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Rhode Island Library Association Bulletin

Volume No. 62 No. 9

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SEPTEMBER 1989

HOW RHODE ISLAND STATUTES EFFECT INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM by Jonathan S. Tryon

To commemorate Banned Books Week, September 23-30, the Bulletin is pleased to present the following synopsis of Rhode Island law as it effects intellectual freedom in our state. This synopsis will appear in the Intellectual Freedom Committee's Handbook, the third edition of which will appear in November.

The Constitution of Rhode Island, together with the General Laws of Rhode Island, establishes a scheme of government generally supportive of the concept of intellectual freedom. The Constitution specifically recognizes the importance of the free mind in Article 1, section 3, which establishes the freedom of religion; and, in Article 12, the importance of the "diffusion of knowledge to the preservation of the rights of the people."

The Rhode Island General Laws (RIGL) also contain provisions which may effect intellectual freedom and access to information either directly or tangentially. As well as those which will be discussed below, these provisions include:

- the right to privacy (9-1-28.1)
- the right to open meetings (42-26-1 through 42-46-12)
- laws protecting library property : misappropriation of library property (11-41-15), injury to library property (11-41-15), and concealment of books or other materials while on premises of the library (11-41-14.1)

These provisions, aimed at assuring access to the library materials, and others within the RIGL, provide the supportive fabric for intellectual freedom. What follows is a

discussion of those provisions of RIGL directly related to intellectual freedom.

Obscenity

In 1978 the Rhode Island legislature enacted 11-31-1 of the General Laws which was concerned with the circulation of obscene publications and shows. However, in D & J Enterprises, Inc. v. Michaelson, 401 A.2d 440 (1979) the Supreme Court of Rhode Island declared the entire statute unconstitutional. Thus, while the statute is still "on the books," it is unenforceable and, for all intents and purposes, Rhode Island has no law regulating obscene materials for adults.

Sale or exhibition to minors of indecent publications, pictures, or articles is controlled by section 11-31-10 of the Rhode Island General Laws. This statute makes it an offense to distribute to persons under the age of eighteen, materials which are sexually explicit and indecent for minors. "Indecent for minors" means material which, according to the statute, (a) appeals to the minor's prurient interest in sex; and (b) is patently offensive to prevailing standards in the adult community with respect to what is suitable material for minors; and (c) lacks serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value for minors.

The statute does not make clear how the status of being a minor alters the nature of the analysis of material thought to be obscene, but clearly, the intent is to provide a lower threshold to a finding of obscenity. The United States Supreme Court has found two-tiered systems (i.e. one set of standards for adults and another for minors) to be acceptable, and one must assume that this statute would withstand judicial scrutiny should it come to trial. To date it has not been tested.

One further ambiguity which would be of interest to librarians is the question of whether the statute applied to libraries. On the one hand, the statute speaks of "every person who engages in the business of"..."lending, giving away... obscene materials is covered by the statute. This statement certainly seems to include libraries. Further on, however, the statute speaks of engaging in "said business or to otherwise to offer for sale or commercial distribution" which suggests the statute is aimed at profit-making schemes, although the profit may not come directly from the sale or rental of the material. These words suggest that libraries, which are not normally thought of as businesses, would be exempt from the provisions of the statute. The final answer to this ambiguity cannot be known until the appropriate case presents itself, and the courts make a decision, an event that seems remote.

Confidentiality

Title 38, chapter 2 (38-2-1 through 38-2-13) of the Rhode Island General Laws recognizes both the public's right to access to records pertaining to the policy-making responsibilities of government and the individual's right to dignity and privacy. The general proposition is that all the records of any agency of the state or political subdivisions thereof are open to the public for inspection. In support of the recognition of the individual's right to dignity and privacy, section 38-2-2 provides a number of exemptions specifically stated. The exemption which is directed to library records reads: "For the purposes of this chapter, the following records shall not be deemed public... (21) Library records which, by themselves, or when examined with other public records, would reveal the identity of the library user requesting, checking out, or using any library materials."

The purpose of this exemption is to protect the privacy of the library user from prying neighbors or governments who might use that patron's reading or viewing habits against him or her. Whether that would ever happen is immaterial. It is the fear of its happening that might deter the patron from the use of certain materials, and no one should sense fear of using any material a library has to offer.

