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RILA

BULLETIN

PREPARING FOR
NELA



SEPTEMBER 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 unless the editor is consulted.

Bulletin subscription rates are \$6.00/year for agencies or individuals not holding membership in RILA.

Advertising rates are available on request.

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THE EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

We pause here today, in the midst of the hustle and bustle of gathering articles together for the Bulletin, to gaze out at a warm rainy September morning. Next door, with dignity, in a spirit of reflection, our Jewish neighbors are celebrating Rosh HaShana, the New Year.

Earlier in the week, knowing that this high holy day was approaching, and feeling keenly ashamed at our near total ignorance of its meaning, we withdrew a small volume of explanation from the local public library. And in that volume, we read that Rosh HaShana is a day for introspection, for remembering every deed that one has done, for commencing to make one's peace with God and man so as to be prepared in 10 days for Yom Kippur, the day of atonement. This seems to be a more sensible way of acknowledging a New Year, than most of us have.

We read also that on Rosh HaShana Jewish Congregations in their synagogues hear a reader pray for them as follows:

Our God and God of our Fathers, grant aptness of expression to the representative of Thy people, the House of Israel, who stand before thee to plead for mercy toward Thy people, the House of Israel. Teach them what they should say. Endow them with the wisdom as to what they should speak, . . . Let them not stammer with their tongues or falter in their speech. Let them not humiliate themselves or cause their people to be humiliated.

What a magnificent editorial policy this prayer would have made for the Bulletin. We wish that we had seen it before we tried to construct the Bulletin Editorial Policy, Philosophy, and Procedure which follow. The Editorial Policy was approved by the RILA Executive Board June 30, and the Philosophy and Procedures were reviewed by the Board. In addition to these papers the Bulletin this month also features information on NELA, an excellent article by Joan Crothers on the Ohio College Library Center, a very useful list of important government documents by Matt Newell and Anne Shaw, controversial articles on feminism by Ned Comstock, Roger Stockard's melancholy tale of growing bureaucracy, Linda Hodgman's reevaluation of one of this generation's most controversial books, and an account of still another problem for the White House Conference on Libraries.

Illustrations, again this month, with the exception of a cover borrowed from Aubrey Beardsley's 'Design for the Yellow Book, vol. 3, 'are done courtesy of Judy Finberg of Brown University.

RILA BULLETIN EDITORIAL POLICIES

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Published by the Rhode Island Library Association, it is open to news and discussions of interest to RILA members. Articles contained therein, however, do not necessarily reflect the ideas of the RILA membership, the Bulletin staff, or Bulletin advertisers.

The Bulletin editor reserves the right to reject any item submitted for publication, with the exception of items submitted by the Executive Board or by its president on behalf of the Board.

Bulletin staff will formally communicate with an agency or an individual involved in an article to be published, prior to publication of the article, if in the editor's opinion that individual or agency might be expected to disagree with the content of the article. That does

not guarantee, however, that an article with which an agency or individual does disagree will not be printed. Information about public agencies may be reserved for release at a judicious time.

The editor may dissent from RILA or Executive Board opinion, and publish opinion contrary to RILA positions.

The work of the Bulletin staff is subject to review at any time by the Board. The editor's resignation may be called for at any time by more than half of the Executive Board members.

RILA BULLETIN EDITORIAL PHILOSOPHY

It is important that the Bulletin be read first of all, thought-provoking secondly, and liked thirdly.

The Bulletin is devoted to the promotion of understanding through questioning, dialogue, reporting, research, and statement of opinion. Controversy will be entertained so long as it stimulates communication and promises understanding.

RILA BULLETIN EDITORIAL PROCEDURES

The Bulletin will appear monthly beginning July 1975.

The Bulletin editor will promote an increase in RILA membership and in numbers of Bulletin advertisers.

Bulletin format will change to one approximating the June 1975 issue of the Bulletin.

Bulletin staff structure will be divided into posts of assistant editor for production, circulation manager, assistant editor for research, and advertising manager, all reporting to the editor. Additional Bulletin staff will work in one of the above four areas.

Regular Bulletin staff will be limited to nine persons, and two secretaries, each of whom will have monthly assignments on the Bulletin. Others making irregular contributions will simply be known as contributors.

All articles are signed.

Library articles and news on a regular or irregular basis are welcome from all organizations and individuals.

The Bulletin staff welcomes articles on contemporary subjects, on subjects of interest to small, medium-sized, and large libraries, on personnel matters, on library innovations and experiments, and on all types of libraries. Such articles may be popular or scholarly in tone, and may run from a few paragraphs to about ten typed double-spaced pages in length.

News and articles should be submitted to the editor by the beginning of each month.

The Bulletin staff will give particular attention to the news it actually receives by telephone or written report. At the same time the staff will attempt to discover important news items that are not forwarded to the Bulletin.

The editor will report to the chairperson of the Public Affairs Committee on all matters not covered by these policies. The Public Affairs chairperson will report to the Executive Board president when appropriate.

The editor will file a budget report with the Executive Board each year.

SECOND THOUGHTS ON A SECOND-CLASS CLASSIC ?

Linda Hodgman ©

It appears to be generally acceptable among critics and intellectuals that Pauline Reage's Story of O is an authentic literary work. Story of O has been variously referred to as "an ironic fable of unfreedom," "a mystic work", and "an apotheosis of feminine sexuality". But what all seem to agree on, from the New York Times Book Review to the Psychiatric Quarterly is that it surpasses the merely pornographic to become a work of art. We are told the psychology is sound (an example of polymorphously perverse regression) and certainly the book is well written, even, many say beautifully written and very poetic. That the book is conceived as a unity, that O undergoes a steady perceivable character transformation, and that the work produces in the reader a strong emotional reaction (besides the physical response) cannot be denied.

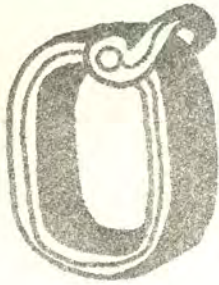
The question I particularly want to raise here is what exactly is this spiritual transformation which all seem to agree O undergoes? Can we accurately refer to it as a transcendence as others have done? I think not, though O herself perhaps views it in this way.

All the mouths that had probed her mouth, all the hands that had seized her breasts and belly, all the members that had been thrust into her and so perfectly provided the living proof that she was indeed prostituted, had at the same time provided the proof that she was worthy of being prostituted and had, so to speak, sanctified her.

I am unable to see how woman through the "decline of her flesh", through becoming utterly an object, a woman-thing, all by means of detestable insult and humiliation to her body and mind, achieves any true transcendence. To me such a definition of transcendence is unthinkable — a woman ravaged, violently destroyed, thingified, dead in her soul — there can be no such transcendence.

There is nothing redemptive in O's tortures or in her descent into hell, which is nothing less than the total abandonment of her own personal significance, her own unique being. To say that O is "transfigured by a current which comes from the soul", that she is an innocent soul and thereby longs for martyrdom, or that she is a creature blessed and accursed, seem to me characterizations that reek of masculine fantasy and also in a way attribute more "beauty" to O than she actually possesses. Perhaps the more beauty she possesses, the more perverse pleasure there is in her despoilment?

In any case, I think O is really no more, nor less, than an uncertain woman struggling to find some center of her being, an identity, a truth, which she mistakenly and tragically seeks outside herself. The tragedy is that when someone else, the man she loves, offers her his "idea" of her, she accepts it and becomes a woman who thinks of herself only as men do, and desires to be only what another desires her to be. At first it is



for the sake of love, ——— "(Rene)... had so often told her that what he loved in her was the object he had made of her...." But from this impossible situation no so called tragic flowering ensues, as O's love is a dark and dirty trap, the death of her soul, her spirit. To quote applicably from the book: "However offensive and insulting his conduct may have been, O's love for Rene remained unchanged. She considered herself fortunate to count enough in his eyes for him to derive pleasure from offending her...." The destruction, the

utter negation of O's spirit is perhaps more terrifying in a sense than the destruction of her body.

I might offer here a quote from Stephen Marcus' The Other Victorians which may shed some further light on O's motivations. Marcus tells us that anthropologists have recently shown us "that women's idea of their own sexuality (at least in a large majority of cultures) is historically a response to what men want and demand that sexuality to be, and that in general women are content to accept whatever model of their own sexuality men offer to and demand of them." I think O can be seen as the expression of a woman who has come totally to believe in the "other's" idea of her. That Rene's idea happens to be especially monstrous renders O's end especially hideous, but even on a lesser level O would have destroyed herself, as many women have and do.

