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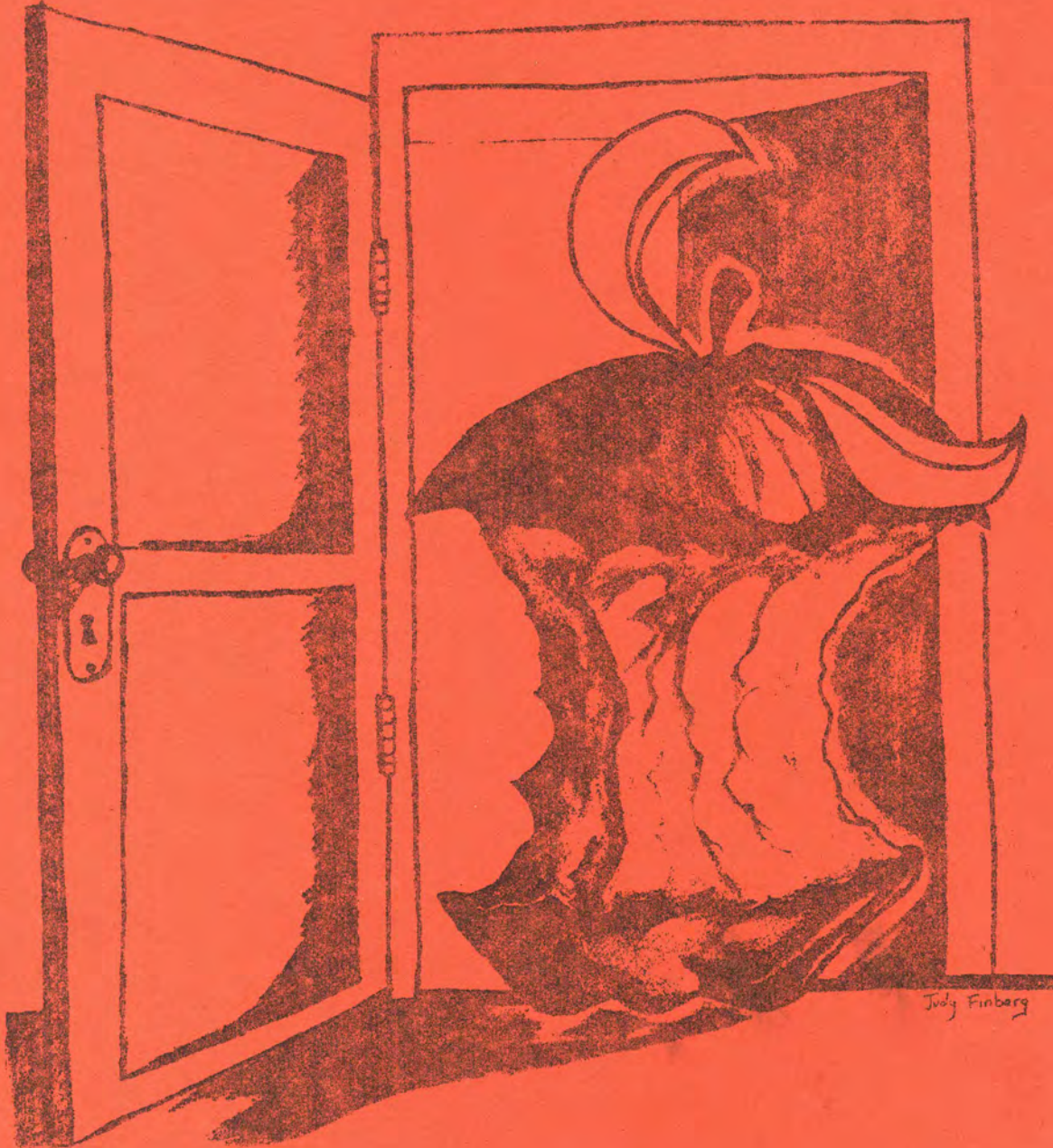
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BULLETIN



JULY- INTERESTED IN A LITTLE HARD CORE?-1975

EDITORIAL NOTICE:

Beginning July 1975 the Bulletin will appear on a monthly basis. News and articles should be submitted to the editor or assistant research editor by the first week of each month. The Bulletin staff can only promise to publish the news it actually receives from the library community.

The Bulletin is a publication for public, school, academic and special libraries of Rhode Island. Published by the Rhode Island Library Association, it is open to news and discussion of interest to RILA members. Articles contained herein, however, do not necessarily reflect the ideas of the RILA membership or the Bulletin staff, or the Bulletin advertisers. All articles about library matters are welcome, all should be signed, and should not exceed ten double spaced typed pages.

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THE EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Our old friend Sam Goldstein, editor of Current Awareness: Library Literature, and also professor of library science at Simmons College, said some three or four years ago that too little happened in Rhode Island to justify a monthly Bulletin. As we recall his thinking was that Rhode Island and Providence Plantations was correctly named because the Rhode Island style of life was so rural and slow. Well, this July there is certainly enough to justify a Bulletin with reports on the ALA Conference in San Francisco and on the appointment of a new DSLS director, with a chilling short story, and with a cover essay about the ambiguities of intellectual freedom.

Our cover itself was designed in relation to the intellectual freedom essay by Judy Finberg of Pawtucket and Brown University. She also is responsible for most of the other illustrations in this issue, as she will be in the upcoming August issue.

Next month's issue, by the way, will feature a special article by Ellen Spilka, on Rhode Island fiction, and perhaps another library story, as well as our regular features.

RILA MEMBERSHIP DUES

Please remember to pay your RILA annual dues by October 1, 1975. Make checks payable to the Rhode Island Library Association and mail to: RILA Membership, Regional Office, Barrington Public Library, 283 County Road, Barrington, R. I. 02806. Please also add the name of your library, your position, and the type of your library if you have a moment. The new dues schedule is as follows:

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Your dues will support such activities as legislative campaigns, public relations, continuing education, RILA committees, and RILA publications. If you have paid your dues, please strengthen RILA by inviting a friend to join.

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DEFENDING THE INDEFENSIBLE: INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM
AND ITS IMPLICATIONS OF ANTI-INTELLECTUALISM AND
ANTI-PROFESSIONALISM IN LIBRARIANSHIP.

by Lee Flanagan

© July 1975

For the actions of men proceed from their
opinions, and in the well governing of opinions
consisteth the well governing of men's actions,
in order to their peace and concord.

Hobbes' Leviathan

It is now more than a year since the American Library Association's National Office for Intellectual Freedom issued its Intellectual Freedom Manual.¹ And with the exception of a half dozen independent members of Rhode Island's local intellectual freedom committee, no one has seen fit to comment on the impracticality, over simplification, legal difficulties, anti-intellectualism and want of professionalism manifest in the Manual's "Introduction."²

Perhaps less attention has been paid to the "Introduction" simply because it is both brief and confusing, and the remainder of the Manual has already proven to be a valuable addition to the literature of librarianship. Overall the Manual gathers together in one place the many ALA pronouncements of nearly the last four decades on intellectual freedom and summarizes them well in a "Historical Overview."³ Included are the Association's Library Bill of Rights and the Freedom to Read Statement. While these and most other documents in the Manual lack some precision, social and technological currency, and functional subtlety that might be wished for in regard to the controversial role of the librarian as change agent and advocate, and in regard to the even more controversial effects of newer media technologies, these papers are generally acceptable so far as they go in treating censorship and intellectual freedom. A new version of the Library Bill of Rights is soon to appear for ALA membership approval, and that will hopefully address the inadequacies that time has highlighted in the old Bill and related documents.

Why then should there be any extensive concern with the Manual's "Introduction"? There should be grave concern over the "Introduction" because from its position in the Manual, the anonymity of its authorship, as well as from its content, it has every appearance of being intended to serve as the latest and most definitive philosophic interpretation of the numerous documents on intellectual freedom that follow. The specific problems in the "Introduction" are essentially five, each of which I wish to explore in some detail.

Impracticality

The "Introduction" defines intellectual freedom to mean "the right of any person to believe whatever he wants on any subject and to express his beliefs or ideas in whatever way he thinks appropriate." This is patently impractical. John Stuart Mill made an elaborate defense of allowing ideas to compete in the marketplace, and the Freedom to Read Statement reaffirms that stand in its concept of the "free enterprise" of ideas.

But Mill would not have countenanced expressing ideas in any way an individual wished, because Mill again and again restricted the freedom he defended by noting that no one had the freedom to injure another. A century later anthropologist J. C. Carothers tells us the same thing, that "no existing society really allows free speech "because of the harm it would do to itself."⁴ No society can remain intact and allow an individual the right to express his beliefs or ideas in any way that the individual thinks appropriate. And two years ago in Library Journal itself library theorists Patrick Williams and J. T. Pearce said:

Freedom of expression and freedom of inquiry are species of freedom of action. Just as freedom of action is subject to all manner of limitation by the rights of others and the best interests of society, so also are freedom of expression and inquiry.⁵

Necessary limitations on the freedom's of expression and inquiry come to mind at once. No one in the United States was permitted to inform the Germans of the position of American naval bases or even to advocate such disclosure, however sincerely he believed the cause of Germany. Most people would consider this reasonable restriction of individual freedom of expression. San Francisco Mayor Joseph Alioto was recently enjoined by a California court from commenting on the recent Zebra murders, lest he endanger the right of certain defendants to a fair trial. President Gerald Ford might have limited his publically expressed disagreement with a specific court order *implementing forced integration in Boston* schools last fall. Sworn as chief executive to enforce and uphold the law, his disapproval of it certainly did not discourage those who were violently demonstrating their opposition. B'nai B'rith's recent recourse to law to force the Mutual Broadcasting Company to cancel anti-semitic Liberty Lobby broadcasts on 80 radio stations did not seem unfair to most people of very liberal sympathies. So too have many liberal Americans striven for laws against fraudulent advertising. And most of us abide by the laws of copyright limiting our rights to repeat what has cost others time and money to express initially. Similarly, we do not fault the law that says no one of us is allowed to accuse a neighbor of crimes or misdemeanors, without evidence, however deep our beliefs in another's guilt may be. If we do, and are sued for libel, most people would not say our freedom of expression had been unfairly restricted.



