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Rhode Island Library Association Bulletin

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MAY 1989

LAW LIBRARIANSHIP: ITS HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT

by Kendall F. Svengalis

HISTORY

Law librarianship, as a distinct branch of librarianship, has existed in the United States since the early years of the nineteenth century. Although there were "law libraries" in the American colonies, they were in the private hands of wealthy individuals and attorneys. The library of even a prominent attorney or judge usually numbered no more than ten to twenty volumes, and most of these volumes, like Coke's *Institutes* or Blackstone's *Commentaries*, were of English origin. The first actual law libraries were private subscription, or joint-stock, bar libraries which were organized by attorneys desirous of supplementing their modest personal holdings with the more extensive law libraries which could be assembled in association with other attorneys. The Law Library Company of Philadelphia (1802) and Boston's Social Law Library (1803) were the first of these bar libraries.

The nineteenth century also witnessed the establishment of public law libraries supported by state and county governments. Pennsylvania, Ohio, New Hampshire, and New York established the first state libraries whose collections consisted primarily of law books. The largest of the county libraries, the Los Angeles County Law Library, now contains over 700,000 volumes, second in size only to the Law Library of Congress. Governmental law libraries may now be found in a variety of federal, state, and local

agencies and departments, serving not only their own legal staffs but usually the general public as well. The Rhode Island State Law Library was first organized as the Providence Bar Library in 1827. It was taken over by the State of Rhode Island in 1868 after suffering neglect by the attorneys charged with its operation. Its collection currently numbers over 104,000 volumes. Like most state law libraries, it serves a diverse user population consisting of attorneys, judges, state government staff, students, and the general public.

The growth of academic law libraries in the United States paralleled the rise of professional legal education in the second half of the nineteenth century. In fact, with the exception of six major university law schools, there was little academic training in the law prior to the year 1900. The law libraries at Harvard, Yale, Columbia, Duke, Michigan, and Cornell Law Schools were among the first of a group which now includes over 175 academic law libraries.

Private law libraries serving individual law firms or corporations began to be established around 1917, generally as a response to law firms and corporate mergers and the needs of a better-educated bar. As late as 1950, less than sixty law firm or corporate libraries had collections of more than 5,000 volumes. Today, there are more than three hundred such libraries, a third of which have collections of over 10,000

volumes.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

Law libraries have a number of characteristics which distinguish them from the average academic or research library. Their collections are largely built around such primary legal materials as reports of court decisions, statutes, administrative regulations, and city and town ordinances. In addition, they contain a number of secondary materials which explain, interpret and analyze these primary sources. Included in this category are legal treatises, periodicals (primarily law reviews), encyclopedias, loose-leaf services, and trial practice books. The academic and larger governmental law libraries usually contain the statutes and court reports for all fifty states and the federal government. Law firm and corporate libraries, on the other hand, are more likely to limit their holdings of these primary materials to those states in which their attorneys practice or in which their company has business dealings.

Similarly, the average general academic or public library limits its holdings of primary materials to those of its home state and the federal government. The only other materials for which academic and public libraries are likely to duplicate the holdings of law libraries are those general reference tools and relevant social science monographs which relate to the practice of law and the field of United States government documents. In 1978, both academic law libraries and state law libraries were designated as eligible depositories of the federal depository program, although most of them select less than ten percent of the available documents.

In the last ten years, law libraries of all varieties have witnessed the introduction of computerized legal information retrieval. Westlaw and Lexis are the two leading legal databases in use today, providing both Boolean and direct access to a host of legal materials, many of which the average law library could not support or house in hard copy.

Law libraries also rely less upon the traditional card catalog than the average library. Since most of these collections consist primarily of large sets of state and federal court reports and statutes, an alphabetical

shelving arrangement leads patrons to most primary sources. With the introduction of the KF subclass (American law), most academic and large governmental law libraries have adopted the LC classification system for the arrangement of their treatises, monographs, and reference works. Law libraries also tend to have more restrictive circulation policies than the average library since their collections consist predominantly of reference materials, to which patrons require ready access.

