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Bulletin of the Rhode Island Library Association v. 44, no. 10

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BULLETIN

of

THE RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

VOL. 44, NO. 10

MAY 1972

PARTING SHOTS FROM OUR RILA PRESIDENT

WHAT Vote?

The results of the balloting by mail in March for Vice President/President-Elect are a tragedy. Only fifty-five members of RILA cared enough to return their ballots. At its April meeting, the Executive Board threw out the ballots as not constituting

not constituting a quorum and decided to try it again. At the Spring meeting, another vote will be cast. This office is a necessary step to the office of Association President under the present constitution.

Assume your responsibility -- it is, after all, your Association

WHOSE Five-Year Plan?

In the March issue of *American Libraries*, an editorial appeared which touched very close to the Rhode Island heart. Gerald Shield's expressed concern over the failure so far, of librarians and state associations to provide input into the long range planning of the Library Services and Construction Act as amended by PL 91-600. We wonder how many librarians have provided copies of this law to their Boards of Trustees. We wonder how many understand the different aspects of the Rhode Island five year plan as it is now being written: We wonder how much opportunity

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STAFF:

- Mrs. Derryl Johnson, Providence Public Library, Editor.
 Mrs. Edna Lager, North Kingston Public Library
 Mrs. Helen DeJong, Medical Society Library
 Mrs. Elsie Straight, Elmhurst Academy Library

Correction:

March issue '72 was unnumbered, it should have been #8.
 April issue was printed as #8, it should have read #9.
 May is correct as #10.

OPEN LETTER TO LIBRARIANS from the RILA Executive Bd .

On March 22, 1972, Rep. Theodore F. Low sent an open letter to librarians requesting support of bill H 5059 which would specifically exempt libraries and educational institutions from the provisions of Chap. 30, Public Laws, 1971.

Chapt. 30 added "display at newsstands or any other business establishment frequented by minors under the age of eighteen (18) years or where said minors are or may be invited as a part of the general public" to the original law on sale or exhibition to minors of indecent publications, pictures, or articles (11-30-10).

An advisory opinion of the Rhode Island Attorney General holds that Chap. 30 does not apply to libraries. In addition, it is the understanding of the Executive Committee that during hearings testimony including the testimony of those supporting the 1971 act, made it clear that it was not meant to apply to libraries.

(cont.)

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Under these conditions and with-
out going into detail as to
the constitutionality of either
the original law (11-30-10) or
Chapt. 30 the Exec. Comm.
has taken the position that
specific exemption of libraries
and educational institutions as
proposed in H 5059 is not
necessary at this time.

The Executive Board is going
to reply to Representative Low
and also give an explanation
of their stand to librarians in
this Bulletin.

The mail ballot for Vice Pres-
ident/President-Elect was a
failure, with only about 50
persons responding. Therefore,
the Board decided to declare
these ballots invalid, and
hold an election at the Spring
Meeting. Look for your ballot
while registering.

Exec. Bd. News:

The RILA Executive Board held
its April meeting at Providence
Public Library on April 12,
from 10 - 1. Members present
were Mr. Alexander, Mr.
Guilbeault, Mr. Whitney,
Mrs. Barbara Wilson, Mrs.
Sally Wilson, Mr. Olsen, and
Mr. Crosby. Visitors were Mr.
Elliott Andrews, Mr. Ernest
Denomme, Mrs. Derryl Johnson
and Mrs. Anne Parent.

Mr. Andrews reported to the
Board on activities of the
Legislature, as it comes up to
closing time. He particularly
noted Mr. Low's open letter to
librarians on H 5059, a bill to
exempt libraries from the
provisions of Chap. 30, Public
Laws 1971 (the Marshall Bill).

Developments in the program
for the Spring Meeting --
May 23rd at Bryant College --
were outlined by Anne Parent.
A flyer with details will be
mailed to the membership soon.
Please note that reservations
for lunch must be received a
week in advance. The business
meeting will be focused on the
proposed changes in the Con-
stitution. A film on the Li-
rary of Congress, recently
purchased by RILA for the R.I.
Film Cooperative, will be
shown. A panel discussion in
the afternoon will outline the
DSL5 five year plan for
library development in the
state.