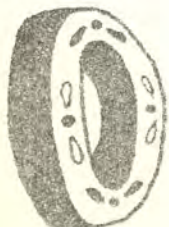
O accepts Rene's idea of her as a valid and complete expression of her being. She makes herself into the living embodiment of the "other's" imagination and will. In effect she has no enduring "I" of her own ——— only an ego in the process of utter annihilation. While Rene goes to his office, often forgets O, plays golf, gives her to Sir Stephen, and so on and on, however the spirit moves him, O exists first only in her love for Rene, and then only in her sexuality, as she has always existed in Rene's mind.



In the beginning she had not enjoyed or desired the men who had used her at Roissy. "....they were the instruments by which her lover derived pleasure from her, by which she became what he wanted her to be, polished and smooth and gentle as a stone!" But later in her relationship with Sir Stephen she comes to realize that her dread and her desire are one, that her sexual degradation, her humiliation, is her pleasure and her desire. At this point O undergoes the complete abandonment of herself to the idea of the "other". She truly no longer has any authentic selfhood; what she submits to with Sir Stephen, and for him, is not even for the sake of love anymore.

That O has achieved a "perfect" will to submission (in my opinion hardly a triumph) is fully evidenced in the Jacqueline sequence of the book. Despite O's strong attraction to Jacqueline and her knowledge that Rene would not mind her making love to the young woman, the actual decision to approach the object of her desire comes from an authority outside herself.

She was waiting for more than permission, since she already had permission. She was waiting for an order. It came to her not from Rene but from Sir Stephen.



O does then approach and make love to Jacqueline. Indeed she enjoys her in the same way as the men have enjoyed O, i. e. actively. Despite her personal pleasure though, O is ready and willing at any moment

to hand this object of her desire over to her "masters" to be tortured and humiliated just as she has been. She admits not only her willingness to do this, but her readiness to do it happily at a moment's bidding. Finally O is even (and I am still quoting from the text) "pleased to think that she would deliver Jacqueline by an act of betrayal, because she had felt insulted at seeing Jacqueline's contempt for her condition as a flogged and branded slave, a condition of which O herself was proud." Quite clearly O no longer has any sense of a Self which is her own.



The last point I would like to make as regards Story of O is the use of the mask in the Owl sequence, the book's conclusion. Masks present so many possibilities that when used effectively in a work of art they can be extraordinarily evocative and revealing. The scene in which O is costumed as an owl is stunningly suggestive, both on a psychological as well as artistic plane. When O dons the masked costume she understands intuitively the role she is intended to play and she accepts. I want to consider the power of the mask itself, that is, the power it wields as an entity in itself. The idea is used with extreme effectiveness in what I consider to be a very fine and beautiful work of art, Rilke's The Notebooks of Malte Laurids Brigge. The effect of the mask on the person is what I am primarily concerned with.

In the Notebooks, Malte, the narrator is recalling an incident from his childhood, a most revealing and striking incident. He recollects how as a child he came across a closet full of old clothes, costumes, and masks. He says and I quote: "I had never seen masks before, but I understood at once that masks ought to be." The child proceeds to disguise himself, first putting on a mask and then donning other materials. He then describes the transformation which he experienced in himself. "It was really grandiose, beyond all expectation. And the mirror gave it back instantly, it was too convincing. It would not have been at all necessary to move much; this apparition was perfect even though it did nothing." What echoes of O!



But young Malte, unlike O, almost immediately takes fright and there is a frantic struggle to remove the mask, to assert his own will.

Hot and angry, I rushed to the mirror and with difficulty watched through the mask the working of my hands... While I strove in boundlessly increasing anguish to squeeze somehow out of my disguise, it forced me, by what means I do not know, to lift my eyes and imposed on me an image, no, a reality, a strange, unbelievable and monstrous reality, with which, against my will, I became permeated: for now the mirror was the stronger, and I was the mirror.

The mask can be seen as the perfect metaphor for "otherness". Like O, Malte has become the reflection, the "other" has triumphed over the Self and become real. The passage in the Notebooks continues: Malte





... stared at this great terrifying unknown before me, and it seemed to me appalling to be alone with him. But at the very moment I thought this, the worst befell; I lost all sense, I simply ceased to exist. For one second I had an indescribable, painful and futile longing for myself, then there was only he; there was nothing but he.



One can only wonder did O, for just a single moment before she gave herself up utterly to the reflection of the Other, perhaps have that painful and futile longing for herself?

Malte goes on to relate how he did not know where to turn for help in his extremity. People came, but he says

... they did not spring forward to the rescue; their cruelty knew no bounds. They stood there and laughed; my God, they could stand there and laugh. I wept but the mask did not let the tears escape; they ran down inside over my cheeks and dried at once and ran again and dried. And at last I knelt before them, as no human being ever knelt; I knelt, and lifted up my hands, and implored them: "Take me out, if you still can, ..." but they did not hear; I had no longer any voice.

Those are Malte's words but it is O I hear too. On the last page of Story of O we have this:

O stared at them with eyes that, beneath her plumage, were darkened with bister, eyes opened wide like the eyes of the nocturnal bird she was impersonating, and the illusion was so extraordinary that no one thought of questioning her, which would have been the most natural thing to do, as though she were a real owl, deaf to human language and dumb.

Did O, behind her mask, for even a fleeting second, know the anguish of her loss and long to be free, her Self?

The Notebooks continues as Malte concludes his recollection of this startling incident from his childhood. He says

Sieversen used to tell to the day of her death how I sank down and how they went on laughing, thinking that was part of it. They were used to that from me. But then I had continued to lie there and had not answered. And their fright when they finally discovered that I was unconscious and lay there like a piece of something.



And that is how I remember O. She is likened to a piece of stone or wax, spoken to by none, utterly alone and without a voice, indeed just like a piece of Something.

No doubt all will agree that O has reached the limits of possible experience in terms of her body, but it has been through the total negation of her personality, her will, her spirit. Some critics would have us believe that in the final and terribly distressing scene, where O masked in the plumage of an owl is exhibited for public ridicule, where she is truly nothing but an object, she has become pure spirit. To this I can only respond Never! Though O's heart still beats, though she is still available for the pleasure of others, her soul is dead. It can only be said that one vague and haunting premonition remains, almost imperceptible, but still it is present. Maybe, just maybe, behind that mask O KNEW, and there fell unseen tears of anguish for the dark night of the soul into which she had passed, clothed in the trappings of a nocturnal bird.



THE OHIO COLLEGE LIBRARY CENTER: PROMISE AND PERFORMANCE

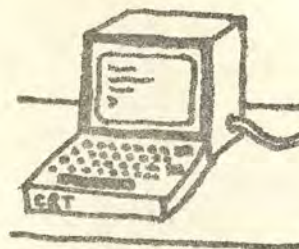
-by Joan Crothers ©
Graduate Student, School of Library Science,
University of Rhode Island

Most library procedures have remained manual in nature, despite the doubling of sources of information over the last twenty-five years. This fact, coupled with galloping inflation, has made increasing demands upon the library's financial and personnel resources, so that costs have skyrocketed. Allen Veaner concludes that "changes in federal, state, and local priorities have almost conclusively done away with the idea of local self-sufficiency in collections - a fact which required fast-response computerized catalogs and their ancillary network apparatus."¹ Indeed, this appears to be true, if the increasing spread of library networks is any indication. This paper attempts to examine one such network, the Ohio College Library Center (OCLC), in the light of its performance versus its promises.

Based on the premise that it is cheaper for one large library to function efficiently than for two smaller ones to do so, there has been a great surge of library network growth in the last ten to fifteen years. By definition, a library network is a "coalition formed by a group of similar or dissimilar libraries to share resources and centralized processing with one another."² The Ohio College Library Center was the first and most extensive of the new networks, and its approach has been closely watched and possibly copied by others. Chartered in July, 1967, in the state of Ohio as a non-profit corporation, OCLC stated that its objectives were to



increase the availability to the individual (students and faculty) of resources in Ohio's academic libraries, and to decrease the rate of library costs per student.³ Initially planned only for Ohio academic libraries, the membership of OCLC gradually expanded both in the type of library and in geographic location until the official policy was changed in March, 1973, enabling other libraries to be aided on an informal basis.