PATRONS

The patrons of law libraries vary from type to type. Academic law libraries serve primarily faculty and law students but may admit local attorneys under certain arrangements. State, court, and county law libraries are generally open to the public and serve everybody from attorneys and judges to students and *pro se* patrons. Law firm and corporate libraries are the most restrictive, generally limiting access to their own members. Subscription libraries still limit access to dues paying members but may make short-term arrangements for non-members.

GROWTH OF THE PROFESSION

Law librarianship as a profession has grown immeasurably in the nearly two hundred years since the first organized law library appeared. The librarians of the first bar libraries were little more than custodians who looked to the lawyers on their library committees of trustees for professional guidance. Professional library education being unavailable for much of the nineteenth century, bar association librarians were more likely to have or to obtain a legal education as the century progressed. Even after Melvil Dewey's establishment of the nation's first library school at Columbia in 1887, bar librarians were more likely to have a legal than a library education, though most had neither.

Law schools drew their first law librarians from three sources--law students, janitors, and old men--whose only qualification appeared to be their willingness to accept a meager salary. As law libraries rose in importance in the eyes of law school faculty, the concern for cost savings was replaced by an emphasis on degrees and professional status. The law degree became

the educational goal for academic law librarians who wished to gain and hold the respect of the law faculty and achieve professional advancement. Moreover, the American Association of Law Schools and the American Bar Association both adopted standards for academic law libraries which required the head librarian to have a law degree.

Among the four basic types of law libraries in the United States, academic law librarians are more likely to have both law and library degrees. Between 1936 and 1974, the number of head law librarians in the nation's law schools with both degrees rose from seven to fifty-six percent. By 1988, this percentage had risen to approximately ninety percent. A corresponding increase in the number of law degrees held by associate and reference librarians has taken place as well. Only technical services librarians appear to have escaped this trend.

Law librarians in governmental, private, and corporate law libraries, while more highly educated than their nineteenth century counterparts, are less likely to have a law degree than academic law librarians. While the M.L.S. remains the terminal degree for most law librarians in these three types of law libraries, the profession has witnessed a steady, albeit more gradual, rise in the numbers of librarians with law degrees or second Master's degrees.

EDUCATION

The question of the appropriate level of education for law librarians has been a hotly debated topic for years, particularly within the American Association of Law Libraries. In reality, much of the concern with degrees, particularly the law degree, has more to do with professional status than with the demands and requirements of the job.

Roger Jacobs, former Director of the United States Supreme Court Library and now law librarian at Notre Dame Law School, contends that "most law libraries could be managed extremely well by non-lawyers." Similar sentiments have been expressed by Marian Gallagher, probably the dean of educators in the field of law librarianship, who said that "if you had to choose [between the library and law degree], the library degree is more essential--lawyers left on their own can make a big mess of libraries."

Law librarians without a law degree, particularly those in law schools and law firms, are apt to feel somewhat out of place in an environment dominated by lawyers or future lawyers. The natural response to this situation has been for many librarians in these institutions to go to law school and earn the law degree which will put them on par with the lawyers with whom they must work on a regular basis. Lacking the availability of a degree more appropriate to the real professional needs of the law librarian (e.g. a Master's degree in Law Librarianship combining both legal and library studies), these librarians have accepted the degree of the profession they serve as their educational goal. While the law degree is doubtless helpful to many law librarians, a legal education, particularly the second or third years of it, is largely "overkill" for those who have no intention of practicing law. These pressures are probably least pronounced in the governmental sector where the M.L.S. is still the norm, and educational goals are based on need rather than status.

For those law librarians without the law degree, the most common academic preparation is the M.L.S. usually with one course in law librarianship or legal bibliography. A few library schools may also offer an advanced course in law librarianship. These, together with a course in government documents, provide as much academic preparation as potential law librarians are likely to receive. A few library schools, notably the University of North Carolina, offer a special Master's degree program in law librarianship. For most law librarians, however, knowledge of the field has been gained through a single library school course combined with on-the-job training.

