

**MANITOBA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION BULLETIN**

**Volume 14, No.2 — Summer 1966**

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Editor: Pauline Roseman

**Cover**

By Alison Hellman,  
Winnipeg Silk Screen Artist.

MANITOBA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE 1966-67

OFFICERS :

PAST PRESIDENT	Miss Margaret Ashley Provincial Library
PRESIDENT	Mr. R. C. Wright United College Library
VICE-PRESIDENT	Mr. Robert Park Vincent Massey Collegiate
RECORDING SECRETARY	Mr. George Noble University Extension Library
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY	Mrs. Monica Allison Winnipeg Public Library
TREASURER	Miss Elizabeth Johnson Winnipeg Public Library

CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES OF SECTIONS:

MEMBERSHIP	Miss Joan Bower Provincial Library
BULLETIN	Mrs. Eugenia Roseman Department of Health & Welfare Library
MEETINGS	Mr. Harry Easton Winnipeg Public Library
PROGRAMME	Mrs. Anne Leibl Winnipeg Public Library
PUBLICITY & PUBLIC RELATIONS	Miss Audrey Kerr Medical College Library
SCHOLARSHIP	Miss Nan Florence Library Service Centre Winnipeg School Division No. 1
SCHOOL LIBRARIES	Chairman of Section
TRUSTEES	Mr. Donald Crow

**ANNUAL MEETING**

The 30th Annual Meeting and 10th Provincial Conference of the Manitoba Library Association was held in Virden at the newest regional library -- the Virden-Elkhorn Regional Library.

The conference began with the registration - reception on Friday evening. The Hon. Stewart E. McLean, Minister of Libraries brought greetings from the Provincial Government and the delegates were welcomed by Mayor H. J. McNeill, Mrs. F. Monteith, Chairman of the Virden-Elkhorn Regional Library and Mr. D. M. McGregor, MLA for Kenton.

Saturday's session got under way with Miss Donaldja Putnam, Supervisor of Regional Libraries in Saskatchewan as the first speaker. The Manitoba regional library system was discussed by Miss Marjorie Morley, Director of Library Services for Manitoba. A coffee break followed which gave everyone an opportunity to see the displays. Mr. George Noble then spoke on the University Extension Library and its role in serving readers in areas not covered by public libraries. W. O. Mitchell, the well known Canadian author was the guest speaker at the conference luncheon which followed. The delegates enjoyed a very entertaining address by this famous author of the Jake and the Kid series.

BUSINESS MEETING

Mr. Roy Wright, President of the Manitoba Library Association opened the annual business meeting which followed the luncheon. He welcomed new members and thanked the Town of Virden and the Virden-Elkhorn Regional Library for their warm hospitality.

In the business arising from the minutes of the last annual meeting - the motion that the Executive be asked to make a study to find means of supporting the scholarship fund - Mr. Wright reported that no new methods of support had been found other than voluntary contributions. He expressed a personal opinion that the M.L.A. fees should be raised to three dollars annually and that this apply to all members alike, both rural and urban and that part of this money go towards the scholarship fund. However, because this would require an amendment to the constitution, it was too late to bring up this year.

In the new business brought up, the Executive reported that Mr. Harry Easton had been approached and had accepted to chair a Committee on Library Development in Manitoba. This Committee would study library requirements in Manitoba from the point of view of all types of libraries. (This committee would be wider in scope than the original Public Library Agency proposed by Mr. Easton at the Trustees Meeting on November 20, 1965).

The question of the Manitoba Library Association Scholarship Program was raised and a motion that a sub-committee with Marjorie Morley, Nettie Siemens and Donald Crow be set up to study the whole question of

the scholarship fund was passed.

Miss Elizabeth Morton's letter regarding a proposed portrait of the National Librarian, Dr. W. Kaye Lamb was read. The portrait will cost about four thousand dollars and the money will come from contributions made by librarians and others across Canada. Anyone wishing to contribute can send their money directly to the Canadian Library Association in Ottawa.

The Canadian Centennial Commission's proposed gift of \$150,000 in books to libraries was mentioned. A meeting of public libraries and the Extension Library was to be held to discuss the gift.

Miss Laura Ashley, Librarian, St. Vital Public Library, was appointed Auditor of the Manitoba Library Association books for the forthcoming year.

The place of the next annual meeting and conference will be Winnipeg.

The meeting closed with a farewell reception at the Elk's Hall.

#### RESOLUTIONS PASSED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING, 1966

BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive of the Manitoba Library Association approach the Minister of Libraries with the view to securing larger and more equitable grants for libraries in the Province of Manitoba.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Manitoba Library Association, meeting in Virden, Manitoba, on May 28, 1966, express its warmest appreciation and thanks to all of the many individuals and groups who have contributed to the success of this Annual Conference, particularly as follows:

To the Virden-Elkhorn Regional Library Board, for its hospitality as our hosts and for the reception given to the Association on Friday evening;

To Mrs. Vera Leckie, Librarian of the Virden-Elkhorn Regional Library;

To the Town of Virden and to the Rural Municipality of Virden for their welcome to us, and for the excellent luncheon tendered to the Conference;

To the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of Canada, and to the Royal Canadian Legion, for providing the Association with the accommodation for its meetings;

To the Government of Manitoba, for its encouragement and assistance in making this Conference possible;

And to each of our several speakers, whose contributions have made the Conference an enjoyable and instructive occasion.

## ANNUAL REPORTS

### JOINT REPORT OF THE CORRESPONDING AND RECORDING SECRETARIES

During the year five executive and four general meetings were held. Mrs. Genevieve McRobbie resigned as recording secretary and was replaced by Mr. G. C. Noble. Approximately 2,000 pieces of mail were sent out by the corresponding secretary; the calling list now totals 325 names.

Respectfully submitted,  
G.C. Noble, Recording Secretary  
M. Allison, Corresponding Sec.

### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

The paid up memberships for 1965-66 are:

Institutional members	10
Personal members	193

The personal membership is made up as follows:

Library trustees	57
Library personnel	126 (including 28 members of the Library School Section)
Others	10
Total	<u>193</u>

Respectfully submitted,  
Joan Gauer, Chairman

### SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

The two scholarships for 1965-1966 were increased to \$150.00 each, and were awarded on the understanding that the recipients of same would work in a Manitoba Library for at least one year after graduation, or would refund the money. The Trustees section donated \$100.00 towards these scholarships. Members contributed \$141.50 and the balance of \$58.50 necessary to make up the \$300.00 was taken from the general fund.

Once again a notice has been sent to all libraries in the Province to advertise that the Manitoba Library Association is offering two scholarships of \$150.00 each to assist persons to attend an accredited library school.

A letter also has been sent to the membership of the Association requesting donations. Prior to this meeting we had received \$84.50 towards the necessary \$300.00.

The deadline for receipt of scholarship applications has been set for July 15, 1966, after which date a meeting will be held to award same.

Respectfully submitted,  
M. Gardiner, Chairman.

#### THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DICTIONARY OF MANITOBA BIOGRAPHY

The committee met irregularly but frequently during 1965. However, since January 10th, 1966 it has met each Monday evening at 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. in the Provincial Library. These meetings will continue until such time as the Dictionary is completed. During the months of July and August meetings will be suspended. Other members of the Association have met with us each Monday and to them we extend our thanks.

The card file consists of approximately 7,500 names and approximately 2,000 - 2,500 of these will be contained in the Dictionary. We had hoped to have a basic list compiled and forwarded to each chief librarian before this annual meeting. The searching and checking is not completed, consequently that part of our programme must be deferred until the fall.

Tenders for printing were requested from three Manitoba printers and D. W. Friesen & Sons Ltd. of Altona, Manitoba, were awarded the contract. All tenders were submitted on the basis of 2,000 biographies. Tenders are on file with the Association's correspondence.

A request for a grant of \$3,500. was rejected by the Centennial Corporation in Ottawa. Copies of the correspondence relating to this request and rejection are, also, on file. This sum was to cover the cost of printing and binding and did not include the services of a typist, paper required, nor the cost of an advertising campaign. A typist will be required in the fall of 1966.

The committee recommends to the in-coming executive the following points:

1. That since the Centennial Corporation has rejected our request for assistance the Dictionary be considered a Manitoba Centennial project, to be completed by 1970.
2. That the Manitoba Government, through the Minister of Libraries, be approached for a grant of \$5,000. to assist in the publication of this dictionary. This request should be submitted not later than October 1st, 1968.
3. That a committee be formed to consider ways and means of publicizing this project, and perhaps at a later date to receive advance subscribers.

4. That the in-coming executive of the M. L. A. authorize the employment of a typist. This work would entail periods of employment of 2-3 weeks' duration until all edited biographies were typed in uniform style as stipulated by the printer. As familiarity with style and format is necessary it is further recommended that the same person be employed for each typing period.
5. That the cost of this publication be \$6.50 - \$7.00, providing assistance is forthcoming from the Manitoba Government.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marjorie Morley, Chairman

#### Committee Members

Miss Lem Combaz  
Miss Margaret Ashley  
Miss Margaret Mackenzie  
Miss Magdalen Brownlee  
Miss Mona Martin  
Miss Violet Parker  
Miss Kathleen Gillespie  
Mrs. Ellen MacMillan  
Miss Marjorie Morley (Chairman)

#### REPORT OF THE PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN

The two main duties of the publicity chairman, that of sending invitations to display at this conference, and that of attempting to put the activities of the Association before the public, were again carried out this year. The work was not arduous, but was, at times, most frustrating.

Although notices of each meeting were sent to the local papers, no coverage was given ordinarily except for a small notice on the social pages. Justifiable "rage" at this treatment, and justifiable pride in our speaker at the January meeting, combined to make the publicity chairman take more than ordinary means to obtain coverage of that meeting. Letters, phone calls, and personal calls on the papers did have results; both the papers published detailed articles on Dr. Rothstein and the talk he gave to the Association. The notices, however, remained on the social page. Perhaps next year libraries will graduate to the news section.

Publicity notices, with details of the agenda of this meeting, were mailed to papers and television stations in Winnipeg, Brandon and Virden. It is hoped that coverage will be given to the meeting, particularly as the theme of provincial service is of interest to all Manitobans.

For this conference, 23 letters were sent to firms which it

felt might have an interest in exhibiting. From those contacted, 19 replies were received, 5 of which were definite negatives. Unfortunately, some of the firms who would have been willing to exhibit with us on the original dates set for the meeting, could not arrange to be in Virden on the present dates. The exhibits that will be given will however be of interest to the members.

In charge of exhibits for the Conference, in the absence of the publicity chairman, is Mr. Park. Since this is perhaps the hardest part of the job of publicity, Mr. Park has my most sincere thanks for taking the responsibility for this.

Respectfully submitted,  
Audrey M. Kerr, Publicity Chairman

#### LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Legislation Committee reports that the Public Libraries Act was amended by an act passed during the recent session of the Manitoba Legislature.

An amendment implements the request made in the Trustees' resolution last year that the date on which Boards are required to submit their budgets to Councils be extended from November thirtieth to January fifteenth.

An entire new Part IV, entitled "Federation of Regional and Municipal Public Libraries" is added to the Act. This is enabling legislation to permit the establishment of larger units of regional library service in Manitoba. Boards of municipal public libraries or regional libraries may enter into a library federation with other regional or municipal public libraries if they are authorized to do so by a council by-law. Such by-laws do not need to be submitted to a vote. All the councils concerned in a proposed federation must pass the approving by-law before it can be established; there is no "opting out."

A federation agreement is for a period of five years. Parties to the agreement retain ownership and control of their own assets, but may contribute as much of their annual budgets as they determine in the agreement. Agreements may be renewed for a further term of five years. Library units outside an existing federation may enter for the remainder of a term.

A library federation is administered by a federation board, which consists of two members elected from each participating board, one of whom shall be an elected member of the municipal council.

The Brandon Public Library is furthermore declared a municipal public library for the purposes of the act.

The Committee commends the Provincial Government for this important legislation, which makes possible a considerable advance in regional library service.

