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Bulletin of the Rhode Island Library Association v. 46, no. 2

RILA

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Bulletin of

**RHODE ISLAND
LIBRARY ASSOC.**

rila.
BULLETIN

RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOC.



EDITORIAL

A new (though slightly used) editor has usually indicated a new look to the *Bulletin* and it is no different this time. The *Bulletin* committee consists of an entirely new group with new and exciting ideas. Some of these are seen in its new size, its change of papers and layout. Other items are not as obvious, such as the idea that each member has a specific job, some overlapping as you can see by the staff list on the inside front cover. This means that information can flow toward the *Bulletin* from more than one direction.

If you have a news item you want included—a workshop to come, or a report on one just passed, a committee briefing, building projects, funding for your programs, etc.—contact one of us designated as news or feature articles. If you have a photographic essay of a library oriented nature, cartoons, or original art work, send it/them along to the person designated as such.

We, as the *Bulletin* staff, cannot function in a vacuum. You, as sources of information, control what goes in the *Bulletin* simply by noting the information and passing it on immediately to the correct source. Our undercover work is very skimpy, so if you want other Rhode Island libraries to know you are still on the map, ensure a place for yourself in the *Bulletin* by letting us know.

The RILA Bulletin

Vol. 46 No. 2

January 1974

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The RILA Bulletin will be published 4-6 times per year, approximately during Sept., Nov., Jan., March and May.

Advertising rates are available upon request.

As a publication of the Rhode Island Library Association The *Bulletin's* articles are a voice for each of its members and do not necessarily reflect the ideas of the Association nor of *The Bulletin*.

The Cover

The cover is an assortment of new logos we are trying out for size. They are designed by Leslie Lanziri from Providence College Library. If one seems to be the *Bulletin* more than any other, would you let us know by the middle of February?

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SALARIES

Libraries and librarians have become increasingly concerned with the financial compensation a job offers and whether it is favorably comparable to another library or to another job requiring similar levels of training. As a result, Mr. Frank Hannaway, Personnel Officer and Administrative Assistant to the Librarian of the Providence Public Library, made a survey of starting salaries in Rhode Island libraries. The chart that follows shows the larger libraries in the state and the benefits each offers a new staff member.

R.I. Salaries and benefits for librarians as of December 10, 1973

compiled by Frank L. Hannaway

LIBRARY		Beginning Professional MLS	Para-Professional A.B.	Vacation Days	Paid Holidays	Personal Days	Sick Leave	Accumulated Sick Leave
Public and Private								
Library	A	\$ 8,000	\$ 7,000	20	10	0	30	120
Library	B	\$ 8,140	----	20	10	1	15	100
Library	C	\$ 7,500	\$ 5,400	20	10	0	20	0
Library	D	\$ 6,000	----	20	5	1	10	90
Library	E	\$8,526	\$ 6,573	21½	12	0	12	Unlimited
Library	F	\$ 8,269	\$ 6,500	20	10	0	15	75
Library	G	\$ 7,000	----	20	10	0	12	90
Library	H	\$ 8,000	----	20	9	1	15	120
Library	I	\$ 8,200	\$ 6,500	22	11	0	18	72
Library	J	\$ 8,007	----	20	20½	0	15	90
				5- 1 yr. 10- 2 yrs. 15- 5 yrs. 20-10 yrs.				
Library	K	\$ 8,100	----		11	0	12	0
Library	L	\$ 8,476	\$ 7,098	10	11	0	16	Unlimited
College & University								
College	A	\$10,050	\$ 5,720	20**	11	0	10	No Limit Established
College	B	\$10,296	\$ 5,800	22	10	0	30	12 months
College	C	\$ 8,500	\$ 6,243	22	9	0	20	0
College	D	\$ 9,000	----	20	12½	0		Faculty Status
College	E	\$10,200	----	22	10	0	15	No Limit Established
College	F	\$10,296	\$ 5,786	22	9	0	22***	12 months
College	G	\$ 9,000	----	20	12	****	10	No Limit Established

* Also State and National Election Days

** Also weeks of Christmas and Easter

*** After 2 years entitled to an additional 11 days

**** If less than 3 days sick Leave are used, then individual is entitled to 2 personal days.

LIBRARY ADMINISTRATION ADVISORY MATERIALS:

AN ALA LAD Report

PERSONNEL FILES

A personnel file is primarily the historical and current documentation of an individual's employment status in a library system. To maximize the usefulness of this file, it should contain all pertinent information relating to the employee's position with the library. It should not duplicate files kept elsewhere unless there is a need for the information in the personnel office; payroll records, for instance, need only be maintained in the business office.

The following items are normally maintained in the personnel file:

1. Employee's current address, home phone, beneficiary, person to be notified in case of emergency.
2. Application and references (and physical exam reports when required).
3. Letter of offer of employment.
4. Employee's letter of acceptance of employment.
5. Contract or employment agreement, including the record of the *date* the employee entered duty status.

