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Rhode Island Library Association

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10-1975

## Bulletin of the Rhode Island Library Association v. 48, no. 4

RILA

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# BULLETIN

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*Heading for the Fall Conference, Newport*



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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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Editor's Notebook	1	SRRT Job Hotline	17
Program RILA Conference	2	The Promiscuous Bibliomaniac	18
Conference Pre-Registration	6	People	19
Conference Hotel Reservation	8	URI GLS Colloquia	19
Calendar	8	Conn. Library Association	20
I FC Resolution	9	ASIS Conference	20
RILA Personal Membership	11	Legislation	21
RILA Institutional Membership	12	R. I. Historical Society	23
Documents to Rhode Islanders	13	Gallemaufry	23
Rosalys Haskell Hale	14	NELA Conference	24



## THE EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

The time is almost upon us for what promises to be an excellent Rhode Island Library Association Fall Conference. The program has been prepared, the speakers are sprucing up their speeches, and the innkeepers are already reserving rooms. A Program of Conference events appears on the next page, and is followed by a Conference Pre-Registration Form and a Hotel Reservation Form. Registration will also be possible at the Conference itself but will cost a dollar more.

A side note: please be certain that you have paid your 1975-1976 RILA dues before attempting to register or preregister for the Conference. While the deadline for paying these dues was October 1, they may still be paid. Those who do not pay dues prior to Conference registration may be considered non-members and asked to pay the higher \$6.00 per day non-member registration fee instead of the \$2.00 member fee. Also those who fail to pay dues risk loss of RILA publications, newsletters and handbooks.

To pay membership dues send a check payable to RILA to RILA Membership, Regional Office, Barrington Public Library, 283 County Road, Barrington, R. I. 02806. If you have paid your dues already please encourage others to do so, especially new members of the library community. A Membership Application form can be found in this issue of the Bulletin.

Checks for Conference registration should also be made payable to RILA but should be sent (under cover separate from dues payment) to Janice Sieburth, Reference Department, URI, Kingston, R. I. 02881.

In addition to Conference materials this month's issue of the Bulletin includes a draft of a conference resolution from the Intellectual Freedom Committee, a report on the deadly dull disaster at the New England Library Association Conference, a list by Matt Newell and Anne Shaw of recent government documents of interest to Rhode Islanders, and a biography of children's author Rosalys Haskell Hall by Elizabeth Russell, as well as our regular features. Upcoming in future issues Bulletin readers will see articles about participative management and censorship of television violence, plus more library fiction.

Our front cover illustration this month is derived from Frank Thomson's 1913 work for J. M. Barrie's Quality Street. Other illustrations in this issue were again done largely through the courtesy of Judy Finberg of Brown University and TIPS from CLIP.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Ed. note: the following letter was received in response to Ellen Spilka's article on Rhode Island fiction, "The Setting is Rhode Island," in the August 1975 Bulletin. In that article Mrs. Spilka recommended Alice Curtis's "Little Maid" books as amongst her favorite R. I. Juvenile Fiction.

Dear Editor; May I bring to your attention, The Christmas Tree Hessian, and The Incredible Deborah, by Mrs. Cora Cheney Partridge. The first book has a Newport setting and was written while her husband was stationed in Newport. The second book was based mostly on Little Compton, New Bedford, etc. records and was written during her husband's second tour of duty in Newport. The Partridges are living in Vermont and are active members of the Vermont Historical Society. In my opinion, these books would be better purchases than a Little Maid of Newport.

When you come to Newport for your meeting, you will find the area east of the America Cup Avenue, the Brick Market Place, has been developed. In a future year, RILA might consider holding a meeting in the Newport Harbor Treadway Inn to be closer to "where the action is".

Sincerely yours,  
(Miss) Elizabeth Russell, Librarian





# PROGRAM 1975 RILA FALL CONFERENCE

NOVEMBER 6th & 7th AT THE SHERATON - ISLANDER, NEWPORT, R.I.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6th

8:30 - 9:30 a. m. REGISTRATION, COFFEE, EXHIBITS

9:30 - 10:30 a. m. CHILD ADVOCACY, PANEL DISCUSSION

Arranged by R. I. Chapter, S. R. R. T. Panel includes Fox Point attorney, Robert Mann, speaking on the legal rights of children; Alice Forsström, Warwick Children's Librarian; Louise Dolan, Weaver (E. Prov.) Children's Librarian.

9:30 - 10:30 a. m. LOCAL HISTORY I

Includes David Chase speaking on R. I.'s Historical Preservation Commission, and Professor James Findlay, U. R. I. History Department, speaking on the Oral History Project.

VISIT OUR EXHIBITORS

11:00 - 12:00 a. m. INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM

The IFC will present a new resolution on the Intellectual Freedom Manual, and host a question and answer session concerning it.

11:00 - 12:00 a. m. LOCAL HISTORY II

Susan Boucher on writing "The History of Pawtucket"; Albert T. Klyberg, Director of R. I. Historical Society, on "Collecting of Local History".

VISIT OUR EXHIBITORS

12:30 - 2:00 p. m. LUNCHEON

Guest Speaker: Julius C. Michaelson, R. I. Attorney General, speaking on "The Right of Privacy vs. the Public's Right to Know."

VISIT OUR EXHIBITORS

2:30 - 3:30 p. m. DIMENSIONS OF BOOK LOSS, PANEL DISCUSSION.

Moderator: Robert Burford, Pawtucket Public Library

Speakers: Richard W. Robbins, Director  
Warwick Public Library

Richard A. Olsen, Director,  
Rhode Island College Library

Charles W. Crosby, Chief, Central  
Public Services, Providence Public Library

Paul Bazin, Asst. Director, Providence College Library

2:30 - 3:30 p. m. THE POWER OF INFORMATION - DOCUMENTS, RECORDS, ARCHIVES

Speakers: Anne Shaw, State Documents Librarian, URI

Frank Conti, Records Analyst, State of Rhode Island

Ethel Lee, Documents Librarian, Brown University

VISIT OUR EXHIBITORS

4:00 - 5:00 p. m. A VIABLE ALTERNATIVE TO FACULTY STATUS FOR LIBRARIANS.

Speaker: Dr. Charles Churchwell, University Librarian,  
Brown University

4:00 - 5:00 p. m. FILM: THE CELLULOSE LITERATURE

Speaker: David Green, Director, R. I. Film Cooperative,  
Presentation will include the nitty-gritty of what goes into the making of a good film including the screening of Eisenstein's "Odessa Steps" sequence from Potemkin

5:00 - 6:00 p. m. COCKTAILS (Cash Bar in Pool Area)



8:00 - 10:00 p. m. EVENING AT THE MOVIES, PRESENTED FROM THE COLLECTION OF THE R. I. FILM CO-OP

"The Critic" by Mel Brooks; (5 mins.)

"Hollywood: The Dream Factory" (60 mins.)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7th

8:30 - 9:30 a. m. REGISTRATION, COFFEE, EXHIBITS

9:30 - 10:30 a. m. BUSINESS MEETING

Government Relations Committee Report; Long Range Plan Implementation Committee Report; Intellectual Freedom Committee resolution.

