

Barriers to Planning in Libraries

Rosemary Polegato, M.B.A., Ph.D., Department of Business Administration, St. Francis Xavier University.

I like libraries. I have liked libraries, ever since I was an elementary student who "took turns" for the honour of choosing books for my class from the bookmobile. Over the years since then, I have used many libraries—public, university, company, government, and association libraries in most of the Canadian provinces, some in the U.S., and Europe. Very few have impressed me more than that bookmobile which used to come to our school in a tiny N.S. village once a month. Some have frustrated me to no end. Why? Quite simply, I don't get the same sense of service and excitement that the bookmobile offered.

I don't think I'm an overly fussy library user. I just don't like it when I can't renew a book immediately because it first has to go back on the shelf for a week or when the library is closed on Saturday—the best day for working parents to take their children to the library. Overall, a general malaise among users seems to have built up gradually over the last decade. Nowadays, people, young and old, use the library much less frequently than in the past.

Library employees have also become disenchanted. The basic problem seems to be that the funding bodies for libraries, i.e., the government in most cases, have frozen or cut library budgets at a time when there is a need to invest heavily in library technology and the cost of books is rising. To increase their budgets or stave off further cuts, libraries are being pressured to be accountable, i.e., "to justify their existence" and/or the need for more resources.

Some library administrators have responded to the call for justifying the need for more resources by calling on (usually) one of their staff members to provide a strategic plan. To their credit, these administrators have made the connection between accountability and planning. However, the process seems to stall at this point. As one staff member put it (in effect), "I had no idea what to do and the only advice my boss had was to do the best I could. It has been two months and I still don't know where to begin".

What is strategic planning? The most useful definition of planning is one proposed by Curtis McLaughlin, who has extensive experience with management of non-profit health organizations:

A good strategic plan is user-oriented, goal-oriented, and includes a specific manpower development strategy. This implies a carefully designed mission, a concept of service, a concept of organizational image, and a concept of competitive position.

In general, librarians recognize the need for incorporating strategic planning into their operations. However, based on some experience I have had working with librarians in Ontario, there are various barriers which inhibit the adoption of a planning orientation by librarians. Here, I would like to focus

on what seem to be the two major obstacles—the allegiance librarians have to a public service mission and the need for librarians to acquire managerial/administrative expertise. Let's look at each of these barriers in turn.

Allegiance to the public service mission

This allegiance is highly commendable. However, it leads to problems with planning because librarians see themselves as having an obligation to serve *everybody*. So integral is this orientation that there is little impetus to put boundaries on their user constituency (re: most public libraries) or to define how large or diverse their users group are (in, for example, marketing terms). Consequently, there is a pervasive tendency to stock a book just in case someone might want it.

This allegiance is often a very potent deterrent to an effective planning orientation. The core of the problem rests in the fact that serving "everybody" impedes the view that there are differences and similarities among people which can be used to group them into library user categories. Most librarians would be hard-pressed to even estimate the number of people they serve, their geographic distribution, and/or their racial, educational, and socio-economic diversity. However, in the work I have done, librarians seem to be open to the notion that "everybody" consists of several groups with similar characteristics, needs, and attitudes as library users. Librarians are generally intrigued by the thought of reference desks or special collection areas providing specific benefits to the users of these services. Even the use of mall locations and bookmobiles can quite readily be related and extended to the idea of user groups. The identification of these groups is important because it enables the analysis of the size and growth potential of the user groups and helps to focus on how to improve service for these groups. Direction is thus provided in answering questions, such as "Should the young teens section be converted into a seniors' reading room or a preschoolers' area?"

Lack of managerial/administrative expertise

This barrier can be explained best in terms of two prevalent myths and the lack of managerial exposure. The first myth is that *planning is marketing* which, in turn, deals with how to launch a public relations campaign. Over the last five years, library administration journals have published numerous articles related to marketing activities, especially public relations. Much of the demand for speakers and workshops focuses on marketing. While an understanding of marketing is very helpful in a library context, personal experience shows that the discussion usually leads back to the need for a *Strategic Plan*. A marketing plan would be a subset of a strategic plan, along with an operations

plan, the budget, and the personal plan. Having a strategic plan ensures that *each part* of a library's total operation is pulling in the *same* direction and that important user groups are served effectively.

The second myth is that *libraries, unlike profit-making organizations, cannot plan effectively because their performance cannot be quantified*. Librarians are astonished to hear that at least some aspects of their performance can be quantified quite readily. The tangible output of libraries can be related to inputs (human and financial), for example, in the books acquired, in the books catalogued/reshelved, and in the books circulated. Many measures can be obtained fairly easily with the GEAC system which many libraries use. The challenge is to make the measurement criteria concrete.

Myths, such as these, prevail because very few librarians have management training. Canadian library schools are just beginning to think about the need for the inclusion of management exposure of a library operation, the focus of the curricula tends to be technical. There seem to be few opportunities to think about management issues, such as strategic planning, marketing, and the distinction and interrelationship between acquiring resources and providing service.

Librarians need guidance in the acquisition of expertise to do the required planning. The ultimate goal should be for librarians to acquire management expertise, internally or externally, as

individuals or in collective action. The approaches could range from sponsoring staff members for workshops, courses, or degrees in management, through to incorporating management courses into the curriculum of library and information schools and/or hiring external or internal consultants.

A few of the large library and information schools have begun to examine the role of management courses in their curriculum. In Ontario over the last three years, The University of Toronto, the Ontario Library Association, and the Ontario Government Libraries each sponsored well-attended workshops on marketing the library. Unfortunately, people who have a good understanding of the libraries' need for strategic planning are scarce in Canada and equally scarce in the United States. Those chosen to direct such activities should have an appreciation of the libraries' business because libraries are very specialized operations. Until such time as librarians can avail themselves to administrative training, either formally or informally (and produce their own consultants), it will be necessary for management specialists to work as a team with library administrators. One successful approach seems to be the recruitment of professionals interested in the nonprofit sector. However, much work still needs to be done to understand and deal effectively with the barriers to learning and adapting management practices in the library context.

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A National Conference on Libraries for Canada

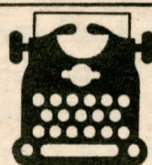
Lorraine Williams, Past-President, Canadian Library Trustees Association

At the October 1986 meeting of the Canadian Library Association Council, a motion by then-CLTA President Lorraine Williams was enthusiastically passed by members of the Council. That motion stated that CLA investigate the possibility of holding a National Conference on Libraries, similar in scope to the American White House Conference on Libraries. That conference brought together delegates nation-wide.

At this stage of planning a Canadian conference, Lorraine Williams has been charged with the task of getting starter funding from bodies such as CLA and

CISTI to hire a consultant to bring forward a proposal to the Secretary of State's office. CLA has pledged \$1500 as its share of the consulting fee. The reaction from libraries across Canada has also been encouraging.

Library people are urged to start thinking about the idea of Canada's first National Conference on Libraries. The concept needs your support and some of you will be called upon to be very active in the planning stages. For more information, contact me or Jane Cooney at CLA, or write to my home address: Lorraine Williams, Past President, Canadian Library Trustees Association, 10 Elfindale Crescent, Willowdale, Ontario, M2J 1B5 (416) 494-8760.



In This Issue ...

CLA Conference Plans	2
APLA Report on Intellectual Freedom	4
Retrospective Conversion Issues for Canadian Libraries	4
News from the Provinces	6
Effective Trustee Seminar Held in Truro	7

CLA Conference Planning Impressive Program

Rashid Tayyeb, *Convenor, Publicity and Public Relations Committee, CLA Conference '88*

About 180 seminars, workshops and events have been planned during the CLA Conference in Halifax (June 16-20).