Otherwise the Committee has little to report. There has been no change in the grant structure, although revenues under the present structure have increased with increased local contributions. Its recommendations that the one-mill taxation limit be removed have met with no response. The Committee has no new proposals to make beyond the resolutions of 1962 and 1964. It is the suggestion of the present Chairman therefore that a re-constituted Committee is needed, with a fresh approach.

Respectfully submitted,  
D. W. Foley, Chairman.

E. B. Bodie  
H. H. Easton  
Mrs. H. Moore  
J. Russell  
Miss N. Siemens  
R. Wright (ex-officio)  
D. W. Foley, Chairman

#### PROGRAMME COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Regis Bennett, Assistant Archivist at the Provincial Archives, was the guest speaker at our first meeting of the 1965-66 season, heard in the Investors Group Building on Tuesday, November 9th. He spoke on the nature and function of the Provincial Archives and explained their services.

The second meeting took place at the St. Regis Hotel on Saturday, January 29th. Dr. Samuel Rothstein, Director of the School Librarianship, University of British Columbia, addressed a luncheon meeting and answered previously submitted questions on aspects of education for librarianship.

On Wednesday, March 16th, Mr. David Foley, Chief Librarian, Elizabeth Dafoe Library, University of Manitoba, gave an illustrated talk on library services in Russia and Scandinavia which he recently visited. Following the meeting, members enjoyed refreshments in the University Extension Library.

The final meeting took place on Thursday, April 21st, in the Canadian Wheat Board Building. The Computer Society of Canada arranged the programme which centered on the value and potentiality of computers in library work. Mr. Maurice Head, of the Canadian Wheat Board, chaired a discussion by Mr. Michael Burns, Sales Representative, IBM, and Mr. Don Mathieson, Data Processing, Great-West Life. Following the discussion and question period, the members watched a film on the use of computers and a demonstration of the Canadian Wheat Board Computers.

Respectfully submitted,  
(Mrs.) Dorothy Wilson, Chairman

#### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MANITOBA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL LIBRARIANS

During 1965-66 four meetings were held. On October 25, 1965, the first meeting was held at the City Centre Motel. Mrs. Stephens, Chief-Clerk, Queen's Printer's Bookshop outlined the operation of the shop and the materials available.

The second meeting was held at Grant Park School. Mr. G. Proctor showed slides of his sojourn in Germany.

The third meeting was held at Grant Park School in connection with the Winnipeg Inspector's Convention. It took the form of a panel discussion in periodicals. Mr. R. Park was moderator. The panelists were: Miss Sparling, Librarian, University of Manitoba, Mrs. Hinds, Librarian, Churchill High School, and Mr. Glass, Teacher, Kelvin High School.

The fourth meeting was held at the Earl Grey School on April 13, 1966, in conjunction with the Manitoba Educational Association Convention. Dr. Paul Ralston, Dept. of Botany, University of Manitoba, spoke on audio-visual aids.

The fifth meeting is to be held before the end of June.

Respectfully submitted,  
M. R. Dutton.

#### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES SECTION

During the past twelve months the Trustees Section held two general meetings and two executive meetings.

At a general meeting in Brandon, October 16, the trustees heard an address given by Miss Marjorie Morley on "The New Pattern and General Expansion of Regional Libraries in Manitoba." Considerable interest was shown and a lengthy discussion followed the talk. Mrs. R. E. Issett also spoke on the promotion and formation of Friends of the Library groups.

The Executive met in Brandon, November 20, to hear Mr. H. H. Easton of the Winnipeg Public Library present proposals for a new public library agency. Copies of these proposals have been distributed to all library boards for consideration. At this meeting the chairman acted on a motion seeking to change the date for presentation of library budgets to local councils, and the act was amended, setting the date at January 15 instead of the previous deadline of November 30.

During the year the Trustees Section welcomed four new library boards into membership. These were Assiniboine Regional, Morden-Winkler, Evergreen and Swan River Regional. The chairman of the section spent a most pleasant day at Swan River in late February, attending the official opening of the Swan River Regional Library.

At our annual meeting today the sum of \$100.00 was voted to the Manitoba Library Association Scholarship fund.

The election of officers for the next term resulted as follows:

Past Chairman:	Mr. Bruce Bodie
1st Chairman:	D. Craw
2nd Chairman:	Mrs. Hall
Vice-Chairman:	Mrs. P. McLintock
Secretary-Treasurer:	Mrs. R. E. Issett
Councillors:	Mr. R. Collins
	Mr. Gibbs
	Mr. J. Philp
	Mrs. J. Brighton
	Mr. K. Campbell

Respectfully submitted,  
D. Craw, Chairman

### **IN MEMORIAM**

The sudden death of Mary E. Donaldson, Saskatchewan Provincial Librarian, on June 29th, in Calgary, will sadden many Manitoba librarians. She took ill while attending the Canadian Library Association Conference in Calgary.

Miss Donaldson was born in Brandon, Manitoba and received her B.A. from the University of Alberta in 1928 and her B.L.S. from the University of Toronto in 1929. Before going to Regina she held positions in Toronto and Edmonton. She was appointed Saskatchewan's first Provincial Librarian in 1951. Her main work had been the development of regional libraries in the province. She served as President of the Canadian Library Association in 1957 and was active in the American Library Association.

We extend our deepest sympathy to her family and to those with whom she worked.

MANITOBA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

April 30, 1965 - April 30, 1966

Balance as per Bank Statement April 30, 1965 \$1,534.73

RECEIPTS

Annual meeting registration	\$111.00	
Membership fees	527.15	
Recruitment and scholarship fund	190.00	
Refreshments	151.75	
Provincial grant	75.00	
Bulletin subscriptions	21.83	
Bank interest and premiums	58.30	
		\$1,135.03

EXPENDITURES

Meeting expenses	\$166.80	
Stationery, postage, etc.	173.96	
Bulletin	389.20	
Scholarships	300.00	
CLA institutional membership	50.00	
Trustees' Section transfer	15.00	
Delegates' fees	6.00	
Membership cards	14.65	
Bank operation	.75	
		\$1,116.36

Net revenue over expenditures		18.67
Balance April 30, 1966	\$1,553.40	
Outstanding cheque \$5.00		5.00
Balance as per Bank Statement April 30, 1966	\$1,558.40	

NOTE: The April 30, 1966 balance of \$1,558.40 includes a balance of \$49.50 in the Scholarship fund and \$1,508.90 in the General fund.