"I'm looking for something that will chip away at my moral standards!"

From Berry's World,
reprinted by permission of NEA

Sensible people allow for some regulation of individual expression for the overall social order. And such allowance must continue to be made even though, as Susan Wagner has recently stated, "The first amendment has survived one of the severest attacks in history."⁶ Unjust application of the first amendment to the detriment of others will do as much damage to the rights of free exercise of religion, freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and freedom of assembly and petition as outright attack on these principles.

Every reasonable person allows for some regulation of individual expression for the overall social good. Lord Kenneth Clark finds civilizations are distinguished by the subtlety of such regulations. And our own civilization is presently regarding a number of subtleties in its regulations. Social psychologists are carefully investigating the damage certain free expression in the media may be doing to the society. In the matter of television, for example, the Surgeon General's Scientific Advisory Committee on Television and Social Behavior has found that the causal relation between televised violence and anti-social behavior is sufficient to warrant immediate remedial guidelines.⁷ The people of Boston felt the same way in 1973 after teenage boys poured gasoline on a young woman and burned her to death. Only a few days before, a television program had shown teenagers doing the same thing. Journalists are now considering self regulation of themselves in reprinting sensational news in light of a rash of plane hijackings and terrorist kidnappings. Within the past year, two conferences of journalists, one in New England and one in California, considered the possibility that certain types of reporting suggest, encourage and multiply crimes and self-imposed guidelines may be necessary.⁸ The Los Angeles police department is examining the regulation of so-called "snuff films" after a series of mutilation murders of young women followed in detail the same brutal crimes shown locally in literally dozens of films, all playing at the same time.⁹ Much discussion has raged since the era of gas warfare, through the age of nuclear hardware, down to current development of fiendish techniques of biological warfare, over whether scientists themselves should adopt a code of regulatory ethics. Only a number of librarians in support of an absolute simplistic position on intellectual freedom remain in ignorance of regulatory developments in other fields and occupations. According to Dorothy Broderick in the conclusion of a fine article:

Having decided once and for all to be in favor of intellectual freedom, a segment of our profession has then closed its mind to all consideration of the opposing view.¹⁰

A purist position on Intellectual Freedom today is similar to a purist position on free enterprise. The laissez faire approach to economics, and ideas and media, is equally absurd at this time when western civilization is more than ever committed to social responsibility. Responsibility implies choice of judgment and control of members of a society by the members themselves for their own common good. Such control would limit individual expression and also the opportunity to hear and see some things. Most reasonable people recognize that as a condition of living in a less than perfect world,

Over-simplification

A second difficulty with the "Introduction" to the Intellectual Freedom Manual, and for that matter many ALA documents on the subject, is gross over-simplification. In the "Introduction" itself the Office of Intellectual Freedom in the first paragraph affirms the individual's right to express one's beliefs or ideas through "any mode of communication." Any mode of communication is a phrase of such sweepingly simplistic magnitude that it is immediately suspect. Would librarians defend physical blows, torture, enforced



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starvation, economic or racial exploitation, all of which are especially dramatic modes of human communication of some kinds of ideas? Do librarians wish to be apologists for the literature of mutilation, flagellation and bondage? Do librarians want to protect acts of civilian bombing and strafing, which certainly became a mode of communication in Indo-China? Do librarians want to, as Betty Friedman puts it, hide behind the First Amendment in promotion of sexist stereotypes in text books?¹¹ Do librarians concerned about the position of women today wish to push the bottom drawer pornography which feminist Robin Morgan calls "visual rape"? I think most of the library community would answer nay to each of these questions. Yet the simplicity of the "Introduction's" definition, its failure and the failure of many ALA documents to make scores of realistic distinctions in addressing the very complicated subject of intellectual freedom and its limitations diminishes community respect for the intelligence of librarians.

Are no distinctions to be called for in discussing the degree of intellectual freedom, in the sense of freedom of inquiry, that one might have in an academic as distinct from a public library of the same size? In the public library might one not expect far less opportunity for real freedom of inquiry, since so much of the collection would be devoted to the literature of entertainment rather than information? In the academic library, with its collections deliberately designed for the widest pursuit of all types of information and all types of views in depth, might one not well expect more freedom of inquiry?

Looking at the subject of types of libraries from the librarian's view, can the public librarian with some obligation to the vagaries of the tax-paying reader exercise as much personal intellectual freedom in book selection as the academic librarian concerned only with the fullest range of serious and scholarly arguments?

Another ALA problem in distinction proceeds from failure to note the differences in a reader's right to free access to ideas as different from the right to free access to information as different from the right to free access to entertainment. In fact, many state library networks such as Connecticut's make the distinction in guaranteeing circulation of non-fiction but not fiction.

Should there not be some distinctions made in regard to the differing effects on audiences of different media? A television program of questionable content may reach 60 million people on an evening while a best selling book with the same message may not reach a tenth of that audience, and will not reach that audience at the same time. Is it not plausible that novels may affect for better or worse general audiences at large more profoundly than poetry? The government has thought so for years, as Ernest Hemingway noted in Men at War, and the government has not arrested critical poets as quickly as critical novelists in war time.¹² Is it not possible that realistic motion pictures may affect audiences more profoundly than books? After all, reading is a highly abstract experience requiring onerous translation of symbols into experience. A motion picture on the other hand, is a far better "imitation of an action" (to borrow from Aristotle's definition of drama) than the printed characters on a page. Concern with many subtle but real differences has not been an ALA preoccupation in the discussion of intellectual freedom.

Legal difficulties

The National Office of Intellectual Freedom, also in paragraph 1 of the Manual "Introduction" says that the definition of Intellectual Freedom also includes a second integral part, "the right of unrestricted access to all information and ideas regardless of the medium of communication used." Now this sentence pledges librarians to more than they can deliver. More importantly, it flies in the face of the U. S. Constitution and the law of the land. The Constitution itself mandates free access to information by implication in the first amendment of the Bill of Rights. That free access is not meant to be total however, and is in fact restricted by amendments four, five and six, guaranteeing the right to privacy, fair trial, and freedom from self-incrimination. No one's right to information allows him to make an unwarranted search of another's home, to force another to testify against himself, or to extricate information by torture.

As a sidelight the Office of Intellectual Freedom's "unrestricted access to all information" ignores not only the law, but the latest development within the field of librarianship itself. The National Commission on Library and Information Science would

heartily disagree with the Office of Intellectual Freedom. In its recommendation that all libraries be linked in computer, audio visual and telecommunications systems to create a national info pool it recommends establishment of "security protocols" to exclude some information from some individuals.¹³ Rightly so, reasonable people would conclude, because, for example, many would not have the capacity to handle top-secret information on current Soviet - U.S. relations. Most people with such information could only endanger this nation, world peace, and probably themselves. The National Commission assumes only that "all of the people of the United States have the right, according to their individual needs, to realistic and convenient access" to the national information resource, and that they have that right only for their "personal enrichment and achievement"¹⁴. Ironically, intellectual freedom slogans notwithstanding, librarians themselves use "security protocols" in admitting scholars to university race or pornography collections, and in not even building such in public libraries. It may be true that many governments abuse security systems of classifying information. But abuse does not deny the original need for methods of protecting national or individual securities.

Anti-intellectualism

In paragraph two of the Manual's "Introduction" the Office for Intellectual Freedom contradicts its definition of intellectual freedom in paragraph 1, sentence 1, now defining intellectual freedom as only freedom of the mind, necessary to action but separate from it. What does freedom of the mind mean? If intellectual freedom is not action, but is thought and expression, how is expression to be considered other than action? The difficulty appears to be the Office of Intellectual Freedom's attempt to divide thought from action, a recent attempt in human history according to J. C. Carothers, and one with unfortunate implications. To believe that ideas, good or evil, constructive or destructive, social or antisocial can be separated from action, and that such ideas when promulgated will have no effect on action, is to undervalue the power of ideas considerably, to in fact adopt the anti-intellectual stance that ideas are ineffective! To believe that only "good" ideas are effective and not evil ones is to be illogical and unrealistic. Or as Irving Kristol said, if no one has ever been corrupted by a book (movie, television program) then no one has been improved by one either.¹⁵ To believe it does not matter what effect ideas have is to believe in no values or standards, to be nihilistic, and in fact to perpetuate racist, sexist, and exploitative views which hinder human growth, which dehumanize, and which consequently reduce what freedom is possible. The refusal to regulate (not repress) freedom in the United States today has led to an abuse of freedom by the military in Vietnam, government leaders in the White House, and big business in the competitive economy, and has resulted in attempts by such agencies to obliterate the freedom of all of us. To believe good (i. e., growth) ideas will automatically triumph over evil ones is simply to be ignorant of the lessons of history.