CLA Divisions, Interest Groups and others have made a conscious effort to address the Conference theme "Libraries in the Information Marketplace". Prominent librarians, educators and information specialists will address the issues that concern us today.

Although a preliminary Conference programme will be available in February (via *Canadian Library Journal*) and a detailed programme with the registration package in June, here is a sample of some programmes that will be featured.

CACUL is offering programmes that will appeal to a wide range of librarians, covering many important issues that currently face the profession. "Buy it or Borrow it?", featuring the popular Herbert White of the University of Indiana, will explore trends and relationships between ILL and collections development in these days of shrinking collections budgets. Julie B. Schwerin of Information Age Consulting will be keynote

speaker for "CD-ROM: Moving into the mainstream". An all-day session, jointly sponsored by CACUL/ CASLIS on information brokerage, "How to Succeed in Selling Information" will provide a comprehensive look at the skills required to sell information as an entrepreneur or as a librarian. CACUL is also planning sessions on "Motivating the Employee", "Library Instruction and OPACs", "Preservation Programmes and Libraries" and, for the futurists, "Libraries in the 21st Century: Emerging Trends".

Three of the CASLIS programmes are CORE programmes: "Database Design and Development for Microcomputers", "Evaluating the Special Library" and "Motivating the Employee". Dr. Richard M. Dougherty, Director of the University of Michigan and Editor, *Journal of Academic Librarianship* will discuss "Pricing of Scientific and Technical Journals - the Issues and Possible Solutions". A workshop on Desktop Publishing is also planned.

School Librarians from every grade level and all ranges of experience should find more than enough in this year's conference. Storyteller Laura Simms

and writer Bill Martin Jr. top the list of talented and informative speakers being lined up for school librarians attending the Conference.

CLTA is co-sponsoring two workshops with CAPL, "Planning and Role Setting for Public Libraries" and "Beyond the Stacks: Public Relations in Action". Other workshop leaders include Margaret Beckman, University of Guelph; John Dutton, Calgary Public Library; and Dr. Neil Postman of New York University.

Among its 17 programmes CAPL will address issues, such as "The Future of Popular Collections in the Public Library", "Planning and Role Setting for Public Libraries", "Developing Library Services for Young Adults" and "Libraries in the 21st Century".

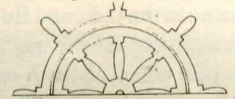
CLA Interest Groups, Coordinating Groups and Committees are sponsoring a number of timely programmes. In light of the Government's Bill C-54 on pornography, the Intellectual Freedom Committee is sponsoring "Art Versus Sensationalism". Very much in keeping with this year's Conference theme, "Government Information as a Commodity and as a Public Good" will ex-

amine the delivery of government information in an environment where technology is providing new opportunities while budgetary considerations are restricting them. CLA Committee on Copyright will appropriately address "Copyright: Photocopying and Recent Amendments".

Among the Pre-Conference programmes are: "Beyond the Basics" (Micromedia/Dialog), CLA Seminar on Career Development, "Issues and Resource Sharing in Canada" (National Library) and "Word-processing and Spreadsheet Application for Libraries" which is a hands-on session limited to only 20 registrants.

These are but a few of the wide variety of programmes presented by various CLA Committees, Divisions and Groups. Be sure to check the Conference programme for the many special topics and sessions available. Halifax awaits you.

Rashid Tayyeb is Head of Technical Services, Patrick Power Library, Saint Mary's University.



CLA
HALIFAX '88

PEB/ILL at the National Library

Carol Smale

In the Spring of 1987, the Interlibrary Loan Division of the National Library of Canada began using its new automated interlibrary loan system, PEB/ILL. PEB/ILL was designed and developed at the National Library by a team composed of both users and programmers. It was designed specifically to meet the needs of the National Library and it incorporates a protocol which it is hoped will become an international standard for interlibrary loan message sequence and content.

WHAT DOES PEB/ILL DO? CENTRALIZE

The automation of interlibrary loan (ILL) has permitted the centralization of the ILL requests received at the National Library. More than 600 requests arrive in the Interlibrary Loan Division every day, and thanks to PEB/ILL, they can all be found in the same database. The majority of the requests are transmitted through specially coded ENVOY 100 scripts which allow them to be automatically deposited into the database. The remaining requests - those received by telephone, mail, telex and Utlas - are manually keyed into the system.

CONTROL

PEB/ILL improves our control over these requests; the database enables us to trace each active request in the system and to see what stage it is at in the process.

For example, we can see when the request was received by the National Library, when it was printed, if it is currently being worked on, if a retrieval slip has been produced, or if the item has been shipped. All of this information is accessible simply by tracing the request using our request number. It is also possible to query the database under other access points such as author, title, requesting library's request number, etc...

STANDARD PRODUCTS

PEB/ILL also facilitates the production of certain printed products. Each request is printed in a standard format, which makes it easier for searchers to interpret the bibliographic data supplied by the requester.

Another product is the retrieval slip. PEB/ILL produces the slips automatically whenever a searcher or a requesting library provides the system with the National Library's call number. Before printing the retrieval slips, PEB/ILL analyzes the call numbers and then decides on which of three printers located on three separate floors they should be produced: the printer in the serials section; the one near the official publications area, or the printer located near the general collection. If the requested item is available, it is retrieved and sent on loan to the requesting library.

PEB/ILL also produces an address label and automatically sends a message to tell the library that the material is on

its way. The address labels and the messages relating to a request are produced using the information in the Library File.

LIBRARY FILE

The Library File in PEB/ILL is the basic tool for all our communications with the outside world. It is a catalogue of addresses, telephone numbers, modes of communication, document delivery systems, ENVOY addresses, etc.... In short, it contains all the information necessary to accommodate the wide variety of methods of document delivery and message exchange employed by the libraries which use the National Library's services.

MESSAGES

PEB/ILL is able to handle all possible messages generated by a request, such as renewals, overdues, reserves, etc... These messages are produced automatically using the information stored in the database for that particular request along with the basic library information permanently residing in the Library File.

STATISTICS

Another advantage of this centralization of information is the possibility of easily obtaining a large number of statistics on interlibrary loan from the system. At the moment, only the statistics necessary for managing the ILL service are kept by PEB/ILL. But in the future, PEB/ILL will be able to furnish a wide

variety of statistics, ranging from the geographical locations of requesting libraries to the subjects of supplied materials.

THE FUTURE

PEB/ILL is still in a state of development. In the future, the National Library of Canada will be working to enhance and to refine the current system. For its part, the interlibrary loan protocol will be used in the development of other systems. These implementations are being encouraged by a National Library support programme for developers. As a result, there should be several protocol-based interlibrary loan systems available for purchase within the next two years.

For further information on PEB/ILL and the National Library's interlibrary loan service, please contact:

Kathryn J. Mikoski
Chief, Interlibrary Loan Division
National Library of Canada
395 Wellington Street
Ottawa, K1A 0N4
Tel: (613) 992-1752
ENVOY: MIKOSKI.K

Carol Smale is Acting Assistant Chief, Interlibrary Loan Division, National Library of Canada.

1988 APLA MEMORIAL AWARD Travel and Study Funds available

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

Jane Archibald
APLA Memorial Awards Committee
Killam Library
Dalhousie University
Halifax, N.S.
B3H 4H8

Deadline for applications is April 30, 1988.

APLA MEMORIAL TRUST FUND

Established to honor deceased members of the Atlantic Provinces Library community. Awards granted shall be for projects which will contribute to the professional development of the applicant and which will benefit the library profession as a whole. Donations to the Trust Fund are welcome. Please forward them to the APLA treasurer.