CHILD LEARNING CENTER

Social production has deemed inaptitude as being dumb, un-socialized and sometimes misfit. A doomed category thus developed -- the mentally and morally underprivileged. The sector of society that falls in this group is the lower class. Mental starvation developed from these poor and is kept alive by political and social disadvantages. The real bearers of the crosses are obviously the children -- they are the ones who are morally starved. The children of this society have suffered from this injustice. They show a marked deplorable detention from social progress.

The Child Learning Center, a federally funded educational program, has taken upon itself the task of rectifying this injustice. A program, appropriately named, it was founded by a Library Council who believed that something beneficial could be done with such a program. A deliberation period of three years on the part of the federal government resulted in a program draft and enacting expectations. The Library Council had by then defined the purposes of the program. A



Director, Secretary and 10 Counsellors were chosen to be the actual instruments for adjustment.

The Director was then given the job of first appreciating his crowd, and then working with them. The first need that had to be rectified was getting everyone to appreciate the program. Almost everyone did. A system based on reading,



with clubs and classes disguising this function wherever needed, was set up. The Counsellors and children were directly involved. To appreciate this system of learning one has to be really involved with its working. Although the children seem to benefit immensely from this experiment it is rather concealed in their childish minds that formulate the pleasures of their own world.

To understand these children is to relate to the things they need. One of their basic needs is love. But to know a child is to love him and likewise, vice-versa. The Counsellors have thus been given the task of asking questions, writing reports and generally being inquisitive to the child's nature. Gifts of love and contentment have showered the Counsellors for this effort from the children. The grounds have been attained for mass integrity.

Classes and clubs were and are still being set up to cope with the child's demands. The child needs a lot -- we give as much as we can. The children seem to benefit a lot from the program, but still

there is need for more adult participation. An adult can give a lot. Many of the children crave attention. I believe that this need stems from the absence of complete homes. A home without either parent or a home that benefits little from the parents' presence is like no home at all. What evolves from such a home is a consequence of emotional disturbance.

My one and entire hope is that something can be done before the need expires. This Child Learning Center is a step forward. Maybe a lot more steps can be built. Some of us have built these steps in our minds -- there it's a step forward, but it's not realistic enough. We have to provide a mental force. A force these children can use as a weapon of force against a socialistic and political force.

Maybe then we would produce a better world.

Cynthia Neal
Coord. of Children's program,
Prov. Public Lib

Panel presentation: Rhode Island Department of State Library Services Five Year Long-Range Program for Library Services.

Miss Arlene Hope, New England Regional Program Officer of the Office of Health, Education and Welfare will introduce the subject and will act as a resource person for the discussion. Miss Jewel Drickamer, deputy director of the Rhode Island Department of State Library Services will give a presentation on the Five Year Long-Range Program, and other panel members will be selected on the basis of their various points of view with regard to the plan. A question and answer period from the floor is planned.

Color film: "Library of Congress"

A new film just purchased by the Rhode Island Library Association will be included in the collection of the Rhode Island Library Film Cooperative. This twenty-three minute film demonstrates the variety of services offered by the Library of Congress, describes two typical research projects from their origin to completion, and explains how the Library of Congress services other libraries in this country and abroad.

Richard J. Waters, Chief, Division of Library Extension Services: "Cable TV and Libraries." Mr. Waters is planning a visual presentation on this subject, vital to Rhode Island libraries. Overhead transparencies, booklists and bibliographies will be included.

Rhode Island Library Association Spring Conference, May 23, 1972, at Bryant College, Smithfield, Rhode Island.

