran
The right of self-determination

Prevention of discrimination
War crimes and crimes against humanity, including genocide
Slavery, servitude, forced labour and similar institutions and practices
Protection of persons subjected to detention or imprisonment
Nationality, statelessness, asylum and refugees
Freedom of information
Freedom of association
Employment policy
Political rights of women
Marriage and the family, childhood and youth
Social welfare, progress and development

Right to enjoy culture; international cultural development and cooperation.

Everyone's United Nations: A Handbook on the United Nations, Its Structure and Activities. N.Y.: U.N. Department of Public Information, 1979. 477p. 9th edition. \$7.95 (U.S.).

The 10th edition of this most useful book will be released during 1983. The precise publication details and price are unknown at present, but this information will soon be available from the U.N.A. in Canada or local U.N.A. branches.

If one wanted the best book on the U.N., this would be the one to choose. Detailed enough to be comprehensive, yet clearly outlined and presented in narrative style, it describes the history and structure of the organization, and presents detailed coverage of its aims, tasks and accomplishments. One might read through the book in order to learn what the U.N. is and does. More likely, *Everyone's United Nations* would be used as a reference book in which one could easily find specific pieces of information. The excellent 35-page index is most helpful.

Complete texts of the U.N. Charter; the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; the International Covenants on Civil and Political and Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Statute of the International Court of Justice appear as appendices. Detailed information on the work of the U.N. and its principal organs and related agencies is given. The 38-page chapter on human rights begins with a brief historical note, reminding the reader that 1968, the 20th anniversary year of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was designated International Year for Human Rights. Mention is made of the Teheran Conference and of the Proclamation made at its close. Efforts to eliminate racial discrimination (particularly in South Africa), to investigate Israeli practices regarding the population of the Occupied Territories, to restore human rights in Chile and to make effective efforts on behalf of refugees and missing persons affected by the 1974 conflict in Cyprus are outlined. Work on behalf of migrant workers, women, minorities and victims of armed conflicts, arbitrary arrest, torture, slavery and religious intolerance is summarized in a detailed yet concise manner.

The book covers all phases of the structure and work of the U.N., including peace-keeping operations, economic and social questions, budget and administration.

All intergovernmental agencies are described, and the relationship of each to the overall system made clear.

Basic Facts About the U.N. N.Y.: U.N. Department of Public Information, 1980. 133 p. \$1.95 (U.S.).

While less comprehensive than *Everyone's United Nations*, *Basic Facts About the U.N.* is another very useful general introduction and reference book.

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APLA Interview

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was published separately in 1942. It contains over one thousand short entries comprising books, reports and periodical article literature covering most aspects of this area.

The Judicial Committee of the British Privy Council in its hearings on the dispute over the Labrador Boundary published twelve volumes of documents which were an exceedingly rich source of government material from Great Britain, Newfoundland, Quebec, Canadian and international sources.

In addition to these major sources, I combed book sellers catalogues, many of which were provided by the Gosling Library staff, sleuthed in the bibliographies and footnotes of every relevant book and periodical article I examined. At this stage about half the citations were incomplete with no location known. As this was before the days of easy photocopying and a streamlined interlibrary loan system, I felt it was imperative to cite ample locations for each item. The aim was to give a Newfoundland location when possible, two others in North America and at least one in Europe. What was needed was a published union catalogue of North America, but this did not exist at that time. The Library of Congress catalogue became the National Union Catalog in 1956 but there was no retrospective union catalogue for the United States or Canada. However, by subscribing to the L.C. card service and to its Union Catalog service I was able to send them my incomplete entries on slips to be searched. I am most indebted to this great library for this service which enabled me, without travel funds, to compile a bibliography mainly from my desk in Newfoundland.

The card service also provided a new approach, the search of items through the L.C. Subject headings.

APLA: How did you approach these?

A.C. O'Dea: I worked from Newfoundland and Labrador place names including names of settlements and islands; through general headings of considerable Newfoundland interest such as Fisheries, the Moravian Missions, the Atlantic Cable and finally the Newfoundland subdivisions of such subjects as Birds, Natural History, Sports, etc. These frequently led to others such as Boundaries, Treaties and Arbitrations. Similarly names of personal authors, governments other than Newfoundland and institutions identified as having some Newfoundland interest were further pursued.

APLA: How did you establish other locations?

A.C. O'Dea: The initial Carnegie Grant and subsequent Canada Council Grants did not allow for extensive travel. Many author citations were traced through National Library Catalogs, particularly the British Museum and the Bibliothèque Nationale. In the 1950's their published catalogues were under revision and either incomplete or unavailable in St. John's. Extensive correspondence was the only alternative and the response was remarkable. With those entries located in the Bibliothèque Nationale, the British Museum and the Royal Empire Society, I obtained for nominal fees the services of local librarians. In this case I sent them the incomplete entries and locations, sometimes the size and paging was all that was needed to complete the entry. Other special collections included the Huntington Library in California and the John

Carter Brown Library in Rhode Island. Newfoundland's international connections made necessary contact with the national libraries of Norway, Sweden, Spain and Portugal among others. Some I visited while on vacation but most of the foreign research was done through correspondence with the cooperation of other librarians in these libraries. I thoroughly enjoyed the work which I was able to do while on vacation. It enriched my library experience, and provided an added dimension to my travels through the contacts I made with other librarians who shared my interest and who were always enthusiastic and extremely cooperative. Some of the items located in this way were unique and provided the basis for much future scholarship. I cannot emphasize too much the extent of cooperation given to me by other librarians who were frequently painstaking in their efforts to assist me.

Students and faculty at Memorial were making use of the bibliography and provided in return further bibliographical clues which more than repaid the benefits they received.

APLA: "Everything on Newfoundland" provided a broad scope; how did you limit that?

A.C. O'Dea: The one clear exception was manuscript material which was recognized as the archivists' domain. Maps were omitted at this time but atlases included, although I did list any maps I came across while searching for other items. Some typescripts notably government documents were included. After 1966 University theses and papers by senior students were added as they were valuable contributions. The latter was eventually omitted through considerations of space.

Important Newfoundland books such as Whitbourne's *Discourse and Discovery* demanded the inclusion of every edition but for most titles the first edition was sought for inclusion and then only other editions which were located and seen were included. For works such as Hakluyt and Purchas which included more than Newfoundland material, no attempt was made to include all editions. Government documents of other countries particularly Treaties and Arbitrations formed an important part of Newfoundland's historiography and so were included as were Annual Reports for Newfoundland and, after 1949, some Canadian reports.

Periodical articles were collected though they soon became so numerous that it was clear they would need a separate bibliography. Exceptions were made for separately paged imprints and special issues. Periodicals and newspapers were not included but were noted in a rough fashion for further work. Motion picture films were included. These were mainly documentary and not enough to cause any problems. Books of illustrations and photographs were included while individual prints and photographs were omitted.

Works by Newfoundlanders but not about Newfoundland were included originally but it was decided to limit their inclusion to those of a literary nature. A decision to limit Labrador to Newfoundland-Labrador required careful examination of all Labrador material. Periodical literature on Labrador was so well covered by Marie Tremaine's *Arctic Bibliography* that it was decided to omit this area. Works included in three other subject bibliographies were included only if they were in public Newfoundland collections. These bibliographies were Winship's on the Cabotian discoveries and Baird and Betts on the geology of Newfoundland and Labrador. It was

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Brief descriptions are given of main U.N. organs, and of work in peacekeeping, disarmament, apartheid, international development, human rights, decolonization, etc. Lack of a comprehensive index makes specific information somewhat more difficult to pinpoint than in *Everyone's United Nations* but the detailed table of contents and generally readable and interesting style of this brief yet comprehensive book are advantages.

Issues Before the 37th General Assembly of the U.N. (1982-1983) - (Annual publication of the United Nations Association of the U.S.A.). Donald J. Puchala, Editor. N.Y.: U.N.A., 1982. 156 p. \$10.00 Canadian (\$8.00 to U.N.A. members).

This book provides an excellent supplement to the general reference books described above. It gives most up-to-date information on current issues rather than emphasizing general structure and historical background. It outlines specific instances of work in the areas of dispute settlement and decolonization, arms control and disarmament, global resource management, human rights and social issues. The Falklands War; Middle East conflicts in Lebanon and the Occupied Territories and Iran-Iraq; the North-South dialogue; refugee problems in Africa (especially Somalia-Sudan) are some of the issues mentioned. Several regional actions are noted, including a U.N.-sponsored seminar held in Colombo, Sri Lanka, in June 1982 during which there were discussions of "appropriate arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights in Asia."

Space available in this limited article prevents further mention of other specific issues. Obviously many areas of concern for the U.N. arise repeatedly. This concise, yet detailed and comprehensive volume clearly shows the variety and seriousness of issues facing the General Assembly in the brief timespan of a single year.

Deprivation of rights of minorities and indigenous populations are important areas of continuing concern, as are summary executions and "disappearances" which continue in a number of countries. The mandate of the Special Working Group on "disappearances" originally appointed by the Commission on Human Rights in 1980 and renewed in 1981 was again renewed at the 1982 meeting.

U.N. Handbook: 1982. Wellington, New Zealand: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 1982. (Information complete as of July 1982). 186 p.

This small book serves as a useful complement to rather than being for the most part a duplication of *Issues Before the 37th General Assembly of the U.N.* Whereas *Issues Before the 37th General Assembly of the U.N.* goes into detail regarding substantive areas of concern, this **Handbook** concentrates on organizational arrangements, noting particularly terms of reference, dates of establishment and outstanding work and concerns of various standing committees and associated organizations and mentioning regional representation arrangements in these various bodies. It notes, for example, how regional representation is currently distributed for the U.N. as a whole and on the Commission on Human Rights:

The United Nations: How It Works and What It Does, by Evan Luard. London: Macmillan, 1979. 187 p.

Evan Luard is a specialist on international affairs; Supernumerary Fellow of St. Anthony's College, Oxford; Parliamentary Under-Secretary at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and United Kingdom Delegate to the U.N. General Assembly in 1967 and 1968.

This book is more of a critical analysis than any of those mentioned above. Its first chapter is entitled "Has the U.N. Failed?" and the conclusion asks the question "Can the system be reformed?" The answer to the first question is a qualified negative and to the second a qualified positive. The U.N. is, of course, a gathering of sovereign governments. There are serious economic disparities among these. Efforts to "equalize" power within the U.N. itself will always be difficult. For example, 75 per cent of the countries currently sitting in the General Assembly represent only five per cent of the world's population. On the other hand, other major U.N. organs (specifically the Security Council) have not changed as quickly as has been the case with the general membership. Major powers of the mid-40s control this Council today -- more than a generation later. In the world itself, super-powers dominate their given sphere of influence. These political power blocks rather than the U.N. or its related bodies are truly the forces controlling world events.

Evan Luard makes numerous suggestions for improving the effectiveness of the U.N. Space here does not permit their elaboration. It is perhaps sufficient to say that the author strongly suggests that the U.N. should facilitate negotiations and actions rather than merely discussing problems and passing resolutions. It has not proved possible for the U.N. to enforce majority will on a stubborn and unmoving minority (as with the case of apartheid). Luard suggests that effective **influencing** of intransigent nations would be a creative alternative to enforcing unacceptable policy decisions of outsiders. In his own words, "The world within which the U.N. stands is changing, and so influencing the U.N.'s capacity for influence. It is not possible for the U.N. to change with it. There are some signs that the U.N. is now beginning to be conscious of this."

HUMAN RIGHTS INTERNET

Human Rights Internet Reporter. Laurie S. Wiseberg and Harry M. Scoble, co-editors. Newsletter appearing 5 times a year. (1502 Ogden St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20010.) \$10.00 (U.S.) single copy; individual subscription \$35 per year; organization subscription \$50.00 (U.S.) per year.

Begun in 1976 as a 14-page mimeographed newsletter, the **Human Rights Internet Reporter** has grown to become a most comprehensive, attractively-presented, useful and important catalogue of human rights publications and events. Not an action-oriented organization itself, it acts as a clearinghouse, providing coordinated information for individuals and organizations working actively in various human rights enterprises. Each issue of the **Reporter** is approximately 200 pages in

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APLA Interview

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impossible to supply locations for these at the time.

APLA: What style of entry did you choose?

A.C. O'Dea: When I began in 1955, I followed the A.L.A. rules then in use by the Library of Congress. I continued to follow these until 1960 to maintain consistency. After 1960 the cataloguing was done by the University of Library staff in a more abbreviated form, however, notes were added to cover the omissions. One variation from the A.L.A. rules was that personal author was given preference over corporate author. Analytics were made for general works with significant sections on Newfoundland. As some, notably Hakluyt, Purchas and Dean contained numerous items, it was more convenient to enter them under the main entry, itemize the analytics there and make added author index entries.

All editions which were seen were fully described, others were only mentioned in the notes though their locations were given.

Notes were important because they conveyed much information beyond the simple statement of author, title, imprint and collation. They concerned the history of a work, included mention of extensive bibliographies with their pagination, the analytics mentioned earlier, and Newfoundland content was carefully described when it was not apparent from the title. For major Newfoundland or Labrador works of a general nature, the full list of contents was given as well as descriptions of supplementary material such as appendices and letters. Evaluative notes with quotations from reviews and

introductory material were only included when some indication of a works importance or point of view seemed necessary.

APLA: The bibliography has had two styles of arrangement; would you comment on these?

A.C. O'Dea: While it is generally recognized that date of imprint is very important in a retrospective bibliography, my own preferences inclined me initially towards an alphabetical arrangement of main entry which was easier of access and of addition. Three indexes were made, added entry, title and subject. The added entry index included the many analytics. The subject index was only compiled when I had an overview of the dimensions of the bibliography. My training and experience inclined me towards broad classifications and the L.C. subject headings were not specific enough for a specialized bibliography. For example, Church History was subdivided by denomination, and History and Description were subdivided by periods significant in Newfoundland history. Labrador posed a problem which was solved by using Labrador as a main heading with only a few general subdivisions such as Description and History. All other Labrador material was treated the same as the island's, both were listed together and those which were exclusively or significantly about the peninsula were collected under a subdivision, Labrador.

In 1960 the Canada Council grant expired and work came to a temporary halt. The archival collection reverted to the Province which had begun to establish a Provincial Archives and the bibliography

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APLA Conference '83

The 44th annual APLA conference will be held this year at Dalhousie University, in Halifax, May 26-29, 1983. The theme of the conference is "Interactive Communications in Libraries".

The program committee has been finalizing their list of workshops and guest speakers.

The planned events should interest librarians and library workers from all types of libraries.

As CAIS (Canadian Association of Information Scientists) is meeting in Halifax the same week, a joint session of the two associations has been planned for Thursday, May 26. Mary Dykstra, Senior Audio-Visual Librarian, National Film Board, will be the speaker for this session. The theme of her talk will be "Building upon the Traditional: Information Systems Design Using the Services of a Large Bibliographic Utility."

Keynote speaker for APLA's theme session will be Ann Cameron, Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and Research, Psychology Dept., University of New Brunswick.

Several workshops have also been firmly decided upon. Some of the highlights include:

- a full day workshop on "Assertion in the Workplace". This seminar will be given by People Development, a Halifax based consulting company who teach in the area of human resources management. They will be discussing communication processes and barriers, differences between assertion, non-assertion and aggressive behaviors, conflict management, and interpersonal

negotiation skills.

- Robert Munsch, children's book author (*The Paper Bag Princess*) will be giving a morning workshop on storytelling techniques. Participants will be encouraged to practice their own storytelling methods during the session.

- The APLA Committee on Conservation of Library Materials will be holding a workshop at the Public Archives of Nova Scotia. Their speaker will be Joyce Banks, Rare Books Conservation Librarian at the National Library of Canada. She will be discussing conservation and preservation research in Canada and in particular at the NLC. A tour of the Archives is planned at the end of the session.

- Margot Montgomery, Director of the Resource Center, Algonquin College in Ottawa will be presenting ideas on the roles and education of library technicians in Canada. It will include a panel discussion, as well as a question-answer period. This program is being planned by the APLA Committee for Library Technicians.