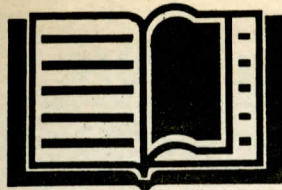
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(902) 429-3318

5640 Spring Garden Road
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BOOK NEWS FROM THE CANADIAN BOOK INFORMATION CENTRE

As Canadians we have, until now, been allowed to make our own choices about what we read. True, some of us have experienced some forms of censorship, imposed by our church or our parents. Yet, with the age of majority, came the right to choose. Censorship could change this. Censorship laws can also have a devastating effect on publishers. Overnight their backlists can become blacklists. This is a short list of new titles which might not have been published, or that you might not get to read under new censorship laws.

Heartbreaks Along the Road

Roch Carrier
translated by Sheila Fishman

Le Chef, boss of the Right Party, decides to put a vote-getting highway through the sleepy Quebec village of Saint-Toussaint-des-Saints in this hilarious novel of love, politics and corruption. The characters are unforgettable: Verrochia, the Italian builder whose wife Lucia decides to sell her body to the Minister of Roads to win her husband the road contract; Sautereau, the journalist who still believes the press should tell the truth, and many, many more. Roch Carrier is one of Quebec's most celebrated novelists best known for his 1970 title *La Guerre, Yes Sir!* and Sheila Fishman is well known for her translations of many Quebec classics.

ISBN 0-88784-156-2, \$19.95 trade paperback, 530 pages, House of Anansi Press. Order from University of Toronto Press.

A Hot-Eyed Moderate

Jane Rule

"Questioning conventional morality can be the beginning of a moral education from which we can learn to make choices based on understanding rather than blind faith or great fear." In this collection of essays Jane Rule challenges our traditional views on morality, sexuality, and creativity. Her insightful and skillful probing of human nature, so characteristic of her novels and short stories, give these essays a gentle yet keenly honed edge. Her topics range from homosexuality to censorship, from publishing and writing to feminism and family relationships.

ISBN 0-88619-077-0, \$12.95 paper, 256 pages, Lester & Orpen Denys.

Invisible Fictions

Contemporary Stories from Quebec
edited by Geoff Hancock

A major anthology of the most original and entertaining fiction being written today in Quebec's literary explosion. Twenty-five writers are included in this collection with the spotlight on the most adventurous talents working in Quebec today. In a helpful introduction, Geoff Hancock, editor of Canadian Fiction

Magazine, looks at the forms and ideas which characterize modern Quebec fiction - the inner world of fantasy, utopia, and anti-utopia, the comic and the grotesque, as well as the new political concern with feminism and individualism. ISBN 0-88784-153-8, \$14.95 paper, 440 pages, House of Anansi Press. Order from University of Toronto Press

In the Skin of a Lion

Michael Ondaatje

This is a rare and exotic novel whose main landscape is Toronto in the 1920's and 1930's. Multi-textured and intricately woven, the novel blends real and invented histories with a moving love story. The writing is muscular and erotic, reflective and tender, and leads us at once into the harsh world of labour and into the deep magical theatre of the human heart. It describes tunnelers, bridge builders, the rich and the immigrants, the builders of Toronto. The author is one of this country's leading writers.

ISBN 0-7710-6887-5, \$22.50 cloth, 256 pages, MacLelland & Stewart

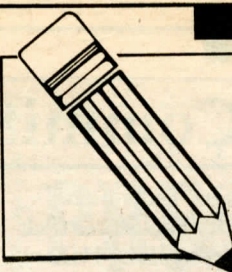
Things Just Aren't The Same

Catherine Brett
illustrated by Yvonne Indart

Bodily changes, emotional insecurity, and sexual curiosity are characteristic of life during puberty. In this new, appealing and often funny work of fiction, the author interweaves factual information on these subjects with a story focusing on the relationship of two longtime friends (a boy and a girl) discovering adolescence together. Many of the concerns of youngsters nine to fourteen are answered in this sensitive and humorous novel that is supplemented with diagrams and a glossary of terms. ISBN 0-88961-115-7, \$4.95 paper, 100 pages, The Women's Press.

The CBC would like to remind the members of the APLA of our **Books on Loan** program. If you would like a display of current titles published in Canada to enhance an event at your library, or if you would like to review books before making a decision to purchase, let us know. We will send you some books, on loan. We would appreciate it if you didn't ask all at once, and if you gave us a month's notice.

For more information about the CBC and its programs, write to us at The Canadian Book Information Centre, 1741 Barrington St., 4th Floor, Halifax, N.S., B3J 2A4 or call us at (902) 420-0688. And, the next time you are in Halifax, drop in. We are open Monday to Friday from 9 to 5.



From the EDITOR'S DESK

APLA *Bulletin* has "gone desktop"! There is a new publication process and a new look. The previous publisher has closed down its typesetting and layout department, so Managing Editor Susan McLean and I were forced to find another publisher. We have settled into the capable hands of Bob Atkinson of PageCraft in Halifax. He has suggested a number of design and layout changes which you will see in these pages. We hope you like the result, and I trust that the new look is the first step toward producing a better publication in terms of appearance and content.

Interest groups and committees are

being offered a regular spot in the *Bulletin*. Your group could publish news of fairly wide interest, a description of an issue facing libraries, a photo or cartoon, or anything else you desire. Alternatively, you may wish to collaborate on a "theme issue" where most of the article space will be dedicated to issues relevant to your group. A special header will be designed to represent your column. If your interest group or committee would like to contribute a few hundred words on a regular or irregular basis, please contact me.

This is your chance at immortality! I hope you will take up the challenge.

Library Instruction Group Report

Special libraries-style instruction

Recent library literature abounds with articles about library and bibliographic instruction. Most of these publications expound the virtues of this instruction in the context of college and university libraries, but relatively few articles completely focus on instruction in special libraries. To see if library instruction in special libraries is indeed rare, the APLA Library Instruction Interest Group surveyed some special libraries in the region to determine if in fact instruction exists and if so, to what degree. Happily, the Interest Group can report that in special libraries, library instruction is active and well, but it is library instruction with a different style.

Special libraries have incorporated library instruction into their goals and objectives realizing that their primary objective specifies a high level of service to their users. Respondents to our telephone survey of four special libraries emphasized a level of service which gives patrons the option of finding out how to do their own research or choosing instead to have library staff do their searching for them. At the Bedford Institute of Oceanography library, staff provide a one-hour orientation to new users. Their users are mostly scientists who come to the Institute with an in-depth knowledge of research tools, but who are unfamiliar with and need assistance with the Institute's library. Maritime Tel & Tel's Information Resource Centre offers a promotional package to new employees. The Package includes a brochure on services offered by the Centre. In addition, the Centre is included in the organization's internal training session for employees. Joy Til-

lotson, Librarian at CISTI's Marine Dynamics Branch, St John's, last year gave a presentation on the library to the entire group working at the Branch. For new staff at the Doctor Everett Chalmers Hospital in Fredericton there is a hospital orientation and similarly a nursing orientation of which both include a tour of the Health Sciences library. Again, a high level of service is offered, with the library conducting research if the patron wishes.

End-user service in the special libraries has been a topic of discussion in recent articles. Of the four libraries surveyed only CISTI's Marine Dynamics Branch instructs in the use of an online catalogue and this is done on a one-to-one basis. The Bedford Institute of Oceanography library foresees instructional implications when the Department of Fisheries' library's union catalogue becomes available on CD-ROM. None of the libraries reported end-user searching of online databases. It seems for now that users are content to have librarians do their searches.

In conclusion, special libraries-style instruction is that type of instruction that fits into the high level of service offered by the special library. Unlike academic libraries which offer instruction for the encouragement of self-service and the advancement of competent research skills, special libraries neither encourage nor discourage instruction. Instead it is an option for the library user to choose.