Want of Professionalism

To refuse to impose some values in the world of ideas and information, and on the means of expression, to undertake as the "Introduction" advises the responsibility for providing all points of view on all questions, is to avoid doing what professionals in other fields actually do, is to avoid judging what is conducive to human growth and what is not. To "give 'em what they want," as Judy Krug of the Office of Intellectual Freedom advised graduate library students at Simmons College, is to avoid constructive judgment 16

To abrogate all responsibility for decision in selection of materials, and for counsel of readers, is to miss the whole point of professionalism. For what is a professional librarian but one who professes, believes, avows a faith in the goodness and worthiness of improving human communication through symbol carrying objects or media?¹⁷ It is no accident that for 2000 years librarians were priests very much aware that ideas, language, literature, information, and entertainment had definite moral influences on society. What is a professional librarian but one who holds such belief, who because of this belief acquires and continues to acquire substantive knowledge, who with such knowledge maintains independence of judgment even within institutional settings, who joins fellow professionals in a strong organization to insure development of the field's knowledge and its humane application in the community interest?¹⁸ What is a professional librarian but one who on the basis of a substantive knowledge of the means of communication, knowledge greater than that of the general community, judges what media is necessary to improved provision of ideas and information in the community, and who judges what counsel and advice would be helpful to individual members of the community? The Library Bill of Rights itself exhorts librarians to choose library materials "for values of interest, information and enlightenment," and choice of values certainly requires judgment. Or if it does not, chimpanzees might as well be doing it.

Unfortunately librarians doubt their ability to make decided judgments regarding materials and patrons. Again and again I hear the question, from librarians, at library conferences, "Who are we to judge?" A better question might be "Who else is to judge?" Doctors judge illness and the means of curing it, and they strongly recommend but do not force the cure. Lawyers judge the nature of individual human conflict and recommend courses of action to conclude it to the satisfaction of their clients. Professors judge learning and the capacities of people for it. Generals judge the conflicts of nations and recommend campaigns to end them. And within reasonable limits we trust them because they have great expertise in their areas of speciality than we do as general laymen. Do we trust librarians? Do librarians trust themselves?

In that the answer to the latter question is "no" lies the single greatest tragedy of librarianship. Librarians hide behind a definition of intellectual freedom which demands no responsibility, which simply commands them to do nothing. And I would suggest that is because they are fearful of making decisions about materials and people and the relationships of the two with the low level of substantive knowledge that they possess.¹⁹ Few librarians have more than a year's graduate work in the field. Most have no undergraduate preparation for the work. Few pursue continuing education in librarianship or related fields. Few read in the serious literature of the field.²⁰ For that matter, there is little serious literature because, as Paul Wasserman says again and again, there are rather poor scholarly foundations for the field. I personally believe that librarians do not believe that they can judge because they not only do not develop the knowledge to do so, but also because the knowledge in the way of reliable research, surveys, statistics and experimentation is not available. I have even heard librarians go so far as to say that the issues of intellectual freedom cannot be defined any more than the issues of tragedy and comedy. But in fact tragedy and comedy are reasonably well defined in literary criticism, and there is general agreement on the major components. In more rigorous fields with more scientific method there is even more agreement on the major premises of a field. Librarians who tend to operate only in a world of opinion and assumption unfortunately believe that the same weakness bedevils laborers in other vineyards.

The doctrine of intellectual freedom is, therefore, a face-saving device to avoid responsible judgments on complex issues by librarians who lack the knowledge to make

them. What can be done about it is surprisingly simple. If librarians wish to be clerks or caretakers and technicians transferring objects between people viewed as objects, they can continue to make no decisions. If they wish to be professional, then they and the ALA, are going to have to place an emphasis on acquisition of considerably more substantive knowledge by each librarian. To properly choose materials and relate them to people, librarians are going to have to have intensive continuous education in the technology of communication, in learning psychology, and in human engineering. This may well require a basic education of three years and an internship, and ALA certification, and recertification every several years.

If librarians existed with real substantive knowledge who could make reliable responsible judgments most of the time, no difficulties would exist with the current issues of the intellectual freedom debate. There would for example be no problem for such librarians in regard to censorship. Where censors attempt to suppress ideas or information that they find dangerous or objectionable, knowledgable librarians, with the help of experts in related fields of psychology, education, human biology, with the help of experts in virtually every learned field, would select published materials that either clearly or probably encouraged human growth or development, that did not turn people to objects as do racism and pornography. Every effort would be made to include the controversial and disputatious in general collections so long as it was not destructive or probably destructive of the public safety. And materials destructive of the public safety could be housed in research centers where one to one expert guidance by knowledgable librarians would be used in guidance of responsible patrons with ascertained need to know. In fact librarianship is already well on this course, with librarians relying on experts through reviews in choosing materials, and in the placement of highly controversial materials in research libraries. Ultimately with sufficient knowledge librarians could select for their own collections and patrons the materials their training showed were sound. And they could avoid just as much as doctors any sweeping intellectual freedom type defenses of pornographic movies in Los Angeles or political rebellions in Afghanistan, both of which are beyond their profession.

With substantive knowledge amongst librarians many of the problems of the library users' intellectual freedom would disappear. If the community indeed did find that librarians had the ability to choose, and did choose fairly and intelligently a range of materials providing ideas and information necessary to the community, the community would not be worried about repression of its intellectual freedom. If more research centers were open to the responsible public that could demonstrate its research interest, there would actually be an expansion of freedom of inquiry. If the community respected librarians' knowledge as much as that of doctors, there would be no challenge of librarians selections for children. Nor would knowledgable librarians open any materials to children without guidance.

There would be no question of librarians' right to intellectual freedom in personal and professional matters if their knowledge of communication and media were well in advance of that of other segments of the community.

Lastly, amongst current issues on intellectual freedom there would be no difficulty with advocacy. Librarians well trained would be expected to judge the need for and undertake advocacy of any procedure or idea within their professional purview. Hence, the demonstrated observation that some portion of the community received inadequate information would lead to establishment of orthodox or unorthodox methods of bringing information to the disadvantaged population. Librarians would still be expected to avoid pronouncements on brain surgery just as neuro - surgeons would avoid pronouncements on

television as a public learning tool.

Overall, knowledgeable librarians would treat intellectual freedom as any freedom, regulating it responsibly in the best joint interests of the individual and the public order, never mistaking it for license, never destroying it by undue restriction. While such a balanced position is agonizingly difficult to maintain, and must continually be reevaluated and regained, the only other choices are to sacrifice the social good to anarchy or the individual to autocracy.

Presently the only problem is that librarians find themselves between technical roles processing and transferring learning materials with no concern for the effect of that work, and professional roles judging library materials and users and the effect of materials on users. ALA only has to recommend respectable education for librarians to make professional judgment sound, responsible and credible, to allow librarians to exploit a special knowledge for the good of others without that knowledge. This is a great but necessary burden. And those who assume it rightfully know that freedom is not an end, but only a means to such ends as individual development and a benevolent society. Librarians who undertake responsibility for creating such a society are like other creators and artists, unafraid of controls. Art is after all the controlled expression in a medium of a significant human experience. A benevolent society does not happen. It is only the result of controlled, deliberate, thoughtful expression. It is a work of art.

As for the original occasion of this article, the "Introduction" to the Intellectual Freedom Manual, it was to be expected given the inadequacies of education for librarianship. Yet while it might be expected, it is hardly to be accepted in its blind optimism, timidity, naivete, absolutism, imprecision, confusion, simplification and anti-intellectualism. As an unqualified series of slogans it is hardly to be accepted as the final interpretation of a complicated reality. Its inadequacies are so great that the "Historic Overview," which follows, stands out by virtue of its common sense and its contradiction of the "Introduction". By contrast, this "Historic Overview" by Krug and Harvey simply recognizes the complexities involved with intellectual freedom. The "Overview" recognizes that there are limits upon the First Amendment, that the concept of advocacy can not be dismissed easily, that opposition to censorship is tempered by law and librarians' sense of personal responsibility, and that full access to information for minors is still a controversial issue. In sum the strengths of the "Historic Overview" so overshadow the deficiencies of the "Introduction" that it can only be hoped that the Office of Intellectual Freedom will delete the "Introduction" from future printings of the Intellectual Freedom Manual, and allow the "Overview" to remain alone as an adequate introduction for the present.

Footnotes

1. Office for Intellectual Freedom of the American Library Association, Intellectual Freedom Manual (Chicago; The American Library Association, 1974).
2. "Introduction," Intellectual Freedom Manual p. vii - ix.
3. J. F. Krug and James F. Harvey, "ALA and Intellectual Freedom; A Historical Overview", Intellectual Freedom Manual, p. xi - xxx.
4. J. C. Carothers, "Culture, Psychiatry and the Written Word," Psychiatry, 18 (November 1949), 307-320.
5. Patrick Williams and J. J. Pearce, "Common Sense and Censorship; A Call for Revision," Library Journal, 98 (September 1, 1973), 2399-2400.

6. Susan Wagner, "Washington Report", Publisher's Weekly, 206 (September 2, 1974) p. 24.
7. Senator John Pastore, "Blood in American Living Rooms", Pawtucket (Rhode Island) Times, 351 (June 18, 1974), 34.
8. Brian Dickinson, "A Free Press and the Law," Providence Sunday Journal (June 23, 1974), 15., And Donald Goldfarb, "The Effects of News Publication Pose a Serious Dilemma," Providence Journal, (May 2, 1974), A-25.
9. Robert Dornan, "Court Decisions on Pornography," a lecture at the Massachusetts Library Association Midwinter Conference, Boston, Massachusetts, February 28, 1974.
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11. Karl Nyren, "Those Female Stereotypes," LJ/SLJ Hotline, 3 (November 4, 1974) p. 4.
12. Ernest Hemingway, ed., Men at War (New York: Crown Publishers, 1942,) p.7,
13. The National Commission on Libraries and Information Science, A National Program for Library and Information Services: A Synopsis of the Second Draft Proposal (Washington, D. C.; U. S. Government Printing Office, June 1974), p. 7.
14. The National Commission on Libraries and Information Science, Toward a National Program for Libraries, and Information Services: Goals for Action (Washington, D. C.: U. S. Government Printing Office, 1975), p. x.
15. Irving Kristol, "Pornography, Obscenity and the Case for Censorship," N. Y. Times Magazine, 120 (March 28, 1971), 24-25 & 112-116.
16. Judy Krug, "Intellectual Freedom and the ALA," a lecture at Simmons College, Boston, Massachusetts, December 6, 1972.
17. L. N. Flanagan, "Comment on Librarians and Libraries," Catholic Library World, 46 (November, 1974), 177-178.
18. Mary Lee Bundy and Paul Wasserman, "Professionalism Reconsidered" College and Research Libraries, (January 1968), 4-26. Also L. N. Flanagan, "Professionalism Dismissed," CRL, 34 (May 1973), 209-214.
19. Broderick, p. 3818. /
20. Samuel Goldstein, "Using the Literature of Librarianship," Conference on Writing and Publishing for Librarians, Brandeis University, Waltham, Massachusetts, April 4, 1975.