In practice, OCLC employs the concept of the computer as a public utility and its approach is to create a centralized, computer based, machine-readable file of bibliographic information whose overall design includes six sub-systems. Only the first, an on-line union catalog, coupled with shared cataloging, is in operation now, and it has been functioning, in various stages of development, almost from inception. The others, serials control, a technical processing system, complete interlibrary loan communication, remote catalog access and circulation control, and retrieval by subject, were all scheduled to be implemented by 1975. None have been begun, much less completed. A substantial serials data base (100,000 records) was anticipated by the end of 1974, and in fact, in 1972 OCLC began accepting some serials information into its file. But to this date, this system has not been activated, and libraries which depend on OCLC have to look elsewhere for their serials information.

The Technical Processing System (TPS) was the next sub-system scheduled to be activated. Basically concerned with acquisitions, this system could be used to input the status of a book (on order, in process, etc.) as well as to produce and mail purchase orders and to keep account of funds. This system, as well as the remaining three, has not begun to be developed. Primarily then, OCLC is now used for cataloging purposes, although monitoring of the system, according to Frederick Kilgour, director of OCLC, shows that use of the terminal by other departments (acquisitions checks for holdings and for bibliographic information, reference and inter-library loan, and by selectors) exceeds that of the catalog department by 150%.⁴

It is important at this point to recall that OCLC was originally planned as a network of Ohio academic libraries, and that the above subsystems and schedules were to be implemented for a relatively small number of institutions. A myriad of hard-and software computer problems have occurred as a result of the assimilation of many more libraries at a very rapid pace, and in the delay of solving these computer problems, the original plans, with the major exception of the union catalog and card production, were temporarily at least, laid aside.

Cataloging, then, is the strong point of OCLC, and it is easy to understand why when one considers that it is a much more expensive process than either circulation or acquisitions. Manual cataloging of a book can range from fifteen minutes to an hour, irrespective of typing or producing finished cards. Under the OCLC system, one terminal operator can catalog as many as twenty books per hour, thus reaping a savings in both time and money. The system operates by means of a central computer based in Columbus, Ohio, with a large, random access, secondary memory containing a file of bibliographic records and several indexes to that file. A Cathode Ray Tube (CRT) terminal connects a given library with the computer in Columbus. In appearance





a combination of a television screen and a typewriter, the CRT was selected for speed and ease of use by a cataloger. The screen can hold 2400-3200 characters per second, which are transmitted by conditioned telephone lines. OCLC has been effective in the developing of equipment; the CRT terminals are built to its specifications, and its new printer (for card production) prints eight rather than six lines to the inch, thus reducing the possibility of extension cards for each entry.

The "On-line" aspect of the OCLC system has been in effect since October of 1971. On-line simply means that the terminal user has immediate contact with the computer, that he receives an immediate answer to his request. This system supplies the cataloger with information when needed while at the same time reducing the per-unit cost of each request. The information in the data base is not limited to MARC II tapes; members also add their own cataloging, both original and L. C. Before the activation of the on-line system, cards were produced "off-line" and the data base was restricted to the MARC II tapes produced by the Library of Congress. A third goal of the on-line system is a communications system for transacting inter-library loans, but this aspect has yet to be implemented.

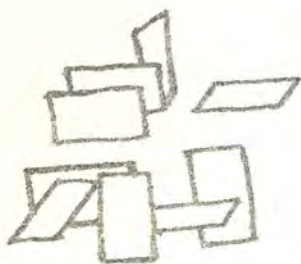
Catalog cards arrive about two weeks after ordering. They are pre-sorted, alphabetized and ready for filing, according to each library's specifications. A major goal of OCLC card production is the elimination of the uniformity required by standardized procedures; to aid in cooperative cataloging without imposing an arbitrary set of standards on the member libraries.⁵

The center tries to treat each card individually (for example, not all cards are complete with all tracings), and for the most part, it has been successful in this area; OCLC is noted for its flexibility.

A profile is prepared for each new member before it goes on-line. The main queries concern what collections are held, what types of catalogs (dictionary, divided) are used, what elements are desired on cards and in what format. There are four methods, called search keys, which can be used to gain access to the bibliographic file. The Library of Congress card number, the title, a combination of the author and the title, and finally the OCLC control number can each be used depending on what information is available. Some familiarity with the MARC II communications format (tagging or numbering of fields or parts of the catalog card) is required of the cataloging staff, but the book, Standards of Input Cataloging, was produced by the Center to illustrate which fields were absolutely necessary for all libraries, which were recommended, and which were optional.

Once a record appears on the CRT screen, the terminal operator makes any necessary changes needed to make the data appear as is desired on his library's cards, orders the record produced and sent. If no data appears, initial input can be submitted and cards are also produced. The record becomes part of the data base and any library can avail itself of this record. Since its inception, the data base has increased more rapidly from shared input than from MARC II tapes.⁶ Much of this shared cataloging is of foreign language works, although only Roman alphabet characters can be accepted by the computer. "The computer is only as good as what is put into it,"⁷ and there is still a very real need for skilled original cataloging, but the advantage of the system is that even original cataloging can result in cards being





produced on-line.

In a report on a year's experiment with OCLC at Temple University, head cataloger Mary Gross reported several problems encountered by her department. The first was inherent in simply integrating the new computerized system with the manual method of cataloging. Such things as whether to file the temporary shelf-list before or after producing cards, whether books should be sent through physical processing and to the shelves before cards were edited (I wondered why card editing in itself was even necessary), and whether professionals or paraprofessionals should be used to tag cataloging information for computer input were some of the problems concerning scheduling operators' time on the one CRT terminal. At the time of her report, the central computer in Columbus was in operation from 7:00 a. m. to 7:00 p. m. (it has now been extended to 10:00 p. m.), and Ms. Gross found it difficult to schedule staff time for the entire twelve hours. She also found it difficult to determine how much time to allot to searching the data base, for using cataloging records located in the data base, and for inputting new records. Operational problems encountered concerned the total amount of "down" time added to delays in response time. Down time refers to the length of time that malfunctions in the system prevent its operation; delays in response time occur both when additional terminals are added without increasing the telephone circuits, and when the circuits are overloaded at peak usage periods. Gross felt that a manual back-up system was needed in the event that the system was down for longer than one working day. The computer's inability to store negative searches, necessitating a book being researched periodically, was listed as a programming limitation by Gross.⁸ Another key OCLC deficiency, not noted by Gross but by others in the field, is lack of authority controls within the system. This problem arises when two libraries input the same book with different descriptions. A third library has no control over which of the two appears on its terminal when it searches for data on the same book.

In spite of its difficulties, OCLC has solved many of its early problems and is working on others. Certain difficulties can only be solved by the individual library involved. The system does work, and it works so well that many libraries have considered forming networks to copy the OCLC system. Should it be duplicated? Or should it be extended and eventually be assimilated into a national library network such as NCLIS (National Commission on Library and Information Science) suggests? One of the first extensions of the OCLC system outside the state of Ohio occurred through NELINET (New England Library Information Network). Originally planning to duplicate OCLC, NELINET instead decided to purchase two computers to improve efficiency between OCLC and the individual library's terminals. In May of 1974, there were forty-seven terminals in thirty-two member libraries, and nine new members were awaiting delivery of ten terminals. The chief affiliate of OCLC, NELINET has added several public libraries to its membership, and two in Connecticut (Stamford and Stratford) are now on-line. In Rhode Island NELINET includes the libraries at URI, Bryant College, Rhode Island College and the Department of State Library Services.



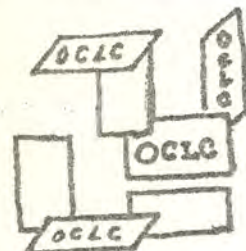
The question still remains: should statewide organizations disaffiliate from OCLC and organize their own networks? A benefit might be that greater competition could further reduce costs and individualize card requirements. On the minus side, however, one might consider that too many networks can lead to a minimum of national standardization.

How does the OCLC system affect costs? Exact figures are hard to locate, but savings have been estimated to be \$1.70 per book, which is about half that of manual cataloging costs.¹⁰ Originally cards produced by the center were estimated to be 5-6¢ per card, but this cost has now dropped to 3.5¢. The cost for use of the system is tabulated according to the use of records in the data base. In this way, the cost of the cataloging network is shared by a significant number of the users. The University of Rhode Island Library is billed through NELINET for its use of the system, with the exception of paying OCLC 3.5¢ per card. The cost of the initial terminal purchase and installation is \$3925.00, and there is a yearly membership charge of \$500.00. This recurring charge is the same for each member library, regardless of computer time used. Each time a record is used for the first time there is a telecommunications charge of 21.5¢. URI estimates 14,000 FTU's (First Time Use) during the next fiscal year, giving an estimated price of \$3,010. An additional annual telecommunications charge of \$1,009.20 for each modem (telephone box located under each CRT terminal) brings that total charge to \$3,028.00 per year. The yearly terminal maintenance fee for each terminal is \$641.00. In addition, there is an OCLC use charge of \$.955 per FTU; URI budgets \$13,370.00 for this. The total estimate for OCLC for the 1976 budget is \$34,452. It is expensive, but the administration feels it is worth the cost in terms of speed and ease of cataloging and in almost eliminating the backlog.