Current membership figures compiled by the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL), reveal the breakdown of law librarians working in the United States today. Of a total membership of 4,486, 1477 law librarians are employed by law firms, 1380 by academic law libraries, 805 by various governmental libraries (i.e. state, court, county, etc.), and 375 by corporate law libraries. Another 421 members are either students or retired law librarians. Of these four groups, the law firm librarians are easily the fastest growing, followed by the corporate law librarians. Despite the

growing prominence of these two groups, the professional activities of the AALL are still largely enacted by academic and governmental law librarians who, because they are part of larger law library support structures, generally have greater opportunities to participate in professional activities and development.

Law librarianship offers librarians a fascinating and challenging career opportunity. As a specialty field, it also offers above-average remuneration, particularly to those with the drive and ambition to direct their own libraries and adapt to the rapidly changing world of legal information retrieval.

Ken Svengalis is Rhode Island's State Law Librarian. He is a Past President of Law Librarians of New England, serves on the Board of Directors of State Court and County Law Libraries' Section of the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL), and is Editor of CRIV, a quarterly supplement to AALL's Journal, which focuses on relations between librarians and information vendors.

Ken is a nationally recognized expert in the field of cost-effective acquisitions, and speaks and writes nationally on the subject. He will be teaching a course on "Law Librarianship" (USC 538) at GSLIS in the fall. Those interested in learning more about that field are urged to contact the GSLIS.

people

HELENA COSTA is now Bibliographic Control Librarian at Roger Williams College. She comes to her post from the John Carter Brown Library where she served as Cataloger.

DOMINIQUE COULOMBE recently was named Head of the Catalog Department at Brown University. She had been serving in an acting capacity in this position prior to her appointment.

NORMAN DESMARAIS, Acquisitions Librarian at Providence College, conducted a pre-conference workshop on "Integrating CD-ROM Systems" at the Computers in Libraries Conference held in Oakland, California, March 13-16. He also presented a paper on "Optical Technologies for the 1990's" at the opening general session. This paper will be published later this year by the Meckler Corporation as

a chapter in Technology for the Nineties: Approaching the Final Decade. In addition, he presented another paper entitled "Adventures in Beta Testing: the EBSCO CD-ROM Experience" at the conference.

ELLEN SPILKA, Director of the Pawtucket Public Library, has announced her plans to retire in June.

GRETCHEN YEALY has been named Head of Serial Cataloging at the Rockefeller Library, Brown University.

PPL reports that **PAMELA GOLLIS**, formerly a member of the Reference Services department, is now Head of Shared Resources. Reference Services has also been enhanced by the addition of two interns, **CRAIG KASPARK** and **KATHRYN BLESSING**. Both are pursuing MLS degrees.

CAROLYN STEFANI has been appointed Head of Reference at PPL. Carolyn received her MLS from the Palmer Graduate Library School at C. W. Post College and has many years of experience working in public and school libraries. She comes to Providence from the position of Assistant Director of the Hempstead Public Library in New York.

calendar

MAY 11: Rhode Island Chapter Special Libraries Association, Orwig Library, Brown University, 4PM.

MAY 11: New England Technical Services and New England Academics Spring Meeting, "The Information Link: Possibilities in Online Access", University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT.

MAY 15: State Advisory Council on Libraries, DSLS, 4PM.

MAY 17: Young Adult Round Table Organization Meeting, DSLS, 9AM.

MAY 19: RHILINET Committee, Cranston Public Library, 2-4PM.

MAY 22: RILA Spring Business Meeting.

JUNE 8: Annual Meeting of Interlibrary Loan System/Electronic Mail Users, DSLS, 9:30AM-12 noon.

JUNE 21-29: ALA Annual Conference, Dallas, Texas.

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**STATE DOCUMENTS: NEW ENGLAND
LIBRARIANS SHARE CONCERNS**
by Colleen McConaghy

The Annual Spring Conference for The Government Publications Librarians of New England was held March 20, 1989 at Tufts University. The theme of the conference was "The Other Documents: State and Local Information." Keynote speaker was Mary Redmond, Principal Librarian for Legislative and Governmental Service, New York State Library at Albany. Redmond spoke of the challenges that face state librarians regarding the collection, administration and dissemination of state publications.