R. E. E.

Margaret Williams Trust Fund Award

Applications are now invited for the Margaret Williams Trust Fund Award, which has been established to promote the development of librarianship in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador. Funds are awarded on a competitive basis to applicants seeking funding for library related projects or assistance in pursuing graduate studies in Library Science. This year's award will be up to \$1,000.00. Deadline for applications is May 13, 1988. For further information and an application form contact:

Mr. Richard Ellis, Chairman, Board of Trustees,
Margaret Williams Trust Fund, Queen Elizabeth II Library,
Memorial University of Newfoundland, Saint John's, Newfoundland A1B 3Y1

Report of the APLA Committee on Intellectual Freedom

Hope Bridgewater, Convenor, APLA
Committee on Intellectual Freedom

Halifax City Regional Library, Nova Scotia, has printed 6000 copies of the postcard objecting to Bill C-54 and addressed to the Prime Minister of Canada, the Rt. Hon. Brian Mulroney, and 6000 copies of the "Naughty Bits" quiz flyer. A mailbox was set up at the information desk at the Main Library where readers could drop their no-postage cards for mailing. In the planning stage for Freedom-to-Read are a public program on censorship and related issues, and a joint information table cospon-

sored with the Writers' Federation.

Seven Halifax City bookstores (Pair of Trindles, Red Herring, Frog Hollow, Dalhousie Bookstore, St. Mary's Bookstore, Atlantic News, and the Book Room) distributed the postcards and flyers protesting Bill C-54. The Writers' Federation of Nova Scotia distributed the "Naughty Bits" quiz in their Newsletter.

In Newfoundland, Joan Clogg, a member of the APLA Committee on Intellectual Freedom, reports that at the Central Community College, Grand Falls, she has made the postcards to the

Prime Minister available to both students and faculty, and has been preparing publicity for Freedom to Read Week.

In P.E.I., Judy Blakney, another member of the APLA Committee on Intellectual Freedom, reports that the Professional Librarians Association has sent a letter of protest to the Prime Minister, and to all the P.E.I. MLA's. The APLA members in P.E.I. are in the process of planning a workshop on Bill C-54 and hope to extend information to people who may be affected by the bill but who may not be aware of its full implications.

Elinor Benjamin, Regional Librarian, Western Region Libraries, Newfoundland, has sent a package of materials concerning Bill C-54 to all the Boards and staff of 22 Branch Libraries.

The *APLA Bulletin* as well, distributed copies of both the postcard and the "Naughty Bits" quiz.

Any APLA members who have further information on issues concerning Intellectual Freedom may send items to: Ms. Hope Bridgewater, Convenor, APLA Committee on Intellectual Freedom, Halifax City Regional Library, 5381 Spring Garden Road, Halifax, N.S.,

Retrospective Conversion Issues for Canadian Libraries

Slavko Manojlovich

An important consideration for any library planning for automation is the machine-readable conversion (RECON) of the library's records into machine-readable form. Traditional methods employed for RECON include the use of bibliographic utilities such as UTLAS, or MARC record tape services for record derivation and creation. Alternatively, records may be entered manually into the local system. The main cost component for retrospective conversion is staff time followed by record derivation charges and hardware acquisition. A cost comparison of the various RECON options reveals an inverse relationship between staff and record derivation costs. In other words, the less staff time that is required to create the record the higher the per record derivation/ processing charge.

A relatively new option for retrospective conversion is the CD-ROM (compact disk - read only memory) based microcomputer cataloguing system. These systems are characterized by their ability to provide both local access to large databases of MARC records for a reasonable fixed cost and the means for efficiently retrieving, editing and storing the records. Unlike earlier RECON options, the CD-ROM systems are able to simultaneously reduce both staff and record derivation costs. Since CD-ROM systems utilize inexpensive microcomputer hardware, libraries of

any size are able to take a serious look at RECON as a first step towards automation.

To date, the available CD-ROM based cataloguing systems include BIBLIOFILE (The Library Corporation), LASER-QUEST (General Research Corporation) and LASERCAT (Western Library Network). Cataloguing CD450 (OCLC) and CD-CAT (UTLAS) are scheduled for release in 1988 and 1989, respectively. Since all of the currently available systems were developed in the United States, it is important that Canadian libraries evaluating these products are able to determine to what extent they are able to satisfy the specific requirement of the Canadian library environment.

These include:

(i) **The system's ability to support CANMARC format.** Since some of the above systems validate records based on USMARC format, this is especially important to Canadian libraries which utilize CANMARC's 9xx linking fields.

(ii) **The system's ability to accommodate non-English foreign language special characters.** Since many Canadian libraries have sizeable foreign language collections it is important that a system be able to accommodate the accented characters of the various languages.

(iii) **The system's ability to preserve the content of the Canadian records as supplied by the National Library of**

Canada. Some systems are distributing Canadian records as supplied by the Library of Congress. These records are not converted by the Library of Congress to the USMARC format and do not include those CANMARC fields which are not supported by the USMARC format.

The importance of the above requirements in the evaluation of the various CD-ROM systems is a function of the library's current cataloguing standards. The bottom line for every library should be the ability to create a complete record, that is, a record containing all the appropriate fields and characters. As technological developments continue to support the possibility of a nation-wide union catalogue, including the collections of the smallest libraries, it is important that all RECON efforts produce the highest quality records possible.

The following is a list of suppliers of CD-ROM based cataloguing systems:

General Research Corporation
Library Systems
5383 Hollister Avenue
Santa Barbara, CA
93111

OCLC
Online Computer
Library Center
6565 Frantz Road
Dublin, Ohio
43017-0702
The Library Corporation
P.O. Box 40035
Washington, D.C.
20016
Western Library Network
Network Marketing
Washington State
University
Mail Stop AJ-11
Olympia, Washington
98504-0111
UTLAS International Canada
80 Bloor Street West,
2nd floor
Toronto, Ontario
M5S 2V1

Slavko Manojlovich is Assistant to the University Librarian for Systems and Planning, Memorial University of Newfoundland.

News about Kids in Libraries

South Shore Regional Library has purchased an Apple II GS computer, colour monitor and a collection of educational software for use by young patrons in the Bridgewater branch library. This equipment is available at no charge to patrons of the South Shore Regional Library, making that system one of three in Nova Scotia, which currently provide children with access to computer time. The Bridgewater Kinsmen generously donated the funds for the purchase of the computer, monitor and an initial software collection.

Halifax County Regional Library Children's Services has purchased a collection of junior French language materials to address the rising demand for these materials from French Immersion students in the Halifax County schools and the increasing number of

French-speaking patrons. Funds for this special collection were donated by the Windsor Foundation.

Dartmouth Regional Library offered a special parents' and toddlers' program to celebrate National Family Week. Sixty parents and toddlers, led by Cindy Cassidy, participated in a "30 minute workout" of songs, fingerplays, action songs, puppetry and stories. The "workout" was followed by coffee, browsing and informal discussions and a presentation of the Greater Vancouver Library Federation's video, "Read to Me, Sing to Me". A brochure, "Catch 'em in the Cradle" from an ALA camera-ready copy was also given out to parents. Sample copies are available from Linda Pearce, Head of Children's Services, Dartmouth Regional Library, 10 Wyse Road, Dartmouth, N.S., B3A 1M1.

APLA Merit Award Nominations

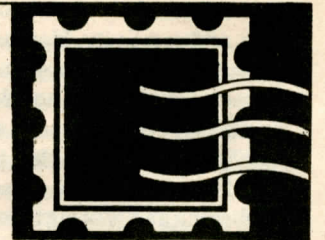
The Atlantic Provinces Library Association solicits nominations for the Association's Merit Award. The Award is conferred on an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to library service in the Atlantic Provinces.