The Intellectual Freedom Committee (IFC) hopes and expects that all libraries covered by the RIGL are in conformity with this law. However, some libraries use a charging system in which the patron's name is inscribed on a book card when the book circulates, and that card is put back in the book when it is returned. This and similar schemes are a clear violation of the statute and other protective systems should be adopted.

This statute applies to governmental agencies only and not to private entities. Thus it covers public, school, and libraries of public institutions of higher education but not private schools or colleges or business libraries. The waters are exceedingly murky when it comes to the application of such statutes as this to those institutions which are technically private but receive public funds and perform public functions in lieu of a governmental agency. There are a number of libraries in Rhode Island which fall into this category. It is the IFC's position that those libraries ought to conform to the law as a service to their patrons regardless of their legal status. Other private institutions should adopt policies which best protect the interests of that particular entity.

Curiously, there are no penalties to enforce the provisions of this section. An individual could sue for any damages arising from a failure to protect his or her privacy, but harm done would be difficult to establish. Also, an individual could seek a writ of mandamus which the court would require the library to carry out the law. This eventuality however, seems an extremely unlikely action on the part of any library patron. Regardless of the absence of penalties, however, the duty of libraries to obey the law is clear.

While the privacy of library patrons would seem adequately protected by section

38-2-2, section 11-18-32 of the General Laws gives added protection for borrowers of audio or video materials. The statute specifically makes it unlawful for any person "to reveal, transmit, publish or disseminate in any manner, any records which would identify the names and addresses of individuals, with the titles or nature of video films, records, cassettes, or the like, which they purchased, leased, rented or borrowed, from libraries, book stores, video stores or record and cassette shops or any retailer or distributor of such products."

The statute provides for fines up to \$1000 per violation and imprisonment for up to six months or both. Additionally, any person injured as a result of the violation has a right to bring a civil suit against the violator for actual damages or \$250, whichever is greater, for each violation, plus reasonable attorneys' fees and court costs.

These statutes directly affect day to day operations in public libraries and other establishments, and it is they that effect the concept of intellectual freedom in Rhode Island. The IFC urges all librarians to read them and be aware of their impact.

Jonathan S. Tryon is an Associate Professor at the URI/GSLIS, Past President of RILA, Past Chair and a continuing member of the Intellectual Freedom Committee, and a member of the Rhode Island Bar Association.

Jon is also a candidate for Vice-President/President of NELA. In the NELA Newsletter of August 1989, he gave a statement identifying his goals for that organization. The Bulletin feels that his ideas about NELA, our regional professional organization, and its value to RILA are of interest to our readers.

STATEMENT


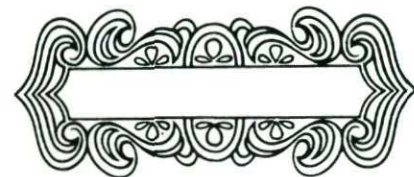
Whether I am more competent than my opponent to fill the office of vice president/president-elect is for the membership to decide. In my own behalf I would point out that I have been active in the Rhode Island Library Association serving as president in 1986-87. In addition I have served on numerous committees of RILA, both standing and ad hoc, and of other library organizations such as RHILINET and the Rhode Island Department of State Library Services. It is my hope that this experience qualifies me for office.

If elected I would focus my efforts on three areas:

1. I would work to extend NELA's activities as a coordinator and facilitator in assisting the individual New England state associations. Recent Counterparts days and programs held the last two years in Newport, RI, have provided the individual organizations with valuable information concerning various aspects of organizational management. NELA has an important position as a sort of umbrella organization to provide this kind of assistance, and I would like to see this sort of activity encouraged.

2. NELA is an association in its own right and shares many of the problems that afflict the state associations. Membership is one of these and I would bend every effort to increase the membership of NELA and, perhaps more important, to encourage active participation by the membership in the activities of the association.

3. The single most important activity of the association is the annual conference and I would work hard to continue the high level of excellence of past programs and, where possible, provide improvement. Programs must be educational, exciting and relevant to the needs of the members and held in a setting congenial to the enterprise.



