

Bulletin



Manitoba Library Association

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MANITOBA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

BULLETIN

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- SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS -

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1958.

- 6:00 p.m.
TRUSTEES' SECTION SUPPER MEETING University Women's Club.
- 9:00 - 10:00 p.m.
COFFEE PARTY Cornish Library.
Tendered by the Winnipeg Public Library Staff Association.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1958.

- 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.
GENERAL SESSION Public Library.
Presiding - Alderman David Orlikow, Chairman, Library Committee,
City of Winnipeg.
- 10:15 - 11:45 a.m.
REFERENCE WORKSHOP Public Library.
Chairman - Ruth Bugey, Librarian, Winnipeg Free Press.
- 10:15 - 11:45 a.m.
TRUSTEES' SECTION ANNUAL MEETING (closed) ... Public Library.
Chairman - Mrs. J.W. McInnis, Chairman, Fort Garry Public Library Board.
- 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.
CONFERENCE LUNCHEON St. Andrew's Church
Tendered by the City of Winnipeg. (Ellen & Elgin).
- 2:30 - 4:00 p.m.
GENERAL SESSION Public Library.
Guest speaker - Mary E.P. Henderson, Librarian in charge of Technical
Services, Provincial Library of Saskatchewan, Regina, Saskatchewan.
'Are Librarians Deserving?'.
There will be an opportunity for questions and discussion after the
speech.
- 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
DINNER Moore's Restaurant.
Speaker - Marjorie Morley, Provincial Librarian and Director of Library
Services, Province of Manitoba.
'Report on Regional Libraries in Manitoba'.
- 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
ANNUAL MEETING Moore's Restaurant.

CONFERENCE GUEST SPEAKER

Manitoba Library Association delegates and friends will be privileged to hear an address by Miss Betty Henderson of the Saskatchewan Provincial Library on Saturday, September 27th.

Miss Henderson is a native of Saskatchewan, educated there and in Scotland and British Columbia. She took English Honours, followed by an M.A. in English and Education at the University of British Columbia (1943). After a brief teaching career she took her Bachelor of Library Science from Toronto in 1944, and has since worked in British Columbia and Scotland; later she catalogued in the library of the University of Wales. Returning to Canada early in 1952, she joined the staff of the Provincial Library in Saskatchewan as cataloguer, a position which has now become librarian in charge of technical processes. Many Association members have heard Miss Henderson on the CBC programs Critically Speaking and Trans Canada Matinee.

MANITOBA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

-NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING-

The Annual Meeting of the Association will take place following the fourth Provincial Conference on Saturday, September 27th, at 7 p.m. in Moore's Restaurant.

Reports on the year's activities will be given by the officers of the Association and by the chairmen of the standing committees.

The Nominating Committee will present the following slate of officers for the year 1958/59:

Past President	- Miss Violet Parker, Western Canada Und. Association
President	- Mr. John S. Russell, St. James Public Library.
Vice-President	- Miss Nettie Siemens, Winnipeg Public Library
Secretary	- Miss Eileen McFadden, University of Manitoba Library
Treasurer	- Miss Miriam Skaling, Department of Health Library

Chairmen of Standing Committees:

Programme	- Miss Kathleen Gillespie, Canadian Broadcasting Corp.
Membership	- Mrs. D. Carlson, Manitoba Hydro Electric Board
Legislation	- Mr. M.D. Coleman, Brandon Public Library
Publicity and Public Relations	- Miss C.P. Roblin, Manitoba Medical College
Bulletin	- Mr. G.C. Noble, University Extension Library
School Libraries	- Robt. M.A. Park, Librarian, Elmwood High School
Trustees	- Presiding Officer, Trustees' Section

Members are reminded of the following extract from the By-laws of the Association:

Article 3 (b) "Any member of the Association may make additional nominations from the floor at the annual meeting, providing that consent to stand has been obtained from the nominees. In case more than one member is nominated for any office, election shall be by ballot."