I have examined the books and accounts of the Manitoba Library Association and, in my opinion, the above statements are properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Association's affairs as of 30 April 1966.

Kathleen Makepeace (SIGNED)  
AUDITOR  
Respectfully submitted  
Elizabeth A. Johnson (SIGNED)  
TREASURER, MANITOBA LIBRARY ASSN.

REGIONAL LIBRARY SYSTEM IN MANITOBA\*

Marjorie Morley,  
Director of Library Services,  
Provincial Library, Manitoba

The library pattern in Manitoba is changing rapidly. Prior to the passing of the Public Libraries Act in 1948 there were two public libraries in the province. One was not opened until 1946 therefore the Winnipeg Public Library stood alone from the turn of the century in the field of public libraries.

We like to feel that we have played a part in extending these library services to more areas in the province. However, many organizations such as the Women's Institute, I.O.D.E., Chambers of Commerce, and Council of Women have played a very helpful part. We must not forget also that the University Extension Library under the guidance of Mr. George Noble planted the seed for the desire for libraries in the rural parts of Manitoba. Mr. Nobles' travelling libraries and open-shelf libraries have been of inestimable value from the time of its inception. Without it many people in Manitoba still would not have current books near at hand. We also has done the regional libraries a favor by inter-library loans, not only of current books but rare and out of print books.

You can see by the map where our libraries are situated and at present it resembles an unfinished game of checkers. Municipalities with libraries against municipalities without libraries. There are various places where we may jump and we hope in the near future to fill in the gaps.

Our Act allows any two incorporated municipalities, large or small, to form a regional library. This being the case, small regional libraries have sprung up over the province. At their inception there was no staff to select, order and catalogue the books. One question in our minds at that time was the inevitable one among librarians - would these areas spend their establishment grant wisely? We were certain they would welcome assistance so we offered our professional services. The Provincial Library gave and continues to give, as new libraries are formed, the following professional and clerical services:

- (a) Promotional work.
- (b) Book selection.
- (c) Typing of each regional library's order to the book publisher.
- (d) Cataloguing and classification of all books in each rural regional library system.
- (e) Typing of stencils and duplicating of all catalogue cards and forwarding the required number of cards for each book to all rural regional libraries (except Boissevain which did not contribute to the cost of the Gestetner). This entails typing one master card for each book and reproducing others on the Gestetner. (Bought and paid for by the regional libraries with the new libraries contributing to its cost also). The libraries also pay for the card stock.

\*Talk given to the Manitoba Library Association Annual Conference, May 28, 1966, Virden, Manitoba.



- (f) Perpetuating a union catalogue of books in each regional library and coding the author card with a regional library symbol. This union catalogue informs the staff -
  - (i) the books in each library
  - (ii) avoids duplication when ordering
  - (iii) interlibrary loans are facilitated, and
  - (iv) for book rotation it is indispensable.
- (g) Perpetuating the book rotation system. The staff selects and orders, above the permanent books, different titles for each library. At the end of a given period these books are forwarded to the library next on the list. Other new titles are ordered and held for six months and then they are rotated. The libraries forward one rotation lot, receive another from the rotation and new books for the next rotation.
- (h) Receiving suggestions re: book orders from the libraries.
- (i) Selecting, ordering, classifying, and cataloguing basic stock of books for each new regional library. Forwarding catalogue cards for same.

These libraries in western Manitoba, the first regions to be established, now have a good basic stock of books but they are all operative (except for the book rotation) entirely independent of one another. Something better is needed for their continued improvement and to that end we have been planning. They need roots from which they can grow and branch.

But, all library development must have a plan. All plans for development must be based upon co-operative effort and co-ordinated services. All plans require team work, not individual performance. All plans require the extension of services from strength, that is, a strong central library well supplied with resources of high quality and breadth in all fields of the book collection is essential an anchor.

No plan for a larger area is feasible unless it functions under the direction of a professional librarian.

Our first choice or plan was not federation but amalgamation. However, this suggestion met with cool reception when broached to the library boards. During the year we have had four general meetings - one was attended by the Minister. We have, also, discussed the federation with some library boards separately. It is our intention with the Minister to once more speak to each library board and the Brandon Library board before holding another general meeting with all interested library boards. The federated plan has not met with unanimous consent of all the regional library boards in the southwest corner of Manitoba. We felt that one more try should be made. The more libraries that federate the better resources they will have - financially - as well as book stock, loan privileges, joint cards, bookmobile and professional services.

As I read about federations the more I feel that it is the solution to our scattered and small regional libraries (south and west libraries). However, the federated plan is flexible and is easily adapted to any group of libraries in the province. Several states in the United States have this system and they are becoming more prevalent in Ontario. Miss Gauer and I visited the North-West Regional Library Federation with headquarters in Fort William in the spring, and found it most interesting and different.

Basic to each federated plan, whether in the United States or in Ontario, is the establishment of a system of federated libraries with the provision for local autonomy, for "house rule" as it were, or self-government.

Libraries within Federations may vary in their area size, in distribution of population and their resources at the time of their inauguration. However, each share in the added services and advantages that accrue from systems of libraries: bookmobile service, centralized ordering, cataloguing and general processing, assistance with reference and greatly increased supply of books from the collection at the headquarters or centre coming and going at regular intervals of professional services.

If such a federation were formed, and we sincerely hope it is, it would unite all Western Manitoba into one large area. The patrons of these libraries would not see any diminishing of service but would be able to get better service from a more rapid exchange of books from headquarters to branches which would make for greater use of the libraries and a greater variety for their readers.

