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Bulletin

of
THE RHODE ISLAND
LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

VOL. 45, NO. 8

MAY/JUNE, 1973



the BULLETIN staff....

Janet C. Hampton, Editor
Helen DeJong
Dorothy A. Brown
Earleen P. McCarthy

With this issue, the current Bulletin staff retires. It has been a year of learning, through our mistakes, a few technical aspects of preparing copy for publication. The R. I. L. A. membership has been uncomplaining and forgiving as issues have been delayed, mis-paged and typed by uncertain hands. Thank you all for your support.

The editor especially thanks all those who contributed so generously when asked for articles and information for the Bulletin . Without their help and that of our advertisers these pages would have been blank.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

While the association has begun a new year, many of the same problems unfortunately remain with us. Of immediate and pressing concern is the \$0-funding recommendation of the President for the next fiscal year. This drastic proposal will affect every library of every size and type.

We are all aware of the dramatic improvements in school, public and academic libraries during the past decade. We in Rhode Island have seen the development of a successful system that has gone a long way towards providing adequate library service to every person in the State. School libraries have been upgraded. New and more vital academic libraries have developed. In virtually every area of service, collections and cooperation, we have moved ahead.

Much hard work has gone into these tasks - and much success has been realized. Too much for us to just sit back and accept the possibility that our forward motion has to be braked. We still have work to do and must demand the opportunity to do it.

Fortunately the importance of libraries to the nation is recognized by many members of Congress. Our own R.I. delegation is firmly behind the continuation of funding for libraries. It is important for us to communicate with them - to express our appreciation, to encourage them to keep trying and to give them evidence of our interest that they can use with committee chairmen and other members of Congress. Please write!

Unsolved problem #2 -Standards! While there is a generally recognized need for standards, it seems that a new approach may be in order. The Executive Board of your Association has listened carefully to what was said at the various hearings and at our Spring meeting. Based on this, we will again appoint a Committee to prepare a set of Standards that will be presented later.

While the Association did not find the proposed

standards acceptable, the work done by that Committee was not in vain as they worked hard and have given us a good document to work with and build upon. I might also add that it is a healthy sign for the R.I.L.A. that the topic was debated and carefully considered by the members.


Paul F. Crane
President
Rhode Island Library
Association

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IN MEMORIAM

MARION F. HOLT

1909 - 1973

Rhode Island has lost a dedicated librarian and friend in the death of Miss Marion Holt. She served in the public libraries of Rhode Island as librarian at the Elmwood Library and at the Washington Park Branch of the Providence Public Library and as Children's Librarian at the Barrington Public Library for the past ten years.

In her years in Barrington, she virtually became a legend as a leader in library activities, as a prominent figure in education, as a promoter of school/public library cooperation, and as a participant in almost all community functions and affairs.

She was welcomed everywhere and will be greatly missed throughout Rhode Island.

(advertisement)

AN OPEN LETTER TO R.I. LIBRARIANS

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5. Free Consultation to aid in your acquisition program by qualified consultants: Patrick T. Conley, A.B. Providence College, J.D. Suffolk University Law School, M.A. and Ph.D. University of Notre Dame; Paul Campbell, A.B. and M.A. from Providence College, M.L.S. Candidate at U.R.I.

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Spring Conference Review:

CHANGE AGENTS

The CHANGE AGENTS (Tom and Dency Sargent) of Hartford came to the RILA Spring Conference and presented two programs on Change -- a morning session on how to cope with a rapidly changing world, and an afternoon session on techniques for influencing and effecting change in other people.

We are conservative creatures of habit, we were told; our behavior based on complex established patterns. Because we live in a time of constant change, and whether we like it or not, we must adopt new patterns to modify our behavior. Often we are uncomfortable with the new, and feel guilty rejecting the old. It is important to believe in oneself, to celebrate one's uniqueness, to be able to keep valued old patterns while adding useful new ones.

Patterns change not only individuals, but are altering the hierarchical patterns of American business, educational and political institutions. Regretfully this topic was not developed, but it is a tantalizing one to think about.

The morning period ended with an explanation and demonstration of ego states; parent, child, adult. We were advised to communicate on a person to person basis, not role to role, as parent to child or as librarian to patron. What a transformation this would bring about if put to general practice.

The afternoon session brought us "the gentle massage of culture". We are shaped and molded, pressured and controlled by the forces in our environment -- people, experience, possessions, the media, etc. In turn, each of us exerts pressures on others. By being aware of techniques for successful communication of our ideas, we can modify and control the behavior of others.

CHANGE AGENTS, con't.