VISIT OUR EXHIBITORS

11:00 - 12:00 p. m. STANDARDS AND MEASUREMENTS OF PERFORMANCE IN LIBRARIES.

Speaker: Ellen Altman, University of Toronto Library School

11:00 - 12:00 p. m. GRANTS: SOURCES AND PROPOSAL WRITING

Speakers: Jane Mayerson, Regional Program Specialist,  
Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Boston

Lee Flanagan, Asst. Director, Pawtucket Public Library

Mildred Giusti, Providence Public Library

VISIT OUR EXHIBITORS

12:30 - 1:30 p. m. LUNCHEON

VISIT OUR EXHIBITORS

2:00 - 3:30 p. m. OLD PREMISES, NEW APPROACHES: COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT IN ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

Speakers: William O'Malley, Coordinator of Technical Services,  
URI Library.

James Damico, Head of Reference Services,  
Brown University Library

Geroge K. Vrooman, Asst. Librarian for Collection  
Development, Sterling Library, Yale University.

2:00 - 3:00 p. m. ASPECTS OF BUDGETING FOR SMALL PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Speaker: Asst. Professor James Ritter, Rhode Island College;  
V. P. of R. I. Chapter of the American Society for Public  
Administration; Trustee; Greenville Public Library.

VISIT OUR EXHIBITORS

4:00 p. m. COCKTAIL HOUR -- SPECIAL ATTRACTION --

An informal discussion "Confrontations with the Establishment over the  
Freedom of Information Act" with Pulitzer-Prize-winning journalist  
Jack White; Discussions with some R. I. authors.

\* \* \* \* \*

\* OTHER SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS

Thursday, the Video-tape system of Pawtucket Public Library will be  
on display and demonstrated.

Friday, Horace Tuttle, Coventry bookbinder, will demonstrate bookbind-  
ing 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 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.

THE RILA CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Beth Perry | Co-Chairmen  
Sydney Wright |  
Robert Burford  
Curt Bohling  
Kathleen Gunning  
Dorothy Brown

Emil Ciallella  
Janice Sieburth  
Nancy Chudacoff  
Diane Kadanoff



# Fall Conference Pre - Registration Form

Rhode Island Library Association  
ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE

November 6 and 7, 1975  
Sheraton Islander, Newport, R. I.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
TITLE/POSITION \_\_\_\_\_  
AFFILIATION \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

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	<u>4.25</u>
	\$12.50

\*\*Special 2-day rate for pre-registry including 2 lunches & 2 day registration fee. \$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	<u>4.25</u>
	\$20.50

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

Total enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Ms. Janice Sieburth University of Rhode Island  
Reference Department Kingston, Rhode Island 02881

\* \* \* \* \*

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and subject headings . . .

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(Unedited)

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<b>29c</b>	<b>35c</b>	<p>for our book processing kit, left unattached so that you may complete your own processing. Kit components are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete set of catalog cards</li> <li>• Book pocket</li> <li>• Book card</li> <li>• Spine label</li> </ul>
Not Available	<b>25c</b>	<p>for single components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete set of catalog cards only (without book pocket, book card or spine label)</li> </ul>

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380 Edison Way  
Tel: 702-786-6700

Inspection Center for Books and Media: 5820 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, California 90036. Telephone: 213-938-2925



# Fall Conference Hotel Reservation Form

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

PLEASE RESERVE:

Single Room - 1 person	\$22.00
Twin Double-Bedded Room	28.00
Double with Hide-a-Bed	
Suite - Parlor & Bedroom	

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

ARRIVAL DATE \_\_\_\_\_ TIME OF ARRIVAL \_\_\_\_\_ A.M. - P.M.

NO. PERSONS \_\_\_\_\_ DEPARTURE DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Room Reservations Are not Held After Noon  
Unless Secured With A Deposit.

## Calendar

- October 13-17 "Trustees Role in Library Finance," State University of N. Y., Albany. For trustees, directors and government officials responsible for library planning. Write A. E. Prentice, SUNY, 100 Washington Ave., Albany, N.Y. 12222.
- October 14 & 22: "Libraries and Unions," Connecticut Library Association Fall Regional Meetings, University of Bridgeport Oct. 14 and University of Connecticut, Oct. 22, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. See article in this issue of the Bulletin for further information.
- October 20&21 Software Preview, Department of State Library Services, call Peter Salesses 277-2726 for information.



- October 18 Conference on "Women in the Work Force 75", Advisory Commission on Women in R. I., 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., YMCA Camp Ok-Wa-Nesset Lodge. Call Commission Office 277-2744 for information.
- 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 or see article in this issue of Bulletin.
- 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. Attendance limited by pre-registration.
- 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 155, Middle Village Station, Middle Village, Long Island 11379 for more information.
- November 3 Cooperative Juvenile Book Review Meeting, "Story Telling," Woonsocket Harris Public Library, 9:30 a.m.
- November 6-7 Rhode Island Library Association Annual Conference, Sheraton Islander Inn, Newport. See this issue of Bulletin for agenda and registration procedure.
- November 18 Adult Book Meeting, "International Women's Year," Pawtucket Public Library, 9:30 a.m.
- November 19-22 New York Library Association Annual Conference, Americana Hotel, NYC. Write V. Wallace, Northport Public Library, 151 Laurel Ave., Northport, N. Y. 11768.
- December 11-12 Hardware Preview, Department of State Library Services, call Peter Salesses 277-2726 for information.
- January 18-24 American Library Association Mid-Winter Conference, Chicago. See American Libraries October 1975 for information.
- July 18-24 American Library Association Annual Conference, Chicago.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

Ed. note: at the RILA Fall Conference a Thursday meeting and a part of Friday's business meeting will be devoted to discussion of the following resolution. This resolution has been formulated by the RILA Intellectual Freedom Committee in response to a request of the RILA membership at the 1975 Spring Conference. At that time the IFC's objections to ALA's 1974 Intellectual Freedom Manual, voiced in appendix C of a draft of the RILA Intellectual Freedom Handbook, were rejected by the RILA membership. The membership asked that said objections be phrased as a resolution for the the membership to take action on at the Fall Conference. For any member to take such action on the resolution intelligently, some careful reading is necessary prior to the Conference. Re-reading of the ALA Library Bill of Rights and of the Freedom to Read Statement, as well as a considered



reading of the "Introduction" and "Historic Overview" of the 1974 Intellectual Freedom Manual are essential to any rational decision about the resolution which follows. RILA members who care about intellectual freedom will review these documents.

#### " INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM COMMITTEE RESOLUTION"

- Whereas, The Rhode Island Library Association fully supports the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights and the Freedom to Read Statement, and
- Whereas, The "Introduction" to the 1974 Office for Intellectual Freedom's Intellectual Freedom Manual, from the "Introduction's" prominent position as well as from its content, appears to be intended to serve as the latest and fullest interpretation of numerous documents in the Manual including the Library Bill of Rights and the Freedom to Read Statement, and
- Whereas, The Manual's "Introduction" posits two incompatible definitions of intellectual freedom, the first in paragraph one that intellectual freedom is freedom of belief and freedom to act upon one's belief and the other in paragraph two that intellectual freedom is freedom of belief necessary to action but separate from it, and
- Whereas, The "Historic Overview" which follows the "Introduction" appears to impugn both of these definitions when its authors Judy Krug and James Harvey assert that ALA has never endorsed a uniform or rigid definition of intellectual freedom, but has rather promoted a variety of principles aimed at fostering a favorable climate for intellectual freedom, and
- Whereas, Neither of the "Introduction's" unqualified definitions recognizes the "Historic Overview's" statement that ALA's strong opposition to censorship has in fact been tempered by influences of taste, responsibility and legality, and even by current dispute about access for minors, advocacy versus neutrality, and the appropriate degree of personal intellectual freedom for librarians themselves, and
- Whereas, The "Introduction" simplifies complex issues and disdains comprehensible definition in the matter of intellectual freedom, and
- Whereas, The RILA is in sympathy with the difficulties of addressing the issues of intellectual freedom, and recognizes that the "Historic Overview" does recognize such difficulties very well, therefore, be it

Resolved, That RILA finds the "Introduction" a confusing and inadequate preface to the current American Library Association's Intellectual Freedom Manual, and be it

Resolved, That RILA recommends deletion of the Manual's "Introduction" to permit the "Historic Overview" alone to stand as an appropriate introduction in its recognition of the complexities of intellectual freedom.

Approved for the Agenda of the Business Meeting of the RILA Fall Conference, by the RILA Executive Board, 9/17/75.



# RILA - Personal Membership Application

DUES SCHEDULE -----Voted May 22, 1975

Personal Income	Dues
\$ 0,000 to 4,999 -----	\$ 5.00
\$ 5,000 to 9,999 -----	\$10.00
\$10,000 up -----	\$15.00

\$4.00 of your dues covers your cost of the Rhode Island Library Association Bulletin (monthly). Non member subscription - \$6.00.

Donations made to the Association will support such activities as, Legislation, Continuing Education, Intellectual Freedom, Public Relations.

Membership dues in RI LA are tax deductible; please retain this section for your records.  
\_\_\_\_\_ amount paid

Please complete this section and return with your dues.

Name ----- Position-----

Library ----- Type of Library -----

City ----- State -----

\*Mailing Address -----

\*The Mailing Address will be used on all RILA mailings

Future Conference registration will be  
\$2 per day for members

\$6 per day for non-members

Mail renewal form and dues to

Rhode Island Library Association Membership  
Regional Office  
Barrington Public Library  
283 County Road  
Barrington, Rhode Island 02806

AMOUNT OF DUES \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL PAID \_\_\_\_\_

Dues Payment is Requested by October 1, 1975

# RILA-

## Institutional Membership Application

### Institutional Membership Dues Schedule

Library Budget	Dues
\$ 0 to 24,999	\$10.00
25,000 to 99,999	\$25.00
100,000 to 299,999	\$30.00
300,000 up	\$50.00

Make checks payable to the Rhode Island Library Association.

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## DOCUMENTS TO RHODE ISLANDERS

- Matthias Newell and Anne Shaw  
Government Publications Office,  
URI Library

Are you interested in getting a background on the right to see records? Freedom of Information Act and Amendments of 1974 is a joint committee print of two committees, one from the House and the second from the Senate, published March 1975. The subtitle is self-explanatory: "Source book; Legislative History, Texts, and Other Documents."

As we look forward to energy problems this winter, it might help to know what is being discussed. A fine committee print by the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce tells us all about energy in figures and pictograms. The most useful part may be the energy dictionary. The full title is: Basic Energy Data and Glossary of Terms, June 1975.

Since we just received the December issue of the Monthly Catalog (it took GPO this long to cumulate their monthly indexes), you might be interested in our pick of twenty of what should be best sellers published by the Government Printing Office. Here goes:

1. Guide to Federal Laws prohibiting sex discrimination. CR 1.10: 46.
2. Residential security. J 1.44/2: R 31.
3. Cooking for two. A 1.68:1043.
4. How to start an energy management program. C 1.2: En 2.
5. World oil developments and U.S. oil import policies. Y 4. F 49: Oi 5/2.
6. Disaster diet; pamphlet. C 55.2: D 63/2.
7. Evaluation of heating loads in old residential structures. HH 1.2: H 35.
8. Pocket guide to baby sitting. HE 1.458: B 11.
9. Angler's guide to the United States Atlantic Coast, Section 1-4. C55.308:  
An 4/sec. 1-4.
10. Women in 1973. Y 3. IN 8/21: 2 W 84/973.
11. Meaning of detente. S 1.71: 287.
12. National nutrition policy: Nutrition and the consumer II, a working paper. Y4. N95:  
N95/7/pt 2
13. Proceedings of the solar heating and cooling for buildings workshop, pt. 1.  
NS 1.2: So 4/3 pt. 1.
14. Public papers of Presidents of the United States, Richard Nixon, containing public messages, speeches, and statements of the President, 1972. GS 4.113:  
972.
15. Selected characteristics of nursing homes for the aged and chronically ill, United States, June-July 1969. HE 20.6209: 12/23.
16. Young children and accidents in the home. HE 1.452: ac 2.
17. Oceans and national economic development. Y 4. C 73/2: Oc 2/3.
18. United States budget in brief, fiscal year 1975. Pr Ex 2.8/2: 975.
19. Federal Trade Commission report on automobile warranties. FT 1.2: Au 8/970.
20. Toward a cleaner aquatic environment. EP 1.2: Aq 3.

All these publications can be obtained from the Government Printing Office, Washington DC 20402. The Boston Bookstore only has materials for the last six months and some of these publications date from the beginning of 1974. The alphanumerical group that follows each title is the SuDocs classification and is the number to use when ordering US materials from the GPO Bookstores or as interlibrary loan from URI Government Publications Office.



The following Rhode Island state publications should be of interest these days: Employment Bulletin, a monthly publication of the Departments of Labor and Employment Security. This is a statistical publication showing such tables as labor turnover, employment, earnings, and hours in the manufacturing industries. Usually a few paragraphs of general interest are included. This bulletin can be obtained from: R. I. Dept. of Employment Security, 24 Mason St., Providence, R. I. 02903.

An Overview of Sex Stereotyping in Rhode Island Public Education, 1974, is basically a volume of tables of data collected from school districts which show a heavy concentration of women at the bottom of the employment pyramid. This is available from the R. I. Permanent Advisory Commission on Women, 235 Promenade St., Providence, R. I. 02908.

The State Bicentennial Commission has two interesting publications: Silas Downer: forgotten patriot, a biography by Carl Bridenbough and The rights of colonies examined, a revolutionary pamphlet edited by Paul Campbell. The author of the original is a native Rhode Islander, Stephen Hopkins, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. These two publications are from the start of a new series: Rhode Island Revolutionary Heritage Series. These hardcovers are available from the Rhode Island Bicentennial Foundation, 150 Benefit Street, Providence, R. I. 02906.

