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**EX LIBRIS NEWS**

Newsletter of the Ex Libris Association

Fall 1990 (Number 8)

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Editor: John F Macpherson, London

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

This is our pre-annual meeting newsletter and I would like to use it to encourage as many of you as possible to attend what promises to be a most interesting meeting. We will have two excellent speakers and an opportunity to meet and catch up on news with former colleagues at our informal lunch. Non members are welcome and an additional registration form is enclosed.

Also included with this mailing is a flyer about the E.H. Morton Fund. Many of you have already contributed and helped to bring it close to our initial target of \$15,000. A little more and the Canadian Library Association can begin to consider how best to use it to recognize Elizabeth Morton's great contribution to the Association.

Although we have had to increase the fee for our meeting, since we no longer have any support from New Horizons, we are happy to note that it appears that our membership fees will be exempt from the G.S.T. (which at the time of writing has not been passed).

Last year approval was given to a life membership category of \$200.00 to develop a capital fund. It is encouraging to note that ten members have so far shown sufficient faith to take out life memberships.

These and other matters will be reported at the annual meeting following our programme. I look forward to seeing you there.

Betty D. Hardie, President

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## EDITOR'S NOTES

The Constitution and By-laws of the Association appear on pp 3-4. Ammendments (indicated by "Strikeout" and "Insert") are being proposed by the Board for approval at the A.G.M. in Toronto. Those members who can not attend the A.G.M. but wish to comment on the changes should contact the President, Betty Hardy, directly.

You will see that this issue is less bulky than those of the past. This may be the result of summer lethargy, and the Editor certainly did not do too much digging to find contributors or contributions.

He is therefore all the more grateful to those who gathered and sent to the Toronto office the newsy items which appear, and exhorts again members to contribute what they can from their local scene.

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Please note that the mailing address of the Association is:

Ex Libris Association  
PO Box 536, Station Q  
Toronto, ON  
M4T 2M5

CONSTITUTION  
of the  
EX LIBRIS ASSOCIATION

I. Name

1. The name shall be Ex Libris Association.

II. Objects

1. To provide a forum for interested individuals to come together to stimulate memories of library history, publishing and consulting in Canada for the development of archival collections.
2. To provide a vehicle for the collection of oral histories related to library history in Canada not currently being taped.
3. To identify and ensure collection of materials related to library history in Canada which are not at present collected, organized, or preserved by any other organization.
4. To encourage persons and institutions possessing archival materials related to library history in Canada to preserve and publicize their holdings.
5. To provide a focus for the ongoing intellectual and social activities of retired members of the library community.

III. Members

1. Any person whose career has been chiefly in libraries or in the field of publishing, or in books or related fields is eligible for membership.

IV. Meetings

1. An annual meeting shall be held at a time and place to be decided by the Board.
2. The Board shall meet at least twice a year, once in the spring and once in the fall.

V. Board

1. The Board shall consist of: three officers - Past-President, President, and Secretary-Treasurer ~~strike out~~ ~~and eight members, all to be elected by the membership at the annual meeting.~~ ~~insert~~ AND EIGHT OTHER MEMBERS TO BE ELECTED BY THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE ANNUAL MEETING. ~~strikeout~~ ~~Membership on the Board shall be for two years. Initially four Board members shall serve for one year only. The Board shall decide by secret ballot, if required, which Board members shall retire at the end of the first year. The officers shall be elected annually.~~ ~~insert~~
  - A. THE THREE OFFICERS SHALL BE ELECTED ANNUALLY AND SHALL BE ELIGIBLE FOR RE-ELECTION.
  - B. THE EIGHT OTHER MEMBERS SHALL SERVE FOR A TERM OF TWO YEARS IN AN OVERLAPPING SEQUENCE, WITH FOUR MEMBERS RETIRING ANNUALLY. THEY SHALL BE ELIGIBLE FOR RE-ELECTION ONCE.
2. If a vacancy occurs on the Board, the Board may appoint a member of the Association to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term. A MEMBER OF THE BOARD WHO HAS BEEN APPOINTED TO FILL A VACANCY SHALL BE ELIGIBLE FOR NOMINATION AT THE COMPLETION OF THE UNEXPIRED TERM.