She addressed the fiscal constraints that affect the production of such publications and ways by which librarians can overcome these monetary obstacles. Also noted was the fact that technological advancements have both helped and impeded the process of tracking state publications. For example, desk-top publishing has caused many state publications to bypass the proper channels of recording published documents (mainly, at the state libraries) and has resulted in a percentage of elusive documents at the state level. She stressed the importance of state agencies depositing the required number of copies of publications with the state libraries, so that all state depository libraries may in turn receive their slated publications and make the materials available to patrons.

These sentiments were echoed by other state librarians from the six New England states, who participated in a panel discussion, and who recognized the importance of inventory control when working with publications emanating from the various state agencies. Once an agency deposits a publication with the state library, a permanent record is created. Agencies can always rely on the state library for use of that publication.

Representing the six New England states in the first session entitled, "What's Up Doc: The Six New England States," were Al Palko, State Documents Librarian, Connecticut State Library; Elaine Stanley, State Documents Librarian, Maine State Library; Bette Siegel, Documents Librarian, Massachusetts State Library; John J. McCormick, Administrator, Government Information Service Bureau, New Hampshire State Library; Gretchen Pfeffer, Acting State Librarian, Rhode Island State Library, and Paul Donovan, Reference Librarian

for Law, Vermont Department of Libraries.

Al Palko spoke of the one concern shared among state librarians: legislators pass depository laws without sufficient funding to carry out the mandate.

Elaine Stanley relayed some good news about the Maine State system which has increased the percentage of documents acquired by the Maine State Library. First, all printing requisitions go through her office and second, in 1986, a major legislative change occurred which more effectively spelled out what the state library considered a state publication and thereby required to receive by law (1986, c.584).

Bette Stanley reported that in 1984, Massachusetts enacted a deposit law which served to increase both the percentage of document copies and titles automatically received by the state library. In 1985, Massachusetts saw a 10% increase in the number of titles received along with a 40% increase in the number of document copies. Increases were enjoyed for the years 1986 and 1987 as well as a reported 113% increase in the number of titles received in 1988 and a 500% increase in the number of copies.

New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont also have some form of depository law requiring state agencies to supply their state library with adequate copies of publications. It was the consensus of the panel that the more recently enacted legislation with its stricter language has helped state librarians conquer the problem of tracking elusive state publications.

Sessions II and III were held in the afternoon and were entitled, "Municipal Records: The Connecticut and Massachusetts Experience," and "Production and Use of and Access to, Municipal Documents," respectively. The focus of the second session was how states can help municipalities with respect to record collection, management and retention. Both Connecticut and Massachusetts have retention/disposal schedules intact which serve to guide the municipalities in the storing and weeding of municipal documents.

Six Rhode Island Libraries were represented at the Annual Spring Conference. Those in

attendance were as follows: Ed Bailey, Phillips Memorial Library, Providence College; Ethel Lee, Brown University Library; Deborah Mongeau and Pam Stoddard, University of Rhode Island Library; Colleen McConaghy, Rhode Island State Law Library and Frank Notarianni, James P. Adams Library, Rhode Island College. The Rhode Island State Library was represented by guest speaker Gretchen Pfeffer. Patricia Putney, a graduate student enrolled in the M.L.S. program at the University of Rhode Island, also attended the conference.

Colleen McConaghy is Government Documents Librarian at the Rhode Island State Law Library.

bulletin board

- Five libraries in the Northern Interrelated Library System have established the first library telefacsimile network in Rhode Island. The five libraries: East Smithfield Public Library, Greenville Public Library, Lincoln Public Library, North Providence Union Free Library, and Pawtucket Public Library received a grant of \$2,600 from the Champlin Foundation to purchase and install the equipment (Sharpe models FO-700 and FO-800). Further information on the network and/or the equipment is available by calling the Northern Interrelated Library System office at 723-4054.

