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Rhode Island Library Association BULLETIN



January 1978

RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
150 EMPIRE STREET
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

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EDITORIAL NOTICE:

The Bulletin appears monthly except in August. News and articles should be submitted to the editor by the 10th day of each month for publication by the end of that month.

The Bulletin is a publication for public, school, academic and special libraries of Rhode Island. Published by the Rhode Island Library Association, the Bulletin welcomes 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 advertisers. All articles about library and media matters will be considered. All should be signed and should not exceed ten double spaced typed pages unless the editor is consulted.

The Bulletin subscription rates are \$7.00/year for agencies or individuals not holding membership in RILA. Advertising rates per issue are \$20 per $\frac{1}{2}$ page, \$35 per $\frac{1}{4}$ page, and \$50 per full page. Call the advertising manager for further information.

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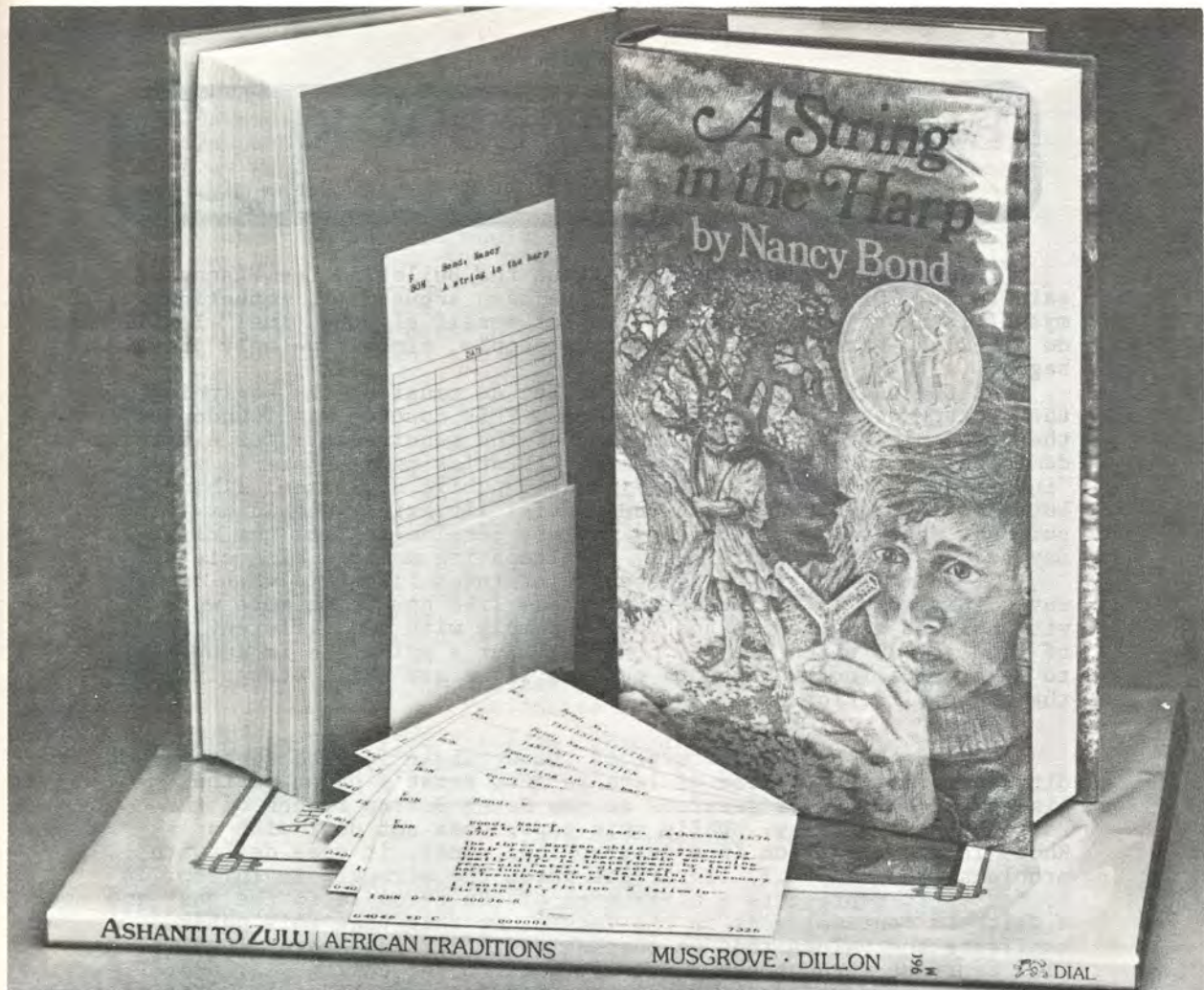
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EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

-By Judith Plotz, Asst. Editor



In one of our conversations about the Bulletin, Lee Flanagan said to me, "Of all the things I have been accused of, repeating myself is never one, although I repeat myself all the time!" I will do likewise, but I will repeat other people, since I've only just begun.

At the beginning of a new year let us consider the beginning, the root purpose, of library service. This country was founded on the principle of democracy, and one of the requirements for a working democracy is an informed citizenry. Libraries have a part to play in "informing the citizenry." Particularly public and school libraries, but also indirectly academic and special libraries, should have this purpose. We should be providing library service so that the users may become freer and more fully participating members of society.

It seems silly to think about platitudes like this when one's day-to-day work is filled with problems like how to do more work with half as many people and how to comply with two different sets of regulations which clearly conflict. But a principle is supposed to be a guideline by which to measure if we are still struggling in the right direction.

One of the better pictures of the struggle for the right direction that we've seen of late is Anne Hanst's paper on the history of children's services at the South Boston branch of the Boston Public Library. While this paper does not deal with a Rhode Island situation in a geographical sense, it does deal with problems that many R.I. librarians face, the struggle to inform. In so far as it represents a clear view of the struggle in the past and a faith in continuing it in the future, we felt that this paper manifests the values that we cherish as librarians, the values which will carry us through the worst of times in the coming year and which will help us create conditions for the best of times. Best of luck with your library endeavors in 1978.

By the way, credit and thanks for our joyous new year cover illustration go to Angel Smith, a local high school student whose pen and ink work was exhibited in December at Providence Public Library.

Letters to the Editor



November 20, 1977

Dear RILA Colleagues:

Mention was made on several occasions of some form of mid-winter meeting. The length of last Tuesday's business meeting of the

Rhode Island Library Association membership convinces me more than ever that such a meeting is not only wise, but very much needed. Where you want it, what day, what hour, and how long, is all something that can be decided by the Executive Board.

Personally, I would opt a Thursday or Friday afternoon in late January when the session would convene at 1:30 PM and run without break for 3½ hours and then break for cocktails and home, or drinks and dinner for those who care to. The meeting room at Warwick might be a good central place, or the Marriott, or the Sheraton Islander.

I just think we need this meeting half way through the year to lighten the content and the pressure impact of our fall and spring meetings. Some of you may remember that when I was president I had such a meeting in late January of 1970, on a Saturday afternoon and had better than fifty people. I think a weekday is better and would draw more participants. We are a big organization. We can no longer capsule our deliberations into two very short meetings.

I know from past and personal experience that as president you plan the business meeting to be about an hour and a half in length and suddenly everybody and all his brothers want equal time for their pet project. You are left with an agenda that is too long and doomed from the start. Let's try a mid-winter meeting for everyone and everyone's concerns. This would then leave the president free to stick by his or her hour and a half time frame for the May meeting.

- Charles W. Crosby, Acting Director
Providence Public Library

(Ed. note: An RILA 75th Birthday Celebration, Spring Conference and Business Meeting will be held March 9, 1978.)

November 30, 1977

Dear Editor:

A conference afterthought: I wish to note that an interpretation of Sydney Wright's innocent remark during the Resource Sharing meeting has evolved incorrectly. It's not that I wanted a special collection of books dealing only with normal children, per se; but rather that an agreement had been made with Jean Nash, director of the neighboring West Warwick Library, to share responsibility for collections on children. Cranston's Oak Lawn branch was to have "Parent and Child," dealing with psychological and physical aspects of child rearing, while West Warwick would use its share of the Western Region's funding to select in the field of "Handicapped Children," thereby sharing resources further so that each library could refer patrons who needed material the other library could provide.

