

Bulletin



*Manitoba
Library
Association*

MANITOBA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

BULLETIN

V.8, Nos. 2 & 3 September 1960

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MISS ELIZABETH DAFOE

Members of the Manitoba Library Association were deeply saddened by the death last spring of Miss Elizabeth Dafoe, who had been chief librarian at the University of Manitoba since 1937.

Miss Dafoe was born in Montreal, the daughter of the eminent editor and later chancellor of the University of Manitoba, John W. Dafoe and Alice Parmelce Dafoe. At an early age she came to Winnipeg where she received her education, culminating in her graduation from the University of Manitoba in 1922. After this came training in Library Science, acquired at the Library School of the New York Public Library supplemented by sessions at the University of Chicago Graduate Library School.

Miss Dafoe devoted her entire professional career to the University of Manitoba Library, moving up in positions of responsibility from her first appointment as Circulation and Reference assistant in 1925, to chief cataloguer in 1932, to chief librarian of the Junior Division in 1935, and finally to the position of chief librarian in 1937. Under her guidance library services on the campus were consolidated in 1952 in the beautiful new library building in whose planning she played such a vital part.

Miss Dafoe gave freely of her time to professional associations and to various committees which would further the development of library service in Canada. She was president of the M. L. A. from 1942 - 4, president of the C. L. A. in 1948, a member of the A. L. A. Council from 1949 - 54, a member of the National Library Committee in 1948, and had been a member of the National Library Advisory Council since 1952.

Her outstanding achievements in the field of library science will be greatly missed in Manitoba and throughout Canada.

From University of Manitoba Library Staff Association
President's Report 1959-60

....The past year has been a very sad year for us during which we have suffered the loss of Miss Dafoe. Some of us here have known Miss Dafoe for many years while others for only a short time and still others have not had a chance to know her at all, but her loss has been keenly felt by all of us. For me it was a privilege to have known her. Our sympathies are especially with those of us here who have lost in Miss Dafoe not only a professional associate of many years, but also a dear friend. Miss Dafoe became a part of this library in 1925 and has devoted thirty-five years of her life to its development and growth. On the day she passed away Miss Greer said to me "An era has ended". How true!....

...

OLIA WANG (Mrs. Dalton Wang)

M. L. A. CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23rd, 1960

6:00 p.m.

TRUSTEES' SECTION SUPPER MEETING (Closed) - \$2.00.....
Silver Heights Restaurant, Portage Ave. and Sharpe Blvd.

7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

FILM SHOWING.....St. James Public Library,
Boys and Girls Department.

Royal River. The Opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway by Her Majesty the Queen during Her 1959 Visit to Canada. The extent of the Seaway and its many functions are well shown in this 30 minute colour film.

New Chapters. The potential of the public library as a common centre for the planned cultural activities of Canadian communities is portrayed in this film with the scene laid in the London, Ontario, Public Library and Art Museum.

9:00 p.m.

RECEPTION.....St. James Public Library,
Tendered by the St. James Public Library Board and the St. James Lionelles.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24th, 1960

9:30 a.m.

GENERAL SESSION.....St. James Public Library, Reference Dept.

Presiding - J. L. Gardiner, Chairman, St. James Public Library Board.

Greetings - Honourable Stewart E. McLean, Minister of Education,
Province of Manitoba.

Neal Harlow, President, Canadian Library Association.

Miss Donalda Putnam, President, Saskatchewan Library Association.

Welcome - His Worship, Thomas B. Findlay, Mayor of St. James.

Reply - Miss Nettie Siemens, President, Manitoba Library Association; Assistant Librarian, Winnipeg Public Library.

Summary of Exhibits - Solomon B. Katz, Chairman, Exhibits Committee;
Cataloguing Department, The University of Manitoba Library.

10:15 a.m.

PANEL DISCUSSION -

CERTIFICATION OF LIBRARIANS.....St. James Public Library,
Reference Department.