Approved: November 6, 1986  
Ammended: November 19, 1987  
Ammended:

BY-LAWS

- 1. (a) There shall be three categories of personal membership fees:
 

Regular membership	\$ 10.00
Sustaining membership	\$ 20.00
Life membership	\$200.00

(b) There shall be an annual subscription fee for persons, organizations or institutions that wish to support the Association and receive the Ex Libris News at \$20.00.

(c) THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEES IS TO BE INVESTED IN TERM DEPOSITS OR OTHER APPROPRIATE INSTRUMENTS. THE INTEREST IS TO GO INTO THE GENERAL FUND FOR OPERATING EXPENSES. IF THE EX LIBRIS ASSOCIATION SHOULD CEASE TO EXIST, THIS SPECIAL FUND SHALL BE TRANSFERRED TO THE CANADIAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION TO BE USED IN A SCHOLARSHIP FUND.

- 2. Membership shall be for the calendar year.
- 3. A Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the Board at its spring meeting to bring in a slate of proposed officers and Board members, to be presented to the annual meeting. Nominations may be made from the floor. All nominees must give their consent orally.
- 4. NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS AND OTHER BOARD MEMBERS SHALL ASSUME OFFICE ON JANUARY 1 OF THE NEXT CALENDAR YEAR.
- 5. For meetings of the Board: a majority shall constitute a quorum.
- 6. For the annual meeting: fifteen percent of the membership shall constitute a quorum.
- 7. The Constitution may be amended at the annual meeting provided notice of such proposed amendment is sent out one month before the annual meeting.
- 8. By-laws may be amended at the annual meeting without prior notice.

Approved: November 6, 1986  
 Ammended: November 9, 1989  
 Ammended:

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**NOMINATIONS FOR THE BOARD**

John Snell, Chairman of the Nominations Committee, will present the following list at the Annual General Meeting:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| President: Betty D. Hardie<br>Past Pres.: E. Stanley Beacock<br>Sec.-Treas.: Shirley E. Wigmore                 | Nominated for a two year term:<br>Albert W. Bowron<br>Grace Buller<br>Geraldine Hughes<br>Clara G. Miller |
| Continuing for a second year:<br>Dr. Robert Blackburn<br>Sue Bonsteel<br>Marian E. Cooke<br>Kathleen R. Mathews | Members whose terms are completed:<br>David C. Appelt<br>John Macpherson                                  |

ALL OF IT CAME EASILY: On Sources of the History of the Hamilton Public Library  
by Katharine Greenfield

When I retired in 1983 - three years early, and I cannot now remember why - I was commissioned to write the history of the Hamilton Public Library. No serious deadline was set, but the book was to be ready for the Library's 100th birthday in 1989. I was given few guidelines, and those which I did receive came only after I requested them. I thought Mrs. McAnanama was very trusting. I also thought the sum I was offered was very generous, but when five years had passed and I was still working at the project I figured that my earnings averaged out to about 25 cents an hour or less, but that did not matter at all. My project eased me nicely into retirement and I loved doing it.

Part of the commission was to arrange the archives of the Hamilton Public Library and create a finding aid of some sort. There were boxes and boxes and more boxes of material including photographs which had been stored in the administration offices and sent to Special Collections when we moved into the new building in 1980. I made up a classification and numbering system, arranged a multitude of papers, reports, letters, etc., etc. Later the work was completed by Stuart McCuaig who turned out a beautiful job of typing and tidying up. When my part of the work was finished I was steeped in the library's past and had far more information than I needed - so the editors thought when they were faced with a mammoth manuscript. I thought they were brutal in their editing, but now that I see the finished result I know they were right.

The minutes of Library Board meetings were a great source of information as were the monthly and annual reports. Board Minutes and annual reports exist from 1889 on with a notable exception in the case of Board minutes.