- Anne Parent
Cranston Public Library

December 4, 1977

Dear Editor:

Elizabeth Gallup Myer took you to task in the Dec. Bulletin for using the word "collapse" when referring to the inglorious end of the DSLS Processing Center, one of the few tangible services of

DSLS to the state. Her description of the history of the collapse (p.2, paragraph 1) is at odds with what I experienced. At the time I was director at Pawtucket Public Library and Pawtucket PL was the largest remaining PL customer of the center. I became a member of a committee designed to save the center, after the handwriting was clearly on the wall. It was my opinion then, as now, that no genuine effort was made by DSLS administration to provide a cataloging service worth paying for; that no genuine effort was made by DSLS administration to "save" the center; and that I or anyone else with a little experience in such matters and a modicum of organizational ability could have made a going concern of it.

The tone of self-congratulation is especially strong in the December issue (p.3ff). Your history of RILA in the Oct. Bulletin is good, but not without faults, two of which deserve comment. The first is that most common of all, the tendency to treat that period of the organization's history in which the author has been an active member as the most important. Or, put another way, the space devoted to the past four years is larger than it should be. The other bothersome point is your apparent need to receive praise by deifying living persons.

Page 4 of the Dec. issue notes that five legislative proposals have come from the Government Relations Committee. There is no cause for celebration here. These niggardly requests for pennies represent the disorganized selfish interests of dissatisfied groups and individuals in the RI library community. Why is there no thought given to long range planning for the future? Basically, the answer is that people are busier protecting their own territories than they are with thinking about common goals of the large group.

The film shown at the RILA fall conference, The Speaker, is so bad that the viewer is overwhelmed by its poorness and the content of the intended message never comes through. It is a thing of shame. The only thing worse than the fact that it was produced by the ALA is the fact that it and Judy Krug are both still around.

Celeste West's RILA conference talk on the "Literary-Industrial Complex" seems to have gone over the heads of everyone. The message is quite serious, as serious as good old soldier Ike's message was when he warned the nation against the military-industrial complex. The message is simple--huge corporations now control the media, print (book & periodical), film and TV. Some corporations own portions of all the establishment media. The fact that new novelists are not getting into print because first novels are financially unrewarding is one of the smaller dangers of this phenomenon. The really important thing is that these corporations work closely with the federal government and that the government exercises every bit of control it can over the media. In other words, everything published by the 3% of publishers who account for 70% of what's published is subject to pressure from those agencies of government concerned with "national security." To be really simple about it, almost everything in your library that actually circulates has been written because some federal agency wanted it or it has been approved (and modified) by a publishing executive who respects the wishes of these federal agencies. Because of this relationship, virtually everything you circulate is suspect as to its contents. The worst part is that you know and

care so little about what is happening. It's called thought control, and you are victims. I am not suggesting that you label or censor. Rather, I am suggesting that you delve into the mechanism that brings books to you and consider the circumstances that surround publication of those books. If you discover that a book by a former president about an important individual in American history was ghost written by a person using deliberately misleading confidential documents illegally given by an intelligence agency to the ghost writer to promote the version of events favored as correct by that agency, you might tend to be a little skeptical about the objectivity and accuracy of that book. Many books have a similar purpose and a publishing history as blatantly unconcerned with "fact."

At a time when basic human freedoms are being threatened by concerted and coordinated efforts of government, industry and crime, up stands John Berry at the RILA fall conference to wage total war against the evils of vinegar and honey and low-carbohydrate diets. He argues that books of this ilk should be labelled as dangerous because his father died while on Atkin's diet. This is an emotionally immature reaction to a personal tragedy and an unfortunate intrusion of that event into Berry's professional life. He aggrandizes his importance to the point that now the editor of LJ is possessed of the God-like ability to judge the contents of books in a library collection in terms of how far they are from some objective scheme of ultimate universal truth (known to him, obviously) and so label them. And he urges others to do likewise, knowing full well that they will in their usual bovine manner, follow along. I suggest that if librarians are concerned about the integrity of the "information" they dispense, that all materials in the collection be scrutinized with equal severity. No amount of labelling will restore life to John Berry's father and no labelling can ever reflect anything but the emotional and intellectual hangups of the labeller.

It is as if Mr. Berry had set out to personally espouse all of the worst intellectual offenses found in the profession today and present them to us as role models.

What was wrong with what John Berry thought and said and is it really our job-related disease? He is trying to cope with a personal emotional difficulty by working it out through his professional life. If he can get the librarians of the nation to label Atkins' book as bad medicine, he has retaliated against the man he feels is responsible for his father's death. How many other "personalities" in the library world work out their emotional problems on staffs and co-workers? How many people, trying to accomplish worthwhile professional projects, are forced to live through hell because their bosses like the feeling of power and use that power to cause pain? Plenty.

Berry is also guilty of assuming that his long acquaintance with books puts him, and other librarians, in a position to judge them. More long term damage to libraries has been done by librarians endowed with terminal ignorance and delusions of omnipotence than by Richard Nixon or any other malignant force. Nowhere do librarians learn about books as objects of value. No librarian without extensive training in a specific subject area is competent to judge books in that subject field. Yet, Berry and others constantly assume, without basis, that they are so qualified. We, as a profession, must either acquire the training to make us as nearly capable to make judgmental decisions as possible, or quit making them.

Page 17 of the Dec. issues shows us that URI/GLS is no longer moribund. The first "annual ingathering" to promote "alumni professional development" will feature one speech only, and that on the fascinating topic "Differentiated Staffing and Its Implications For Library Schools." All librarians in the state who have begged the GLS to do something for practicing librarians should really flock to this one.

I expect that some of these comments have offended a few readers. Get mad at me if you please, but you would be better advised to address the chance that one or two of the things I have written might be worth thinking about.

-Respectfully submitted,
Your friend,
Curt Bohling



NEWS FROM RILA

-by Judith Plotz

The RILA Executive Board meeting, December 8, 1977, proceeded with less than accustomed heat of debate, perhaps because several Board members are new and not yet ready to speak out.

People who chair the RILA committees were present. The group discussed this year's budget plan which provisionally allocates \$200 to each committee, but requires that each committee draw up a program for the year, including estimated expenses. More money may be available if a committee needs it.

The Board collected thoughts on Goals and Objectives for the year. Some suggestions were: Input to the Governor's Conference - A. Holliday, R. Cairns; RILA documents on standards and other issues which might be put into action - L. Flanagan; Liaison with other library groups such as RIEMA, SLA, CRIARL - K. Gunning; Self-study - C. Bohling.

Two committees need new leadership: Curt Bohling is stepping down as Co-chair with Anne Shaw of the Government Relations Committee, and the newly formed Personnel Committee needs a strong person as head. President Ardis Holliday will make these appointments.

The Board considered a Mid-winter or Spring meeting and voted to hold a half-day meeting including a short program, a business meeting, and a birthday cake in celebration of RILA's 75th anniversary March 9, 1978. Edna Nelson, Nadine Baer and Lee Flanagan will work with the Conference Committee to plan the meeting.

The Task Force for Library Services to Children will be mailing out a survey questionnaire to all libraries in Rhode Island. The results are to be published in the RILA Bulletin.

RILA has engaged Robert Persson as lobbyist for the upcoming legislative session. The Executive Board wants the entire membership to know the terms of this agreement, so it is reprinted in full as follows:

AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT made as of the 16th day of November, 1977, by and between RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION, an unincorporated association organized and existing under the laws of the State of Rhode Island (the "Association"), and ROBERT C. PERSSON, a resident of Cranston, Rhode Island ("Persson").

W I T N E S S E T H T H A T:

WHEREAS, the Association desires to retain the Services of Persson as its legislative advocate under the terms and conditions set forth herein and Persson is willing to serve in said capacity on such terms and conditions,

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and of the mutual agreements hereinafter set forth, the Association and Persson do hereby agree as follows:

I. Term. The Association hereby retains the services of Persson as its legislative advocate and Persson agrees to perform in said capacity for a term commencing on the date hereof and ending June 30, 1978.

II. Capacity.

2.1 Persson shall serve the Association during the term hereof as its legislative advocate with the Rhode Island General Assembly and shall perform the duties and functions set forth in the "Guidelines for R.I.L.A.'s Legislative Advocate, 1977-1978," a copy of which is hereto annexed as Exhibit A and made a part hereof, and such additional related duties and functions as the Association may, from time to time, prescribe to achieve its legislative goals.

2.2 During the term of this agreement, Persson shall not engage in any other activities which would conflict with the legislative goals of the Association, as established, or otherwise impair his ability to perform the duties and functions of legislative advocate for the Association.