One important savings reported by many library administrators is a reduced payroll. Some positions vacated after use of OCLC was instituted were left unfilled. However, a possible negating effect of these savings in personnel have been reported by other administrators. Many libraries are creating a new position and are hiring a staff members whose primary responsibility concerns automation. Some may even go so far as to create a new department and train additional staff.¹¹

The Ohio College Library Center continues to grow. 1.1 million records were expected to be cataloged by the end of 1974; this figure is double that of the previous year.¹² Most of its problems are the result of overreach, yet only one user, Lake Erie College for Women, has dropped the system. This occurred when the college closed. Not everyone is enthusiastic, however. Ellsworth Mason, director of the library at the University of Colorado, feels that computers and their networks are detrimental. In 1972 he cited four basic problems: the open-ended cost of development, the unpredictability of operational costs after installing the system, the lack of easily available information on costs of comparable and competitive manual or machine-manual methods, and the unwillingness of computer specialists to "approach the real complexities of determining the costs of their operations and set costs and components in a list of priorities by their impact on unit costs."¹³

Libraries, and not consulting firms, have been involved since the inception of the Ohio College Library Center, and this is one reason why it may be so effective. In many libraries it has eliminated cataloging and card filing backlogs and the long wait



for L.C. cards. What directions the system takes in the future remains to be seen, but its worth has been proven though all of its promises have not been fulfilled.

Footnotes

1. Martin R. Miller, report ed., Library Networks: 74-75 (White Plains, N. Y: Knowledge Industry Publications, 1974), p. 8.
2. Ibid., p. 3.
3. Frederick G. Kilgour, and others. "The Shared Cataloging System of the Ohio College Library Center." Journal of Library Automation, September, 1972, p. 157.
4. Frederick G. Kilgour. "Projects of the Ohio College Library Center." Illinois Libraries, May, 1973, p. 338.
5. Kilgour, "Shared Cataloging," p. 160.
6. Miller, Library Networks: 74-75, p. 35
7. B. Scherba, "Terminal Illness for the Professional Cataloger?" Ohio Library Association Bulletin, July, 1974, p. 31.
8. Mary Gross. "OCLC Cataloging Experiment at Temple University." Pennsylvania Library Association Bulletin, May, 1973, p. 111.
9. Miller, Library Networks: 74-75, p. 43.
10. "Computer Hook-Up." American Libraries, January, 1974, p. 17.
11. Miller, Library Networks: 74-75, p. 21
12. Ibid., p. 34.
13. Ibid., p. 22-3.

CALENDAR

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| September 22-26 | Media Production Week, Department of State Library Services, 10:00 a. m. - 4:00 p. m., Call Peter Salesses for information, 277-2726. |
| September 24 | Social Responsibilities Round Table Meeting, 7:30 p. m., home of Nancy D'Amico, 295 Angell, Providence. |
| September 26 | Reception and Tour at the R. I. Historical Society Library, 52 Power St., Providence, 4:30 - 6:00 p. m. All RILA members are invited. If you have not confirmed your invitation please contact Nancy Chudacoff, 331-0448. |
| September 27 | New England Library Trustees Association Annual Meeting, "The White House Conference on Libraries," Wentworth-by-the-Sea, Portsmouth, N. H. |
| September 28 | New England Library Association Pre Conference for Support Staff, 10:00 a. m. - 4:30 p. m. Wentworth-by-the-Sea. |

- September 25 Monthly R. I. Film Cooperative Preview, Warwick Library, 9:30 am
- September 28-30 New England Library Association Annual Conference, "The Art of Practical Library Politics," Wentworth-by-the-Sea, Portsmouth, N. H.
- October 1, 8, 15, 22 Graphics in Your Library, 9:00 a. m. - noon, Department of State Library Services.
- October 6 Cooperative Juvenile Book Review Meeting, "Rhode Island History Materials for Children," 9:30 a. m., Jamestown Philomenian Library, Jamestown, R. I.
- October 9 Annual R. I. Library Film Cooperative Membership Meeting, 9:30 a. m., Warwick Public Library.
- October 9-10 "The Catalog: Its Nature and Prospects," ALA ISAD, New York Sheraton Hotel, New York City. Registration \$75 by October 1. For further information write Donald Hammer, ISAD, American Library Association, 60 E. Huron St., Chicago 60611.
- October 16-17 Softward Preview, Department of State Library Services, call Peter Salesses, 277-2726 for information.
- October 20 Monthly Adult Book Meeting, "Feminist Poetry," 9:30 a. m., Westerly Public Library, Westerly, R. I.
- October 26-30 American Society for Information Science, Annual National Conference Sheraton Boston Hotel, Boston, Mass. For information call Ruth Tighe, NELINET, 617 235-8071.
- October 30 "Basic Grant Writing," A Northern Regional Workshop, with Jane Mayerson of the Boston Office of Aging (HEW), 9:30 a. m. - 12:30 p. m. Riverside Branch of the E. Providence Public Library. Contact Marian Fifefield for reservations by October 1.
- October 31-
Nov., 2 First World Fantasy Convention, Holiday Inn, Providence. Devoted to fantasy fiction, this conference will feature Robert Bloch and Gahan Wilson, and will focus to a large degree on Providence's H. P. Lovecraft. Write Kirby McCauley, P. O. Box 135, Middle Village Station, Middle Village, Long Island 11379 for more information.
- November 6-7 Rhode Island Library Association Annual Conference, Sheraton Islander Inn, Newport.
- November 19-22 New York Library Association Annual Conference, Americana Hotel, New York City.
- January 18-24 American Library Association Mid-Winter Conference, Chicago.
- July 18-24 American Library Association Annual Conference, Chicago.

\$ \$ \$ RILA MEMBERSHIP DUES \$ \$ \$

Please consider paying your membership dues as soon as possible. THE DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 1. Make checks payable to RILA and mail to RILA Membership, Regional Office, Barrington Public Library, 283 County Road, Barrington, R.I. 02806. Dues support such activities as legislative campaigns, public relations, continuing education, RILA committees, and RILA publications. If you have paid your dues already, please urge others to do so. And suggest to new members of the library community that they join RILA. Last year the tendency of a minority of the membership to pay its dues as it felt the whim, throughout the whole fiscal year, made it difficult to predict Association income.

PREPARING FOR THE NELA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

L. N. FLANAGAN

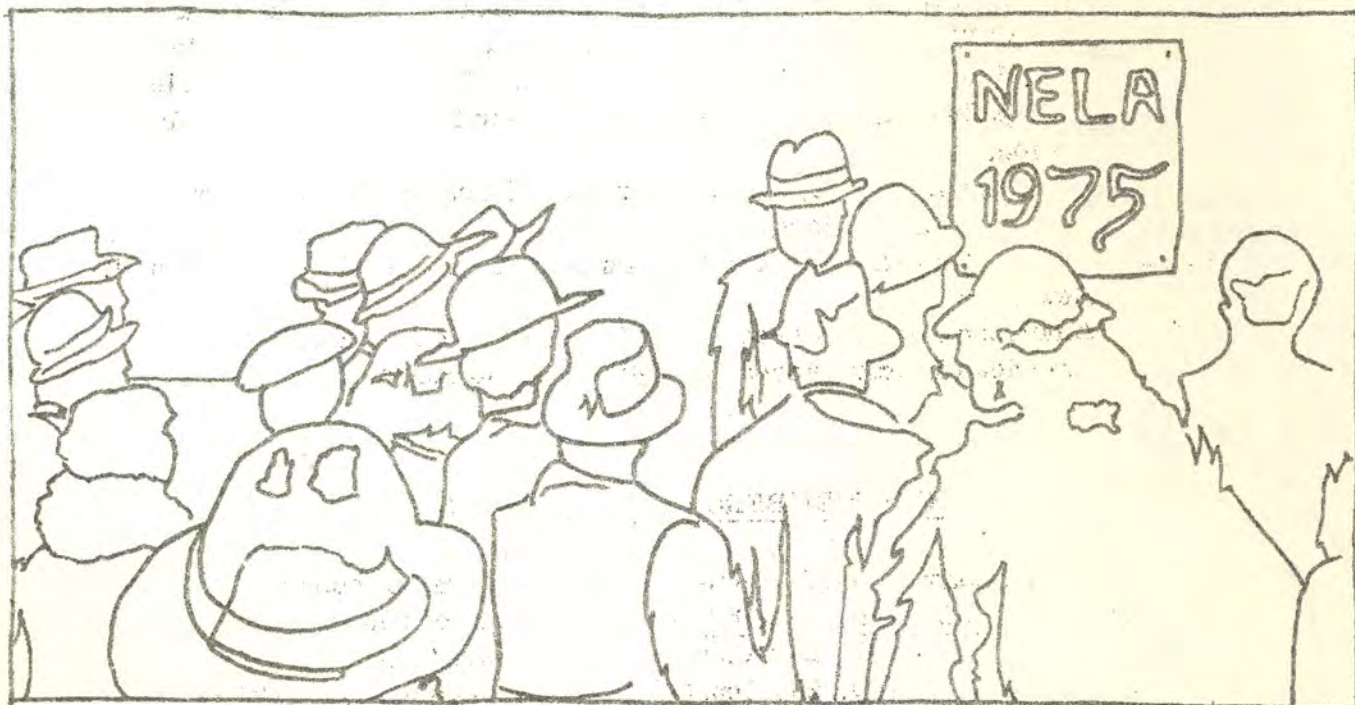
"Reading maketh a full man, conference a ready man . . ."