Our first librarian, Richard Thomas Lancefield, while a good librarian, was a poor gambler. His addiction to gambling got him into deep financial trouble, the Library Board

was far too trusting, and in February, 1902, he burned some papers in the furnace, told the janitor to give a message to the Chairman of the Board that he would not attend the annual meeting scheduled for that day, and disappeared. The papers burned were probably the minute book for that period and some financial records. The newspapers of the day yield as accurate a story as we are going to get at this late date. The Library made the front pages for a week, was demoted to the inside pages for another two days, and then was referred to occasionally.

The accountant called in to audit the books could only estimate the amount of money which had been embezzled, but he reported it to be upwards of \$6000.

Policies were changed so that Lancefield's tricks could not be tried again. Lancefield had been secretary-treasurer of the Board. Now the treasurer would be the City Treasurer. Books were not to be ordered without authorization from the Board, and when they were delivered a board member or his deputy would be present when the parcels were opened. The deficit was reduced considerably in the year after the 'trouble'. One economy was made in the Librarian's salary. A member of the Board, John Kenrick, served in that capacity for one year without salary. (He was retired and a widower without family so I suppose that was acceptable.) He was appointed in 1903 and paid a salary of \$900., \$300. less than Lancefield had been paid. He died in 1904 of 'pneumonia and nervous prostration'.

Adam Hunter, aged 51, a bookseller, was selected from among numerous candidates, to be the third City Librarian. He began well, making some popular changes - the purse strings were loosened a little by then - and he worked with the Board, led by Senator John Milne, to replace the original building with a Carnegie building. There is a fascinating file about negotiations with Carnegie and about the choice of an architect for the building. That

building, opened in 1913, has recently been renovated and enlarged very successfully to house the provincial family courts. Later, as Hunter approached and passed normal retirement age, the drive and administrative skills which he once had seemed to desert him and he was faced with an unhappy staff and a board member who was determined to bring unsatisfactory conditions to public attention. She was Ella Julia Reynolds, the first woman to sit on the Library Board, and a reporter with the Spectator and then the Herald.

Correspondence with the Minister of Education and the Inspector of Public Libraries has been preserved, and it is obvious that no one wanted to tangle with Miss Reynolds. Still authorities accepted that something should be done and a reluctant Inspector spent considerable time at HPL and wrote a report - the Carson Report of 1921. Not only was Miss Reynolds indiscreet, but Mr. Carson went around the province saying that Hamilton was the worst run library he had ever known. The Library Board was moved to give Mr. Hunter sick leave. Apparently he was really sick for he died not long after.

A trouble shooter, W.N.C. Carleton, was then brought in and his report was fairly devastating, but not without hope for the ultimate recovery of the HPL. The Library's copy of his report and of his recommendations for good library administration have been preserved. He stayed for four months and in the meantime the Board looked for a librarian with professional training, experience in dealing with difficult situations, and a personality which would make him popular in the community and thus improve the library's image. For this they had to go to the States and Earl W. Browning was hired in 1922. He delivered everything that was expected of him, especially a good public relations job. He spoke on public platforms, wrote articles for the newspapers, and took part in Hamilton's social whirl. Unfortunately Mr. Browning was anxious to return to the U.S. and he resigned in 1925. For publication he said that he found the city council's financial support of the Library

too stingy and that he had received the offer of a better job in Peoria, Ill., which city was much more generous to its Library. In 1946 Dr. Waldon wrote to him (he was still in Peoria) and asked him the real reason. He replied that George Locke had told him that there were only two better library jobs in Ontario and that he would never get either of them because he was an American.

His successor, Lurene Macdonald, a Canadian born in St. Thomas, came from New York in 1926 to take up the position of Chief Librarian. She married Norman Lyle in 1928 and I could find nothing about that in library sources or in the newspapers. One month the monthly report was signed 'Lurene Macdonald', the next month 'Lurene Lyle'. (Remember that in those days married women usually resigned after marriage.) Mrs. Lyle was interested in library history and more records were preserved in her time than formerly, although some items disappeared later. I know that her successor, Freda Waldon, found references to some items which she could not find after careful search. Miss. Waldon did record that Mrs. Lyle had indexed the Board Minutes and that she was going to bring the index up to date - but no one can find the index now. Mrs. Lyle wrote a few articles on library history, and continued Mr. Browning's work in the community with talks, exhibits, visits to schools, etc. She was ill with an unspecified ailment for much of the later Thirties, but she was a popular and successful librarian and her staff was willing to accept her absences for longer than they might have done otherwise. Those pinch-hitting for her may not have had the time or the inclination to file papers for long time preservation, or limited space may have led them to dispose of them. Whatever the reason there is little correspondence left from her time.