Nominations, with the appropriate accompanying documentation of the nominee's contribution, should be sent

by April 20, 1988 to:
Richard H. Ellis
APLA Nominations Committee,
Queen Elizabeth II Library,
Memorial University
of Newfoundland,
St. John's, Newfoundland
A1B 3Y1

User Education MAILBOX

Compiled by the APLA Special Interest Group on Library Instruction



I wish to thank the students in Elizabeth Frick's Bibliographic Instruction Course for the work they have put into our mailbox questions and answers.

-Pat Johnston

Question: We are looking for instructional packages for graduate students especially for international graduate students.

Answer: Little has been written about bibliographic instruction for graduate students because most of the focus has been on undergraduates. Material that was found indicated that programs for graduate students tend to be along the lines of research clinics and problem-oriented seminars. Although no reference was found to specific instructional packages for graduate or international (which was understood to mean foreign) graduate students, one or two articles mentioned programs which might be useful. Manuel Lopez wrote an article about a program developed at SUNY-Buffalo which involves student volunteers conducting library orientation tours in foreign languages (*College and Research Libraries News*, 1983). Wendy Moorehead discussed some of the difficulties in teaching foreign students in *College and Research Libraries News*, 1986. It would be worthwhile to contact

LOEX, as they have had numerous requests for similar packages. They may have developed something for graduate students. Their address is as follows:

LOEX
Centre of Educational Resources
Eastern Michigan University
Ypsilanti, MI
U.S.A. 48197

-Christine Dickson and James Borron

Questions.

1. What alternatives to term papers or essays are being used by faculty and teachers to engage students more fully in library use?

-Judith MacLean

2. I realize that BI is prevalent in school and academic libraries, but do any public libraries run BI courses for their patrons and if so, how often are they held and what is the average attendance?

-Anne Watling

3. What are some of the special methods used for bibliographic instruction in audiovisual libraries (particularly slide libraries)?

-Janet Seally

New Funding Formula Raises Unexpected Questions

Barbara Kincaid, Western Counties Regional Library

"Because there is no other recourse left to our Council to protest Provincial funding policy, this letter will serve as notice to your Board that we will be exercising our option to withdraw from participation in the Regional Library service". With a sentence similar to this in a letter from Yarmouth Municipal Council, Western Counties Regional Library Board faced the possibility of losing one of its eleven participating municipalities and twenty percent of its operating revenue. This situation was the result of Council's objection to the basis on which the municipal share of Regional Library service was to be paid combined with the fact that the Libraries Act gave Councils the opportunity to opt out of library service should they wish to do so.

To understand this situation, you will need the following background information. After several years of meetings and effort by many people including municipal representatives, the Minister of Education had announced implementation of the new Regional Library funding formula. As with all recent provincial-municipal cost-sharing formulas, the basis of the municipal contribution was "x cents per \$100 of Uniform Assessment". A rough definition of Uniform Assessment would be the annually assessed value of the taxable properties within the municipality adjusted by the Province to allow for non-taxable Crown Land and the amount of resource land which has a limited tax value.

Yarmouth Municipality had asked that the amount of commercial property also be considered and a special adjustment be made for municipalities with a limited commercial base. Because the commercial tax rate tends to be higher, more tax dollars can be raised on a \$100,000 of commercial assessment than \$100,000 of residential assessment. Yarmouth Municipality feels that their very limited amount of commercial assessment means a heavier burden for their residential taxpayers.

In the case of all other cost sharing formulas, Council had no choice. But in considering the Regional Library formula, they realized that of all cost-shared services - hospitals, correctional centres, education, etc. - only Regional Library service was optional. The Libraries Act gave Councils the right to opt out of library service by providing

the appropriate notice.

Thus we had a Council leaving the Regional Library system to protest an action which was Provincial policy - an action over which the Regional Library had no control. Even more disconcerting was the fact that Council clearly stated that their difficulty was with Provincial policy and not with the Regional Library. However, the fact remained that the Regional Library service was the only cost shareable service which gave them a means to protest the policy.

Our Board's difficulty was solved by arranging for members of Council to meet with members of the Provincial Department of Education - those responsible for libraries - and the Department of Municipal Affairs - those responsible for the policy on cost sharing. Once the dialogue had begun, the Board also met with Council to demonstrate the services which the region provided. Shortly after that evening session, the Board received official word that although discussions with the Province were still underway with no apparent solution, Council had voted to remain a member of the Regional Library.

Looking back, these events appear to have raised two main questions. From the Municipality of Yarmouth's point of view, although discussions appear to be continuing, there has been no change in the method used to arrive at Uniform Assessment. From the Regional Library point of view, a question arises about the status of Regional Library service to the public. The Regional Library's problem originally arose because of all the services which Council cost-shared with the Provincial Government, only the Regional Library service was optional. The question arises: should libraries still be considered an optional service to be provided or discarded at will? With the increasing number of residents depending on the library and its services for so many facets of their life (self education, health and technical information as well as recreation) should libraries not be regarded as the essential service they have become and therefore be permanently provided for all residents of the province? If the answer to that question is yes, then perhaps members of the library world should be reviewing their public library legislation. It would then be possible to provide the information and suggestions needed to permit their respective governments to enact the necessary changes. I think it is a question worth considering. How about you?

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



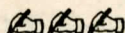
Joy Tillotson

Lobbying efforts have continued on the pornography and copyright fronts. As part of the continuing correspondence, the Intellectual Freedom Committee composed a reply to the Federal Minister of Justice's letter (which explained the federal initiative on pornography). As our letter explained our concerns quite fully, a copy was sent to all Atlantic-region Members of Parliament.

Another letter about copyright is in the draft stages as I write this. It will be sent to Atlantic region MP's and provincial ministers responsible for libraries. It will express concern about some or all of the following:

- the difficulty of using the current definition of fair dealing in deciding fees to be paid to collectives;

- the lack of protection against prosecution by copyright owners not in collectives;
- sources of funds to pay fees;
- the possibility of fees being collected for foreign copyright owners that would not be charged in the country of ownership.

Topics slated for discussion at the February executive meeting are many and various including: APLA's participation in the planned Atlantic Book Award and in the Book and Periodicals Development Council; whether we need a permanent secretariat; the state of the constitution; relationships with other organizations, and what to call the award given annually to a library school student. For news on these and other stories, contact your nearest executive member or tune in to your next APLA Bulletin. 

The Atlantic Provinces Book Review and You

Judy Reade

APLA Representative

Atlantic Provinces Book Review Board

The *Atlantic Provinces Book Review* (APBR), could use your help! So, don't just read it - become involved!

First of all, you might consider writing a letter to the Editor, on what you make of the *Review*, or on how you think it can be improved. A letters section was a recent suggestion of the Canada Council to the *Review* and *Review* Board members are anxious to see that idea get off the ground. (Why is it that editors always have to beg and plead for letters from their readers? The nation seems to have a mental block when it comes to writing letters to publications!)

Secondly, you may wish to consider acting as a reviewer. And here's the good news, the APBR pays for reviews, \$50.00 per review. The *Review* is anxious to move away from using only "university types" as reviewers and would encourage librarians to undertake reviewing, particularly librarians who have a good knowledge of certain topics.

Although the *Review* is distributed

free at the moment through the *Bulletin*, individual subscriptions are available. You may like to encourage friends and acquaintances to subscribe, as a way of supporting this particular regional cultural endeavor.

As librarians, we are in a good position to know about locally-produced material. The *Review* is in touch with most regional publishers, but there is always something which slips through the net. If you know of a locally-produced work (or something dealing with your area published outside the region) which has not been featured in the pages of the *Review*, then please let the Editor know.