III. Compensation. Subject to the provisions of paragraphs IV and V (5.1) hereof, the Association shall pay to Persson, as full compensation for his services hereunder and expenditures incurred by him in the performance thereof, the sum of Three Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$350), payable in four equal installments of \$87.50 each on November 15, 1977, January 15, 1978, March 15, 1978 and May 15, 1978.

IV. Termination. Either party shall have the right to terminate this agreement by giving to the other party written notice of termination at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of termination. In the event that a notice of termination is given hereunder, by either party, the total amount of compensation otherwise payable by the Association to Persson hereunder shall be apportioned to the date of termination on a pro-rata basis over the term set forth in paragraph I hereof. Any portion of such compensation, as so determined, which has not previously been paid as of the date of termination, shall be paid on said date.

V. Miscellaneous.

5.1 The Association shall reimburse Persson for any necessary fees paid by him to the State of Rhode Island for registration or otherwise as required by law to the extent the same are directly attributable to the performance of his duties hereunder.

5.2 Persson agrees to comply with all applicable laws of the State of Rhode Island and the rules and regulations of the General Assembly in the performance of his duties hereunder.

5.3 This Agreement is personal in its nature and neither of the parties hereto shall, without the consent of the other, assign or transfer this Agreement or any rights or obligations hereunder.

5.4 This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Rhode Island.

5.5 All notices required or permitted hereunder shall be in writing and mailed by United States mail, postage prepaid, and shall be effective upon receipt. Notices to Persson shall be addressed to him at 105 Appleton Street, Cranston, Rhode Island 02910, unless and until he shall notify the Association in writing to the contrary. Notices to the Association shall be sent to the President, Rhode Island Library Association, c/o Westerly Public Library, Westerly, Rhode Island 02891.

5.6 This Agreement supersedes all prior agreements and understandings between the parties hereto.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Persson has hereunto set his hand and seal to these presents and one counterpart hereof and the Association has caused the same to be executed by its officer thereunto duly authorized as of the date first hereinabove set forth.

RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

By _____
President

(Robert C. Persson)

EXHIBIT A

GUIDELINES FOR R.I.L.A.'s LEGISLATIVE ADVOCATE,
1977-1978

1) The legislative advocate is responsible to the President of RILA and should regularly keep the President informed of developments in the Association's lobbying effort, especially during the legislative session. Monthly progress reports shall be submitted in writing to the President and to the chairpersons of the Government Relations Committee before the Executive Board meeting.

2) The legislative advocate, the chairpersons of the Government Relations Committee and the RILA President will consult the Director of the Department of State Library Services on common legislative concerns before the DSLS budget is submitted to the Governor of Rhode Island in the fall.

3) The Government Relations Committee and the legislative advocate will draw up the legislative program during summer and fall to present to the Executive Board at its Nov. meeting.

4) The Executive Board will set legislative priorities from the legislative programs with the understanding that the legislative advocate is to use his/her judgment in negotiating during the legislative session to achieve these priorities with the advice and consent of the President.

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5) The lobbyist will represent RILA in legislation pertaining to libraries. He/she will inform and advise the Government Relations Committee when other legislation affecting libraries is pending. Because intellectual freedom is a basic tenet of librarianship, particular attention should be paid to assuring that the legislature is informed of the Association's position on legislation advocating any form of censorship that will restrict a library's or an individual's right to read, view or assemble.



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SRRT JOB HOTLINE

The Social Responsibilities Round Table of Rhode Island has published a "Job Hotline" on a regular basis for over a year now. We have enjoyed much success and we are grateful to the individuals who have contributed to our effort. The RILA Bulletin has generously offered to continue printing the SRRT Job Hotline in its monthly publication. We would like to stress that it is not necessary to join RILA to receive the Job Hotline. Just send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to either of the coordinators whose addresses are listed below and you will receive updated Job Hotlines each time there are new lists.

Coordinators:	Candice Civiak	Marcia Hershoff
	Providence Public Library	Cumberland Public Library
	150 Empire Street	Cumberland, RI
	Providence, RI 02903	

REVERE PUBLIC LIBRARIES. Director. MLS from an ALA accredited library school, minimum of 3 yrs expr. public lib. adm. & supervisory expr. Salary \$15,200. Send letter of application and complete resume to: Frank Tranfaglia, Chairman, Board of Trustees, Revere Public Library, 179 Beach St., Revere, Mass 02151.

ROCKLAND MEMORIAL LIBRARY. Director for local public library. MLS from ALA accredited library school plus at least 3 yrs of adm. expr. Rockland is an attractive town of 17,000 population with 50,000 volume library. Salary to be negotiated. Send resume to: Ms. Nora Keezer, Dir. Rockland Memorial Library, Rockland, MA 02370 (Mass. Eastern Regional News Oct. 77)

WOONSOCKET SCHOOL DEPARTMENT. Substitutes. Req: R.I. Dept. of Ed. certification as Teacher of Library Science. \$22 per diem. Apply to: Woonsocket School Dept., Cass Park Media Center, 350 Newland Ave., Woonsocket, RI 02895 (URI Joblist, Nov. 3, 77)

BRAINTREE PUBLIC LIBRARY. Director. 5 yrs expr. in adm. \$15,000 to \$17,000. Contact: Robert Bay, Personnel Director, Braintree Town Hall, 1 JFK Drive, Braintree, MA 02184

LIBRARY MEDIA DIRECTOR. To coordinate library & media resources in a small private college; to supervise other library & audio-visual personnel. MLS necessary. Library & AV experience desirable. Salary negotiable; good fringe benefits. Send resume to Box 1952, Journal Office, Providence Journal Bulletin, Providence, RI (adv. in Prov. Journal 11/20/77)

EAST PROVIDENCE. Coordinator of Children's Activities. \$10,600-\$12,792. MLS & exp. in children's library services required. Applications available from Personnel Dept., City Hall, 60 Commercial Way, East Providence, RI 02914. Apply by Dec. 21, 1977.

LIBRARIAN-INSTRUCTOR, accredited 2-year college. Must be able to teach Freshman English, math or human relations. MLS, second master's req. Send resume to Box 1068, Journal Office. (Prov. Journal 11/27/77)

BARRINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS; elementary and middle schools librarians needed at once. Must be eligible for R.I. Library/teacher certificate. Send resume to Dr. Aaron DeMoranville, Barrington Public Schools, 165 New Meadow Road, Barrington, R.I. 02806 (Prov. Journal 12/23/77).

FALL RIVER LIBRARY. Sub-professional position. Full-time, permanent. Immediate opening. Sal. \$148.57/week. Contact William Warde, Fall River Library, Fall River, MA 617/676-8541. (GLS Joblist 11/29/77)

AGAWAM, MASS. Library Director. MLS & 2 yrs. exp. desired. eeo/aa. \$10,000-\$12,000. Apply by Dec. 10: Agawam Search Comm., 733 Main St., Agawam, Mass. 01001. (New York Times, Nov. 13)

PUBLIC LIBRARY OF LEXINGTON, MASS. Supervisor of Technical Services. Familiar with computer application & MLS, \$11,383-\$16,496. Resume & refs to Suzanne Nicot, Asst. Dir., Cary Memorial Library, 1874 Mass. Ave., Lexington, Mass 02173. (New York Times Nov. 27)

MERRIMACK COLLEGE. Director of library in 2000 student college 20 miles north of Boston. MLS & interest in collection building necessary. Send application & resume to Personnel Officer, Merrimack College, North Andover, Mass. (Mass. Bureau of Lib. Ext. Dec. 15)

STONEHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY. Children's Librarian, to head dept. MLS & exp. required. \$10,795-11,822 + standard benefits. Send resume to Hugh Williams, Jr., Director, Stoneham Public Library, Stoneham, MA 02180 (Eastern Regional Newsletter)

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY. Asst. to the Director for Personnel. \$19,100-\$24,300. Send resume to the Director's Office, BPL, Copley Square, Boston, MA 02117. An aa/eoe. (New York Times, Dec. 11)

BARRINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS. 1. Elementary Librarian. 2. Middle School Librarian. Available immediately. Persons interested must be eligible for a R.I. Library/Teacher certificate. Persons interested should send letters of application & resumes to: Dr. Aaron F. DeMoranville, Jr., Barrington Public Schools, 165 New Meadow Road, Barrington, RI 02806. 401/245-5000. (Prov. Sunday Journal 12/25/77)

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY. Programs Librarian. MLS and 2 years experience required. To plan and implement programs and exhibits and their publicity. \$12472-15110. Send resume to Personnel Office, Boston Public Library, Copley Square, Boston, Ma. 02117. An aa/eoe. (New York Times, Dec. 11).