We encourage browsing.

Brown Bookstore
244 Thayer St.
Providence, RI
Mon-Fri 9-6
Sundays 12-6

PREVIEW OF THE 1989 RILA FALL CONFERENCE
COMMITMENT TO PROFESSIONALISM
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1989
RAY CONFERENCE CENTER, BUTLER HOSPITAL

8:00 - 9:00 A.M. REGISTRATION AND COFFEE

9:00 A.M. - NOON CONCURRENT SESSIONS

COOPERATIVE PROGRAMMING IDEAS FOR CHILDREN

Psst--want an imaginative children's program that really hits the mark? Join PATRICIA OWENS, Director of Library Services, Connecticut State Library and MAGGIE BUSH, Associate Professor, Simmons College GSLIS for a discussion of cooperative programming, school visits, and science fair projects. Program ideas will be exchanged and an open discussion of program rules and regulations including registration, non-residents at programs, and discouraging no-shows will round out the program.

BY THE BOOK--DEVELOPING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The message of JOSEPH HOPKINS, Director of the Worcester (MA) Public Library and ELIZABETH WATSON, Assistant Chief Librarian of the Fitchburg (MA) Public Library is that the oral tradition with regard to policies and procedures is dead. But what makes a good policy? For that matter, who makes policy? After discussing these and other issues the group will devise a policy addressing a current issue.

THE 1990 CENSUS--INFORMATION YOU CAN COUNT ON

This workshop led by CHRISTINE PAYNE, Information Service Specialist with the Census Bureau, will focus on the decennial census especially the Census of Population and Social and Economic Characteristics. A hands-on approach to statistical data will be emphasized. How high will your team score when pitted against census tract maps and block statistics?

DILEMMAS IN OUR COMMITMENT TO PROFESSIONALISM

Panelists for this wide ranging program will be ELIZABETH FUTAS, Director, Graduate School of Library and Information Studies at the University of Rhode Island, FAY ZIPKOWITZ, Associate Professor, URI GSLIS, and GORDON FRETWELL, Associate Director for Public Services, University of Massachusetts, Amherst Library and compiler of the ARL Annual Salary Survey. Among the topics to be discussed will be professionalism, salaries, and professional ethics, particularly information access, confidentiality and ethical issues in administration.

GETTING THE WORD OUT--A SHORT COURSE IN PUBLIC RELATIONS FOR LIBRARIANS

Join GAIL CALU MASTRATI, Chief of Information and Public Relations for the Department of State Library Services and BETH WATSON SOUSA, Public Relations Coordinator, Providence Public Library for a review of basic public relations principles. Examine approaches and techniques for press releases, feature articles, newsletters, and annual reports. Small groups will edit and critique a selection of library articles and brochures.

NOON - 1:30 P.M. LUNCHEON

1:30 - 3 P.M. RILA BUSINESS MEETING

Commitment to **PROFESSIONALISM**

The 1989 RILA
Annual Conference
Monday, November 6, 1989

Ray Conference Center
Butler Hospital
345 Blackstone Blvd.
Providence, RI.

Please indicate 1st and 2nd choices:

Cooperative Planning
Ideas for Children.

Dilemmas in our
Commitment to
Professionalism.

The 1990 Census:
information you
can count on.

Getting the Word Out:
a short course in public
relations for librarians.

By the Book:
developing policies
and procedures.

Pre-registration is required. Luncheon is included in registration fee.

RILA members	\$25.00
Non-Members	\$30.00
Students	\$15.00
Members of other R.I. Library organizations pay at member rates.	

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Make checks payable to *Rhode Island Library Association* and send to:

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13 Summer Street
Pawtucket, RI 02860

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE:
A REPORT ON IATUL
by Kathryn E. Ryan

EDITORIAL NOTE: In July of 1988, Kathryn Ryan attended the International Association of Technological University Libraries' Conference, in Veszprem, Hungary. Partially funded by grants from NELA and RILA, the theme of the Conference was "The Development of Information Services in Libraries of Science and Technology." Following is a report of her experiences.