All regional library boards would remain in control of their present operation and retain their assets as at time of federation. Each regional library would be represented on the Federated Library Board. This board would rotate its meetings and meet in each area where there is a participating library. The local board would control its own finances with regard to salaries, rent, heat, supplied, etc., but contribute a specified percentage of its budget to the headquarters, this money to be used for books for the entire system, cost of supplies for processing, etc., and for staff. Books for the entire federation would be ordered in one lot and delivered to the headquarters where they would be checked, catalogued and processed before rotation to the libraries and the invoices paid from one source. They would have a professional librarian (less than 50 miles distance in most instances) to direct proceedings.

This would in no way effect the regional libraries hope for expansion. As they expand and add another branch to the system they, of course, would receive the usual grants from the provincial government for that additional branch.

If a municipality which is not part of a regional library system at the present time wishes to join the federation they may do so.

At the last session of the Legislature there was an amendment to the Public Library Act which provided for such a Federation. These amendments as bills were distributed to all Library Boards and to Mr. David Foley, Legislative Chairman of the Manitoba Library Association. If we used the Act as it was prior to this amendment, an amalgamation or merger of libraries would have been the case. However, each individual library would then disappear and one large unit would take its place. This, of course, is Utopia, the ideal for library service and I make no pretence that it was my first recommendation to these Boards, and to the Minister. The reception was, to say the least, luke-warm. These libraries are now operating independently having book stock, buildings, equipment, salaries, insurance, and so on their own responsibilities. These assets the libraries wish to retain making one allowance, that of sharing the book stock and contributing a percentage of their budget to the federation.

There will be an establishment grant for the establishment of this federation and annual grants in the ensuing years to perpetuate its operation. These federation grants are in addition to the grants already received by the various public libraries, regional and municipal. We are hoping to start the federation in one area this year. Here's to progress!

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA EXTENSION LIBRARY \*

George Noble,  
Librarian.

Most of you, of course, are familiar with the Open Shelf Travelling Library services to rural readers provided in other provinces of Canada; indeed, some of you may have used the University Extension Library in the past, and there will be a few here today who are currently doing so. This type of "home delivery" library service has been a feature of the North American Library scene for many decades. It appears that it will continue to fill a need for some time to come, for even with the continued development of tax-and-grant-supported public and regional libraries throughout Manitoba and the rest of the country, there will be thousands of readers not included in these service areas who will require service from a central "mail order" library, such as the University Extension Libraries in British Columbia, Alberta, and Manitoba, and from public library commissions and provincial or central libraries in other provinces. Too, the newly formed public or regional library, together with the older, but still small libraries outside the cities and larger towns, expect interlibrary loan service from agencies such as ours. In our own case one has the impression that the University Extension Library is considered by the University authorities as an agency of outreach to the general populace living outside the two university towns.

May I take this opportunity to underline a significant point arising from our own experience over the past six or seven years? This is, that paralleling the formation of regional and public libraries--and the simultaneous cessation of direct extension service to readers residing in the new library areas--the circulation of books from the University Extension Library has steadily risen from about 80,000 in 1956 to 232,000 ten years later. One would expect each time Miss Morley and her staff at the Provincial Library succeed in guiding another regional project into being, that the work of the Extension Library would be correspondingly lessened. Such, of course, has not been the case. You all know about the current reading explosion; well, it affects us too. Then, too, the University Extension Library's book stock has improved over the years, as have our still rather modest efforts at publicity. It is gratifying to note, at this time, that virtually all of the regional libraries and the two or three municipal libraries established over the course of the past eight years once used the travelling library boxes, and individuals in these areas used the Open Shelf. It is apparent that the limited book service so provided had an appetite-whetting effect, and that far from "bapping" the initiative of readers in these areas to develop their own libraries the reverse has been true. This is amply borne out in letters and comments from the library personnel in such places as Transcona, Swan River, Flin Flon, Russell, Morden, Winkler, Gimli, and so on.

\*Talk given to the Manitoba Library Association Annual Conference, May 28, 1966, Virden, Manitoba.

Of course, it is gratifying to be able to report an expanding circulation and a stronger book stock each year, but we all know how arduous is the task of trying to meet increased demand in the face of the inflationary trend in book prices, and the frustrating attempts to pull the book budget up to help accomplish the aim of better service to our book hungry populace. Looking back ten years, we find that our output has quadrupled since 1956. The original staff on campus comprised six members and two part-time student assistants. It is worthy of note, however, that the book budgets for 1955 and 1965 were not substantially different. In 1955 the price of a book was \$2.10 net to us; in 1965, it was \$3.25. I am happy to say that 1966-67 will see a marked improvement in our book budget. Certainly it is a far cry from the day sixteen years ago when a few thousands of dollars were provided by the then Department of Education to establish the Public Library Service! I quote from my Public Library Service in Manitoba: a report and recommendation, 1955, page 26:

"History and development to June, 1952:

On August 15, 1949, the Public Library Service, a branch of the Department of Education, began to function. There was a staff of one clerk hired to set up this library service to Manitoba's rural readers. Quarters were obtained in a small room on the third floor in the Text Book Bureau Building. As a result of negotiations the original book stock of about 7,000 books was acquired from the Manitoba Pool Elevators when this association turned over the responsibility for its Travelling Library-Open Shelf services to the Government of Manitoba.

Wooden boxes, containing thirty-two books each, were sent out to 114 travelling library centres by October, and were returned in May, 1950. Open Shelf membership totalled 310 readers; by June, 1950, this figure stood at 335. The reasons for this remarkably slow beginning were only too obvious--inadequate financial backing, and ineffective plans for establishment and development. In the report of the Department of Education for the year ending June 30, 1950, the Public Library Service reports that "A few new books are added when possible".

The name of the service was changed on September 13, 1951 to Manitoba Library Service. Despite this measure there were still only 360 Open Shelf readers and 110 Travelling Library centres. At this time the Department of Education made possible the purchase of one thousand used book-club novels.

In the third year of its operation the two staff members found it difficult to meet more than ten percent of requests for non-fiction titles which came in from the determined readers who had not given up hope that an adequate library service might eventually be set up.