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IBM Selectric typewriter essential.

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CHILDREN'S WORK AT THE SOUTH BOSTON BRANCH, BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY, 1919-1976

-By Anne Hanst, 1071 Beacon St.
Brookline, Massachusetts

Prospectus

This paper explores the history of children's work at the South Boston Branch of the Boston Public Library from 1919 to 1976. Trends and techniques in children's librarianship as practised at the South Boston Branch will be discussed. The experiences of the children and librarians at South Boston will be analyzed in the context of the South Boston community. I will attempt to assess the effect of the changing nature of this community on children's work at the library. An effective public library must deal with a changing public, social unrest, and many other social factors. In the case of South Boston, events have included a massive influx of immigrants, urban renewal in the form of housing projects, and forced busing. It is of great importance to urban librarians to consider the effect of such events on their communities. These events will be discussed in light of how children's librarians felt such conditions have affected them and their work.

I have used as source material the annual, quarterly and monthly reports of work with children made by the librarians of the South Boston Branch since 1919. Children's work formally began at the Boston Public Library when the first children's room was set up at the Main Library in 1895. Storytelling had begun at the South Boston Branch by 1912, which shows at least a strong awareness of children's work well before the reports begin in 1919. Statistics given in the reports are generally inconsistent, but some storytelling and circulation figures are noted. The most important part of the children's work reports are the editorial comments made by the librarians. A composite picture of these opinions, complaints and accounts of day-to-day problems give us a representation of children's librarianship over the past fifty-seven years.

Different generations of librarians have faced very different types of problems. Today in South Boston we see a disrupted community and a serious decline in parental control. The problems faced by former generations were also serious, as evidenced by the librarian's accounts of the inexperienced immigrants, often burdened by long working hours, unfit housing, little sanitation, and language barriers. Librarians working in inner city neighborhoods have often worked with low-income clientele. The librarians who wrote the early children's reports were certainly not in the same social class with those they called the "great unwashed", but their concern for the children was sincere. Problems of communication should be kept in mind by anyone working in the often alien territory of inner city neighborhoods.

Earlier generations saw the library as the answer to many of the problems of the culturally deprived immigrants. Librarians sincerely believed that the library could help children to become assimilated. Since these problems have largely passed, there is perhaps less interest in the library. The present library situation is a complicated one, in light of the electronic age, contemporary culture and present social conditions. We will view these problems through the eyes of the children's librarians of South Boston.

The Community and Library Trends

Over the past fifty-seven years, changing community situations have brought many different problems to the South Boston Branch library and children's room. In the early years, attention was paid to the problem of assimilating the children of the immigrants. Although there were no "children's librarians" at this time, a great deal of attention was necessarily paid to children. During the early twenties, over two-thirds of the library clientele were children. The following excerpt is from the annual report of 1919.

The clientele of the South Boston Branch has changed considerably in the last ten years. Our patronage last year was 68% juvenile and the children come from families of the working and immigrant classes who seldom use the library. All nationalities are fairly well represented with perhaps a majority of Lithuanians and Irish. Many of our children belong to the family of the "great unwashed" and I wish the teachers in the district would adopt the method pursued elsewhere, of inspecting hands mornings and afternoons. Often our cleanest and newest books are taken by the "dirtiest hands" but with the caution from us, not to open the books until the hands are clean...When the books are returned, there is sometimes evidence of the houses not being any cleaner than the children. (1919)

Among problems at this time were overcrowding, the small size of the children's room, and the difficulty of keeping order. This was not due to especially bad behavior on the part of the children but to the sheer numbers in the children's room. These were the early years of storytelling, and the interest in it was very strong.

As much serious attention was paid to the children as was humanly possible under the existing conditions. The first children's room in the Boston Public Library was opened in 1895, so by this time children's work was a well-established, if young, branch of library work. At the South Boston Branch, since children were the chief clientele, they certainly were not thought of as aggravating or detrimental to other library work. Every possible effort was made to help children. Children were allowed to use library ink to write their homework. The staff knew that many children did not have ink in their homes and would not have been able to do their lessons if they could not borrow the ink. Since there was so little space in the children's room, children were allowed to use the adult reference section and some of the adult tables. There was a constant campaign to maintain order and quiet.

The children are well behaved. Once spoken to, they usually obey. Scuffling and other noises caused by the children moving about are unavoidable especially when they are literally herded into the children's room at busy times. Books are returned at the main desk, juvenile card holders standing in single file, with the line sometimes extending to the door...When it is very crowded it is frequently necessary to hand out easy books to a line of children, so as to prevent a rush to the shelves...Several foreign boys and girls take out one book for themselves and a Lithuanian or Polish book for their mother or father. (1923)

By the end of the twenties, these crowded conditions had abated somewhat. By the mid-thirties, juvenile circulation had begun to decrease, although it was still certainly a large proportion of the total circulation. Presumably librarians now had time for more varied activities, and the first visit to a school by a librarian is mentioned in 1932. Mention is made of possible methods of making the children more aware of the library. The children themselves must have had more time to enjoy the library, instead of being "herded" in and out of the children's room.

Weekly story hours were popular. During the 1920's and 1930's, the attendance at story hour is cited as being a hundred or more children per story hour.

During the latter half of the thirties, several changes came about in the surrounding area. Population in the area began to drop, and people began moving out of the B to E Street area right in the area of the library. Here is the first mention made of a problem group in the library--teenagers. There would be no young adults librarian until 1957.

The need for special facilities for the "intermediates" has always been a problem here, but this year we have been especially conscious of this group. Too old for the children's room and too young to infringe on adult rights to the reading room, we have no place suitable for them. They have no serious purpose in reading, so that the Study Room must be denied them. Many of them are no longer in school, and due to unemployment and unrest, they have become a strong social problem. While it is undoubtedly beyond the aims and scope of the library to offer as a foil to the destructive tendencies of these groups a program to promote better citizenship, it might be a means toward this end. Space in the library, apart from the adult and juvenile sections could be provided for them where they would be free to consult newspapers, magazines, and the mystery and western stories they prefer. A place such as this would tend to keep them off the streets, and to help to fill their time, if not profitably, at least innocuously. (Jan.-Mar. 1935)

Declining circulation and declining school enrollment are mentioned yearly from 1936 through 1940. This was due to the shift in population in the district and also a change in the children's home situations probably occurred. Perhaps the children were no longer so thirsty for knowledge and for culture as their older brothers and sisters had been. These children were probably more experienced and more accustomed to modern living. Children had more entertainment to choose from. The following excerpt tells a great deal about conditions in the district during this period.

An analysis of the figures for 1941 shows a decrease of 3659 over the figures of last year. To more fully understand this loss, it is necessary to take a survey of the happenings in our district this past year. Due to the rumors that a new housing project was to be erected from B to D Street, and Broadway to Seventh Street, many of the people in that area were asked to vacate. This, of course, meant a decrease in clientele. ...Along with this decrease of pupils, we are receiving keen competition from the beautiful new Hayden Boys' Club in our district. This attractive building with its swimming pool, amateur radio room, cooking room, athletic department, shop room, game room, library, etc., affords limitless entertainment and amusement for our boys...We have also noticed that due to the present prosperity, the children have more money to spend and can find many ways to entertain themselves without the aid of the library. (1941 annual report)

The housing project mentioned in the above passage was, of course, the famous D Street project. This project, now housing low-income families, was originally intended for veterans' families. Somewhat after the end of the war, it was filled with new families. When the new people began moving in, circulation became more stabilized.

Community work, in the form of visits to the schools and social agencies was practised in earnest during the forties. When librarian Anne Connors spoke of World War II widening the childrens' horizons, she probably had no idea how permanent that situation would be. During this period we sense strong awareness of social change on the part of children's librarian Anne Connors. Whole school classes were brought to the library for special story hour programs in 1946. In 1949, films were first used with the school classes, and by 1952, when Martha Engler began work at the branch, the class visit and film program were already established.