Last summer, partially funded by grants from the Rhode Island and New England Library Associations, I attended a week-long conference in Hungary. I represented the Salve Regina Library in Newport which is making the transition from a multi-layered, detail-intensive, manual system to a fully automated system. We are looking forward to a new building within the next two years, when the current collection will more than double. The impact of these changes is already being felt in every area of the campus, with full support of students, faculty and administration.

The circulation/reference desk, my base of operation, is the point of contact for the entire college community with the library. It is this service point that bears the responsibility of translating technological change to our users.

In the summer of 1987, I gave a tour of the library to a Hungarian chemist who was on campus attending the annual Gordon Conference. The conference draws together scientists from many nations, from vastly differing political and economic systems, to share the most current developments in their fields.

The professor, by way of thanks, extended to me the opportunity to attend a conference hosted by his country, in fact, by his university's library association. It was my introduction to IATUL, the International Association of Technological University Libraries. The theme focused on the development of information services in libraries of science and technology, including staff-user interaction, problems in developing countries, user-training, and collection management--topics whose exploration had formed the core of my library training at URI several years ago. At first, the scope of the conference overwhelmed me. Salve Regina College, seemed too small, too unsophisticated, to

consider the relevance of such themes to our problems. Yet, I couldn't help thinking, "What a wonderful opportunity."

Four events occurred that made the opportunity become reality:

1. Our library came under new leadership and change became more evident.
2. The College committed itself to an international focus in every course, at every level.
3. I was asked to chair the Rhode Island Library Association Conference during a period of transition for both the conference and the association. However, I lacked the time to re-energize myself by attending other conferences.
4. I realized I was "burning out,"--losing sight of both the needs of my small library community, and the larger world-context. I was losing sight of the reasons that drive technology anywhere, in any library, large or small.

I decided to attend the Conference. Once the decision was made to go, however, there were a thousand practical realities. My absence had to affect minimally an already overworked staff. The summer date, traditional "downtime" in an academic library, seemed ideal. The College concurred and granted the time as work time. Support staffing was built into projects that subsequently developed.

Financing was handled in several ways. Both RILA and NELA contributed continuing education funds. Many expenses, of which my family and I kept detailed records, were tax-deductible. A home-equity loan helped with the balance, since a small conference in the East Block was more affordable than a similar conference anywhere else. Bookings and visas were handled through a wonderful agent who had been a long-time family friend and was able to give us many insights and travel tips from personal experience.

Background on Hungary came through libraries, both directly and through our interlibrary loan office, as well as through my bookstore foraging. This research was critical, since my dominant sense of the

country was the black and white television coverage of tanks rolling into Budapest during the Hungarian Revolt of 1956, and much local library information stopped at about the same time.

The land held the roots of the Celts, the forerunners of my Irish ancestors. It also held those of successive invaders--Romans, Magyars, Turks--who over centuries conquered the country, alternately razing and building, and eventually creating the present Hungary. In July it was hot--over 100 degrees. I was grateful that the taverns were generally in cellars, and that the conference was held in a thick-walled castle.

Attending an international conference made clear the need for a unique format. Short papers (about ten to fifteen minutes in length) were read, in English, by the speakers, the majority of whose native languages had a totally different linguistic base. Pacing of the sessions was carefully worked out. Sessions were held in the morning, followed by field trips in the afternoon. This schedule provided the opportunity to 'decompress' and digest the morning's information, to relax with other librarians, eighty of us, and to "feel" the land and people.

We attended an organ concert and a gypsy wedding, activities that were as integral a part of the conference as were the tours of libraries, many of which were rebuilt from rubble following wars. We saw wonderful statues, not of war heroes, but of poets! I saw the reverence with which the Crown Jewels of Saint Stephen were kept, after being protected in Fort Knox and only recently returned. I saw packed churches and bullet-pocked buildings. I saw Budapest's first Macdonald's which contrasted with armed officers in the streets and grey helicopters overhead. I saw miles of sunflowers in bloom, rebuilding and painting of public buildings, and signs in German/Hungarian/English. To my surprise, I saw Russian monuments avoided, and I began to see the "East Block" as a mosaic of very individual countries.

