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Rhode Island Library Association Bulletin

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MAY 1987

LIBRARIES IN MOSCOW DR. LEENA SIITONEN URI GSLIS

In February I attended a meeting of the Standing Committee of the Section of Public Libraries of IFLA in the Soviet capital, Moscow. Members of the committee came together from eight countries to discuss plans for projects in the public library field and to learn about librarianship in the USSR. The Ministry of Culture which governs all libraries in the Soviet Union had organized a program which included meetings of the committee, visits to several libraries, and cultural events. Perhaps because they are common to librarians and libraries in many countries, some features left unforgettable impressions. Naturally, unique characteristics of Soviet librarianship certainly deserve to be told and talked about.

Russian writer Lermontov lived in district No. 201 in Moscow where the committee visited a large public library. An exhibit of important places, in celebration of Lermontov's work, was on display. The district has a variety of industries: leather, shoes, bakery, candy, and in particular chocolate -- products of which we could sample from a beautifully set tea table with samovar and baskets filled with candies and "prianjiks" (pastries).

The "Lermontov District" has eight public libraries, five for adults and three for children below fourteen years of age. The collections include 800,000 books which circulate 1,200,000 times per year among 36,000 borrowers. The central library has a staff of

twenty-two professional librarians; eleven have a university degree, six have a "pedagogical degree", and five have other degrees. It serves about 13,000 users and circulates 260,000 books per year. It is open to everybody, including those who reside outside the district. The loan period is two weeks for new books and renewals are accepted on the phone.

This library is a "methodological" center to organize "mass work"--it is a model for other libraries. The Director of the library said, "Public libraries should assist in education, those who want to continue education,... and to be places where people can spend their leisure time,... to provide a place to stay, to browse new journals and books,... to work in a variety of circles, and to provide small 'evening university groups' organized by librarians or in foreign language programs,... to take music lessons, and so on." This variety of activity is referred to as "mass work."

It also coordinates eight libraries using the National Bibliography as a tool. The collection looked well-used and included many softcover volumes. A few years ago, a section of foreign literature was opened. It has, at present, over six thousand volumes, published both abroad and in the USSR. A collection of textbooks was available for students in high schools and colleges.

Despite the increasing number of libraries, it is more and more difficult to attract people to use them. Private book collections in the USSR include over 70 billion books, whereas there are only 60 billion books in state-owned libraries. Therefore, public libraries have scarce funds for books.

Funding for the Lermontov library system provides for ca. 7000 titles (30,000 - 35,000 volumes) per year. In addition, the average binding cost is one ruble per volume (one ruble = ca \$1.55). The Library Law 1984 states that the reader must pay to the library ten times the price of a lost book. One librarian commented, "It is very cruel but we must prevent loss of books. Fortunately losses occur very rarely. The library service is completely free. Therefore, we took this cruel measure to protect our collections. The user can also replace a lost book with the same or similar volume."

When asked more questions about this "cruelty," another librarian explained that, in the USSR, 92 per cent of families have a home library. Large editions of books are published: 80,000 titles per annum in two billion volumes. The government puts priority on education. Acquisitions are based on the needs and, thus, on the requests from local libraries. A local district committee handles requests for additional funds, maintenance and overhead. In Lermontov district, the budget allocation for 1987 was 298,000 rubles for eight libraries - one-third for the staff, one-quarter for collections, and almost one-third for other expenses. The average beginning salary of a librarian is 100 rubles per month (ca \$154.65).

Valentina Lesokhina, Chief of the Library Department of the USSR Ministry of Culture, was our host during meetings and all the visits. She explained, "Librarianship in the Soviet Union is not considered to be a highly paid position. A few years ago the salary of teachers and librarians was the same. After a school reform took place the teachers' salary was raised. Librarians get the same salary as a beginning engineer. Proposals have been made by the Ministry of Culture to improve the librarians' pay and to make it dependent on the quality of work. Today, many of our librarians prefer to do more technical work, not to work with the public--it is more difficult to work with people. We would like to reserve the active role of the librarian, although this is rather difficult, so that those who serve the public would receive a higher

pay, particularly in public libraries."