Chairman - Miss Marjorie Morley, Provincial Librarian and Director
of Library Services, Province of Manitoba.

Speakers - Miss Margaret Ashley, Chief Cataloguer, Winnipeg Public
Library.
Miss Magdalen Brownlee, Information Section, Winnipeg
Public Library.
Robert Parke, Librarian, Elmwood High School.
Miss Violet B. Parker, Librarian, Canadian Underwriters'
Association.
Professor J. B. Rudnykyj, Member, Winnipeg Public Library
Committee.

There will be an opportunity for general discussion at the conclusion
of the speakers' remarks.

1:00 p.m.

CONFERENCE LUNCHEON.....Assiniboine Hotel
Tendered by the City of St. James.

Guest Speaker - Neal Harlow, Librarian, The University of British
Columbia; President, Canadian Library Association.

3:00 p.m.

ANNUAL MEETING.....St. James Public Library, Reference Dept.

Agenda

- Reading and Confirming of the Minutes of the last Annual Meeting.
- Unfinished business and business arising out of the Minutes.
- Reports of officers.
- Reports of committee chairman.
- Report of Resolutions Committee.
- New business.
- Report of the Nominating Committee and the election of officers and chairmen
of standing committees.
- Adjournment.

5:00 p.m.

HIGH TEA - \$.75.....St. James Public Library, Main Floor.

STONES OR BREAD -

WHICH WILL A LIBRARY OFFER TO CHILDREN?

by Helen B. Robertson
 Supervisor of Children's Services, Winnipeg Public Library

There should be a special feeling in a children's library. Here is a place where a boy or girl may stay ten minutes or several hours. He should be free to reach out and take any book that pleases him and no one will ask his race or religion or whether he is rich or poor. Here, to quote Paul Hazard "He does not have to combat anyone. He is someone. He is master of the house".

This places a grave responsibility upon the librarian. She must have the courage to remove from the shelves all those poorly written sports stories, those unrealistic career books and overly sensational mysteries and adventure stories, so that when a child does choose a book it will be one carefully selected and worthy of his attention. "Evidence has shown that children will read as widely and as happily from shelves of nothing but good books, as they will from shelves of poor to mediocre books", says Mary Eakin in her preface to "Good books for children". "Children do not, of their own accord and with no adult guidance, tend to choose good books in preference to mediocre or poor ones. They will remember the good ones longer and with greater pleasure but they will not voluntarily choose them without considerable guidance from some adult in whose judgment they have confidence". This makes it necessary, too, for the person guiding the child's choice to avoid the superficially attractive books for children which, in V. J. Smith's expressive phrase, are made "to fit in between the greeting card counter and the toy department taking on the characteristics of both areas".

A good children's library should also provide information and training for the student among its patrons. If he is to pursue a chosen field he must learn to go beyond his text book and classroom instruction, to read widely and not to confine his knowledge to "brief statements in capsule treatment". No longer is it necessary to sugar coat information or present it in fictionalized form providing it is clearly and interestingly written. Children, at all levels, prefer a straight forward presentation of fact.

There is something very important here, however, that we must watch and continually keep in mind. "In an age of science we have grown scientific about our children. They are reduced to formulas; we think of them in terms of I.Q.'s, of vocabulary range, of remedial reading. We present to them, with great solemnity but in words of one syllable, an explanation of the world about them exactly tailored to their capacities as we think we know them. But what of the eager, reaching elusive spirit of childhood which has its own far horizons, and a friendly and familiar acquaintance with miracle?" says Lillian Smith in her "The Unreluctant Years". Someone has to ask this, else the picture becomes too one-sided. One sure way to find an answer is to work in a library with children. All one need do is to take an interest in what a boy or girl is reading, to be surprised and pleased by some comment so unexpectedly penetrating and sensitive as to make the tied-to-earth limitations of theories on children and reading quite inadequate.