During the fifties, Martha Engler carried out intensive school visits, storytelling and ran innumerable library clubs. The Imagination Club flourished from 1952 to 1957. There is less awareness of social change during this period and a strong sense of business at hand. This could be due to the interests of Martha Engler, who was, of course, writing the reports during this time, but it is probably also due to the general mood of the country during the fifties.

In 1957 we have the first mention of a really serious discipline problem, in the form of a teenage gang.

This past month we have been having discipline problems, a hitherto rare experience at South Boston Branch. A gang of seven teen age girls have been giving us serious trouble, so much so that we have had to request the presence of a police officer in the evenings. (February 1957)

Once a really serious culprit has been identified, his parents are usually contacted. By this forceful refusal to be intimidated by rowdies, the children's room has managed to keep on top of serious problems. Young toughs generally stay away when they know there may be consequences. Contacting parents is considered a last resort, but one to be used when necessary.

In October 1957, the new South Boston Branch opened on Broadway between I and K Streets. Hordes of children descended on the new, modern branch--so much so that Martha Engler was obliged to abandon the very active Imagination Club, a major activity. The first few years were hectic indeed, with exhausting amounts of time spent doing floor work, answering questions, and in general enforcing discipline.

About a year later, deliberate defacing of books became a problem for at least a couple of months. In spite of thorough investigation, in the form of looking through all returned books, trying to trace down some of the names written in the books, and watching out in general, the culprits, though suspected, were never definitely discovered. Mutilation is nearly always a problem in any children's room, especially with respect to sets of encyclopedias. Every so often, a massive school assignment on one particular subject will result in the mutilation of the relevant volume. Pictures, especially, tend to get cut out for scrapbooks and school papers.

Throughout the years a continuing problem in the new branch has been the matter of conduct in the children's room during the evening hours. The children's room has large front windows that face the street, and if gangs of children congregate in front of these windows, there are serious discipline problems both in the children's room and outside.

During the evening hours, it has become increasingly difficult to maintain quiet in the children's room. Both children and young adults who have been asked to leave the library congregate on the street in front of the windows. The noise from the street disrupts those children who are reading and studying inside. The windows facing the street are attractive, but they are not very practical in a neighborhood where many children are on the street in the evening.
(February 1971)

The present policy is for children to be allowed in the children's room in the evening for silent study only. This aids in keeping noisy and rowdy children out of the children's room, but it does nothing to solve the problem of roving gangs who come into the library looking for trouble. These problems are dealt with as they arise. The key to dealing with them is knowing the children and being able to identify them when such incidents occur. This naturally requires some detective

work, but so far such detective work has usually proved successful.

Busing

The first mention of the busing problem comes in the report for September 1974, as soon as school busing started in Boston. As children's librarian Paula Fleming feared, many school visits were discontinued under the forced busing situation. Principals were reluctant to send the newly integrated classes on the sometimes long walk to the library. The first indication of the new problems that would be facing the children's room came during the early boycotts, when parents who did not plan to send their children to school came to the library in search of materials to tutor them with.

The first school to cancel its visit did not, at first, admit what the real reason was for the cancellation. The O.H. Perry School is located far down the point, near P Street, a good twenty-minute walk to the library.

As far as possible, school visits were carried on as usual. The three parochial schools in the district, who were not, of course, bused, kept up their scheduled school visits. Business in the library during the first few months of the busing was irregular. Children who were not attending school did not need to come for help on their homework. Little by little, most children returned to school. By January 1975, Paula Fleming commented that business seemed to be getting back to normal. The school visit situation, however, did not improve. While not all public school classes cancelled their visits, it seemed that the farther away the particular school, the more likely it was that their visits would be cancelled.

When the new South Boston Heights Academy, an "alternative" to the force-bused public schools was formed, many of the vacancies left by cancelled public school visits were filled by Academy classes. The situation was still disheartening. The purpose of the school visit program was to ensure that every child in the library district would visit the library at least once a year. Now only certain classes and certain schools were visiting the library, so the purpose of the school visit program was at least partially defeated.

The situation was further complicated by other factors which came about from the nature of the newly integrated classes. Many of the children now visiting the library, when such classes did visit, were not from South Boston. If they were registered for library cards and borrowed books, it was unlikely that they would be able to return their books, in spite of follow-up visits made by the librarians for the purpose of collecting library books. It was very difficult to know how to advise these children. Many of them came from areas where there was no neighborhood branch library, in many cases, not even a bookmobile stop. Explaining library services to these children seemed meaningless when the children would not be able to take advantage of them.

Perhaps the whole idea of district librarianship has gone the way of the district schools. The present librarians are willing to put up with this situation for another year or two, in hopes that things will settle down. This will still not solve the problem of

how to advise the non-local children. If things do not improve, some other method of keeping in contact with the schools may have to be found.

After two years of visiting and occasionally being visited by, the bused classes, Paula Fleming had the following comments.

Visits to all classes of all schools in the district were made as usual this year, with the usual invitation for the classes to return the visit at the library... Only five fewer visits were made by classes to the library this year, but the total attendance was down by approximately 1000 children. It is not a matter of not having reached these children--every class in every school was visited. It is a simple fact that these children are no longer here in the city. We are constantly finding "library fixtures" disappearing as their families move out of the city, and in some cases out of the state. (June 1976)

A partial answer to this puzzle might be that the children in a new private Academy were nearly all former public school students. Although there were nearly the same number of classes visiting the library, these classes were smaller than in former years. Even so, the possibility of large numbers of families leaving the city must be considered. If this continues to happen, the library will certainly be affected further.

Recommendations

At this point, I would like to say a few words concerning children's programming. Nearly all activities practised at the South Boston Branch have been for those children interested in reading and interested in participating. With problems of social unrest, and many children not in school looking for ways to kill time, it has always been necessary to keep order in the children's room. Children who are interested in what the library has to offer cannot benefit when the librarians' time is taken up in dealing with troublemakers. This policy is necessary, but the unfortunate effect of it is that it does discourage some non-readers from benefiting from library services and programs.

While it is only natural that children's activities should center around the brighter children and the eager readers, some re-thinking needs to be done. Libraries need to be more in touch with the massive problem of illiteracy and language difficulties. Closer cooperation with the schools might be a good step in this direction. Perhaps more cooperation with such untried but innovative programs as RIF (Reading is Fundamental) is in order. Libraries and children's rooms, by their nature, ought to be in the forefront of the literacy movement.

These comments are not meant to denigrate the quality programming that has been done. If library programs were not aimed at the superior readers, but at the larger mass of children, they would lose their unique qualities. One of the purposes of library programs is

to upgrade children's reading tastes. Libraries should be able to preserve their pursuit of excellence in addition to providing aid to less fortunate children who cannot read well.

A problem relating to this matter of literacy is that the branch is not allowed to carry textbooks. This is strict library policy for the entire Boston Public Library, and it applies to texts on all school subjects, whether or not they are used by the local schools. The rationale behind this is that the schools are supposed to provide the textbooks. This policy definitely hurts the slow learner, especially in the case of readers. A slow reader may not be able to read even the simplest picture-book. If such a child has problems in the classroom, he can't be helped by a trip to the library when the library has nothing easy enough for him to read. At the branch we see many children, floundering around with no help from teachers or parents, who just cannot read. We feel that the inclusion of early level readers would help these children. This also applies to grammar and arithmetic books as well as other types of texts. Parents are unable to help children catch up on their school work or review grammar rules under the present policy. While it is true that such books would need constant and frequent replacement, the inclusion of such books in the collection would be a positive step in the direction of helping the slow learner.

The methods used at the South Boston Branch have all been productive. New methods must be evolved as new problems arise. We hope they will be as successful as past methods.



RIEMA FIFTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

"TELL IT LIKE IT IS"

-by Dick Botelho

The program planning for our fifth annual conference is not completed. As of copy deadline time for the MEDIA NEWS the program planning committee had received confirmation from all of its speakers except one, and that one was imminent. The conference will be held next April 7th and 8th with a special Pre-Conference session slated for Thursday night, April 6th. The conference is scheduled for the Cranston Hilton Inn.

This year we are providing our members an opportunity for early registration by including the registration form on the next page. In addition to giving you advanced notice and a time for pre-planning an early registration also saves you money, as the registration fee is reduced from \$15 to \$10. Another reason for affording our members an opportunity for early registration is the room situation. Another group is expected at the Inn the day after our conference, so rooms will be at a premium. If you are planning to stay overnight at the conference, WE WOULD STRONGLY URGE YOU TO REGISTER EARLY so that a room can be reserved for you. As soon as we receive your room registrations we will forward the information to the hotel and insure that a room will be available for you.