TENTATIVE PROGRAM

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 9:00 - 10:00 | Registration and coffee hour |
| 10:00 - 12:30 | Annual business meeting |
| 12:30 - 2:00 | Luncheon |
| 2:00 - 3:00 | Panel presentation: Rhode Island Department of State Library Services Five Year Long-range Program for Library Services |
| | ALSO |
| | Color film: "Library of Congress!" |
| 2:30 - 3:30 | Trustees workshop |
| 3:00 - 4:00 | Richard J. Waters, Chief, Division of Library Extension Services: "Cable TV and Libraries." |
| | ALSO |
| | James S. Healey, assistant professor, University of Rhode Island Graduate Library School: "The Library Technical Assistant; a new dimension in library staffing." |
| | ALSO |
| | Tour of Bryant College campus. |
| | ALSO |
| | Repeat showing of color film: "Library of Congress." |
| 3:30 - 4:30 | Nancy Pereira, creative drama specialist of Looking Glass Theatre: Demonstration of Creative Dramatics |

LUNCHEON

Glass of Chablis wine

Fresh fruit cup

Tossed green salad with French
dressing

Boneless stuffed breast of chicken

Baked stuffed potato

Green beans almonidine

Strawberry shortcake

Choice of beverage

Price of a luncheon ticket is \$3.25 per person. Since a guarantee must be given a full week in advance of the meeting, no reservations will be accepted after May 15, 1972. A separate mailing was sent to all members by the conference committee to insure sufficient notice. If you have not yet mailed in your reservation please telephone 723-5350 immediately.

James S. Healey, Assistant Professor, University of Rhode Island Graduate Library School: "The Library Technical Assistant; a new dimension in library staffing."

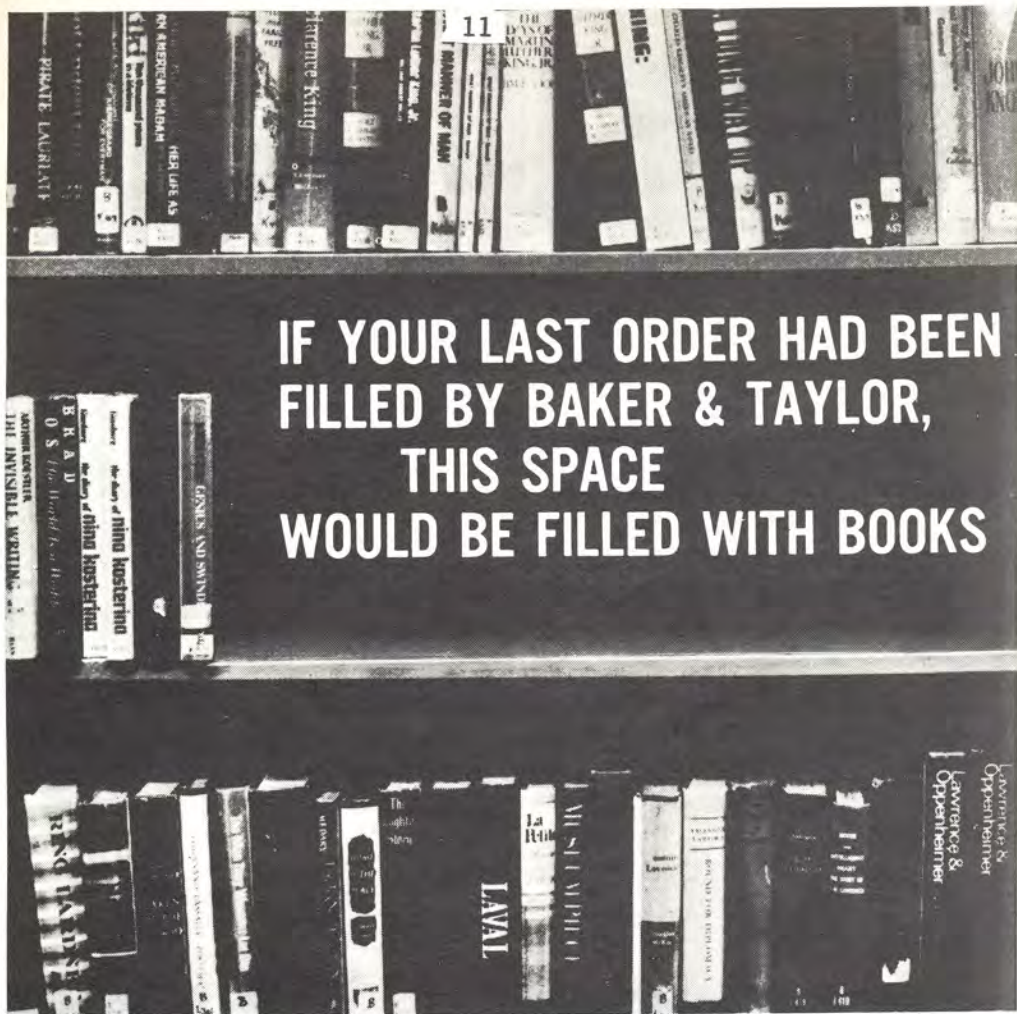
This multi-media program will be presented with the assistance of Kenneth Turnside, Librarian at Cherocho Regular High School, and Robert Callahan, Librarian at Middletown Senior High School.