June, 1952 to March 1955:

In June, 1952, a director of the service was appointed, and he and a part-time library assistant joined the existing staff of two. It was decided to increase the size of the 32 book travelling libraries which were then in operation at two hundred school and community centres. In order to accomplish this first step in expanding the Manitoba Library Service there was much weeding of the book collection and purchases of new books to be done. After the careful discarding of 2,500 books, direct ordering from publishers and jobbers was instituted. Advantage was taken of the cheap library postage rate superseding the higher book postage rate used by the Manitoba Library

Service up to this time. The Open Shelf loan period was shortened from three months to one, and travelling libraries were shipped for four-month loan periods, instead of the customary six months or a year.

April 1st, 1955:

On March 31, 1955 the Manitoba Library Service ceased to operate as a branch of the Department of Education and became a part of the University of Manitoba. The move from the crowded warehouse room in Winnipeg to the attractive surroundings on the campus came as a welcome relief from the inconvenience and discomfort at the old headquarters. At the new location the University Extension Library carries on its work in the same two divisions as formerly operated by the Manitoba Library Service: the Open Shelf service to individuals, and the Travelling Libraries service to communities, camps, settlements and one-room schools."

The operating policy of the University Extension Library is derived from the General Faculty Council's Committee on University Extension and Adult Education, while the Elizabeth Dafoe Library, in which we are housed, lends practical help in the form of interlibrary loans and close co-operation in certain administrative and housekeeping details.

Turning now to a brief look at our book stock, readership, and the shipping department, the 50,000 volume collection comprises about 25,000 books for adults, 15,000 for readers under 15 years of age and 10,000 for readers in the senior teen group. In addition, we have three to four thousand circulating pamphlets. Of each title selected for purchase from review periodicals, publishers catalogues and displays, we order an average of two and one-half copies. Almost two-thirds of our output is for adult borrowers, and one-third to readers under 16. The estimated total number of borrowers is 22,000 about one-half adult and one-half junior readers under 16 years of age. Naturally we don't often meet our patrons, except through their library order forms, letters and notes. May I indulge myself by quoting from some of these?

"The terminal elevator is going to close earlier this season, so this will be the end of the borrowing for me; I will be returning to Saskatchewan soon. I am going to try to have some of the fine books I have read placed in my home library at Unity, Saskatchewan.

For many years, you and your department have served our area well and faithfully. Now, although we are about to have our own library, we are reluctant to sever communication with you; and, no doubt, you may still be able to serve us on occasion through interlibrary loans.--North-West Regional Library, Swan River, Manitoba.

There is a book in your collection, How to Quit Smoking; I read it, followed instructions and, behold, I have not smoked for a year and two months.--Altona, Manitoba.

I am sending you this copy of my speech, as you requested. I am happy to report that I won first out of ten contestants, thanks to the information you sent me. --Clanwilliam, Manitoba.

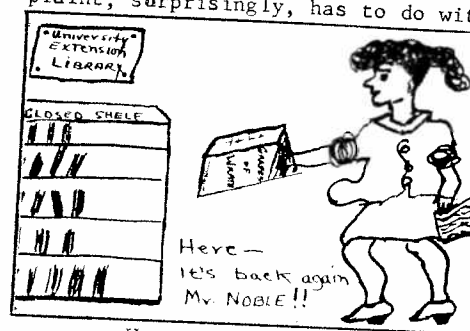
I wish to thank you for your co-operation in sending the material I requested. It was very useful, and without it our debating team

could never have won the Southern Manitoba Championship. --Morden, Manitoba.

Thank you again for your fine co-operation and consideration. You have no idea how the service you provide boosts interest and ability in reading. --A teacher, Rosser, Manitoba.

I should say here that we take some satisfaction in weaning young readers away from Dick-and-Jane, controlled vocabulary books and also from formal "literature" courses to the wide world of enjoyable and worthwhile reading. My favourite thank-you note is from a young man of nineteen who announced that he was about to leave his home in Waldersee, Manitoba to make his fortune further West. He says, "For the past twelve years I have been borrowing books from the Extension Library. Now that I have 'lurned in" my library card, I realize just how much pleasure I got from all those books I read and how much they helped my education. Thank you so very much for all you have done for me." Richard N., Waldersee, Manitoba.

Lest you get the impression that all of our mail is adulatory I should mention that once or twice a year we receive advice from readers regarding specific books which should be banned, burned or otherwise suppressed. You know the sort of thing I refer to: a recurring complaint, surprisingly, has to do with The Grapes of Wrath. Every few



years a reader draws to our attention this particular "dirty" book. One young woman did so about four months ago, and singled out page 29. I believe it was, particularly bad morally. I immediately consulted a copy of said title and page and became so engrossed in re-discovering Steinbeck's style and content that I re-read the book, having first read it as a teen-ager in 1940.

We were touched by the degree of trust which someone placed in our selection abilities a couple of years ago: a middle-aged borrower requested a book or two on piano playing and a used piano. Then there was the girl who, following the return of a book on courtship, requested three further titles: On Being Fit to Live With, by Harry Emerson Fosdick, 365 Ways to Cook Hamburger and a book on judo. Perhaps the item on judo was an afterthought.

Just a note or two on our very active shipping department: we have armed our most efficient shipper, Mrs. Marjorie McPhail, with about all the labor-saving devices we can think of -- automatic tapers, with heated water for stronger adhesion, a postage meter, a parcel tying machine, utility packing bags in a wide range of sizes and a strong student for roping and lifting heavier cartons and full mail bags.

In closing may I state again my belief that Open Shelf-Travelling Library facilities will doubtless continue to provide a spur and supplement to greater local library development, and as a sole source of library service for isolated areas.

## REGIONAL LIBRARY PROMOTION IN SASKATCHEWAN

Elsbeth M. Miller,  
Extension Librarian,  
Provincial Library,  
Saskatchewan.

Ed. Note: We are grateful to Miss Donaldda Putnam, Supervisor of Regional Libraries, Saskatchewan, for submitting this article and to the author for allowing us to publish it.

Since 1915 the Provincial Government of Saskatchewan has assumed the responsibility of providing some method of getting books to people. In that year the government authorized the loaning of books to rural areas. At that time boxes of 60 to 80 books were sent out from Regina to groups of people in country areas. Each group would have a box for six months or so and they were available to the whole group. In 1922 a direct service by mail to individuals was added and these two services continued for many years. The direct mailing service is still available to those areas of the province not yet served by adequate libraries.