- Bacon

The New England Library Association will hold its annual conference this year from September 28 - 30 on the theme of "The Art of Practical Library Politics". New Englanders will again gather for the Conference at Wentworth-by-the-Sea in Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Because of the success of last year's Pre Conference for Support Staff, a second is scheduled for September 28. It will include workshops on children's services, on preservation of library materials, and on audio-visual materials, as well as exhibits, handouts, and a job bulletin board.

On the evening of the 28th, the Conference itself begins with the first general session devoted to "New England Library Cooperation." Monday features panel presentations on consortia, on new trends in children's non-fiction, on the departmental structure of libraries, as well as an informal discussion for young adult librarians. On Tuesday panelists will focus on catalog subject headings, video communications plus role playing to test the limits of intellectual freedom and an informal workshop on developing community strategies. The Association business meeting will comprise the second general session.



while the third session will return to the idea of New England interlibrary cooperation. Dinner speaker Monday night will be Marshall Dodge, one of the creators of the "Bert and I" record series. Tuesday Judith Crist, film critic and author takes over with a second after dinner speech.

Overall, the Conference looks promising. What does not appear so attractive is the cost of attending it this year. Prices have risen all the way around, and the cost of staying at Wentworth is now incredible for a hotel that's supposed to be offering off season and special convention rates. Single room and board at Wentworth plus service charges and taxes this year can cost close to \$150 for three days - exclusive of registration fees, mileage costs and incidental expenses. Given the budget of the average New England library and the salary of the average librarian in this bleak economic year, the Wentworth rates can prove difficult. Your editor takes the liberty of suggesting that any good travel guide for the Portsmouth area will suggest a number of hotel-motel and restaurant accommodations equal to but considerably less expensive than Wentworth. Don't be afraid to explore!

ARTICLE OF THE MONTH

Kenneth R. Shaffer's "The Library Administrator as Negotiator" (Library Journal, September 1, 1975) is recommended to you as the most thought-provoking article in library literature in the past month. Mr. Shaffer, formerly director of the graduate library school at Simmons College, and for many decades dean of New England theorists on library administration, has abstracted his article as follows:

While few would deny that the fabric and structure of American life have changed - and continue to change - at a near-revolutionary pace, long out-dated images of our institutions and mores still remain in our popular vocabulary. One can only explain this paradox by nostalgia for "the good old days" (which, perhaps, were not so good), and by our confusion and uncertainty as to what the realities of 1975 really are. A relevant example is the refusal, in our popular vocabulary, to face the indisputable facts of change in our image of the administrator, the manager - the "boss." This is as true for library management as for business corporations and other institutions.

Any administrator who expects to hold on to his job very long must be acutely conscious every moment of his working day of the ambivalent attitudes toward his authority on the part of his staff, his superiors, and outsiders. While in rare moments he may reflect with bitter amusement at the misunderstood nature and limitations of his position, all too often this misunderstanding is expressed in terms of demands and ultimatums by others which he knows he cannot resolve on his own authority. Too often, the administrator's life is exhausted by threat, demands for instant and radical change, public ridicule and debasement, and recurrent confrontations. His time, energy, and patience are devoted to "putting out fires," and little may be left for him to carry on the work of a productive manager.

WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE SUFFERS TEMPORARY SETBACK

- from the Massachusetts Bureau of Library
Extension Newsletter, Aug. 1975.

Since President Ford has yet to transmit a budget request for the White House Conference on Library and Information Services to Congress, the House-Senate Conferees on the Education Appropriation Bill (HR 5901) recently agreed to strike the entire \$3.5 million for the Conference. The Conferees were reluctant to provide funds without the administration's budget request. If the President submits this request for the White House Conference, then the \$3.5 million will be considered with the next supplemental appropriation bill anticipated this fall.

The National Commission on Libraries and Information Science, the agency mandated with administering the Conference, provided the White House with the necessary budget justifications. It is now essential that the President transmit the budget request to Congress in order that funds be released to start planning the Conference.

It is time to rally additional support for the White House Conference. Librarians, trustees, and publishers have bombarded Capitol Hill and the White House with insurances for support of the Conference. It was not enough. The base of support must now broaden so that it will be clear to Congress and the Administration that the White House Conference on Library and Information Services will lead to improved library services for all Americans.

Ask the Governor, your state representatives and senators, Mayor, town officials, educators, religious leaders, women's, social and civic groups, and other library users to:

1. Write to President Ford and urge him TO TRANSMIT THE BUDGET REQUEST FOR THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICE TO CONGRESS IMMEDIATELY.
2. Write to each state representative asking members of Congress to urge the same of Mr. Ford. In writing their members of Congress, civic leaders and others SHOULD ASK TO RECEIVE A COPY OF THE LETTER HIS/HER LEGISLATOR SENDS TO THE PRESIDENT.

In order to get lay persons or "non-librarians" effectively into the act of urging support for the White House Conference and the preliminary state conferences you must supply them with a few relevant facts. Write your Congressman for copies of P. L. 93-568.

Purpose: Public Law 93-568 states: "The purpose of the White House Conference on Library and Information Services... shall be to develop recommendations for the further improvement of the Nation's libraries and information centers and their use by the public.

Some Reasons For The Conference:

- * Access to information and ideas is indispensable to the development of human potential, for advancement of civilization, and the continuance of enlightened self-government.
- * The preservation and the dissemination of information and ideas are the primary purpose and function of libraries and information centers.
- * New achievements in technology offer a potential for enabling libraries and information centers to serve the public more fully, expeditiously and economically.
- * Maximum realization of the potential inherent in the use of advanced technology by libraries and information centers requires cooperation through planning for and coordination of the services of libraries and information centers.

The importance of the White House Conference was emphasized by program participants at several meetings during the American Library Association Conference in San Francisco. Alice Ihrig, Chairman of the ALA White House Conference Committee urged each state to begin drawing up lists of non-library people who should be involved.

She emphasized that the White House Conference and the state conferences which will precede it in each state are for lay people; librarians will be involved in planning rather than attending these conferences. Al Trezza, Executive Director of NCLIS, stated that the WHC is not a conference to decide where to go. Each state has a long range planning document and must already know where it thinks it wants to go. The problem to solve at the WHC is how to make each state a viable partner in a national program. "The White House Conference is to be the thrust and will not be just talk."

Librarians and friends of libraries will have an opportunity to hear and talk to Al Trezza on September 30 when he will be a participant in a program on Interlibrary Cooperation in New England; What Are We In For and What's In It For Us? at the New England Library Association's Annual Conference at Hotel Wentworth-by-the-Sea in Portsmouth, N. H.

LEGISLATION AND MONEY

- Leo N. Flanagan

The Illinois House of Representatives has just passed, and sent to the State Senate, a bill to increase library equalization aid from \$1.50 per capita to \$5.50 over a three year period. The small bill would authorize annual grants of \$1.00 per capita to public libraries within four years. In New York City meantime, the branch director noted that over the past four years city cutbacks have resulted in the elimination of 22 percent of the city library staff and a reduction of library hours averaging 55 percent.