Other events still in the planning stages include a trustees program, a session on televised distance learning, and possibly a program on various videotex systems that are available. Details will be supplied as the program is finalized.

Peter Glenister is chairperson of the APLA Program Committee. Any further information, comments, etc. can be directed to him at Mount St. Vincent Library, 150 Bedford Highway, Halifax, N.S. B3M 2S5 (443-4450 ext. 125).

The next **Bulletin** will have information about local arrangements including: housing, banquet information, entertainment and a final program update.

U.N. Member nations (as of July 1982)	Membership of U.N. Commission on Human Rights (as of July 1982)
Africa _____	51 _____ 11
Asia _____	40 _____ 9
Eastern Europe _____	11 _____ 5
Latin America _____	32 _____ 8
Western Europe and others (including Australia, New Zealand, Canada France, U.S.A. and U.K.) _____	23 _____ 10
Total _____	157 _____ 43

International Human Rights

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length, covering all human rights specified in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. As its "statement of purpose" points out, it is "an international communications network at the service of the human rights community worldwide." Information on the publications, activities and conferences of governmental and non-governmental organizations concerned with law, religion, labour issues, women, children, the disabled, indigenous people, refugees, human rights education, the U.N. and other international organizations, freedom of expression and the press, disarmament, and specific countries or geographical areas are mentioned within its pages. The **Human Rights Internet Reporter** does not pretend to be a news service providing "up-to-the-minute accounts of human rights situations and developments," but rather a source of information about those bodies directly concerned with various facets of human rights work.

While efforts are made to exclude blatantly "propagandistic" material, the **HRI Reporter** merely makes information available. It does not attempt to evaluate or verify various items, but relies instead on its wide breadth of coverage to give overall balance to the information it presents.

The **HRI Reporter** attempts to inform on three levels:

- it provides an overview of the activities and developments -- conferences, campaigns, fact-finding missions, etc. within the human rights community,
- it cites and abstracts current resources on human rights, including the publications and documentation of organizations, books and articles, teaching materials, and audio-visual aids; and finally,
- by presenting the material of groups that investigate and report on human rights situations throughout the world, the **Reporter** provides information on the status and violations of human rights.

A staff of 10, working in "modest, crowded, yet exceedingly well-organized quarters," draws from 1700 contributing organizations to produce the **Reporter**.

North American Human Rights Directory, compiled by Laurie S. Wiseberg and Harry M. Scoble. Washington, D.C.; Human Rights Internet, 1980. 181 p.

Human Rights Directory: Latin America, Africa, Asia, edited by Laurie S. Wiseberg and Harry M. Scoble, compiled by the staff of the HRI. Washington, D.C., 1981. 243 p.

Human Rights Directory: Western Europe, edited by Laurie S. Wiseberg and Harry M. Scoble, compiled by the staff of the HRI. Washington, D.C., 1982. 335 p.

In addition to the **HRI Reporter**, HRI has produced three directories listing organizations concerned with both domestic and international human rights for the areas listed above. Each directory provides a comprehensive listing of organizations concerned with all phases of human rights and social justice.

Originally it had been planned to cover European organizations in a single volume, but the large amount of material and the striking differences between Eastern and Western Europe necessitated the two-volume format which has been used. The volume on Eastern Europe has yet to appear.

The directories are made up of entries supplied by organizations themselves, and must be used with this in mind. Some of the organizations listed (e.g. certain political groups) are occupied only in a minor way

with human rights. Some organizations concentrate on a broad range of human rights issues while others work in depth on specific areas of concern. Some geographical areas are more heavily represented than others -- a reflection of existing numbers of contacts in various countries rather than any bias on the part of the publishers of the HRI.

Revisions of all directories are planned.

A detailed system of coding is used, indicating country where an organization is based and area of concern.

Teaching Human Rights. Washington, D.C.: Human Rights Internet, 1981. 134 p. \$20.00 (\$10.00 to HRI subscribers). \$U.S.

Teaching Human Rights is a catalogue of syllabi on a variety of human rights subjects, including international law, world politics, prison literature, refugees, Latin America, U.S. foreign policy and Amnesty International. A comprehensive bibliography derived from the syllabi is included. Finally, four bibliographies of human rights bibliographies are given, including international human rights bibliographies, country-specific bibliographies, audio-visual bibliographies and topic-specific bibliographies. Subject areas included in the last list are bioethics: children's rights; conscientious objection; criminal justice; economic rights (hunger, multinational corporations and development, women and development, trade union rights); environmental rights; freedom of speech and press; Helsinki Accords; international law; international organizations; migration, refugees and asylum; ombudsman; privacy rights; racism; sex discrimination; slavery; torture and war crimes and humanitarian law.

WRITERS AND SCHOLARS INTERNATIONAL

Index on Censorship. London: Writers' and Scholars' International, Ltd. 21 Russell St., London WC2B 5HP. 12 pounds per year, published 6 times a year (formerly quarterly). Also available at \$25 (U.S.) per year from Fund for Free Expression, 36 West 44th St., N.Y., N.Y., U.S.A.

Each issue contains a number of feature articles, poems, drama, and writings of those censored, banned, imprisoned, exiled or otherwise penalized for the publication of their writings. In addition to literary and descriptive articles, each issue contains an extensive country-by-country new round-up giving brief notes on writers and events related to censorship. The latest issue mentions 63 countries.

The first issue of **Index** was published in May 1972. Prior to this, there had been an appeal in **The Times** (London) organized by Pavel Litvinov and Larisa Borgoraz (former wife of the imprisoned Soviet writer Yuli Daniel) on behalf of two young Soviet writers: Alexander Ginzberg -- now released and living in Paris, and Yuri Galanskov, who died in a labour camp in 1972. Support came from such luminaries as W.H. Auden, A.J. Ayer, Julian Huxley, Mary McCarthy, Bertrand Russell and Stephen Spender. The idea of an international committee to support free expression and oppose censorship developed over a period of time. While the earliest cases concerning the founders of this anti-censorship movement were those of writers from the USSR, in time the focus broadened and came to include censorship wherever it might occur. Rather than protest directly (as was the practice of Amnesty International) the Writers' and Scholars' International simply provided

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APLA Interview

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came under the sponsorship of Memorial University Library. While not ready for publication, the bibliography consisted of Section I, Books and pamphlets and Section II, Periodical articles for the island only. Each section had a subject index while only Section I had a title and added entry index. The National Library felt it was important and useful enough to make a microfilm from the cards of the main entries of Section I and II. Later a photocopy was made of Section I. This is still in use in the National Library in Ottawa.

From 1962 until 1975 my efforts were concentrated on building the collection for the University Library known as the Centre for Newfoundland Studies.

When I retired in 1975, the University decided that the bibliography should be published, excluding the periodical articles section, and I was given an office and a paid assistant. It was at this time that the decision was made to alter the arrangement to a chronological one.

This possibility had always existed and the work of Peel and discussions with other bibliographers and Newfoundland historians were strong arguments in its favor. The Peel volume provided a model with a main bibliographic sequence in chronological order and an alphabetic sequence for each year. Three indexes were added, author, title and subject. Other decisions arose from this. The definition of date was usually and obviously the imprint, but the first printing was given priority. A separately paged periodical article was therefore entered at the date of its first printing in the periodical. All editions of a work were entered at the date of the first edition which necessitated a great deal of further research as not all first editions had been seen and fully described. Another exception was made for a journal or diary such as Aaron Thomas' journal which was written in 1794 but not edited and printed until 1968. Annual Reports were given an alphabetical approach because they covered a span of years with constant changes of heading and title. Following the Peel example, all items were numbered for economy of reference in the indexes and, once numbered, the bibliography was effectively closed. Mrs. Marian Burnett's assistance was invaluable to me particularly at this juncture.

The Indexes were also planned for economy of space and included a shortened form for personal names, a short title in the title index, while in the subject

index items are listed numerically and thus in chronological sequence.

The subject index was thoroughly revised by Mrs. Anne Alexander and myself as the large number of additions after 1960 required the addition of new headings and subdivision of existing ones. Locations were no longer as important as many of the items, photocopy or original were now available in a St. John's library. Locations of the original are noted for photocopies.

APLA: What is the status of publication of the bibliography?

A.C. O'Dea: The University of Toronto Press has planned its publication in two volumes. Volume I will consist of the main bibliographic sequence and Volume II of the three indexes. Mrs. Anne Alexander is now the liaison between the University and the Press and is overseeing the final stages leading to publication. Howarth and Smith is developing a word processing program for the bibliography as they did for the Dictionary of Newfoundland English. Once this is completed the material will be input in preparation for publication.

APLA: One final question, would you do it again?

A.C. O'Dea: If I had known all the really hard hack work involved, I don't think I would ever have had the courage to do it. However, bibliography, like collecting is a game which drives one on. Sleuthing becomes compulsive and everywhere one finds clues to follow.

In these days doing a bibliography from one's desk would be much simpler, the University Library has so much more reference material to work with and subject and union catalogues abound. Thirty years ago things were different and photocopying has enabled one to build a special collection through interlibrary loans.

It is a fascinating and endless game. It is most satisfying and gratifying. The bibliography was the resource from which the collection was developed and from the use of this collection by students, writers and scholars, a Newfoundland literature has emerged, the history of our province has been researched and published and Newfoundlanders everywhere have become more aware of their beginnings and identity.

This was what I envisaged, and it has certainly been worth it.

(Editor's note: This interview was conducted on behalf of the APLA Bulletin by Patricia Rahal, Librarian at the College of Trades and Technology, St. John's.)

Nova Scotia Cultural Policy Conference

In an effort "to review our progress to date and to ensure continued cultural growth in Nova Scotia" all those interested and involved with cultural development are encouraged to participate in a major Cultural Policy Conference.

Schedule to take place from March 11 to 13, 1983, at the Dalhousie Arts Centre in Halifax, it's expected that the conference will bring together those working in the administrative aspects of cultural affairs, artists of all disciplines, those involved in cultural industries and those of the public interested in Nova Scotia's cultural progress for two days of discussion and cultural planning.

The first Cultural Policy Conference held in 1973 recommended the formation of the highly successful cultural federations and focused the attention of government on the then underdeveloped business of cultural policy development," stated Mr. Panais, President of the Cultural

Federations of Nova Scotia (CFNS). "I am gratified that the Province has responded in this positive manner to the collective proposal of the eight federations for an opportunity to review cultural policy and celebrate the cultural renaissance that has taken place in Nova Scotia over the past ten years."

In addition to a Conference Management Committee, a small group of distinguished individuals, who have made significant contributions to the cultural developments of the past decade have been invited to serve on an Advisory Committee for the conference providing important input to the philosophical basis of the gathering.

Suggestions for discussion from the cultural community and the public are welcome and should be addressed, in writing, to Minister of Culture, Recreation and Fitness, Post Office Box 864, Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3J 2V2.

International Human Rights

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(and still provides) a vehicle for publishing works of those whose countries denied them this right -- one of the rights mentioned in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The "geography" of censorship soon proved to be very widespread -- there was never a shortage of material. Manuscripts came from all parts of the world. Through the years there have been spots of "progress" -- as for example when the dictatorships controlling Portugal, Greece and Spain gave way to democratic governments. There have, however, been negative trends in other areas -- notably Central America, Latin America, Afghanistan, Turkey, and other parts of Asia, Africa and the Middle East. Writings of those censored or otherwise persecuted in all of these areas have appeared in *Index on Censorship*.

Writers' and Scholars' International also began publication (in 1982) of the unofficial and banned Polish journal *Zapis* and of the Czech journal *Spektrum*.

Through the years, numerous writers from many countries have supported the publication of *Index*, refusing to stand aside without protest while colleagues anywhere are silenced.

Each issue presents a variety of voices -- some well known and others less so. *Index* is important as an information tool -- to remind the free public of the continuing extensiveness of censorship. It is also of great assistance to those whose writings it publishes -- particularly those lesser-known writers who are more difficult to help simply because they are less well known. Michael Scammell, recently-retired editor of *Index*, has written "It is precisely here that *Index* is at its best. Among letters I cherish is one written ... by a banned Black South African poet, describing how the appearance of his poems in *Index* returned him to life and writing after a period of despair." (1)

WRITERS' AND SCHOLARS' EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Your Life, My Life, by Sara Woodhouse, drawings by Graham Jeffery. London: Writers' and Scholars' Educational Trust, 21 Russell Street, London WC2B 5HP, 1980. 57 p. (95p.)

Human Rights and Wrongs, by Jeremy Cunningham. London: Writers' and Scholars' Educational Trust, 21 Russell Street, London WC2B 5HP, 1981. 20 p. (95p.)

These two slim volumes, designed to be used by children, deserve particular mention. The Writers' and Scholars' Educational Trust is closely associated with Writers' and Scholars' International. *Your Life, My Life* is written for children ages 11-14 (but can be adapted for older youth). *Human Rights and Wrongs* is for youth ages 14-18. The books are designed to

be read by individual students to introduce and encourage discussion of human rights issues. They are attractively illustrated with lively sketches, and written in an interesting and informative manner which should inspire thoughtful and meaningful discussions among students.

Chapter headings of *Your Life, My Life* include: "How Small is the World?", "How Big is Your World?", "Things that go Wrong", "War and Refugees", "Human Rights", "When Human Rights are Lost, What Then?", "The Rulers", "Rules for the Whole World?", "Freedom inside Ourselves". *Human Rights and Wrongs* discusses individual cases of Luis Esparraga (Peru), Kim Chi Ha (Republic of Korea) and others. Two chapters are headed "What is Being Done?" and "What Can I Do?"

MINORITY RIGHTS GROUP

Minority Rights Group Reports, 36 Craven Street, London, U.K., WC2N 5NG. Each report costs about \$2.00 each. Subscriptions available.

World Minorities, Vol. I., edited by Georgina Ashworth. Sunbury, Middlesex, U.K.: Quartermaine House Ltd., 1977. 167 p.

World Minorities, Vol. II, edited by Georgina Ashworth. Sunbury, Middlesex, U.K.: Quartermaine House Ltd., 1978. 159 p.

World Minorities in the Eighties, Vol. III, edited by Georgina Ashworth. Sunbury, Middlesex, U.K.: Quartermaine House Ltd., 1980. 174 p.

More than 40 Minority Rights Groups Reports have been published. As stated in their own words, the aims of the Minority Rights Group are:

- to secure justice for minority or majority groups suffering discrimination, by investigating their situation and publicizing the facts as widely as possible, to educate and alert public opinion throughout the world.

- to help prevent, through publicity about violations of human rights, such problems from developing into dangerous and destructive conflicts which, when polarized, are very difficult to resolve; and

- to foster, by its research findings, international understanding of the factors which create prejudiced treatment and group tensions thus helping to promote the growth of a world conscience regarding human rights.

Each report is written by a specialist on a given country, region or issue. Each author writes as his or her own authority. There is no "Minority Rights Group position" as such -- each report presents an individual interpretation of the situation of a given minority.

Reports have focussed, for example, on native and immigrant minorities in Japan, East and Central Africa, Brazil, Cuba, Spain, Indonesia, Philippines, Malaysia, Bangladesh, Israel, Trinidad, Guyana, India, Viet Nam, Southwest Africa, Burundi, Canada, the U.S.A., the U.K., Sri Lanka, Cyprus, Australia, Romania and Belgium. Some titles in the series include: *The Two Irelands: The Double Minority*, *Eritrea and the Southern Sudan: Aspects of Wider African Problems*, *Inequalities in Zimbabwe*, *The Basques and Catalans*, *The Rom: the Gypsies of Europe*, *What Future for the Amerindians of South America?*, *The Kurds*, *The Palestinians*, *Arab Women*, *Western Europe's Migrant Workers*, *Jehovah's Witnesses in Central Africa*, *The Armenians*, *The Nomads of the Sahel*, *Constitutional Law and Minorities*, *The Social Psychology of Minorities*, *The International Protection of Minorities*, *The Refugee Dilemma: International Recognition and Acceptance*, *Women in Asia*.