The State Republican Youth Library of Russian Socialist Federation of Soviet Republics (RSFSR) was chosen for our next visit in a central district of Moscow. The library is governed by the All-Union Soviet Ministry of Culture and was named after the 50th Anniversary of the Soviet Communist League. Director Irina V. Bakhmutskaya is a well-acknowledged "Worker of Culture," a motherly woman who at the age of 67 works full days and was asked to stay beyond the retirement age. She said, "This age group (from 14 to 21) is critical: they [young people] must decide what they will become. Books will help them to educate themselves and to make better decisions." The youth library has 550,000 titles (1.5 million volumes) in 74 languages, records and videotapes, (the discotheque has 400,000 records), the career guidance center, the department of foreign literature (loans foreign books and provides language laboratories), and an auditorium for presentations and concerts.

I was most impressed by the fact that the youth library and culture center was extremely active. Youngsters crowded every department and were busy at their work--not too preoccupied to talk to foreign visitors and try speaking English--whether studying Spanish, listening to records, performing piano exercises, or researching a social studies topic. The facilities were used to the smallest corner and the equipment and furniture had signs of wear. Ms. Bakhmutskaya emphasized that more youth should be provided with such services "to let them find out what they can do to themselves."

The Children's Library Center is a model library and a center for work with children in the RSFSR. There are 27,000 rural libraries, 5,000 children's libraries and 70,000 school libraries. The library center occupies a brand new building, completed in November 1986, in central Moscow. It is a depository library for children's literature collected from 85 publishers, both those who specialize in children's literature and general publishers. The collection has 300,000 volumes, including a unique music collection from the Lenin State Library, an art literature collection, and a collection of foreign children's literature based on donations from Sweden, Japan, France, and other countries. "The idea behind this

center," director Lidia M. Zharkova said, "is that you find something of interest to you, and you meet other children who are doing the same thing."

The library consists of reading rooms arranged by grades, lending services organized by age, and a special reading room for foreign literature with recordings, a room for literature from other republics in the USSR, and a periodicals room. After having toured through several departments, all neatly organized and decorated, the impression which prevailed with me was that this place must be a school, because both materials and services were organized by grades or age groups. Indeed, the library center is specifically used for training children's librarians. The separately arranged collections are available for demonstrations. For children, I felt, the building was too big, too "official," almost uninviting. But the rooms for preschoolers were decorated with lovely pictures and toys, and picture books with gorgeous illustrations were placed on practical trays and in browsing boxes for the smallest users.

The library center organizes programs on how to prepare reading plans, meetings with teachers on using the library, catalogs, and exhibits of the best books for each age group. The staff, twelve librarians and several technical staff, keep the library open from 10 A.M. to 8 P.M. and during weekends. The librarians are educated to serve both adults and children.

A large number of children's journals, including those of political youth organizations, were spaciouly displayed. All journals and books are for browsing and borrowing. The music department lends series of 25 copies of books or music to schools. We were told that music education is very important and that there are many music schools in Moscow. The library center has a children's bookstore as well. The toddlers' room was filled with toys and specially designed furniture; these are shown and recommended to librarians throughout the RSFSR. The hobby room had toys, watercolors, color pens, paper pads, and games for creative leisure times. The elevators in the four-story building were designed for children. An auditorium is used for film showing, clubs and career guidance. The children do the programming themselves. A closed-circuit TV is already installed and computers will be introduced later this year.

During our tour, a group of boys from the fifth grade were also guided through the center, together with a reporter. Two days later I found pictures and a text about the children's library center in "Pravda" informing the public about this great advancement in children's librarianship. Libraries are also 'awesome' in Russia.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

The Executive Board would like to ask the membership for their opinion on the following proposed Constitutional Amendment:

A two year term of office for the treasurer.

At NELA counterparts day it was noted that Rhode Island is the only New England state that has a one-year term of office for Treasurer. With a two year term the treasurer has a year to learn and organize the financial system, with another year of experience in handling the position. This would provide better continuity in the office. There is also confusion with auditing the books each year as the fiscal year turns over and the new treasurer takes office at the same time.