RHODE ISLAND EDUCATIONAL MEDIA ASSOCIATION

EARLY REGISTRATION: Offer good until February 10, 1978

REGISTRATION FORM

RIEMA Fifth Annual Conference

Name: _____

Address: _____

School or
 Business: _____

Home Phone: _____

Bus. Phone: _____

Concurrent Sessions
 In order for us to estimate space requirements please indicate below the sessions you are interested in attending. Please consult the brochure for details relative to topics, speakers, etc.

Thursday, April 6, 1978
 Pre-Conference Special
 Media: Back to Basics

Yes ___ No ___

Registration Category <input type="checkbox"/> Member <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Member		Friday, April 7, 1978 10:00 a.m. Concurrent Sessions (Check one only) <input type="checkbox"/> Areas of Media Utilization <input type="checkbox"/> Creative Story Telling <input type="checkbox"/> Media Feedback <input type="checkbox"/> Open Library Concept <input type="checkbox"/> Tomorrow-Your Future <input type="checkbox"/> Whats Expected of Me
Hotel Reservations Anyone wishing a hotel room must make their reservations directly with the hotel.		3:30 p.m. Concurrent Sessions (Check one only) <input type="checkbox"/> Areas of Media Utilization <input type="checkbox"/> Creative Story Telling <input type="checkbox"/> Media Feedback <input type="checkbox"/> Open Library Concept <input type="checkbox"/> Tomorrow-Your Future <input type="checkbox"/> Whats Expected of Me
Registration Member Early registration - \$10 Note: Non-member fee will include free membership for the remainder of the membership year.	Amounts Enclosed	5:00 p.m. Rap Session Yes ___ No ___
Meals: (Please check choices) <input type="checkbox"/> Friday Buffet Lunch \$3.50 <input type="checkbox"/> Friday Banquet \$9.00 Prime Rib ___ Shrimp ___ <input type="checkbox"/> Sat. Full Breakfast \$3.50 <input type="checkbox"/> Sat. Buffet Lunch \$3.50 (above prices include tax & tip)		Saturday, April 8, 1978 10:30 a.m. Concurrent Sessions (Check one only) <input type="checkbox"/> Areas of Media Utilization <input type="checkbox"/> Creative Story Telling <input type="checkbox"/> Media Feedback <input type="checkbox"/> Open Library Concept <input type="checkbox"/> Tomorrow-Your Future <input type="checkbox"/> Whats Expected of Me
Make checks payable to: RIEMA Total Amount Enclosed:		Afternoon "Pool Party" Yes ___ No ___

Registration forms should be returned to RIEMA, Box 309, Barrington, RI 02806

Request to all Media Center Directors: If you wish to have your aids or clerks invited to the RIEMA conference in April, please submit their names to P.O. Box 309, Barrington, RI as soon as possible. This will aid the conference committee in determining the number of people who will be attending.



CALENDAR

The RILA Calendar is now maintained by RILA's Continuing Education Committee. If you have a date for any event of library/media interest, please telephone it to JoAnn Fuchs, 725-3714 as early as possible.

- Jan. 11 Film: "Sources of Information," Adult Book Meeting, Roger Williams College, 9:30 a.m.
- Jan. 11 Preview of films for adults, R.I. Library Film Cooperative, Warwick Public Library, 9:30-12:00; 1:30-4:00.
- Jan. 12 RILA Executive Board Meeting, Pawtucket Library, 2 p.m.
- Jan. 16 Northern Region Meeting, Pawtucket Library, 9:30 a.m.
- Jan. 18 "Have You Read?/VIII" Young Adult Roundtable, Rumford Branch, East Providence Public Library, 9:30 a.m.
- Jan. 19 Meeting, R.I. Educational Media Association
- Jan. 19-21 Northeast Regional Media Leadership Conference, "The Media Professional and Curriculum Design and Change," Dunfey's Sheraton Inn, So. Portland, Maine. \$25 registration fee. By invitation only--contact Richard Potelho, President, RIEMA, 433-0063, if you would like to be invited.
- Jan. 22-27 ALA Midwinter Conference, Chicago, Ill. See Oct. American Libraries, p.493.
- Jan. 23-27 Media Production Week, Dept. of State Library Services, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call Peter Saleses for appointment.
- Jan. 24 Film Program for Counseling Agencies and Crisis Centers, R.I. Library Film Cooperative, Warwick Public Library, 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- Jan. 25 RILA Legislative Party, State House, 3-5 p.m.
- Jan. 26 "A Consideration of Copyright Concerns," Special Libraries Association, R.I. Chapter, Providence Journal Library, 6 p.m.
- Feb. 4 100th Birthday Celebration, Providence Public Library. Entertainment, refreshments at Central Library and all branches, for the whole family--general public invited. 1-4 p.m.
- Feb. 5 Open House, Providence Public Library. Refreshments, music, exhibitions. General public invited. 5-7 p.m.
- Feb. 6 "Coastal Resources Management," Adult Book Meeting, Pell Library, Narragansett Bay Campus, URI, 9:30 a.m.
- Feb. 7 Young Adult Cooperative Book Review Group, Stoughton Public Library, Mass. 9:30 a.m.
- Feb. 8 Preview of films for children, R.I. Library Film Cooperative, Warwick, 9:30 - 12 noon; 1:30 - 4 p.m.
- Feb. 9 RILA Executive Board Meeting, Newport Public Library, 2 p.m.
- Feb. 15 "Do I Like This?/Reviewing Media for Young Adult Collections," Young Adult Roundtable, Olneyville Branch, Providence Public Library, 9:30 a.m.
- Mar. 8 Preview of films for adults, R.I. Library Film Cooperative, Warwick, 9:30-12:00; 1:30-4:00.

- Mar. 9 RILA BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION, Providence Public Library
 Mar. 13 "Rhode Island Genealogical Sources," Adult Book Meeting,
 R.I. Historical Society, 9:30 a.m.
 Mar. 16 RILA Executive Board Meeting, Peacedale Public Library,
 2 p.m.
 Mar. 20 "Current Developments in Government Documents," sponsored by
 NELINET Government Documents Task Group, Dartmouth College,
 Hanover, N.H. Contact Ms. Jan Swanbeck, Boston College,
 617/969-0100
 Mar. 22 "Have You Read?/IX" Young Adult Roundtable, So. Providence
 Branch, Providence Public Library, 9:30 a.m.
 Mar. 23 "Program for Special Libraries Students," Special Libraries
 Assn., R.I. Chapter, URI Library
 Apr. 7-8 "Tell It Like It Is," Annual Conference, R.I. Educational
 Media Association, Cranston Hilton, Cranston
 Apr. 15 "Annual Ingathering: Alumni Professional Development
 Seminar," Graduate Library School, University of Rhode
 Island, 8:45 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.



GRAPHICS IN LIBRARIES

-By Kathleen Gunning, Librarian, Brown University;
 & Member of the New England Academic Librarians'
 Writing Seminar

The New England Chapter of the Association of College and Research Libraries held a workshop on Graphics in Libraries at the Monroe C. Gutman Library, Harvard University, on October 28, 1977. The meeting focused on ways in which librarians can develop more sophisticated approaches to all forms of graphic design.

James Robison, Director of Media for the Newton (Mass.) Public Schools, delivered the keynote address on "Principles of Good Graphics." Mr. Robison used slides to demonstrate such basic elements as linear relations, placement of space, and organization of symbols. He noted that signs tend to be overloaded with print. Discipline is needed in filling space. Using the principles of contrast, repetition, and harmony, one can achieve a balance between letters and graphic symbols.

Katherine Selfridge, Head of the Printing and Graphics Department at the Architects Collaborative, discussed "Signage: Planning and Producing Effective Signs and Signage Systems." Sign systems should embody graphic and functional relationships. They require planning and cohesive implementation. A good system should explain the organization's functioning clearly and attractively. Sign information must be organized into priorities with the importance given a piece of information reflected in the size of the sign. Large signs identify major services and departments while medium-sized signs indicate specific areas within departments. Signs giving procedures and rules should be smaller and pleasantly stated. All sign systems need clarity of message, noticeability, maintainability, consistency of format, and adaptability for future needs.