Nancy Pereira, Creative Drama Specialist of Looking Glass Theatre will demonstrate and discuss the objectives and values of creative dramatics. This year Mrs. Pereira is directing a series of workshops in libraries throughout the state, involving children in creative "play making" as related to their own experiences. The program has been made possible through a grant from the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts. At the spring conference, Mrs. Pereira will demonstrate with several children who have participated in the library program. Discussion and a question and answer period will follow.

Career Opportunities:

Librarian (MS & LS 1970)
desires challenging position.
Experience in public, school,
and university library service.
Contact Mrs. A.L. Ford,
267-3052.





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CALENDAR....

May 4 - 6... N.E. School Lib. Assoc. Annual Conf., Wentworth-by-the-Sea, Portsmouth, N.H.

May 5 - 6... N.E. College Libns., N.E. Technical Services Libns., Conf. on the role and function of libraries in an era of expanding educational technology, Univ. of Mass. (Contact: Mrs. Pat Graves, Univ. Lib., Univ. of Mass Amherst, Mass.)

May 9... Island Regional Workshop at Newport Public Library, 10 a.m.

May 9... Prov. Pub. Lib., Fox Pt. br., 3:15 pm, African Festival.

May 16... Knight Memorial Lib., Prov., 3:15 pm, African Festival.

May 18 - 19... Mass. Lib. Assoc. Annual Meeting, Sheraton-Hyanis Hotel, Hyanis, Mass.

May 23... RILA Annual Meeting, Bryant College (date now official).

June 1 or 2... Assembly of Bulletin by the Westerly Region at Providence Pub. Lib.

June 4 - 8... Special Lib. Assoc. Annual Conf., Statler-Hilton, Boston. (Contact: Lloyd Rathbun, MIT Lincoln Lab., Lexington, Mass.)

June 28... Brooklyn Pub. Lib. reunion at ALA Conf.

June 25 - July 1... ALA Convention, Chicago.

August 20 - 26... Student Leadership Conf., Univ. of New Hampshire.

SEND any DATES, at least a month early, to advertise your program across the state. It will be included in each issue until the event has passed.

— EXPRESS YOUR OPINION —

Contribute an Article or Comment
to YOUR Bulletin

PARTING SHOTS (cont.) 15

those same librarians are having to participate in the drafting of the five year plan.

Mr. Shields is worth quoting as he describes a library training institute sponsored by the U.S. Office of Education's Bureau of Libraries: "It is possible that this institute will produce the state plan breathlessly introduced to the state library associations and to the deathless state library commissions as 'the way it's gonna be, baby.' "



RILA PRESIDENT
WILLIAM D. ALEXANDER IV

Well, what of it, librarians to the "independent man"? Are you and your clientele so independent that you are unable to speak with one voice?

THE RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Application for Membership

Date.....

Annual dues, May 1 to April 30, \$4.00

(Mr.) (Mrs.) (Miss)
married women please use this form: Mrs. James R. (Jane T.) Smith

Home address
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Name and address of library
street
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If trustee, check here ()

If neither library employee nor trustee check here () and give business address

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