Several reports appear each year. A number of the original reports have been extensively revised in order to provide up-to-date information on changing situations. Reports generally average about 20 pages in length -- though a few are a little shorter and some are longer. Bibliographies, notes, charts, graphs and/or lists of documentary films are often (but not always) included.

In addition to the longer, separately published reports, three volumes of brief essays about minorities have been published (in 1977, 1978 and 1980), edited by the (now former) Research Director of the Minority Rights Group, Georgina Ashworth. These volumes include articles on more than 100 minorities whose

members live in every corner of the globe. Human rights violations are most often against minorities, whose linguistic, cultural, socio-economic and other differences from surrounding majority populations make them vulnerable to various pressures.

Gandhi once said "Civilization is to be judged by its treatment of its minorities." As one reads these three volumes -- and the series of Reports, one realizes that any judgement of present-day majority society cannot have a very positive mark. Often it is through ignorance rather than active hostility that the comfortable majority fails to regard the needs and aspirations of the oppressed and often unknown or hidden minorities. Minorities may also be closer to home than one might think!

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

While the United Nations, the Human Rights Internet and the Minority Rights Group are concerned with the broadest range of human rights -- Amnesty International focusses on a single area of concern, namely work on behalf of prisoners. AI is concerned with only a few articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights -- those specifically prohibiting arbitrary detention, curtailment of judicial process or torture and those supporting the rights of individuals to free choice of association, religion or expression. AI's specific mandate is wide in that it includes thousands of imprisoned individuals in countries of all geographical areas and all political types. Amnesty International works actively on behalf of several categories of prisoners, using different techniques for each:

- Prisoners of conscience are those imprisoned for their political, religious or other conscientiously-held beliefs, or for language, race, ethnic origin or sex -- who have not used nor advocated violence. After careful evaluation of each case and preparation of a detailed "prisoner dossier", such a prisoner is "adopted" by one of the more than 2,700 AI groups now active in 53 countries. The group will use all possible techniques (mainly letter-writing and publicity) to secure the release of the adopted prisoner.

- Sometimes the researcher responsible for a given prisoner has such incomplete information on the case that it is impossible to designate the person as a prisoner of conscience. An AI group may then be asked to take over part of the investigative function of the work. If further information warrants, such "investigation cases" may become adoption cases. Each group generally works on two or three cases -- some adoption cases and other investigation cases. Each assigned case is from a different geo-political area so that AI's non-political and impartial nature is clearly demonstrated.

- AI works in active support of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights prohibition against torture. As mentioned above, through its consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council, AI provides information to the U.N. Commission on Human Rights. Individual AI members participate in the AI Urgent Action Network. The small units and individuals making up the Network regularly receive information on prisoners suffering from or threatened with torture (or in such severe situations as "disappearance", hunger strike, medical crisis, unfair legal situation, or under death sentence). Telegrams and express letters are sent on behalf of Urgent Action cases from members of the Network -- located in approximately 50 countries.

- AI is unconditionally opposed to all use of death penalties -- both judicial and extra-judicial. AI intervenes on behalf of individuals under death sentence and works to change laws from retentionist to abolitionist. AI also works against political killings allowed or perpetrated by governments. Such killings violate the Universal Declaration of Human Rights provisions that "everyone has the right to life" and that each person is entitled to a fair trial.

- AI works against "disappearances"

which occur on a large scale in a number of countries. The word "disappearances" in this context is always used in quotation marks, since persons concerned have not really "disappeared", but have been made to vanish purposely. This practice violates the Universal Declaration of Human Rights prohibition against deprivation of fair judicial process (and in some cases also the right to life -- as many "disappeared" persons do in fact lose their lives).

It is obvious that AI is primarily an action-oriented organization rather than a producer of published reports. However, because accurate information is an essential prerequisite for its activist program, AI publications are an important part of the organization's overall effort.

There is not time nor space within the present context to list many of these by title, but a detailed publications list giving titles and prices of AI reports and pamphlets is available from the Canadian Section AI offices. Some reports concentrate on individual countries -- others on themes such as "disappearance" or the death penalty.

Each year, AI publishes an annual review of its work. There is a time-lag between the cut-off date for information in the Report and the publication date, as time must be allowed for writing, editing and translation. (The Report usually appears in about 10 languages.) Most translations of the Report are done by volunteers -- AI members active in their sections. By allowing time for as many translations as possible to be completed for simultaneous publication with the three official language versions (English, French and Spanish), the international character of the movement is emphasized.

Libraries wishing to provide their readers with current AI information in addition to the Annual Report and other booklets mentioned above are encouraged to subscribe to the monthly *Bulletin*. A minimum (cost) payment of \$10.00 is requested for such subscriptions.

Further information is available in the form of dossiers on individual countries. More than 130 dossiers are updated regularly as new material arrives from the International Secretariat in London, England. Each dossier is priced according to the number of pages it contains. The entire collection now goes back more than 7 years -- and fills a whole filing cabinet, so is probably somewhat unwieldy for public libraries. However, readers interested in a particular country could enquire about the price of this specific dossier.

Each local group of AI works out its own active program, based on materials supplied from the International Secretariat and Canadian Section Offices. Each group has its particular assigned prisoner cases; each decides its own participation in campaigns or special actions (which may relate to themes such as abolition of the death penalty, work against "disappearances" or political killings -- or to individual countries). Local AI groups may themselves receive information from released prisoners or the families of newly-detained prisoners which can be forwarded to the International Secretariat and is often useful in future work. Each AI group provides an opportunity for active involvement in vital, personally-focussed work for human rights. (See below for a list of AI groups in Atlantic Canada.)

UNESCO

This bibliography would not be complete without mention of UNESCO's work and publications. A complete publication list is available from the Canadian Commission for UNESCO (see below).

UNESCO was established in 1945, in order to "contribute to peace and security by promoting collaboration among nations through education, science, and culture in order to further universal respect for

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justice, for the rule of law and for the human rights and fundamental freedoms which are affirmed for the peoples of the world, without distinction of race, sex, language or religion, by the Charter of the United Nations."

Each member nation organizes its own national commission for UNESCO -- usually under the national department of education. Because education is a provincial responsibility in Canada, the Canadian Commission for UNESCO is associated with the Canada Council.

A number of UNESCO publications deal with various aspects of human rights. A considerable amount of excellent material on apartheid is available. For purposes of this article, however, I mention only one UNESCO document:

The International Dimensions of Human Rights: A Textbook for the Teaching of Human Rights at University Level. Karel Vasek, General Editor. Paris: UNESCO, 1979. 741 p. (It should be noted that this is a UNESCO document, therefore available only through the Paris UNESCO office and not through bookstores or national commissions.)

This is one of the most comprehensive volumes I have come across in preparing this article. A collection of essays by a number of scholars from law faculties throughout the world, this is a "pluralistic" work. Each contributor writes from a particular point of view. The point is clearly and repeatedly made that one's concept and definition of human rights is dependent on cultural factors. It would be oversimplifying to say that for the "Western World" human rights are primarily the rights of free individuals while for "The East" the individual is seen as a unit within the social order. Elements of both views are present in all concepts of human rights -- but there are unquestionably differences in emphasis and viewpoint between various nations and cultures. However, all societies have standards of justice and fairness. The law protects the individual in all societies, but the nature of protection in any given society depends on the nature of that society and the details and application of the law which arises from that society's traditions.

Karel Vasek, General Editor of *The International Dimensions of Human Rights*, with the aid of a computer, has developed the following description of the "science of human rights".

The science of human rights concerns the individual person living within a State, who, being accused of an offense or being the victim of a situation of war, benefits from the protection of the law, due to either intercession of the national judge or that of international organizations (such as the organs of the European Convention on Human Rights), and whose rights, particularly the right to equality, are harmonized with the requirements of public order. (2)

The comprehensive subject index makes this lengthy volume very useful. Any detail can be quickly discovered through the index.

OTHER USEFUL RESOURCES

Basic Documents on Human Rights, edited by Ian Brownlie. Oxford: Oxford University Press, first edition 1971, second revised and enlarged edition 1981. 2nd ed. ca. \$27 (U.S.)

These volumes include excerpts from both international and national documents. Excerpts from the national constitutions and-or Bills of Rights of several countries -- including the U.K., U.S.A., France, Federal Republic of Germany, Canada, U.S.S.R., India, China, Nigeria and Venezuela -- are given, together with texts of United Nations conventions and declarations. International Labour Office and UNESCO conventions, and important regional in-

struments are also presented.

Such a volume, where a great diversity of material is presented in brief form gives easy access to a large number of important human rights standards.

In the second revised (1981) edition, the Final Act of the Helsinki Conference, the United Nations Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (December 1975) and the judgement of the European Court on Human Rights on *The Sunday Times* case are some of the more important new additions to the original volume.

Human Rights Quarterly. Johns Hopkins University Press, Journals Division, Baltimore, Maryland, 21218. \$30 (U.S.) per year to institutions; \$16 to individuals.

Each issue contains several articles on different concerns and areas. The Summer 1982 issue includes articles on South Africa, the Caribbean, countries which were subjects of reports by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, recent developments in the work of the U.N. Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities and "A New U.N. Mechanism for Encouraging the Ratification of Treaties."

Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 1981. (Report submitted to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, U.S. House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations, U.S. Senate, by the Department of State in accordance with Sections 116(d) and 502B(b) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended February 1982.) Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1982. Order from Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 20402. 1142 p.

This comprehensive report is published each February and covers the previous calendar year. Although these reports are written from a national rather than impartial-international point of view (and are therefore somewhat liable to political bias), I mention this volume because of its comprehensiveness in covering many (159 total) countries, and because the human rights reviewed are broader than those covered by the more specialized publications of such specifically-focussed organizations as Amnesty International and Writers' and Scholars' International.

The most recent report available (for 1981; 1982 should be ready soon) covers 159 countries, drawing on information from U.S. diplomatic missions abroad, congressional studies, non-governmental organizations, and human rights bodies of international organizations. The reports are used by the U.S. Congress in its required evaluation of human rights practices of nations receiving U.S. aid, particularly security assistance. Details are given on each country covered in the report regarding reported instances of torture; cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment; "disappearances", arbitrary arrest and imprisonment; denial of fair trial; invasion of the home; freedom of speech, press, religion and assembly; freedom of movement within and from the country; freedom to participate in the political process; the government's attitude toward non-governmental (often Amnesty International) investigations of alleged violations of human rights; economic and social circumstances. There is also a table summarizing loans and grants made by the U.S. and by international agencies to each country. Ratifications of 12 international conventions-covenants are indicated for the 159 nations covered in the report (including the two major U.N. Covenants and the Conventions against genocide and slavery, and those protecting rights of women, prisoners of war and refugees.)

This is the most comprehensive, fairly current (information is only 2 months old

at publication) one-volume survey of human rights situations in a number of countries discovered in research for this article. However, as mentioned earlier, there is some problem of political bias. The Americas Watch Group (the U.S. affiliate of the Helsinki Watch) has analyzed the information-gathering techniques used by the U.S. in examining and evaluating El Salvador -- comparing these with the Salvadorean Socorro Juridico, an independent legal aid group which works with the Catholic Church. The Americas Watch concludes that the report is "politically motivated, selectively based and on occasion deliberately misleading." (3) They note that the U.S. Embassy in El Salvador which itself has no investigative staff or mechanism, has taken its information solely from Salvadorean press reports and has not balanced these reports with information from reliable independent sources, as does the Socorro Juridico. The limited information sources used by the U.S. Embassy give a biased political perspective. The Socorro Juridico, on the other hand, is viewed as "anti government" and therefore "unreliable and biased", although it is "resisting violations of human rights in the only way possible -- by providing information about the victims and helping the survivors." (4) For such a report to be truly useful in its evaluation of human rights practices, more objective and consistent methodology and standards need to be utilized in its preparation.

CANADIAN AFFILIATES - INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Amnesty International Canadian Section (English Speaking), 294 Albert Street, Suite 204, Ottawa, Ontario, K1P 6E6.

Amnistie Internationale Section Canadienne (Francophone), 1800 blvd. Dorchester ouest, Montréal, Québec, H3H 2H2.

Minority Rights Group - c-o Prof. John Claydon, Law Department, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, K7L 3N6.

United Nations Association in Canada, 63 Sparks Street, Suite 808, Ottawa, Ontario, K1P 5A6.

Canadian Commission for UNESCO, 255 Albert Street, P.O. Box 1047, Ottawa, Ontario, K1P 5V8.

UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION IN CANADA - LOCAL BRANCHES

HALIFAX U.N.A. Office, c-o James Morrison, International Education Centre, St. Mary's University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3H 3C3.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL - ENGLISH-SPEAKING

NEWFOUNDLAND

CORNER BROOK - c-o Wilfred Guy, All Saints Anglican Church, 9 Spencer Street,

APLA Conference '83-Update 2

The 44th annual APLA Conference will be held at Dalhousie University in Halifax, May 26-29, 1983. The conference theme is "Interactive Communications in Libraries."

The various sub-committees of the Local Arrangements Group have been meeting weekly for the past two months planning the technical details of the conference.

Bob Cook is looking after housing details, and conference registration. A block of rooms have been booked at Dalhousie's Sherriff Hall, a women's residence. A room reservation form will be included in your pre-registration kit. If this is not suitable to your needs, please feel free to make other arrangements. There are a number of large conventions in Halifax the same week as the APLA conference, so reserve as soon as possible!

Mary-Isabel Terry is in charge of equipment, and facilities. All A-V equipment required for speakers and workshops, such as microphones, overhead projectors, televisions, and telephones, must be received through her. Mary-Isabel is also looking after booking all necessary meeting rooms for each session.

Jean Sawyer, our treasurer, is paying all the bills.

Corner Brook, Nfld., A2H 1S8.
ST. JOHN'S - c-o P.O. Box 13265, Stn. A., St. John's, Nfld., A1B 4A5.

NOVA SCOTIA

ANTIGONISH - c-o Sue Adams, R.R. 1, James River, Antigonish County, N.S., B2E 2K8.

BRIDGEWATER (Group-in-formation) - c-o Donna Gursky, R.R. 1, New Germany, Lunenburg County, N.S., BOR 1E0

CANSO - c-o Angus MacDougall, P.O. Box 40, Canso, Guys County, N.S., BOH 1H0.

CAPE BRETON - c-o Mrs. Pat Steele, 54 Alexander St., Glace Bay, N.S., B1A 4A7.

HALIFAX - c-o Joyce Maloney, 57 Kingston Crescent, Dartmouth, N.S., B3A 2L9.

KENTVILLE (group-in-formation) - c-o Dr. R. Ian McBeath, 38 Appletree Lane, Kentville, N.S., B4N 3Y6.

NEW BRUNSWICK

FREDERICTON - c-o Rose Ann Jackson, 12 Michener Court, Fredericton, N.B., E3B 2Y9.

MONCTON - c-o Marjorie Stewart, R.R. 9, Moncton, N.B., E1C 8K3.

SACKVILLE - c-o Dr. Christiane Ullman, P.O. Box 1546, Sackville, N.B., EOA 3C0.

SAINT JOHN - c-o Ann Fawcett, 2184 Rothesay Rd., Saint John, N.B. E2H 2K5.

AMNISTIE INTERNATIONALE - FRANCOPHONE

NOUVEAU BRUNSWICK

FREDERICTON - c-o Roger Philippon, 737, Irvine, No. 14, Fredericton, N.B. E3A 3E5.

N.B. After several years of operating as a bilingual unit, it was agreed that the AI membership would be better served with parallel structures for English and French-speaking members. This agreement was formalised at a Special General Meeting in May, 1978. While the administrative structures of the English and French-speaking branches are completely separate, working relationships are close and friendly. It may well be that more local groups will be developing in Atlantic Canada, particularly in New Brunswick, associated with the French-speaking Branch. At present the balance does seem quite uneven!

FOOTNOTES

1. Index on Censorship 10 (Dec., 1981):8.
2. *The International Dimensions of Human Rights...*, p. iv.
3. Ennals, Martin. "Human Rights Reporting." Index on Censorship 11 (Dec., 1982):4.
4. *Ibid.*, p.6.