Recently received is a federal document of special interest to Rhode Islanders. It is: 1972 Census of Manufacturers, Area Series: Rhode Island. This Census Bureau publication has data on industry groups for employment, payroll, assets, inventions, etc. This publication is available from the Government Printing Office in Washington for \$0.90. The call number is: C 56. 244/7: MC 72(3)-40.

ROSALYS HASKELL HALL  
Author of Children's Books

by Elizabeth Russell, School Librarian  
Newport School System

At the beginning of the Point, off Thames Street, close to the beautifully appointed houses of the Restoration Foundation, you will find a lived-in-looking, weathered, plant surrounded cottage resided in by two of the most widely read and most delightful women in Newport, Miss Rosalys Haskell Hall, and Mrs. Henry Marion Hall.

In the early 1720's, before the British had curtailed the slave trade, an important economic factor in Colonial Newport, Baptist Minister and carpenter, Daneil Wightman built a snug house close to the center of town (now Washington Square), not distant from the Long Wharf to the southwest nor distant from the Baptist Church, and in fact, close to all the activity of the town. The well designed structures of William Harrison-the Redwood Library, the Touro Synagogue, and the Market House-would not be built for another forty years.

In the two hundred years following the American Revolution, the little house was to have many changes-rooms were added to the back, rooms were put over the addition, rooms were added to the addition to the west and finally, a bathroom and electricity. In the 1960's the owner, Mr. Hiram Cook, requested that his daughter, Mrs. Francis Chase, if she sold the house to sell it to Miss Rosalys Haskell Hall, a descendent of Roger Williams, Colonial Governor Richard Ward, and Julia Ward Howe, author of The Battle Hymn of The Republic.



Miss Hall came to settle in Newport in 1968, after a successful professional career as an author and editor in New York City, her home city. Her father, Henry Marion Hall, was a teacher of English at the High School of Commerce and taught Lou Gehrig and others who were to make names for themselves. An ornithologist and author, he encouraged his daughters to write.<sup>1</sup> Alas, Miss Hall spent her summers in Provincetown, Massachusetts, which her mother loved, and just saw Newport in passing. Her father said about the "literati" of Provincetown in that era "You either write or you talk about writing - as they do".

Educated in her early years in New York City, Miss Hall later attended New Jersey College - now Douglass College - and Ethical Culture College. Her first position was teaching kindergarten and French at the Sutton Beekman School, a casualty of the Great Depression.

Fortunately, Miss Hall found a position selling books at Doubleday Book Shop, and in time, enrolled in a night school course at Columbia University taught by May Lamberton Becker, editor of the children's book page of the New York Herald Tribune and of "The Reader's Guide" of the New York Evening Post and author of books for children and of books on children's reading.<sup>2</sup> Miss Becker encouraged her to write Animals to Africa (Holiday, 1939) which was illustrated by Fritz Eichenberg known to us as a member of the staff of the Rhode Island School of Design. This book did not sell. At the bookshop, her immediate boss was Miss Lena Barksdale from whom she learned much about books. Miss Barksdale did all the reviewing of children's books for Publisher's Weekly and for what was then called the Saturday Review of Literature; and in addition, Miss Barksdale was the adviser to Miss Ethel Wetmore of Newport, a well known collector of children's books.

Four years later, Miss Hall was working for Longmans, Green (now merged with David McKay) as an editor; and there she was to work for twenty-five years. While at Longmans, her first big success came when the New York Public Library chose her The Merry Miller (Oxford University Press, 1952) as one of the fifty best children's books published that year and when Clifton Fadiman mentioned The Merry Miller in his column, "Party of One", in Holiday, The Merry Miller brought fame and fees to the amount of \$1,000.00.

When the children's book editor at Oxford University Press, Miss Eunice Blake, left to take a position at Lippincott, Miss Hall was one of the authors who followed her. Miss Hall was to have a number of books published while she was an editor at Longmans. In addition, Prentice-Hall asked Miss Hall to edit Norman Vincent Peale's The Coming of the King, The Story of the Nativity, based on the Gospel of St. Luke and St. Matthew. She received a record of a reading and \$500.00 for this work on a book which sold over 100,000 copies. A number of reviewers, as did Louise Davis in the Library Journal, commented on her superb editing. One sentence she wrote in the book was the following: "In a humble place even for the humble, the son of GOD was born". While talking to me, Miss Hall recalled once hearing the Gospel read by an Egyptian woman over the radio in the following manner: "When the son of GOD was born, excuse it, in a stable, excuse it" because the word stable, like camel dung was not spoken in polite society in that part of the world.

After coming to Newport, and after the publication of her The Bright and Shining Breadboard, a story of Colonial Rhode Island, she began working on The Three Beggar Kings published this past year. In Newport, Miss Hall has continued her interest in children and in elementary education. In the past few years, during National Library Week, and Children's Book Week, she has visited the Newport Public Schools to talk to the fourth graders about writing and publishing books.



January, 1973, she was the speaker at the Rhode Island School Library Association's Winter Meeting, and January, 1974, was a guest at their Winter Meeting.

Usually, Miss Hall can be found in her little home with a Weiss Saint Nicholas painting over the fireplace, with a wonderful batch of homemade cookies, with a good pot of tea, with china, chairs, and rugs from all eras of American history, with three huge dogs, and one fat cat. Against a background of bookcases, Miss Hall and Mrs. Hall, who is in her ninety-fourth year and a teller of Newport and Cape Cod tales with candor and wit, can cause the hours to slip by unnoticed by you.

#### FOOTNOTES

1. Henry Marion Hall, Idylls of Fishermen, Columbia University Press, 1912; Full Creel, Longmans, 1946; Woodcock Ways, Oxford University Press, 1946; The Ruffed Grouse, Oxford University Press, 1946; A Gathering of Shore Birds, Devin-Adair, 1960.
2. May Lambertson Becker, Books as Windows, Stokes, 1929; First Adventures in Reading, Introducing Children to Books, Stokes, 1936; Golden Tales of New England, Dodd, 1931; The Home Book of Christmas, Dodd, 1941; and over twenty other titles.

#### BIBLIOGRAPHY

Hall, Rosalys Haskell, Animals to Africa, Holiday, 1939; Out of Provincetown, Farrar and Rinehart, 1941; No Ducks for Dinner, Oxford University Press, 1953; The Merry Miller, Oxford University Press, 1952; The Tailor's Trick, Lippincott, 1955; Baker's Man, Lippincott, 1954; Seven for Saint Nicholas, Lippincott, 1958; Bertie and Eddie, Oxford University Press, 1958; Green as Spring, Longmans, 1957; Young Fancy, Longmans, 1960; Animal Hide and Seek, Lothrop, 1958; The Dog's Boy, Lothrop, 1962; Miranda's Dragon, McGraw, 1968; The Bright and Shining Breadboard, Lothrop, 1969; and The Three Beggar Kings, Random House, 1974.

#### THE EXCHANGE

Because of a demand, especially from graduate library schools, for back issues of the Bulletin to complete their runs, the Bulletin staff continues its appeal for earlier issues of the Bulletin.

We especially need the following numbers:

1971-1972 vol 44 - all issues

1972-1973 vol 45 - all issues

1973-1974 vol 46 - all issues

1974-1975 vol 47 - all issues especially issue mis labeled #3 but actually #2, with the fat man on the cover.

