

"Thru the Rye," by E. R. James of  
Grosse Isle, Manitoba. Reproduced  
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## MANITOBA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION BULLETIN

Volume 12, No. 3 — Fall, 1964

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Editor: Miss Pauline Roseman  
Associate Editor: Mrs. Eleanor Riley



In the meantime the trustees were having such an interesting meeting that they nearly missed their lunch.

Our speaker at the luncheon was Professor King, who talked about the widening gap in communication between science and the humanities. This courageous talk stated clearly the challenge to librarians as the problem continues to grow.

This was a most representative conference; covering the whole province, with all sections out in force. Discussions were useful, with enough controversy to be stimulating. The hospitality of the city of Brandon, the Public Library and Brandon College contributed much to a memorable meeting.

— Mrs. D. M. Crosby.

PRESIDENT OF THE MANITOBA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
— HONORARY DEPUTY MAYOR —

His Worship, Mayor S. A. Magnacca appointed Miss Margaret Ashley, President of the Association, Honorary Deputy Mayor of the City of Brandon on the occasion of her visit to Brandon as the President of the Manitoba Library Association.

In her address to the Annual Meeting, Miss Ashley thanked the Executive and all the members of the Association for their good work in the past year. "With the continued support of all members, I hope we may have a pleasant and profitable year ahead of us", Miss Ashley said. Special thanks were given to Miss Eileen McFadden, Chairman of the Conference for her great part in the arrangements for the Conference.

## Resolutions passed at the Annual Meeting, 1964.

WHEREAS, the Manitoba Library Association has advocated that the Provincial Government provide additional grants to public libraries,

AND WHEREAS the Provincial Government has recently adopted a new schedule of contributory grants in addition to the basic grant structure,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Manitoba Library Association express to the Provincial Government its congratulations and appreciation for the great forward step accomplished, which will benefit especially those libraries that have been most active in providing adequate library service.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Manitoba Library Association respectfully urge the Provincial Government to continue its good work, by considering a further supplementary grant to public libraries based upon the number of persons employed who are able to qualify for certification as trained librarians, according to the plan proposed by the Manitoba Library Association.

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WHEREAS the Manitoba Library Association has advocated that the Provincial Government remove the present restricting legislation, as it applies to Part I of the Act, limiting local taxation for library purposes to one mill,

AND WHEREAS, the Provincial Government has not yet seen fit to take such action,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Manitoba Library Association seek ways and means to acquaint the Union of, Manitoba Municipalities, the Manitoba Urban Association, and the Manitoba Municipal Secretary-Treasurer's Association with its views on the legislation, and solicit its support in requesting an amendment.

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WHEREAS the Manitoba Library Association is of the opinion that the shortage of fully qualified librarians in Manitoba, is due in part to the fact that there is no degree course offered here, and those wishing to obtain B.L.S. degrees must incur the additional expense of travel to Montreal, Toronto, Vancouver or the U.S.A.,

AND WHEREAS the need for training facilities is felt throughout the Prairie Provinces where there is an increasing demand for librarians on the part of government, business firms, universities, colleges, schools, municipalities and regional public libraries,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Manitoba Library Association request the Minister of Libraries and the University Board of Governors to consider the need, the advantages and the practicability of establishing a school of library science within the University of Manitoba.

#### AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

The following amendment to the Constitution of the Manitoba Library Association was passed at the Annual Meeting, May, 1964:

##### Article 4. Officers and Executive Committee

Section (b) The officers shall be: a president, a vice-president, a recording secretary, a corresponding secretary, and a treasurer to be elected at the annual meeting.

## ANNUAL REPORTS

### SECRETARY'S REPORT

Four general meetings and four executive meetings were held during the past year. Due to the change in the Constitution, these had to be compressed into seven months but attendance was good at all meetings.

Miss Patricia O'Day left the city and resigned as Programme Chairman early in the year. She was replaced by Miss Dorothy Robinson.

Mr. Hugh Irving, who as Scholarship and Membership Chairman, also left the city to take up a new position. Miss Gardiner and I shared his membership committee duties and Mr. Lamont consented to act as Scholarship Chairman.

Miss Moncrieff resigned as Chairman of the Dictionary of National Biography Committee.

Respectfully submitted,  
D. M. Crosby, Secretary.