6. Forms or notices of each change in salary, job classification, change in job title, transfer, or other change in job status (within the library or library system).
7. Performance ratings or evaluations, and employee statements regarding ratings or evaluations.
8. Records or commendations, awards and honors.
9. Records of on-the-job accidents or disability.
11. Pertinent documentation for all extended leaves such as military, jury duty, and extended medical leave.
12. Letters or memos of request of the employee for any change in his status.
12. Letters or memos of request of the employee for any change in his status.
13. Letters or memos from the administrator or supervisor to the employee regarding a change in his status.
14. The most recent notice to employee regarding amounts of leave credits or related benefits.
15. Staff development projects of major import including records of courses completed, related training, or education. Also notices of special work assignments or appointments (as to temporary task forces, representation to an outside agency, etc.).
16. Records of requests of supervisor to administrator for change in status of the employee, as promotion, special training, transfer, in-step raises, etc.
17. Warnings, notices of unsatisfactory work, or of suspension, or any type of termination.
18. Records of grievance hearings and appeals in which the employee is a principal figure.*
19. Letters and forms of resignation and termination of any type.

Personnel files for former employees should be retained indefinitely (or for a relatively long number of years) as they may be needed to verify former employment, assist in determining whether to reemploy persons, aid in assuring payments of pensions and other benefits, etc.

Personnel records are confidential; the overguiding principle in the management of such records is that information will be made available only after there is a clearly established "need to know."

Some information, as letters of recommendation, are solicited with the guarantee of confidentiality; it may be advisable to destroy some confidential information after it is no longer needed.

The employee receives his own personal copy of all transaction records and official employment documents; therefore, the library personnel file is in some measure a duplicate of the materials which have been provided to the employee.

All employees should be given an opportunity to review their own personnel files periodically to assure that the records are current and complete. Some confidential items, as letters of recommendation, should be kept in a separate file when they have been received with the guarantee of confidentiality.

Libraries' records which identify employees by national origin, ethnic group, or any other designation which might be construed as discriminatory, should be kept in a separate file (such as, an equal opportunity file record) rather than in an individual employee's personnel file.

Information regarding employees should be given only by the professional staff of the personnel office or the chief administrator. No one other than the employee should examine the employee's file. Information from the file should be provided or confirmed (item by item rather than total disclosure) after the "need to know" has been clearly established by the authorized administrator. In releasing information the administrator should exercise the utmost professional discretion at all times.

WRITTEN INFORMATION TO BE REVIEWED BY A JOB CANDIDATE

The following information should be prepared in written or graphic form to be distributed to job applicants or inspected by them in the personnel office.

1. *Job description and specifications.* The applicant should be apprised of the duties and responsibilities of the position. He should know the physical location of the job. If time is shared among several locations, relative times should be indicated.

2. *Library organization chart.* Using the organization chart in the personnel office, the applicant should be shown the structure of the library, and where he will fit in. He should be told who his supervisor is, and who he will supervise.

3. *Salary schedule.* The beginning salary or wage and the method of payment. If there is a structured salary schedule, the candidate should be shown the salary range for his grade. It should be explained how one earns the increments and how long it would normally take to reach the top salary in the grade. He also should be shown salary ranges for those grades which may be reasonably attained by the candidate.

4. *Personnel policies.* The personnel manual should be available for inspection. The manual should be able to answer any of the applicant's questions regarding reimbursement, professional association expenses, etc. The personnel manual should also make clear the probationary period, performance rating procedures, and the definition of and the method of acquiring permanent or tenured status.

5. *Insurance and retirement plans.* The applicant should be furnished with a prospectus of insurance and retirement plans. A schedule of benefits and premiums (illustrating the library's contribution) should be included.

6. *Conditions of employment.* The applicant should receive a list of conditions that must be met or policies which must be followed in order to maintain employment status. Such policies or conditions might relate to nepotism, residency, outside employment, political activity, conflict of interest, etc.

7. *Other documents related to library personnel administration.* Materials such as civil service regulations or faculty handbooks should be available to the applicant.

The interviewer should be aware that the presence of this information in visual form does not preclude the necessity to present it orally.

*Hearings or appeals which find for the complainant usually require that derogatory statements about the employee (as related to the grievance) are to be removed from the employee's personnel records.

WHAT:

A FEDERAL DOCUMENTS REGIONAL WORKSHOP

WHEN:

April 18, 1974

WHERE:

Sheraton-Boston Hotel
Prudential Plaza
Boston, Massachusetts

WHY:

To help librarians, library staff and others in New England learn more about the organization and use of United States Government publications.

ORGANIZED BY:

The New England Library Information Network's Government Documents Task Group.

SPONSORS:

The New England Library Information Network (NELINET), the American Library Association's Government Documents Round Table (CODORT), the Connecticut Library Association, and other professional library associations.

FORMAT:

A one-day workshop divided into seminars covering a variety of topics representing both public and technical services. Workshop participants may attend up to four "mini-sessions," designed to appeal to people working at different levels of expertise and interest in government publications.

WORKSHOP LEADERS:

Workshop leaders are practicing Documents Librarians, or specialists in their subject areas.

