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# Bulletin of the Rhode Island Library Association v. 45, no. 2

RILA

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# *Bulletin*

of  
**THE RHODE ISLAND  
LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**

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VOL. 45, NO. 2

OCTOBER, 1972

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Last May the Association adopted a new constitution. For many members this was the culmination of a long struggle to achieve meaningful change in the structure of RILA. Now we are faced with the task of implementing the changes mandated by the new constitution.

The most significant change is in the area of committee structure. Instead of the ten standing committees that existed in the past, we now have three; the Administrative Committee, the Professional Committee, and the Public Affairs Committee. The chairman of each of these committees is a member of the Executive Board. To facilitate the transition from old to new, two

elected members of the Executive Board are serving in the dual capacity of standing committee chairmen and members at large. The third standing Committee chairman was appointed by the board.

This year's Fall Conference is a break with tradition. We have scheduled a two-day conference in order to allow more people to attend, and to provide a more varied program. Newport, with all its attractions, is an ideal setting for a conference of this type.

RILA Executive Board, 1972-73

- PRESIDENT, Richard A. Olsen, Rhode Island College.  
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 ALA COUNCILOR - Carol Cunniff, Barrington Public Library

Vincent Bleecker

March 20, 1919 - September 6, 1972

Rhode Island has lost a respected and effective leader among librarians. Vincent Bleecker was a resourceful and innovative member of our profession, a man who stood firm in that which he believed. He shared our ideals, was concerned with our problems, and contributed greatly toward improving the quality of library service in the state.

We have lost a true friend and colleague.

Contributions to the Vincent Bleecker Memorial Fund may be made to the Warwick Public Library.

## PUBLIC LIBRARY STANDARDS

The RILA Standards Committee worked diligently during the past year to develop a new set of Standards for Public Libraries in the state. During the month of September, meetings were held in each of the five regions to enable librarians and trustees to express their views on the proposed new standards.

The Executive Board of RILA met on October 11, and reviewed the proposed standards along with the comments and suggestions received at the September meetings. A decision was made to refer the proposed standards back to the committee for reconsideration. Therefore, in view of the time needed for the committee to complete its work, the standards will not be presented to the membership for adoption at the Fall Conference.

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## FALL CONFERENCE

The Rhode Island Library Association Fall Conference will be held this year at the Sheraton-Islander Inn, Newport, Rhode Island, November 2-3.

Programs for the two-day conference have been mailed to the Association, outlining scheduled speakers and discussions, including an application for luncheon reservations. To make a luncheon reservation for either or both days call 723-5350 or write to: The Northern Inter-related Library System, 13 Summer Street, Pawtucket, Rhode Island 02860. Reservations must be made by October 30.

### Luncheon Speakers

Thursday, November 2

Miss Arlene Hope, New England Regional Library Services Program Officer for the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, will discuss "Federal Aid for Library Programs."

Friday, November 3

Mrs. Judith Krug, Director, ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom will speak on "Intellectual Freedom: a point of view."

Other speakers are scheduled for the morning, afternoon, and evening meetings, and are listed in the conference program.

### Exhibits

Please note that, due to the great number of requests for exhibit space we have received for this conference, exhibits will be on view at the indoor pool area, in addition to the east wing of the ballroom, as stated in the conference program.

A PROPOSED RILA RESOLUTION REGARDING  
COPYRIGHT REVISION

The following is a proposed resolution formulated by the ALA Legislation Committee. It will be presented to the membership of RILA for consideration at the Fall Conference. Background information regarding the Williams and Wilkins case may be found in "Williams and Wilkins - The Great Leap Backward," by William North, American Libraries (May, 1972) pp. 528-530.

WHEREAS, the Report in the case of Williams & Wilkins Co. v. The United States, rendered on February 16, 1972 by the Commissioner of the Court of Claims, if accepted by the Court, would effectively limit the capacity of libraries to serve their patrons, would preclude the maximization of the library resources of the country and would require libraries to deprive their patrons of their legal right to the fair use of library materials; and

WHEREAS, the public interest in education and scholarship and the Constitutional rationale for copyright is repudiated by the Report of the Commissioner;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Rhode Island Library Association in annual conference assembled at Newport on November 2, 1972, a) expresses its disagreement with the Commissioner's Report in the Williams & Wilkins case because of its adverse impact on education, scholarship and research; b) requests the United States to seek Supreme Court review of any decision by the Court of Claims which accepts the Commissioner's Report c) urges our Representatives in the Congress to support the current endeavors of the American Library Association to protect the public interest through revision of the copyright law.



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