In a session on "Practical Newslettering", Norm Sperling, Assistant Editor of Sky and Telescope magazine, stressed the importance of eye-catching and timely formats to convey the necessary

information to readers. Illustrating his presentation with the worst newsletters available, he outlined the basic features of newsletters and the effective arrangement of type and blank space to create an attractive layout.

In the afternoon a "Graphic Aids Seminar" was conducted by Steve Banis, Regional Manager of Letraset USA, Inc. to show the wide variety of commercial media available to aid libraries in designing and producing their own graphics.

The program concluded with a series of demonstrations: 1) "Home-Grown Graphics" by Janet Freedman, Salem State College, and David Kelley and Al Lee, Fitchburg State College; 2) "Lettering and Sign-Making Devices" by Arline Willar and George Robinson, Northeastern University; and 3) "Visuals to be Photographed" by Chris Bowman, Harvard University.

The Government Relations Committee of RILA invites you to attend this year's edition of the legislative cocktail party January 25, 1978, from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Legislative Dining Room, State House. Your monetary contribution will support the party and your animated informed presence will support the RILA legislative package. If you plan to attend, please pre-register, by January 18. It will help us estimate for the caterer.

LEGISLATIVE PARTY - PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

The following people will attend, check for \$2.00 each enclosed, made out the the Rhode Island Library Association:

Names: _____

Library Affiliation
or Position: _____

Mail to: Robert S. Burford, Party Person, Mohr Memorial
Library, One Memorial Ave., Johnston, RI 02919

GALLIMAUFRY,

-By Matthew Higgins

Providence Public Library has been awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities Challenge Grant of \$167,000 for support of library operations. To receive the NEH funds the library must raise three non-federal dollars for each dollar of the grant. This information comes to us from the Fall issue of OUTREACH, a publication of Providence Public Library that is growing rapidly in quality and informational content.

Providence Public Library will celebrate its 100th birthday beginning in February 1978. OUTREACH, Fall 1977, informs us that a planning committee of trustees, staff and interested citizens has been planning a series of activities including a day-long party at the central library and branches. The activities will culminate in a gala, social evening at the central library on Sunday, Feb. 5th.

From OUTREACH, Fall 1977, "In 1972 PPL purchased a (CLSI) LIBS 100ND System to process acquisition data on most print materials. This system was designed to simplify the book purchasing process and to make information on these purchases more readily accessible. A "sister" computer, the LIBS 100PDP System, was added in 1975. Information concerning most circulating materials is channeled through several cathode ray tubes and light pen machines to the circulation control center--the Data Processing Department."

From OUTREACH, Fall 1977: President Carter signed the Library Services and Construction Act extension bill (S602) on October 7. The bill, now Public Law 95-123, extends LSCA for five years and provides a setaside for urban libraries when funding for Title I library services exceeds \$60 million.

Anne Shaw has been appointed Deputy Director of the R.I. Department of State Library Services, effective February 16, 1978. Ms. Shaw, Government Documents Librarian at the University of Rhode Island Library and a 1975 graduate of the URI Graduate Library School, succeeds Richard Waters who resigned December 1.

The Pawtucket Times of November 18 reports that the trustees of the Pawtucket Public Library have hired Nolan Lushington, a library consultant, to work with Director Lawrence Eaton, the library staff and the architects in developing plans for the library's expansion. According to Eaton, the plans are in the analysis stage with the consultant in the process of identifying the limitations of uses of space in the proposed expansion into the public welfare building behind the library. The architects, the Robinson, Green and Beretta Company, have submitted a proposed work plan--a timetable for deciding on expansion alternatives. Eaton sees the consultant's role as vital when it comes time to develop these alternatives.

Recently a Brown student guide was heard to say, "That's the esoteric John Hay Library. No one knows for sure what goes on in there." This is a favorite anecdote of Samuel Streit, the new head of the John Hay, according to the Providence Journal of Nov. 27. Streit, who three months ago left his post as head of Special Collections at CCNY, has ambitious plans to remodel the John Hay Library, both its reputation and its building. In outlining his plans for the library, Streit suggested that a refining of the library's function is necessary to determine the library's direction. He looks forward to making the library more responsive to the Brown community, and realizes the need for involving the city itself. To give substance to the new plans the John Hay is applying to the National Endowment for the Humanities for a matching grant that would go toward renovating the building for preservation and security purposes.

The John Cotton Dana Public Relations Award is an annual citation made to libraries or library organizations of all types submitting materials representing the year's public relations program or a special project terminated during the year 1977. Donated by the H.W. Wilson Company, the awards program is sponsored jointly with the Public Relations Section of the Library Administration Division. Deadline for entry forms is January 6, 1978. The deadline for scrapbooks and audiovisual materials is February 10, 1978. Send entry forms and entries to John Cotton Dana Public Relations Award Contest, H.W. Wilson Company, 950 University Ave., Bronx, NY 10452. Information and entry forms are available from the above address. Staff liaison, Donald P. Hammer.

David Green reports from Learning (Dec. 1977) that school librarians in South Huntington, New York, can earn as much as \$27,946, and a library clerk in Anchorage earns \$14,518. Classroom teachers in the U.S. earn an average salary of \$13,397. What do you earn as a librarian?

On December 14 at the DSLS open house, Director Jewel Drickamer presented R.I. Governor J. Joseph Garrahy as guest of honor. The Governor, in turn, announced the formation of a steering committee for the Governor's Conference on Library and Information Services, now scheduled for February 1979. The committee headed by Representative Victoria Lederberg, now includes 19 members. Among them are Diane Kadanoff of the Cumberland Public Library, Knight Edwards of the Providence Public Library's Board of Trustees, Richard Botelho of the R.I. Educational Media Association, Linda Cranston from Textron, Janina D'Abate of the North Scituate Public Library, Helen Kelly of URI Extension, Charles Churchwell of Brown, Matthew Smith of Providence College and Nancy Chudacoff of the R.I. Historical Society. An entire issue of the Bulletin will be devoted to the Governor's Conference in mid-1978.

Registration for the spring semester of the Library Technical Assistants certification program will be held January 16-21 at the URI Extension Division in Providence. Courses offered this term include Media Technology, Technical Services II, Introduction to Libraries, Children's Services and Practicum. The children's services course, added to the list for the first time last year, offers an overview of services for children in both school and public libraries. The course is team-taught by Donna J. Roberts, a Cranston school librarian and Anne T. Parent, Program Coordinator at Cranston Public Library. Permission to take this course in place of the Practicum may be obtained from the coordinator, Robert Callahan. Persons in their junior or senior year of undergraduate study may earn three credits towards a bachelor's degree with any LTA course.

On November 17, the Rhode Island Chapter of the Special Libraries Association was installed as the 48th Chapter of the Special Libraries Association (SLA). After the dinner meeting at the Allendale Mutual Insurance Company, Shirley Echelman, President of SLA, spoke on the role of the Special Libraries Association and its major commitments for the future. The Rhode Island Chapter was granted full status as a Chapter of SLA last January at the SLA Winter meeting in Seattle, Wash. Presently serving as officers are Ann Hinnov, President, Allendale Mutual Insurance Company; John Stanley, President-elect, John Hay Library, Brown University; and Carole Twombly, Treasurer, Keyes Associates. Future plans for the Chapter include a meeting on the new copyright law effective in January and a workshop in the spring.

New members of the American Library Association will benefit from a special introductory offer for 1978. By joining ALA, they will get membership in any one of the association's 12 divisions--free of charge. In other words, the new member pays \$35 for a \$50 value (normally \$35 for ALA dues and \$15 for division dues). For an application (including information on divisions), write: Public Information Office, American Library Association, 50 East Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.