Finally, the *Review* is planning a readers' survey soon. When you receive this, please fill it in - the *Review* wants to know who its readers are, and what use they make of this reviewing source. Please read and support the *Atlantic Provinces Book Review*. If we don't support regional writing and publishing - there's few others out there who will!

ACADIA UNIVERSITY

invites applications for the position of

THEOLOGICAL LIBRARIAN

Qualifications must include a graduate degree in Theology and a M.L.S. with five years' experience in theological reference work. The Theological Librarian is responsible for providing library services to the Acadia Divinity College, which forms the Faculty of Theology at Acadia University, and to other Acadia University departments. Acadia Divinity College is accredited by the Association of Theology Schools. Theological collections and services are integrated with the University Library, with the Theological Librarian reporting to the Head of Public Services. The incumbent is expected to play a leading role in formulating library policy for Theology, and will be the Library's representative on the Acadia Divinity College Senate and Library Committee. Specific duties include reference services, collection development, online searching and bibliographic instruction. The appointment will be at the Librarian III level with an annual salary (1987-88) in the range of \$29,203 to \$36,078 depending on qualifications and experience. The position will be available from July 1, 1988 and applications will be received until the position is filled.

Applications including a current curriculum vitae and the names of three referees should be addressed to Iain J. Bates, University Librarian, Acadia University, Wolfville, Nova Scotia, B0P 1X0. In accordance with Canadian Immigration requirements, this advertisement is directed to Canadian citizens and permanent residents. Acadia University is an equal opportunity employer.

Report from Library Technicians' Interest Group

In October, members of the APLA Library Technician's Interest Group from New Brunswick and Nova Scotia met at the Colchester-East Hants Regional Library in Truro for their final meeting of 1987. Points of discussion ranged from the Group's successful workshop, "The Problem Patron", which was held at the 1987 APLA Conference, to means of keeping better informed of the activities of other Canadian groups of library technicians. A number of other possible group projects and activities were also discussed. The next meeting of LTIG is scheduled for April 1988.



NEWS FROM THE PROVINCES

Nova Scotia

The Minister of Education recently introduced a French Language grant for Nova Scotia Regional Library Boards serving areas with significant populations of both English and French language groups. This additional annual grant is to assist Boards in providing library services in both official languages. In order to qualify for the special grant, Library Boards must serve in areas where the population is at least 15% French speaking.

The French Language grant, part of the new funding arrangement for Nova Scotia Regional Libraries which came into effect January 1, 1988, is calculated at 5% of the Board's operating grant for the calendar year and is paid to the Board quarterly.

Dalhousie School of Library and Information Studies announces the recent release of Professor Larry Amey's book *Combining Libraries: The Canadian and Australian Experience*, published by Scarecrow Press. Scarecrow Press has also issued, in agreement with the British Library, the revised reprint of *PRE-CIS: A Primer* by Dr. Mary Dykstra. Professor John R.T. Ettlinger retired on December 31 but he will continue teaching through the 1987-88 Winter term.

The Novanet Coordinating Committee is pleased to announce that Mr. Leslie Foster will be assuming the position of Novanet Systems Manager, effective February 1, 1988. Mr. Foster has had extensive experience in library automation including serving as a Research Associate in the Dalhousie University Law Library. Most recently, Mr. Foster has been on leave from the Law Library while serving as the Novanet Implementation Manager.

New Brunswick

Harriet Irving Library, University of New Brunswick

The Library has recently developed specifications for an automated circulation system. These are now being reviewed by the Computing Centre in preparation for programming and implementation. Andy Pope, Head of the Education Resource Centre, who has been working full time on the project for three months, was the one largely responsible for developing the specifications. However, a number of people worked on shaping them, including members of the Circulation Automation Task Group. It is hoped that the system will be implemented by September 1989. The specifications call for some integration of CIRCUS, automated circulation system, with PHOENIX in order to display status information such as whether a book is out, when it is due back, whether it is on reserve, etc.

Mount Allison University

Special Collections at Mount Allison University has been awarded a \$3,500 grant from the Marjorie Young Bell Committee on fine arts and music for preservation work on selected titles from the Mary Mellish Archibald Memorial Library. This collection, which was established by R.C. Archibald in 1908 in memory of his mother, has a large number of rare and unusual music

items. The grant will be used to have individual boxes made for the MMAL music titles in the Rare Book room. The work will be done at the Conservation Co-op in Fredericton under the direction of Harold Holland who has recently developed a new type of box using acid-free core-board with a magnetic type of closing device.

The Mount Allison University Archives is pleased to announce the deposit of the 'Douglas Lochhead Papers', 1879-1986. Douglas Lochhead is a distinguished author, poet, librarian, bibliographer and printer. His papers include manuscript notebooks, published and unpublished poetry and prose, academic and research files, lectures, printed ephemera, photographs and clippings. The Douglas Lochhead Papers are a unique and valuable primary source for research in Canadian literature and creative writing - Canadian social history, the history of Canadian Libraries, and the development and teaching of Canadian studies.

Bibliothèque de Droit de l'Université de Moncton

La bibliothèque de droit l'Université de Moncton utilise maintenant les banques d'UTLAS pour son catalogue.

New Brunswick Library Service

In June 1987, the department of Tourism, Recreation and Heritage set up a committee to review existing guidelines and establish new standards for the public library system for the province. The Committee members are Jocelyne Lebel, Director of the New Brunswick Library Service; Evelyn Briggs, Director of Research and Evaluation and June Elder, Research Officer. Regional Librarians of the province will act as resource persons for the Committee. The standards to be reviewed and/or established deal with extended services, funding, staffing and collections development.

The New Brunswick Library Service and the New Brunswick Division of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind are doing a study of library services offered to visually handicapped citizens of the province. The purpose of the study is to identify the needs, review the services offered by both public libraries and the CNIB National Library, identify areas of duplication and determine areas of responsibility for each agency. The study, which began in September 1987, is expected to be completed early in 1988.

Chaleur Regional Library

Three new libraries will be opened in the Chaleur Region in 1988: in Bas-Caraquet, Lameque and Petit-Rocher. Books have been ordered and the staff at the regional headquarters have started to process them. \$15,000 per library has been granted to the region for a basic collection in these new service points.

The Campbellton Centennial Public Library received a cheque of \$8,000 in October 1987 from the former local MLA, Honorable Fernand Dubé, for the purchase of a new microfilm reader-printer.

Saint John Regional Library

Board Chairman, Ken Smith, announced the appointment of Christine Corston to the position of Branch Super-

visor, effective February 1. Ms. Corston comes to the region from the Kitchener Public Library. A graduate of Dalhousie University and a B.L.S. from the University of British Columbia, Ms. Corston brings to the position sixteen years of experience in the public library field.

Phase one of the restoration of the Campobello Public Library, circa 1897, is fast drawing to a close. The permanent foundation has been completed and all windows and doors replaced with modern efficient units, custom made to preserve the esthetic beauty of the building. The building has been made wheelchair accessible with the addition of a ramp and careful attention to the floor layout to allow for easy mobility. The raising of the ceiling to the ten foot level allowed for the addition of more shelving and new open space has been allotted for special events and programs.

Prince Edward Island

Robertson Library, University of Prince Edward Island

The Robertson Library has adopted a "No Smoking" policy in the Main Library. This includes the entire Library, including the Staff Lounge. Smoking will only be allowed in what is known as "the Pitt" and in the Breeze Way.

In an effort to reduce noise, the Library has designated the study lounge on the second floor as a "Superquiet Area". Students will be encouraged to carry on conversation elsewhere.