Really comprehensive HPL archives begin in 1940 when Freda Waldon became Chief Librarian after Mrs Lyle's resignation. Miss Waldon loved to write; she wrote letters, reports, articles for publication, memos to staff, scripts for radio broadcasts, papers to be

given at meetings, and copies of most such items still exist. Fortunately she had an efficient and willing secretary in Olive Hill. Carbon copies of her letters sent all over the country and abroad were neatly filed with replies and they make delightful reading. They also provide background for decisions taken by the Board, for personnel policies, the things affecting other librarians education for librarianship, certification of librarians, and new developments in the library field in the U.S., Britain and Canada. Her belief in the power of literature to improve the lot of the reader is clear. (We who are retired can remember the fervour of the missionary spirit which permeated the profession in the Forties and Fifties but how much later?)

Dr. Waldon carried on regular correspondence with Anne Hume of the Windsor Public Library and with Angus Mowat, Inspector of Public Libraries. There is one letter to Angus Mowat that I would like to tell you about. In 1947 she wrote to him about a young man who had been doing some work at the HPL. He had made a favourable impression and she wrote that she would like to hire him, but she could not offer him more than she could a girl just out of Library School and that would mean that his wife would have to continue working. She concluded,

"I think that you [Angus] are very wise to pay particular attention to these young men and really try to direct them for their best development. I am hoping we will get real leadership five or ten years from now from at least a few of the men who are starting now. That is what we want."

The young man in this letter was Stan Beacock.

All the material I used to tell of the HPL and bookmobiles, branch libraries, relations with school, automation, cataloguing, reference work, work with children - everything - is in the HPL archives. I did make a search of Library Literature and the Canadian Periodical Index, and I talked to librarians who had been on the staff before 1944 when I started. But still the HPL archives also served the purpose

of providing personal memories. Miss. Waldon had asked some of her retired and senior staff to write of their earliest recollections of the Library. One of them had worked for Mr. Lancefield and remembered him as a good reference librarian and a man who gave his staff excellent training. Another was not quite as impressed by Mr. Browning as some others, but her only real complaint was that he was like a college professor and examined the staff about the books they had read just as a professor would.

Dr. Waldon wrote articles on the history of the HPL and it was from one of hers that I adopted the idea of going back to early lending libraries in Hamilton - the literary societies, the booksellers lending libraries, the Mechanics Institutes, etc. Our Hamilton and Canadiana collections yielded plenty of material and Miss. Waldon had kept her own file on Mechanics Institutes.

It was when I got past Dr. Waldon's time that the going got really tough. I nearly had a complete breakdown over the yards of material about the planning, the site and the building of the new library. After I got that material sorted and listed I went to Mrs. McAnanama and asked if the history could be written only to the end of Dr. Waldon's regime and if someone else, maybe fifty years from now - or twenty-five, I didn't care - could write the rest. She agreed, because she thought we were perhaps too close to the events surrounding the final placing of the library in the site in the Civic Square, sharing it with the farmers' market. There was a lot of heat generated in the library's relations with City Hall for a few years, and it would be better to let the memories cool down a little longer.

So I wrote a ridiculously detailed account of the years from beginnings to 1963; Mrs. McAnanama found an editor who cut it down to size; Mary Park of our Public Relations department produced the book, dealing with Stirling Printers who designed and printed the finished product; and lo and behold here it is. I'm glad I did it. Even if nobody reads it and it doesn't sell I have expressed my feelings about

the HPL - I think they come through. Somewhere up there I hope Freda Waldon is pleased - it was her legacy, to the HPL which paid for most of it. It really was easy!

(This is an edited text of Katharine Greenfield's talk at the Fourth Annual General meeting of the Ex Libris Association, Hamilton, November 9, 1989.