- The Providence Public Library (PPL) has announced the return of a service branch to the Olneyville area. PPL has purchased the vacant Hospital Trust Bank Building at 1 Olneyville Square. The building was sold to PPL by The Providence Foundation for less than half the asking price from prospective commercial buyers. The building will need to undergo various structural adaptations to accommodate a library collection but it is hoped that the new branch will be ready by the beginning of the school year in the Fall. Branch library service has not been available in the Olneyville area since 1981 when PPL was forced to close the Olneyville Branch that was located at 12-14 Olneyville Square because of financial reasons. PPL then sold the old branch building in 1985.

- Beth Perry (DSLS), Merrily Taylor (Brown University), Madeleine Telfeyan (Rhode Island Historical Society), and Roberta Schnare

(Naval War College) are members of a recently formed CRIARL/DSLS committee that will be looking into the development of a statewide preservation plan for Rhode Island. Funding is available from the Office of Preservation of the National Endowment for the Humanities for grant proposals for the development of cooperative plans within individual states and the committee will be working with this goal in mind.

LETTER OF NOTE

The following letter was written to the Providence Journal at the request of RILA's Executive Board. It feels that the issues raised by the Rushdie controversy are of a continuous and crucial nature.

March 23, 1989

Letters to the Editor
THE PROVIDENCE-JOURNAL BULLETIN
75 Fountain Street
Providence, RI 02902

Dear Editor:

In light of the recent controversy surrounding the publication of SATANIC VERSES by Salman Rushdie, I am writing to reaffirm the commitment of libraries to the principles embodied in the First Amendment to the Constitution.

The right to read, to write, and to publish are fundamental in our society. Having access to literature, research, music, film, and other mediums of communication is, of course, necessary to sustain these rights.

It is the role of libraries in a free society to provide the public with books and materials offering a wide variety of viewpoints. Therefore, Salman Rushdie's SATANIC VERSES will take its place on library's shelves along with THE GRAPES OF WRATH, THE ADVENTURES OF HUCKLEBERRY FINN, THE BIBLE, and many other titles that have weathered the storms of censorship.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth G. Johnson, Chair
Intellectual Freedom Committee
Rhode Island Library Association

HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARIANS MEET IN BOSTON

by Linda Walton

The North Atlantic Health Sciences Libraries (NAHSL) held its annual two-day continuing education program at the New England Healthcare Assembly in Boston, March 20-21, 1989.

The first session, attended by forty New England health sciences librarians, was devoted to "Strategies for Developing Serials Collections with Financial and Marketplace Constraints." A panel discussion was held, featuring Robert Houbeck, Asst. Director, Collection Development, University of Michigan; Dr. Arthur Hafner, Director, Division of Library and Information Development, American Medical Association; and Tony Stankus, Director, Sciences Library, College of the Holy Cross.

A brief history of the rising cost of journals was presented including the fact that journal prices have increased 100% in seven years while the cost of other goods has only gone up 25%. Various reasons were given for the rising cost of journals including the decrease of the U.S. dollar on the foreign market which did not stabilize when the dollar stabilized. (Foreign titles tend to be the most expensive journals, and they increase in price the most rapidly each year). Other factors to keep in mind include the increase in articles published, as well as, the increase in number of specialty journals (known as "twigging"), and finally duplication of articles.

Strategies were given for librarians to fight the rising cost of journals. These strategies include evaluating the collection, clientele, and publishers; increasing cooperative sharing; establishing a buying consortia; lobbying against specific publishers; deferring journals until they are indexed; monitoring pricing policies; and informing users of cost and soliciting their support in fighting this battle!

The second session, attended by twenty-five New England health sciences librarians, was entitled "Assessing Your Comparable Worth in Today's Healthcare Environment" with Jill Hurst, Field Representative, Connecticut State Federation of Teachers, as speaker.

The steps involved in establishing comparable

worth include: describing the job; evaluating the job; and establishing a salary. (The market rate also plays a role in establishing a salary.) Skills used in describing the job include supervision, budgeting, generating funds, complexity, variety, independent action, closest to mission (i.e. MD in a hospital), education, training, experience, and decision making. Ms. Hurst pointed out that the librarians she works with frequently leave out their most important skill: providing information!