This being so, what are we to do about "the classics"? Do we hide behind them as an excuse to "avoid reading widely and forming opinions on modern writing for children"? asks M. E. Edwards in the New York Times. This bears some thinking about. One thing is sure "It does not matter if the true children's classics are read at the age of ten or forty or eighty", again to quote Mary Eakin. "However" she goes on "they are not likely to be read at any age unless the reader develops an understanding of good writing and an appreciation for it, and such understanding and appreciation does not result from a steady diet of Nancy Drew".

If any conclusion can be drawn from the opinion of the authorities quoted it is this: there is one goal which is the aim of all who work with children, and that is to give them, always, the best.

Perhaps the following excerpt from an article by Mary Campbell, published in the Ontario Library Review strikes the keynote for Young Canada Book Week which is being observed this year from November 15 to November 22. "There are a great number of pleasant and intelligent people who forget about books when they leave school, or who live in suburbs with elaborate shopping and recreational centres but no libraries. The library services of the next generation will probably depend upon the influence of the library and its librarians on our present day boys and girls."

Sources of quotations:

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
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| Hazard, Paul. | Books, children and men. | Horn Book, 1944. |
| Smith, Lillian A. | The unreluctant years. | American Library Association, 1952. |
| New York Times. Children's Book section. May 1960. | | |
| The New Republic. Nov 9, 1960. | | |
| Ontario Library Review. May, 1960. | | |

FULLERIN

Several gaps exist in the M. L. A.'s run of the "Bulletin". Members are urged to send any back issues which can be spared to the Provincial Library, where the Association's holdings are housed.

SOME MATERIAL AVAILABLE FOR YOUNG CANADA'S BOOK WEEK:
Nov. 15 - 22, 1960

(Minimum order 50¢.) address orders: Canadian Library Association,
Room 606, 62 Sparks Street, Ottawa 4, Ont. Attention: Miss June E. Munro.

Description

....Booklists

Books for Young People25¢ each
? for \$1.00

An annotated illustrated list of approximately
250 old and new books for high school libraries.

....Canadian Books 195920¢ each
6 for \$1.00

An annotated list of books for Young People's
Libraries - senior and junior books indicated.

....Good Books to read 1 - 10025¢ each
over 10020¢ each

An excellent illustrated list of approximately
500 children's books arranged by subjects.

....Posters

Young Canada astride a hobby horse enjoying a book; paper, in red,
gold and white. 14" x 21".....50¢ each

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARIES

We are sorry to lose Mr. McDonald Coleman, formerly librarian at the
Brandon Public Library. Mr. Coleman has held various positions on the Executive
of the M. L. A. and his efforts and enthusiasm will be missed. We wish him well
in his new position as Assistant Librarian at the Calgary Public Library.

At this time we would like to welcome Mr. Carl Wicklund, Mr. Coleman's
successor at Brandon, to the M. L. A. Mr. Wicklund is a graduate of the University
of Toronto Library School.

Miss Natalie Pohorecky, a 1960 graduate of McGill Library School, has
joined the staff of the Winnipeg Public Library Extension Department.

WHAT IS A "FRIEND"?

by Nancy Clare

Have you ever expected 50 people for lunch and had 400 turn up? That's what happened to the FRIENDS OF THE ROCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY when it offered "Literature and Lunch" for 75¢ during a ten-week series of noonday programmes of book reviews by well-known local people. The talks were a resounding success, but most important, - the series fulfilled its purpose of bringing people to the Library.

The annual book sale of volumes collected from the townspeople by the FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY OF HAWAII in Honolulu produced interesting sidelights, - a man who had just moved to "Snob Hill" bought \$25.00 worth of books in attractive bindings and "colours suitable for his living room"; a mother objected to her grown son's purchase of a Latin tome, labelled "libri sex" because it might be pornographic!! It also raised \$2,000.00 for the "Friends" in 1957. The Library is allowed first choice, and titles that can be profitably added to its collection are taken out of the gifts; the rest are classified and priced for sale. The money earned at these fund-raising projects has bought many things for the Library, - a baby grand piano for the auditorium, Braille books for blind children, Hawaiiana, a movie projector - and a library school scholarship has been established.