REGISTRATION:

Registration will be limited, with preference given to New Englanders. A registration fee will be charged to cover conference costs, including lunch and coffee.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Complete program information will be mailed in February. To be placed on a mailing list, write:

Ms. Virginia Vocelli
Librarian, Government Documents Department
Connecticut State Library
251 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, Ct. 06115

RILA NEWS BRIEFS

The Popular Culture Library and Audio Center

Bowling Green State University

The main objective of the Popular Culture Library, which opened for service in March of 1969, and Audio Center is to support the graduate and undergraduate academic programs in Popular Culture at Bowling Green. However, with the growing national and international impact of Popular Culture, the purpose has grown far beyond these original boundaries. Scholars, laymen, and college, public and special libraries are becoming aware of its specialized holdings, and have accordingly been making quite heavy use of the collection.

Included in the Popular Culture Library are both hardcover and paperback books, magazines and a myriad of non-book materials. Nothing circulates, and only Xerox copies are available on interlibrary loan. This policy has had to be enforced because of the special nature of the materials within the collection. Not that any items are particularly rare, but much is ephemeral in nature, brittle, poor by construction, and frequently unavailable in replacement copies.

Books include both fiction and non-fiction. Novels from all periods and countries are represented, but emphasis is placed on Anglo-American imprints. Classic fiction is included but the more "popular" writings are most sought after.

These include mysteries, science-fiction, romance, adventure, war, and juvenile series. The collection is especially strong in the series writings, including large holdings of *Bobbsey Twins*, *Tarzan*, *Lone Ranger*, *Elsie Dinsmore*, and *The Boy Scouts*, plus hundreds of lesser known series.

Paperbacks are just as, if not more, important than hard-bound books, principally because of their gaudy jacket artwork and also because many were never published in any other form. (On many occasions jackets were designed to coincide with a contemporary movie version of the book.)

Non-fiction includes such subject areas as the occult and supernatural, etiquette and grooming, cookery, games and sports, popular histories and biographies, wit and humor, graphic art and cartoons, and the performing arts (dance, movies, TV, radio, music, and theater). Non-fiction materials include cartoon books, old grammars, popular reference works, hymnals, pornography, and popular juveniles.

Non-book collections include posters, comic books, Big Little Books, pulp fiction, dime novels, scrapbooks, photographs, picture postcards, matchbooks, cigar bands, newspapers, baseball and other trading cards, pamphlets, portraits, dealer and manufacturer catalogs, political memorabilia, pennants, souvenirs, movie pressbooks, theater programs, and much more.

A number of magazines are received on subscription *Playboy*, *Variety*, *Mad*, *National Police Gazette*, *Photoplay*, and others), but long runs have also been received as gifts (*Life*, 1934-1964; *National Geographic*, 1920-1970; *Playboy*, 1958-1970; and *Esquire*, 1932-1946). There are also short runs and sample issues of over 500 titles, including *Male*, *True Confessions*, *Eros*, *Lunatick*, *Shadowland*, *Motor Trend*, *Custom Rod*, and *Front Page Detective*.

The Audio Center is a vital part of the Popular Culture Collection, also. Subject materials on record include jazz, blues, gospel, comedy, musical, movie and television soundtrack music, documentary, poetry, prose, drama, folk music and folklore, popular music (rock, rhythm and blues, country

and western), dance bands, and juvenile (i.e., commercial kiddie).

The Center also houses a collection of approximately 600 reels of tape and about 100 cassettes. One of the special collections on tape includes over 600 hours of old radio shows such as *The Shadow*, *The Green Hornet*, and *Jack Benny*. The B.G.S.U. Living Archives, also on tape, consists of interviews with writers, musicians, vaudeville performers, and other performers, and other persons of a popular nature. A third major tape collection includes a 300 hour accumulation of old-timey and bluegrass music dating from the early 1920's to the present.

A supporting collection of reference books, periodicals, and various files is also maintained in the Center.

Donations of materials are encouraged at all times. No item is too ephemeral for our consideration. In fact, the more insignificant an item may appear, the more value it may have for either of these two collections.

The Center appeals to the public at large to donate whatever they have, and especially to libraries for their duplicates and discards and for those items which are proposed to them for which they have no real use or room.

Members of the Popular Culture staff will be pleased to travel, within a distance of 150 miles, to talk to groups such as Friends of the Library, Library Trustees, Library Directors or Librarians, or individuals with sizable collections.

For further information please write to Mr. William L. Schurk, Popular Culture and Audio Librarian, University Library, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio 43403 (Telephone: [419] 372-2855) or Ray B. Browne, Director, Center for the Study of Popular Culture, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio 43403 (Telephone: [419] 372-2610).

Library Notes

by Leo N. Flanagan

1. The state is desperately in need of centralized storage (with union catalog and retrieval system) for books, periodicals, newspapers, sets, which are worthwhile in themselves, but which do not circulate much or at all in a given library.