Evaluating the job is based on four major areas: Knowledge Base; Independent Action; Complexity and Variety; and Leadership.

When finally determining job worth, one should review a study already done (such as Connecticut State Employees) and slot oneself within the findings of their study. This evaluation will give an idea of comparable worth on which to base a salary.

Many librarians face the frustration that those evaluating their positions do not understand the worth/job of a librarian. In order to correct this situation, librarians must develop a strategy which includes: Identifying the goal of job reevaluation or changing the job assessment; identifying who decides the criteria of the goal, developing a list of allies, which may include members of the board or government officials, and finally, developing a plan of action. The process involves a tremendous amount of work, and it may be a long time before any results are seen. Clearly, this assessment can be done within an institution, or it can be applied to librarianship as a whole.

Linda Walton is librarian at the Isaac Ray Library of Butler Hospital, and a member of the Bulletin staff.

NOTICE

If you have not renewed your membership, this will be the last issue of the Bulletin you will receive.

PLEASE RENEW TODAY!



Rhode Island Library Association

Spring Business Meeting **Monday, May 22, 1989** **Cranston Public Library**

All members are invited to attend the annual Spring Business Meeting. Luncheon will be served at the library from 12:00 to 1:30 pm., with the meeting to follow. This should afford members an opportunity to converse and relax with colleagues. Please return the form below if you plan to attend our informal lunch. The business meeting will follow and all members are free to attend the meeting only.

Agenda

1. 1989 Trustee of the Year Award
2. White House Conference on Library and Information Services, Joan Ress Reeves
3. Legislative update, Bruce Daniels
4. Other Business



Luncheon Registration: \$5.00

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Deadline May 17, 1989

CONNIE ANDREWS RETIRES

The following memorandum was written by Dan Austin, Head of Personnel at the Providence Public Library, on March 2, 1989. The Bulletin feels that news of her retirement and career as a librarian is of interest to the entire library community. We wish her all the best.

We regret to announce that Connie Andrews has decided to retire.

Mrs. Andrews joined the Providence Public Library training class of 1948, and worked at the library from 1948 to 1950. She returned in 1962 on a part-time basis and in 1966 went full time as the Bookmobile Librarian. During this period she attended the graduate library school at URI, and received her MLS degree in 1972. In 1973 she was promoted to Head of the library's Periodical/Microfilm Department, which she supervised until the recent reorganization. Since the reorganization she has served as one of the Senior Librarians in the Central Reference Area and has continued to oversee the library's periodical/serials functions.

Throughout her tenure at the library Mrs. Andrews has impressed her colleagues with her dedication and commitment to professional library service. She has always shown a sincere concern not only for service not as an abstract concept, but as an actual interaction with library users. She has seen the library through good times and bad and has handled all situations with good sense and unfailing good humor.

However significant Mrs. Andrew's professional contributions have been to the Providence Public Library, we cannot let her go without noting the personal impact she has had on this organization. In the twenty nine years she has worked at the library, Mrs. Andrews has dealt with hundreds of thousands of people, and she has met them all with grace and dignity. Her real concern for others and her interest in them as individuals has meant an enormous amount both to her coworkers, and to the library as an organization. Our lives have been better for having had the opportunity to work with her, and the library is a better place for having had her here. We will all miss her.

While we are saddened to lose Mrs. Andrews

as a colleague and coworker, we all wish her a long and happy retirement.

jobline

The Rhode Island Library Association has established a minimum recommended salary of \$11.54 per hour, or \$21,000 per year for a full-time beginning librarian in 1989.