Pat MacDougall has been busy writing letters to exhibitors, in hopes of attracting them to the conference.

Margot Schenk has arranged splendid wining, and dining, and entertainment. This year's banquet will be held Saturday, May 28th in the Great Hall at the University of King's College. Weather permitting, a reception before hand will be held at the home of Dalhousie's President and Mrs. Andrew MacKay. The Jarvis Benoit Quartet will be entertaining after dinner with their particular style of Maritime fiddle tunes. A terrific way to relax after a full day of meetings. Guests will be more than welcome at this time. Sunday, after the Annual General Meeting, champagne brunch will be catered by Angela Rebeiro.

A restaurant guide will be included with conference kits for those eager to explore the many new and old dining areas in the city.

For those not in a hurry to leave after the conference, a harbour cruise is being planned aboard a new charter vessel - the MV Shoreham. Let us know in advance if you are interested, as the Shoreham can only carry 40 passengers on the three hour trip.

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The Role of the Library in the Development of a University: One Interpretation of the History of the Dalhousie University Library from 1818 to 1931

By J. P. WILKINSON

(The following study is a much abridged version of my doctoral thesis for the University of Chicago. Apart from any ambiguities and omissions that result from my drastic surgery on the original text, the biggest problem I faced was that of citations. In the original thesis, as with any doctoral research, every quotation was carefully and fully documented; but this makes for a choppy and pedantic presentation and so, in the following study, I have taken the liberty of omitting almost all citations connected with the Minutes of governing bodies at Dalhousie and have assumed that quotations from those Minutes are self-evident. Those interested are referred, therefore, to the original thesis for appropriate citations. J.P.W.)

I. Antecedents

It is, of course, reassuring to be told that a library is essential to a university; that it is, as Kenneth Brough phrased it, "the scholar's workshop"; that the true university is in fact, in Carlyle's famous aphorism, essentially a collection of books. But, as the inimitable Jesse Shera remarked, in one of his penultimate appearances, "I've heard dozens of presidents say that (the library is the university's heart) and then walk away and let the heart of the university suffer cardiac arrest". (1)

So where does the historical truth lie? How important is a library to a good university? More precisely, to a Canadian audience, how historically important have university libraries been to their parent institutions in this country; and even more precisely, writing for an APLA audience, how important was the Dalhousie University Library to Dalhousie in the early years of that university's development—say, from the beginning of the University in the mid-nineteenth century to the end of the 1920s?

The question is a fair one because, despite persistent financial stringencies, Dalhousie was no mean university by the beginning of the twentieth century. Indeed, so high was its reputation that illustrious Oxford University itself would decide in 1920: "as a result of the good records made by the former Rhodes Scholars who had come from this University...to admit Dalhousie University graduates to the rights of Senior Students at Oxford, a right which has not yet been granted to any other University in Canada." (2) And, in 1922, W.S. Learned and K.M. Sills would write that Dalhousie, alone among the colleges of Nova Scotia, "presented the proportions and scale of a true university, with a conception of purpose which disclosed the deep-lying vitality beneath". (3) But this was in the 1920s. What role had the library played by that decade in Dalhousie's rise to so commendable an academic position?

The full span of the history of Dalhousie University begins in 1818 when George Ramsay, Ninth Earl of Dalhousie, founded the institution with a basic allocation of 9,750 pounds including 3,000 pounds for a building (which sum was derived from the 12,000 pounds collected by the British as customs during their occupation of the American port of Castine from September 1814 to April 1815). However, the sum proved quite inadequate to support the needs of the fledgling university and Dalhousie was unable even to appoint a faculty until 1838. Nor, apart from James McCulloch, the first President, were the three men first appointed apparently of outstanding academic stature. Of James McIntosh, for example, J. A. Bell was later to write, "He was a man of at least

respectable talents and fair scholarship; (and, of Mr. Romans, the third appointment)...He was a fair classical scholar, and against his character nothing could be said." (4) At any rate, by June 3, 1845, the Dalhousie Board of Governors had given up their first struggle to maintain a teaching program and formally closed the College.

One might not expect the need for a library to be of major concern in such an environment; and, indeed, in neither of the two published histories of Dalhousie was such a concern noted. (5) Yet drafts of correspondence exist, which indicate that a library was in fact requested by the faculty during this early period. The first, to the Governors of the College from the President and Professors in 1839, noted, perhaps somewhat ambiguously that, "To Colleges there is usually appended a Library, containing books upon the various branches of science, which professors may occasionally consult, and which the improvement of students requires them to peruse: and in Dalhousie College, in order that the lectures may keep pace with the progress of science, such an appendage is particularly requisite..." The second, dated October 27, 1840, remarked that, "The President and Professors of Dalhousie would, again, respectfully remind the Governors, that the seminary is still destitute of a library...and, that, as in this state it cannot be either efficient or respectable, it presents to the population of the province no inducement to regard it as a source of education for their offsprings."

Efficiency and respectability were terms well calculated to appeal to Victorian sensibilities, and the Governors acceded to the faculty's repeated concern. In the Statutes of the College amended and passed at meetings of the Board of the 5th and 12th of November 1842, there was included a sixteenth and final statute that there should be "a library fee of one pound per annum paid by each student", which fee was considered as part of the Tuition Fee to be waived if the latter fee was not charged. (6) Alas, it would appear from the single Fee Book which has survived from this period, that there was only time for the fee to be charged in 1843 and 1844 (to a total of 20 pounds of which 5 pounds were paid out, presumably for books) before the College temporarily closed its doors.

The next two decades were marked by futile efforts to resurrect Dalhousie. In 1849 a Dalhousie Collegiate School was opened with 117 pupils; but by 1854 the enrolment had dropped to sixty-one and the College too was moribund. Curiously, however, during the School's death throes, the issue of a library was raised again and the Minutes of the Board for January 7, 1854, contain a resolution that, "Messrs. Young, Howe and McKinlay be a committee to inquire into the state of the institution, to consider the state of the seats and the expediency of forming a Library for the Scholars." What prompted this interest in the face of dire emergencies we are not told; but, at any rate, the gesture was a futile one for at the very next meeting of the Board it was decided to close the School and to do nothing "at present respecting the desks and Library". Thus, when the holdings of Dalhousie were inventoried in June 1860 (presumably as part of the task of determining the School's assets at a time when it must have seemed likely that the building would never again house a teaching staff), holdings included only thirty-eight maps; thirty-one charts and diagrams; several assorted drawing cards; and thirty-two books, exclusive of working records, consisting largely of classroom texts in French, German and

Arithmetic as well as eight Bibles (two of them in French).

Clearly, from the very beginnings of Dalhousie University, a library was seen by the Faculty, if not by the Governors, to be at least highly desirable. The reason for the early failure to develop such a library was largely fiscal, and one cannot deduce much from that failure when the institution as a whole was failing. Throughout the entire period 1818 to 1863 the Governors possessed too little money to erect a suitable building and maintain a staff, let alone to develop a book collection. The total endowment fund of Dalhousie in 1863, for example, totalled no more than 51,066.85 pounds which, invested at 3 per cent (which was the rate received by the Board from Provincial Bonds), would have yielded an annual return of approximately 1,532 pounds. By contrast King's College at Toronto was able in 1842 to set aside 4,000 pounds "for the purpose of purchasing a library and 'philosophical and chemical apparatus'". (7)

One of the major reasons for Dalhousie's early fiscal problems was that the College, by remaining legally non-denominational, had forfeited any claim to financial support from the several denominations then dominant in the Province. From 1856 to 1863, however, representatives of the Presbyterian Church met with the Dalhousie Governors with a proposal that the Board reverse its initial reluctance to appoint clergymen as professors and that the faculty should be enlarged by one for every denomination that should support such a faculty appointment. Finally the governors conceded, "that no objection would be raised (to the appointment of faculty with religious affiliations), but, having felt the evil of professors engaging in any employment, they could not sanction a clergyman professor holding at the same time a pastoral charge". (8) This compromise was sufficient to permit the passage of an "Act for the Regulation and Support of Dalhousie College, passed the 29th Day of April, A.D. 1863" which provided for representation on the Board of any body of Christian faith who would endow a chair in the University, and the right of these bodies, or any individual, or group of individuals, to nominate the professors for such chairs as they should endow. Thus was a viable basis for Dalhousie finally established, and once Mr. Longley, the member of the Provincial Assembly for Annapolis, had failed in 1864 in his attempt to have the Act repealed, the existence if not the welfare of Dalhousie College was never again seriously endangered.

II. The Founding of the Library

The university began its new career with six professors, three of whom were supported from the accumulated funds of the old Dalhousie College and two of whom were paid for (at 300 pounds each per annum) by the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces. Fiscal constraints continued, however, to plague the Board of Governors and their desperate appeals to the Provincial Legislature for support went largely unheeded. Nevertheless, the presence of six able faculty, (Principal James Ross, Thomas McCulloch, Charles McDonald, William Lyall, George Lawson, John Johnson, and James DeMille who replaced McCulloch when the latter died in 1864) gave promise of strong library support if funding could be found.

No mention of financial bases for library support, or, indeed, of a library at all, appeared in the provisions of the Act of 1863. This omission is again in sharp contrast to the 1854 statutes of neigh-

bouring King's College at Windsor which provided not only for "a Librarian (but) also if requisite a Sub-Librarian (to be) appointed by the Governors whose duty it shall be to take charge of the Library and of all things contained in it". (9) The concept of a library was, in the event, initiated with almost startling abruptness, and with no recorded previous negotiations, by George Munro Grant (later to become Principal of Queen's University in Ontario) at the Dalhousie convocation of April 24, 1867. "The Rev. G.M. Grant then took the occasion to mention the subject of a Library for the College, stating that he had already been promised two hundred dollars toward that object. Whereupon John Tobin Esq., offered two hundred dollars, the Lieutenant Governor, four hundred dollars, and several other gentlemen present added their subscriptions." (10)

George Grant, thus the founder of the Dalhousie University Library, had been one of the first of the appointments to the Board of Governors in 1863, representing the Church of Scotland. He was from 1863 to 1877 the minister at St. Matthew's Church in Halifax. His interest in a library for Dalhousie was typical of his life-long support of Canadian literature and culture, as evidenced also by his espousal of free schools, Confederation, Presbyterian Church Union, and, at Dalhousie, of literary prizes for the best essays on religious and humanistic topics.

The initial support for the new library was encouraging. Four members of the Board gave one hundred dollars each, and even the College Curator, Mr. Errol Boyd, donated twenty-five dollars. In total \$1,775 were subscribed in immediate response to Grant's initiative; but no university senators appeared on the list of initial subscribers.

Though the faculty were not among the early subscribers, they were, however, soon involved in the Library's development. At the meeting of Senate immediately following Dr. Grant's convocation appeal: "the minutes of the last three meetings having been read and sustained, the Senate, and the Rev. G.M. Grant who was present, proceeded to consult respecting the steps to be taken in reference to the proposed College Library. Whereupon it was agreed that an Advertisement should be published in some of the newspapers respecting the College Library and that endeavor should be made to obtain editorial notices of the Library Scheme and its prospective benefit. Professors Lawson and DeMille were appointed a Committee on the Library Scheme, and Mr. Thomson, Secretary to the Governors, was appointed Treasurer of the Library Fund.

At this point, however, the Committee on the Library Scheme found themselves faced by two of the most persistent problems in library development: space requirements and acquisition policy. With respect to Library quarters, the Committee and the Senate moved with considerable speed. On June 3, 1867, "In reference to the subject of the College Library, the Principal undertook to communicate with the Governors respecting the removal of the Mechanics' Museum

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The role of the Library

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from the College Buildings and the setting up of the present Museum Room as a Library: also to enquire to the steps intended to be taken for increasing the Library Fund." As soon as the request was made, however, the problems of the new Library began. On June 17, "The Principal reported that he had conferred with Mr. MacKinlay, one of the Governors of the College, who stated that it was not in contemplation to remove the Mechanics' Museum from the Room at present occupied by it for about a year, as the place to which it is to be removed cannot earlier be got ready."

The reply of the Governors was predictable and probably justified. Dalhousie's greatest asset was its building, and throughout its history the College had not hesitated to lease or give surplus space to reputable organizations. Thus the postal authorities had leased a part of the College for some years; a museum and an Infants' School had been given free quarters; and the oldest and most academically respectable of these tenants was the Mechanics' Institute which had shared the building for more than two decades. It is therefore not surprising that the Board refused to eject their long term guests. Nevertheless, it was perhaps ominous for the Library's future that the Governors were at the outset unwilling to provide it with quarters.

Frustrated in their search for space, the Senate turned instead to the problem of the book collection itself; although their method of book selection was admittedly rudimentary. It was agreed that, "the Professors should, by the next meeting of Senate, be prepared to lay on the Table Lists of Books which they considered necessary in their several departments, with, so far as they could ascertain, the published prices of the Books" and, at that next meeting, "...it was agreed to appoint the Secretary to transmit these lists to a reliable Bookseller, with the injunction to furnish these books to the Library, provided he can do so at a discount of one-sixth on the published prices..." The Secretary carried out his instructions, and a Mr. G. Walter of Aberdeen accepted the order to furnish the books on the terms proposed.

With the books due to arrive, the Senate returned to the space problem though only with a repetition of their earlier request for the East Room occupied by the Mechanics' Museum. The Governors again, "intimated that it was impossible for them at present to grant control of admission to that Room to the Senate; (though) the Secretary was authorized to draw on the Secretary of the Governors for money sufficient to cover the expense of the Books, which he had just reported as having been received for the Library, and also the connected expenses." However, although the Minutes do not account for the volte-face, on May 6, 1863, just two months after the Governors had indicated that the Museum Room could not be used for the Library, "At the request of the Senate, Dr. Lawson undertook to see to the clearing of the 'Museum' and fitting it up with shelves, so as to utilize the books as soon as possible. Professor DeMille was appointed to take charge of the Library Books during the Summer Session."

Thus, the Dalhousie University Library became a physical reality, and it was agreed, "that Students who wished to borrow books from the Library for the remainder of the session shall have to pay one-half dollar; which sum will be received by Professor DeMille on a day to be fixed hereafter. It was agreed (also) to expend the Library fees in the meantime for fittings for the Library Room and seats and desks for that Room". However,

although the books did duly arrive in March, 1868, fifteen months later the Senate was still resolving to call the attention of the Governors, "to the necessity of cleaning, and providing some furnishings for, the Room formerly occupied by the Museum, which is urgently required for the use as a classroom as well as for the accommodation of the Library." Two months later, moreover, we find the Senate in desperation again instructing its Secretary that the resolution quoted above be formally transmitted to the Secretary of the Governors.

The desperation of the Senate is understandable. By 1869-70 the book collection numbered eleven hundred volumes and borrowing regulations had already been established. On May 26, 1869, "the attention of the Senate was directed to the subject of opening the Library of Graduates; whereupon it was agreed that in the meantime Books should be lent out without restrictions to them to be kept out not longer than one month, under penalty of One Dollar; but if a Book is not asked for by another Reader, the Reader may re-borrow it at the end of the month"; and, in 1868-69, the College Calendar listed under "Fees," "a library Fee of \$1.00 yearly...payable by Students attending more classes than one." With such regulations established and with a service charge now fixed, space for the library operation was essential, even if such space had to serve also as a classroom.

Even as the question of library quarters was being discussed, however, the very principle of support for a library was being deliberately subject to attack. The evidence of such an attack is only indirect; but it seems strong enough to indicate an extraordinary disregard of the Library's interest. Moreover, the action taken may be seen as all the more dangerous for the Library because of the almost casual way in which it was reported. On March 31, 1870, the Senate received, as part of a report from the Governors, notice that, "...as the annual expenditure during the past two years had exceeded the revenue of the College the Governors, though reluctantly, have found it necessary to adopt the following rules..." The six rules given by the Governors did not apply to the Library; but the Senate's reply to the Governors' letter contains a passage which refers to an important decision which had apparently been made and which vitally affected Library finance: "...the Senate regret the decision with reference to the examination papers (the decision to discontinue the printed examination papers had been one of the rules set forth by the Governors). At the conference of last Spring with a Committee of Governors, it was understood by the Senate that the agreement to transfer the Library Fund from Library purposes to the general fund of the College was made on the understanding that the Sessional Examination Papers would be continued (my emphasis)." It seems clear, therefore, that not only had a large part of the seventeen hundred dollars subscribed to the Grant fund been turned from its avowed purpose, but also the Library fee established two years before had probably been diverted.