Any members with comments about this proposed amendment should contact President Jon Tryon at URI GSLIS, Kingston, RI 02881.

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LIBRARIES--SHARING PLACES
MICHAEL FINK
PROF. OF ENGLISH, RISD
BRD. MEM., ROCHAMBEAU BRANCH

It was a place I didn't want to get caught sneaking in to or be seen skulking out of. I'm referring to the Rochambeau Branch Elodie Farnum Memorial Library. I didn't want the world to label me a bookworm with my glasses and thin frame bent over a large volume. Anyway, I didn't want to know too much. Knowledge just holds you back.

But the library lured me in with its smells and textures that wrapped me up in a cozy cocoon. Thick pages and bindings of library books give off a timeless aroma. Cracked leather armchairs and oiled oak panels shine in the lamplight like an English den. Fires in the open hearth at the Rochambeau Branch add the sweet perfume of charcoal. Like a chipmunk, I could hibernate away a winter's afternoon. Who was the dream-girl Elodie, noble nixie of the Rochambeau Branch?

The head librarian, Miss Chase, wore her grey hair in a bun and carried her fine head on a very straight back. She moved rather like Queen Mary upon her errands of "Shh," to maintain a decorum of hush. She was there to guard and serve the books. Books belong not just to you but to themselves. You had to return them on time. Someone was waiting for them. They had a life before you took them out and another life after you brought them back. You shared them with others. In between borrowings, they might stand on the shelves and doze off to restore their spirits. Miss Chase, to restore her own spirits, would cross Hope Street, step over the curb to a sidewalk stained with the fossils of chewing gum, and enter Rigney's Ice Cream Parlor for a small sugar cone of vanilla. Rigney's was not a chain salon; it had no logo; you had to lick the vanilla and judge the flavor for yourself--no promo, no promises.

Before the explosion of gaudy paperbacks, the sprawling expansion of drug stores and the rise of television culture, the local library stated a thrifty fact of the neighborhood. It said free books but also responsible readers. In the old days you started on the juvenile side with a baby blue card, then moved to the intermediate yellow card. Finally you won your peach adult card that let you into the

thicker books and slicker magazines of the grown up side. A pretty young assistant would stamp the slip at the back cover of your choices with a rubber signet that she would first roll over the inked felt pad on the linoleum covered counter.

The books I desired from the kids' low shelves were the lonely portraits of collies by Albert Payson Terhune of the biographies of eagles, wild bears, or albino leopards or the quest of a young Indian brave for his totem animal. On a yellow card, I moved up to Green Mansions by W.H. Hudson. On the peach card, I reached the dramatic depression novels of Howard Fast about the struggles of immigrants and resistance fighters--portraits of the lonely human animal. With its secrets of yesterday and far away, the library itself fights like a resistance unit against the tyranny of today alone. The past and the future protect its flanks.

When I left Rhode Island to go to college, a "gentleman's C" allowed evenings of movies, pizza, and beer. Like Rigney's ice cream, the food was served on plain white paper, very classy and cheap. After an evening of mugs at the pub and a morning of classes, I would slip into the library, fall asleep in a chintz chippendale wingchair by the lamplit leaded windows, and wake up at dusk and sherry time. I have never been good at making efficient use of a library. But I admire the staff that knows the rules of the inner sanctum. Libraries in the fifties loomed up as heroic places. Bette Davis in Storm Center refused to take a controversial book off the shelves. Audiences stood up and cheered the role. I was recently asked to serve on the board of the Rochambeau Branch library. I said yes with a sense that after all, the world has begun to fall on my narrow shoulders too. I have to help hold it up like Edward G. Robinson in Solvent Green, a future monk who protects the library from marauders.