To illustrate their points, the Sargents introduced several role playing games. Members of the audience played the various parts and provided a lot of fun along with some wonderful insights.

The overall tone of the presentations was so beautifully positive that it was a delight to share in this 'up' experience.

For further investigation of the subjects touched upon, the Sargents recommended several books:

O'Neill, OPEN MARRIAGE; Toffler, FUTURE SHOCK; Townsend, UP THE ORGANIZATION; Berkeley, ADMINISTRATIVE REVOLUTION; Harris, I'M OK; YOU'RE OK; Berne, GAMES PEOPLE PLAY.

Kathryn Anderson
Warwick Public Library

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Spring Conference Review:

PUBLIC RELATIONS - WHAT IT CAN DO

Many conference participants told this reporter that the public relations session headlined by Mr. Joseph "Bo" Bernstein, a local advertising executive, was the least helpful of those they attended. Mr. Bernstein, underestimating his audience, advised librarians to engage the services of professional Public Relations firms to promote library services and dispell the unfavorable image the public holds of libraries and librarians in general. Unfortunately Mr. Bernstein was unable to come up with facts including estimated costs of such services and hints on how to convince the city council and/or taxpayer as to why the expense was necessary. The speech was of little value to librarian professional advice on public relations matters, and the questions later were fielded with long irrelevant ramblings on the past successes of his firm with other clients who often had a more emotional appeal, i. e. the "end polio" campaign. Many felt the session was a waste of time - both the librarian's and Mr. Bernstein's.

COMMUNICATIONS PANEL DISCUSSION

The afternoon session "Communications Panel Discussion" with local members of the communications industry speaking from their experience was filled with helpful advice. The panel consist Kitty Stewart of the Barrington Times, Deke Lathrop of the Providence Journal, Joe Fogarty of WPRI and Mike Davis of cable T. V. All gave practical suggestions as to how to publicize the events and services of the library in the local media. It would seem if a librarian made the effort to make himself known to the local radio, T. V. and newspaper offices, if he presented his material in a well organized manner these agencies would do all they could to present

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Spring Conference Review:

LOOKING GLASS THEATRE STORY DRAMATIZATION

Mrs. Nancy Pereira introduced a 1st grade class from Lincoln, R. I. to approximately 35 librarians. Two presentations were developed before the eyes of the adults...the "toyshop" and the "rabbit and the present". The children, released from school and surrounded by an audience, responded with sparring and tumbling rather than the normal in-depth involvement in the make-believe world they usually create with Looking Glass.

However, in spite of the cramped quarters, audience, unfamiliar location and over-enthusiastic reactions, the audience experienced an unusual hour of impromptu theater and the critical period that follow demonstrated Nancy's open-ended approach to performance and control of each group action and interaction.

The Looking Glass theater presentation forcefully demonstrated the need for flexibility and open-mindedness. The Spring Conference event was a beautiful example of problems and cures and was appreciated by all who came to observe.

Derryl Johnson
Providence Public
Library



WELCOME TO RHODE ISLAND:

Mrs. Virginia A. Carter, director of the Coventry Public Library. Mrs. Carter came to Rhode Island from Greenwich, Connecticut where most recently she served as head of two school libraries. Mrs. Carter received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Dickinson College in Pennsylvania and her graduate degree in Library Science from Pratt Institute.

Mr. Curt Bohling, director of the Pawtucket Public Library as of August 1. Mr. Bohling, a native of Indiana grew up in St. Louis. He graduated from Southwest Missouri State University and received a master's degree in Library Science from the University of Illinois. The new Pawtucket Library director leaves a position as director of learning resources at St. Clair County Community College in Port Huron, Michigan.

Welcome back to R. I. Jim Giles, reappointed to the position of director of the Cranston Public Libraries.

Communication Panel.....con't.

the library's story to the public. According to the event, if one planned ahead, a librarian might receive free mention on T.V., radio and in newspapers; the key elements being a professional approach, personal involvement and advance planning.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES...

LIBRARIAN: M.L.S. with public library experience, to serve growing community of 22,000. Starting salary, \$9,000, 4 weeks vacation, plus usual benefits, congenial staff. Send resume to: Mrs. Carlo Jacavone, Box 505, R.F.D. 3, North Scituate, R.I. 02857.

ART ASSISTANT: part-time for Warwick Regional Office. Must be Warwick resident. Apply to Mrs. Sidney Wright, Regional Coordinator, Warwick Public Library, 600 Sandy Lane, Warwick, R.I. 02889.