Copies of The Hamilton Public Library 1889-1963 are available from the Hamilton Public Library Gift Shoppe)

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### GALT PUBLIC LIBRARY 1948



THE GALT FLOOD by Mollie Cameron

During my stay in Galt (now Cambridge) the Grand River flood was an annual occurrence. The only variable was the height of the crest. The Galt Public Library could not escape the yearly excitement since its rear wall actually formed one bank of the river as did most of the establishments on the appropriately name Water Street.

Prior to my coming to Galt in October 1944 my predecessors had attempted to cope with the usual library congestion by moving back

issues of periodicals to the basement. In a space adjoining the boiler room, where an amazingly efficient hand fired furnace clanked its way through the winter months, our ever versatile janitor (those were the days before Building Superintendents) had built shelves from various bits and pieces of wood. On these shelves were stored years of magazines (useful) some government documents (possibly useful) and the inevitable gifts (useless) from the citizens of Galt. The unsolicited gifts had been given the customary quick check for the one or



two prizes one always hopes may be included with the Ethel M. Dell and Stoddart Lectures.

As I recall, my first and second encounters with the Grand River in flood were uneventful. We had a few inches of water on the concrete floor in the basement which was well below the lowest shelves. I think it was my third spring (1948) that the river staged one of its more spectacular shows - the worst of it overnight. Warnings of a higher than usual crest had been issued in the evening, so with feverish activity we had moved everything above the three foot level. So much for our optimism and official forecasts; we ended up with nearly five feet of water in the basement.

Once the flood subsided sufficiently and the basement became navigable we surveyed the damage. The sodden mush of magazines and books under water inevitably expanded with absorption. This resulted in the wooden shelves cracking and splitting so that many collapsed, dumping the contents of the "safe" upper rows in to the water. There was no hope of salvage, so we shovelled the debris out into the now less fearsome Grand.

Regrettably we lost useful runs of periodicals and subsequently we had problems in many reference searches until we filled in some of the worst gaps. But even as we counted our losses we became aware of the proverbial silver lining. Many of the gifts of dubious value disappeared in the flood and the staff with suitable expressions of regret could appear blameless while murmuring banalities about an act of God and circumstance beyond our control.

After I left Galt I believe the annual flooding became a thing of the past as improved controls in the upper reaches of the Grand River were introduced. Also, the old Carnegie building was abandoned and a new library was built on a different site -- away from the river!

As I recall some of my experiences as a librarian I feel sure there are many of my contemporaries who appreciate, as I do, Walt Whitman's words:

"... not for us the tame enjoyment,  
Pioneers! O pioneers!"

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## BOOK REVIEW

Redmond, Donald A. *Sherlock Homes among the pirates: copyright and Conan Doyle in America 1890-1930*. Westport, CT, Greenwood Press, 1990. (Contributions to the study of world literature no. 36) 286p. \$39.95 US.

Donald Redmond, former chief librarian at Queen's University, has achieved the publication of his third book on Sherlock Holmes. He suggests that his three and two others by his son Christopher constitute a Redmond cottage industry.

In this book the author himself plays detective by meticulous tracing of the origins and subsequent printings of pirated Holmes manuscripts. He clarifies the murky copyright situations, or lack of same, in Britain and America before 1891, which gave rise to the piracy but at the same time were a factor in the lasting popularity of Conan Doyle's creation. Using "The Sign of the Four" and "A Study in Scarlet" as examples, Redmond studies textual variations and bibliographical descriptions in editions appearing from 1890 to 1930.

This impressive study will be useful not only to the Holmes/Doyle enthusiasts but also to students of copyright and of the influence of Victorian British literature upon North America. (Book review by Moira Cartwright)

## EXAMINATION DAY by Honor Buttars

- The Association has received for its archives the cover and some pages of the University of Toronto Library School Calendar 1935-36 and a set of the examination papers for that school year. They came from Honor Buttars who writes;

"I think our year (1935/36) was the first to require University degrees. Previously a 5th form (grade XIII certificate) allowed one entry into the course. This higher standard was in preparation for the Library School to become a faculty of the University of Toronto and the graduates to receive Bachelor of Library Science Degrees which I think they did the following year. Our year (all women) received diplomas. We could obtain a B.L.S. by writing a thesis or attending a six-week summer course at the school, which I did in 1941.