DUBIOUS ACHIEVEMENT AWARD OF THE MONTH

by Leo N. Flanagan

Library administrators continue to fight inflationary spirals and frozen or cut budgets with federally subsidized employees, efficiency studies, outside grants, bubble gum and baling wire, with anything available, in short, to provide sound library service. In their struggle the American Library Association tells us that they should be supported by their boards of trustees who will "secure adequate funds to carry on the library's program." But one wonders just how vigorously how many trustees fought to secure money, if they have fought as vigorously for money as they have demanded that directors save it. What brings this question to mind is the news that in the Los Angeles Public Library a massive campaign to secure a budget increase was not backed by the library board of trustees. The L.A. trustees said that they didn't want to embarrass the mayor.

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IMPORTANT PERIODICAL OF THE MONTH

Publisher's Weekly, June 16, 1975, carries some costs projections and conclusions of extraordinary import to libraries. A sample of such projections and conclusions, based on an AAP - ALA survey, follows:

ESTIMATED COMPARATIVE MATERIALS EXPENDITURES BY U. S. LIBRARIES 1972-73 AND 1978-79			
	EXPENDITURES		%Change 79 from 73
	Dollars 1972-73	1978-79	
BOOKS - DOMESTIC			
College and University Libraries	82.4	112.7	36.8
Public Libraries	128.5	213.5	66.1
Special Libraries	38.4	65.7	71.1
School Libraries	140.6	172.7	22.8
All Libraries	389.9	564.6	44.8

- Publishers predict that library book budgets will remain static or decrease in the next five years. Librarians expect budgets to increase. So do wholesalers.

- Publishers and librarians agree that book reviews influence library selection more than any other factor.

- Publishers believe that faculty members make most of the selections for academic libraries. Not so, say librarians.

- Librarians rank conference exhibits low among the marketing devices of the trade. Publishers and wholesalers believe that librarians rank exhibits high.

- Whether a book carries a bargain price appears to be relatively unimportant to librarians compared to other factors influencing selection. Publishers believe price tags are increasingly important.

- Library materials acquisitions, which topped \$1-billion in 1974, will reach nearly \$1.5 billion by 1979.

- Domestically published books, representing over \$400-million of the 1974 total, will reach some \$565-million in 1979. However, the share of expenditures for domestic books will decline during the intervening years, and the number of units is expected to fall drastically behind that of dollars spent, due to the current wave of inflation. Inflationary pressure will, however, begin to ease in 1976,

- School and, to a lesser extent, academic libraries will be hard hit by budget cuts between 1975 and 1977, while public and special libraries will weather the recession rather well. An encouraging general recovery in the field will become noticeable by 1978.

GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE IN LIBRARIES

by Linda Hodgman

A Governor's Conference on Libraries is presently in the planning stages. Roberta Cairns, chairperson of DSLS Ad Hoc Planning Committee for the proposed conference, expects to submit a plan to the governor by October 1 and would like to see the plan approved and a committee chosen and in operation by January 1. Without the

endorsement of the governor, there can be no conference but Ms. Cairns appears hopeful that it will indeed materialize.

The target date for the Conference itself is presently October 1976. It will serve appropriately as a prelude to a Presidents' Conference which it is presumed will take place no later than 1978. Ms. Cairns suggests that well defined goals as well as the involvement of a large cross section of people, not just librarians, is essential to the maximum success of a Governor's Conference.

In the broadest sense the objectives envisioned by the ad hoc planning committee include evaluation of library service in R. I. over the last ten years and recommendations for growth and development in the next ten years. Ms. Cairns emphasizes the importance of more narrow and precise definition of goals and we can expect to hear more about these after a final plan is viewed by the Executive Board of RILA and submitted to the Governor.

Ms. Cairns hopes that a governor's conference will clarify the strengths and weaknesses of library service in the state, actualize plans for the future, as well as focus attention on the importance of libraries in the society. While she is pleased with the accomplishments of the library network in Rhode Island she feels it can be even better. She also stresses that in other ways the libraries of this state, given sufficient allocation of funds, have the potential to take even more of a lead in the networks of the country. Certainly the smallness alone of our state would seem to lend itself to successful cooperative implementation of innovative and experimental projects.

Anyone interested in joining the Committee is welcome to contact Roberta Cairns at the Barrington Public Library (telephone: 245-3106). If you have any ideas or dreams about what a Governor's Conference on Libraries might or should accomplish, do share these thoughts. If you don't have the inclination to work on the Planning Committee, write a letter to the Bulletin. We'd like to know what you think too.

LIBRARY AND BOOK RATES TO TAKE 1ST JUMP JULY 6 from American Libraries

Postal rate increases scheduled to take effect July 6, 1975, raise both the library rate and the fourth-class book rate. The library rate, now six cents for the first pound and three cents for each additional pound, will go to seven cents for the first, with no charge for additional pounds. The book rate, now 18 cents for the first pound and 8 cents for each extra pound, will rise to 19 cents for the first pound and 9 cents for each additional.

These are temporary rate increases only, awaiting further deliberations and decisions from the Postal Rate Commission and the Board of Governors of the U. S. Postal Service. Pending before the Commission are the May 28, 1975, decisions of an administrative law judge which would, among other things, result in a library rate of 29 cents for the first pound and 14 cents for each additional pound.

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3. Interest in special committee assignments such as: notable books; outstanding reference books; Service to Labor; etc.

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Victoria Wallace, Chairman
RASD Membership Task Force
Northport Public Library
151 Laurel Avenue
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A Careful Man

-L.E. Hodgman

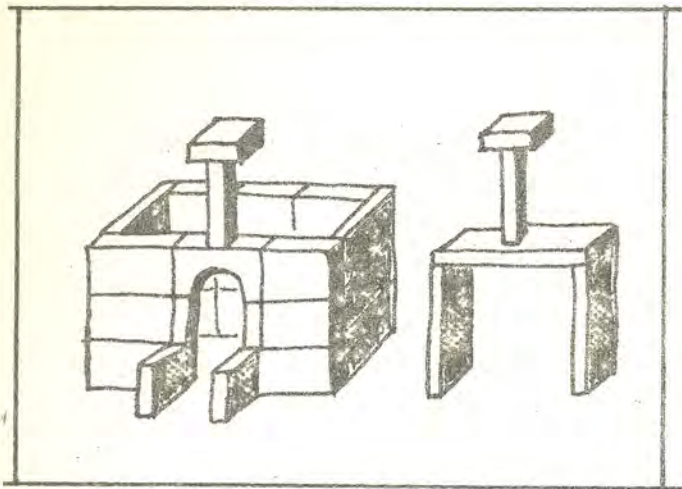
Yesterday I built a tree house for my children and after much arguing back and forth I managed to take my wife out to dinner. As a rule she does not like to eat dinner out with me because after we finish talking about our two boys we have little left to say to each other. We tend to repeat ourselves which gets on Marie's nerves. She says we are like a record that has been played too many times. Maybe she is right but I don't mind. There is comfort and reassurance in a life that is so thoroughly predictable.

Take for instance my being a librarian. Some would call me a guardian of books, but I prefer to see myself as passing on the cultural and intellectual heritage of society. There is nothing stodgy about that. Then too it is steady and secure work with a paycheck that appears with perfect regularity. I don't see anything to complain of there. A good husband and father is necessarily a good provider. Beyond that in my personal relations I strive always for excellence. I think I am honest, fair-minded, and reasonably patient. I am an affectionate father, I pay my bills on time, I never forget my wife's birthday or bring unexpected guests to dinner.

And yet Marie complains. She says a life that runs as smoothly as a perfectly timed clock is boring and unimaginative. Sometimes I think she does her utmost to reveal flaws in the machinery. For example, on Sunday evenings I regularly expect a crabmeat casserole and squash for dinner. Then when I least expect it she presents me with cucumber soup, sourdough bread, and a spinach salad with alfalfa sprouts. The sprouts she grows herself in a glass jar and lately they appear everywhere - in soup, on top of macaroni and cheese, in sandwiches. Marie cannot leave well enough alone.

Still in her own way my wife is a gifted person. She has a fine singing voice. All her life though she has been an alto and recently she has decided to become a soprano. She began taking voice lessons two nights a week and her dream was to become a nightclub performer. I really cannot see her standing in front of an inebriated group of spectators belting out "Let Me Entertain You." I have a terrible vision of her clad in a bizarre sequined dress with Everyman's eye on her bosom or behind. She has a beautiful figure but I think she ought to keep it at home. I worry sometimes about her anarchistic spirit.

* * * * *



A month has gone by since I built the tree house. Characteristically our children have lost interest in it. I am now teaching my youngest son how to ride a bicycle. Marie has given up her singing lessons. She says she will never make it as a soprano. I was delighted at the news, and feeling very optimistic, I secretly hoped the alfalfa sprouts would be the next to go. I even considered telling her I hated them, but I decided not to push my luck. One victory at a time is enough.

Just as our life seemed to be falling into a comfortable groove again, Marie began having ideas that made the presence or absence of alfalfa sprouts seem utterly

trivial. She wanted to be an actress.

"But you know nothing about acting," I implored, privately imagining the disgrace she would bring upon me.