2. Please do not neglect to advertise your library. Some librarians already do this a great deal, and there are many ways to do it. Spot radio announcements, for example. A second possibility, and the most widely used, is the local paper—it is a great place to publish library events and schedules, and even a monthly book column by the librarian. Thirdly, use the *DSL-Newsletter* and the *RILA Bulletin* to announce events in your library of regional and statewide interest. Fourthly, feel free to call on your regional coordinator for advice and help in creating posters and brochures. Every library in the state offers service worth the public's while. The public should be the first to hear of it.

3. Do we need a solid, state examination, approximating the CLEP examinations, to certify those who have learned librarianship through experience rather than through school? I have met some very bright and competent librarians who lack the M.L.S., and in some cases even the B.A., yet they function quite adequately, and in some cases, superlatively, as librarians. Is it fair to hold them down in rank, salary and prestige for want of the M.L.S. Is it fair to label the "non-professional?"

AV Cooperatives

Leo N. Flanagan

On December 5, at 9:30 in the Pawtucket Library auditorium, the northern regional office conducted a workshop to discuss possible models for the cooperative purchase of audio-visual equipment and materials. Individual audio-visual purchases can, as you know, be quite expensive. But it seems we must begin to do something soon. As Chicago Public Librarian, Alex Ladenson, recently said in the *New York Times*, book circulation figures are dropping in his library and are dropping in all of the large cities. He might have added, in some towns too. In the cities the exodus of the middle class to the suburbs may be the explanation. Then too, many public libraries have felt the loss of children, drawn away by school libraries improved with ESEA funds. But what is the explanation for a circulation drop in a town library that has largely been serving a stable adult population? What is the explanation for a 30-year stagnation in the percentage of people reached by public libraries? Public library service is much improved, the need for information has grown, and people are better educated. What's wrong? Can McLuhan be right? Are people becoming less and less print-oriented? There is evidence that they are, says Ladenson. We certainly know that the better schools are training them to be, and that there's evidence that it is not necessarily a bad thing. There's even more evidence that it's a good thing! People learn better with AV! People enjoy more with AV! Here's why:

Ladenson finds circulation on non-book items is increasing, sections of books are photocopied and the books are not borrowed, and people are asking librarians directly for information now (as they get it from TV commentators) rather than from books. Can we make some switch to AV? Can we work with AV and books? Are we in the information or the book business? McLuhan also notes, by the way, that railroads failed because the men who owned them thought their business was trains rather than transportation. Otherwise they might have changed when change became necessary.

Yet how can public libraries get into AV in these days of tight funding if it is so expensive. Organization of AV cooperatives at the local, regional or state level may be the answer. We already have one such local cooperative in the northern region, the recently formed Woonasquatucket AV Cooperative. Its members discussed it as a model of effective AV cooperation at little cost at the regional workshop. These members, Ellen Spilka, Elodie Blackmore, Mary Ellen Hardiman and Carol Letson spoke on problems of need, use, legal title and responsibility and financial arrangement in their cooperative. Also up for discussion was the possibility of a regional or statewide cooperative models. In sum then, the purpose of the meeting was to suggest models for using AV—using it cheaply—and using it now.

Energy crisis or not, libraries can at least use films, records, and tape recording if they have the electricity to stay open at all. If the energy crisis leads to recession or even depression, the one inexpensive central source of information and entertainment can be the public library. One thing is likely—not many American families are going to continue to build their own home AV center on the living room wall, with color TV, movie projector, 8-track tape records, AM-FM-SW radio, stereo phonograph, slide projector, and heaven knows what else.

* * *

Dr. Alton Thomas's *Old Woonsocket* has just been published and is available from the *Woonsocket Call*, 99 Main St., Woonsocket 02895.

* * *

Funding the United Way

The Providence Public Library announces that it has been granted monies from the Special Allocations Committee of the United Way of Southeast New England. Two programs, the South Providence Branch Library and Project Persons, received maximum allocations to continue their work with the Negro and the Latin American persons of the community through these monies.

Women's Collection

by Leo N. Flanagan

At a luncheon at the YWCA in Providence on November 14, it was suggested that a collection of multi-media materials about women be developed in a library. The need exists, but no collection, so labeled, now exists. Women have been given full civil rights through a number of federal laws, 1964-1972, but there are no generally known information centers where they can determine what their rights are, what laws protect them, what redress of a grievance is available through law, what careers and life styles are open to them. Ordinarily such information is provided informally by local women's groups. Their collections of informal materials are unfortunately limited by their budgets, restricted memberships, and want of public accessibility. Materials are sometimes selected on the basis of rumor, groups themselves are sometimes ephemeral, a whole collection owned by a member may disappear if the member moves, the location of a collection may be difficult to find, and hours of access are at the convenience of the owner.

To build a women's collection in a library could change that. Selection of materials could be regularly and expertly made by library staffs. Additional suggestions from groups and individuals would be welcome, as would donations of materials themselves. More money would be continuously available for materials which could include films, pamphlets, graphics, tape cassettes, and underground literature, as well as books, rare and popular. Books of a popular nature would be available in multiple copies, and in paperback where possible. The collection would be stable, in one permanent place, open to any group or individual in the state via the state interlibrary loan system, and accessible in a centrally located library during many hours of each day.