None of my reading prepared me for the buoyant joy and warmth of the Hungarians themselves! On a large scale we were feted by both librarians and local officials. On a small scale, I remember the friendliness of a resident who, having purchased the last container of milk, drove us through the streets of Buda, and across the Danube to Pest, to find

a store open at six p.m., with milk in stock. "No problem!" he exclaimed.

I returned home with a jumble of impressions that have taken nearly a year to sort out, beautiful slides, copies of all the presentations, information currently being incorporated into our embryonic bibliographic instruction program, and already in use by our international students, wonderful memories, and, thanks to my sponsors, a renewed sense of the strength and value of the profession. The trip also gave me the energy to return to the rigors of "transitioning." My world is smaller than when I left for Hungary last July. It is also richer!

Kathryn E. Ryan is a member of the Circulation Department, and Head Reference Librarian of Salve Regina College. She is preparing a slide-talk presentation of her experiences at IATUL, which will be available in Fall of 1989.

people

SHARON BROWN has been appointed Children's Librarian at the Cumberland Public Library. Sharon had previously been the Children's Librarian at the Rochambeau branch of the Providence Public Library.

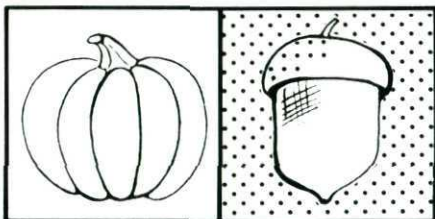
SYLVIA MERCIER, JIM FRECHETTE, and FRANK ST.PIERRE have been promoted to full professors at CCRI. Their promotions became effective as of July 1.

ANN POULOS has been appointed Reference Librarian at Providence Public Library. She comes from Simmons College Library where she worked in Reference as a computer librarian.

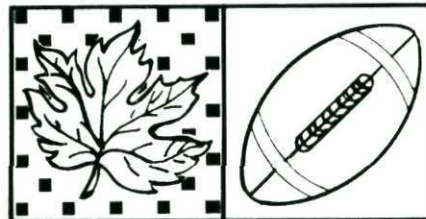
RISD LIBRARY BOOK SALE

The Rhode Island School of Design will hold a book sale Saturday, September 23, from 9:00AM - 4:30PM. The sale will be held at Frazier Terrace, across from the RISD Museum on Benefit Street. In case of rain location will be fourth floor of the College Building, 2 College Street.

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FALL 1989



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BOOK REVIEW DIGEST

and BUSINESS

PERIODICALS INDEX

These in-depth studies — conducted by the ALA's Committee on the Wilson Indexes — are now complete. 71 periodicals have been added to **BPI**; a 19% increase in coverage. **BRD** now offers greater access than ever before to reviews of English-language fiction and non-fiction titles with a 20% increase in coverage.

News Flash!

WILSON LIBRARY BULLETIN celebrates its Diamond Jubilee — 75 years of the magazine that is required reading for librarians who want to go to the top of their profession.

bulletin board

- The third edition of Intellectual Freedom Manual has recently been published by the American Library Association. The Manual presents official documents of the American Library Association together with recommended tactics for avoiding or resolving intellectual freedom conflicts in libraries. Fundamental documents such as the Library Bill of Rights, the Freedom to Read Statement, and the Policy on Confidentiality of Library Records are presented in their current forms. The third edition also includes three new policy statements: "Circulation of Motion Pictures and Video Productions," "Access to Resources and Services in the School Library Media Program," and "Resolution on Access to the Use of Libraries and Information by Individuals with Physical or Mental Impairment." A final new section discusses recent legal developments in school library censorship. The price of this essential publication is \$17.50 and orders should be sent to: Order Department, ALA Publishing Services, 50 East Huron Street, Chicago, IL 60611.

- Eckerd College again will host the Earlham College - Eckerd College Bibliographic Instruction Conference. They will host it on February 1 and 2, 1990. Individuals interested in the conference should write: Dr. Larry Hardesty, Director of Library Services, Eckerd College Library, Box 12560, St. Petersburg, Florida 33733-2560.