### PUBLICITY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The duties of your Publicity Director for this year, as in the case of all members of your Executive, became a sort of "Campbell's Soup". They were, to put it another way, condensed. Twelve months, with its regulation number of meetings of the Association and its non-regulation but generous number of meetings of the Executive, became, for this year only, nine. Your Publicity Director is mentioning this fact for the record only, because he did not find, thanks to the cooperation of others, that his duties were especially arduous.

During the year, a number of attempts were made to send notices of the meetings of the Association to the Winnipeg papers and these attempts met with about fifty percent success. The notices help to put the Association's name before the public at large, but they probably do not

have much value in terms of getting members out to meetings. This is accomplished most effectively, by the notices of meetings mailed out by the Association's Secretary.

The press and radio were sent programs and notices of our annual meeting and it remains to be seen whether or not these will bring results.

Turning to another matter, at the beginning of March, your Publicity Director was one of the Association's Representatives at the Manitoba Alumni Association's Conference entitled, "Canada—One Nation or Two?" From a personal view, he found that being in attendance at that conference was an illuminating experience. In relation to being a representative for the Manitoba Library Association, moreover, he thought that more of this type of activity should be undertaken. These are surely the days, he suggests, of conferences and commissions dealing with all phases of our national life. The Manitoba Library Association, it seems to your Publicity Director, can be working in the direction of developing a voice — made up in certain cases by individual members and in other cases by the Association as a whole — that has something to say about the world around us.

The chief activity this year was arranging for the book display at the present conference. Much of this work involved correspondence, and by the time the individual exhibits are returned, about sixty letters will have been sent out. Your Publicity Director got a good deal of help with the display. In particular, he would like to thank Mr. George Noble, who volunteered to look after the arrangements on the second day of the conference, and Miss Eileen McFadden, who looked after arrangements in Brandon. He would also like to thank Miss Ashley for help, and of course, all the exhibitors and representatives of companies.

Respectfully submitted,  
K. D. Oliver, Publicity Chairman.

### MEMBERSHIP

169 memberships were paid up during the year 1963-64

### PROGAM COMMITTEE REPORT

Four general meetings have been held since the 27th Annual Meeting of the Association in October, 1963.

On November 19, a meeting was held at the Transcona Public Library. Miss Clementine Combaz of the Provincial Library spoke on "L'Association Canadienne des Bibliothécaires de Langue française," and Miss Eileen McFadden, Librarian of Brandon College spoke on "The Library in British life".

On February 4, Mr. Merlin Newton, Chairman of the Manitoba Censor Board, spoke on "Eighteen Years with Censorship," at the River Heights Branch of the Public Library.

On March 10, Mr. M. J. G. McMullen, Executive Director of the Manitoba Travel and Convention Association spoke on "Planning for Manitoba's Centennials," at the River Heights Branch of the Public Library.

On April 28, Mrs. J. J. Lander of the Winnipeg Art Gallery spoke on "Early Books on Canadian Scenery," at the Henderson Branch of the Public Library.

Thanks are due to the Executive and other members of the M. L. A. for their assistance in planning the programs. A special thanks to Mrs. Monica Allison, who as refreshment convenor, saw that we were looked after at the close of our general meetings.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dorothy Robinson, Chairman.

### LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

The membership of the Legislative Committee remains unchanged. The programme of the Committee continues to be the support of the recommendations embodied in its resolutions adopted by the Association at the Killarney Conference in 1962. In this connection it has recognized with pleasure the action of the Provincial Government in providing additional grants to public libraries, and has prepared two resolutions which have been forwarded to the Resolutions Chairman.

Concerning the Constitution of the M. L. A., the Legislation Committee recommends to the membership an amendment providing for the addition of a corresponding secretary to handle the increasing work of the Association.

Respectfully submitted,  
D. W. Foley, Chairman.

## TRUSTEES REPORT

At the last Annual Meeting of this section, three resolutions were adopted which dealt with the financing program of public and regional libraries. These were forwarded to the Minister of Libraries with the request for an appointment for the Chairman and Vice-Chairman. No appointment was made, but this was due, no doubt, to the policy of the Government, on grants, having already been finalized.

By a telephone survey of the Executive, the General Meeting, which was to have been held in Dauphin on March 3rd, 1964, was cancelled. The Annual Meeting of the Manitoba Library Association being moved ahead to May 30th, 1964 made this advisable. At the Director's Meeting of March 28th, 1964, this action was confirmed. The Annual Meeting of the Trustees Section was arranged to coincide with the Annual Meeting of the Association at Brandon.

Amendments to our Constitution were passed to hold the Annual Meetings of this Section in conjunction with the Manitoba Library Association; soon after May 15th in each year.