In terms of our initial question as to the perceived importance of the Dalhousie Library to its University, the diversion of its funds is an important indicator; and it would appear that the Senate must assume much of the responsibility for the decision. It is true that they forwarded a resolution some two years later, "to express to the Governors the opinion that, now since the financial condition of the College had been improved by the general subscription of last Session, the Library Fees temporarily withdrawn by the Governors, should

revert to the Senate for Library purposes"; but this, while it may indicate a delayed attack of scholarly conscience, hardly reduces the Senate's share of responsibility for what had occurred. Moreover, the Governors attitude that, when faced by a financial crisis, they could divert special grants to the general University fund, clearly made the Library extremely vulnerable. Perhaps the only safeguard against such attacks would have been statutory recognition of the need for a book collection and a formal statement that the Library should be entitled to its own inviolable source of financial support. Since, as we have seen, no such safeguard existed, the events of the Spring of 1869 clearly set a precedent which could irreversibly affect the early growth of the book collection. The administrative action with respect to the George Munro Grant Fund assumes, therefore, an importance far beyond the actual amounts of money involved.

It must not be supposed, however, that, because the Library had thus lost its regular basis of financial support, there were no book funds at all during the 1870s. Irregular financial assistance was available from two sources. The occasional dollar collected as a fine for some student misdemeanour was traditionally received by the Library; but of much greater moment were the periodic appropriations made by the Board of Governors for apparatus and books. Thus, on February 6, 1872, the Senate was informed, "that the Governors have appropriated the sum of \$600 for the current year to be expended in apparatus and in adding to the library..."; and, on February 4, 1873, the Secretary of the Board wrote to the Secretary of the Senate, "I am also directed to inform you that the Governors have appropriated the sum of \$400 for the purchase of apparatus and Library purposes". Such grants, however, were entirely at the discretion of the Board of Governors, and it is clear from the Senate Minutes that the faculty could not expect funds for the book collection on any regular basis.

III The Crisis of 1890

Whether or not the diversion of library funds in 1869 was recognized as a precedent by those involved at the time, there can be little doubt that attitudes revealed by that diversion were again evident twenty years later when the Library's position was even more seriously threatened. Kenneth Brough, writing of academic library development in the United States, has claimed that, "The conception of the library as a central and vitalizing force in the university developed steadily in the latter part of the nineteenth century"; (11) and it is in the contest of such a major historical generalization that the library crisis of 1890 at Dalhousie assumes generalizable importance.

It is important to recognize that by 1890 the fiscal position of Dalhousie University was again critical, as indeed, was the immediate financial outlook of Nova Scotia itself. It was most unfortunate for the Province and for Canada as a whole that the great political experiment of Confederation in 1867 should have been followed almost immediately by the Great Depression of 1873 for, although all parts of the country were affected by the Depression, the Maritimes suffered perhaps the most. Their economy had been most closely bound up with the old pre-industrial techniques and markets, and they were faced not only with the exigencies of the slump but also the inexorable necessity for basic social adjustment. Thus, by 1890, when the depression reached its nadir, Nova Scotia had lost not only the earlier ready supplies of capital accumulated from the profits of fishing, lumbering, and shipbuilding; but had lost also its confidence in its future as a major industrial and financial centre of the new Dominion.

Thus, without the environment of a sound regional economy and of a sense of regional optimism in the cultural future of Nova Scotia, the Act of 1863 respecting Dalhousie University continued to fail to

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The role of the Library

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attract to the institution expected financial support from government, church, or populace. Certain private benefactions from Nova Scotians who had made their money outside the Province did, it is true, permit Dalhousie to offer salaries at the close of the century well in excess of those offered by, for example, the University of New Brunswick, (12) but the occasional private benefaction received before 1890 could not compensate for the absence of regular annual government grants.

For the Dalhousie Governors after 1865, therefore, the economic problem remained paramount as it had for their predecessors. As early as 1874, G.M. Grant, reporting for the auditors of the Board, recorded his regret at finding the finances of the University in so unsatisfactory a state. In 1887 the Board Treasurer "strongly urged that some immediate steps should be taken to supplement the funds at his disposal," and, on December 20, 1888, he reported further that the income of the College was barely sufficient to pay the salaries of the Professors, and that serious inroads were being made upon the capital. Only \$51,000 remained from the transactions of the old Dalhousie College, and charges as large as the \$3,509 operating deficit for 1888 could not long be satisfied from reserve funds.

In their extremity, the Governors could attempt one or more of three solutions: they could renew their hitherto vain appeals for government and church aid; they could solicit private support, offering in return a seat on the Board as provided for by the Act of 1863; or they could attempt to effect economies within the University's operations. Unfortunately for the Library, the Board chose to attempt the third of these solutions first; and, on January 6, 1890, they placed before the Dalhousie Senate a letter which was to have such grievous consequences that it must be quoted here at some length.

The Governors of Dalhousie find that they cannot, with the means at their disposal, meet in full the expenses incident to the present arrangements. ...The Board have been obliged to borrow a large sum of money on the personal security of some of its members. They feel that until some addition is made to the funds under their control they will be obliged to curtail their expenditure. ...Under the circumstances there seems to be not one mode in which a reduction can be made. Certain of the expenses are absolutely unavoidable and incapable of reduction. The Board are most reluctant to interfere with the emoluments of the Professors. They are quite aware that these are now none too high. ...Still, feeling that something must be done to bring the expenses within the income they may be obliged to ask the Professors to give up the fees paid by the pupils, or part of them... (unless the Senate can suggest) any other mode by which the Governors may prevent a continuous yearly deficit. (13)

It is perhaps surprising that the Governors should thus have chosen to jeopardize the Professors' salaries before even attempting to raise funds from outside sources for the private benefactions which had accrued to Dalhousie since 1863 without the incentive of a general fund drive were by no means unsubstantial. Moreover, although the systematic campaign for funds as we know it today was little used by Canadian universities before 1900, at least two successful appeals had been launched before 1890, one by King's College at Windsor which raised \$40,000 in the early 1850s, and one by Queen's University

which raised \$200,000 in the endowment campaign of 1878 (14).

Whatever the merits of the Governors' position, however, the evidence is that, except for a request by the Board on March 14, 1887 that a list of probable contributors to Dalhousie be prepared, no formal campaign for funds was initiated before the fateful communication of January 6, 1890 was received by the Dalhousie Senate. The results of the letter for the University Library were swift and disastrous; for the Senators replied to the Governors on March 17, 1890:

The Senate having been consulted in this matter by the Board of Governors, would recommend that before taking a step which the majority of the Professors would regard as a violation of the contracts made with them, expenditure of the Board should be reduced to the smallest amount possible. (In this connection) the Senate is aware of two items of expenditure which, however, desirable, cannot be said to be necessary, viz., a large portion of the expenditure on the Calendar and the whole of the annual expenditure on the Library (my emphasis). (15)

Thus, faced with the unenviable choice between bread and books, the Senators of Dalhousie chose bread. Support for the Library, they declared, was desirable but unnecessary. The next year, after the Board Treasurer had reported a deficiency of some 2,000 pounds for 1890, the Governors empowered their Finance Committee "to make such arrangements as in their opinion might be deemed best in the interests of the College." As a result, all financial support for the Library ceased. For the next fifteen years, while the major universities of Canada built up their book collections, the Dalhousie University Library remained wholly dependent upon the occasional charitable donation in cash and upon sporadic gifts in kind.

We have already acknowledged the heavy financial pressures which faced Dalhousie in 1890; but it is, of course, precisely when money is in short supply that priorities must be decided upon. It is surely relevant to our investigation of the importance of libraries to their universities, therefore to note that the faculty at Dalhousie in 1890 were in most cases the same men who, twenty years earlier, had agreed to use the George Monro Grant Library Fund to print the Sessional Examination Papers; and that the bracketing of the Calendar, which included examination papers, and the Library in the letter of March 17, 1890, may well have been occasioned in part by memories of the solution of 1869-70 which had established a tradition of economy at the expense of the Library.

IV. The Inception of the MacDonal Memorial Library

One of the drawbacks of an abridged study such as this is that it can touch only upon the highlights of the history it purports to cover. It becomes, in other words, a type of 'critical incident' evaluation; and too little space is available for discussion of such periods of important but relatively undramatic development as occurred for the Dalhousie University Library between 1891 and 1902. Although the Library was relocated in new quarters in 1888, the 1,400 square feet provided proved so inadequate that by 1897, the Students' Reading Room had been taken over for book storage and newspaper tables had been erected in the corridors. Moreover, it seems unlikely that the University's expenditure on books exceeded \$250 in any one year over the decade, so that by 1900 the Library's holdings of 9,760 volumes had fallen far behind, for example, the University of Toronto's 50,000 volumes or Queen's University's 35,000. Nevertheless, the

enrolment at Dalhousie was increasing steadily during this period—from 232 students in 1890, to 274 in 1893, to 360 in 1897—and Library circulation figures also rose—from just over 2,000 loans in 1894-95, to over 3,200 in 1896-97, and to 4,000 in 1900-01. Thus, by the turn of the century, circulation equalled almost forty-one per cent of the volume count and amounted to approximately eleven loans per student capita. Moreover, in 1894 the first Assistant Librarian, Mr. J.B. Johnson, B.A., was appointed and this made possible the extension of library hours from the previous two-hours-a-day to seven hours a day—10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.—Monday through Friday. Yet, in many respects, the Library remained extraneous to the concerns of the Dalhousie Governors. The position of University Librarian had been traditionally seen at Dalhousie as a routine falling to the lot of the newest and most junior Senator and in 1892 it thus fell to Professor Walter Murray. Murray, however, who in 1908 was to become President of the University of Saskatchewan, was not a man to accept extra duties lightly, and, in September 1894, he persuaded the Senate to pay for an Assistant for the forthcoming academic year and to urge the Board of Governors to provide the necessary funding thereafter. The Governors finally did so in 1897; but the Assistants thus appointed were only "student assistants" (either graduate or undergraduate) and sometimes (as in 1900) as many as three students would be sequentially appointed within a single year. The tradition of the University, established before 1863, of supporting buildings first, faculty second, and libraries little if at all, had apparently been little modified by the year 1902. By that year, therefore, there were many,

including members of the Board, who had become convinced that, if the University Library was to grow apace, support for that growth must be sought beyond the confines of the campus. It was this conviction which led to the launching of the only major drive for funds ever undertaken on the Library's behalf—the Macdonald Memorial Library Fund Campaign of 1902-08.

The Campaign was launched in the face of grave obstacles. The essentially rural economy of Nova Scotia (in 1901 only 18.4 per cent of the Province's population was urban) favoured a generally even distribution of capital and there was throughout the region "little real poverty and no great wealth". (16) Moreover, what wealth there was frequently belonged to immigrants who eventually returned overseas taking their new fortunes with them. Thirdly, the local bequests that were made had to be shared between no less than four universities and six colleges "in an environment capable of supporting perhaps one healthy university". (17) Finally, the Alumni Association of Dalhousie University, the group upon whom, perhaps above all others, the success of a funding drive would depend, had been allowed by 1901 to wither away to such an extent that, in a letter to their associates, the executive of the Halifax Branch reported. "The number of members is four and they have paid five years in advance. They would like a few others to join them so that they may have a quorum when annual meetings are called". (18)

It is all the more remarkable, therefore, that, against such a background and from a campaign directed apparently largely by

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APLA Conference

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PROGRAM UPDATE

Second keynote speaker will be Everett Brenner of the American Petroleum Institute. He is sharing the podium with Ann Cameron of University of New Brunswick.

Other workshops which have been finalized include:

- Telidon update - a look at current commercial and educational applications and their place in the library.

- Prestel - Britain's approach to videotex. Torch Computers, the Canadian marketers of Prestel, will be giving an overview of the system and its potential for libraries.

- "Teaching Public Catalogue Use" a workshop to be given by Elizabeth Frick of the School of Library Service, at Dalhousie University. This is sponsored by the Committee on Library Instruction.

- Diana Carl, co-ordinator of the Distance University Education via Television (DUET) at Mount Saint Vincent University, will explain how DUET works. This will be an "on-site" workshop at

Mount Saint Vincent and one of its DUET locations.

Look for the pre-conference package which all APLA members will be receiving. Pre-registration cost will be \$25.00. Registration at conference time will be \$35.00. Saturday session only will be \$15.00 in advance, or \$20.00 at conference time. Tickets for the banquet and entertainment will be \$20.00.

Local Arrangements chairperson: Gayle Garlock, Killam Library, Dalhousie University, Halifax, N.S. B3H 4H8.

Program Committee chairperson: Peter Glenister, Library, Mount Saint Vincent University, 150 Bedford Highway, Halifax, N.S. B3M 2S5.

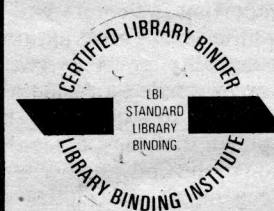
Terri Tomchysmyn Local Arrangements (Public Relations)

1. All workshops will be on Saturday, 28 May, 1983.

2. From 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Mary Dykstra, Senior Audio-Visual Librarian, National Film Board of Canada is presenting the workshop: "Design and Implementation of an Integrated Library Service."

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The role of the Library

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the faculty, a sum of some \$24,000 was pledged to cover the erection of a Library building at a contract price of about \$20,000; and, because the will of Professor Charles Macdonald left a catalytic \$2,000 to the Library in 1901, it was appropriate that the projected Library should bear his name. Against such measures of success, however, must be weighed the evidence that, although by January 30, 1904, subscriptions had reached \$23,362, actual payments totalled only just over \$6,700. It was upon this evidence that the Governors decided to act; or, in the event, not to act. In 1904 the Board offered a prize of \$100 to the architect submitting the best plan for a Library; but they rejected all four plans received and refused to make the award. For the next four years the Governors delayed, while the Alumni Association and the faculty became increasingly restive. Even when, by 1908, cash donations plus accrued interest considerably exceeded the earlier requirements of the Board, no action was taken, on the grounds that a suitable site could not be found. In fact, it was not until April 29, 1914, at 4:30 p.m. on a chilly afternoon, that an audience of almost three hundred gathered on the new Studley campus to watch Dr. Allan Pollok, ex-principal of the Halifax Presbyterian College and for many years an intimate friend of Macdonald, lay the cornerstone of the Macdonald Memorial Library.

The delays surrounding the expenditure of the funds subscribed to the new Library, conjoined to evidence that the expenditure when it was finally made was thought of by the Board as contributing towards general University rather than specific Library needs, are too lengthy and complex to be presented, let alone discussed in this brief history. Suffice it to say that, despite the occasional improvement in the old Library's facilities between 1902 and 1914—in 1902 the Library received electric lighting; in 1907 the first fulltime Assistant to the Librarian was appointed; in the same year the first typewriter was bought for the Library; in 1908 the first known Accession Records were begun—the evidence suggests that the University Library was not seen as important by the Board of Governors of Dalhousie during this period. Library development was not discussed at Board meetings. The new lighting system was provided not by the Administration but through the extraordinary generosity of Stephen Dixon, a new Professor of Physics. The Assistant to the Librarian was appointed also as the President's secretary, although her annual salary of \$150 was to be paid out of Library funds.(19) By 1909 the "annual" grant to the Library, withdrawn by the Board in 1890, still had not been renewed, and the Senate was at times driven to almost ludicrous lengths in apportioning what few book funds there were.(20) In 1908 the Library was, almost incredibly in the face of its growing congestion, deprived even of one of the two rooms it had. Above all, there is the evidence that, when the Governors did finally act to use the money collected specifically for a new Library, they merged that money with additional funds to provide quarters not only for a book collection but also for classrooms and for the entire administrative structure of the growing university. It is true that this last decision was presented as a temporary measure; but the "temporary" nature of the arrangement in fact deprived the Library of the full use of its new building for more than thirty-five years.