- "Artificial Intelligence and Expert Systems: Will They Change the Library?" is the theme of a conference to be held by the Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois, March 25-27, 1990. The 27th Annual Clinic on Library Applications of Data Processing, which will be held at the University Inn, Champaign, Illinois, is designed to give a balanced picture of present and potential capabilities of artificial intelligence/expert systems in a wide range of library applications, including factual reference service, database searching, descriptive cataloging, document delivery, and subject cataloging/indexing. For further information write or call Annetta Holt, Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois, 410 David Kinley Hall, 1407 West Gregory Drive, Urbana, Illinois 61801 (217-333-3280).

- The International Book Fair (Feria Internacional del Libro--FIL) opens November 25 at the Expo-Guadalajara Center (Mexico). FIL '89 will feature the Third International Colloquium for Librarians, including: outreach to serve Spanish-speaking users; information management; evaluation of Spanish-language materials; and library tours. University credit is available.

FIL runs November 25-December 3. Its theme this year is the Latin American oral literature tradition, with seventy professional storytellers on hand. For information on travel, lodging and pre-registration, contact: Feria Internacional del Libro, Apdo 39-130, Hidalgo 1417, 44170 Guadalajara, Jal., Mexico. Telephone (36) 25-28-17; 25-86-62. Fax (36) 25-73-59.

- The Rhode Island Publications Society recently published The Constitution and the States: The Role of the Original Thirteen in the Framing and Adoption of the Federal Constitution. The book is edited by Patrick T. Conley and John Kaminski and is available from the Society, 77 Plain Street, Providence, RI 02903 at a price of \$29.50.

calendar

SEPTEMBER: National Library Card Sign Up Month.

SEPTEMBER 13: Young Adult Round Table, Reference Books, Gorton Junior High School, 9:30 AM.

SEPTEMBER 15: RHILINET Committee, Cranston Public Library, 2PM.

SEPTEMBER 23-30: Banned Books Week.

SEPTEMBER 24-26: NELA Annual Conference, Sheraton Tara, Springfield, Massachusetts.

OCTOBER 22-25: North Atlantic Health Sciences Libraries Annual Conference, Samoset Resort, Rockland, Maine. Information: Jan Morelli, 207-879-8180.

OCTOBER 2-6: CD-ROM Expo '89, Washington, DC.

OCTOBER 29-NOVEMBER 2: ASIS Annual Conference, Washington, DC.

NOVEMBER 13-19: Book Week.

ERRATA

Bulletin readers should make note that the July-August issue should be numbered V.62, No.7-8, not No.7.

NEW ENGLAND BOOK BAG TO DEBUT IN SEPTEMBER

During the 1980's hundreds of libraries in New England have discovered the excitement of adult reading programs combining lectures by humanities scholars with group discussion. These programs, based on themes ranging from "The Imperial Presidency" to "Mad Women in the Attic," use novels, poetry, drama, and literary nonfiction to explore significant facets of the human experience.

Until now, a limited number of such series has been available in each state. Some librarians have begun to worry about finding fresh ideas and new programs. Starting this fall, their worries will be over--any public library in New England will have access, through the New England Book Bag, to seventy-six different humanities reading and discussion series.

The New England Book Bag is a system for sharing humanities programs among the New England states. A catalogue of the seventy-six themes will be introduced at the NELA convention in Springfield, Massachusetts on September 25. The catalogue lists the books contained in each theme and indicates the basic questions raised by each series. The themes are grouped into ten subject area categories: Ethnic America, Family, History, Mystery, Nature and Science, New England, Self and Society, Voices in Literature, A Woman's View, and World Literature.

Also included in the catalogue are information pages to help librarians present a reading and discussion series. The program model is described, and a three-page "how-to" section outlines the steps to take in organizing and presenting a series. To help in publicizing the series, a New England Book Bag poster, with space for local program specifics, is also provided. Finally, the catalogue tells how to request a program from another state and provides an order form for borrowing the paperback books.

The catalogue will be distributed this fall to every public library in New England. It will also be available through state library agencies and/or humanities councils. Contacts and phone numbers for these councils and agencies are listed, as is a Book Bag Representative for each state.

The New England Book Bag is part of "Sharing

Humanities in New England Libraries," a project sponsored by the New England Foundation for the Humanities and funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and New England Telephone. Questions about the Book Bag or any aspect of the project should be directed to Rhode Island Book Bag Representative, Peggy Shea at 277-2726.