- Margaret Mackenzie,
Secretary.

LIBRARIANSHIP

"Librarianship is real social work demanding the utmost in service and devotion from its members. It asks them to work long hours for small pay and little or no recognition. To do this for a lifetime and to do it successfully the librarian must have a lifelong conviction that libraries are good for people, and that he is good for libraries. How many librarians have asked themselves, 'Why am I fit to be a librarian?' In answering the question it would be insufficient to say that one is a librarian through love of books. This would qualify a man as a book-collector but, to be a librarian, he must also want to share his delight in books with others, to help others to get the best out of books and to use them as an aid and inspiration in their everyday life. Unless, like a father, the librarian takes on this work without any expectation of gratitude, he is bound to be disappointed. People do not feel consciously grateful every moment of their lives for the services of the roadmakers, postal workers or water engineers on whom they depend so much: their services are taken for granted and, if librarianship is to be permanently successful, it must expect the same anonymous and silent recognition that every efficient aspect of service to the community receives - that of being accepted without patent acknowledgment. A community only expresses its feeling when a public service is bad or inadequate..."

"In the world of books it is all too easy to divorce oneself from everyday life, but the librarian does this not only at his own peril but, more important, at that of the library. If the librarian is to serve his community faithfully and well he must keep in constant contact with all its activities - industrial and commercial as well as cultural - and with its aspirations. He must be prepared to serve on many committees in his spare time and to help with other outside projects whenever and wherever he can be of practical assistance. It is only in this way that the librarian can make his library a permanent living force in the life of the community, so that no member of it will ever feel inclined to ask either 'Why a library?' or 'Why a librarian?'"

- Robert L. Collision, Westminster Public Libraries, in UNESCO BULLETIN for LIBRARIES, July 1958.

LIBRARIANSHIP - AN AMERICAN VIEWPOINT

"...The essential behind all our expanded programs, whether in public, college or school libraries, is the book, and the essential qualification in our profession is the knowledge of books and the use of books. This is the fundamental point which has changed not at all since the days of 1876 and long before. Books and book selection have been with us so long and are so basic to libraries and librarians that sometimes they seem to lose importance,

recognition and impact, through their very presence at all times ...

"...We as individual librarians can set a pace for our readers back home. Is it too much to suggest that each member of the Association read a book a week? If we should do this, 1,056,952 books would be read in one year by our own 20,326 members. We too, can reach out, broaden our interests and backgrounds by reading books that make us think. Librarians have an obligation to stem the wave of anti-intellectualism today. Is not the egghead to be fostered rather than ridiculed?

"We will find strong allies outside our immediate profession - a program concentrating on good books will be welcomed I know, by educators, publishers, booksellers - and basically the public itself. The cynic will say this is just another way to sell more books; the true professional will welcome another means to bring the thoughts and ideas of another time and the current thinking of today to a wider audience...

"I should like to propose that while we are actively emphasizing the world of books in this country in 1958-59, that we lay plans for an International Book Year for 1959-1960, with a culmination of that year in the international conference program at Montreal in 1960. That we may expect some of our British colleagues to attend this meeting, I am certain, and I know of no good reason why librarians from other countries may not also come.

'The world of books is the most remarkable creation of man. Nothing else that he builds ever lasts. Monuments fall; nations perish; civilizations grow old and die out; and, after an era of darkness, new races build others. But in the world of books are volumes that have seen this happen again and again, and yet live on, still young, still as fresh as the day they were written, still telling mens' hearts of the hearts of men centuries dead.'

The foregoing is an excerpt from the inaugural address of the new President of the American Library Association, Emerson Greenaway. The quotation 'The world of books...' is from a talk by Clarence Day given at Yale University in 1920.