Whither Rhode Island? Will we follow New York, or Illinois? The answer will probably be determined by Rhode Island librarians in the very near future. Bob Burford, new chairman of the RILA Government Relations Committee and his committee members are currently considering new funding legislation for R.I. libraries. What this proposed legislation will be will soon be made public. Whatever it is, however, will never become law next spring if it does not get more support from R.I. librarians than last year's lost legislation did. Wither Rhode Island?

* * * * *

On July 25 President Ford vetoed the FY 1976 Education Appropriations Bill 5901 because it was higher than his administration's request. Unfortunately the Library Services and Construction Act (LSCA) would have suffered severely and immediately if the veto of HR 5901 had not been overridden. Mr. Ford intended to release only about 1/5 of the money used in LSCA last year. That would have hurt DSLs and regional services very badly. Luckily on Sept. 9 Congress managed to override Ford's veto and LSCA money is secure.

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COMPANION PIECES

EDWARD COMSTOCK , Director,
Rogers Free Library, Bristol

Ed. note: The following two articles are made available for reprinting through the courtesy of Mr. Comstock and the Phoenix - Times Newspapers and the Warwick Beacon. Mr. Comstock contributes a feature column "Current Reading" to these newspapers and the following two articles appeared as such on July 23-24, 1975 and August 20-21, 1975 respectively.

DOWN WITH FEMINISTS

Feminists are an aberrant breed of career-oriented women, advocates of a radical socially destructive ideology. Fortunately, the primary interest of most American women is not building a career, but in finding a secure relationship with a man and establishing a home.

But a small, militant corps of feminists is instigating an unprecedented attack on woman's greatest achievement: the creation and maintenance of her home and nurturing aspiration and success within her family.

The average woman must listen to a daily attack by the mass media denigrating continually her own values, ambitions and efforts. She must hear herself denounced as unworthy, servile and outdated by irresponsible, obtrusive "libbers" whose only achievements are their strident voices.

It is time somebody made it clear that women in this country are the most advantaged group in the world, and that radical feminism is against the best interests of women, men and children.

The National Observer sets forth these thoughts in a July 12th article, "Ms. Conceptions by women's lib."

The Observer story resulted from a talk given in Washington, DC in May by Bethesda, housewife Andrea S. Fordham before the Citizens' Advisory Council on the Status of Women. This council-according to the latest U.S. Government Manual - was established by the President in 1963 "to review and evaluate the progress of organizations in furthering the full participation of women in American life."

It is not likely they expected to be addressed by any woman whose views resembled Mrs. Fordham's. How difficult it must have been for them to adjust to a brilliant defense of traditional family values now so bitterly attacked by organized and articulate minorities. Particularly it must have been galling to have the feminist movement confronted with so much truth.

Mrs. Fordham said that feminist ideologist (including the President's Advisory Council) are encouraging the migration of women out of the house and into the labor market. More than twice the number of mothers with husbands work outside the home as in 1950, and as the family is diminished in importance the destruction of civilization results.

In this period, teenage suicides have tripled, assaults on teachers have increased 77 per cent, student robberies, juvenile rapes and homicides have risen to unprecedented figures. The nation's children are out of hand and desperate.

Nor is the gain to the working mother in any proportion to the loss to the family when the wife goes out to work. Most jobs are onerous, and not rewarding; Mrs. Fordham points out, and the quality of life for every family member is diminished when the husband and children lose the special love, security and support of a devoted wife.

Psychologist William James of Harvard, widely regarded as the father of modern psychology, said that those who ignore history are condemned to repeat it.

The Soviets went through a similar experiment in Russia in the 1920's, to which we are now apparently condemned.

Every one of the "new freedoms", now fanatically acclaimed by feminists here, was part of the early Communist revolution there.

Universal child care, group living sharing housework, abolition of sex roles, easy divorce, sexual license and the consequent devaluation of the family--all these things--resulted in such chaos that the Soviets were forced to abandon them all. But not until they had experienced the most shocking and cruel exploitation of women, rise of violence and wholesale abandonment of children.

Are American men to blame for accepting this attack on the traditional family? Yes, to some extent, says Mrs. Fordham.

But she forgets that American men hold women in special respect. None of the discipline and structure usual in Europe, particularly in the Mediterranean countries, is imposed on women in America.

Tolerance of the feminist movement springs largely from an inherent desire by American men to please women. We are still a young nation, and our attitude toward women was formed when women were scarce and highly prized on the American frontier.

Women were full partners then in the family enterprise, just as they are now. Survival of the family unit depended on the wife and mother: without her there was no future. So now if the ladies run on a bit, most men are inclined to accept it.

But when the feminist movement mounts a direct, organized attack on the foundation of civilization, then yes; American men are blameworthy if they remain silent.

Perhaps they feel instinctively that the feminist movement is ephemeral, and will not stand. The home, the basic nuclear family unit has been the building block of civilization since the dawn of history. It is the best defense against vicissitude yet devised, and life without it would indeed be nasty, brutish and short, just as 17th century philosopher Thomas Hobbes said it would be. The wife and mother will surely survive the shrill attack that is the fashion now.

For the hand that rocks the cradle is the hand that rules the world.

IT WASN'T ME ... BUT

This writer ventured to discuss in a recent column the careful opinion of a woman speaking at a national forum as reported by a respected American journal. She expressed dissent from the currently fashionable feminist doctrine.

The remarkable reader response to this column is worth consideration:

---More people than ever before wrote replies.

---Few replies were objective, most emotional, some wild.

---All but one were from women.

Typical was one characterization of this piece on feminism as "the greatest conglomeration of misconception ever to hit the printed page." Quite a responsibility, really, for your local newspaper. It has been almost five hundred years since Gutenberg.

Entirely overlooked was the fact that this column on feminism was a report on someone else's thinking. The opinion was not original with this writer. It was the opinion of a thoughtful, responsible anti-feminist, which is a respectable thing to be.

Astonishing was the intolerance of the feminists who responded to a dissenting opinion.

And since this writer may well be ridden out of town on a rail, some self-expression now seems appropriate, if only on the way out.

So, speaking for myself now, I do deeply believe in traditional marriage. No modification of it has met, as far as I can see, with any success at all.

Some saints choose to stand alone, and some solocists are obliged to, but the race of man needs the support and companionship and love of a willing partner. That is why, God said, he made Eve.

Life is too tough to go it alone.

The form this partnership takes is marriage, and it is the oldest thing we know.

Homer's story, "The Odyssey" is the story of the wandering of Odysseus for ten years after the fall of Troy, and the hardship he endured in his struggle to return to his beloved wife, Penelope.

He was shipwrecked and made captive, he was tempted with honors and treasure. The nymph Calypso offered him immortality and eternal youth, but nothing stayed this steadfast man from his journey home. This oldest story, sung by minstrels for countless generations before it was put in writing three thousand years ago, celebrates the worth of home and marriage above all other values of this world or the next. Some call it the greatest story ever told.

In Homer's fresh bright world, men and women had their separate roles, each neither better nor worse than the other but different and complementary. The man's world was the world of battle, of the market place and politics. The woman's was the home, the hearth and the children. The man made a living, and the woman made it worth while.

The success of this civilization has been too little noted. One of the surprising things about the ancient world is how few people there were in it. These few millions scattered across the earth have increased, in the hundred generations since Homer, until our species threatens to fill the globe. As the only one of the world's creatures to organize on the structure of a permanent family, homo sapiens - knowing man - has been the most successful of all, although almost every other living thing is better equipped by nature to survive.

I always blamed Smith College for the feminist movement. There was a bunch of rascals up there when I was in college. Then, later there was Gloria Steinem, and wasn't there somebody named Sylvia Plath? The Smith girls I knew were always militant, but that was a long time ago, and they were mostly upset then about the American Indian. I don't know what ever happened to the Red Indian problem, whether it just went away, or whether those Smith girls solved it. Anyway, you don't hear anymore about Red Indians, just East Indians; maybe they should send some person from Northhampton over to New Delhi.

Whether it started at Smith or somewhere else, now the feminists offer a new model human being, an androgynous individual, with both feet firmly planted in the air, and dedicated to the proposition that everybody should do everything (almost) and all at the same time.

It seems when feminists speak with bitterness and wrath they forget that in any enterprise a person of good will has a better chance of success. Churchill smiled with his V-sign, Lincoln joked with his generals when it looked hopeless and King Alfred fought gravely, like a good child at play. Somehow, the angry do not seem to prevail.

And yet, perhaps the feminists will bury us in the end. There is an ancient warning, you must be very careful what you want most. Because, in the end you will get it.