The only problem is, where should such a collection be? Representatives of various women's groups at the YWCA luncheon wanted it at Providence, which already has a large but unadvertised collection of women's materials. Pawtucket considered having a women's collection. And Earleen McCarthy has expressed an interest in having this kind of collection at Lincoln. Where oh where can it be? Should there be a central collection at Providence? Should there be supplemental collections in the regional offices? Should we have a co-operative collection in northern region at Lincoln similar to what we have, say, on careers or travel?

We in the Northern Interrelated Library System have tried to answer at least one of these questions by establishing a regional cooperative collection for northern Rhode Island at Lincoln Public Library. Earleen McCarthy, Lincoln's librarian, has enthusiastically agreed to develop a collection of materials for, by, and about women. This collection will be funded by the Lincoln Public Library and the Northern Interrelated Library System. For further information phone Lincoln library at 724-5470 or the Northern Interrelated Library System's office at 723-5350.

And we are attempting an answer to another question, and are now investigating with the Providence Public Library and other regional libraries the possibility of developing a central collection at Providence and local collections in the regions.

SCHOLARSHIP

Rhode Island Library Association

To encourage qualified persons to enter the library profession, the Rhode Island Library Association annually offers a scholarship of \$500. Applicants must have or be seeking acceptance at a graduate library school as a full time student. Only Rhode Island residents or students of the Graduate Library School at the University of Rhode Island are eligible for the award.

If you are interested in pursuing a career in library work and wish to apply for this scholarship, please contact

Nancy F. Chudacoff (Mrs.),
Chairperson RILA Scholarship Committee
Rhode Island Historical Society Library
121 Hope Street
Providence, R.I. 02906
(401) 331-0448

The following materials must be received by the Scholarship Committee by March 31, 1974:

1. a completed application (available from address above)
2. a transcript of college records
3. a letter confirming acceptance as a candidate for full time study leading to the master's degree in library science.
4. three letters of reference, academic or business

An interview with the committee is required of all residents of Rhode Island and is desirable for out of state applicants.

R.I. Women in Libraries

On Sunday, January 13, 1974, the members of Rhode Island Women in Libraries voted to form a chapter of the A.L.A. Social Responsibilities Round Table (SRRT) in Rhode Island. SRRT is a forum for discussion of community needs, and of outreach services, to women, the blacks, the poor, prisoners, and others. SRRT and Rhode Island Women in Libraries will hold a joint meeting Wednesday evening, February 20th, 7:30 p.m. at the home of Diane Kadinoff, 25 Grotto Ave., Providence. Call 274-9567 for information or directions. The meeting will be devoted to the subjects of women in libraries and library service to women in Rhode Island. Election of officers will also be held.

Progress on Buildings

In Woonsocket, the library building is going up very quickly and the chairperson of the board of trustees, Mrs. Ruth Jellison, is about to launch a \$150,000 campaign to provide library furnishings.

In Cumberland, town officials have appropriated \$650,000 to transform a former monastery into the new town library.

And in Pawtucket, Mr. Curt Bohling, Director of the Library, has proposed to the City Planning Commission a \$1 million addition. Mr. Bohling noted the present facilities are less than half the size they should be and that the library is now the regional center for Northern Rhode Island.

Registry Moves

The National Registry for Librarians, which provides placement services throughout the year as well as at ALA meetings, has moved to the following address: 40 West Adams Street, Chicago, IL 60603. Their phone number remains (312) 793-4847.

The registry is under the direction of the Illinois State Employment Service and is free to all librarians and employers regardless of location.

Energy Crisis Chairperson Sought

The ALA annual conference is to be held in New York City this year the second week of July. The Executive Board of RILA suggests chartering a bus or shuttle train for a one-way trip down and asks for a volunteer to act as Chairperson to coordinate bus or train chartering. The Executive Board hints at a free ticket for that Chairperson upon filling all seats on the bus or train.

Intellectual Freedom Workshop

Mr. Robert Maier, chairperson of the Intellectual Freedom Committee, announced an afternoon-evening meeting to be held at Providence College on Thursday, March 21st. The committee hopes for an attendance of at least 100 librarians and trustees to this meeting. Mr. Maier outlined four objectives of the workshop: to assist libraries in 1) reviewing or formulating selection procedures, and 2) reviewing and formulating complaint handling procedures, and to develop in librarians and trustees awareness of 3) current censorship activities and 4) of legal positions of libraries and laws on obscenity.

The program will begin in mid-afternoon, and will include dinner and a post-dinner speaker, and it is hoped to include role-playing in the evening to provoke interest and response. Warwick has offered 1000 colored invitations plus 100-150 copies of a ten-page handout concerning the workshop.

New England Library Association Endowment Fund

NELA has set up a memorial endowment fund for education in tribute to V. Genevieve Galick. Announcements will appear in future state bulletins. Checks can be made out in name of fund and sent to Nan Berg, NELA, Mattapoisett, Massachusetts.