Please check your desk drawers for old Bulletins. Thanks much.



# SRRT JOB HOTLINE

The Social Responsibilities Round Table (SRRT) has for some time intermittently published a job hotline. In an effort to disseminate the information more regularly the SRRT Job Hotline will appear monthly in the RILA Bulletin. We are anxious to make the "Hotline" as meaningful as possible and you can help. If you have knowledge of any library position (professional or non-professional) in the Southeastern New England area, please contact the Job Hotline coordinators:

Candice Civiak  
 Providence Public Library  
 401-521-7722 ext. 253 or  
 401-861-0604

Nancy D'Amico  
 Roger Williams College Library  
 401-255-2361 or  
 401-831-1975

Additional copies of this list may be obtained by sending a stamped self-addressed envelope with a request to either of the above Hotline Coordinators.

## JOBS OPEN IN OCTOBER

LIBRARY: Russell Public Library  
 Job Title: Children/Youth Services Librn.  
 Requirements: A. B. minimum  
 Salary: \$7671/yr.  
 Hours: full time  
 Contact: William Van Beynum, Dir.  
 Russell Public Library  
 Middleton, Conn.

~~\*\*\*\*\*~~  
 LIBRARY: University of Rhode Island  
 Job Title: Reference/Bibliographer  
 Short Job Description: Instruct in use of library resources; data base searches; develop bibliographic guides.  
 Requirements: MLS & 3 yrs. experience  
 Hours: full time  
 Beginning Date: Nov. 1, 1975  
 Contact: G. R. Parks, Dean,  
 URI Library, Kingston, R.I. 02881

LIBRARY: Providence Public Library  
 Job Title: Development Officer  
 Short Job Description: Fund Raising  
 Requirements: Knowledge of estate planning and deferred gifts; ability to work for state and federal financial support.  
 Salary: submit salary requirements with resume.  
 Contact: Box 4148 Providence Journal  
 Providence, R. I.

~~\*\*\*\*\*~~  
 LIBRARY: Jonathan Bourne Public Library  
 Job Title: Director  
 Short Job Description: Administer main library and three branches with staff of 10 and budget of \$90,000  
 Requirements: MLS  
 Hours: full time  
 Beginning Date: immediately  
 Contact: Board of Trustees, Bourne Public Library, 30 Keene St., Bourne, Mass.,

\* \* \* \* \*

LIBRARY: Dartmouth Public Library  
 Job Title: Director  
 Requirements: Previous Administrative and Library Experience

Salary: Negotiable  
 Hours: full time  
 Contact: Send resume to Chairman, Board of Library Trustees, Southworth Library Dartmouth, Mass. 02748

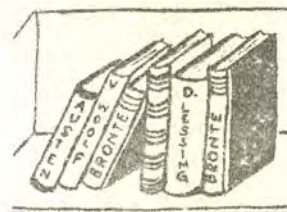


# THE PROMISCUOUS BIBLIOMANIAC

- by Lee Flanagan



Women... books... women... my poor wife has never been able to understand how, on many an evening, I have found the companionship of a book a fair substitute for her own. But though she does not comprehend how this can be, she knows quite well that it is so. And



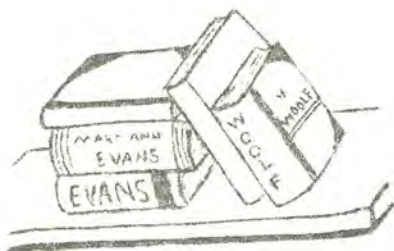
thus she sees in a book a rival, a sort of mistress with whom I privately dally and delight, to the exclusion of herself. She sees that as simple unfaithfulness, and it draws her anger, at first. Soon she hesitates, however, seeing that my bookist dalliance also excludes all other women. Then her anger turns to pity, for she thinks my other allegiance not an individual moral lapse, but a general infirmity of mind, perhaps even, dare she think, of the physiology. And her concern becomes touching, as the concern of a mother for a defective child...

I wonder how soon her anger would return were she to realize how quickly my book-mistresses succeed one another, and how great my devotion is to many of them. What



hell would there be to suffer should she ever clearly realize just how promiscuous, bibliophilically, I am, and how many thousands and thousands more charmers I plan to entertain. There would be the devil to pay if she knew just how I reveled in their very variety, greater than that found in most women; in their attractions, exceeding that of any creatures of any sex of species. Thank heavens that she has not discovered my great satisfaction in their increase of beauty with age, in my growing loyalty and constancy to them with the passage of time, in their tendency to trouble me very little yet to give me so much.

Great must be the jealousy of the woman who knows of, and who would rival, the bibliophile's love of his books. Only greater, according to a female professor friend of mine, is the jealousy of the man who would rival the bibliophile's love of her books. I was unprepared for that observation, having thought that only men... but the peculiar weakness of the male ego is another topic which can best be discussed later.





## PEOPLE

Leslie Peltier has been appointed assistant director of the West Warwick Public Libraries. She will also serve in her area of specialization as coordinator of children's services, according to Library Director Jean Nash. Ms. Peltier formerly served as children's librarian in the Cranston Library System. A graduate of the URI Graduate Library School, she now resides in North Kingston with her husband and two children.

Doris Dexter, former coordinator of Technical Services at Pawtucket, retired in June. After a two month vacation, during which she finished a directory of church libraries in northern R. I., has been appointed librarian at the Harmony Public Library, and is already making plans to expand library service there.

While opportunities for beginning level librarians are fast disappearing, the past season appears to have been a good one for those seeking administrative posts. Lynn Bohling, former school librarian at the James C. Potter Elementary School in Pawtucket and Bulletin circulation manager, has just been appointed director of the Marian J. Mohr Library in Johnston. Ms. Bohling, brings to her new job a wealth of experience in all phases of librarianship. She began her career in librarianship in the Kalamazoo Public Library at age 14, where she worked until she finished graduate school. After graduating from library school at Western Michigan University, she held the post of director of the Gerrish-Higgins Library in Michigan until she came to R. I. in 1973.

And another Bulletin staffer, our research editor Linda Hodgman, has been appointed children's librarian at the Richards Memorial Library in North Attleboro. She was formerly research librarian at the R. I. Council for the Arts, and prior to that earned her M. L. S. at the University of Rhode Island. She also brings to her new job considerable experience from a variety of previous library and business posts in the New York City area.

John Hannon, Director of Library Services at Bryant College has been awarded his doctor of arts degree at Simmons College. Presently enrolled in the same doctoral program are Madeline Nixon, Library and Media Specialist at the Henry Barnard School of Rhode Island College, and Matthias Newell, Government Publications Librarian at U. R. I.

## URI GLS COLLOQUIA

Dean Edward J. Humeston and the Faculty of the Graduate Library School are pleased to announce the colloquia for the Fall Semester, 1975.