INNOVATIVE CHILDREN'S LIBRARIAN for Public Library and Regional Center in attractive community of 20,000 on Narragansett Bay. Responsibilities include planning juvenile service programs, creating communicative atmosphere with the schools, and involvement with program planning within the Region. M.L.S and experience preferred. Salary \$9300. All standard benefits. Send resume to: Ms. Roberta A. E. Cairns, Director, Barrington Public Library, Barrington, RI 02806.

LIBRARY TECHNICAL ASSISTANT; part time, typing required, challenging position. Apply to Mrs. E. McCarthy, Lincoln Public Library, 60 Chapel St., Lincoln, R. I. 02865.

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CAREER OPORTUNITIES is a regular feature of the RILA Bulletin. When your library has a position to fill, send the particulars to RILA Bulletin, 150 Empire Street, Providence, Rhode Island

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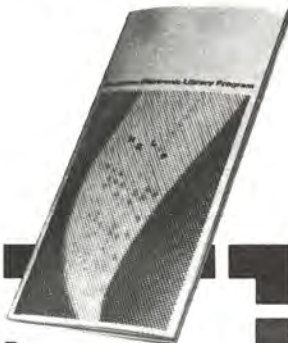


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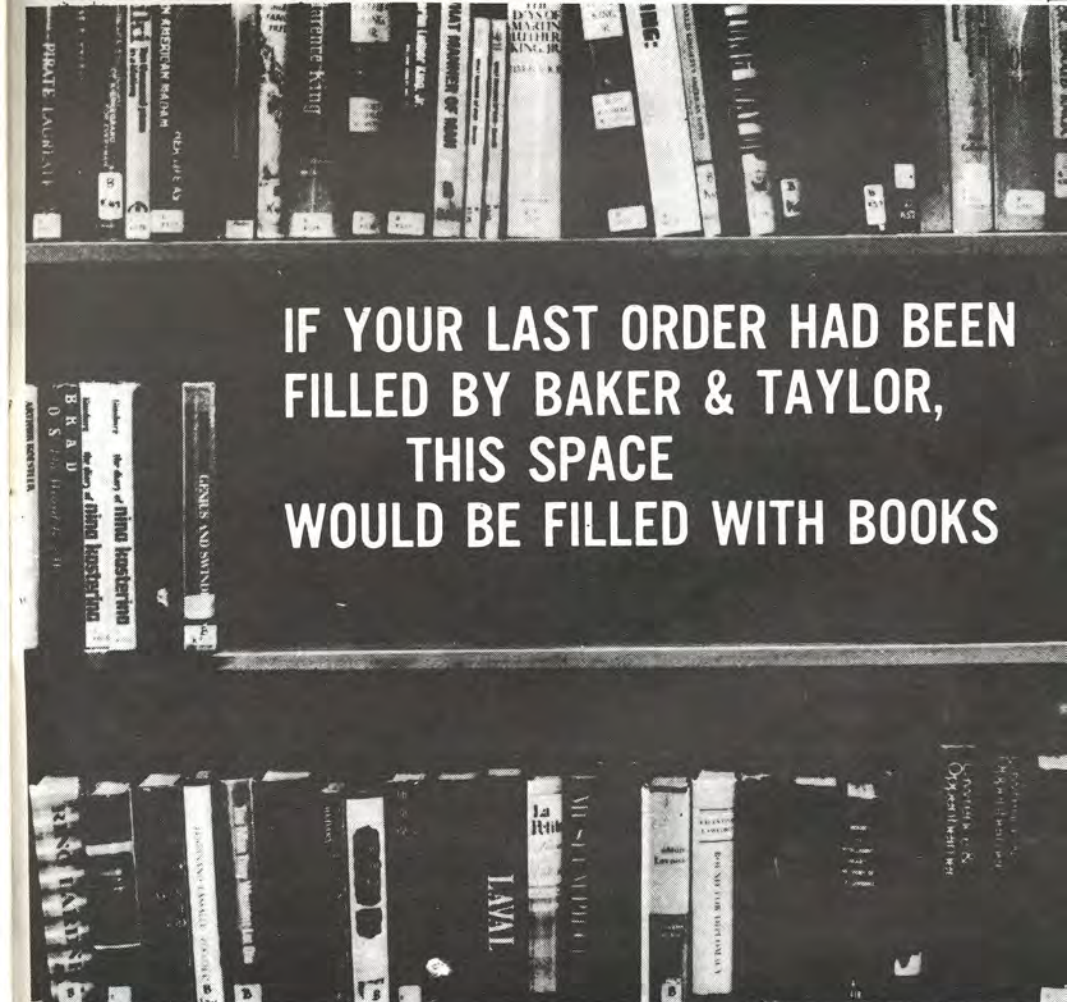
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