A former Trustee attended at a Library Promotion Meeting held in Gimli this Spring and addressed them on the value of Library Services and how to sell it to the people of the municipalities. He was accompanied by the Secretary of the Manitoba Library Association, Mrs. P. Crosby.

A \$100.00 contribution from the Trustee's Section is being made to the Association's Scholarship Fund.

At present, there are 17 Library Boards and 106 paid up members of the Trustee's Section.

### OFFICERS ELECTED FOR THE 1964-65 TERM

Past Chairman	Don Lamont
Chairman	Bruce Bodie
Secretary-Treasurer	Don Crow
Executive Committee	S. E. Gibbs, Adam Nicholson, Mrs. H. Moore, Mrs. W. Bradshaw, L. A. Gimell.

Respectfully submitted,  
E. B. Bodie, Chairman.

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE DICTIONARY OF CANADIAN BIOGRAPHY

The membership of the Committee on the Dictionary of Canadian Biography includes: Magdalen Brownlee, Clementine Combaz, Kay Gillesbie, Eileen McFadden, Margaret McKenzie and Mona Martin. Mr. Hartwell Bowsfield, Provincial Archivist is very kindly acting as adviser to the Committee.

The work of the Committee may be divided into two parts:

1. Preparation of a select list of names of noteworthy Manitobans for inclusion in the Dictionary of Canadian Biography.

2. Building up of a file of names as a basis for a Dictionary of Manitoba Biography which the Association hopes may be produced as a centennial project.

When Miss Parker withdrew from the Committee in October, 1963, the work on the Dictionary of Canadian Biography had reached the point where it was expected by the editors that Volume I, covering the early period of Canadian history (the years 1000-1700) would be published in 1964. The committee had started work on the next period which it was planned to cover, the years 1851-1900. The death of Dr. Brown has necessarily delayed work on the national dictionary. In answer to a letter of inquiry from the chairman, Miss Loosely, Assistant to the General Editor, replied in a letter dated March 9, 1964, as follows: "As you can readily understand, work on the periods other than that covered by Volume I has had to be put aside temporarily, pending the appointment of a General Editor in Dr. Brown's place...I hope that in the near future we will be able to resume our work in the 1851-1900 period."

The committee, however, planned to continue its preparation of a list of names for this period. Two meetings were held and a third was called but had to be cancelled owing to the illness of the chairman and three of the members of the committee. At present the work of the committee is at a standstill pending the appointment of a new chairman.

— Miss M. Ashley.

N.B. Miss Marjorie Morley has agreed to chair the Committee on the Dictionary of Canadian Biography for the coming year.

## SCHOOLS SECTION REPORT

The Schools Section of the Manitoba Library Association has held four regular meetings during the season of 1963-1964.

The first meeting of the year was held in the library of the Vincent Massey Collegiate, Fort Garry, on October 17, 1963. Plans were made for book reports by pupils to be submitted to Mr. Robertson of the Winnipeg Free Press for use in the magazine section for Young Canada's Book Week. Mrs. Donna Campbell, Librarian at Grant Park School, gave her impressions of the C.L.A. Conference held in the Royal Alexander Hotel in June, 1963.

The special guest speaker at the second meeting, held on November 21, 1963, in the library of the Isaac Newton School, Winnipeg, was Miss Gertrude Perrin, head of the new course for library assistants being given at the new Manitoba Institute of Technology, Brooklands. Miss Perrin outlined the course being given to qualify students as library assistants in large libraries or to take charge of small libraries.

Our third meeting was held on February 6, 1964, in the library of the Grant Park School, Winnipeg, in conjunction with the Inspectors' Convention for Teachers. The guest speaker was Mr. H. E. Newsom, recently appointed supervisor of libraries for the Winnipeg School Division No. 1. His topic: "The School Library - Research Centre, Baby-sitting Parlour, Three-ringed Circus, or What?" was the introduction to a most stimulating discussion of the functions and the future development of school libraries.

The fourth meeting of the Schools Section was held on Wednesday, April 1, 1964, in the Tapestry Room of the Royal Alexandra Hotel as one of the sessions of the Teacher's Convention of the Manitoba Educational Association.

