



MANITOBA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

B U L L E T I N

Volume 12, No. 2 ----- June, 1964

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MANITOBA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE AND ANNUAL MEETING

BRANDON, MANITOBA

MAY 29 - 30, 1964

The programme, notice of meeting and nominations for officers will be forwarded to M.L.A. members, according to the constitution, 10 days before the Conference.

Resolutions must be submitted to Mr. E.B. Bodie, Resolutions Chairman, 160 Hazeldell Ave., Winnipeg 15, not later than May 15, 1964. Mr. Bodie's office phone number is WH3-1496, and his home phone number is ED4-2568.

It will be noted, however, that resolutions may be submitted at the Annual Meeting. These resolutions must have a seconder and two-thirds of the assembly in agreement that they be brought forward. It is preferable that resolutions submitted in this manner be in writing.

You will find enclosed a loose sheet which is the pre-registration form. Everyone who is planning to attend the Conference should fill out the form and send it to Mrs. Crosby.

HOTELS AND MOTELS IN THE BRANDON AREA

Reservations should be made as soon as possible. Each person is responsible for his own accommodation.

HOTELS

| | | | |
|----------|-------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| Beauvier | Single, without bath | \$ 2.50 - \$ 3.00 | |
| | Single, with bath | \$ 4.50 | |
| | Double, without bath | \$ 4.00 - \$ 5.00 | |
| | Double, with bath | \$ 7.00 | |
| Brandon | Single | \$ 5.50 | |
| | Double | \$ 7.50 | |
| Cecil | Main floor, single | \$ 3.50 | Second floor, single \$ 3.00 |
| | " " double | \$ 5.50 | " " double \$ 5.00 |
| | \$ 1.00 extra with bath | | \$ 1.00 extra with bath |
| | | | |

Ramada Inn (Commercial rate applies, state that you are attending M.L.A. Conference)
 Single \$ 6.50 - \$ 7.50
 Double (for 2) \$ 8.50 (Twin beds)
 Double (for 4) \$12.50 (Two double beds)

Prince Edward (Commercial rate applies, state that you are attending M.L.A. Conference)
 Single \$ 5.00
 Double \$ 4.50 each person

MOTELS

(All beds are double beds in motels, unless otherwise noted)

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| North Hill (has coffee bar) | Single | \$ 6.00 |
| | Double | \$ 9.00 |
| Rambler | Single | \$ 6.50 - \$ 7.50 |
| | Double | \$ 8.50 (\$ 12.50 for 4) |
| One and Ten | Single | \$ 7.50 - \$ 8.50 |
| | Double | \$10.50 (\$ 12.50 for 4) |
| | Kitchenettes | \$10.50 - \$11.00 (for 2) |
| Starlite | Double | \$ 8.00 for double bed |
| | | \$ 9.00 for twin beds |
| | | \$11.00 for 4 persons |

CANADIAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE, Halifax

A reduced rate on air travel is offered if a group of 10 goes together. Anyone planning to attend the CLA Conference who is interested in forming this group should write to Miss Eileen McFadden, Librarian, Brandon College, Brandon, Manitoba.

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THE CONFERENCE BOOK DISPLAY

Planning for the book display at the Brandon conference began in the middle of January. There was a long list of possible exhibitors, but in looking over the correspondence from earlier years, your Publicity Chairman was able to narrow this down to seventeen likely prospects. These prospects - publishers, suppliers, agents, book dealers and the C.L.A. - came through very well, for we are expecting at least nine exhibitors. Some of the exhibitors will also be sending representatives and one firm, Bro-Dart, is sending a film to be shown the first evening. Miss McFadden has organized a committee in Brandon to help some of the Winnipeg people set up the display. It may be possible that we will be wanting other people in the M.L.A. to help pack it up on Saturday afternoon. Why not? It's your display. Anyway, at least come around and take a look at it.

--- Kent D. Oliver,
Publicity Chairman.

WESTERN LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS CONFERENCE

The Western Library Associations Conference being held in Calgary from May 19 - 22, has as its theme "Crisis in Education - Its Meaning for Librarians". The following general sessions are listed on the programme: "Interlibrary Cooperation" at which the special participant is Leonard Freiser, Chief Librarian, Toronto Board of Education; "Library Association Programmes in Western Canada" and "Mile 2000: the New Generation of Librarians Looks at the Future". As well as the general sessions there are special group sessions, including Children's librarians, college and university librarians, provincial, public and regional librarians, special librarians, and trustees.