Publicity for the Library's services worth more than the dollars earned by its book sale was achieved by the FRIENDS OF THE CORNELL PUBLIC LIBRARY in Ithaca, New York. The "Friends" also keeps local government officials informed as to the Library's needs and its meaning to the community. By quiet, persistent pressure it has made those responsible for the budget see that a library can be as important as a public park, or even good roads and a police force. The result, over the years, has been a sizeable increase in the amount of money appropriated annually by the city for its library.

Autograph parties with local - and notable - authors autographing copies of their books sold by the FRIENDS OF THE SAN MARINO PUBLIC LIBRARY in California have proved popular. The "Friends" has sponsored a Junior Friends composed of boys and girls who hold meetings featuring folk singers, storytellers, and films; it has promoted a lecture programme of public interest; and it has helped the librarians cope with the registration and entertainment of delegates to a library conference.

In Brooklyn, New York, the "Friends" presents an annual award to an outstanding employee in the system; at the University of Detroit it has undertaken to provide the Library with a ten-year subscription to a Roadex Microprint edition of the "Early American Imprints"; in Springfield, Virginia, it not only raised funds for a new library but made the members of the community feel that this was truly "their" library, to which they had contributed, and which they were using.

Far and wide, Friends of the Library organizations enrich the resources of libraries by acquiring - through gifts - books, magazines, and other library materials, as well as fine and rare book collections. They support building programmes; secure bookmobiles; contribute to the cultural opportunities of the community by sponsoring book fairs, exhibits, story hours, forums, book talks, and musicals. In the United States alone there are over 325 such groups.

Closer to home, the FRIENDS OF THE ST. VITAL PUBLIC LIBRARY founded its library and has given it untiring support. And in Winnipeg, the newly formed FRIENDS OF THE WINNIPEG PUBLIC LIBRARY hopes to help interpret the library to the community and promote the extension and strengthening of its programme.

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SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

The first scholarship of the Manitoba Library Association, worth \$100, has been awarded to Mr. I. R. Strauss, a recent graduate of the University of Manitoba. Mr. Strauss will attend the University of Toronto Library School during the 1960 - 61 session.

THE MOOSE AND THE TIGER LILY¹

I

Thoughts winnowed from a Prairie Conference
by Violet B. Parker

The "Frontenac" pointed westward cruised smoothly between 60 and 65 m.p.h. and, with a broadside wind, attained something less than 20 miles-per-gallon.

The foregoing statistics cannot tell the whole story of the comfortable journey from Winnipeg to Moose Jaw made by your President, Miss Nettie Siemens and those of us fortunate enough to accompany her to the Saskatchewan Library Association Annual Conference held May 29th and 30th, 1960. The passengers on this trip were Mrs. Harold Moore, Chairman of the Trustee Section of the Manitoba Library Association, Miss Catherine Watts, Librarian of the St. Vital Public Library, and your reporter, Violet B. Parker.

On arrival at Moose Jaw, our first words were exchanged with Miss Betty Carnie and Miss Alice Turner of Saskatoon, who greeted us in the lobby of the Grant Hall Hotel with an uncertain "Are you librarians?". These scouts then informed us "Miss Murray is looking for you". We were impressed and at once felt a part of this conference. Soon, Miss M. Ruth Murray, President of the Saskatchewan Library Association, found us in the hotel dining room and gave us her kind welcome.

The Moose Jaw Public Library is a substantial, dignified looking building (built on Carnegie lines but paid for by civic funds) set in a delightful park. A feature of the library is an interesting circular balcony over the charging desk.