Our average attendance at meetings is about 25, but we were most gratified to have over 90 interested people come to hear and take part in a thoroughly rousing discussion on "The Importance of the Library in Education" The panel under the direction of Mr. S. A. Bullock,

Assistant Director of Curriculum, Department of Education, comprised: Mr. D. W. Foley, Head Librarian, University of Manitoba, Mr. Gordon Macdonnell, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Winnipeg School Division No. 1, Miss Isabel Jeffreys, Principal of Gladstone School, Winnipeg and Mr. Douglas Kemp, Teacher of Social Studies, Elmwood High School, Winnipeg. The use and value of the school library at all levels from kindergarten to university was discussed from the floor, freely and sometimes heatedly. A motion was proposed and approved that the Department of Education be urged to establish a library course in the Teacher's Training College that would be equal in importance to that of any other major subject.

We held an extra meeting on March 16, at McMaster House (Manitoba Teachers' Society Building) when we had the privilege of meeting Miss Margaret Fraser of Galt, Ontario, Chairman of a special Committee on School Library Standards.

Respectfully submitted,  
Doris A. Crookshanks, President.

next issue

THE CHALLENGE OF WORKING WITH CHILDREN'S BOOKS

by  
Helen S. Robertson

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Manitoba Library Association, Sept. 1/63 - Apr. 30/64.

### GENERAL ACCOUNT

Balance as per Bank Statement, August 31/63	\$916.81
Less O/S cheques \$4.40 and \$55.00	<u>59.40</u>
	857.41
Plus deposit, September 11/63	<u>94.00</u>
	<u>\$951.41</u>

#### RECEIPTS

Membership Fees	\$323.00
Annual Meeting Receipts	232.30
Union List Sales	15.07
Refreshments	14.15
Recruitment & Scholarship Fund	30.00
Exhibition Fees	50.00
Bulletin Subscriptions	<u>6.00</u>
	670.52

Balance in Bank August 31/63	<u>951.41</u>
	<u>\$1621.93</u>

#### Recruitment & Scholarship Fund (included in the above totals)

Receipts	\$30.00
Balance in Bank August 31/63	<u>1.00</u>
	<u>\$31.00</u>

#### Savings Account

M. Martin Refund	\$19.85
Interest	3.04
Interest	3.00
Balance in Bank August 31/63	<u>178.23</u>
	<u>\$204.12</u>

#### EXPENDITURES

Annual Meeting	
Viscount Gort	\$225.25
Miscellaneous	2.00
Programs	<u>19.98</u>
	\$247.23

Bulletin Expenses	
Printing	\$160.40
Typing, mailing, etc.	<u>62.49</u>
	<u>\$222.89</u>

#### Other

Trustees Fees	5.00
Industrial Workshop	13.56
Delegates Fees	6.00
Refreshments	25.00
Stationery, stamps, etc.	<u>73.58</u>
	<u>123.14</u>

Total \$593.26

Balance in Bank April 30/64	<u>\$1028.67*</u>
	<u>\$1621.93</u>

\*The balance of \$1028.67 included a balance of \$31.00 in the Scholarship Fund and \$997.67 in the General Account

## THE RETREAT OF THE WORD\*

Dr. R. F. B. King

Associate Dean of Arts, Brandon College.

My remarks are concerned with a cultural phenomenon which bears upon an aspect of the relationship between the humanities and the sciences. Now, while I am reasonably sure that, as an English Professor, I am a humanist, I am not quite sure how to classify librarians. The degree which librarians take to acquire professional standing is in library science. But are you scientists? I suspect that most of you have had a university training which is primarily humanistic, in the classical verbal tradition rather than in the mathematical-scientific tradition. Nevertheless, I sometimes wonder how to classify your tribe, especially when I experience the passion and ardor with which zealous librarians on occasion manifest their disapproval of the unmethodical and admittedly bungling, inefficient activities of mere book-browsers and book-lovers of the pre-scientific tradition of Charles Lamb. I recall vividly one occasion, when I offered what I thought was assistance to a librarian at U. B. C. With the call number I had given her, she was trying unsuccessfully to locate my volume in a large shelf of reserve books kept behind the counter for easy access. My advice that the book, which I had used only the day before, was a large, red one, elicited this indignant and frosty reply: "We do not classify books in this library by size and color!" — the true spirit of scientific librarianship! I am pleased to report that a slightly less rigorous spirit sometimes prevails here in our library. Earlier this week, when I inquired of one of the members of our library staff as to the location in the reference section of the Dictionaries of Quotations, I received an unscientific but most helpful answer, which restored my faith in the humanity of librarians: "I can't explain where they are or how to find them", he said, "but I can take you to them".