V. The Macnab Bequest

Once again the exigencies of abridgement require the excision from this history of years of slow but important library growth. Thus we jump over the period of the First World War and omit too

the major contributions to the Dalhousie Library of individuals such as Professor Archibald MacMechan, the first long-term University Librarian (1906-1930), and Francis Jean Lindsay, the first (and, for many years, the only) trained librarian at Dalhousie. Instead (and still seeking an answer to our question: how important did the University see its Library to be during these formative years?), we must move on to one final and most instructive highlight in the early history of the institution: the disposition of John Macnab's bequest in the early 1930s.

The story of the Macnab Bequest begins on March 5, 1916, with the death of John Macnab, brother-in-law of the ex-president John Forrest, at the age of eighty-four. From youthful poverty, Macnab had risen to a position of unostentatious affluence characterized by charitable donations, a tendency to seclusion, and an omnipresent boutonniere. He left behind him only one brother, the last survivor of a family of ten. He never married which, as the *Gazette* once remarked with perhaps more truth than tact, "proved an advantage to many a relative, many a friend, and many a good cause." (21) and, in consequence, his estate remained largely unencumbered by family claims. His greatest passions during his lifetime had been the cultivation of roses, sweet peas, good books, and his shares in the burgeoning Dominion Steel and Coal Corporation of Canada, and his legacy revealed that the loves of a bibliophile had merged with the memories of an impoverished childhood to present Dalhousie University with a remarkable and generous gift. It was John Macnab's hope, as he once confided to his brother William, that through his benefactions "students who were too poor to buy books should, nevertheless, have access to a good library." (22) This hope had led Macnab during his lifetime to make the gift of a small but valuable library to the Pine Hill Divinity Hall of Halifax. It achieved its final expression in the fourteenth provision of his bequest.

The will of John Macnab was filed on March 8, 1916, and the fourteenth clause read as follows: "All the rest and residue of my estate my trustees shall divide into six equal parts and pay one of such parts to the School for the Blind, one of such equal parts to and for the Board of Management of the Presbyterian College of Halifax, known as Pine Hill, and the remaining four equal parts to the Board of Governors of Dalhousie College, and I request said Board in its discretion to apply a portion or all of said residue for the purpose of extending and maintaining the Library of said College." (23) The intentions of this clause as it pertained to Dalhousie became at once subject to conflicting interpretations.

The first recorded interpretation was that of the *Halifax Daily Echo* which, on March 8, 1916, reported simply that Macnab's will had left "four parts to the Governors of Dalhousie College with a request that the same be used for the purpose of extending the Library," and that Hector McInnes, K.C., and the Eastern Trust Company had been named as the executors.(24) This journalistic oversimplification was, however, promptly countered by a remarkable article in *The Dalhousie Gazette* of March 27, 1916:

The recommendation that the money is to be used for "the extension and maintenance of the library" may have caused misapprehension in some quarters. Dalhousie has many needs; and the Governors are not bound apparently to devote the whole bequest to library purposes. In view of the world-situation and the gloom and uncertainty hanging over all institutions, great and small, nothing can be decided for some time to come.

But whatever is made of this money, the name of John Macnab will be entered on the lengthening honor roll of Dalhousie's benefactors, as that of a wise and generous man, who devised his wealth for the more liberal diffusion of that light which we call education.(25)

Significantly, the same issue of the *Gazette* carried an editorial on the bequest.

The announcement in the newspapers that Mr. John Macnab had left a considerable sum of money to the Library turns out to be inexact. It was apparently no more than a suggestion attached to the bequest, placing part of the residue of his estate absolutely at the disposal of the Board of Governors. They may legally use it for any purpose whatever, and not expend a cent of it on the Library. As the institution has many needs, it is quite on the cards that the Library will have to wait many long years for an income, by which it could build up into an institution even in measure adequate to the requirements of Dalhousie's staff and students... It was a dream: but rather pleasant while it lasted. The amount of the bequest would have yielded an income of between two and three thousand dollars. One could do something with three thousand dollars a year for the "extension and maintenance" of the Library. (26)

The report in the *Echo*, the article in the *Gazette*, and the student editorial, appear to typify the conflicting potentialities of the Macnab bequest: the money was meant for the Library; the money was not meant wholly for the Library; none of the money might go to the Library. The first interpretation, that of the *Echo*, omitted the key phrases giving discretionary powers to the Board and making it possible for less than the full bequest to be spent on the Library. The second interpretation, that of the article, may well have represented, in its somewhat patronizing and moralistic tone, the Board's own unofficial reaction to the *Echo*'s report. This interpretation stresses the discretionary power vested in the Board and hinted strongly that not all the money received would go to the Library; but it did imply that a part, perhaps even the greater part, of the legacy would be devoted to library purposes. The third interpretation, that contained in the editorial, almost certainly represented the students' editor's reaction to the article with which he had been supplied. It was the most pessimistic interpretation of the three, and would, indeed, in its suggestion that the Board need not expend a cent of the Bequest on the Library, seem to connote the expectation of an almost cynical disregard of the moral obligations imposed by John Macnab's will.

For moral obligations there were! It would be a mistake in what follows to think of the bequest as if no request had been appended to it. Whatever legal force Macnab's wishes may have had, they were certainly incorporated in his will as a

direction to the Board in the use of its discretionary powers. This point was made clear by Mr. J.S. Roper, M.A., LL.B., alumnus of Dalhousie and editor of the *Gazette* in his farewell editorial on May 18, 1916. In this editorial, entitled "Ipsissima Verba." Mr. Roper discussed the fourteenth clause of John Macnab's will.

Legal interpretation is, of course, necessary; but to the layman the sense of the words seems plain enough. The legacy is coupled with a "request"; and a request in a will has a certain binding power upon the executors. In the second place, the request refers to the disposal of the money for a certain purpose. No other purpose is mentioned. That purpose is "extending and maintaining the Library of said College." "Extending" may refer to the actual building, still incomplete; or it may refer not to the building, but to the "Library" *id est*, the collection of books housed in the building. One phrase "in its discretion"; not "at its discretion." Obviously this refers to the freedom left to the Trustees to devote a portion or the whole to the specific "purpose" named below. This clause as it stands, subject to mere lay interpretation, would seem to suggest the possibility, not to say probability of the nucleus, or rudiment of a permanent income for the Library, which is crying out for one.

Maintaining: — this term can hardly be ambiguous. It means upkeep or it means nothing. Now to manage the Library properly on a modern basis, at least two officials are needed. Indispensable is a trained librarian, with experience and thoroughly trained in modern methods. Otherwise Dalhousie would present the anomaly of a new building, a fair collection of books, and no proper system of using either.(27)

Without question there were many and varied claims against the limited resources of Dalhousie in the second decade of the twentieth century, of which the Library's claim was but one; but, with respect to the Macnab bequest, it was the Library that had been singled out, and it was for the Board, therefore, not just a matter of weighing equal claims. Not the least remarkable aspect of the Macnab story is the evidence that only the editor of *The Dalhousie Gazette* ever saw fit to make this vital point.

On April 5, 1916, more than a week after the *Gazette* had sounded a tentative requiem for the Library's hopes, the Board of Governors was informed officially that, under the terms of the will of the late John Macnab, the University had received a legacy "which would probably amount to about \$80,000", a fortune indeed by 1916 standards. As an interim step the money was invested with the Eastern Trust Company at an annual interest yield of approximately \$5,992—at a time when the total Library budget was less than a third of that amount and when the only trained

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The role of the Library

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librarian on its staff was resigning because of her unacceptably low salary.

On October 27, 1918—with the Library's staff reduced to untrained clericals; with the Library's book collection serving a faculty half the size of McGill's with one-tenth the number of books; and with the Library's budget of \$1,654 amounting to only 1.8 per cent of the total institutional expenditure—the Executive of the Board of Governors reported to the Board that the Macnab Bequest to the University totalled \$95,267.55 instead of the \$80,000 previously reported, and that this amount, "unallocated," remained with the Eastern Trust Company, an executor of the Macnab estate. This report may have caused some comment in view of the known needs of the Library for, at the meeting of the Board on November 6, 1918, Mr. C.H. Mitchell, an Alumni Representative, suggested "that it would be interesting to have for the next meeting a statement of the securities in which each of the various funds is invested"; to which Dr. Mackenzie replied, "in regard to these funds...the income from each was already allocated, except as regards the Macnab, Matherson, and Stairs funds." His reply was, however, apparently regarded as less than conclusive. Further discussion ensued and, in order to resolve the matter, it was finally "moved by the President and duly seconded that, while the Board would like to have each of these funds identified in a particular way with some special object, and intends at some future date to have this done, yet it is felt that in view of the high prices now prevailing and the consequent pressing needs for funds for current expenses, the income from these funds should, for the present, be applied to the general expenses of the University. The motion was carried."

Thus, by omission rather than by commission, the Library's vital stake in the Macnab legacy was being brushed aside, but the Alumni was not yet reassured as to the disposition of the funds. As soon as the President's motion had been carried, Mr. G.F. Pearson, Mr. Mitchell's successor as Alumni Representative, asked that a precis of the documents governing each of the funds be prepared and submitted to the Board for its information and guidance. As long as the Alumni's curiosity remained alive so did the chances of the Library.

The precis requested by Mr. Pearson was produced before the Board on April 25, 1919. Surprisingly, the precis itself was not appended to the Board Minutes and has not survived in any known form, so that we remain ignorant of the exact information with which Mr. Pearson and the rest of the Governors were provided on April 25. It is difficult to suppose, however, that such information can have entirely excluded John Macnab's request for support of the Library. Yet, for some reason, with the information they sought before them, the Alumni chose not to pursue the issue. No discussion of the precis was recorded in the Minutes of the Board, and neither Dr. Mackenzie nor Mr. Pearson took any further apparent action to represent the Library's interests in the matter.

Whether the Alumni Representative was content with the explanations he received or whether his interest waned we cannot now know; but undoubtedly the Board of Governors, by their motion of November 6, 1918, and by their subsequent failure to amend that motion in the light of the precis requested by Mr. Pearson, confirmed the fears expressed by *The Dalhousie Gazette* more than two years before. Once the Governors had declared in effect that the Macnab Bequest was legally and morally an unallocated and uncommitted fund freed from any special library en-

cumbrances, the chance that the University Library might successfully claim any portion of the \$95,267.55 became *de facto* very slim. The *Gazette's* prediction that the Library would have "to wait many long years for an income by which it could build up into an institution even in measure adequate to the requirements of Dalhousie's staff and students", was thus born out by the actions of the Governors themselves. It is, indeed, almost anticlimatic to note that, as far as the somewhat obtuse business records of the University for this period appear to record, the Dalhousie Board of Governors eventually used what was left of the Macnab bequest to retire the mortgage on "The Birchdale", a summer hotel purchased by the University in 1920 for \$160,000 as a residence for male students. (28)

VI. Conclusion

With the story of the Macnab bequest related, this brief history of the Dalhousie University Library from 1818 to 1931 draws to its conclusion. It is true that, towards the end of our period—in 1921—an additional stack for the Library was constructed and that, at this time or shortly thereafter, the Macdonald Memorial Library finally began to occupy floor space in its building previously occupied by classrooms. Nevertheless, the tradition of Library neglect was by then well established, as was the corollary of official disinterest. Both these traditions are exemplified, for example, by the status of the staff of the Main Library in the closing decade of our history.

The two women involved, Miss Shannon and Miss Harris, each received for their work in the Library just half the salary of a junior janitor, and two-thirds the amount paid to a starting clerical. It is also interesting, if somewhat invidious, to note that in 1918-19, when Miss Shannon as senior staff Librarian at the Main Library was receiving \$300, the "President reported that Miss Florence McDonald had taken over the duties of Librarian of the Medical Library at a salary of \$600 per year"; and that when, in 1919, Miss Shannon and Miss Harris received \$60 increases to \$360; Miss Macdonald received a \$100 increase to \$700.

By August 11, 1920, the recommended and approved salary schedule listed Miss Shannon as a Reader in English at \$500, though she had in fact resigned from that position to join the staff of the University Library in 1918. Apart from Professor MacMechan, no other members of the Library staff were mentioned in the schedule. In that year the minimum full professorial salary was set at \$3,500; and in 1921 the salary of the President was set with enthusiastic reference to the excellent work he was doing for Dalhousie, at \$7,500.

Although no further record of the salaries paid to Misses Shannon and Harris apparently exists for the remainder of the decade, they presumably received some increment for, in 1929, a Miss Isabel MacNeill was added to the staff as an Assistant Librarian at a salary of \$50 a month and the University can hardly have paid the two women who had been in the Library for a decade less than the new appointee. Certainly there is evidence that, apart from the devoted Miss Shannon and Miss Harris, Dalhousie could not keep library personnel at the value it placed upon them. Miss Lola Campbell, appointed in 1927, resigned after three months; and Miss MacNeill stayed for less than a year before resigning on July 31, 1930.

Moreover, the positions held by Misses Shannon and Harris were ill-defined, and their authority was apparently as ineffectual as their salaries. Haynes Mc-

Mullen notes that the practice of having a faculty member as librarian with the trained librarian as associated was not customary in the United States after 1910. (29) The practice of having a faculty member as librarian without any trained librarians was certainly even less customary. Arthur MacMechan was *de jure* University Librarian at Dalhousie and, although his love of books and of scholarship did not embrace any fondness for library administration, his assistants were, by virtue of their temperament, position, and lack of formal training, powerless to act without his approval. Miss Harris, offering independent confirmation of Miss Lindsay's recollections, remembers that Dr. MacMechan, for whom she had the greatest respect, "would pay us a brief visit once every two or three weeks, at which time he would ask us if there were any letters waiting for his signature or any matters that needed his attention." (3) There can be no question that Professor MacMechan wished to see the book collection grow, as did many of the faculty; but it appears that, always to some extent and increasingly as the decade progressed, he lacked an interest in the Library as an operational unit and failed to impress upon his staff, whom he saw far too infrequently, that responsibility for routine management which he himself was not inclined to exercise. (31) Moreover, and equally important, Dr. MacMechan failed to provide a clear pattern of authority which Miss Shannon and Miss Harris could define and develop. Lacking such a pattern, the two women worked on, without recognition of long-range purpose, and eventually passed from the scene as inconspicuously as they had arrived. Miss Harris herself was asked for her resignation without stated reason in 1932 after thirteen years of service to Dalhousie and, though it is her belief that Dr. MacMechan protested such treatment to the Senate at the time, no such protest was recorded in the Senate Minutes and, indeed, no reference to her departure ever appeared in the official records of the Senate or of the Board.

In assessing the undeniably lowly status of the staff of the Dalhousie University Library between 1921 and 1931 (and in this connection it should be noted parenthetically that the high regard in which Professor MacMechan was held in the academic community was not connected with his position as University Librarian) recognition must be given to the reciprocal nature of the relationships involved. The personnel in the Library, through no fault of their own, did not command the support and attention of the administration. The course pursued by the Library itself throughout the decade was routine and unostentatious. Judging by the lack of discussion of such matters in any extant records, neither library practices elsewhere, nor evaluations of library procedure, nor even the possible impact upon services or collections of new teaching methods and new disciplines were discussed within the Macdonald Memorial Library or brought to the attention of the Senate and the Board of Governors. Thus, while the disinterest of the Dalhousie administration in its Library throttled the development of that Library, the essentially passive and isolated role adopted by the Library between 1921 and 1931 virtually ensured continuing administrative disinterest. (32)

The consequences for the Dalhousie University of its own impotence and the apathy of its parent institution were dramatically summed up early in the 1930s by President Carleton Stanley, President Mackenzie's successor, reporting to the Board of Governors on the condition of the Library after six decades of development.