Moose Jaw almost outdoes Kew at lilac time. Bushes were in almost every garden and the bloom was at its height on the last two days in May. Throughout the conference the scent of lilac and honeysuckle wafted in the library windows.

Activities opened with a reception Sunday evening at the Public Library. Once past the dignified receiving line composed of Miss Murray, His Worship Mr. O. B. Fysh, Mayor of Moose Jaw, Mr. Frank Baker, Chairman of the Library Board, and Mr. Bradford Harrison III, newly appointed Chief Librarian of the Moose Jaw Public Library, we were confronted by a lively gathering of friends greeting friends from Saskatoon, Regina and Moose Jaw. Here we found another guest of the conference, Miss Phyllis Lapworth of Medicine Hat, who carried Alberta's greeting to the conference. Your representatives were entertained by the delighted salutations given each new arrival and particularly by the exclamations made over each delegate's new hat. We were happy to renew acquaintance with Miss Marion Gilroy, Miss Mary Donaldson and Miss Betty Henderson, all of whom have attended Manitoba Library Association conferences. We caught up with Miss Lyle Evans the next day. We were introduced to many other folk, some known to us by name and from correspondence.

¹ Motifs on conference place cards.

Monday, we attended the business session and heard reports of officers and committee chairmen and observed the keenness of the members in participating in discussion. After a coffee break we attended a Trustees' Panel discussion chaired by the handsome Mr. Justice R. L. Brownridge, immediate past chairman of the Moose Jaw Public Library Board. This discussion on the problems of boards and their relationship to city councils, librarians and library patrons was interesting to those of us who are adjusted to the "closed" sign at trustee meetings at Manitoba Library Association conferences. Mrs. Moore was invited to comment during the discussion which followed this panel.

Luncheon was held at the Harwood Hotel when the delegates were guests of the Moose Jaw Library Board. Mr. Frank Butler chaired the luncheon and Dr. George W. Brown, editor-in-chief of the Dictionary of Canadian Biography, was guest speaker. We were interested to hear Dr. Brown describe the progress of this enterprise since his talk to the Manitoba Library Association last September. He still gives credit for the whole operation to the canary.

Early in the afternoon session, Miss Siemens was given an opportunity to voice greetings from the Manitoba Library Association and express the hope that joint conferences would soon become usual practice.

Important items on the agenda for the afternoon were - a panel on "The Place of Libraries in Research" and (after a coffee break) the serious matter of Resolutions. Members of the panel were Miss Betty Carnic (Saskatoon), Miss Mary Young (Regina), Dr. G. W. Brown, Mr. Neal Harlow, President-Elect of the Canadian Library Association, and Chairman, Mr. John Archer (Regina). The subject was well presented by the panel. Miss Carnic stressed the responsibilities of a scientific Special Library whose librarians must select, collect and provide material which must be of immediate access; she stated that the thoughts of these librarians must always be for the comfort and welfare of their research students. Miss Young outlined the assistance rendered by the reference department of a public library which must be readily available. This department, the speaker emphasized, must be manned by a staff imbued with a love of service. Mr. Harlow covered the responsibility of a university library which must always be prepared to provide the help asked for by the earnest student. Dr. Brown, gently chiding from the researcher's point of view, expressed his appreciation of the comments from the other panel members which he stated stressed what librarians "ought to do". He suggested that librarians should be ever watchful of guarding Canadian historical material, particularly with reference to local biographical material. After a few pertinent questions from the floor, which were satisfactorily handled by the panel, Mr. Archer closed the discussion with the pleasant despatch we have come to expect from him as Treasurer of the Canadian Library Association.

The Conference Banquet was held in the Grant Hall Hotel, when the hosts were the City of Moose Jaw and the Moose Jaw Chamber of Commerce. After a few congratulatory remarks from His Worship, Mayor Fysh, we were treated to an address by Mr. Neal Harlow who outlined the proposed plan of action for C. L. A. in 1960 - 61 in relation to existing library resources and plans to strengthen and extend them.