Rochambeau Branch isn't the only public library to which I hold a card jammed into my wallet among the laundry slips and stamps. In my South County summers I hunt from one memorial branch or rural-free to another, either for one particular book--last summer it was Birdy, the novel from which the oddball film was adapted--or just for something to skim in the shade. If the Rochambeau is a wintry lodge, the Wakefield is an oasis from an asphalt

desert. Behind copper beaches and great granite steps, bronze sculptures and plaques, the nineteenth century structure offers a reading room, a twisting wrought iron stairway to climb to the stacks, and a wonderful rural service. One branch can get me a book, but I can return it to another. Some even serve high tea.

The library, just over my head as I write, is the RISD slide library. The curator, Mark Braunstein, sits at his desk at the entrance. At first glance you would not compare him to Miss Chase. He peddles to his post on a white ten-speed bicycle which he then carries up the steep steps to his lair. Though he is a sturdy, broadboned chap with a wide black beard, this gentle vegetarian will wear no leather, only white cotton. Cotton vests with wood buttons--even cotton slippers--in winter as in summer. Mark has published a manifesto titled Radical Vegetarian, and speaks for local animal liberation groups. He tells me he uses no artificial heat in winter. He eats only raw food and grains. I asked him if he had pets as friends at home. He said no; they would compete for the same seeds and nuts. He likes his animals in books. Or roaming on their own terms in what is left of woodland. Though they are of different times and types, in a way Mark does remind me of the almost mythic figure of Miss Chase. People of backbone and belief, they recycle words and images, with a cone of vanilla for relief. They offer us a culture, and also protect it from us.

I confess I make bizarre demands on libraries. Last year I asked librarians to locate Hedy Lamarr's heady bio Ecstasy and Me, that she herself has tried to live down and forget. The staff had to send out to Connecticut for a rare copy, which I read with interest but also dismay. My lovely, refined Hedy was not so refined after all. Another time, I asked the library to stock up on fancy editions of Felix Salten's Bambi, a book of depth and merit that never disappoints me at all. A library can help you get your hands on almost any text. Libraries store almost too much data. Slides, films, tapes, computers, photocopiers. I used to think direct experience was worth more than "booklearning." But reading books is itself a direct experience. You prop yourself up. You hold a book in your fingers. You read it with your eyes. You turn the letters and words into stories. And then, armchair travel can hold more adventure than tourism.

Like diminished wilderness areas, public libraries open their doors less wide less often. That makes them even more precious. They're as important as open land to our health and welfare. The tree is a great symbol of our public libraries. A lot of Providence private libraries, like the one in the living room I grew up in, housed either fake books or pretty unread editions bought for the bindings and kept for show. But the library tree whose branches spread all over our neighborhoods bears enough living fruit of wisdom to nourish all us hidden bookworms.

PRIDHAM BACKED FOR ALA

The NELA Executive Board voted at its February meeting to support former NELA president Sherman Pridham in his bid for ALA Councilor at Large. Pridham, who directs the Portsmouth, New Hampshire, Public Library, served as NELA president in 1985.

Pridham said, "If I am elected I will do everything I can to get ALA to focus on the issues of improved status and salaries for librarians. I would work with the various New England ALA councilors to put together an agenda of concerns."

Pridham served as chairman of the New Hampshire delegation to the White House Conference on Library and Information Services in 1979, has been a WHICLIST member since then and is currently the Region I representative. He has represented New Hampshire on Legislative Day in Washington for two years and won Librarian of the Year honors in New Hampshire in 1982.

(From April 1987 NELA Newsletter)



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EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Executive Board agreed to ask the membership their opinion on a proposal to amend the constitution. The amendment would change the treasurer's term of office from one year to two years. This change would provide for continuity, and ease auditing problems.

President Jon Tryon presented and asked for endorsement of House Bill 5800. The bill is the Governor's proposal to include libraries in the Public Facilities Asset Protection Fund which is used for repairs and captial improvements on state-owned facilities. This would free \$500,000 from DSLs funds which are currently marked for these repairs. The end result would be a percentage increase to libraries through the usual funding proposals plus the added \$500,000 from DSLs. The Board unanimously endorsed HB 5800. Jon will write letters to the appropriate individuals proclaiming our endorsement. For further information on this legislation see RILA Legislative Newsletter (April 1987).