THE LIBRARY TRUSTEE

Trustees carry a very heavy responsibility. Not only are they responsible for the efficient running of the library, but they are responsible to the people. They are a liaison between the library and the community and are directly responsible to the people for the money intrusted to them. In view of this, I feel that it is important that library boards be well represented (at National and Provincial library conferences).

From the official register I compiled some rather startling figures. Of the 481 attending the CLA Conference in Quebec, only 28 were trustees! Of these, 20 were from Ontario (a fine representation). My own province, Saskatchewan, placed second with 4 members registered. British Columbia had 2 and Nova Scotia also had 2. Six provinces were not represented at all, and to my surprise, my two sister provinces, Alberta and Manitoba, were among those absent.

It is important that our staff receive the stimulation of these yearly conferences, but it is equally important that the trustees attend. Attendance gives us a broad view of library work and a better understanding of what librarians are trying to do.

How about it, trustees? Let's have proper representation next year. I can personally guarantee that the C.L.A. Conference is a worthwhile experience.

See you in Edmonton in '59.

Mildred M. Taylor,
(Mrs. H.C. Taylor)
Public Library Board,
Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan.

Reprinted from "A New Trustee Goes to Quebec" in Provincial Librarian's (Newsletter). Regina, Saskatchewan, September, 1958.

THE SCHOOL LIBRARIES SECTION

of the Manitoba Library Association was host last Spring to a good turnout of members meeting in the Daniel McIntyre Library to hear a delightful address by Mrs. Kathleen Strange.

Mrs. Strange, the author of "Never a dull moment", and "With the West in her eyes", fascinated her audience with a description of a three year visit to England where she and her husband lived in Brighton and Rottingdean - 5 miles east of Brighton - the home of Rudyard Kipling. They met other authors living there who enjoyed the special atmosphere of Brighton and the surrounding district. Among these were Elleston Trevor, Frank Usher, and Enid Bagnold (of "National Velvet" fame). At a PEN Congress, presided over by Charles Morgan, there were 750 delegates - the most famous writers from every country in the world, with the exception of the United States. Rosamond Lehmann and Margaret Kennedy attended the Congress and Mrs. Strange had one or two kind remarks to make on these interesting literary personalities.

There is a very good public library in Brighton, built in the George IV pavilion at a cost of £70,000. Mrs. Strange was impressed by the large reading public in England, where books are cheaper and the average home has row upon row of books, and where bookshops thrive even in small villages.

Although those present at the School Libraries Section meeting envied Mrs. Strange her sojourn in England, everyone was happy to know that she and her husband have returned to Winnipeg, their prairie home.

Young Canada's Book Week, 1958

Young Canada's Book Week, sponsored by the Canadian Library Association - Association Canadienne des Bibliothèques, will be celebrated in Canada from November 15th to 22nd. The C.B.C. network will carry programmes in both French and English. Newspapers and magazines, through special features, will provide a national background to the local community celebration.

The object of Book Week is to arouse interest in good literature for boys and girls and to stimulate pleasure in reading.

The Honourable Muriel McQueen Fergusson, Members of the Senate of Canada, has graciously consented to be patroness of Young Canada's Book Week, 1958.

The Patroness' Message - in part

Give a Child a Book --
Give Children Libraries

by Senator Muriel McQueen Fergusson
Patroness, Young Canada's Book Week, 1958.

This is the tenth year that the Canadian Library Association - Association Canadienne des Bibliothèques - has sponsored Young Canada's Book Week - La Semaine du Livre pour la Jeunesse Canadienne. During this time progress has been made toward providing Canadian children with more and better books, both in French and English. Young Canada's Book Week also has aroused in children a greater interest in good books, but much more remains to be done before all Canadian children have an equal chance to enjoy these privileges. Very few, if any, private libraries can supply the need of rapidly growing young minds, and to fill this need Public Libraries are necessary. Today, in rural Canada, only fifteen percent of our children have access to Public Library services. Efforts should continue until these services are available to all Canadian children ...