I do share with all of you, of course, a keen sense of the importance and value to our culture of words,

\*Talk given at the Annual Meeting, Manitoba Library Association, May 30, 1964.

books, and libraries, and of the absolute necessity of a library science in an age of large library collections and multitudinous monographs and periodicals. We would not agree, I am sure, with the motto which has been found on the flyleaf of many a student's book: "In case of fire, throw this in."

Some of the ideas which I am going to present are not original, though my personal experience has made me aware of their relevance and truth. Many of them derive from the very profitable association and exchange of ideas I enjoyed with physicists, chemists, mathematicians and engineers, during my eight years in the Canadian Services Colleges. Their primary academic function, you may not know, is to provide cadets with a training which leads towards a science degree, especially a degree in engineering. Some ideas derive from my consequent interest in the now famous essay by C. P. Snow — "The Two Cultures and the Scientific Revolution," not to mention his numerous novels in particular, The New Men, the title of which refers, of course, to the increasingly influential men in our society who have a scientific training and outlook. For my title and some of my ideas, I am indebted to an article by George Steiner in the Kenyon Review. This article helped to crystallize my thinking on this subject, which has interested me for a number of years, and which, perhaps, was the catalyst which, in part, initiated a personal strategic retreat. Finally, my association with engineers and scientists and their students heightened my awareness of the importance of this cultural phenomenon which I shall discuss briefly.

Western civilization is, or has been until recently, essentially verbal in character: that is, the universe in which we think, imagine, feel and act — the world in which we live, which we experience and regard as real — is primarily the world as defined and described in words. We think with words. We organize our experience with concepts and patterns which can be expressed verbally. In some measure, we see reality through the matrices, the forms and patterns which words and verbal structures provide. We are inclined to assume that the verbal matrix encloses or gives adequate expression to our experience with reality.

We recognize, nevertheless, that the artist expresses or communicates his vision of reality through

visual line, form and pattern; that the musician expresses his apprehension of reality through the musical note; and that there are certain mystical and extra-rational experiences which are beyond the power of language to express, even for the poets, excepting, perhaps, Dante. With these exceptions, our Greek-Christian culture has endeavoured with the instrument of language to enclose within the bounds of rational verbal discourse the sum of human experience. Through the verbal structures of literature, philosophy, history, theology and law, we have tried to order, and to organize thereby, our deepest and truest and most significant experience with reality. The code of Justinian, the Summa of Aquinas, the Divine Comedy of Dante, the world chronicles, the epics of Homer, Virgil and Milton, have been attempts at total expression of world-views. These verbal structures were written in the belief that all truth and realness, excepting, perhaps, the areas of visual, musical and mystical reality, could be housed within the walls of language. Our civilization has believed that our knowledge of rational reality can be best expressed, ordered, and communicated through words. We have believed that the essential laws, the underlying principles, the ideas which are imperfectly manifested in the world of shadows, can be expressed verbally. The Apostle tells us that in the beginning was the word; the Platonic ideas were expressed through the Dialogues, which are, of course, verbal. In short, our civilization has assumed that reality, if not verbal, at least can be apprehended and expressed through words. We have all felt, I am sure, that certain scriptural or philosophical or literary passages have expressed the essential quality and nature of some aspect of reality which we have experienced.

But this assumption that the word is an adequate instrument to describe or define significant reality is no longer universal. Verbal language has lost its range and authority. Since the age of Milton, confidence in the word as a vehicle for the expression of significant truth has declined, and large and important areas of truth and reality have receded from the jurisdiction of verbal statement. The word as an instrument of verbal communication has been in a steady retreat from certain areas of knowledge, certain areas of significance and truth.

Until the seventeenth century, the predominant content of the natural sciences was descriptive rather than quantitative; that is, it was expressed verbally rather than mathematically. Historians of science tell us that even mathematics, though it used symbolic notations, was a shorthand for verbal propositions about a reality which was conceived of in terms of verbal propositions. But since that time, the development of analytic geometry, of the theory of algebraic functions, and of calculus, mathematics has ceased to be a system of notation dependent upon a verbal, qualitative view of reality. Mathematics has become a fantastically rich, complex, and dynamic language, which has increasingly replaced verbal statement. Of crucial importance to those of us whose training and outlook is predominately classical and humanistic rather than scientific and mathematical is that the language of mathematics has become progressively autonomous and untranslatable.