- 1) \*Speaker: Robert A. Fairthorne Pioneer in Information Science  
Date: October 7, Tuesday  
Time: 2:30 - 4:00 p.m.  
Place: Senate Room, Memorial Union
  
- 2) \*Speaker: Dr. Bozo Tezak, Yugoslavian Librarian  
Date: October 30, Thursday  
Time: 8:00 p.m.  
Place: Room 322, Memorial Union



- 3) \*Speaker: Pauline A. Thomas, Aslib Research Department  
Date: November 3, Monday  
Time: 3:00 - 4:30 p. m.  
Place: Student Senate Room, Memorial Union
- 4) \*Speaker: Jewel Drickamer, Director of DSLS  
Date: November 19, Wednesday  
Time: 8:00 p. m.  
Place: Senate Room, Memorial Union

Professor Lea M. Bohmert, Assistant Professor in the Graduate Library School, is coordinator of the colloquia. Further information can be obtained by telephoning the School at (401) 792-2878, or 2947.

CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION:  
FALL REGIONAL MEETINGS ON UNIONS

On October 14 at the University of Bridgeport (Student Center) and again on October 22 at the University of Connecticut, Storrs (Bishop Center), the Connecticut Library Association will hold separate but nearly identical fall meetings on the theme of "Libraries and Unions: Two Sides". Both meetings will begin at 9 a. m., and feature sessions about the pros and cons of joining a union, recent union legislation, and management - staff union negotiations. Registration is possible at the door, and the fee of \$7 includes lunch. This looks like one of New England's most important conferences of 1975.

AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR INFORMATION  
SCIENCE ANNUAL MEETING: BOSTON

From October 26-30 the American Society for Information Science will conduct its 38th Annual Meeting at the Sheraton-Boston Hotel. Supporting the theme "Why Information Revolution?" are workshops in costing analysis, automated systems, micrographics, networks, legislative information systems, copyright, forecasting information needs, network funding, retrieval problems, federal information systems, satellite communications, and teleprocessing. The keynote address will be delivered October 28 by Daniel Bell, Harvard professor of sociology and author of The Coming of Post Industrial Society. Dr. Bell will place the information revolution in a larger socio-economic context. This address will be followed by a panel discussion on the necessary components of a national information policy. One day registration fees at the door will be \$28.00 for ASIS members and \$35.00 for non-members. Further information about the conference, registration, and hotel reservations is available from the Bulletin editor, telephone 722-8840. Come and hear what will replace libraries.



## 3M JMRT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT

3M Company will sponsor a \$5,000 professional development grant for members of the American Library Association Junior Members Round Table again in 1976, Dr. Graham Gurr, manager of 3M Detection Systems, has announced.

Funds again will be used to send several JMRT members to the annual ALA convention in Chicago, July 18-24. Purpose of the grant is to "encourage professional development and participation by new librarians in the activities of ALA and its JMRT organization," according to Dr. Gurr. The grant will pay for transportation to and from the week-long conference, plus food, lodging and related expenses. To be eligible for a 1976 3M/JMRT grant, applicants must be members of both the American Library Association and its Junior Members Round Table. Winners will be selected from among applicants on the basis of such criteria as educational background and previous work experience, honors, national, state and local association activities, and financial need. Previous winners are not eligible.

Application forms are available from, and should be returned to 3M/JMRT PROFESSIONAL GRANT COMMITTEE, OHOOPEE REGIONAL LIBRARY, 606 JACKSON STREET, VIDALIA, GEORGIA 30474. All applications must be postmarked no later than December 15, 1975.

### LEGISLATION OF PRIMARY CONCERN

- Susan Brynteson, ALA -  
ACRL Committee on Legislation

#### "Postal Rates"

When Congress passed the Postal Reorganization Act of 1970 setting up the quasi-independent U.S. Postal Service, it was suggested that the country's mail service could be made self-supporting. Unfortunately, experience now shows this break-even policy is undermining essential public-service activities -- such as reduced rates for books and cultural materials -- that are one of the reasons for establishing a national postal network in the first place.

On July 24, the House Committee on the Post Office and Civil Service reported out a bill called the Postal Reorganization Act Amendments of 1975 (HR 8603). This measure, which the House is expected to act on some time after the August recess, would authorize increased appropriations through FY 1979 to reimburse the Postal Service for public service costs. It would also, among other things, insure continuation of second-class mailing privileges for college catalogs and bulletins and looseleaf publications, and would apply the library rate to books mailed from publishers and distributors to libraries.

If you are concerned about the cost of postage, start keeping records now on how much your library spends for each class of postage and how much of your materials budget goes to pay publishers' postage on books and materials you receive by mail.

In addition, write your member of Congress and explain the effect of higher postal costs on your book budget, urging him or her to vote for HR8603 as reported out by the committee.



## "Copyright"

The House Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Courts, Civil Liberties and the Administration of Justice (which handles copyright legislation) will hold its last hearing on revision of the 1909 copyright law September 18. Sometime after that date the Subcommittee, chaired by Rep. Robert W. Kastenmeir (D-Wisc.), will report out the bill (HR 2223). There is some indication that the members may vote to liberalize or even remove the prohibition against "systematic photocopying" in interlibrary loans which is included in the original version of the bill - but only if they hear convincing arguments from their constituents.

Now is the time to write your members of Congress, urging them to delete the prohibition against systematic photocopying included in Sec. 108 (g) (2) of the bill. Explain the difficulty of defining "systematic" in terms of your institution and describe the type of materials copied for interlibrary loan (both what you borrow and what you lend), the frequency of photocopying, and the effect you feel this has had on your purchase of materials. (For ALA's statement to the committee see the July-August American Libraries, pp. 409-411). If your Representative is not a member of the committee, ask him or her to contact Mr. Kastenmeier personally, or to send your letter on to him with an expression of concern.

### RILA EXECUTIVE BOARD AND COUNSELORS

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| - James Giles, President,<br>Cranston Public Library (781-9580)                 | - Jean Nash, Treasurer<br>West Warwick Public Library (828-3750)          |
| - Daniel Bergen, Vice President<br>Graduate Library School, URI (792-5976)      | - Carol Ciallella - ALA Counselor<br>Barrington Public Library (245-3875) |
| - Margaret Deignan, Recording Secretary<br>Providence Public Library (521-7722) | - Earleen McCarthy, NELA Counselor<br>Lincoln Public Library (724-5470)   |
| - Nancy Peace Corresponding Secretary<br>R. I. Historical Society (331-0448)    |   |

### RILA COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

- A. Professional Committee: Robert Maier, Cranston Library Govt. Relations subcommittee: Robert Burford, Intellectual Freedom Subcommittee: Kathy Paroline, Staff Committee on Mediation, Arbitration and Inquiry: Thomas Viti and Robert Burford,
- B. Administrative Committee: Louise Sherby - Rhode Island College Library, Conference Sub Committee: Beth Perry and Sidney Wright. Membership Sub Committee: Diane Kadanoff, Nominating Sub Committee: Sherri Bergman.
- C. Public Affairs Committee: Richard Robbins - Warwick Public Library, Trustees Subcommittee: to be appointed, Bulletin Subcommittee: Lee Flanagan,



- D. Long Range Plan Implementation Committee: Louise Sherby - RIC Library; Public Relations Subcommittee; Jean Nash; Continuing Education Subcommittee: to be appointed; State Library Card Subcommittee: Sidney Wright; School Library Coordinator Subcommittee: Irene Demers.