In 1946, under the Regional Libraries Act, a Supervisor of Regional Libraries was appointed to develop regional library areas within the province. The emphasis then was placed on getting collections of books into the communities in branches of a regional library system.

The province was divided into eight proposed regional library areas, the boundaries being flexible to allow for municipalities on the borders between regions to join whichever region seemed most suited to their trading routes. The objective then was to get the active support of each municipality within those boundaries to provide jointly a library service. The Provincial Government's policy throughout has been to encourage municipalities to take part in such a scheme voluntarily with government grants providing both incentive and continued support.

The first regional library service in Saskatchewan, The North Central Saskatchewan Regional Library, was established in 1950. Eight municipalities co-operated to provide for a population of 25,000. Subsequent development has brought this total to 40 municipalities and the service is now available to 79,000 people.

At the present time, active work is going on in all the other prospective regions toward the formation of the library service. In each case, local taxpayers must, in the end, be responsible for persuading the local councils in their area to support the project. For this reason, a committee has been formed in each proposed region to spread information, gather support and persuade councils to take part. The committees are composed of farmers, housewives, bankers, school teachers and many others, all of whom have voluntarily decided to work together, without even reimbursement of their expenses, in their own free time-to change public opinion, make people aware of the need for libraries and ultimately achieve their purpose of having a library service in their own area available to everyone.

The difficulties which they encounter are formidable. To start with, in order to provide an economic budget, there must be a large enough population represented by the agreement of the appropriate number of councils. This, by experience, has proved to be an absolute minimum of 40,000 people. Because of scattered communities and the large number of municipal councils, it may be necessary to have as many as 70 councils

supporting the region before the population minimum of 40,000 can be achieved. For example, in one region the total population is only 69,800. There people are represented by 117 municipal councils so that about two-thirds of the councils must agree to support the region before it can become a reality.

The commitment of each council amounts to providing 75 cents per capita per year to the Regional Library Board for the operation of the service. In addition, the council also agrees to provide for the space, the maintenance and staffing of a branch library in the community. The Provincial Government provides an initial book grant of \$1.50 per capita and a continuing operating grant of 75 cents per capita per year.

The role of the Provincial Library in regional library promotion (one of its many different roles) is to provide help, technical assistance and encouragement to the committee in each area. At the present time, the Provincial Librarian, the Supervisor of Regional Libraries and two Extension Librarians are concerned with this work. The Extension Librarians are presently allocated to two regions which seem nearest organization and spend virtually all their time in their allotted region.

At this stage, the promotional work consists largely of helping the committee in each region by attending public meetings with them, addressing organizations and groups, meeting with councils, talking to individuals, arranging publicity-through the press, radio and television-and sending out notices of meetings and publicity material on behalf of the committees.

In one region, a demonstration bookmobile service is being sponsored by the Provincial Government for a two-year period and this is also a responsibility of the Extension Librarian in that region.

The problems encountered in this work are challenging. To begin with, the Extension Librarians drive somewhere around 3,000 miles per month. Because they are on the staff of the Provincial Library, in effect loaned to a region for a period, their base must be in Regina.

Being an Extension Librarian in Saskatchewan at the present time is a challenging and stimulating experience. The enormously hard work done by previous Extension Librarians and the members of the regional library committees over a period of years is now having results. The slow process of re-educating people to think in terms of books and libraries has been achieved by years of effective talking and the spread of information on the part of enthusiastic and stimulating personalities-both librarians and local committee members. It is now that the Extension Librarians are able to see results for that work. In continuing it, they are able to build upon the very substantial foundation laid throughout the years.

Very close co-operation exists between the committee members and the Extension Librarian. By virtue of their position as taxpayers in the area, their contact with organizations and their knowledge of people in their communities, the members of the committees are in a unique position. They are the only people who know the local conditions, the municipal council and the effective organizations. The Extension Librarian, because she is employed to do this and is able to travel in the area, can co-ordinate the work of different groups in the area. She can talk to individuals or groups at almost any time in any part of the region.

The committee members, though they travel and speak extensively, are bound by their other commitments and are able to do this work only in their spare time.

The Extension Librarian is "on the road" week in, week out. Depending upon which region she works in, she will begin the week by travelling as much as 200 miles to the area. Throughout the week she will have meetings with individuals, with groups of people or with urban or rural councils. To all of these she explains the organization and working of a regional library and answers questions which this explanation may provoke. Each area has its own special problems but objections to a regional service which appear in all areas are:

1. The cost. To people unaccustomed to reading and to some who have never had an opportunity to see a library, 75¢ from local taxes per year seems very expensive for what they in any case regard as a luxury.

2. Why school and public libraries?

Only recently has the development of school libraries begun to take shape and to many the provision of two types of libraries—both financed from taxes—seems unnecessary and extravagant.

3. Where will we put our book collection?

This, to some people, seems the main difficulty. Many of the small towns are shrinking in population, stores are closing and there seem to be no place which can be fitted up for a library with light and heat except at substantial cost to the town, village or rural municipality. This on top of 75¢, seems to make the service prohibitive from their point of view.

The organizations in the community play an important part in regional library promotion. In every community there are several active groups and when these groups decide to accept the regional library as one of their projects, it has a sizeable effect on the views of the community and eventually on the local council. Both the Extension Librarian and the regional library committee work as much as possible with groups such as the Homemakers, Home and School Association, 4-H groups, the Canadian Legion and others, such as the Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire and the Masonic organizations. Generally, the people who are the most active members of these groups are also the people who are most likely to take up the project and ultimately approach the local council.

Each council seems to demand a different approach when their approval for this scheme is sought. One council will demand a petition from its ratepayers, another will discount a petition altogether and will be influenced only by a delegation from community organizations armed with resolutions from the organizations; yet another will want some indication of interest from their ratepayers at the annual meeting of ratepayers. Rarely, though it does occasionally happen, will a local council pass a resolution in favour of the regional library at a first approach.