ROBERT WEDGEWORTH RECEIVES LIPPINCOTT AWARD

Robert Wedgeworth, Dean of the School of Library Service, Columbia University, and former Executive Director of the American Library Association, has been honored with the prestigious Joseph W. Lippincott Award. Presented by the American Library Association (ALA), the \$1,000 award and citation recognizes distinguished service to the profession of librarianship.

No stranger to Rhode Island libraries, Wedgeworth worked in the Brown University Library system as Assistant Chief Order Librarian from 1966 to 1969, when he went on leave to pursue graduate study at Rutgers.

"Robert Wedgeworth epitomizes the best in service to the library profession," said Hardy R. Franklin, chair of the award jury.

"As executive director of the American Library Association for more than a dozen years, he advocated programs of reading, libraries and education that will be felt well into the next century. He extended our national association's influence in international programs that have encouraged the development of libraries where none have ever existed and has helped encourage standards of library service worldwide."

Wedgeworth has chaired the U.S. National Committee of the UNESCO General Information Program, and has been a guest speaker at international meetings in many parts of the world, including Argentina, Australia, Finland, Kenya, Nigeria, Norway, Philippines and Tanzania.

Over the past three years he has surveyed the book and library communities in several Central and South American countries and most recently in the Republic of South Africa.

He chaired the advisory committee of the most comprehensive survey of New York library systems since 1966, a study completed this spring.

Wedgeworth serves on the governing boards of the Newberry Library, the H. W. Wilson Company, the American Library in Paris and the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions.

Since 1986 he has been a member of the Advisory Committee of the Gannett Center for Media Studies and continues as a member of the USIA Book and Library Committee.

In addition to contributions to the professional literature, he was the founding editor (1976-85) of the "ALA Yearbook" and is the editor of the "ALA World Encyclopedia," now in its second edition (1985).

A graduate of Wabash College in Indiana, Wedgeworth holds a Master's degree in library science from the University of Illinois.

Wedgeworth received the award Wednesday, June 28, in Dallas, during the Annual Conference of the American Library Association.

jobline

The Rhode Island Library Association has established a minimum recommended salary of \$12.36 per hour, or \$22,500 per year for a full-time beginning librarian in 1989.

CHILDREN'S LIBRARIAN - L-I or L-II: 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. Responsible for coordination of children's services at cluster level. May be assigned other duties. Requirements: Must have an MLS from an ALA accredited library school. New graduates are encouraged to apply. Salary: \$21,000-\$26,246 L-I level or \$23,198-\$29,009 L-II level. Applications accepted until position is filled. Apply to: Dan Austin, Personnel Officer, Providence Public Library, 225 Washington Street, Providence, RI 02903. Telephone: (401) 455-8060. AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION/EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

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 to assist with materials selection, collection and service development, special projects, and routine reference responsibilities will be assigned as appropriate. May be assigned other duties as necessary. Requirements: MLS from an ALA accredited program; knowledge of database searching and general applications of automation to the provision of reference service. Library reference experience is preferred, but not required. Salary range: \$21,000-\$26,246. Applications accepted until position is filled. Applicant review to begin August 28. Applications should be sent to Providence Public Library (address above). AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION/EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

CIRCULATION SUPERVISOR: Evenings and weekends - temporary position from October 3, 1989 to March 31, 1990. Hours - Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 3-11 PM; Friday 12-8 PM; Saturday 10-6 PM. Overall responsibility for the library evenings and Saturdays; supervision of circulation desk, including student assistants; responsibility for putting library materials on reserve. Requirements: minimum of two years college, two years supervisory experience in library or office. Send letter of application, resume and names of three references to Carol S. Terry, Director of Library Services, Rhode Island School of Design, 2 College Street, Providence, RI 02903.