Monday night, the conference ended, we retired to our motel to discuss provincial conferences with emphasis on joint conferences. While the serious aspects of this conference will eventually fade from memory, we shall all think, for some time, of the warm hospitality, the coffee breaks, the attractive hats and lilac time in Moose Jaw.

Tuesday morning we visited Regina and met again some of our conference colleagues who showed us their library operations. This, too, was a day well spent, to be remembered by some for bargains in hats and others for pecan pie with whipped cream.

Tuesday afternoon we headed for the trans-Canada highway. The "Frontenac" pointed eastward cruised smoothly at 60 - 65 m.p.h., and, with a tail-wind, achieved 20 miles-per-gallon; this to the obvious pleasure of the owner-driver.

II

A Trustee's Impressions - by Inga Moore

Trustees' Panel

It had been planned to have the morning meeting a closed one for trustees, but there is as yet, no trustees section in the Saskatchewan Library Association and the final decision was to have an open meeting with only trustees on the panel, but general discussion following.

Mr. Justice Brownridge, a former member of the Moose Jaw board took the chair and members of the panel were Mrs. Davies, Regina, Mrs. Martin, Moose Jaw, Mrs. McKinnon, Saskatoon, and Mrs. Taylor, Moose Jaw. Each member of the panel took a different aspect of the trustee's responsibility and they all made an excellent presentation. Mrs. Davies led off with a brief outline of the type of person who makes a good library trustee. I imagine all trustees present looked into their hearts and wondered if they measured up to her high standards in this regard. She said, what cannot be repeated too often, that being interested in books is not enough to make a good library trustee, and went on to describe a very first class all round citizen, which is what every good trustee should be. Next, Mrs. Martin, in a very lively and engaging manner, described the functions of a library trustee. I have no doubt at all that Mrs. Martin lives up to her own concept of duty as a member of a library board and I am sure the Moose Jaw Public Library board is very glad to have her wit and her wisdom to help settle the problems that come up and make the board meetings run smoothly and efficiently. Mrs. McKinnon had a slightly more tricky presentation to make and did very well indeed. Her subject was the trustee and the staff, and this is a subject that does sometimes produce problems for the library board. Does a member of the library staff have the right to approach the board directly or only through the librarian? This matter brought most questions in the discussion that followed, but the consensus of opinion was that a staff member

should approach the board only through the librarian, but that this course was always open to them and should be used when necessary. Finally Mrs. Taylor discussed the matter of finance. All she wanted was money, and lots more of it. She divided the financing of public libraries into two sections 1) buildings and 2) books and staff, and of these she claimed that staff was most important and there was no dissenting voice. She had some criticism for the present set-up of government grants to public libraries. In Saskatchewan at the present time the maximum annual grant to any municipal public library is \$400 and must be spent on books or periodicals. The grants to regional libraries are 75¢ per capita annually for maintenance, provided the municipality raises 50 ¢ per capita, and \$1.50 per capita for the initial book stock. The government this year has also passed an appropriation for a headquarters building for the Regional Headquarters in Prince Albert. The equity of this arrangement could be argued, of course, but there is no doubt that this is a considered government policy to benefit the libraries whose financial need is the greatest and must be accepted in that light.

The general discussion following the panel was practical and to the point, and in the capable hands of the chairman, Judge Brownridge, the meeting came to a pleasant and reasoned conclusion.

Provincial Library, Regina

Miss Siemens and Miss Parker had already made plans for a busy day in Regina on the way home and I think Miss Siemens had some qualms about letting Miss Watts and myself run around loose in that wild city. However the situation was well taken care of by a most kind and cordial invitation from Miss Mary Donaldson, Provincial Librarian, and Miss M. E. Henderson, in charge of technical services, to visit them in the Provincial Library. Miss Watts and I joined a group who were already being processed through Miss Henderson's department and this I found fascinating. Part of Miss Henderson's responsibility is to operate the central cataloguing service available without charge to all public libraries in the province for current books. This service was instituted by Miss Henderson two years ago and is now used by nine libraries, including Regina and Saskatoon. I feel this service is a substantial addition to the modest annual grant of \$400, particularly to the larger libraries.