The ad hoc committee on long-range planning is considering a retreat for the Executive Board and committee chairs to meet and discuss issues relevant to RILA. The Maine Library Association holds an annual retreat for their officers, and finds them to be quite successful. Anyone with suggestions for a place to hold a retreat should contact Roberta Cairns at East Providence Public Library.

The Executive Board approved giving NELA a copy of our mailing list for their membership drive.

Bob James will be presented with an award from SACOL at the Spring Business Meeting.

NEW ENGLAND ASIS HOTLINE

The NEASIS Hotline, an information service of the American Society for Information Science, New England Chapter, can be reached at 617-254-8962. Hear latest announcements on plans for the 50th anniversary annual conference in Boston, and activities of the local chapter.

bulletin board

- "Public Libraries: Bridges to the 21st Century," is the theme of the Public Library Association's 3rd National Conference set for April 27-30, 1988 in Pittsburgh, PA. The goals of the conference are: (1) to provide opportunity for state-of-the-art reports on new technology, management, finance and service trends; (2) to stimulate libraries to forge synergistic relationships with business, social service, education, and cultural institutions; and (3) to aid libraries to plan more effectively in creating a future in which the public library has a central role. The Conference Steering Committee reminds library administrators and other planners to budget now for broad staff attendance.

- New England Archivists has received a \$76,513 grant from the National Historic Publications and Record Commission to develop a basic-level education program for the New England region. The program will be designed to provide archival education for a wide audience and, in particular, for volunteers and part-time archivists. Randall Jimerson, Director of Historical Manuscripts and Archives at the University of Connecticut, is the Project Director.

- The United States-United Kingdom Educational Commission in London has announced the opening of the 1988-89 competition for the Fulbright professional librarian award to the United Kingdom (UK). One award is available for an American librarian to pursue a work attachment at a university library, major research library, or national library in the UK. For further information, application materials, and the list of eligible libraries in the UK contact: Dr. Steve Blodgett, Council for International Exchange of Scholars, Eleven Dupont Circle, N.W., Suite 300, Washington, D.C. 20036 or call 202-939-5410.

- The Cranston Public Library recently purchased ECHO+, a speech, music, and sound sythesizer that adds a robotic voice, sound effects, and stereo music capabilities to the Library's Apple IIe computer. The Library also has acquired three computer programs that use the speech capability of ECHO+: First Words, First Words II, and First Verbs. The programs are designed for use with very young children and/or handicapped children and also may be used

with young people for whom English is a second language. All of these materials are being employed in Cranston's "A Model Program of Community Library Services to Developmentally Disabled Children," a project funded with a DSLS incentive grant.

people

MELODY LLOYD ALLEN, Supervisor of Young Reader's Services at DSLS, has co-authored with Margaret Bush, "Library Education and Youth Services: a Survey of Faculty, Course Offerings, and Related Activities in Accredited Library Schools," an article appearing in the Winter 1987 issue of Library Trends.

NORMAN DESMARAIS, Acquisitions Librarian at Providence College, conducted a workshop on "Optical Information Systems for Libraries" for the Special Libraries Association, Florida Chapter in February and presented a paper at the New England Microcomputer Users Group (NEMICRO) Spring Meeting in March.

REGINA SLEZAK, former librarian of the Riverside Branch of the East Providence Public Library, was appointed recently as Assistant Administrator for Reference and Adult Services position at the Fall River Public Library.

ELIZABETH YOUNG, a recent graduate of the URI Graduate School of Library and Information Services, is now a reference librarian at Providence Public Library.

COUNTERPARTS DAY JANET A. LEVESQUE NELA COUNCILOR

The New England Library Association's sixth annual Counterparts Day was held on March 20th at the Framingham Public Library in Massachusetts. Officers and committee chairs from the Rhode Island Library Association were invited to meet with their "counterparts" from other professional library associations within the New England area.

The Rhode Island Library Association was well represented for the occasion by President

Jonathan Tryon, Vice-President/President Elect Catherine Mello Alves, Treasurer Doug Pearce, Conference Committee Co-Chairs Karen Quinn and Kathy Ryan, Membership Chair Stewart Schneider, Intellectual Freedom Co-Chair Stephen Thompson and NELA Councilor Janet Levesque.