Apparently, it is still possible to express in verbal equivalents, or at least in close approximations, the operations of classical geometry and of classical functional analysis. But modern mathematics has become increasingly independent of other forms of expression, verbal and diagrammatic, so that translation of mathematical language into verbal language has become less and less possible. Between these languages and that of common usage, between the mathematical symbol and the word, the chasm has become deeper and wider.

Between verbal language, English and Chinese, for example, there is always the possibility of equivalence even if the actual translation can only be rough and approximate. But there are no dictionaries to relate the vocabulary and grammar of higher mathematics to those of verbal speech. One cannot "translate" the mathematical conventions and notations into any words or grammar outside mathematics. One cannot even paraphrase. A paraphrase of good poem may turn out to be bad prose; but there is a discernible relationship between the paraphrase and the original poem. A complex theorem in mathematics, however, while it can be transposed into another branch or dialect of a particular mathematical language, though only approximately and inadequately, cannot be even approximated in verbal language.

It is evident that many of the spaces, relations and events of advanced mathematics and modern physics, have no necessary correlation with sense data. They cannot be comprehended in terms of common-sense notions. They can be described meaningfully and precisely only in the language of mathematics. For large and important areas of reality, verbal language has lost its utility.

With its powerful drive towards autonomy and untranslatability, 'modern' mathematics has wrought profound changes in large areas of knowledge. Many branches of inquiry, which were once largely verbal, are now mathematically organized, and thus have passed from pre-science into science. The tools of mathematical analysis transformed chemistry and physics from alchemy to the predictive and precise sciences that they now are. By virtue of mathematics, the stars move out of mythology into the astronomer's stable. As mathematics has settled into the very fibre and marrow of science, the methods and laws and conceptions of science have become less and less reducible to common language. Perhaps, the persuasive influence of science has affected also our power of perception, because to a considerable extent, what we see is conditioned by what we know, by what we regard as significant. This extension of mathematics over large areas of knowledge has divided us into two groups of sub-cultures, whose members, in varying degrees, perceive and know reality in different ways. I refer to those who are scientifically and mathematically oriented in thought and perception; and to those whose perceptions and conceptions are primarily verbal — the humanists.

This extension of mathematics has broken Western consciousness into what C. P. Snow calls, "The two cultures". It is no longer really possible, he argues, for even a man of exceptional ability to feel at home in both the humanistic and scientific cultures. The chasm between the language of words and of mathematics grown constantly wider. Standing in each of these cultures are men who, in respect of each other, are illiterate. To use Snow's famous example: A man who has read no Shakespeare is uncultured; but not more so than any one who is ignorant of the second law of dynamics.

Now those of us whose education has been primarily verbal, that is, who are humanistic in outlook,

continue to assume that humanistic authority, the sphere of the word, is predominant. We adopt a classic view of literacy based upon verbal discourse, rhetoric and poetics. In our ignorance, we do not recognize that the worlds of knowledge which are mathematically rather than verbally organized, comprise areas of reality as great as those comprised by classic literacy. Moreover, mathematical science probably gives an image of the perceptible world truer to fact than can be derived from any structure of verbal assertion, such as, a play, poem, novel, or work of history. The evidence now suggests that the shapes of reality are mathematical rather than verbal.

The humanist is compelled, through his ignorance of exact science, to imagine a universe through a veil of non-mathematical language, to live in a somewhat unreal world. He has lost touch with reality because the word, which is his instrument of thought and expression, cannot express or communicate such facts as the space-time continuum of relativity, the atomic structure of all matter, and the wave-particle state of energy. In an important sense, reality now begins outside verbal discourse. The word has retreated from significant areas of truth and reality. Consequently, it is felt that the humanist and his verbal structures have lost contact with significant realities.

It is not my purpose at this time to lament or protest this cultural development, but to recognize it, and to suggest one of its consequences as it appears to affect us as teachers and librarians whose training and work place us primarily in the humanistic culture. Certainly members of the scientific culture tend to assume, often uncritically, that reality is mathematical rather than verbal, though they have probably not articulated this assumption necessarily in these terms, nor are they fully aware of the cultural implications of this view. But whether they are or not, they feel in their bones that they are coming to grip with reality and that humanists are not. Engineers, and particularly, engineering students, are probably the most aggressively vocal, though not always the most enlightened, of the exponents of the scientific culture.