Prince Edward Island Provincial Library

The Provincial Library was allocated an additional \$45,000 to be spent in the current fiscal year (ending March 31) on books. This is a most welcome boost to the public library book collections.

On Friday, January 29, at an open house ceremony, Betty-Jean Brown, Minister of Education, cut the ribbon to an enlarged Provincial Library Headquarters and School Book Distribution Centre, located next to the Provincial Library. This addition provides much needed additional office and book storage space. About 150 people from various components of the Provincial Library, Department of Education and the schools were present.

Newfoundland

Association of Newfoundland and Labrador Archivists

The Newfoundland Co-operative Preservation Project has now been agreed in principle between MUN Library and the Newfoundland Provincial Reference and Resource Library. Jointly, the two institutions will operate a small paper conservation lab and share the services of a conservation technician. Initially, the primary objective of the project will be preventative maintenance of library collections. In the longer term the facility might provide more sophisticated treatments to the library and university communities.

Memorial University of Newfoundland

At Queen Elizabeth II Library, Colleen Field has taken a contractual position as a librarian in the Centre for Newfoundland Studies.

College Libraries

Ruth Parsons has taken a contractual position as a librarian at the Cabot Institute of Technology Library in St. John's. Ruth is a recent graduate of the University of Western Ontario School of Library and Information Science.

Slow but steady progress is being made in the development of the new community college library system. The library at the Lewisporte Campus is expected to move into its permanent quarters in September 1980. Plans are underway for the development of libraries in at least eight more campuses spread around the province.

Newfoundland Public Library Service

For the first time, all part-time library staff are voting on the contract as members of CUPE. Management positions in the Public Library Services have just recently completed a reclassification process. All positions are now classified according to the scope and complexity of the individual position.

News From Dalhousie University

Literary Presses In Canada, 1975-1985: A Checklist and Bibliography compiled by Holly Melanson.

The School of Library and Information Studies, Dalhousie University, is pleased to announce the publication of *Literary Presses in Canada, 1975-1985: A Checklist and Bibliography*, compiled by Holly Melanson. The work is number 43 in the School's Occasional Papers series.

The first bibliographic effort which documented small press activity in Canada was Grace Tratt's *Check List of Small Canadian Presses, English Language*, published as Occasional Paper number 6 in 1974. This new publication, a sequel to the Tratt work, provides an historical and bibliographic record of 240 English Canadian literary presses.

Large SSHRC Grant Ensures Access to Nova Scotia Newspapers

The School of Library and Information Studies, Dalhousie University, is very pleased to announce the award of a grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council for the completion of the Nova Scotia Newspaper Project. The grant of \$52,117 for a period of ten months will result in a union list of approximately 1,300 newspapers which have been published in Nova Scotia from 1752.

Effective Trustee Seminar Held in Truro

Nancy Hutchins, Board Member, Western Counties Regional Library

The grey, fretful days of November brought light and understanding to the trustees of the regional libraries of Nova Scotia. Like the WILL program of November 1986, the Effective Trustee Seminar attracted board members from all regions of the Province, who found solutions to problems as well as inspiration to carry on.

Many readers will recognize the Effective Trustee as a seminar of the Canadian Library Association. Developed by Sue Dutton, former Chairman of the Alberta Library Board, the seminar is a full day workshop, also conducted by

Sue Dutton.

Thirty-four persons, the majority library board members, convened at the Best Western Glengary Motel in Truro on Friday, November 20. That was an evening of business meetings and a banquet, at which the Provincial Deputy Minister of Education was speaker and Carin Somers, former Provincial Librarian, was a welcome guest.

Saturday morning's nine o'clock workshop began with groups of six puzzled trustees "going bananas". What the members of the groups like and disliked about bananas became an analogy of what is desirable and undesirable in a library trustee; and with all groups contributing, a picture emerged

of the effective trustee, Sue using a flip chart to record the groups' suggestions.

With the effective trustee in place, Sue led a discussion on the mission statement, the essential element in planning; any board of trustees must know where it is going and how to get there. Each person attending the seminar received a handbook, *The Effective Trustee*, compiled by Sue Denton, which, as well as being consulted at the seminar, will be an invaluable reference to any person who sits on a board of trustees - school, hospital, social services, etc.

During the afternoon session, the members were asked to examine problems and situations which might, or could very well, exist at their own li-

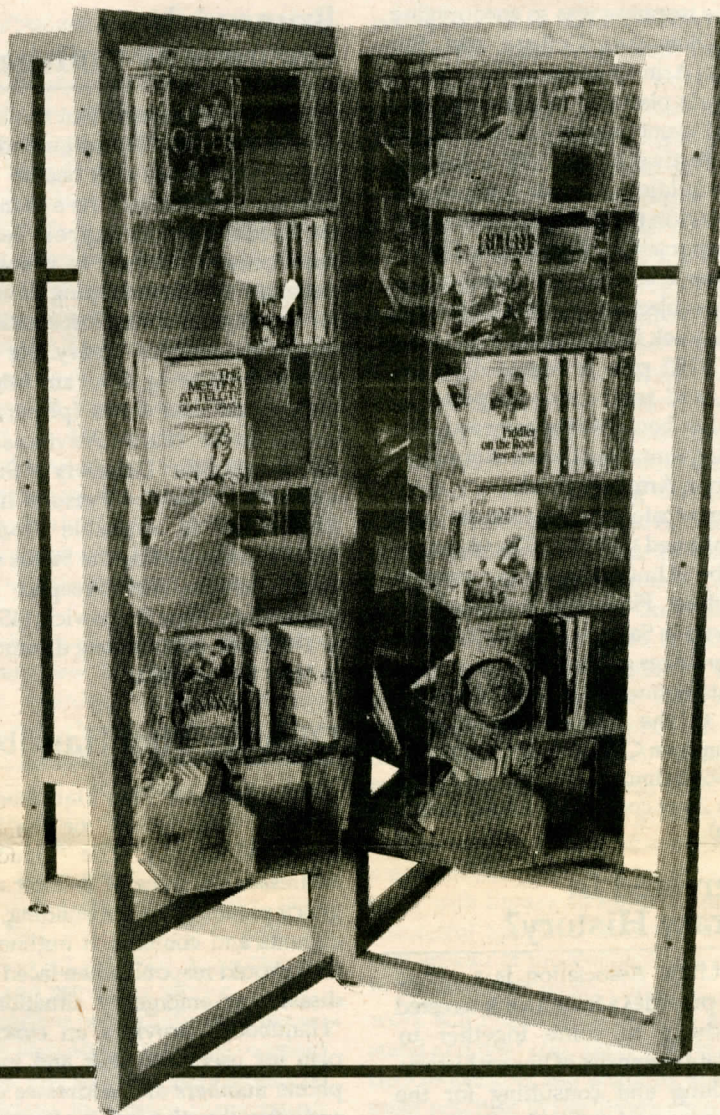
brary or region. As each group reported its solution to the case studied, the others listened critically, and were then invited to participate. The discussions that followed were both lively and practical.

At the dinner meeting, a number of resolutions were passed, regarding the proposed postal rate increases, provincial government funding for trustee training courses, and urging speedy appointment of a provincial librarian.

At the end of the weekend all trustees left determined to work for improved regional library services and the necessary funding that these services will require.