Our library is comparatively small, and poorly equipped...I request the Governors in all seriousness to consider the situation. Of necessity the so-called Library Building is at present half given over to administrative offices...For serious students and

professors our collection of books is hardly worth the name University Library, and of that collection almost one third, after superhuman efforts on the part of Professor Bennet and myself, remains uncatalogued....

As to the needs of the Library, they are very pressing. In some departments we seem to have added little or nothing in many years. We are not too strong anywhere, but we are extremely weak in the classical authors of the various languages we teach, ancient and modern, in English literature, in history and philosophy...For decades our library seems to have been the receptacle for the "unconsidered trifles" rejected by the house cleaners, with no one in charge having the courage to destroy.

It would appear, therefore, that, with respect to any light that this brief history can shed upon the importance of at least one Canadian university library to the success of its parent institution, the prevailing concepts of library administration, organization and objectives at Dalhousie remained up until 1931 at approximately that rudimentary stage of development which, according to Mildred Lowell, characterized academic library growth in the United States prior to 1875. Moreover, although it is not the purpose of this study to assess degrees of responsibility among individuals or groups for any failure to support library development at Dalhousie, an important historical lesson does seem to emerge from the foregoing presentation. The responsibility for university governance at Dalhousie University had always, at least in theory, been two-fold. The Board of Governors was responsible for appointments, duties, and fiscal policy; the Senate was responsible for internal, academic policy. The President of the University was regarded as the executive officer of the Board, and the University Librarian or his equivalent was administratively responsible to the President. As so often happens, however, theory became confused when facts were applied. A great deal of academic policy in fact involved fiscal policy, and this was nowhere more true than in the development of the university library. Where such involvement resulted in conflict, the Board of Governors had the final authority. In using its authority, however, the Board was guided by the advice of the President who not only acted for the Governors but also spoke for the Senate. The extent to which the President performed, or was permitted to perform, this role of spokesman tended to determine the cordiality of Board-Senate relations. The Senate, restricted to non-fiscal areas of concern, normally concentrated upon relatively routine matters such as class scheduling, discipline, commencement exercises, and the publication of examination papers; but could make representations regarding any circumstance involving their academic welfare. The University Librarian had no clearly defined responsibilities; but, in general, his duty was to manage the Library for the President and the Board, and to advise the President as to library needs in Arts and Science. In all these relationships and responsibilities, however, the personal interests and strengths of the individuals concerned counted for a great deal in determining practical authorities.

Thus the greatest single weakness of the Main Library's position would seem to have laid in its inability to conjoin administrative power and a consistent, strong interest in the Library's welfare in at least some of the individuals directly concerned with library development at Dalhousie. If the interests of those without power, such as Misses Shannon and Harris, could have been adopted by those

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The role of the Library

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with power, such as the members of the Board and the University Presidents, the development of the Main Library would unquestionably have been greatly strengthened. At times, it is true, such a merging of power and interest did take place. G.M. Grant, for example, was a Board member interested in founding a library at the University. The Senate took up the Library's cause in sporadic reports such as that of 1908, and even once exceeded its powers in the respect when it "appointed" J.B. Johnson to be Assistant Librarian in 1894. Occasionally the University Librarian acted with powerful determination, as when Walter Murray persuaded the Senate to appoint Johnson. At times, too, as when Mackenzie pressed for the addition of the first library stack after 1915, the University President threw his weight behind the Library. These, however, were all isolated instances, and were far outnumbered by instances in which those with power did not manifest any interest in library development. In particular, the Board of Governors, who controlled the financial destiny of the Library as well as the influence allowed to its staff, remained generally unpersuaded of the importance of the Library's role. Given the distribution of administrative responsibility at Dalhousie (which corresponded to that existing in many universities on this continent), the Governors held the key to the Library's future, and, while the President, the Senate, and the University Librarian may perhaps be faulted for failing to interest the Board in the Library, they cannot be accused of barring the door to library progress.

From these particularized considerations of administrative responsibility at least three more general conclusions may perhaps be drawn; or, more accurately, the considerations may be seen as offering substantive support for certain possibly self-evident but a priori assumptions. The first such general conclusion is that, unless there is continuing and conscientious library government, there is unlikely to be adequate representation of the library's interests at the level of university government.

The second conclusion is that, unless the library's interests are adequately represented in university government, it is probable that the interests of the library will be sacrificed to considerations of buildings and teaching staff—considerations which often, and at times justifiably, seem to be most urgent and to demand the sacrifice of equipment and of books. The academic library is a vulnerable and obvious target for measures of restriction; yet the ground lost by such measures can seldom be easily regained, and opportunities missed may never recur.

Finally, we may conclude that, even with library representation, and even with sympathetic alumni, student, and faculty support, a university library will probably fail to develop its full potential unless it is supported also by informed and sympathetic university government. Where student and faculty support is weakened by the absence of a strongly and systematically developed graduate research programme, or by the presence of independent and independently supported professional faculty libraries, the weight of majority opinion on the governing board of the university will often discountenance or override the persuasions of the library's staff or the urgings of students and faculty as expressed through Senate Minutes or the student newspaper. The needs of a library are seldom as obvious, and seldom seem as urgent, as the needs of other aspects of university development; and they do not

make the same appeal to governing bodies unless these bodies are already predisposed to support the library's interests.

These three general conclusions are not original to this study. Indeed, they have been postulated repeatedly and their implications have to some extent been explored in practice. Moreover, because there has been a remarkable recognition of library needs at Dalhousie in the decades subsequent to 1931, the points made are probably less pertinent than they were forty years ago. Nevertheless, additional historical evidence of the validity of such "self-evident truths" does offer a potentially valuable contribution to the theory of librarianship, and there can be little question that this evidence is strikingly provided by the history of the Dalhousie University Main Library from 1867 to 1931.

Footnotes

1. Jesse Shera, "The path finder's burden." *Library Journal Special Report* No. 21. New York: Bowker, 1981. p. 30.
2. Dalhousie University Senate, "Minutes, November 11, 1920."
3. W.S. Learned and K.M. Sills, *Education in the Maritime Provinces of Canada*. New York: The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, 1922. p. 73.
4. J.A. Bell, "Dalhousie College and Universities", 1887 (unpublished manuscript in the Dalhousie University archives).
5. Of the two substantial histories, apart from a number of publicity brochures, which cover the development of Dalhousie University to 1863, the first, by George Patterson, is a well documented, essentially legalistic, account of the history of the College to 1864. The second, published by D.C. Harvey in 1938, is a group of four essays in which the author describes "the birth of an idea, the struggles of that idea to secure a place in the educational system of Nova Scotia, the embodiment of that idea in buildings and faculties, and the establishment of that idea on a permanent basis," and carries the record forward to 1887. Neither history in itself fully presents the academic environment of Dalhousie prior to the founding of its Library; but from the two studies emerges a clear, if depressing, picture of the political and philosophical background of the institution in the decades prior to 1863. (Since the writing of this thesis, the only additional substantial work on Dalhousie is by John Willis, *A History of the Dalhousie Law School*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1979. Ed.)
6. There is, however, some indication that even so the faculty were unsure of the Board's support for the Library. An addendum to the list of Library Fees for the 1843 Winter Term noted that, "Dr. McCulloch called and said he would pay this amount if they (sic) were not dispensed with by the Governors" (my emphasis).
7. W.S. Wallace, *A history of the University of Toronto, 1827-1927*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1927. p. 38.
8. Dalhousie University Board of Governors, "Minutes, July 30, 1862." In at least one case the Governors acted on this caveat. In 1863 they passed over the Rev. John Pryor in favour of Professor John Johnson because Pryor wished to retain his pastoral charge in addition to a professorship.
9. University of King's College, *Statutes, rules and ordinances of the University of King's College, Windsor, N.S.* Windsor: University of King's College, 1854. Chapter 6.
10. Some confusion in currencies may be evident in this part of our account. Canada changed from the sterling to the decimal system of coinage in 1858; but, as in later transitions to the metric, the changeover was by no means immediate or im-

mediately universal.

11. Kenneth Brough, *Scholar's workshop: evolving conceptions of library service*. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1953. P. 23.

12. "The salary scale at the University (of New Brunswick) was out of line with that prevailing in the majority of the neighbouring colleges...In the summer of 1892, (for example), after but one year at Fredericton the site of the University of New Brunswick, Professor (Walter C.) Murray resigned to accept a post at Dalhousie which carried a salary just double that which he was then receiving." (K.A. MacKirdy, "The formation of the modern university, 1859-1906," *The University of New Brunswick*, ed. A.G. Bailey (Fredericton: The University of New Brunswick, 1950), p. 42.)

13. Dalhousie University Senate, "Minutes, March 17, 1890." The emolument of the Canadian professor in this period was not, apparently, inviolable. *The Journal of Education for Upper Canada*, IX, No. 1 (January, 1866), 6, quotes a report from the *Toronto Globe* regarding an 1866 Order in Council which "fixed the annual expenditure of the University of Toronto at \$45,000. When the amount is exceeded, a deduction will be made from the salaries of the Professors. If within five years the expenditure falls below the amount fixed, the Professors will then be repaid what has been deducted."

14. F.W. Vroom, *King's College: a chronicle, 1789-1939*. Halifax: Imperial Publishing, 1941. p. 75 and D.D. Calvin, *Queen's University at Kingston; the first century of a Scottish-Canadian foundation, 1841-1941*. Kingston: The Trustees of the University, 1941. p. 94.

15. Dalhousie University Senate,

"Minutes, March 17, 1890." The 'Calendar' referred to was the University's annual record of regulations, curricula, faculty, and examination papers.

16. The John Price Jones Corporation, *A survey and plan of fund-raising for Dalhousie University*. New York: 1930. p. 5.

17. Donald Redmond, "Some college libraries of Canada's Maritime Provinces; selected aspects." Unpublished M.S. thesis, University of Illinois, 1950. p. 15.

18. Dalhousie University Alumni Association, open letter to the members. April 29, 1901. (In the Dalhousie University archives.)

19. This situation was, however, partly corrected in 1908 when, following protests by the Senate, "it was agreed to separate the offices of Secretary and Assistant to the Librarian and to give to the Assistant \$100 out of the Library Fund and to the Secretary \$50 from the Library Fund, \$50 from the Law Faculty, and \$50 from some source to be determined". (Dalhousie University Senate, "Minutes, May 11, 1908".)

20. Thus, on May 2, 1903, the Senate "agreed that each Professor should draw up a list of books required in his department indicating in the order of importance those most urgently needed, and that the Librarian with the funds at his disposal should purchase books up to the amount of \$10 for each list".


21. *The Dalhousie Gazette*, 48, March 27, 1916. p. 1.

22. John Macnab's words in this instance were remembered by Edith Macnab, a daughter of William Macnab, and were repeated to the present author in an interview held on May 15, 1963.


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The role of the Library

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23. Extract from the will of John Macnab in the files of Dalhousie University.

24. *The Daily Echo* (Halifax), March 8, 1916. p. 1.

25. *The Dalhousie Gazette*, 48, March 27, 1916. p. 1.

26. *The Dalhousie Gazette*, 48, March 27, 1916. p. 6.

27. *The Dalhousie Gazette*, 48, May 16, 1916. p. 2.

28. A history as abridged as this cannot trace all the convolutions of the eventual disposal of the Macnab bequest. The final stage, however, appears to have been signalled by the financial statement in the *President's Report for 1934-35* which revealed that "the income from Invested Funds shows a reduction of \$9,133.65 from last year's figures. Six thousand dollars of the reduction is due to the disposal of investments to retire the Mortgage on the Birchdale property". An examination of the records of the Dalhousie University's Business office indicates that, in order to clear the Birchdale mortgage and thus clear the way for the eventual sale of the property by the University, the entire balance then remaining in the Macnab account was included in the disposal of investments.

29. Haynes McMullen, "The administration of the University of Chicago Libraries, 1892-1928." Unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, Graduate Library School, University of Chicago, 1949. p. 172. It is interesting to note that, when Misses Shannon and Harris were earning \$360 each per annum, the average salary of regular staff members at the University of Chicago Libraries was \$1,027, and that this was regarded as inadequate for the Libraries to obtain experienced employees (McMullen, p. 120).

30. Zaidée Harris, in an interview with the present author, September 1962. The recollection is, of course, an expression of opinion; but its tenor would appear consistent with what is known of Mac-Mechan's interests and duties.

31. It is perhaps indicative of the lack of effective routine management at this time that a letter from the Students' Council was read to the Senate on December 4, 1919, "to the effect that proper order was not being kept in the Library, and that as a result of this students were finding it difficult to pursue their studies there." (Dalhousie University, Senate, "Minutes, December 4, 1919.")

32. One interesting example of this apparent disinterest is given in the Minutes of the Dalhousie Senate for April 20, 1926 in which it was recorded that "a request from the American Library Association seeking permission to investigate and report upon the Dalhousie Library was granted". The reference stands in total isolation. No further reference to the proposed investigation was ever made by the Senate or the Board, and the A.L.A.'s librarian can find no reference to the request. The date of the Senate's Minute suggests that it might have been connected with the *Survey of Libraries in the United States, 1926* (Chicago: American Library Association, 1926); but no mention of an approach to Dalhousie appears in the report of that survey. Nor is Dalhousie mentioned in the A.L.A.'s *Resources of American Libraries, 1935* (Chicago: American Library Association, 1935), although the libraries of McGill and Toronto were included. The point to be taken from the 1926 incident is, of course, that the Dalhousie Senate, having agreed to a quite significant survey by a major library association, thought so little of the matter that neither they nor the University Librarian ever referred to it again.

33. Dalhousie University President, *Annual Report, 1932-33*. p. 3, 8.

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News and Notes

NEWFOUNDLAND

University and College Libraries

Richard Ellis was appointed University Librarian at Memorial University in October. Elizabeth Browne joined the cataloging staff with special responsibility for cataloging the Newfoundland Collection.

On December 6, 1982, a fire broke out in the tunnels connecting various buildings at the University. While there were no injuries, the resulting smoke and soot damage caused the Library to be closed for one day and to operate as a closed stacks library for two weeks while each book was cleaned. Although, it was an unwelcome test, the Library's disaster program proved quite adequate.

Pat Rahal, College of Trades and Technology, has recently completed a tour of community college libraries in Canada which was funded by the Alberta Letts Memorial Fellowship.

The annual meeting of the Newfoundland and Labrador Health Libraries Association included a workshop on "Cataloging for health services libraries" which was organized by the Health Sciences Library.

Special Libraries

Cynthia Tanner is the new Librarian at the Newfoundland and Labrador Development Corporation replacing Heddy Peddle who is establishing an information centre for the Royal Commission on the Ocean Ranger Marine Disaster.

The Newfoundland Teachers' Association appointed Judy Handrigan librarian in July.

Public Libraries

The Newfoundland Public Libraries System has had a number of appointments and resignations lately. Howard Saunders, the Avalon Region Librarian, resigned to move to Edmonton and was replaced by Lynne Cuthbert who had been Regional Librarian for Bonavista-Burin. Pat Wilson, Gander Regional Librarian, has resigned effective March 31, 1983. Another welcome appointment is that of Elaine Morton who will be operating the new provincewide Books by Mail Program.

A recent amendment to the Public Libraries Act will drastically alter the membership of the Provincial Library Board. In the past, appointments to this Board were made by the Lieutenant Governor in Council. Under the Act, as amended, regional boards will now appoint a representative from their board to serve on the Provincial Board.

NOVA SCOTIA

Nova Scotia Agricultural College

Samuel King has recently joined the staff of the N.S.A.C. Mr. King was previously with the N.S. Human Rights Commission Library in Halifax. He is a graduate of the School of Library Service, Dalhousie University.



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Government Information Access Policies, Their Effect on Libraries in Canada

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the USA, the USSR and China. So it is a significant accomplishment that Canadians by and large can acquire information about Canada without going to foreign sources.

The trend to Canadian government machine readable information access started in the 1950s with the advent of Statistics Canada's Census and other tape dissemination programs. By the 1980s with the appearance of Telidon, the policy switch to utilizing more and more computer based methods had become clear.