COORDINATOR OF MEDIA COLLECTIONS: Rhode Island School of Design. Responsibilities: administer collections of c.500,000 items, including slides, pictures, photographs, videotapes and sound recordings; supervise three full-time staff plus students; work with other department heads in library to provide service to dynamic and active art school community, including museum. Qualifications: background in art, architecture, design; master's degree, preferably in library science; three years administrative and supervisory experience in visual resource collection management; knowledge of automation of visual collections desirable. Salary: mid-20's, excellent benefits. Send letter of application, resume and names of three references by October 20 to Carol S. Terry, Director of Library Services, Rhode Island School of Design, 2 College Street, Providence, RI 02903.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR: Amesbury Public Library, Amesbury, Massachusetts, seeks director to administer public library serving a population of 15,000, with an annual budget of \$213,000 and annual circulation of 115,000. ALA-accredited, M.L.S., minimum three years library administration experience, supervisory and leadership abilities required. Strong commitment to book collection and reference services. Duties: responsible for all phases of library operations, including materials selection, personnel administration, budgeting, programming and community relations. Salary: Negotiable. Resume and three references by October 16, 1989 to Mark Allred, Chairman, Board of Trustees, Amesbury Public Library, Amesbury, Massachusetts 01913. Position effective January 1990.

NELA NEWSLETTER EDITOR: for the bimonthly publication of the New England Library Association. General knowledge of libraries, writing/editorial ability, layout/design skill, publication experience, and positive, mature judgement are the criteria by which candidates will be judged. Experience with word processing, data transmission, and desktop publishing is especially desirable. A liberal salary will be determined upon the basis of the new editor's experience. A detailed, two-page description of the position and its duties is available upon request from the Publications Committee. By September 30, 1989, applicants should send resumes plus writing samples or, preferably, prior sample publications to Lee Flanagan, NELA Publications Committee, c/o Region One CLSU, 267 Grand Street, Waterbury, CT 06702.

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editor's notebook

Though summer is drawing to its end, thoughts about reading and travel linger in my mind. These thoughts surfaced when I saw recently an essay in the "Living" section of

the New York Times. In it, essayist Mary Cantwell describes her passion for reading books whose settings are cast in the places to which she travels.

Her remembrances of these journeys past reminded me of some of my own. Following are a few of the books that came to my mind.

The Masters by C.P. Snow, read when I was newly married, unemployed, and recently moved to Cambridge, England. Never having read Snow, I picked up The Masters in the local library, then in the Guildhall. Though I went on to read all eleven novels in his Strangers & Brothers sequence, I have remained fond of his descriptions of Cambridge life, descriptions of High Table, dons and masters, and above all, his descriptions of Sunday evenings in Cambridge, when twilight came early, the tourists departed for home, and the sound of the bells of Great St. Mary's filled the air.

Cat's Eye by Margaret Atwood and The Two Solitudes by Hugh MacLennon. I read each of these novels prior to a trip to Canada. Atwood's novel was read quite by chance, though I had admired her earlier works. Cat's Eye is set in Toronto from its stuffy days in the Fifties to its present place among the world's most interesting cities. Before I ever saw Bloor Street, I had walked beside its shops with Margaret Atwood.

MacLennon's book was lent to me by a Canadian in preparation for a trip to Montreal. Written in 1945, it is not a great work of fiction, and indeed is full of romantic cliches. Nonetheless, from it, I gained a sympathetic understanding of the two cultures

that comprise Montreal, and the great divisions and misunderstandings between them. Further, when on a bus trip of the city, the young guide spotted my copy of MacLennon's book, he warmed to me instantly and went out of his way to talk about and show me Montreal with an unabashed enthusiasm. Apparently, The Two Solitudes is required reading in Canadian high schools! At this moment, on a hot and muggy day in July, I can see the great stretches of snow-covered landscape and dark trees that convey the lonely vastness of Canada to me. MacLennon created that picture for me.

Other books come to mind: the Newport of Theophilus North, the New York City of Catcher in the Rye, the England of A Tale of Two Cities. I ascended Shooters' Hill two years ago on the way to Dover, as Jarvis Lorry did, two-hundred years ago.

I believe that reading enhances and deepens the perceptions we gain from travel, that the pictures in our mind's eye become sharply etched in the reality of our life's experiences. Certainly, one can travel without reading, and read without traveling, but for those of us who are fortunate enough to do both, the quality of our lives is forever enriched.

(Mary Cantwell's essay appeared in The New York Times, July 27, 1989, section C, p.2.)

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