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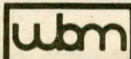
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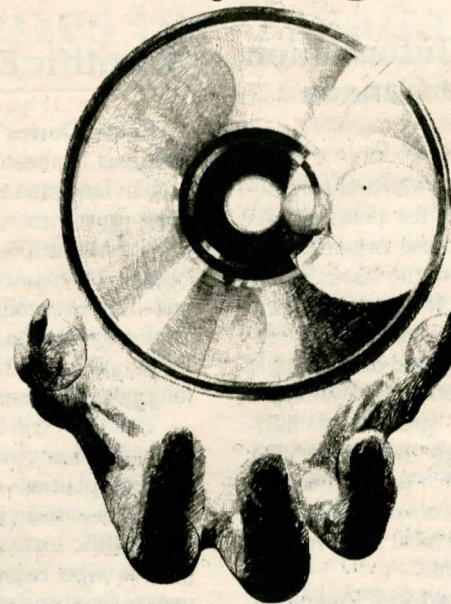
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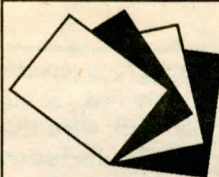
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INFORMATION EXCHANGE

Leap into sonnet writing!

1988 is a Leap Year and the *Salmon Arm Sonnet Committee* suggests that you might use the extra day, February 29, to write a 14-line poem.

For the last three years, Salmon Arm has held its National Sonnet Contest, prompted by an advertisement in Reader's Digest which said: "More people in Canada drink Martini Extra Dry than compose sonnets in Salmon Arm ... just".

The response was so encouraging that Okanagan College and the Salmon Arm Chamber of Commerce are again planning to have this very special event as part of the National Book Festival (April, 1988.) Salmon Arm is holding a Canada-wide sonnet competition (14 lines of rhymed iambic pentameter - Petrarchan, Shakespearean or modern). Sonnets can be on any subject. First prize will be \$500 plus a week in Salmon Arm, second prize \$250 plus a weekend in the town, and ten runner-up prizes of Canadian books will be awarded. The winning sonnet will be set to music by a Salmon Arm composer.

A new category, "unsonnets", will be continued this year. The unsonnet must be 14 lines long, on any interesting subject. First prize is \$250 plus a weekend in Salmon Arm, with 5 runner-up prizes of books.

Entries must be sent by March 31, 1988, to the Sonnet Contest, c/o Salmon Arm Chamber of Commerce, Box 999, Salmon Arm, B.C., V0E 2T0 (Limit 2 per contestant, \$2 per poem, please).

Interested in Library History?

Ex Libris Association is a group which provides a forum for interested individuals to come together to stimulate memories of library history, publishing and consulting for the development of archival collections.

For more information, contact:

Ex Libris Association, The School of Library and Information Science, UWO, Elborn College, London, Ontario, N6G 1H1.

Disability Information Services of Canada (D.I.S.C.)

D.I.S.C. is a cross-Canada communications network for persons with disabilities and those organizations seeking to improve the status of disabled Canadians. It is a communication system which enables information access, referral and development by linking together a large number of individuals and groups of individuals. Through a networking model, DISC is able to link those in need of information with those having both the technical and practical ability to help them.

To date, there are over 900 members on the network. This membership consists of consumers, associations, treatment centres, service providers, researchers, social change agents, colleges/universities, government officials, and research centres.

How do people become part of the network?

Anyone interested in participating on DISC can apply for an account on the system. There is no online charge for DISC and therefore, the only cost to

the individual is a \$15.00 sign on fee when the account is requested. For more information, contact the Maritime regional representative, Ted Strong, at (902) 420-5452 or (902) 420-5400 ext. 2620. The Calgary DISC address is: Disability Information Services of Canada, The Walter Dinsdale Centre, 610, 839 - 5th Avenue S.W., Calgary, Alberta, T2P 3C8.

Disability Information Section at New Brunswick Community College

Bill Hegan reports that the Department of Advanced Education and Training in New Brunswick has an Action Plan for the Disabled. As a member of the Special Services Support Team for the Moncton Campus, he is collecting materials on handicapping conditions for a special Disability Information section of the campus library. He would appreciate hearing about any other collections on disabilities (physical and mental) in the Atlantic Provinces. A free directory entitled *Directory of Services offered to Disabled Persons in New Brunswick* is available from the Premier's Council on the Status of Disabled Persons, 105 Prospect Street, Fredericton, New Brunswick; (452-1112 or 1-800-442-4412 for long distance calls in New Brunswick).

Disaster Plan Handbook

The *Disaster Plan Handbook* has recently been issued for the Killam Memorial Library. The "Handbook" addresses the issue of disaster contingency planning for the building, its occupants and contents. It outlines how staff should respond when faced with a disaster or emergency situation. The "Handbook" provides an evacuation plan for users and staff and includes phone numbers and addresses during and after the disaster. It also supplies guidelines for the salvage of damaged materials.

The *Disaster Plan Handbook* is available from Dalhousie University Library for \$15.00.

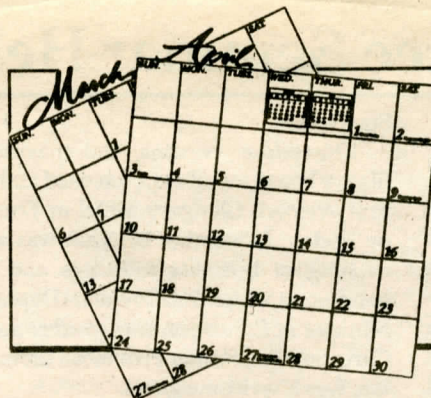
Scientific Enigmas

Robert Downs' new book, *Scientific Enigmas*, has been written for the reader who is intrigued by unsolved and puzzling mysteries such as the lost continent of Atlantis, the Loch Ness monster, Bigfoot, the extinction of the dinosaurs, and the Bermuda Triangle. Downs' book explores, and some cases dispels myths about, the mysteries which have long puzzled mankind.

This book will be particularly useful to librarians advising readers fascinated by unexplained occurrences, to researchers with an interest in the history of scientific investigation, and to individuals who enjoy reading about the unexplained and the mysterious.

Robert B. Downs is the recipient of numerous awards, including the Joseph W. Lippincott Award (1964) and the Melvil Dewey Award (1974), and a past president of the American Library Association. He is Dean of Library Administration, Emeritus, University of Illinois, Urbana.

Published by Libraries Unlimited, Littleton, Colorado. Publication date: November 1987 \$US 21.00 ISBN 0-87287-617-9 LC 87-26870.



To advertise notice of your upcoming event, please write to The Editor, or call Andrea John at (902) 424-5264.

March 25, 1988. Halifax.

Dalhousie University School of Library and Information Studies Lecture Series 1987/88. TOPIC: "Managing a Large Scale Bibliographic Project" SPEAKER: Dr. Bryan Gooch, Professor, Department of English, University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia. PLACE: MacMechan Auditorium, Killam Library, 11:45 a.m.

June 16-19, 1988. Halifax.

Canadian Library Association's annual conference. APLA's Annual General Meeting is also slated for the

UPCOMING EVENTS

morning of Sunday, June 19. Watch this space for more details...

August 22-26, 1988 London, Ont.

An intensive 5-day "Online Systems, Services and Data-base workshop" will once again be offered by the School of Library and Information Science at the University of Western Ontario. The fee of \$550.00 includes course materials and online connect time. Further information may be obtained from: Professor Paul Nichols, Coordinator, Online Systems, Services and Database Workshop, School of Library and Information Science, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, N6G 1H1 (519) 661-3542.

Publication Information

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

Annual membership in the Association costs \$25.00 and includes a subscription to the *APLA Bulletin*, which is published six times a year - September, November, January, March, May and July. Single copies of the *Bulletin* are available for \$3.00.

Submissions for the *Bulletin* (typed, double-spaced), news and correspon-

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Andrea John is the Editor of the *Bulletin*, Susan McLean is the Managing Editor, and Laura Jantek is the Advertising Editor. Production is by PageCraft in Halifax.

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