THE RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

From what we gather, most librarians who attended the R. I. Historical Society's Library Open House September 26 were quite pleased. The extent of the holdings and the facilities of the library are impressive, and Nancy Peace, director of the library, and Albert Klyberg, Director of the Society, organized a thorough yet genial tour and sherry hour for visiting librarians.

Those in attendance learned that the Society collects published materials relating to Rhode Island history, selected areas of New England history, and New England genealogy. The Society also collects manuscripts, graphics and film on all fields of Rhode Island history. Highlights include a collection of Rhode Island imprints and newspapers; extensive manuscript collections relating to Rhode Island politics, business, and social and cultural organizations; one of New England's foremost genealogical collections of printed and manuscript material; a collection of photographs, maps, and architectural drawings; and a film archive of feature films, newsreels and local television newsfilm. The archives of the New England Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends are also housed in the Library.

Although library materials do not circulate and are not available through interlibrary loan, the library is open to the public at a minimal fee for non-members of \$1.00 a day or \$5.00 for four months. Admission is free to members and to students through Grade 12. Membership in the Society is \$15.00 for an individual and \$20.00 for families. The first floor stacks are open to all library users. Members only have access to stacks of printed materials on the second and third floors.

Members of the library staff are available to consult with librarians on materials in the collections or to advise on care and organization of materials in their areas of expertise:

Nancy E. Peace, Librarian  
 Nancy F. Chudacoff, Reference Library  
 and Editor of Rhode Island History  
 Lisa P. Krop, Reference Assistant

Nathaniel N. Shipton, Manuscript  
 Curator  
 Marsha Peters, Graphics Curator  
 Deborah D. Richardson, Film Curator  
 Doris Sher, Secretary

GALLIMAUFRY

The Annual Conference of the New England Library Association will finally leave Wentworth-by-the-Sea, after next year's Conference, and head for Hartford in 1977. We can only pray that as it leaves the rural rest home atmosphere of suburban Portsmouth that it will become a little less soporific and a little more urbanly energetic.

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David Greene of the R. I. Library Film Cooperative announces that the new annual catalog of film holdings at the Cooperative will shortly be mailed to members.

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There were no surprises in LJ's October 1, 1975 report on 1974 librarians' salaries. While salaries for 1974 graduates improved substantially over those offered to 1973 graduates, they failed to keep pace with increases in the cost of living. The 1974 salaries increased at a rate of 6.5 percent compared to the 1.9 percent increase observed and reported for 1975. In 1974 the typical beginning salary fell between \$9500 and \$10,000. The average (mean) beginning salary for all graduates was \$10,040; for women \$9908 (increased by 6.9 percent from 1973) and for men, \$10,606 (an increase of 8.7 percent). Median salaries were \$9600 for women, \$10,184 for men, and \$9638 for all graduates. For those new graduates whose prior experience in whatever form was thought to be relevant for salary purposes, the average beginning salary was \$11,729; without such experience, \$9716.

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It has been suggested that RILA should undertake a salary survey in Rhode Island libraries and distribute it to all trustee boards. The rationale behind the suggestion is that it would encourage boards in the smaller libraries to increase what in some cases are unconscionable salary scales.

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Providence librarian Elizabeth Russell suggests - as she says she has every year since Dorothy Budlong was RILA president - that RILA's autumn meeting be held on the date of the annual meeting of the R. I. Education Association (Teachers' Institute). Why not?

NELA CONFERENCE REPORT  
L. N. Flanagan

Focusing on "The Art of Practical Library Politics" the 28th Annual Conference of the New England Library Association and the first beautiful weather in weeks drew a record number of 1088 registrants to New Hampshire and attracted an even greater number of new NELA members. Membership enrollment by the conclusion of the Conference totalled over 1300 people, an increase of 30% over the previous year. In these respects, the Conference, again held at Wentworth, the great Wedding cake by the sea, was a success. But in most other respects it was a deadly dull and almost uniformly uninformative waste of three good days. One morning's work at Pawtucket almost invariably provides more information.

A preconference of the New England Trustees Association on Sept. 27th gave no hint of what the regular Conference would turn out to be. This trustee pre-conference featured people such as East Providence's Christian King addressing the responsibilities of trustees, ALA's Eileen Cooke speaking of the practical politics, and the Northborough Library trustees who won a new library for their community despite severe opposition. Those who attended appeared without exception to have enjoyed this session.

However, the next day the second pre-conference, for library support staffs pre-figured the dismal failures to come with the regular Conference. Most of these sessions were unfortunately aimed at a library occupational level with decision-making responsibility above the average support staffer.

Still the ultimate tone of epic tedium was not achieved until the opening of the first general session of the regular Conference on Sunday night. This session, entitled



"New England Interlibrary Cooperation - What's In It For Us? - What Are We In For?" was supposed to be a "consciousness raising" one. Somehow it managed to almost obliterate consciousness, and the keynote speaker, John Frantz, did his part to help. Frantz, currently consultant at Brooklyn's Pratt Institute and former director of library services at the U. S. Office of Education, announced that he had no prepared speech but had to speak for 15 minutes. Speak he did, rambling through one platitude after another, not defining the title of his talk til it was two thirds complete, and occasionally wondering aloud if he had "used up" his 15 minutes of speaking time. A slow turnover of slides and a complete monotone narration in the show that followed guaranteed everybody a good night's sleep, if they hadn't already gotten one during the evening session.

Monday I arose still hopeful, and for the first hour and a half those hopes seemed to be justified. A "Consortia Interface" with Providence Public Library's Constance Cameron, Harvard Divinity's Peter Oliver, and U. of N. H.'s Donald Vincent showed that these people did know what they were doing with library consortiums and could clearly, even humorously, explain it to others. A paralled program held at the same time on "New Trends in Non-fiction for Children" proved to be like the consortia session, quite competent if not too exciting. Thereafter, things quickly got worse, and the afternoon's major session, "Interdepartmental Warfare," on the problems of the children's department in relation to other library departments, was a childish and useless exercise relieved neither by a display of competence or humor or anything else except a slightly off color joke by A. J. Anderson, which for those who are interested ran something like this:

A college professor entered his psychology class one morning, opened the text, and began to question his students. "Miss Rogers, can you tell us what part of the body expands up to 10 times its normal size in a state of excitement?" Miss Rogers reflected only a moment, blushed deeply, stammered, and finally answered that she'd prefer not to answer. The professor then called on a Mr. Jones who replied: "The pupil of the eye may expand to 10 times normal size in a state of excitement." Noting that Mr. Jones was correct the professor turned back to Miss Rogers and said: "Miss Rogers, your response shows three things. One, you did not read last night's assignment. Two, you have a dirty mind. And three, you are in for a great disappointment."

Anderson hoped that his audience would not be disappointed by his talk, but anyone who had ever heard him before was disappointed, for he said nothing new. Group discussions following on, "Help! For Y. A. Librarians in New England," never quite worked. Too many librarians had already been swept off to dreamland.