"I can learn," she replied with disarming calm.

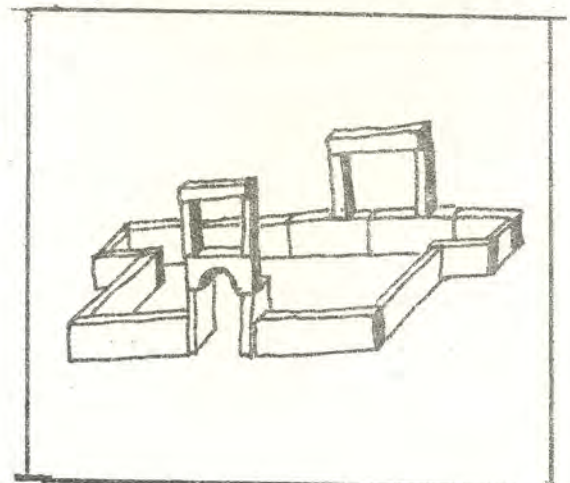
"I don't doubt you can learn," I said. "You have so many talents. But must you always be seeking an arena for them. Why can't you simply let us appreciate you at home?"

"I am not appreciated," she said sullenly. "And besides it's all too boring."

She frowned and fiddled with her hands. I was determined not to get into a discussion with Marie about Life. I lit a pipe and stared at the bookcases wishing she would go to bed so I could take down a volume of Jane Austen and drift off into a more comfortable well-ordered world. After a few minutes of silence she offered me a cup of cocoa which I declined and then excusing herself she climbed the stairs to our bedroom. I wished she wouldn't seem so dejected and vaguely I wished that I understood her.

A few days later Marie told me she was auditioning for a part in a summerstock production at an amateur playhouse. She was very casual about it and I decided to follow the same tack as I had used regarding the alfalfa sprouts; silence. I went to the Library as usual and didn't give her newest diversion another thought. That evening there was no dinner prepared and Marie was elated. She didn't have to tell me that she has landed the part.

Rehearsals began the following week. The play was HAIR and Marie apparently had secured a leading female role. She sang a song called "Easy To Be Hard" and I think by the end of the first week I knew it nearly as well as she did. All day she rehearsed at the theatre and in the evening while she was cooking or bathing the children the air vibrated with her silken voice that was still strictly alto. Nightly I confined myself to my study and tried to absorb the most recent deluge of library literature. It seemed



though that nothing penetrated my senses except the clatter of dishes, the sound of running bath water, and then strains of "carbon monoxide, sulphur dioxide".

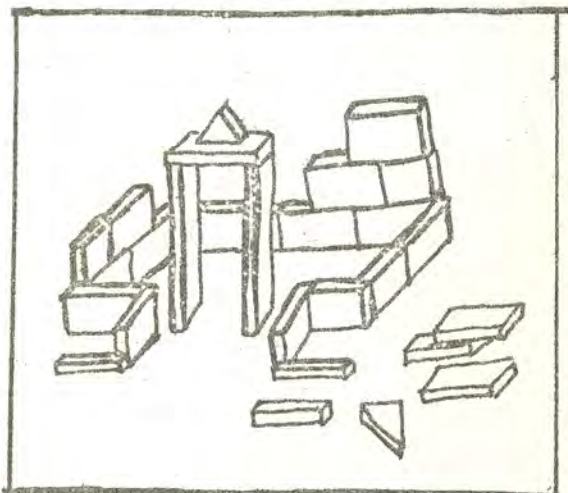
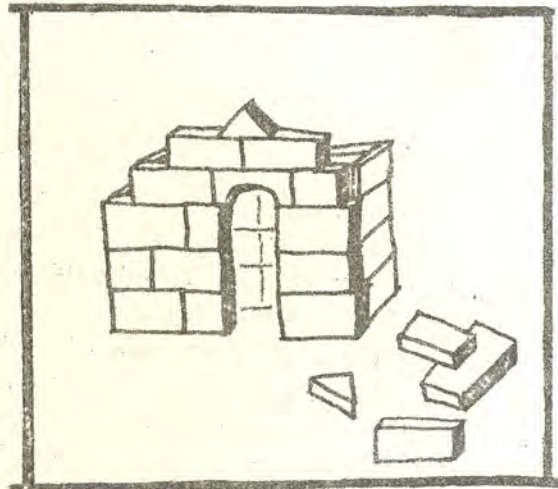
I began wondering about this play. Beyond the singing of her songs Marie told me very little. I remembered that the play had been banned in Boston and I recalled that it had something to do with nudity and obscene language. Still I knew the public's tendency to exaggerate minor details out of all proportion, and since I knew my wife to be unquestionably a refined and civilized person I could not doubt her good judgment. I trusted this would be a tasteful and artistically sound production.

After four weeks of rehearsals the play finally opened. The theatre was an old wooden structure surrounded by bushes of rosehip and primroses. Behind it stretched miles of pristine seacoast. Opening night the house was filled. I brought the Cataloguer, the Reference Librarian, and the Assistant Director as my guests. I wanted it known that I thoroughly approved of my wife's diversions. I felt it was a husband's duty to stand behind his wife and I was determined to express, at least publicly, only admiration for her.

We were seated in the center of the third row which immediately I knew was a mistake. The drums and the electric guitars were deafening, the dancing and movement so frenzied and chaotic that the sensations induced were dizzying and kaleidoscopic.

Finally Marie appeared clad in tight blue jeans and a peasant blouse, and looking at least five years younger than her actual twenty-eight. Her long hair hung loose and when she sang "Easy To Be Hard" there was so much feeling in her tremulous voice that I was really very moved. Despite my discomfort in seeing her graceful figure scrutinized by so many impersonal eyes I could not avoid the fascination I felt. It was almost as if she were some strange unknown person, lovely and mysterious, not my wife at all. Vaguely I thought I did not really know her.

The lights dimmed for a new scene. A huge colored sheet covered a dozen of the long-haired hippies. They lay on their backs underneath it, their legs facing towards the center of the circle they formed, like spokes of a wheel. The music was soft, their voices low and crooning, there was movement under the blanket. The music reached a crescendo, blue and silver lights flashed, the blanket was thrown off, and twelve bodies stood up, arms outstretched, all stark naked. And in the very front was Marie standing straight and unmistakably proud, her hair falling about her bare shoulders, her head thrown slightly back.



* * * * *

Marie had been rehearsing Hair for four weeks. But for the part that I now had to play I was totally unprepared. When the curtain went down on the last act, when the thunderous applause had abated, my colleagues and I proceeded to the lobby. They were silent, waiting for me, the Director, to set the tone. This was impossible. All I could think was that when my wife appeared I would like to slap her face. I almost longed to see her go pale with fear, though perhaps she might just hold her head up and turn the other cheek. Bitter to marry a woman so full of pride.

Such were my thoughts when Marie appeared clothed in a white dress, her hair tied back with a white ribbon. I noticed how pale her skin was without her make-up. Her eyes, however, still darkly covered with bister, were startling, disconcerting. Somehow, though, with her long hair, her ivory skin, her simple dress, she had the look of a well scrubbed twelve year old child.

She smiled warmly as she approached us. Her gestures as she greeted us were utterly feminine, touchingly reassuring. Odd, I thought, the gentle mannerisms she has, such a contrast to the boldness of her heart. Before anyone remarked on the play, if indeed anyone ever intended to, she suggested coffee and cake back at our house. Fortunately my colleagues declined. Their wives they said would be waiting up for them. Did I sense a snub in that, the tiniest cut of a fine edged blade? Marie it would appear noticed nothing. She only nodded and asked to be remembered to their families. We said good-night and I thought the men were too studiously, affectedly polite to Marie. Were they laughing at me already?

Marie and I went to the car and drove home in silence. It was a dark night, starless, and yet Marie stared intently out the window as if she could see something. I glanced repeatedly at her face in profile, so still and absorbed she seemed. It made my heart beat faster to see how beautiful and innocent she looked and yet to know how I could hate her for exposing us to the hostile, hateful scrutiny of the world. I wondered that a face and body so sweet and gentle could obscure a heart so destructive. I understood that she was a dangerous woman, and yet I felt how much I needed her, loved her.

"Why?" I asked her finally, "What did you want to prove?"

"I wanted to show you that I am alive, we are alive. I wanted to show me," she answered.

I could not respond. I felt as if I were missing some key word or phrase that would have made this grotesque situation comprehensible.

Marie went on in a voice that was soft and plaintive. "What did you notice," she said "all this winter when I was dying, waiting and praying for Spring to come because I had to believe in something and there wasn't anything else anymore. I would think of how the trees would go beautiful and green and flowers blossom and how the scent of the air would be wonderful and sweet so that somehow my soul would come alive again too. It was a miracle I needed, you understand?"

"A miracle?" I asked. I did not understand.

"Yes," Marie said quietly, "Because I really was dying. My children were like strangers to me. Everywhere I went, whatever I saw, hurt me. The faces of people, the lies they told by not saying the things they should have said, the vacancy behind their smiles and the way they looked when they thought no one was watching them. But I was watching and they looked lost and dead and hopeless. It was horrible to me, my pain and theirs only half-realized.

"I'm sorry," I said, "I never knew."

"No," she responded, her voice rising sharply, "Because weren't you the worst traitor of all. You with your righteousness, your cold hard morality that puts discretion

above truth and the law above love. And all the time I knew that even if you are smarter than I am, more clever and better educated, don't I still know that in everything you say, even if I can't explain why, don't I know there is something that stinks." Marie's voice trailed off here, vague, dimming... "And that the Fall is the deepest thing we shall ever know."

"As I stand at the door sick to gaze within mine eye weepeth sore for sorrow and sin," I quoted aloud.

"Yes," she shouted. "I say yes even if you will mock me, because I know that all your moral exactitudes, all your golden rules and commandments are nothing next to the truths of passion."