Humanists, in general, however, are not sufficiently aware of the extent to which this change has

already taken place. The traditional humanistic disciplines, such as English, History, and Philosophy, betray a nervous awareness of the inroads of mathematical and natural science. Linguists, historians, economists, and social scientists have tried, and with some success, to adapt to their proceedings some of the methods and terminology of the exact, mathematical sciences. With considerable justice many educated people now feel that significant statements about reality must be quantitative and mathematical, that the verbal structure may provide pleasure but not significant truth. As a mathematician acquaintance of graduate school days, often told me, even though he himself derived considerable pleasure from his reading of literature and history, mathematical science is the cake, the humanities provide the icing.

This is a common assumption that the sciences provide truth, while the humanities offer mere pleasure, or some higher, dignified, type of amusement. This idea, which is by no means new, can be seen as early as the seventeenth century in the writings of Francis Bacon, and writers on the theory of genius in the eighteenth century commonly assigned to the scientific genius, the realms of truth and utility, and to the poetic genius, the realms of pleasure and of beauty.

This phenomenon I have been discussing is, I think, one of the many causes contributing to the current lack of a serious interest in, and respect for, books, which, excepting for technical works, are still primarily verbal. I am fully aware that in this age of mass media and mass distraction, many causes for this decline can be found, but one certainly is the feeling shared by many students, and, indeed, by many bright students, as well as by other members of our society, that the work of history or of traditional philosophy, the play, the novel, or the poem, does not deal with significant realities. I have talked with graduates of our universities, who are proud of the fact that in their years at university, they never once entered or made use of the library. Such behaviour and such an attitude is, in some measure, a product of this cultural trend.

I am convinced, of course, that there are areas of reality which can be described and organized meaningfully only by means of words and verbal propositions, by

imagery and symbols. The word is necessary, I think, for the organization, understanding and communication of our personal, emotional and, possibly, spiritual lives. Without some verbal, organizing principle and instrument which provides as much clarity and astringency as these areas are capable of rendering, I suspect that our individual and social lives might tend towards chaos. But that is another story.

\* \* \*

## Librarian Wins Fight For Retirement At 94

WASHBURN, Wis. (AP)—Mrs. May M. Greenwood finally has won a 15-year dispute with the Washburn Library Board.

At the age of 94, she's going to be allowed to retire.

Mrs. Greenwood took over the free public library July 13, 1898 in this town on the shore of Lake Superior.

After she had put in 50 years on the job, Mrs. Greenwood suggested that she'd like to give up her duties and take things easy. The board poo-pooed the notion; after all, she wasn't even 80 yet.

When she reached 90, she pressed the matter more

strongly, but the community response was a "May Greenwood day," hailing her as the oldest librarian in the United States, with tributes from President Eisenhower, Vice-President Nixon and President-Elect Kennedy.

But this summer, Mrs. Greenwood, still notably vigorous in administering an annual circulation of more than 25,000 and guiding the reading habits of her contemporaries' great-grandchildren, made her final play—retirement "due to ill health."

The board capitulated.

And what will Mrs. Greenwood do in retirement?

A little reading, naturally.

—Edmonton Journal, August 15/64

## NEWS

### Librarians ...

Mr. David Foley, Chief Librarian, University of Manitoba Library, has been elected President of the Canadian Library Association for the 1964-65 term.

Miss Doris Erfle, former Editor of the Bulletin and Librarian of the Dental College was married in May to Mr. Thackeray Pritchard.

A new staff member of the University Extension Library is Miss Gwen Henderson. Miss Henderson received her B.A. from United College and her B.L.S. from the University of Toronto.

Miss Judith McAnanama and Miss Lois Barton, recent graduates of the McGill University Library School have returned to the Winnipeg Public Library. Miss McAnanama is in charge of the McPhillips Branch and Miss Barton is in charge of the Cornish Branch.

Miss June Dutka, a graduate of the University of Manitoba in Arts joined the staff of the St. James Public Library Boys and Girls Department in June. Miss Karen Hillier, a graduate of the Library Assistant's Course of the Manitoba Institute of Technology joined the staff of the St. James Public Library in July as Cataloguing Assistant.

Library Assistants from the Winnipeg Public Library attending Library schools this fall are Miss Jean Giesinger at McGill, Miss Judy Borland and Miss Joy McDiarmid at U.B.C. Miss Borland and Miss Giesinger are on leaves of absence from the Public Library.

Mr. Regis Bennett, Archival Assistant in the Provincial Library has been granted educational leave to

attend U.B.C. Library School. Mr. Bennett has a B.A. and an M.A. from the University of Manitoba.