All young children have a keen desire to have stories read to them and to learn to read books for themselves, but that desire may be dulled or turned toward harmful books if the best type of book is not made available to them...

During Young Canada's Book Week every child should receive at least one good book, and if possible the donor should take sufficient interest to see that the child receiving the book has a chance to talk about it with an adult who is familiar with it and who can explain it and discuss it intelligently.

Reading is one of the greatest joys of life and when we help children to become interested in books we give them an opportunity to secure for themselves that precious heritage, to which they are entitled and which is treasured by so many older people today - a real love of books and reading..

- Catherine Watts

SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

The 49th Convention of the Special Libraries Association was held at the Hotel Sherman in Chicago, during the week beginning June 8, 1958, with over 1000 registrants.

The keynote speaker at the opening session was James C. Worthy, Vice President in charge of Public Relations, Sears, Roebuck & Co., who spoke on "creativity", the theme of the Convention. Various phases of the subject of creativity were discussed at the general sessions - Dr. Robert F. Medina, Research Psychologist, J. Walter Thompson Co., spoke on "Self-Awareness and the Creative Process". He pointed out that speed of communication today hampers individual effort - management sometimes yields to the temptation to find answers to problems rather than let the person on the spot make the decision - and stressed the fact that there is really no accidental creativity - a person must be "aware" before a creative process can take place. Herman Henkle, librarian of The John Crerar Library, spoke on "Creativity and You" - dwelling on the necessity for those in supervisory positions to permit those under them the "freedom" of growth by allowing them the freedom to make mistakes and so to grow and mature, to avoid making decisions without hearing a person through, and to develop the skill of knowing when people are ready for more difficult duties.

The business session of the Conference dealt with amendments to the Constitution. The most important was that concerning standard of membership. Active membership in the future will be restricted to those holding a professional position in a special library, who fulfill certain requirements as to a degree in library science combined with varying years of experience, or, in lieu of these, 10 years experience in library work, at least 2 years of which shall have been in professional work in a special library. Subject "specialists" with no degree in library science must have 5 years experience in a special library, including 3 years in a professional position. Professional experience is defined as -

1. Administration of a special library;
2. Evaluation, selection, organization and dissemination of material in a special library;
3. Reference and research in a special library;
4. Bibliographical work in a special library.

The various Divisions held their own sessions, these taking the form of panel discussions, workshops or addresses. There were tours to publishing houses, newspapers, libraries and industrial plants. The lighter side included teas, receptions and, best of all, those smaller get-togethers before and after the scheduled events!

The Fiftieth anniversary of SLA will be celebrated at the 1959 Convention in Atlantic City, May 31 to June 3. The general theme will be "Work Standards" The Convention will be three days rather than the usual four, with a day in Philadelphia as a post-conference event.

THE ST. PAUL'S COLLEGE STUDENTS' LIBRARY
ON THE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS

Of the many advantages students at the new St. Paul's site will enjoy, not the least should be reckoned the library.

The present floor space is four thousand five hundred square feet and this will be increased by about three thousand square feet, when the two temporary class-rooms are removed, thus giving the entire floor to the library.

The reading-room will accommodate a hundred students at tables for four, and the lighting is arranged to provide thirty foot candles at reading level, with an even light throughout.

As only one side of the library has windows, it will be practically sound-proof and should be conducive to serious study.

When the temporary class-rooms are removed, the large window in the north wall will give an excellent view of the Chapel Tower and landscape.

Most of the books are in one bank of stacks at the entrance end of the library, with the Reference section of easy access. There is a fine blending of color between the stacks and the rest of the library.

Future plans provide for a series of rooms along the south wall. These will include: Librarian's Office, Library Work Room, Rare Book Room, Micro-film room, two Research rooms, and special sound proof Reading-room. Later, when the class-rooms are removed, the large window in the north wall will provide an excellent view from the Reading Room.

Fortunately there is abundant space for expansion for years to come, and the Rector is for making the library the centre of intellectual research for the students.