"You are wrong of course," I said. "I shudder to think of the world you would create. Chaos, utter chaos. You do not understand human weakness, human..."

Marie interrupted angrily, "It is you who do not understand. Because you fear yourself, the evil within you, you believe that without absolute rules and rigid conventions all rational behavior would dissipate. But you are wrong. It is your own weakness, your own fears, that lead you to your fear of others. Look into yourself for what you see all around you. It is in you that your truth lies, not in mankind."

"You are more innocent and naive than I would have believed," I murmured.

"I can't answer that," she said and her voice was strangely calm while it was I who felt the threat.

"Don't answer then," I said, "only decide if your position is tenable. Because whether you like it or not approve or not, we live in a world of conventions, and within that given world I am pursuing a career, raising a family, and establishing a reputation. My image is crucial to my success and my success, or failure might I add, is crucial to us. You for your part can be either an asset and support to me, or you can undermine me. But keep in mind everything I do, I do for you and our children."

"Don't put the burden of your sins on me," she replied. "I will not take it. Justify yourself and your life however you like, but don't use me and my children for that. If we were dead tomorrow you would not change your life one bit. You would simply find another reason to go on living it exactly as you do."

"Think of what you are saying, Marie." My tone was hesitant, almost defensive. She sounded too certain, too sure of her words.

"You are my wife," I continued. "You are the closest person to me in the world and therefore potentially the most dangerous. You could destroy me, as you have come treacherously close to doing tonight. You are free to think whatever you like about me or anything else, but you cannot publically defy me. That is impossible. We'll weather this one incident some way or other, but I must have your word it will never be repeated."

"And if you don't have my word?" she asked.

"I couldn't live with a woman I couldn't trust. It would be intolerable."

"And could you weather the indiscretion of a mistaken marriage, a divorce?" She asked.

"As the lesser of two evils I would have to," I said, beginning to feel trapped by an insidious logic. "I hope though you won't make that choice necessary."

"Yes?" she asked disbelievingly.

"Because I love you really," I responded, my voice faltering. "Incredibly maybe, but somehow I have always loved you and still do."

"You who say it is false to separate ideas from the person holding them? You despise my ideas, how can you love me?" she asked.

"I don't know, but I do," I answered. "My love for you is real, separate from everything else, absolutely real. I will always love you."

"And yet you would give me up for the sake of... discretion?" she asked, her voice insistent, as if she wanted to be quite certain we both understood.

"Yes," I said slowly, reluctantly.

"Perhaps we should think on that a while. Maybe our hierarchies are too different... irreconcilable." Several seconds passed before she added, "I want to live my truths, not yours."

"Could you be so foolish, Marie, to give up what you have, what we have, for the sake of an impossible ideal, a perverse fancy?" It occurred to me that it did not matter to her that other lives depended on her. I said quietly, "Are you so selfish?"

"I want something different, something better," she persisted stubbornly.

You are a child, Marie. You have never learned there is nothing corrupt in compromise. It is honest and just."

"But it is not noble," she said.

"Heroism is for the saints," I replied angrily. "For the common run of humanity it is a matter of conceit and egotism. And we are all the common run of humanity. Nobility is an abstraction, Marie, and as such it is dangerous."

"I am not afraid," she said slowly.

"But you ought to be," I asserted.

"And you?" she asked.

"I am afraid."

CALENDAR

Please note that you can telephone news of upcoming library meetings to anyone on the Bulletin staff, and that news will be listed in this section of the Bulletin. Be sure to include day, hour, place and subject of the meeting.

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| August 4 - 23 | Exhibition of Pen and Ink Drawings by Dean Kent, Greenville Public Library, Greenville, Monday through Thursday 10 a. m. - 5 p. m. and 7 - 9 p. m. and Saturday 10 a. m. - 5 p. m. |
| August 12 | Social Responsibilities Round Table Monthly Meeting, home of Kathy Paroline, 193 Waterman Avenue, Providence, 7:30 p. m. |
| August 13 | Meeting of children's librarians with new director of R. I. Library Film Cooperative, David Green. Warwick Public Library, 9:30 a. m. |
| August 17 - 23 | New England Education Media Association, "Education of Librarians and Administrators in the non-print Media through Interaction with their Students." Contact Peter P. Salesses, Tritrack Interaction Institute, R. I. College, telephone 277-2726. |
| September 8 | Cooperative Juvenile Book Review Meeting, "R. I. Indians," Providence Public Library, 9:30 a. m. |
| September 27 | New England Library Trustees Association Annual Meeting, "The White House Conference on Libraries," Wentworth - by-the-Sea, Portsmouth, N. H. |
| September 29-30 | New England Library Association Annual Conference, "The Art of Practical Library Politics," Featured speakers include critic Judith Crist, talking about motion pictures, and A. J. Anderson arguing the case for censorship. Wentworth-by-the-Sea, Portsmouth, N. H. |

October 26 - 30. American Society
for Information Science Annual
Conference, Boston, Mass.

THE EXCHANGE

The Exchange appears each month for the purpose of selling, buying, swapping or giving away materials useful to libraries. Items wanted as well as items available may be advertised free by calling the editors.

Wanted: recent issues of the RILA Bulletin volumes, especially volumes 44 (1971-72), 45 (1972-73), 46(1973-74) 47 (1974-75). The Bulletin' staff needs multiple copies of each issue in each of these years.



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NEW DIRECTOR AT DSLS

- excerpted from Lorraine Hopkin's
Providence Journal feature, 7-15-75

Jewel Drickamer, newly appointed director of state Library Services, outflanked opponents in the Rhode Island library profession during the struggle to determine a successor to Elizabeth Myer, who retired this last winter.

Miss Drickamer had resigned her deputy director's post in protest last March after she learned that the Rhode Island Library Association - apparently prompted by opponents of her candidacy - had gotten authorization from Governor Noel to form a search committee.

Miss Drickamer, who now says "it's water over the dam," thought the search should have been under the aegis of the state library commissioners.

Noel's announcement of her appointment on July 3 caught the entire profession by surprise, as her resignation had done in March. "She's brilliant," said one director in the Interrelated Library Systems, the highly regarded state library network that he called "Jewel's brainchild" since it was engineered by her while she was deputy director. "She's just not too great with the loc ' yokels," he said.

"She didn't apply for the job," said Charles Churchwell, librarian at Brown University and chairman of the 11-person search committee, in explaining why her name was not among the three forwarded to Noel in mid-May.

She had been recommended to Noel by Miss Myer, in her letter of retirement last January. Miss Drickamer declined to say when Noel told her she had captured the \$23,219 post. But she and other sources indicated it was some time ago.

Jewel Drickamer, who is verging on 60, doesn't romanticize her entry into library work. She had just graduated from Western College for Women in Oxford, Ohio. "It was 1938 and a matter of where you could get a job." She was hired by the late Linda Eastman, a notable librarian at Cleveland Public. Drickamer raced through a library science studies and has been a librarian since, except for a stint in radio work in Cleveland, "one of the few improbable gaps in this wild library career of mine."

She held posts in Falls Church, Va., Middletown, Conn. and Riverdale, N. Y. She was a Connecticut librarian and head of the New England Library Assn. when Elizabeth Myer asked her to join the Rhode Island department as her deputy director. It was 1964. The legislature had just reformed the library department and Gov. John Chafee had tapped Miss Myer to head it.

In the 10 years since, the department, with Library of Congress encouragement and federal grants, has been building its base of services to the handicapped, the blind, providing services to the state institutions (like the ACI) and perfecting the state network - the Interrelated System that was Miss Drickamer's innovation. "It put us 10 years ahead of Massachusetts," said Richard W. Robbins, Warwick's librarian and head of his area's so-called Western System, one of five in the network. Tied together by teletype machines, it created one huge lending system, enabling a South County library user to get a book not in South County, but in, say, Barrington.

When she resigned last March to ride out the selection process, she wanted "six months off for good behavior," and spent the time writing, researching and "improving the lawn." There were some job prospects she didn't pursue. "I wasn't about to go to Chicago," she said.

After her March resignation, she did not reappear in the office until July 7, after she was sworn in by Noel at the State House. There were red roses waiting, a big "congratulations" sign over the door, and a little party.

There had been a national library conference in San Francisco over that weekend, and Rhode Island librarians, just getting back, were forwarding cheerful messages to her on the phone.

James T. Giles, Cranston's librarian and president of the Rhode Island Library Association said Jewel Drickamer "has enormous drive and energy. No one has the credentials she has." It's a new beginning," said Giles, "I'm actually excited about it."

Editor's note: Mr. Richard Waters, former chief of planning and development at DSLS, has been appointed deputy director, to serve with Miss Drickamer. The Bulletin staff looks forward to working cooperatively with both Miss Drickamer and Mr. Waters in the further development of Rhode Island library service.

BRIGHT IDEAS?

Emma Baron, children's librarian at Pawtucket, suggests that RILA or DSLS arrange a well-publicized statewide library "amnesty" day. Sufficient publicity of one day when no fines were charged for overdue materials would, Mrs. Baron believes, bring a considerable return of missing items to Rhode Island libraries.

We hear that the Department of State Library Services must soon submit a preliminary budget to the state for fiscal 1977. It may reasonably be expected that DSLS will win no great budget increases from the state without new funding legislation. RILA's Legislative Committee just happened to be working on new library funding legislation in the past spring. But the Legislative Committee was badly mauled in its recent spring legislative efforts, and with the loss of its two co-chairmen, the Committee is now rather quiescent.