In the meantime, this writer is grateful for the unusual consideration his column received.

THE CREDENTIAL SAGE IN LIVING COLOR

- R. H. Stockard, Director,
Career Planning and Placement Office,
University of Rhode Island

Ed. note: On May 5, 1975 Mr. Stockard announced that effective with the class of 1976, starting in September 1975, the Career Planning and Placement Office will no longer provide a credential service for seniors, graduate students and alumni. URI will not, in other words, maintain files of recommendations and forward them to prospective employers. Mr. Stockard said "I am sorry that we have to do this." But as he explains in the following article, there is obviously no choice. This article is a fine illustration of the joys of administration in 1975.

Facts:

1. The Office of Career Planning and Placement lost a full-time clerical position during the personnel freeze in 1971. A one-half time position was finally regained in 1973.
2. In recent years the office has collected and maintained up-to-date credential files for approximately 1200 seniors, 150 graduate students and 500 alumni annually.
3. Due to the condition of the labor market the traffic in credential copies has increased from an average of 2500 sets per year in the late sixties to something over 4000 sets for over 1000 individuals in 1974.
4. In 1973-74 there were times when we were more than two weeks behind in filling requests. This resulted in a neglect of other essential clerical services.
5. Traditionally requests for credential files have been educationally oriented. Something less than 10% of the requests come from non-educational employers.
6. A large number of colleges and universities have been forced to institute a fee for this service.
7. A growing number of colleges and universities have already discontinued the service for non-educational candidates.

8. In anticipation of our inability to protect the confidentiality of these files in the face of "right to know laws" in certain states and the implications for such files in the Federal Fair Credit Reporting Act of 1973, we removed "confidentiality" from our files in September 1973.
9. In spite of our plea for educational responsibility, aside from some notable exceptions, the quality and objectivity of letters of recommendation have deteriorated markedly since September 1973.
10. Since the non-confidential letters of recommendation are not discussed with or shown to students by a majority of the faculty, large numbers of students come to the office to see their files creating an additional clerical problem.
11. Our request for permission to charge a fee for this service (July 1, 1974) was denied.
12. The family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 as amended affected this office more than any other on campus and was the straw that broke the camel's back for the following reasons:
 - a. In addition to the rights to review, the law provides for the right to obtain photo copies on request. In spite of our request for a detailed cost analysis for this service, an unrealistic charge of only 10 cents per copy was instituted which does not cover our costs and a cumbersome payment procedure was established.
 - b. The law prohibits a blanket release and requires a written, signed, dated release from the student or alumnus for each request from an employer.
 - c. The law requires that persons or organizations receiving access to student files shall agree not to transmit the information to any other person.
 - d. The law requires that this office keep students and alumni informed annually of the contents of the file.
 - e. The provision for a student or alumnus to waive the right to access thereby creating a system including both confidential and non-confidential files creates all kinds of clerical problems.
 - f. The law provides for a challenge to the contents of the file including hearings, written decisions, etc.

Conclusion:

Given the red tape, the tremendous increase in clerical staff load, the increased office expense with no prospect of relief, and the non-confidentiality of the files and its effect on quality, all of which raise serious questions as to whether our involvement as a repository and transmitter adds anything to the credibility of the process, there simply is no basis for justifying the continuation of the credential service past August 31, 1975.

Observations:

1. There will unquestionably be some flak for a period of time from students and alumni who are used to this free convenience. I think the current jargon is "a nice but unnecessary service."

2. My guess is that the law will eventually result in more use of the telephone to contact listed references for objective evaluations.
3. For a time it is possible that the process will place an extra burden on faculty referees if students simply list names on applications. My suggestion to faculty who agree to become referees, and we will be recommending this to students, is to suggest that the student assume the responsibility for collecting, maintaining, copying and transmitting their own files.
4. We recognize the remote possibility, though only in educational placement, that this step could, in some cases, put our candidates at a disadvantage. In cooperation with the various education departments we will take reasonable steps to minimize this potential handicap.
5. On or after September 1, 1975, members of the classes of 1974 and 1975 will be given the option of accepting their non-confidential files now in this office. A policy for the disposition of confidential files for all classes prior to 1974 is in the process of formulation and alumni will be duly notified of their options.

TENTATIVE PROGRAM FOR THE RILA FALL CONFERENCE

THURSDAY, November 6th

8:30 - 9:30 a. m. REGISTRATION, coffee, exhibits

9:30 -10:30 a. m. CHILD ADVOCACY. Panel discussion including Fox Point attorney Robert Mann on legal rights of children, Alice Forsstrom, Warwick children's librarian, Louise Dolan, Weaver (E. Prov.) children's librarian.

VISIT OUR EXHIBITORS

11:00-12:00 a. m. Intellectual Freedom. The IFC will present a new resolution on the Intellectual Freedom Manual, as well as an ALA slide show entitled "censored."

LOCAL HISTORY II. Susan Boucher on writing "The History of Pawtucket", and Albert T. Klyberg, RIHS director on collecting of local history.

VISIT OUR EXHIBITORS

12:30 - 2:00 p. m. LUNCHEON (menu below)
Guest Speaker: Julius C. Michaelson, R. I. Attorney General.

VISIT OUR EXHIBITORS

2:30 - 3:30 p. m. THEFT AND MUTILATION OF LIBRARY MATERIALS. Panel of college and public librarians on detection systems, amnesty periods, public relations and prosecution.

STATE DOCUMENTS PROJECT. Committee report, with Ann Shaw, URI Government Documents office.

VISIT OUR EXHIBITORS

4:00 - 5:00 p. m. A VIABLE ALTERNATIVE TO FACULTY STATUS FOR LIBRARIANS.
Dr. Charles Churchwell, Brown University.

A Presentation. David Green, R. I. Film Co-op Director.

5:00 - 6:30 p. m. Cocktail hour (cash bar in pool area)

EVENING AT THE MOVIES. Selections from the R. I. Film Co-op collection.

FRIDAY, November 7th

8:30 - 9:30 a. m. REGISTRATION, coffee, exhibits

9:30 - 10:30 a. m. BUSINESS MEETING. Government Relations committee (legislation), Long Range Plan Implementation committee report, Intellectual Freedom Committee resolution.

VISIT OUR EXHIBITORS

11:00 - 12:00 a. m. ELLEN ALTMAN (Univ. of Toronto Library School) on "Standards and measurements of performance in libraries."

GRANTS - SOURCES AND PROPOSAL WRITING. Lee Flanagan (Pawtucket Public) and others.

VISIT OUR EXHIBITORS

12:30 - 1:30 p. m. LUNCHEON (menu below)

VISIT OUR EXHIBITORS

2:00 - 3:00 p. m. OLD PREMISES, NEW APPROACHES. Collection development in academic libraries, with Bill O'Malley of URI, and James Damico, Brown Univ. Reference Dept.

ASPECTS OF BUDGETING FOR SMALL PUBLIC LIBRARIES. Asst. Prof. James Ritter, of RIC Political Science Dept. is a trustee of Greenville Public Library and teaches a course, "Public Administration in State and Local Government."

VISIT OUR EXHIBITORS

Cocktail hour (cash bar in pool area)

Dinner with Ellen Altman (pay your own way)

SPECIALS: Thursday, the Video-tape system of Pawtucket Public's will be on display and demonstrated.
Friday, Horace Tuttle, Coventry bookbinder, will demonstrate bookbinding and rebinding.
Friday, several Rhode Island authors will be present at the cocktail hour for autographing and conversation.

Give-Away-Table. Bring your exceptional give-aways, not limited to books. What about last year's BIP, out-grown card catalogs, cabinets and stools, posters, Rhode Islandiana?

LUNCHEONS. Trying a new approach this year. Luncheons will be help-yourself, cold buffet spreads, consisting of: egg salad, chicken salad, tuna salad, ham and salami cold cuts, sliced cheese, macaroni salad, potato salad, cole slaw, tossed green salad, green bean salad, pickles, olives, assorted breads and rolls, beverage

PRE-REGISTRATION

Rhode Island Library Association
ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE
November 6 and 7, 1975
Sheraton Islander, Newport, R.I.

NAME _____
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AFFILIATION _____
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As will appear on conference
name-tag.

RILA member: registration fee \$2.00 per day (cannot guarantee luncheons without pre-registration)

Luncheon, November 6th \$4.25
 Luncheon, November 7th \$4.25
\$12.50

** Special 2-day rate for pre-registry \$11.50 Save a dollar! **

Non-member: registration fee \$ 6.00 per day (cannot guarantee luncheons without pre-registration)

Luncheon, November 6th \$ 4.25
 Luncheon, November 7th \$ 4.25
\$20.50

Payment must accompany registration form. Make checks payable to RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION. Mail before October 31st, 1975.