The Depression had some effects on our training. Many poorly funded libraries had no typewriters so we were taught "library hand" - a far cry from the computerized libraries of the present.

I was about 45 when I went back to work at the Oshawa Public Library, working as a reference and youth librarian, ending up as reference head. I don't regret my choice of profession."

Re the preceding letter - How good is your memory?

How would you answer these questions today? (Selected from the 1936 finals.) Somewhat differently than in your student years I suspect, but the questions themselves haven't changed much over time.

### ADMINISTRATION OF LIBRARIES                      Examiner, G.H. Locke.

1. Under our system of organization in the Province of Ontario how would you suggest the responsibility be assumed in Public Libraries
  - (a) for the choice of books?
  - (b) for "censorship" of books?
  - (c) for obtaining funds?
  - (d) for reaching those who are beyond the borders of a municipality?

### CLASSIFICATION    Examiner, B. Bassam.

4. State the rules for assigning subject headings to the following:

Collections	Essays
Collective biography	Books about a war
Dictionaries	

### COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES                      Examiner, W.S. Wallace.

3. What are the advantages of "exchanges" in a university or college library?
7. Should the assistants in a university library be classed with the academic or administrative staff? Give reasons for your answer.

### HISTORY OF BOOKS AND LIBRARIES                      Examiner, W.G. Barnstead.

1. Write a review of (a) The Philobiblon by Richard de Bury, or (b) Books in manuscript by Nadau.
5. Trace the progress of library service in the United States from 1876 to the present day.

## JOYS OF RETIREMENT by Jim Pilton

[Jim Pilton of Vancouver gives an account below of his activities. Reading it I wonder how he found time to write and I am pleased to share it with members. Ed.]

I am happy to say that all goes well with me here in the land of the lotus. I live just two blocks from Stanley Park and English Bay beach. From my sixth floor balcony garden I have an excellent view of the north shore mountains - well most of the time anyway. Visibility hasn't been too good in recent months.

My days follow a very predictable routine that some people might find boring but suits me just fine. I am on the Membership and Marketing Committee of our local central YMCA and I am there every weekday from 11:30 to 2:00 P.M. for a very strenuous workout. During that period I am also the volunteer supervisor/coach in the weight training room and in the stairmast, lifecycle and gauntlet among others. I always think that they sound like rides at the CNE.

At this time of day the clientele is very elite, being mostly men and women from the business and professional community. For some reason the majority seem to be lawyers - perhaps because we are so close to the law courts. But we also have several medical doctors and at least one psychiatrist who is a tri-athlete. They are a great bunch to work out with. As yet I am the only librarian.

In addition to this routine I do a 10K run around Stanley Park three times a week. This is to compensate for all the ice cream and chocolate chip cookies to which I am addicted.

When I leave the YMCA every day, I generally go to The Bay for coffee and a muffin, then I drop off at the public library

for a browse or to look up subject headings in the catalogue for my video library at home.

Yes, I am a videomaniac! I have a compulsion to tape things off air. At last count I had over six hundred tapes containing over eighteen hundred items. Among these are eighty-one operas. The last four are Wagner's Ring Cycle, taped a couple of weeks ago. Gotterdammerung almost didn't make it. It lasted four hours and forty-five minutes and ended with only ten seconds remaining on the tape. This was a real cliff hanger.

Cataloguing the library is my problem. I am about three months behind. But what else is new. I would hope some day to give the collection to the U.B.C. Library where I think it belongs in the Special Collections Division where I began my library career so many years ago. But because of copyright restrictions they may not be able to accept it, or even want it. I shall have to contact them some day about it. In any case by that time everything on the tapes may have faded from view. We don't know just how long they will last.

I always enjoy the Ex Libris Newsletter, especially reading all the familiar names. It is good to know that so many are still here. Librarianship must be good for the health. I shall keep on the alert for any news that may be of interest out here. But I don't have any librarian contacts here, so I am not really on the party-line.