Legislation

RILA President Paul Bazin sent a letter to public library directors and trustee chairmen requesting their support for the legislation being sponsored by the Association. Each letter was a copy of Bill H6251 for quality library services for the homebound, the preschool children, and people seeking skills for economic advancement.

Foundation Center for Rhode Island

The Foundation Center in New York has designated Providence Public Library as the Foundation Center for Rhode Island, meaning it will be a depository of printed and microfiche information grants throughout the country available to groups, agencies, schools, institutions, etc. The materials will be located in the Reference Department. Funding is currently being sought for a microfiche reader.

Is There a Home for These Gifts?

1) *Libri e Riviste d'Italia—Nuova Serie*. Vol. X, No. 96—Vol. XVIII, No. 200 (complete).

2) *Repertorio Bibliografico* 1960, 1961, 1962.

3) *Vita Italiana—Documenti e Informazione*. 1946-1966 (a bi-monthly, complete).

4) *Documenti di Vita Italiana*. Nos. 65-145 (missing Nos. 70, 76, 84-7, 92, 105-6, 134-6, 140-1).

5) *Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences*. 1930 ed. 15 vols.

Contact Derryl Johnson, Providence Public Library if interested.

Jim Healey **Awarded Doctor's Degree by Columbia**

James S. Healey, Assistant Professor of Library Science at the University of Rhode Island, has been awarded the degree of Doctor of Library Service by Columbia University. Dr. Healey's major research effort dealt with the work of the late Rhode Island Congressman John E. Fogarty and his development of federal library legislation.

Drawn from his work at Columbia on Congressman Fogarty, Healey will publish his first book in the spring of 1974. The work will be published by Scarecrow Press.

Media Workshop **to be Held in Newport**

The R.I. School Library Association in cooperation with the R.I. Audiovisual Education Association are planning a two-day media workshop to be held in Newport, R.I. at the Sheraton Islander February 1st and 2nd, 1974. The objective of the conference will be to exchange professional techniques among the audiovisual and library professions. Librarians will be conducting workshops in school library science and audiovisual personnel will be directing workshops in production and management of audiovisual equipment and materials.

Valentine's Day Meeting

The William Hall Library in Cranston is holding a meeting on open marriage at 7 p.m. on February 14, 1974. This is a meeting sponsored by their Modern Reading Discussion Group.

Medical Library Activities

A Medline Service Center has been set up at the Sciences Library, Brown University. This is a National Library of Medicine on-line bibliographic retrieval system covering citations from biomedical journals for the past three years. Medline is available for health sciences personnel who should channel requests through Medical or Health Sciences librarians. For information as to cost and time, call Mrs. J. R. Carson, Biomedical Librarian of the Sciences Library, 863-3346.

* * *

Medical and Health Sciences Librarians held an interesting meeting November 14 at the General Hospital, Rhode Island Medical Center. Mrs. Renner, CORE Librarian, was hostess for the meeting and Doctor Johannes Virks, the Medical Director, spoke on the history and present activities of the General Hospital.

Dues

If you haven't paid your dues, could you send it in to
Mrs. De Cesare
Champlin Library
West Warwick, R.I. 02893

Deadline Bulletin Deadline

The deadline for *Bulletin* information will be February 22nd for inclusion in the March issue. Feature articles, art work, news and advertisers are sought.

DR. SUMMERS ON LIBRARY INVOLVEMENT WITH LEGISLATION

by Anne Parent

Dr. F. William Summers, legislative consultant, came to Rhode Island on Thursday, January 10, as a result of a special World Book—ALA grant. Dr. Summers, Associate Dean of the University of South Carolina Graduate Library School and former Assistant Librarian of Providence Public Library met with the Legislative Committee and Executive Board of RILA in the morning at Providence Public Library, and with regional directors and coordinators in the afternoon at the Department of State Library Services.

At the morning meeting, Dr. Summers addressed himself first to the question of the political astuteness of librarians. Libraries, he feels, have traditionally taken an aloof stance to political activity. Federal funding has been automatic in recent years; tending to foster an attitude of complacency which must be overcome in order to take advantage of the great potential benefit in understanding political processes and using them to our advantage.

Librarians today, Dr. Summers said, must be concerned with three major questions regarding the legislative process; how can we *educate* ourselves for political activity, how do we *organize* in the most effective manner for political activity, and what *resources* do we have or can we obtain to bring to play in this process. Two advantages libraries have in these areas, he noted, are first; political activity is a process of information, which is precisely the business of librarians. While other organizations must expend considerable time and effort obtaining information, for the most part these resources are readily available to librarians. Secondly; few, if any, people are against librarians. There does not exist the widespread opposition that other causes might attract.

The educational process begins with identification of the critical need or needs of society, rather than of libraries, Dr. Summers stated. This need must be translated into broad terms with appeal to legislators, who seek to improve conditions in their constituencies. Realism is an important factor, he feels, in identification of priorities—specifically, which needs are experienced by the greatest number of people.

Education then continues with informing the public of how appropriate legislation will affect communities with these needs, before the specific library-related bills are introduced into the legislature. Two major considerations discussed by Dr. Summers in this respect are the considerable time and the necessary financial support to follow this procedure.