Visitors will be welcome any week-day from 9 to 5.

Arthur J. Cotter, S.J.

HERE WE ARE LAGGING

When Andrew Carnegie began devoting his wealth to public causes, one of his first moves was to support local public libraries throughout the English-speaking world. Before he died, he saw the establishment of some 2,500 Carnegie libraries.

Today's highly professionalized charitable and educational foundations might regard this as a quaint and naive approach to the problem of encouraging the spread of education. There was no survey of community resources, no learned report on the probable role of the library in the integrated community of tomorrow - but there were libraries.

What Carnegie was making available to the English-speaking world

was the Scotsman's secret weapon: the urge for self-improvement. The Scots who hold key positions in every part of the world owe much to the do-it-yourself concept of education that prompted Carnegie to plant libraries in bush and pasture. Today, Canadian government and business are being run by a generation whose minds were nourished by the books Carnegie helped to make available.

We are not doing as well by the present generation of Canadians. Library-building in this country has not kept pace with population increase, growing incomes, school building, book output - or with any other measure of expansion. What's more, much of the library development that has taken place has been in the provision of special libraries for research or other scholarly purposes - very necessary and useful, but no substitute for general libraries available to all comers.

Libraries are an even better investment now than they were in Carnegie's time. Today everyone has more leisure. The body of knowledge has immensely expanded, so that only wide reading, begun at an early age, can possibly give a modern adult a general understanding of the world around him. Events and places once remote and safely ignored (such as the dynastic struggles of Arab kings) now affect us all intimately.

For all these reasons, the encouragement of reading is a national necessity. To provide such encouragement, it's not only necessary to be sure, through the school system, that Johnny can read. It's also necessary to see that Johnny has something to read.

This fall, many Canadian municipalities will be considering by-laws for the establishment of additional libraries, and provincial governments and private institutions will be reviewing library grants. Whatever sums emerge from these deliberations will be money well spent.

The foregoing is an editorial taken from the FINANCIAL POST of August 9, 1958, and reprinted in PROVINCIAL LIBRARIAN'S (NEWSLETTER), Regina, Saskatchewan, September, 1958.

CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS
OF THE
THIRTEENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE,
CANADIAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
June 18, 1958.

DEFINITION OF OBSCENITY

WHEREAS, certain groups of Canadian citizens have requested the Minister of Justice to include a definition of obscenity in the Criminal Code in an attempt to obtain stricter control of objectionable literature;

AND WHEREAS, Canadian librarians are seriously concerned with the advancement of intellectual freedom, including freedom of inquiry, and with ensuring the availability to libraries of recorded materials, including books, periodicals, newspapers and films;

AND WHEREAS, in the considered opinion of this Association the best means of combatting objectionable literature is to provide all children, young people and adults in Canada with adequate public library resources;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT the Canadian Library Association would deplore the inclusion in the Criminal Code of such a definition of obscenity, as might tend to limit freedom of inquiry, or to restrict the availability of any pertinent library materials.

FEDERAL AID

WHEREAS adequate library service is not available to a majority of Canadians;

AND WHEREAS the question has been raised of the need for federal aid to assist provincial and local governments to discharge their responsibilities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT the Canadian Library Association authorize the Executive to seek special funds to enable the Association, with the co-operation of provincial library agencies and library associations:

To make a comprehensive study of existing provincial library services, financial aid to public libraries, and plans for provincial and local library development;

To study the need for financial participation by the Government of Canada in provincial library programmes;

To draw up a plan for federal assistance if these studies demonstrate that such aid is necessary to achieve adequate library service for all Canadians.

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT a "Book" or "Library" Week be held in Canada next year, at the same time as the American Library Week; and that the Canadian Library Association and the Book Publishers Association be asked to jointly appoint a representative or representatives, to meet with the Steering Committee of the American Library Week, to investigate the possibility of co-operation and joint promotion of such a week.