NELA President Diane Tebbetts welcomed the 40 or so participants, who then broke into small interest groups to discuss problems and issues of similar concern. NELA officers and committee chairs served as facilitators for each group, which were charged with developing possible solutions to targeted problems and identifying the single most pressing problem for afternoon discussion.

After a lovely gourmet bag lunch, the interest groups all came together to "report out" the results of their morning sessions to the entire gathering of participants. Each facilitator offered a brief recap of the topics examined by his/her interest group, followed by a general audience response to the problem group members had identified as being of most pressing concern.

The afternoon concluded with a lively discussion of the role which NELA plays in relationship to the state associations, and conversely the role of the state associations regarding NELA. The Executive Board of the New England Library Association has already begun to implement several of the suggestions generated during this discussion.

All in all, the day-long exchange provided an excellent opportunity for our RILA officers and committee chairs to share ideas with, and gain fresh insights from, their counterparts in other state library associations. Already several areas of concern have begun to be addressed by RILA at their April Executive Board meeting. The issue of experience and continuity of service in such crucial roles as Treasurer and Conference Committee membership was particularly pinpointed as an area requiring attention.

The Rhode Island Library Association Bulletin invites you to take advantage of an opportunity to advertize job openings in your library free of charge. The Bulletin reaches over 550 members in all fields of librarianship in the state and the region.

Job notices must be received by the 10th of the month in order to appear in the following month's issue, which will be distributed by the first week of the month. Late notices will be included as space allows.

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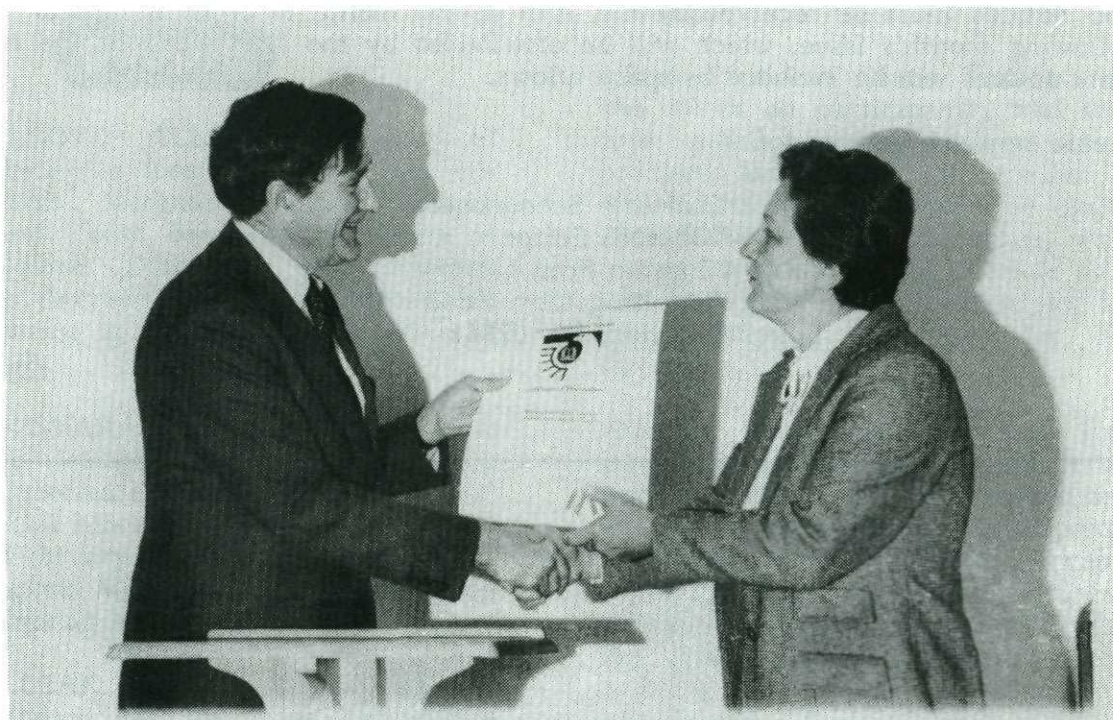
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Barrington Public Library officially was designated a United States Government Documents Depository Library on April 15th at a short ceremony in the library's gallery. Senator John Chafee, Secretary of State Kathleen Connell, Acting DSLS Director Bruce Daniels, and Mark Scully of the Government Printing Office were on hand for congratulatory remarks.