Take care then, and keep up the good work.

## PLUS Ça CHANGE... by C. Deane Kent

It is amazing how things keep repeating themselves. Vico was right ..."eternal return". Was it forty years ago that there was a lively discussion in Ontario about professionalism? Should we or should we not form a professional group? In the midst of all the discussions and debates at conferences, articles in journals, reports etc. there appeared a piece by Philip McLeod, then with the London Public Library and Art Museum, in the Ontario Library Review, which was something of a bombshell. McLeod deflated the idea of librarianship as a profession, calling it "a small trade". It didn't take long for the heavy guns of the profession to fire salvos at McLeod, the denigrator of librarianship, who was fouling his own nest so to speak.

Whether McLeod's article had any effect or not on the formation of a professional organization in Ontario is open to question, but not long afterwards the Institute of Professional Librarians of Ontario (IPLO) was formed and registered as a professional body. Librarians in Ontario could now proudly and legally add R.P.L. after their names.

Early enthusiasm gradually gave way to disinterest and the IPLO, after more than twenty years, relinquished its provincial charter and ceased operation. The full story of the rise and fall of one of the world's first professional librarians' organization will, I hope, someday be written in full.

Perhaps a number of you may still peruse American Libraries. If you do you will be interested, I'm sure, in three articles that have appeared recently (February, March and June, 1990 with letters and statements in the May and July-August issues). Herbert White, a library school director, in the February and March issues, makes a strong plea for professional librarianship. White asks how librarians differ from the local supermarket manager "whose job is to stock merchandise that will move the shelves and who has no responsibility for nutritional content?".

In the June issue Mark Plaiss, a medical

librarian, takes the opposite point of view: "Herb White, and those who think like him, never seem to tire of beating a dead horse. The dead horse is 'librarians and professionalism'." Plaiss goes on to say that the supermarket manager and the librarian "don't differ. We merely peddle different merchandise."

Plaiss is hard hitting to say the least. "Naivete" is a word used of those "those who dwell in libraryland" who have a "delusion that your job is some noble calling... that enlarges the mind and broadens the horizons of the populace". Librarians think that they possess knowledge because they "dispense bits of knowledge". Librarians are "puzzled why...the world just can't recognize" their worth.

Plaiss continues his diatribe by saying that pay is low and respect is lacking because "any schlemiel can be a librarian". The profession of librarianship is not on a par with law, medicine or engineering. And so on and so on. The article could have been written by McLeod. Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose, indeed!

Controversies, such as those between White and Plaiss, provide easy arguments for widespread budget cuts in public libraries. We can hardly pick up a copy of American Libraries without reading of service reductions, of branch closings etc. in U.S. libraries. And now the School of Library Service at Columbia University, founded by Melvin Dewey himself in 1887, is in danger of being closed for a number of reasons, not the least of which is "the absence of a strong scholarly orientation" as alleged in a report to the Graduate School of Arts and Science.

It is to be hoped that the problems of American librarianship don't spill over into Canada - we have enough problems of our own- and we trust that the Ontario Strategic Plan and the new provincial organization of two service areas (SOLS and NOLS) will strengthen not only library service and librarianship but also leadership and, perhaps, scholarship as well.

One of the difficulties with library work is the vast range of professional activities. Some professional librarians are choosing materials on subject matters, some are organizing people and materials in areas for better service while still others are dealing with community relations, budgets, municipal and provincial governments etc. All these levels of service have to be simpatico with librarianship and with a deep understanding of the background and needs of libraries. How is an individual educated and developed in a library school to fit the requirements of each level? Most librarians today seem to be trained for the first level only. Probably new types and levels of library education need to be instituted.

Library technicians for routine library activities and professional librarians for leadership at the idea and political level. Perhaps in that way Plaiss might be persuaded that there are professional librarians around and that there could be more.

A final word - a personal note. Being a librarian is like being a Canadian. I can't give you any reason why I am - I just know that I am.