Later our group, which included representatives from several small municipal libraries such as Yorkton, Kerrobert, and Estevan, who had attended the conference in Moose Jaw, had a meeting with Miss Donaldson and Miss Gilroy, head of the regional libraries division, at which various problems of small municipal libraries were discussed. It was a wonderful meeting, and while the problems in Saskatchewan are somewhat different to those in Manitoba I feel sure both Miss Watts and myself drew from it a great deal of information, comfort and moral support.

We were Miss Donaldson's guests at lunch in the attractive cafeteria in the building, and there we had further good talk and discussion until some members had to leave to go their various ways home. There was still about an hour until we were to meet our Winnipeg colleagues and I released an urge that had been simmering in me for some time. I would buy a hat. The conference had been notable for the number of pretty hats - I find in my few notes as identification "fawn hat, two green roses on brim" and "green flowered hat, pretty" - and it seemed to me that such an altogether delightful occasion should be commemorated by something a little gay and definitely smart. It just needed a nod to Miss Gilroy - "We'll go to Connie's" she said "I love to go to Connie's for a hat" - and off we went, Miss Gilroy, Miss Watts and I. Wait till you see it, not too gay, but quite, quite smart.

III

More thoughts from a Prairie Conference by Nettie Siemens

Mrs. Moore and Miss Parker have done so well in reporting on our trip to the Saskatchewan Library Association Conference that there is not much left for me to say. From their reports you have seen that this was an unusually good conference. Attendance was excellent, meeting places and lunch and dining rooms were filled to capacity. Under the able chairmanship of the president, Miss Ruth Murray, business went along smoothly and efficiently without interruption. The two panels produced some well prepared papers and were followed by considerable discussion. In fact, all business presented at this conference was well discussed, rarely did a resolution pass without comment. The two speakers of the day were interesting and thought provoking. In short, the conference was a success.

As we followed the proceedings we realized more and more how similar were the problems to the ones we deal with in Manitoba. There was talk of government grants (lower than those in Manitoba), certification, legislation, scholarships, publicity, regional libraries, etc. All of these you will note are our problems too. As we listened and observed we became aware of a new approach to an old problem, or confirmed in the validity of a decision our Association had already taken. Before the conference was over we were quite convinced that a joint conference with other Library Associations every few years would be of considerable value to all concerned.

As many of you know, we had that in mind when we decided to go to Moose Jaw. To our pleasant surprise we found that the members of the S. L. A. were also much interested in such a conference. The next obvious step is to have delegates from other Library Associations attend our conference in September where definite plans could then be prepared. I personally hope that it will be possible to arrange the first joint conference in the very near future.

My solo visit to the Regina Public Library:

The day following the conference, having delivered Mrs. Moore and Miss Watts to the Provincial Library where I knew they would be well looked after, and dropped Miss Parker at her first business appointment, I set out to find the Regina Public Library.

This Library is literally bursting at the seams, and I found its chief librarian, Miss Marjorie Dunlop, immersed in plans for a new library building. Miss Dunlop, in spite of the fact that she was extremely busy, very generously gave me most of her time that morning. We discussed many problems, from book selection to organization and to, of course, bookmobiles (Regina has three trailers). Miss Dunlop then proceeded to show me her whole set-up, department by department. She left me with Miss Young, who had at the panel the day before presented such a delightful paper on the public library in research, and Mrs. Brett, head of circulation, whom we had also met the day before. We were still talking when Miss Dunlop again appeared and announced that she had made arrangements for me to visit the headquarters for the booktrailers and would I first have lunch with her. Of course I could not resist, so we walked across lovely Victoria Park with the scent of lilacs and honeysuckle again very much in evidence, and beautiful music in our ears, piped into the park from the library with its hi-fi equipment. We topped off lunch with a specialty of the restaurant, pecan pie, easily the best I have ever tasted. In the afternoon Mrs. Ingram, in charge of the booktrailers, showed me the new headquarters located in the basement of a branch library. The one thing that stood out was the rows and rows of shelving which did appear very adequate to me in comparison with our rather crowded quarters. The newest booktrailer, aqua green in colour, was very bright and shiny and was equipped with an air conditioning unit, a very attractive feature. Time passed all too quickly and I realized that my travelling companions would be waiting for me. So I said goodbye and headed for the Drake Hotel.