MLA members have been extended an overall invitation to attend this conference. Anyone who would like a copy of the programme should contact Miss M. Ashley, Provincial Library (Telephone WH 6-7214).

BOISSEVAIN AND MORTON REGIONAL LIBRARY

LOANS 100,000th BOOK

-- The Boissevain Recorder
April 2, 1964

The Boissevain and Morton Regional Library reached the 100,000 mark in its circulation figures when Sherry Saban, little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Delmar Saban, borrowed a book on Saturday, March 28th. The book was stamped out by Miss B. Pettypiece, librarian, while board members and borrowers looked on. A book as a token of the occasion, was presented to Sherry by Mr. R. A. Patterson, Reeve of the Municipality of Morton. Sherry, as well as many other little tots, has been an enthusiastic borrower of picture books since she began going to the library.

The Boissevain and Morton area, with a population of 2,950, has made excellent use of its library which was opened in September, 1959. An average of about 125 books per household were taken out since that time.

The Boissevain Library, housed in an attractive and well-lighted building, has a stock of nearly 6,000 books, and is adding to its shelves more volumes regularly.

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THE FIRST YEAR FOR THE COURSE
FOR LIBRARY ASSISTANTS

MANITOBA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

On September 27, 1958, at the annual meeting of the Trustees' Section of the Manitoba Library Association, the following resolution was adopted, and endorsed by the Manitoba Library Association at its annual meeting of the same date:

"WHEREAS there is a serious shortage of trained librarians in Manitoba at the present time, and

WHEREAS many positions must be held by persons having no preliminary library training, and

WHEREAS there is no means in Manitoba at the present time of taking any basic course in librarianship

NOW THEREFORE let it be resolved that the Manitoba Library Association ask, through the proper channels, that the summer course in library work at present being offered to teachers be extended to all those wishing to take some training in this work, and that the scope of the summer course be enlarged to include basic training in librarianship for public libraries."

This resolution was accordingly transmitted to the Minister in charge of libraries in Manitoba, and discussions took place from time to time stressing the need for some sort of short course in librarianship. Thus it came about that when the organization of an institute of technology in Manitoba was under consideration, the Minister of Education, who was also the Minister in charge of Libraries, proposed the inclusion of a course for the training of library assistants. This suggestion was acceptable to the co-ordinating branch of the Department of Labour in Ottawa as a course that could be included in the federal-provincial agreement for cost-sharing.

The course was devised to train high school graduates who have a love of books, and who are desirous of working in a library, so that they would be able to perform many duties in a library under the supervision of a professional librarian, or to be a custodian of a small library under the supervision of a professional librarian. The training offered for Library Assistants is not, and was never intended to equal nor to take the place of a university-trained librarian; but it is hoped that they will relieve the over-burdened librarians of many duties now being performed, from necessity, by professional librarians, thus providing time for the librarian to engage in research and development work pertaining to library service.

Experiments have been carried on in some American libraries in undertaking the training of Library Aides for their own libraries. The professional librarians on the staff have, in some cases, conducted the classes in such fields as philosophy of libraries, organization of libraries in a specific area, such as a city or state, the basic principles of cataloguing and classification, book selection, and technical processes in libraries, work with children and young people. This training has proven most successful and well worth the time and money expended on the courses - the trainees being on staff at the time of the training period, and the librarians who were teaching were relieved of their library duties while conducting the classes. It was gratifying to learn that our course for Library Assistants was practically identical with the courses considered necessary for the Library Aides. In our case, we added a course in literature, or rather the history of literature in Britain, Canada and the United States, by way of providing more background for the high school graduates. As well we added a course in the history of libraries with a view to stimulating interest in this field.

The outlining of the course for Library Assistants was the work of an advisory committee appointed by the Vocational-Technical Branch of the Department of Education to advise on the course content, length of the course, etc., and also to advise the building committee as to the needs and requirements for a library in the Institute of Technology.

With respect to the advice and suggestions offered with regard to the physical design of the library, it is amazing what strange things can happen between the architect's drawing board and the finished product! However, in time some of these peculiarities may become straightened out.

The setting up of a new course in a new type of school is a very interesting and exciting experience. The frustrations will soon be forgotten and I am sure that all instructors, especially in the Technology division, will look back on the first year of operation with nostalgia and amazement that so much was accomplished under rather trying conditions at times.