Mrs. Gratia Fortin has retired as head of the St. Boniface Public Library.

#### Bursary Grants:

Manitoba Government Postgraduate Bursaries have been granted to: Miss Judith Borland and Miss Joyce McDiarmid who are attending U.B.C. Library School; and Miss Fay Lando and Miss Margaret Giesinger who are attending McGill Library School.

## Libraries

The McPhillips Branch of the Winnipeg Public Library had a very successful opening on June 30, 1964. The Hon. Stewart McLean attended. The new branch is located on the grounds of the Andrew Mynarski School, the site being made available by the Winnipeg School Board.

Two new libraries, one in Charleswood and the other in Assiniboia have formed the Assiniboine River Regional Library. As a result of a contract signed between the St. James Public Library Board and the Board of the Assiniboine River Regional Library, the new libraries are to be set up by the St. James Public Library. This is a total contract with the Librarian of the St. James Library being in fact, the Librarian of the Assiniboine River Regional Library system. Mrs. Jean Finch has been appointed Senior Library Assistant in Assiniboia and Miss Lorraine Pernitsky, Senior Library Assistant in Charleswood. The new libraries are being organized at the St. James Public Library and will continue to receive guidance from St. James when they open in November. The selection, ordering, processing and cataloguing of books will be done at St. James.

The West Kildonan Library Board in conjunction with the Seven Oaks School Division has announced the establishment of a branch library in the new Garden City Collegiate to be opened in January, 1965. This will be a one-year experiment.

— Seven Oaks Sentinel, June 4/64.

The Village of Glenboro has joined the Lakeland Regional Library. Miss Margaret Ashley, President of the Manitoba Library Association attended the opening of the library and brought greetings from the Association.

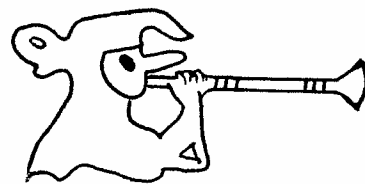
## Literature

The Little Package: Pages on Literature and Landscape From a Traveling Bookman's Life, by Lawrence Clark Powell. World Publishing, N. Y. 1964. 316 pp. Price: \$6.50.

Recollections by one of America's most distinguished living bookmen, who is Director of the William Andrews Clark Library at the University of California. A former bookseller who became a librarian during the Depression, Mr. Powell says, "a library should have as few rules as possible ... and break them all whenever necessary".

— N.Y. Times Book Review, August 2/64

Student Use of Libraries: An Inquiry into the Needs of Students, Libraries, and the Educational Process. Papers of the American Library Association Conference Within a Conference, July 16-18, 1963, Chicago, Illinois. ALA, Chicago. 1964. 224 pp. Price: \$3.00.



Remember...

Young Canada's Book Week  
La Semaine Du Livre Pour  
La Jeunesse Canadienne

November 15th to 22nd

The Future of the Research Library, by Verner W. Clapp.  
University of Illinois Press, Urbana, Ill. 1964. 114 pp.  
Price: \$4.50.

Building Library Collections, by Mary Duncan Carter and  
Wallace John Bonk. 2nd ed. Scarecrow Press, N. Y.  
1964. 287 pp. Price: \$6.00.

Prospects in Librarianship: A Guide to Careers in Modern  
Librarianship, by Clifford Currie. Philosophical Library  
N. Y. 1963. 124 pp. Price: \$4.75.

This book was first published in England under  
the title Be a Librarian in 1958. The author is Librarian  
of the Imperial College of Science and Technology,  
London.

Concepts and Problems of Libraries of the Future, by  
J. C. R. Licklider. Mass. Institute of Technology Press,  
Cambridge, Mass. 1964. 208 pp. Price: \$6.00.

Bases of Modern Librarianship, edited by Carl M. White.  
Pergamon Press, Oxford. 1964. Price: \$6.00.

First volume in a new series of papers delivered  
at the International Series of Lectures held at Ankara.

Of interest to trustees:

The Library Trustee: A Practical Guide, by Virginia  
G. Young. R. R. Bowker and Co., N. Y. 1964.  
Price: \$7.50.

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THE MANITOBA MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY

invites

THE MANITOBA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

to attend

THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY MEETING OF THE SOCIETY

Topic: "The Professions in a Changing Society"  
Speaker: The Rt. Hon. Lord Devlin, British Jurist  
Date: Tuesday, October 20, 1964  
Time: 8:30 P.M.  
Place: Medical College Auditorium  
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