Could we recommend that the RILA Legislative Committee, hurt by its recent failure, and DSLS, suffering from four months without leadership, get together, in the next two weeks, on precisely what kind of funding legislation DSLS needs to restore the statewide network to what it was several years ago, and to improve it even further? If that legislation differs from what RILA is now supporting, then RILA legislation should be amended and resubmitted in the General Assembly, and both DSLS and RILA should commence, according to their individual methods, to press for this new funding legislation. No one looks forward to receiving the same state aid on July 1, 1976, that we had on July 1, 1971 - or less! Yet that's what we'll have if DSLS and RILA wait until next March to get together.

Editor's note: as this issue goes to press RILA and DSLS are discussing a cooperative legislative effort.

LEGISLATION

- ALA Washington Office Report

President Ford is expected to veto the FY 1976 Education Appropriations Bill, which includes \$51,749,000 for the Library Services and Construction Act Titles I and III. If the bill is vetoed and the veto is not over-ridden, then LSCA funds may only be released at the level of the President's budget recommendation of \$10,000,000, and R. I.'s regional services could face serious problems in the second part of this fiscal year.

Mr. Ford has also failed to send a \$3.5 million budget to Congress to fund the 1977 White House Conference on Library and Information Services and the earlier state governor's conferences. Congress will do nothing until it receives Mr. Ford's request, and the latter is now under pressure to approve the White House Conference budget.

Revised regulations governing the community development block grant program authorized by the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93-383) were published in the June 9, 1975 Federal Register, page 24692. The regulations have been amended by the Department of Housing and Urban Development to state that neighborhood libraries are eligible for construction funding, and in the case of communities of under 10,000 population, central library facilities are eligible. Funding decisions under the block grant program are made by local governing officials.

NEW DSLS PROCESSING SERVICES

- Leo N. Flanagan

After years of complaints about problems in the DSLS processing center Richard Waters, acting Deputy Director at DSLS, last spring asked an independent committee of librarians chaired by Louis Leveillee of Woonsocket to study the matter. The independent committee made its study and recommendations quickly, and DSLS acted on them just as quickly. Three processing options were chosen, two of which are now operational, with the third going into effect October 1.

1. The Standard Line: this option provides processing for books at \$1.25 /item and for AV at \$1.50 / item, with the advantages of full processing, large discount and standardized cataloging.

2. The Express Service: this option allows batch ordering from Publisher's Weekly, from DSLS adult and juvenile monthly book lists, and from any batched fiction order, for \$1.00 /item with 38% average discount and with faster service.

3. The Space Age Service: the DSLS Cathode Ray Tube, on-line connection through the New England Library Network with the Ohio College Library Center, gives the Processing Center access to all Library of Congress MARC tapes (including CIP information) and a data bank of over a million records. The CRT will soon make available, a) card sets at 40¢/set from OCLC, or b) print outs from which a library can make its own catalog cards at a \$200 charge per 1000 titles.

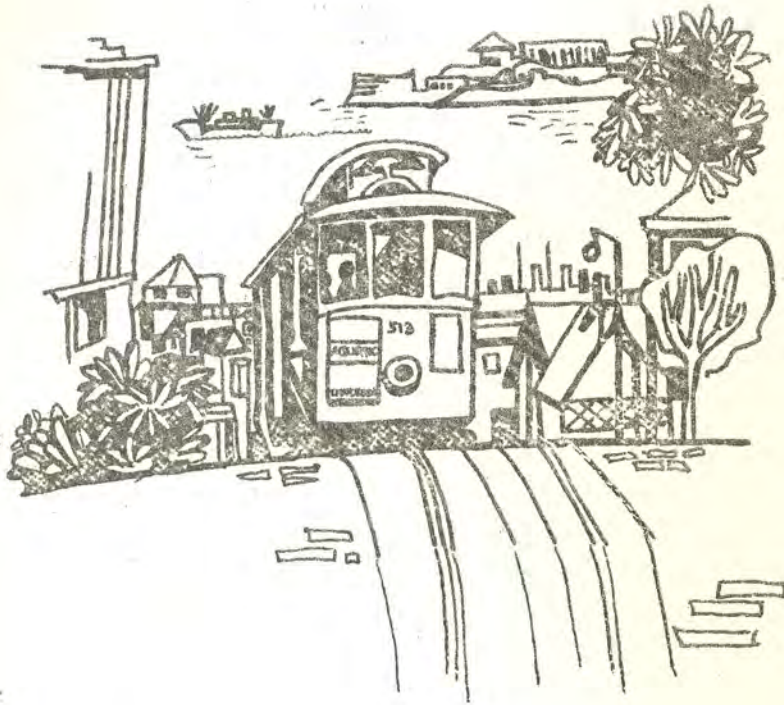
For additional information call 277-2726 and ask for Beverly Jones. Preliminary reports on the new services so far instituted are favorable. Congratulations to DSLS and the Leveillee Committee.

LIBRARY OF MATERIALS ON AGING

- Stephanie Kirkes

The Rhode Island Department of Community Affairs, Division on Aging, has established and organized a library of materials concerning the elderly and the aging. This library is available to anyone between the hours of 8:30 a .m and 4:00 p. m. and is at 150 Washington Street. Books, pamphlets, reports, periodicals and newsletters are available on any subject relating to aging: housing, nutrition, income, employment, retirement planning, leisure-time activities, health, etc. Newsletters from every state agency on aging are received, as well as every federal government report. The two White House conferences on Aging are well documented, as well as all state conferences on aging. Periodicals received include Modern Maturity, Aging, Journal of Gerontology, Retirement Life and Today's Health. A file is kept of newspaper clippings regarding the elderly in Rhode Island, including any legislation passed that has an effect on the senior citizens.

In addition to the library, there is an information and referral unit which is concerned with answering questions from anyone who calls the special number 277-2880 and needs information or help on problems affecting the elderly. Direct service aides are employed who will go out to a person's home to deal directly with the problem, if necessary.



American Library Association Conference San Francisco

- Leo N. Flanagan

On June 28 we flew into San Francisco for the 94th annual conference of the American Library Association. The city was clear, clean, cool, (with highs of 62° to 70° F throughout the week), breezy, and so bright that it was three days before we could walk without sunglasses. Most obvious of all was the excitement. San Francisco moved at a pace that made Providence look like McCurdysville, W. Va., and minute by minute provided elaborate evidence that the United States (or most of it) was still alive.

Anything was possible, as American Indians fire bombed several houses, hucksters buttonholed pedestrians at topless and bottomless bars, near-naked young men with tissue paper wings danced in a massive gay parade, Chinese gangs took to firing on rivals at each encounter, police ignored on-stage love acts, and underground radio DJ's prepared for the next kidnapping. Meanwhile conservative urbanites dashed from Macy's to Gump's amidst in town speed and wealth that made it apparent that San Francisco is the financial capital of the Western United States. But for those who sought something more, something artistic, personal, eccentric, human or quiet, there was everything in San Francisco. Dawn on the Pacific shore, an afternoon stroll in Golden Gate State Park, a respite in the Chinese Tea Garden, browsing amongst 7000 years of Chinese civilization in the Asian Art Museum, wandering in the little shops of Ghirardelli Square, or the Cannery, dining at Fisherman's Wharf or an exquisite Japanese restaurant, swinging from cable cars, watching the Bolshoi, punctuating each event with pauses in small coffee shops, soup canteens and creperies, or with occasional forays out of the city to the hills around it or the art colony of Sausalito or to San Rafael for dinner with friends, or... there were no limits for any taste.

The major surprise was that the Conference itself almost lived up to the city. Almost no lecture, seminar or workshop was without some distinct value, a thing that could hardly be said for last year's New York Conference. Events were well organized, thanks in a good part to help from the California Library Association, and participants were generally alert, perhaps because of the cool brisk walks between meetings.

Mayor Joseph Alioto welcomed librarians at the Opening General Session with the observation that progress springs from a knowledge of what has gone before. And given librarians' concern for that knowledge, and their concern for open access to it, recent history might suggest that presidents should be chosen from amongst librarians and not politicians. The Mayor concluded by advising librarians who were having trouble having a good time in the city to call his office and his staff would personally arrange one.

Following this introduction came the first of three major addresses of the Conference. These three addresses, and three more at next year's conference in Chicago, are devoted to the theme of "Libraries and the Life of the Mind in America." John Hope Franklin, author of From Freedom to Slavery, delivered the first on "Libraries in a Pluralistic Society," questioning how there could be peace with such diversity of peoples and cultures as exists in the United States? Educational institutions certainly helped foster peace with diversity, noted Dr. Franklin, and libraries despite some dark prejudices in their history, have been in the vanguard of education. Libraries, he concluded, have done and can do much in the future to create a social order of "peace, purposefulness, and mutual self respect such as has never been known before."

The second major address, "Libraries and Freedom of Access to Information", was given by Dan Lacy on Monday. Senior Vice-president of McGraw-Hill Corporation, Lacy's theme was that knowledge implies power, and that consequently in more and more people have striven to acquire knowledge. They have done so, however, only as the events of history have compelled those in control of knowledge to make it more accessible to those without it. The rural poor, for example, displaced by technology in the past generation, fled to the cities where they proved to be unemployable, anarchic and in general without knowledge. Welfare and police costs rose, and finally the federal government in the 1960's stepped in with massive infusions of money for schools, and libraries, to help the poor to get the knowledge they needed for a fair share of employment, wealth, and power. Three new products have helped or could help to democratize knowledge for these poor, according to Lacy. The paperback industry has made books more available than ever before. Television "is probably the most important development in the history of communication since printing." For while perhaps one in four people use libraries, all watch television. And the computer is the third product which could revolutionize access to knowledge although control of it currently resides with big business and the government. Unfortunately, said Lacy, the Nixon "nightmare" reversed the trend of increased access to knowledge by pressuring the public media, by cutting funds for education and libraries, and by withholding information wherever possible. Now we must work to reverse the directions of the past few years. Finally, Lacy urged librarians to beware of substituting networks for good individual library service and adequate local funding. A network will not help the high school dropout, a network will not replace the



deficiencies in a local library produced by under funding. A network can only assist an already well funded well run local library serving the basic needs of its community. The White House Conference on Library and Information Services will give us the opportunity to commence a reversal of the Nixon programs.