Commencing as an instructor on August 1st, 1963, it was necessary to do many things simultaneously, but primarily procure books for classroom use and prepare lectures for classes in September. As there was no library nor library facilities, the month of August was a scramble between the MIT in Brooklands and the Provincial Library, where I imposed on the good nature of the staff there in making use of their catalogues, etc. in preparing book orders. For all the assistance and information I have received from that library I would like to express my sincere thanks.

Registration day arrived with a bound and it was with keen interest that we waited to see how many students would register for the library course. The registration period was two weeks, and at the end of that time 16 students had enrolled; one later left for reasons of health. As the classroom is also the work area for the class, including typewriters and tables, sixteen constitutes almost our maximum accommodation. However, if twenty should express a desire to take the course next year, some arrangement would probably be made to accommodate that number, however crowded we would be.

During the first term, which lasted from September to January 26th, we planned to cover the basic principles of cataloguing and classification, reference, organization of libraries in Manitoba, philosophy of libraries and history of libraries, as well as a survey of classical literature and English literature. For a novel method of teaching about books I can recommend teaching without books! With the arrival of each batch of books, the class came to regard this event with as much excitement as I did, and I believe that they were more interested in each one for that reason, as they were not faced with a great number of books all at once. In our study of reference books it was necessary to consider whatever type had arrived, which naturally resulted in a very unorthodox approach to the study of a subject that can be attacked logically. By the end of the term practically all types had arrived, and those that arrived during the second term had to be taken up at that time.

About half the class could not type when classes commenced. Fortunately for them, one of the classes in typing in the Secretarial Science course was not full, and the instructor agreed to allow our students to take the typing course along with the regular class as long as there was room in the classroom. It can not be expected that such an arrangement can be made in future, in which case the students will be obliged to learn to type at their own expense.

Examinations at the end of each term are final, in accordance with the policy for the entire school. First term exams were held from January 20th to the 24th,

and the second term commenced January 30th. This made an almost equal division into two terms.

The second term has consisted of the study of basic book selection tools, ordering, library techniques (such as circulation), special libraries, work with children and young people, and history of literature in Canada and the United States. Practical experience has been gained by the students spending the after-noon's during the months of March, April and May in libraries of various types, one month being spent in each type. To those library boards and librarians who have made this practical experience possible, I am greatly indebted and most grateful for their co-operation, which was given most graciously. The practice work was especially necessary this year, there being no library in the Institute this year, and therefore, there was little or no opportunity of gaining experience of observing or working in an actual library - and theory is no substitute for practical experience in learning library techniques!

Final examinations will be held the last week in June, but there will be no granting of certificates at that time, due to the fact that the policy is laid down by the Technical and Vocational Training Branch of the Department of Labour in Ottawa that a six-month's probation period must be successfully completed after a one-year course before a certificate may be granted. All other courses in the Technology Division are two or three year courses, which means that there will be no graduation exercises this year.

This experiment, from an instructor's point of view, has been challenging and very interesting. While many problems remain to be ironed out, and revisions in the courses to be considered, if, through our efforts we have contributed in creating an interest in librarianship, and assisted in some measure in providing trained personnel who will be able to take their place in the library field in such a way that many over-burdened librarians may be relieved of some of the tasks that can be performed by Library Assistants, it will have been a worthwhile endeavour.

April 24, 1964

— Gertrude B. Perrin

ASSOCIATION AND OTHER NEWS

- * A general meeting was held on Tuesday, April 28, at 8:30 p.m. in Henderson
 - * Regional Library. After a short business meeting, Mrs. J. J. Lander of the
 - * Winnipeg Art Gallery spoke on "Early Books on Canadian Scenery".
 - * Mr. D. M. Lamont has been appointed Scholarship Chairman. Your attention
 - * is directed to the notice concerning the Scholarship on page 3.
 - * Miss Shayla Mindell and Mr. Derek Francis, Manitoba Library Association
 - * Scholarship students who are presently attending U.B.C. School of Librarianship
 - * will be returning to Manitoba with appointments at the University Library.
 - * Miss Mindell will be working in the Reference Department beginning July 1,
 - * and Mr. Francis in the Cataloguing Office.
 - * At the last session of the legislature the government introduced a new
 - * formula for grants to public libraries. In addition to the basic grant
 - * already received, the supplementary grants given by the province now are
 - * calculated on the basis of 30% of the first \$10,000 raised by local taxation,
 - * 10% of the next \$10,000, and 5% of any amount in excess of \$20,000.
- *****