Every local situation is different, too. If there is strong rivalry between neighbouring towns, it may be impossible to interest both councils. If one decides to join, the other may not, simple because its neighbour has. Similarly with individuals who approach the council, if they happen to be unpopular with the council members for any reason, this may immediately prejudice the council against the project.

A great deal of work goes into this initial approach to the council. Organizations must be persuaded to endorse the idea, delegations must be formed and reminded and, throughout, there must be at least one person who is well enough briefed to explain and answer questions. A spokesman must be available with the delegation to speak for the group, telling the council why the delegation considers that the council should support the regional library and be able to answer questions on finances and administration for the council. The regional library committee members play a great part here. They attend the council meetings when asked to, with the delegation. The Extension Librarian also attends meetings of this kind specifically to answer technical questions which may arise. On occasion, too, the regional library committees may make direct application to a council, in which case the chairman of the committee and the extension Librarian will meet with the council.

The dissemination of information on this scale could not, of course, be done without a large amount of publicity material. This is designed and prepared by the Provincial Library and the ideas and suggestions of members of the regional library committees are incorporated. There are a basic series of leaflets applicable to all regions but many of the often used ones are suited to one region only. Literally tens of thousands of such pamphlets are distributed every year.

To a new Canadian, library work of this kind is a tremendous challenge. Nowhere in Britain would it be possible to have a job which involves so much travel, meeting so many people or which gives so much scope for individual initiative and application of ideas.

Perhaps the most striking difference between library work in Britain and in Saskatchewan is that in Saskatchewan the opportunity exists to plan and operate absolutely new library services.

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**Have you renewed  
your M.L.A. membership  
for — — 1966-67?**

## NEWS

### Librarians...

The Winnipeg Public Library announces appointments and promotions of the following librarians:

Miss Joan Pert, B.A.(Manitoba), B.L.S.(Toronto), has been appointed librarian in charge of Cornish and Osborne Branches. Mrs. Coreen Koz, B.A.(Manitoba), B.L.S.(Toronto), has become the cataloguing librarian. Miss Jean Giesinger, B.A.(Manitoba), B.L.S.(McGill) is now librarian in charge of the River Heights Branch. Miss Judy Borland, B.A.(Manitoba), B.L.S.(University of British Columbia), is supervisor of extension services. Miss Jean Law, B.A., B.Comm.(Honors), B.Ed.(Manitoba), B.L.S.(Toronto), has been appointed information librarian along with Mrs. E. Dorfman, B.A.(Manitoba), B.L.S.(Toronto); Mrs. Anne Leible, B.F.A.(Manitoba), B.L.S.(Toronto); Philip Shelton, B. A.(Manitoba), B.L.S.(University of British Columbia).

Miss Fay Lando, B. A.(Manitoba), formerly on the staff of the Winnipeg Public Library and the Depts. of Health and Welfare Library received her M.L.S. at McGill University in June.

Miss Christine Biglow, a graduate of the Manitoba Institute of Technology Library Assistants' Course has been appointed to work in the Regional Library Division of the Provincial Library, replacing Miss Gail Engebretsen, who left to take a position with the Library of the Atomic Energy Plant at Pinawa, Manitoba.

### Libraries

The Centennial Commission, Ottawa, is presenting to Public Libraries across Canada a gift of books in both English and French. There was a meeting of Provincial Librarians on May 16, in Ottawa to discuss this project, its distribution, and the relation of English and French books in the collection. Subsequent to this meeting Miss Marjorie Morley, Provincial Librarian and Director of Library Services, held a meeting of Chief Librarians in the Legislative Building, Winnipeg, and recommendations from this meeting were forwarded to the Centennial Commission. In due course the Centennial Commission will make an announcement as to the quantity of books and the number of libraries receiving this gift.

Formal opening of the West End Branch & Extension Headquarters of the Winnipeg Public Library at 823 Ellice Avenue has been set for September 9, 1966.

The theme for the Winnipeg Public Library's Summer Reading Club this year is the Pan American Games - "Be a Champion Reader". Officials of the Pan American Games Society are co-operating with the Library staff involved to make the project a success. About 3,000 children are expected to enroll.

### MANITOBA GOVERNMENT GRANTS TO LIBRARIES, 1966-67.

Name of Library	Basic Annual Grant	Additional Grant	Total Grant
Assiniboine River Regional Library	\$4,000.00	\$4,897.50	\$8,897.50
Boissevain & Morton Regional Library	4,000.00	1,101.00	5,101.00
Brandon Public Library	2,000.00	4,478.70	6,478.70
Dauphin Public Library	2,000.00	1,680.00	3,680.00
Evergreen Regional Library	10,000.00	1,208.40	11,208.40
Flin Flon Public Library	2,000.00	3,130.16	5,130.16
Fort Garry Public Library	2,000.00	4,980.00	6,980.00
Glenwood, Souris Regional Library	4,000.00	960.00	4,960.00
Henderson Regional Public Library	6,000.00	5,792.10	11,792.10
Lakeland Regional Library	8,000.00	1,551.00	9,551.00
Morden-Winkler Regional Library	4,000.00	2,310.00	6,310.00
North-West Regional Library	4,000.00	1,617.00	5,617.00
Pinawa Public Library	2,000.00	900.00	2,900.00
Russell & District Public Library	6,000.00	525.00	6,525.00
St. Boniface Public Library	4,000.00	6,035.80	10,035.80
St. James Public Library	2,000.00	6,920.57	8,920.57
St. Pierre (Bibliotheque Jolys)	4,000.00	924.00	4,924.00
Ste. Rose Regional Library	4,000.00	518.21	4,518.21
St. Vital Public Library	2,000.00	5,167.57	7,167.57
Southwestern Manitoba Regional Library	4,000.00	600.00	4,600.00
Transcona Public Library	2,000.00	4,308.75	6,308.75
Virden-Elkhorn Regional Library	6,000.00	4,683.89	10,683.89
West Kildonan Public Library	2,000.00	4,800.00	6,800.00
Winnipeg Public Library	11,000.00	35,839.70	46,839.70
TOTALS	\$101,000.00	\$104,929.35	\$205,929.35