Senator John Chafee presents Ruth Corkill, Director of Barrington Public Library, with the Certificate of Designation naming Barrington Public Library as a Federal Depository Library.



Ruth Corkill, Director of Barrington Public Library, shows Bruce Daniels, Acting Director of DSLS, the Certificate of Designation.



**RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
SPRING BUSINESS MEETING**

PRESENTS

**"STUDY OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES IN
RHODE ISLAND ('HUMPRY II')"**

WITH

BRUCE DANIELS
ACTING DIRECTOR, DSLS

ELIZABETH FUTAS
*DIRECTOR, URI GSLIS
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CHILDREN'S LIBRARIAN - Duties: provides reading guidance and reference service to children and adults. Responsible for thorough and continuing knowledge of children's materials in order to maintain the children's book collection. This includes the purchase and weeding of books and pamphlets. Introduces the library's resources by conducting story hours and programs in the library; by giving book talks in schools and other agencies including parent and teacher organizations; by arranging exhibits, designing flyers, participating in radio and television programs, writing articles and compiling booklists. Coordinates activities for children with social and recreational agencies. Responsible for the administration of the branch in the absence of the branch librarian; for acquiring knowledge of all branch routines and for performing these routines when required. Maintains records and children's catalogs. May be assigned other duties. Requirements: must have an MLS from an ALA accredited library school. New or pending graduates are encouraged to apply. Salary: \$17,160 - \$21,949. Applications accepted until position is filled. Apply to: Dan Austin, Personnel Officer, Providence Public Library, 150 Empire Street, Providence, RI 02903. Telephone: (401) 521-8761. An affirmative action/equal employment opportunity employer.

SUBSTITUTE LIBRARY MEDIA SPECIALIST: Woonsocket Public School System. Must be certified as Teacher of Library Science by the Rhode Island Department of Education. Salary \$40 per day. Application available from: Louis R. Leveille, Coordinator of Media Services, 108 High Street, Woonsocket, RI 02895 (401) 762-4440.

PRESERVATION LIBRARIAN at the Brown University Library. This two-year temporary position, reporting to the University Librarian, will be responsible for determining the Library's preservation needs by surveying collections and analyzing current preservation and conservation operations and procedures, and making recommendations as to the appropriate program to be implemented by the library. Requirements: MLS degree from an ALA accredited library school; two to four years professional experience in an academic library; formal training in preservation administration; knowledge of current preservation and conservation techniques; demonstrated ability to plan projects, write reports, and communicate effectively; ability to work effectively with staff at all levels, as well as with colleagues in the national preservation scene. Appointment range: \$24,800-\$32,000 based upon experience. To be assured of consideration, please send letter of application, resume and names of three references by June 30, 1987, to Geneva Ferrell, Personnel Office, Brown University, Providence, RI 02912. Brown University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

calendar

MAY 14: Rhode Island Chapter, Special Libraries Association, Frank Spaulding SLA President, "The Corporate Information Officer," Brown University Faculty Club. Cocktails at 5 PM; dinner at 6 PM.

MAY 15-16: New England Archivists Spring Meeting, University of Southern Maine at Portland. Information: Louise Kenneally, (617) 238-1081, X396.

MAY 19: RILA Spring Business Meeting, "Study of Library and Information Services in Rhode Island (Humphry II)," Warwick Public Library, 9 AM (coffee) and 10 AM (program).

MAY 21: Young Adult Round Table, "DSLS Professional Collection," Cranston Public Library, 9:30 AM.

JUNE 27-JULY 2: ALA Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA.

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