Current Studies in Librarianship, Volume 1, Number 2, Fall 1977, is now available. The new serial publication comes from the Graduate Library School, University of Rhode Island, and publishes "articles of general interest to librarians nationally," according to Editor L. B. Woods. Abbie Sikes, a GLS graduate assistant, is the Guest Editor for this issue, and articles are by GLS students. Others are welcome to submit papers for publication in future issues. Copies of this issue are free upon request (while the edition lasts) from: Professor L.B. Woods, Graduate Library School, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI 02881

Leo N. Flanagan, whose employment with the Pawtucket Public Library was terminated by the library's board of trustees last August, told the Pawtucket Board of Appeals Nov. 29 that he knew of no reason why his former position of assistant director had been eliminated. Flanagan, who has been unemployed since his dismissal from the library, has appealed the trustees' decision of last April doing away with the assistant director post and is seeking to be reinstated in the job with back salary. He and his attorney, Haiganush R. Bedrosian, argued during the opening round of testimony that the position of assistant director was a "permanent" position according to personnel rules adopted by the trustees in 1973, and that he, in fact, had tenure in the job. Library Director Lawrence Eaton and the five members of the board of trustees, including Chairman Rev. Donald Belt, will testify at a later date. The board of trustees voted at their April meeting to eliminate the post, effective July 1. The trustees said at that time that the action was being taken because an administrative reorganization by Eaton had made the post unnecessary and because of budgetary pressure. When the assistant director's job was eliminated, Flanagan agreed to take the position of coordinator of community services, a lesser administrative job with a smaller salary. He testified that he had been told by Eaton that the appointment would be permanent, but that he was named acting coordinator and his request to have his status confirmed was denied by the trustees who advertised the position and consequently hired someone else. (From the Pawtucket Times, Nov. 30, 1977)

The Providence Journal of November 27 reports that the new public library in neighboring Seekonk, Mass. is proving to be an embarrassment for the town. It seems that the library violates the town zoning bylaws by being too close to the edge of the property on which it stands. Officials explained that if a permit had not been issued in April, allowing the library to be built at its present location, the \$700,000 federal grant to pay for it would have been lost because of the deadline attached to the grant. A hearing has been scheduled by the Zoning Board on a petition from the Building Committee for a variance to make the library's present location legal.

In view of the tragic fire at Providence College, all libraries should be reviewing their fire and other emergency procedures and equipment.

The Department of State Library Services has sent notices which are to be posted in all public service areas. These notices explain the new copyright laws which go into effect Jan. 1, 1978.

The NELB newsletter, September/October 1977 states, "...that many federal grant programs were going begging for users and new ideas. The biggest problem for grant makers is in finding applicants who know precisely what they want to do. There is money for developing libraries as community centers. There are project grants to increase access to holdings in humanities, to strengthen staff skills in community service, and many, many more. Program announcements which describe these and other grant opportunities, with guidelines for preparation and schedules of review, may be requested from the Public Information Office, NEH, 801 15th St., N.W., Washington, DC 20506."

From the Providence Journal, Dec. 20: "The Westerly Library announced yesterday it has received a "challenge grant" of \$12,500 from the Industrial National Bank to assist in repairing damage caused by vandals in August. The bank will match dollar-for-dollar, up to \$12,500, any sum raised by the library, according to a joint announcement by Francis R. Remington, vice president and regional manager of Industrial National Bank, and Ralph S. Christy Jr., president of the Memorial and Library Association. Christy said details for a fund-raising campaign to raise its matching fund will be announced. Donations, which are tax-deductible, may be sent to Challenge Grant, Westerly Library, Broad Street, Westerly, Christy said. Valuable displays, equipment and fixtures were smashed, and oil paintings slashed when the library was vandalized by two persons during the VJ holiday weekend."

Legislative Day in Washington, D.C., is a national event which has been sponsored for the last three years by the Washington Office of the American Library Association and the District of Columbia Library Association as part of National Library Week. This year it will be held on April 4, 1978. On this day librarians from all over the country gather at the Capitol and personally visit their Representatives in Congress. There is a briefing session at the beginning of the day and as a climax to the activities a champagne reception at which those attending will be able to mix informally with their legislators. It is an excellent opportunity to present the library message. Any interested librarian, trustee, or friend of libraries is encouraged to attend. Presidents of state library associations and school media associations have been sent information about the event. Please contact them for details.

Our thanks go out to Ray Gamache of Unicom for his unselfish work in providing photographs for the Bulletin. Ray has for some time donated his time and expertise in photographing RILA events. Most recently he did such a fine job photographing the RILA Fall conference at Newport. Thanks again, Ray.



QUOTABLE QUOTES

We need not burn books, or on the other hand, trivialize freedom of speech by defending the rights of sleazy pornographers as though this were the only liberal cause on the continent.

-Eugene Kennedy, The Trouble Book

Eric Moon, President of ALA, reported (in June 1977) that there are 60,000 members in state library organizations and 30,000 in the American Library Association. The startling fact indicated by Mr. Moon is that approximately four-fifths of the librarians in the country are not members of anything!

-Jean Michie, New Hampshire Library Association
Newsletter, August 1977

(Ed. note: Spiro Agnew, knowing little of librarianship, never really understood the silence of the "silent majority.")

We loved a great many things--birds and trees and books and all things beautiful and horses and rifles and children and hard work and the joy of life.

-Theodore Roosevelt

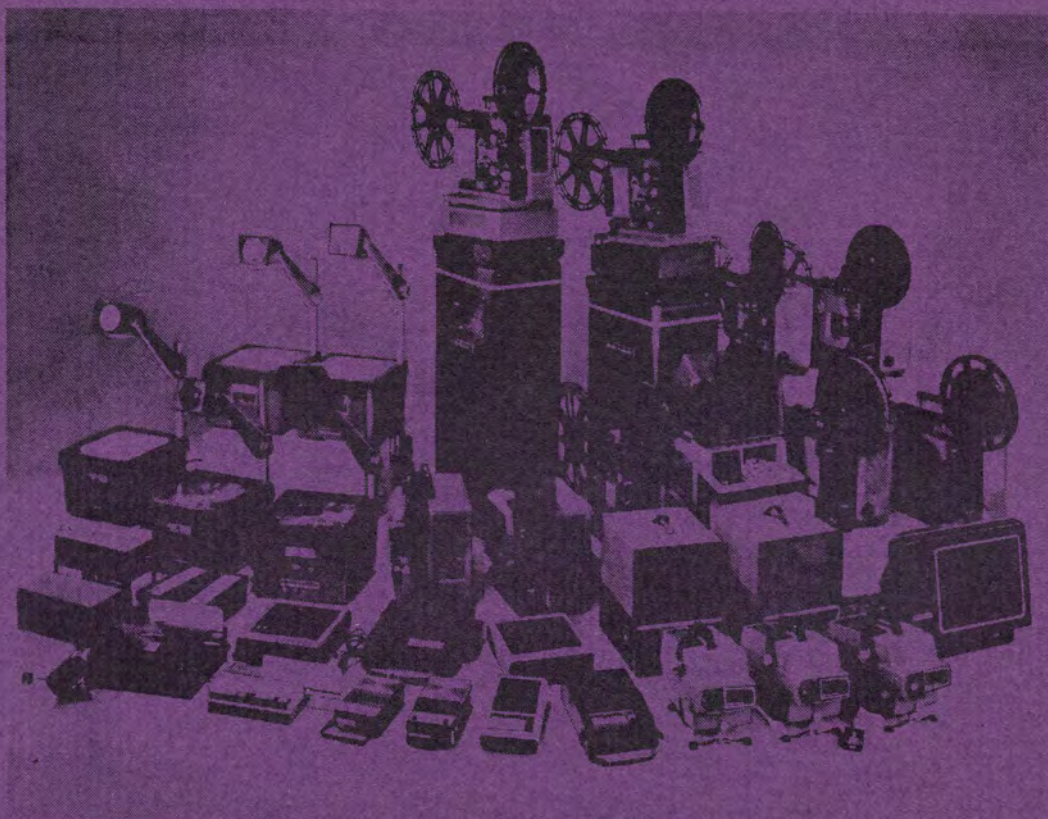
The authoritarian personality:

This type of person wants to be in a dominant position in a group. This person does not like most people in the group. This person feels himself to be allied with conventional legitimate authority. This person shows a high degree of intense prejudice and is, moreover, inclined to be thick-skinned, assertive and adventurous, as well as neurotic, psychopathic, and manic. He is moderately high in suspiciousness and jealousy, and in the inclination to what is called feminine masochism. He is, on the other hand, low on ego-strength, trustfulness and accessibility. For the most part he goes his way unhindered. When he has a say in things, the tanks roll, young men must cut off long hair, and refractory poets and intellectuals get locked up. Too little study has been devoted to this type. For that reason his attitudes are often regarded as healthy or even natural and self-evident. In fact he is a killer with a strong bent toward the death of others, and he would really like to be the last survivor of a carnage. The hardest thing to acknowledge is that I too am like him.

- summary notes from Adolph Holl's
Death and the Devil

When we teach a child to read, our primary aim is not to enable it to decipher a way-bill or receipt, but to kindle its imagination, enlarge its vision, and open the avenues of knowledge.

-Charles W. Elliot



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