Such a progression has had a dramatic effect on conventional information practices of handling government information. Not all of them can be outlined here, but for libraries one of the most important is the appearance of hundreds of newly trained Federal Government information access employees, who act as the gate keepers to the machine based information terminals. (4)

With dozens of new agency services being mounted on-line by the Federal Government for Telidon, it is necessary to equip these services with key pad operators, trained and financed by the government. The question can be asked if the several thousand existing library and information workers in Canada, who handle similar information inquiries, are to be integrated into the new on-line network, to be bypassed, or to be eliminated. (5)

As the changes in Federal information policy have resulted in new employment developments and in expanded machine readable data and information, so also have the changes in the policies of the Provinces. A few information sectors are served by joint Federal-Provincial cooperative agreements, such as sport, occupational safety, and agriculture, but the majority, however, have been developed by each Province on a quasi-independent basis, with some overlap.

In order to be sure of all available

sources, it is no longer possible to consider data from Ottawa without considering data from Quebec, Ontario, Alberta and several of the other Provinces. This is particularly true in the social and cultural areas, and in the case of Quebec, is true also in economic and trade areas.

Ontario's Ministry of Government Services, Douglas Wiseman, announced the creation of further Ontario information data-bases in the 1981-82 fiscal year to serve the public and back up the more than 3000 staff members of his Department who provide information to the public through 26 offices in various parts of the Province. (6)

Recent investigation carried out at the Library Techniques Program of Mohawk College, Hamilton, on Canadian information sources, revealed that several different answers could be received for the same questions by consulting different official Canadian federal or provincial sources. This is not a new phenomenon, but with the increase in the number of sources, and the impact of foreign sources which utilize Canadian information, there is almost no chance that the answer to a question will not have various answers.

Repeated investigations have pointed out the high incidence of faulty replies by library staff members to questions asked by the public. One of the standard precautions to help guard against this has been the ability to list original sources. With the advent of machine readable bases, there is less and less chance of verifying the information provided, and of having access to primary information directly.

In view of such changes, there is a need to establish some method of monitoring the output of Federal and Provincial government information agencies, in order to integrate their products with the output of the municipal and the larger regional government information agencies. Two reasons for this may be mentioned, one is the matter of duplication and overlap between the agencies referred to above. The other is the result of the

Provincial and Federal government's "decentralized" information access policy. This policy was introduced because of the impossibility among government agencies in Ottawa and the Provincial capitals of coping with current information demands from all parts of Canada.

What makes monitoring all the more important, is the policy of both Provincial and Federal governments to emphasize telecommunications methods for citizen access to information. The telephone is the favorite Federal channel for inquiry but it is unworkable alone in dealing with anything more than the most abbreviated information inquiry. As the new videotex information access services go into operation, the importance of established libraries having access to this telecommunication based information is evident. Expanded telecommunication information routes of both Federal and provincial governments will require the user in all parts of Canada to have direct access to the many hundreds of machine readable data bases maintained by government departments. It can be seen that the usefulness of the traditional library document depository schemes will become a thing of the past in the 1990s, as in many cases they have already. Few institutions can keep up to date, or in any way retain complete contact with the vast output of Canadian documents, the true "gray literature" of Canada.

Is there any alternative to the fully electronic data base of all government information, federal, provincial and municipal that awaits us in the future? Somewhere in the Atlantic Provinces there must be a library or information unit that

has begun to develop the necessary alternatives and procedures designed to cope with the problems outlined above. This service is probably setting about the task of designing appropriate means of citizen access to government information that is more cost effective than the heavy capital and equipment intensive methods that we have today. It has decided that reliance on machine based single sources of information such as "Programs and Services of the Government of Canada" or the "Job Bank" are neither cheap nor reliable. It has developed, or is developing its own approach to the solution of citizen access to government information. Maybe we could hear more about this in a future issue of the *APLA Bulletin*?

(1) Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information. *Annual Report*. 1981-1982. Ottawa, 1982.

(2) McCarthy, Cathleen D, CAN-DOBIS: an integrated on-line library system in the Canadian Federal Government, Chapel Hill, N.C. School of Library Science, University of North Carolina, 1982.

(3) Science Council of Canada, *Planning now for an information society; tomorrow may be too late*, Ottawa, Science Council of Canada, 1982.

(4) Weinstein, Betty, "Telidon—the Canadian videotex system and its implications for libraries", Ottawa, Department of Communications, 1981.

(5) Videodiscs: a background paper; a report-prepared by the Information Services Coordinating Group for the Council of the CLA. Ottawa, Canadian Library Association, 1982.

(6) *Ontario Library Review*, June 1982, p. 61.

Recent Children's Books from New Brunswick's Small Presses

By MARY MAYO

This list covers books published during the past six years in New Brunswick. For this reason, the best known recent children's book by a New Brunswick author - Carole Spray's *The Mare's Egg* (Camden House, 1981) could not be included in the list.

Small presses of course publish on a very limited budget and can hope to reach only a limited audience. As one might expect, therefore, all the books on the following list are paperbacks; most are illustrated in black and white; and all, with the exception of *Foxy Freddy and His Friends* (which has a glued spine) are stapled.

Brewster, Don. *Oland the Unwise Owl*. Fredericton: Lyndon House Publishing, 1979. 1v. (unpaged)

Illustrated by Pam Swanson. A moral tale of a young owl who refuses to listen to his parents and keeps giving foolish advice to his friends. Of course, when he gets himself into trouble, it is these same friends who have to rescue him, and teach him a lesson in humility. (Ages 4-6)

Brewster, Don. *How Willie Became an Explorer*. Fredericton: Lyndon House Publishing, 1979. 1v. (unpaged)

Illustrated by Pam Swanson. When Benjamin Roundears (a mouse) starts school, his younger brother Willie feels left out, and so goes off in search of adventure for himself. His "exploring" takes the form of very innocuous discoveries about the world around him. This is the only book on the list which has full-colour illustrations. (Ages 4-6)

Hadley, Jean. *Polly and the Acorn*. Fredericton: Lyndon House Publishing, c1980. 23 p.

Illustrated by Lindsey Lindsay. A rhyming story of a little girl who plants an acorn. When she is grown, she goes back to look for the acorn, which is now a full-grown tree. (Ages 4-6)

Irvine, Mary. *Moods and Magic*. Fredericton: Mary Bill Publications, 1982.

1. (unpaged)
Very simple poems about everyday things, such as flowers, the seasons, children's emotions. (Ages 4-6)

Itani, Frances. *Linger by the Sea*. Fredericton: Brunswick Press, (c1979). 1v. (unpaged)

Illustrated with watercolors (printed in blue only) by well-known New Brunswick artist, Molly Lamb Bobak. Two children describe in very poetic prose, the quiet beauty of a summer day on the beach. (Ages 4-8)

Morrison, Al and Jim. *Foxy Freddy & His Friends*. Fredericton: Brunswick Press, c1976. 72 p.

Illustrated by Sheila Cotton. The 12 "chapters" of this book are really episodic stories - loosely connected about the day to day activities of a young fox and his friends. Each episode attempts to teach a moral. (Ages 6-9)

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APPENDIX A

DEPARTMENTAL ALLOCATIONS FOR THE PURCHASE OF PUBLISHED MATERIAL:

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY MAIN LIBRARY, 1921-1931

Department	Allocation			
	1921-1922	1925-1926	1929-1930	1930-1931
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Biology	200.00 ^a		762.11 ^b	
Botany		50.00 ^b		250.00 ^b
Zoology		50.00		275.00
Chemistry	75.00	75.00	877.31	506.50
Classics	....	....	535.85	122.00
Commerce	....	50.00	230.89	150.00
Economics	50.00	50.00	688.50	200.00
Education	....	....	450.13	150.00
Engineering	50.00	50.00	87.50	100.00
English	50.00	....	690.07	100.00
Fine Arts	....	....	103.00	....
Geology	50.00	50.00	398.94	100.00
Hebrew Literature	....	....	....	125.00
History	150.00	118.00	217.29	255.00
Mathematics	50.00	25.00	436.31	175.00
Modern Languages	100.00	100.00	229.71	187.50
Philosophy	50.00	....	156.42	150.00
Physics	50.00	75.00	536.31	500.00
Political Science	....	....	248.07	335.00
Psychology	....	75.00	114.75	75.00
General Library	125.00	250.00	333.67	
General Ref.				300.00
Scientific Soc.				375.00
Totals	\$1,000.00	\$1,018.00	\$7,096.83	\$4,431.00

^a Figures derived from Dalhousie University, Board of Governors, "Minutes, November 24, 1921."

^b Figures derived from memorandum in the files of the Dalhousie University Library.

APLA Merit Award Citations-1982

By KATHERINE LEBUTT

Tonight we pay tribute to two members of our Association who have made outstanding contributions to library service in the Atlantic Provinces. I am privileged to be given the pleasure of presenting the awards. It is a coincidence but most appropriate that both are from the same Province, the same city and the same regional library. This is a first in the award's history.

Dr. Norman S. Skinner

Dr. Skinner has had a long and distinguished career as a library trustee in the Province of New Brunswick. He is indeed a senior trustee in the Atlantic Provinces having accepted his first appointment to the Saint John Free Public Library in 1939. In 1964 he was elected Chairman of the Board and played a vitally important role in the mid sixties when equal opportunity was changing the face of New Brunswick and with it Provincial library services. Today we hear so much about the importance of convincing politicians of the worth of the library to ensure survival but Dr. Skinner was fully aware of it way back in the sixties. He exhorted his Board, and the staff never to let up in presentations, briefs and appearances before all levels of government. I'm not sure whether Dr. Skinner and the Board and staff simply exhausted government or whether he actually converted them but nevertheless in 1967, the Saint John Regional Library evolved and with Dr. Skinner as its first Chairman. Although Dr. Skinner held the role of major during the war, he would have made an even greater general. Having achieved this first important library objective he charged on to his next goal while government was still reeling from his first success. A new central library and regional headquarters were the next target. There was no let up in progress reports, the urging of action, and more and more government meetings. It

took eight years, but today we see the results - the new library funded by Provincial, Federal and Municipal governments is under construction in Market Square of the City Centre - the library being a prime inclusion. Unquestionably Canada's first library will become one of Canada's truly great ones. In November, 1979 Dr. Skinner, having actively worked at the preliminary stages, was elected first Chairman of the New Brunswick Library Trustees' Association and re-elected in 1981. Through the years many of us have come to know Dr. Skinner through his attendance and participation in seminars, workshops, national, provincial, and regional conferences. I have dwelt on only one aspect of Dr. Skinner - his contribution to library service in the Atlantic Provinces. His interests are wide and varied. Many of us know him as an avid fisherman, amateur photographer, carpenter and bookbinder. Incidentally, he was and is one of the great medical doctors of the Province. Politically astute, enthusiastic, energetic, and with an abiding love for books and libraries, Dr. Skinner has done much for the Atlantic Provinces.

Dr. Mary Eileen Travis

Tonight the library community adds to the honours, awards and citations already bestowed on Dr. Travis by non-library organizations and institutions.

Eileen Travis is a graduate of Saint Francis Xavier University and of McGill Library School. Her first position in 1954 was as Bookmobile Librarian in Pictou County Regional Library followed by that of Children's Librarian. She later moved to Saint John to become Children's Librarian in the Saint John Free Public Library. Subsequently, she became Chief Librarian and then Regional Librarian of the Saint John Regional Library. In this position she maintains a high standard of Librarianship while continually working for the improvement of library facilities and services throughout the region and

Province. She has served on many committees of the Canadian Library Association and the Atlantic Provinces Library Association. She was president of Atlantic Provinces Library Association in 1968-69 and has been Chairman of the important Bibliographic Centre Committee. Eileen has served on the Advisory Council of the National Library of Canada. In 1978 she was one of the five public librarians in Canada to accept the invitation of the British Council to tour British libraries. Besides her activities in professional organizations Eileen has introduced and given library programs in the various media including regular book reviews on television, radio and in the newspaper. As a proficient public speaker she is much in demand.

Not only has Eileen provided leadership in her professional life, she has enthusiastically contributed to her community and to the Province. As a result, in

1972 she was honoured as Saint John Woman of the Year, and Saint Thomas conferred on her an honorary doctorate in 1977. The next year she was appointed a member of the Board of Governors of Saint Francis Xavier University.

With all her attainments and honours Eileen has never lost touch with people. Her many speeches to all kinds of audiences reveal her interest in all ages. Her ability to understand and communicate with young people, old people, politicians, business men, the great and not so great is a rare gift as is her facility to express herself clearly and succinctly. She possesses great courage and has a direct honesty which combined with a very practical approach, foresight and a great sense of humour has made her the leader she is in her profession and her community.

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association honours itself by choosing Mary Eileen Travis for the Merit Award.

APLA ALBERTA LETTS MEMORIAL FELLOWSHIP

Travel and Study Funds Available

Do you need financial assistance to study or do research? Fellowships are available from the APLA Alberta Letts Memorial Trust. Write with details of your proposed programme and estimated costs to:

APLA Alberta Letts Memorial
Fellowship Committee
c-o Dalhousie School of Library Service
Dalhousie University
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3H 4H8

Children's books

Cont'd from page 63

Nowlan, Michael O. **Absolutely Absalom**. Fredericton: Lyndon House Publishing, (c1981). 40 p.

Illustrated by C. Elizabeth Baker. A brother and a sister attempt to solve the mystery surrounding a man in their community who never says anything except one word - absolutely. (Ages 6-10)

Sanderson, Irma. **The Naughty Billy Goat**. Fredericton: Lyndon House Publishing, 1981. 23 p.

Illustrated by Juliette Mayhew-Daly. This is a rhyming story about a billygoat who eats everything - including a policeman's whistle. (Ages 4-6)

Vowles, Joan. **Don't Dilly Dally, Dear**.

Fredericton: Lyndon House Publishing, c1981. 31 p.

Illustrated by C. Elizabeth Baker. A boy's mother warns him not to dilly dally on the way home. Of course he does, but finds that his mother has done the same thing. (Ages 4-6)

Publisher's Addresses:
Brunswick Press,
P.O. Box 3370
Fredericton, N.B. E3B 5A2

Lyndon House Publishing
P.O. Box 3427
Station B
Fredericton, N.B. E3A 5H2

Mary Bill Publications
48 Kent St.
Fredericton, N.B. E3A 4Y1

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Mary Mayo is Children's Librarian at the Fredericton Public Library.

Sue Nichols has been a member of the AICE (ES) Ottawa staff since the establishment of the office in 1973.

Pat Rahal is a regular contributor to the **APLA Bulletin**.

John Wilkinson is a Professor at the Faculty of Library and Information Science, University of Toronto and formerly Chief Librarian at Dalhousie University.

Atlantic Provinces Library Association EDITORS REQUIRED

EDITOR, APLA BULLETIN

Applications for the position of Editor of the **APLA Bulletin** are now being sought from among members of the Association. The position will be open as of the completion of Volume 46 (May, 1983).

The Editor interprets the policy of the **Bulletin** in terms of the kinds of material accepted and sought and the kind of features to be developed. The Editor must originate ideas for articles and canvass possible contributors.

The Editor also serves as regional correspondent for **Fellicter**, published by the Canadian Library Association.

MANAGING EDITOR, APLA BULLETIN

Applications for the position of Managing Editor of the **APLA Bulletin** are now being sought from among members of the Association. The position will be open as of the completion of Volume 46 (May, 1983).

The Managing Editor assists the Editor with layout and proofreading of the **Bulletin** and is responsible for distribution of the **Bulletin** following publication.

ADVERTISING EDITOR, APLA BULLETIN

Applications for the position of Advertising Editor of the **APLA Bulletin** are now being sought from among members of the Association. The position will be open as of the completion of Volume 46 (May, 1983).

The Advertising Editor solicits and invoices advertisements and classifieds for placement in the **Bulletin**, confirming accounts with the Association's Treasurer, in order to maintain a level of advertising revenue adequate to fund the **Bulletin**.

Applications for these positions should be forwarded to:
Convenor, Publications Committee
Atlantic Provinces Library Association
c-o School of Library Service
Dalhousie University
Halifax, N.S.
B3H 4H8