Dr. Summers sees the following basic ingredients of an effective legislative network. The Legislative Committee, concerning itself with actions of the state government affecting the interests of librarians, library employees and those affecting the general public in libraries, should have a broad-based composition, both geographically and as it represents various types of libraries. Normally, the chairman of this committee acts as the legislative coordinator, to monitor political progress and to act as a link between people in the state and political action. A legislative contact group should be formed; consisting of librarians, trustees, and interested citizens, who will respond to action from the coordinator, and who will keep informed about particular legislation and its effect on their community.

Dr. Summers spoke to the question of ALA's recommendation that a person be chosen to act as a legislative advocate, or lobbyist. He feels this is the most critical element of political action, after establishing a legislative network. This person, preferably a non-librarian he suggests, would talk directly to legislators, supplying them with information at the pre-session period, during the period the legislature is in session, and directly afterward. This advocate would watch the progress of bills directly benefitting libraries, identify with bills introduced by related groups, and oppose legislation contrary to library objectives.

In response to a request by Mr. James T. Giles, co-chairperson of the RILA Legislative Committee, Dr. Summers assisted the Committee and the Executive Board in identifying what point RILA has reached in this educational and organizational process. Problems were discussed and Dr. Summers made several recommendations to the group concerning specific concerns in Rhode Island. The possibility of conducting legislative workshops on a regional level was discussed.

Dr. Summers met briefly with regional directors and coordinators in the afternoon; but unfortunately this meeting was cut short, and the evening meeting, at which it was planned that he would meet with trustees and librarians from various communities in Rhode Island, was cancelled due to weather conditions.

A PROPOSAL FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION AND FUNDING OF THREE SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR LIBRARY SERVICES IN RHODE ISLAND

In the spring of 1972, the Rhode Island Department of State Library Services and the State Advisory Council on Libraries developed the FIVE YEAR LONG-RANGE PROGRAM FOR LIBRARY SERVICES. The project was accomplished to fulfill a request from the U.S. Office of Education. It received the approval of Governor Frank Licht prior to submission to Washington. Essentially, the project involved the identification and description of on-going and potential library services in the state based on an in-depth assessment of needs.

The FIVE YEAR LONG-RANGE PROGRAM contains thirteen specific programs designed to provide quality library service to the people of Rhode Island. Six of the programs are on-going and, hopefully, will continue to be funded through state and federal support. Three of the remaining seven programs are of significant value and should be funded. They are: (1) Library Services to Preschool Children, (2) Library Services to the Homebound, and (3) Library Services for Economic Advancement.

The Rhode Island Library Association recommends that funding to implement and provide continuing support for the three specific programs be achieved. A suggested source for such funding is through the use of federal Revenue Sharing funds granted to the state. The programs are designed to be established and co-ordinated throughout the Interrelated Library System by the Department of State Library Services.

HOUSE BILL 6251
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND, &C
IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY
AN ACT

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

PROVIDING ADEQUATE FUNDING FOR QUALITY LIBRARY SERVICES THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND BY IMPROVING LIBRARY SERVICES TO PRESCHOOL CHILDREN, TO THE HOMEBOUND, AND TO PEOPLE SEEKING THE DEVELOPMENT OF SKILLS FOR ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT, AND MAKING AN APPROPRIATION, THEREFORE.

WHEREAS, the Rhode Island Department of State Library Services and the State Advisory Council on Libraries have identified the needs for quality library service in a FIVE YEAR LONG-RANGE PROGRAM FOR LIBRARY SERVICES, and

WHEREAS, library service to preschool children is needed to stimulate and develop intellectual curiosity and cultural awareness in children from the ages of eighteen months to five years, and

WHEREAS, library service to the homebound is needed to serve the elderly and temporarily handicapped and permanently handicapped, who because of their condition or disability, are deprived of public library service, and

WHEREAS, library service to people seeking economic advancement is needed to develop and strengthen the training of people to increase their job skills. Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED. That the sum of \$813,000.00 be and the same is hereby appropriated, out of money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated to be expended by the Director of the Rhode Island Department of State Library Services for the implementation of library service programs to preschool children, to the homebound, and to people seeking the development of skills for economic advancement. The state controller is hereby authorized and directed to draw his orders upon the general treasurer for the payment of such sum, or so much thereof as may be required from time to time, upon receipt by him of duly authenticated vouchers.

WHY A LEGISLATIVE NETWORK?

by William L. Bergeron
for the Government Relations Committee

Life-style implies adaptation. Biologists see constant examples that life itself essentially includes adaptation. We take for granted our adaptation to the New England winter. Long association inures us to the predictabilities and the hazards of nature. Our activity can even be adjusted to the vagaries of the public works plow that, in its pursuit of the common good, honors no shoveled driveway. Winter is unavoidable, but we cope with it while pursuing designs independent of the season.