Soon we were on our way home. We drooled over pecan pie and charming new hats and compared notes and impressions. We were unanimous in our opinion that this had been a very interesting and worthwhile trip, we had made new friends and valuable contacts, and had all enjoyed it immensely.

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED THE C.L.A.-A.C.B. RETIREMENT PLAN?

IN today's economic and social order pensions have become commonplace, and yet libraries and librarians in the past have been behind the trend in the provision of pensions. We should all plan now, individually and in co-operation with our employers, for our eventual retirement.

The C.L.A.-A.C.B. Retirement Plan is flexible and all-embracing. For individuals who are not under an existing pension plan, or who are members of such a plan but are limited as to the amount of their contributions, there is the Retirement Savings Plan (Plan "A"). For Library Boards and other institutional members of the Association who have no pension plan or a low benefit plan, there is the Employer-Employee Pension Plan (Plan "B"). As both plans are registered with the Department of National Revenue, contributions up to 10% of gross income are exempt from income tax.

Under both plans members of the Association benefit from the economy of group rates.

Both plans provide a Common Stock Fund to which the individual may elect to direct a percentage of his contributions. As contributions to the Common Stock Fund accumulate to purchase an annuity at retirement, one may in this way provide a hedge should the cost of living continue to rise.

Plan "A". The Registered Retirement Savings Plan

Individual members of the Association and employees (both professional and non-professional) of institutional members are eligible to participate. This is an ideal vehicle for saving for retirement for those who are not members of a pension plan and for those members of existing pension plans where contributions are limited. And again the benefit of group rates is obtained.

Plan "B". The Registered Employer-Employee Pension Plan

Any Library Board or other institutional member of the Association may adopt this plan for its employees. Membership in the plan is not limited to librarians only, but the employer may include all classes of employees in the plan. Many options have been included in order to meet the needs of the various employers:

- (a) If the employer so desires, participation may be limited to one class of employee only; e.g. librarians.
- (b) *Eligibility.* An employer may choose immediate eligibility or may provide any waiting period he desires.
- (c) *Past Service.* An employer may provide past service benefits for employees who have years of service for the full number of years of such service, or any lesser number of years.
- (d) *Vesting.* An employer may elect that his contributions will vest in the employee on termination of service, either in full or on a graduated percentage scale according to length of service prior to termination. However, the employer's full contributions must vest in an employee who terminates to join the service of another employer who is a member of the plan.

As pointed out above, the benefit of group rates is obtained. Prior to the institution of this plan, the cost of a pension plan to Library Boards with a small group of employees was so great as to be prohibitive. However, under the C.L.A.-A.C.B. Retirement Plan there is now no excuse for a Library Board not to provide pensions for its employees.

This plan broke new ground in the pension field, and since its inception several other professional associations have adopted similar schemes. No better recommendation for the plan can be found.

All members are urged to study the plan. Copies of the explanatory booklet and other information may be obtained by writing to the Association office, 63 Sparks Street, Ottawa 4.

The Pension Committee in its efforts to promote the plan solicits the assistance of all members in making it known to members of the profession and Library Boards who are not members of the Association.

Newman Mallon, Chairman,
CLA-ACB Pension Plan for
Libraries Committee