REFERENCE LIBRARIAN L-I: Provides direct reference service in person and on the telephone. Takes referrals from other librarians and conducts research in response to complex or specialized questions; assists users with the location and selection of suitable materials and resources. Librarians are expected to develop a specialty in an appropriate area which is determined by a combination of the individual's interests and abilities and the library's need. Current needs are in Business, Science and Technology, some Social Sciences and certain Humanities. Additional responsibilities including assisting with materials' selection, collection and service development, special projects and reference responsibilities, all assigned as appropriate. May be assigned other duties as necessary. MLS from an ALA accredited program; knowledge of data base searching and general applications of automation to the provision of reference service. Library reference experience is preferred, but not required. Salary range: \$20,000 - \$24,997. Applications accepted until position is filled. Apply to: Dan Austin, Personnel Officer, Providence Public Library, 225 Washington Street, Providence, RI 02903. Telephone: (401) 455-8061. AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION/EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.

ADULT SERVICES LIBRARIAN (L-I) KNIGHT MEMORIAL: Responsible for the direct provision of service to the adult users of a large branch library. Primary duties include the provision of reference and readers advisory assistance and the presentation of adult programs. The adult services librarian will be expected to participate in the development of library service at the branch and may participate in community outreach activity, program development, collection development, and clerical supervision. MLS from an ALA accredited library school required. Salary range: \$20,000 - \$24,997. Applications accepted until position is filled. Review of applications will begin on May 3. Apply to: Dan Austin, Personnel Officer, Providence Public Library, 225 Washington Street, Providence, RI 02903. Telephone: (401) 455-8061. AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION/EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR needed at the Providence Athenaeum. Opportunity for a creative, knowledgeable librarian with MLS to oversee thriving membership library dating back to 1753; over 150,000 volumes, extensive adult and children's programs, and staff of fourteen. Experience in administration and financial development essential; familiarity with program and exhibit planning, special collections, library automation, cataloging, desirable. Minimum salary \$33,000. Position open September 1st. Review of applications will begin July 1st and continue until the position is filled. Send resume to: Rosemary Colt, President, Providence Athenaeum, 251 Benefit Street, Providence, RI 02903.

CHILDREN'S LIBRARIAN: Looking for energetic and enthusiastic individual with leadership qualities for programming, planning, publicity, reference, reader's advisor, collection development, outreach, staff supervision, and all services of Children's Department. Responsible for library activities in absence of Library Director. Requirements: MLS from ALA accredited library school and supervisory experience. Salary negotiable. Deadline for applications is June 5, 1989. Apply to: Barbara Mirabelli, Director, Narragansett Public Library, Kingstown Road, Narragansett, RI 02882.

RILA ENDORSES PELL AMENDMENT

At its March 7th meeting, RILA's Executive Board endorsed the Pell Resolution mandating the use of acid free paper by publishers. A similar resolution is planned for introduction in Rhode Island's General Assembly. Following is the text of the resolution:

Whereas it is now widely recognized and scientifically demonstrated that acidic papers commonly used in documents, books, and other publications for more than a century are self-destructing and will continue to self-destruct;

Whereas Rhode Islanders are facing the prospect of continuing to lose state and national historical records, including government records, faster than salvage efforts can be mounted despite the dedicated efforts of many libraries, archives and agencies;

Whereas nationwide many hundreds of millions of dollars will need to be spent by the federal, state and local governments and private institutions to salvage the most essential books and other materials in libraries and archives;

Whereas there is an urgent need to prevent the acid paper problem from continuing into the indefinite future by means which already exist, in as much as acid free permanent papers with a life of several hundred years already exist and are being produced at prices competitive with acid papers;

Whereas some publishers such as the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, the Library of Congress and many university presses are already publishing on acid free papers, and the U.S. Office of Technology Assessment has estimated that only 15 to 25 percent of the books currently being published in the United States are printed on acid free paper;

Whereas most government agencies do not require the use of permanent papers for appropriate state and federal records and publications, and associations representing commercial publishers and book printers have thus far not recommended the use of acid free papers;

Whereas paper manufacturers have stated that a sufficient supply of acid free papers would be produced if publishers would specify the use of acid free papers; and

Whereas Senator Claiborne Pell has introduced a joint resolution in the United States Senate to establish a national policy on permanent papers; therefore be it

Resolved that the Rhode Island Library Association urges the U.S. House and U.S. Senate to adopt Senator Pell's joint resolution to establish a national policy on permanent papers.

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