Thursday brought the third major address when Kathleen Molz, former editor of Wilson Library Bulletin, now at Columbia, spoke about "Libraries and the Development of Tax Support." Professor Molz showed how librarians have had two divergent goals since 1876, bibliographic control of materials, and the spread of literacy among the masses. These goals remained divergent, producing essentially two different types of libraries, academic and public, or learned and popular libraries. Now the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science has combined the two goals for the first time in its advocacy of full bibliographic control for the advantage of all people in the United States.

Yet NCLIS cannot address the larger ethnic, racial or economic inequities that must be corrected to reach real equality in information access. Nor can NCLIS really affect the inadequacies of state and local funding of libraries, inadequacies which lead to an average 40% state support for schools and 12% for libraries. Ms. Molz recommended three solutions: 1) promotion by ALA of library client needs rather than institutional needs, since legislators are favorable to voters not institutions 2) a cohesive ALA statement about funding necessary to all libraries; 3) policy research by ALA on a regular basis to clearly demonstrate to legislators library client needs, so that legislators may adopt intelligent policies.

Each of these major addresses was thoughtfully composed and fairly well delivered. We had but one criticism, and that is what ever possessed ALA to schedule such important lectures night after night at 9 or 10 p. m. in a city like San Francisco? Many librarians, finding the city more attractive, attended few or none of the evening sessions. Kevin Starr, director of the San Francisco Public Library, did rally about 10000 ALA members to his library Sunday night, however, with drums, Chinese dragons, dance bands, and wine.

During the daylight hours more ordinary business occurred. Monday, June 30, Robert Wedgeworth, ALA executive director and Ed Holley, ALA president, presented five key issues facing ALA; 1) ALA present and future space needs at Executive Headquarters; 2) review of the public relations program initiated last year; 3) clarification of the relationship of ALA Round Tables and Affiliates; 4) ALA's response to the appointment of a historian as Librarian of Congress; 5) and ALA's future course in seeking input on appointments to this post. It was our impression that if these are the "5 key issues" facing ALA, then it has lost sight entirely of some of the grander goals it supported just a hundred years ago.

Tuesday the Junior Members Round Table presented highlights of a Survey of New Librarians' Employment Expectations and Realization (NEW LEER). Responses from 390, 1971 graduate librarians indicated that 15% were dissatisfied with their profession and/or job. The greatest dissatisfactions concerned the inability to deal with problem cases in their supervisory levels with many reasons given---poor policies, lack of trust by their immediate superiors, and lack of delegated authority.

Wednesday, the ALA membership passed four resolutions of which two were important. The first calls for part-time professional librarians to have the right to part-time employment on a par with full-time employment; that is, with pro-rated pay and fringe benefits, with opportunity for advancement and tenure, with access to middle and upper level jobs, and with full responsibility at any level. A second resolution on sexist terminology and sexist advertising calls for guidelines to be established for review of all future ALA advertising copy to eliminate discriminatory remarks.

Beyond the larger meetings were the smaller, and more immediately useful ones. Barbara Ringer, register of copy right, asserted that copyright guarantees income sufficient to authors to allow them independence. Eileen Cooke of ALA's Washington Office reported some gloomy forecasts for LSCA and other library legislation, but felt the White House Conference on Library and Information Services (WHCOLIS) would be funded. Peter Drucker speaking tongue in cheek about management advised library administrators to remain librarians also, so that they have some human satisfaction. ALA's Library Administration Division showed ghastly movies or real and simulated libraries going up in flames and provided some very good insurance advice. Judy Cerebnik of Rutgers reported that a survey of 210 libraries and bookshops showed that after the Supreme Court decision on censorship that the expected increased number of complaints about controversial materials never materialized and that libraries and bookshops have in fact acquired more controversial materials than they had in 1973. And Ken Winslow of Public Broadcasting told us that video discs are now only 1 - 1½ years away from revolutionizing the home, and perhaps library, television market.

We arrived back in Providence July 5. The temperature was 88 degrees, the humidity was higher, the environment uglier, and we were already, thinking about our next trip to San Francisco.

N. E. ROUND TABLE OF CHILDREN'S LIBRARIANS

- Joodie Perlow

On Friday, June 6, The New England Round Table of Children's Librarians held its annual Spring Festival in Kennebunkport, Me. Members from the six New England states gathered at the Shawmut Inn for the business meeting and panel discussion.

The morning session was devoted to a discussion of historical fiction and biography for children. Members of the panel included: Margaret M. Kimmel of the faculty of Simmons College; Margaret Coughlin of the Children's Services Division, Library of Congress; and Ferdinand Monjo, author and editor of books for children.

Ms. Kimmel began by quoting some memorable selections from critically acclaimed books of historical fiction, and then emphasized the necessity of a keen imagination plus a devotion to historical accuracy as requisites for writing good historical fiction.

Ms. Coughlin decried the lack of good, intelligent, "alive" biography that will really grab a young reader's interest. History, she pleaded, is more than dry facts and dates. Kids are not interested in Davy Crockett's boyhood; they want the excitement and adventure of his life as a man. Finally, she warned that authors of history and biography for young people must never talk down to their audience, but must be aware that complex discussions of ethics, or advanced treatises on economics, governmental decisions, etc. should be avoided when writing for youngsters.

Mr. Monjo, author of Slater's Mill, The Vicksburg Veteran, and other popular books of historical fiction for children, stressed that humor was an essential ingredient. He believes that historical figures should emerge as human beings with human frailties, so that works with a historical background will appeal to children.

In the afternoon session, Jean Fritz, author of Early Thunder, and Why Don't You Get a Horse, Sam Adams? explained that a mere interest in a subject wasn't enough for successful historical fiction; the author must "get inside" her characters. As for herself, Ms. Fritz confessed that she has to really love the characters about whom she writes--- she therefore couldn't write about a truly despicable character, no matter how fascinating

a person. Ms. Fritz is currently working on two more books dealing with the American Bicentennial.

It was noted that, despite the inclement weather, at least ten librarians from Rhode Island attended the meeting, which was enthusiastically received.

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Note: Kathy Paroline, Reader's Advisor at Providence Public Library, has just been appointed new chairperson of the Intellectual Freedom Committee of RILA. Problems with censorship disputes should be brought to her attention by calling 521-7722 business, 272-6231 home.

GALLIMAUFY

The Department of Economic Development is planning the next Rhode Island Visitor's Guide, and is especially interested in news of planned events and dates of Bicentennial and other public functions in 1976. If you are interested in having any special 1976 events at your library announced in the Visitor's Guide, please call Ronald Action, Tourist Promotion Division, Department of Economic Development, 277-2601 by September 1.

Claire K. Lipsman in The Disadvantaged and Library Effectiveness (ALA, 1973), after a study of 15 library programs for the disadvantaged, points out the libraries in low income areas at times reach even less than the 10% of the population claimed as a library average by Robert Leigh in The Public Library in the United States (Columbia, 1950).

ALA's Washington office reports that the fiscal year 1976, in effect, will be a 15 month year because the federal fiscal year is shifting from a July 1 - June 30 cycle to an October 1 - September 30 cycle beginning with FY 1977. That is, federal FY 1977 will begin on October 1, 1976.

The National Endowment for the Humanities and ALA have issued a "Bicentennial Reading, Viewing and Listening" list of books, films, records and other materials designed to be used with the American Issues Forum, a 36 week program for individual or group investigation of some fundamental issues of American life. This list contains some very basic titles in Americana, many of which should be in most American libraries in the Bicentennial year. Many libraries have received a copy of this list already. But if yours has not please phone Mary Champagne, Northern Regional Office, 723-5350.

Virginia Carter, Director of the Coventry Public Library, is one of two candidates nominated to be Secretary of NELA in 1975-1976. Virginia thinks, according to the NELA Newsletter, that NELA should devote more of its resources to the problems and needs of smaller libraries in New England.

Sidney Wright reports that the successful bond issue for library renovation at Warwick means the public will have the entire ground floor of the building to themselves with books, services, and study areas all right at hand. Out of sight upstairs beyond the heating system room will be the regional office, technical services, the film cooperative, the director and deputy director's offices. The staff room does remain downstairs so that

break time and lunch time will bring us down to catch a glimpse of the public. It is expected that actual renovation will be underway by winter.

The Arlington branch in Cranston has been remodelled to increase its usefulness to the community. It is DSLS' 27th library construction projection. An air-conditioned meeting room upstairs will serve for neighborhood as well as library programs. The library itself downstairs is geared to current popular titles for children, adults and the elderly with reliance on interlibrary loan for in-depth materials. The grassy fenced-in surroundings look suitable for benches for picnic lunches and children's play areas. Stephanie Kirkes, new branch librarian, started work this month. Margaret Knox, long-time librarian at Arlington for many years, retired in June as did Abbie Underwood at the Greene library in Coventry. Grace Eklof, already working at Greene will be on the job full time now. Gabriela Adler is a new reference librarian at William Hall, assisting Bill Bergeron.

In Pawtucket Doris Dexter has retired after many years of good service there and at Greenville, Marilyn Norris has begun work at Pawtucket as reference librarian.

QUOTABLE QUOTES

Over production or under production of practitioners in a field, corrupts the profession. Should the schools produce too many practitioners the temptation of each is to over-treat the patient. If the schools produce too few, the temptation of each is to ill-treat the patient. In either case the public suffers.

- Pisistatus Caxton

The meaning is the use.

- Ludwig Wittgenstein

I had a vision of the economic system as a pitiful and disgusting fiasco.

- Edmund Wilson, Memoirs of Hecate County

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