Monday night things did perk up when Marshall Dodge of "Bert and I" records fame did his impressions of Down East humor. While Dodge said virtually nothing about libraries (it was just as well - nobody was in a mood to hear more) his act was hilarious. Ask someone who attended to tell you the joke about how it rains "somethin fierce" in Maine in the spring and turns the roads to pure mud.

Tuesday A. J. Anderson redeemed himself in a discussion of "The Limits of Intellectual Freedom", in which he and his audience discussed problems implicit in a case from his book Problems in Intellectual Freedom and Censorship. Unfortunately Anderson himself never really took a stand on the issues. Myron Kirkes, regional coordinator of R. I.'s northern libraries, did note that the audience discussion generated a fair amount of information and suggested that RILA's IFC run a similar workshop, using the case method, to let Rhode Islanders see some dramatized practical application of facing a censorship battle with the new IFC Handbook, state law, trustees, and pertinent ALA documents.



The parallel discussion of "Subject Headings" proved equally as useful though less entertaining. A subsequent "Video Communications in Libraries" workshop added nothing to what would be known by anyone casually informed on the subject, and events slid downhill again to bottom out in another final session on "New England Interlibrary Cooperation. The Conference concluded with dinner, where we heard that Coventry, R. I. librarian Virginia Carter had been elected NELA Secretary, and where NELA Director Ardis Morehead introduced feature speaker and film critic Judith Crist rather wryly. Noted Ardis, asking Judith Crist to speak about films is like asking the Boston Strangler to massage your neck. Ms. Crist lived up to her reputation and was, as expected, characteristically viciously funny with the film world. But she, like the Conference, added little on librarianship.

What happened at the NELA Fall Conference? Only four sessions were worth attending, and since they were scheduled in pairs at the same time, no one could attend more than two. An expenditure of three days time, not to mention a fair amount of money, seems a might steep for two competent (not brilliant) performances. Has money become so tight, can new programs be so non-existent, that librarians can only ritualistically mumble dully about past achievements in monotone? I don't know. I do know that actuaries tell me that half of my life is over, the second half is going much faster than the first, there's more to do in the second half than in the first, I haven't walked on the beaches in three weeks with my children, I haven't had an hour to sit in the sun, I haven't found an evening to write what I must, and NELA has just wasted most of three days of my life. To call my response one of rage might well be an understatement.

NELA is now searching for suggestions for next year's conference. May I suggest that some attempt be made to aim at quality, not quantity. A one day conference focused on one idea or phenomenon with three or four expert speakers or workshops would be a refreshing change.

#### QUOTABLE QUOTES

A librarian is a confessor for some - in one way that bank managers and barbers and doctors may also be. The library is a place where the most seemingly tolerant people can be opinionated, can unload prejudices, denounce the rich, criticize the poor, crack an anti-Semitic joke or two, complain about filth in modern literature and suggest that no one ever writes anything serious anymore, and then, after a few minutes' browsing, walk out with a very funny, very dirty novel written by a Jew who is probably, by now a millionaire. Meanwhile the librarian, a lady of immaculate patience and understanding, puts the library ticket into the dating machine and almost smiles.

- Anthony Bailey  
In the Village



"She wanted to be powerful enough to dare the world - and knowing she was not, the knowledge added to that great burden of trembling timidity and fury.

-Virginia Barnes,  
Nightwood

The average public library is a pale shadow of a research source - a fragmentary information center and a pallid educational force.

- NCLIS Alternatives for Financing the Public Library 1975

Librarians, whether they want to admit it or not, rank close to the bottom of social and organizational prestige and rewards and in freedom in their work role.

- Mary Lee Bundy  
Challenges to the System, 1972

Is it too utopian to imagine in a not too distant future librarians held responsible by society for the regulations of the production of books, in order to avoid the publication of superfluous ones and, on the other hand, to guard against the lack of those demanded by the complex of vital problems in every age?.... And let no one offer me the foolish objection that such an organization would be an attack upon liberty. The collective organization of book production has nothing to do with the subject of liberty, no more nor less than the need which has demanded the regulation of traffic in the great cities of today.

- Jose Ortega y Gasset  
"The Mission of the Librarian"



Who can read with pleasure a book of poems  
unless it be in dainty form, easy to hold, slim  
as the waist of a maiden, and as a maid, elusive  
in the shifting moods of its verses. Give one a  
fat, dumpy volume of poems, and the romance  
fades out of its pages.

- H. E. Legler, Of Much Love and  
Some Knowledge of Books

"Back in touch with an orderly universe,  
a universe in which you count your friends,  
cut your enemies and communicate with  
your clear-headed children.

- Walter Kerr, The Villian Detected

Bend down the tree of  
knowledge and you'll  
unroost a strange bird.

- Duana Barnes, Nightwood

The keywords that librarians read often in the  
professional press are Outreach, SRRT, and  
others. Those words are only meaningful when  
librarians can gain the support and funds to  
make them realities. However, unless libraries  
learn "to relate their community activities closely  
to political reality" and to justify their activities  
in politically realistic terms, they will lose their  
claim to greater allocation of the presently scarce  
money, and there will be nothing with which to reach  
out.

- James Healey and Elsie Jenkins,  
WLB, May 1975

But I am afraid, I am namelessly  
afraid of this change. I have, in  
deed, hardly got used yet to this  
world, which seems good to me.  
What should I do in another.

- R. M. Rilke, The Notebooks of Malte  
Laurids Brigge



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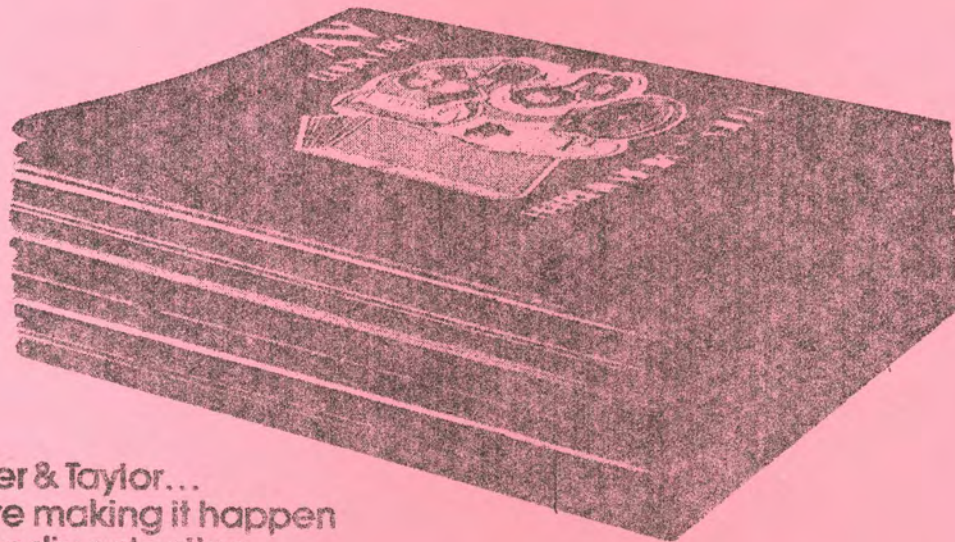
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