Winter weather did prevent many librarians, library trustees, and friends from meeting January tenth with Dr. Bill Summers (see article that follows). Winter has, however, provided an apt analogy for the need of a legislative network. Like the weather, the process by which libraries obtain funds and define the parameters of their activities—legislation—is an unavoidable circumstance of their lives. Trying to ignore it challenges their very survival. Hence, the Legislative Committee is looking forward to a follow-up meeting to discuss establishment of some form of network plan for Rhode Island.

The notable success in 1965 of the Interrelated Library Systems program has led to too few further changes from the state house. The hard work of mounting and maintaining a campaign for legislation such as this 1965 example can be expected only to meet some overwhelming statewide needs. Libraries are better, and are getting better, but through smaller changes than in the mid-sixties. Legislation enhancing this progress must be guided through the houses and committees of the general assembly. Guidance we librarians can provide well.

Congressmen expect librarians to be aware and informed. They want to know how a bill affects their constituents. They want to see that not only librarians, but also other informed citizens, interest groups, and other agencies favor the growth of libraries in the area that a bill covers. The organized effort of a Rhode Island legislative network will answer these expectations and make libraries politically astute to the legislative process.

Surely, it is an unfamiliar process for many, but, association with, and knowledge of, this mechanism of government can only intensify the vitality of libraries. The Department of Public Works may clear winter's impediments from many traffic channels, but making the future of Rhode Island's libraries belongs only to the library community.

SORROWS OF A BIBLIOMANIAC

by Leo N. Flanagan

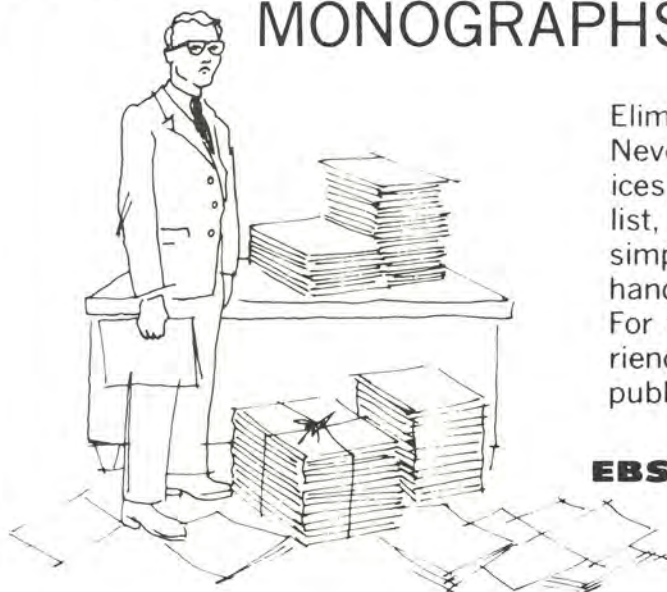
What anguish the cautious book collector suffers from the importunities and depredations of the careless borrower: handsome sets are needlessly broken forever. Rare books and first editions are eternally lost to longing scholars. Fragile books are maimed and injured beyond nursing and recovery. The notes and reflections of decades in the margins of personal books are never to be seen again. And the most common books once lost are again to cost precious time and money to replace.

Even should a borrowed book remain intact and be returned, its owner is subjected by borrowers to continued earthquakes in his bookish environment, shiftings, tumbings thoughtless abstractions and random insertions. Worst of all, the book owner, frequently a recluse of noble mind, is too often forced to go out into the world and awkwardly demean himself by begging back his book properties and provoking another's ill will. Better for his peace of mind that the bookman should readily consider dispensing some of the following advice to the ordinary prospective borrower of books:

- A. If the books desired be in common circulation and the borrower be of means he may be counseled to purchase his own copies.
- B. If the books desired be in common circulation and the borrower be impoverished he may be advised to seek out copies at his free public library.
- C. If the desired books be rare, then the ordinary borrower really has no business with them and he should be told bluntly by the bookman that the books would be of no significant use to him.

Any one of these statements may destroy any feeling of friendship that the borrower had for the bookman. But if the borrower wants such sense as to be offended by a reasonable statement, if the borrower wants such sensibility as to be unaware of the bookman's feelings, then the bookman is much better off losing the company of the borrower than the company of his books. For the friendship of the former is obviously shallow and transitory, while the friendship of the latter is deep and constant.

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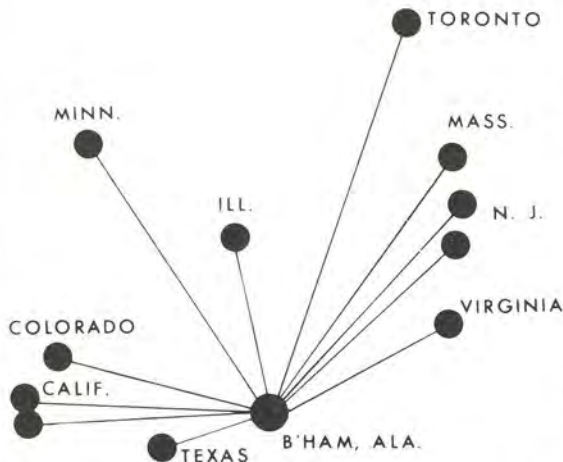
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