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Reference Department
University of Rhode Island
Kingston, Rhode Island 02881

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P. S. LAST MINUTE ITEMS FOR RILA CONFERENCE

Please note: opposite Child Advocacy (9:30 - 10:30 a. m. Thursday)

Local History I. Dave Chase on R. I. 's Historical Preservation Commission, and Prof. James Findlay of the URI History Dept. on the Oral History Proj.

David Green's Film Co-op presentation is titled "Film: The Celluloid Literature" and will include the nitty-gritty of what goes into the making of a good film, including the screening of Eisenstein's "Odessa step" sequence from Potemkin.

The "Evening at the Movies" presentation will start at 8:00 p. m. (Thursday) and will include Mel Brook's 5-minute animation The Critic, and the hour production, Hollywood, the Dream Factory, history of MGM studios, from which the film That's Entertainment grew.

Please make reservations for rooms with Janice Sieburth, Reference Dept., Univ. of Rhode Island, Kingston, Rhode Island 02881, at special prices listed.

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NEW ENGLAND LIBRARY TRUSTEES ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

NELTA was formed on September 28, 1974, to promote better library service to the people of New England. The objectives of the association are to plan and support regional activities as an independent association, to strengthen state trustee association, to serve as a channel for information and indoctrination of library trustees, to cooperate with regional and national agencies having related interests, to seek better legislation for libraries, and to stimulate related research within the New England Region.

Membership in NELTA is open to any person interested in its objectives upon payment of dues set at \$5.00.

If you want to become a member of the New England Library Trustees Association, please fill out the form below and mail it with your check to: Mr. Robert Moroney, President, NELTA, 27 Knight Drive, Shrewsbury, Massachusetts, 01545. You will receive your membership card by return mail.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

NEW ENGLAND LIBRARY TRUSTEES ASSOCIATION

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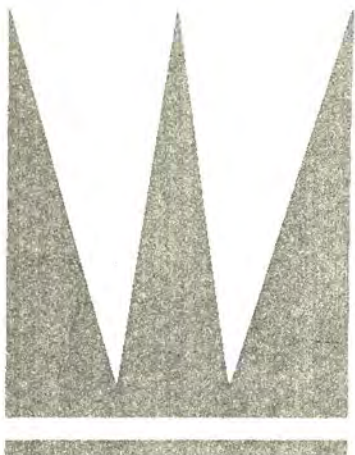
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FISKE FUND PRIZE DISSERTATION

1975

The Trustees of the Fiske Fund of The Rhode Island Medical Society announces the following for the Prize Dissertation of 1975: RHODE ISLAND MEDICINE IN THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

For the best essay on the subject worthy of a premium they offer a prize of \$1,000. The dissertation will be particularly graded on the basis of original work by the author. The competition is not restricted to physicians. Each competitor for the premium is expected to conform with certain regulations.

The dissertations must be typewritten, double spaced on standard typewriter paper, should not exceed 10,000 words, and must be forwarded to the secretary by December 15, 1975. Write to the secretary, Mrs. Helen E. DeJong, 106 Francis Street, Providence R.I. 02903 for further information.

- 28 -

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GALLIMAUFY

September 1, LJ reports that on July 9 alone, participating libraries of the Ohio College Library Center catalogued a record 18994 books on the system, and the Center turned out 126,489 catalog cards that day!

The "one card for all borrowers" - another step in the unification of the West Warwick Public Library System (Champlin and Crompton) is progressing, and new library cards should be issued about the middle of September.

Emma Baron, Children's librarian at the Pawtucket Public Library, has just issued a fine bibliography of American History Books for children. This list, designed for the Bicentennial, is based on the children's collection actually at Pawtucket, and is titled "Our Heritage in Children's Books." Copies are available by calling Emma at 722-8840.

Peg Caldwell has suggested that R. I. libraries with Bicentennial booklists similar to the above should notify the Bulletin if copies are to be had. We would welcome such news.

The RILA Intellectual Freedom Committee has just published its Handbook as approved by the membership at the spring conference. The publication is handsome, with a bright orange illustrated cover indicating the two edged nature of knowledge. And it should prove to be very useful to anyone who consults it. Being the product of over a year and a half of intensive work by the IFC, the 25-page Handbook details methods of resisting censorship, of preparing for censorship battles, and of handling actual censorship confrontations. IFC members are on call at any time to answer questions or help librarians with censorship problems. A call to Committee chairwoman Kathy Paroline, 521-7722 or 272-6231 will bring help.

Mrs. Rebecca Tildesley has been appointed director at the Roger Williams College Library.

University of Rhode Island Library hours have been extended for the coming academic year, according to Betsey Kesler, as follows:

- Monday to Thursday 8 a. m. to midnight
- Friday 8 a. m. to 10 p. m.
- Saturday 10 a. m. to 5 p. m.
- Sunday 1 p. m. to midnight

The Junior Members Roundtable of the American Library Association has announced a contest open to its membership for designing a logo for JMRT. The winning entry will be utilized on the organization's publications and its stationery letterhead. The winner will receive a paid registration at the ALA Conference in Chicago in July 1976.

Entries must be black and white and suitable for photographic reproduction. The deadline for submission is January 1, 1976. Entries should be mailed to Rose M. Caruso, 5459 Netherwood Street, Oregon, Wisconsin 53575.

The ALA Intellectual Freedom Manual is still available for those wishing to prepare for solid discussion at the RILA Fall Conference. Each copy of the Manual costs \$12.75, and can be had for a check in that amount made payable to the American Library Association, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, Illinois, 60611.

QUOTABLE QUOTES

One consequence of the authority structure in libraries is that "superiors" have a very low regard for their "inferiors." This low regard is expressed tangibly in pay and status and in other less concrete ways, such as special parking privileges for the organizational elite, which reinforce status differences and lead to the belief that "inferiors" do not matter much.

Mary Lee Bundy, Challenges to the System, 1972.

The real marriage of true minds is for any two people to possess a sense of humor or irony pitched in exactly the same key.

Edith Wharton, A Backward Glance, 1934.

This archaic addiction to print is one of the most disturbing factors among young people today. It appears to be a sign of emotional imbalance that has reached serious epidemic proportions in spite of stringent measures to control it. My mother was correct in assuming that communication is now overwhelmingly electronic, the reading of printed words being reduced to subjects of specialized and limited interest. There is, however, a growing cult-primitive, even religious in nature - which appeals to the alienated young of this day and which, if uncontrolled, may have unforeseen and probably disruptive consequences to our new society.

Marya Mannes, They

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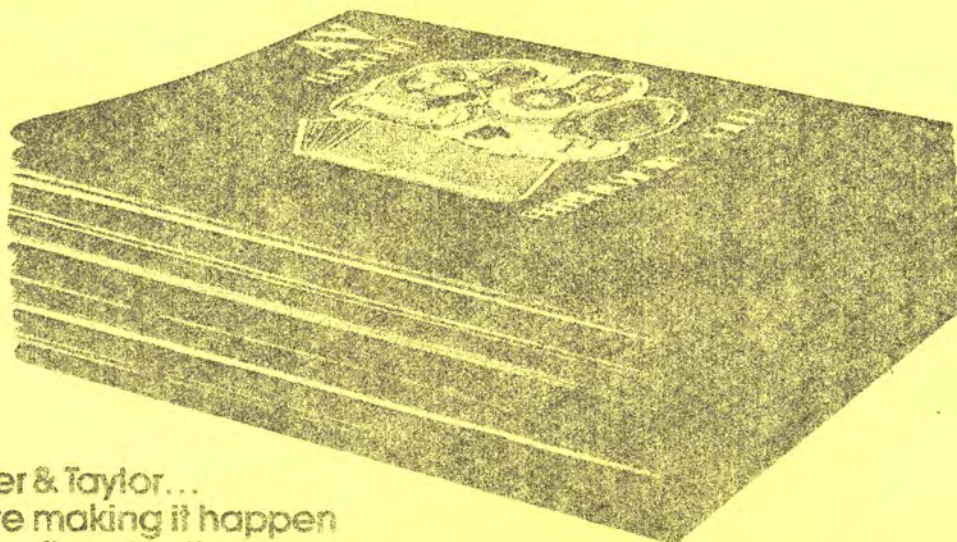
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
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