[At the present time the archives of the IPLO are in the care of the Ex Libris Association where they are being organized and a finding list is being prepared. Anyone prepared to take up Deane's challenge. Ed]

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## MISCELLANEOUS NEWS AND NOTES

Margaret Banks, formerly Law Librarian at

The University of Western Ontario, has prepared a fifth edition of her book, Using a Law Library. It includes a new chapter on Quebec legal materials and is scheduled for publication by Carswell in the early spring of 1991.

Margaret has recently been appointed Chairman of the Opinions Committee of the American Institute of Parliamentarians (AIP). This means that, with the assistance of the other two members of the committee, she will be writing the "Parliamentary Opinions" column, published in each issue of AIP's quarterly Parliamentary Journal. The other members of the committee are Virginia Scholtzhauer of Fort Washington, Maryland, who chaired the committee for fifteen years, and Floyd M. Riddick, Parliamentarian Emeritus of the United States Senate.

The Grace Crooks Leigh Children's Library in Orillia, Ont. was recently commemorated by the Orillia Historical Society. A plaque was presented by Jean Sarjeant, president of the historical society, to Shirley Bagley,

library board chair. Grace Crooks Leigh was chief librarian of the Orillia Public Library for 15 years, as well as Orillia's 1969 Citizen of the Year. She was an active participant in many community clubs and organizations. In addition, she was president of the Ontario Library Association in 1964. The October 1989 ceremony recognized her long-standing interest in children's works. Crooks Leigh passed away in 1987. (Orillia Packet & Times)

Alice Kane. As one of Canada's best-known story-tellers, 82 year old Alice Kane is one of the winners of the Ontario Folks Arts Recognition Fellowships for 1990.

Back in 1930 storytelling was part of Kane's first job as a children's librarian with the Toronto Public Library, where she worked for 43 years. After her retirement the Belfast-born artist became a professional storyteller.

She has taken the art of storytelling from children's libraries and made it an art for adults. She has become a one-woman elder for storytellers across Canada and has told

stories in Devon (England), Regina, Saint John, Fredericton and at the University of British Columbia. Her other accomplishments are many and include:

Founder of the Storytellers School of Toronto,  
Author of Songs and Sayings of an Ulster Childhood (McLelland and Stewart, 1983),

Performance and taping of a series of concerts and Irish stories set to harp accompaniment.

She is currently the subject of a film/essay by Jesse Nishihata titled The Wondersmith still in progress. (Excerpted from the Toronto Star, March 26, 1990)

Jessie Mifflen. This much-honoured Newfoundland librarian and educator has compiled a collection of her memories and had it published in the Seventh Wave Newfoundland Writers Series in St. John's. (From Mount Allison Record, Winter 1990)

Elizabeth Brewster. After graduating from high school in her native New Brunswick Elizabeth worked part-time in libraries and earned several scholarships which allowed her to study at the University of New Brunswick at Fredericton where she received a Bachelor of Arts in English and Greek and helped found the international poetry magazine The Fiddlehead. She went on to Harvard's Radcliffe College, The University of Toronto's Library School, King's College in London, England and Indiana University where she earned a Ph.D.

She moved to Edmonton in 1968 to work at the University of Alberta's library. After two year's cataloguing in the rare book section, Brewster decided she needed more time to write, but writer Margaret Atwood, a professor at the university persuaded Brewster to teach creative writing. In 1982 she moved to Saskatoon and taught courses in Canadian literature, Canadian poetry and introductory English at the University of

Saskatchewan. Over the years she has written two novels, three books of short stories and has just finished her 13th book of poems entitled Spring Again, which will soon hit book store shelves. (Excerpted from the Saskatoon Star-Phoenix, April 28, 1990).

Beryl Anderson. On June 16, 1990 at its annual meeting held in Ottawa the Canadian Library Association presented to Beryl L. Anderson its 1990 Outstanding Service to Librarianship Award.

Dr. Anderson, who retired from her position as Chief of the Library Documentation Centre in 1987, was highly praised by her colleagues in both the special and library education communities for her distinguished contributions to the field of library science. Known to many of her colleagues as "the librarian's librarian", Dr. Anderson is recognized for her leadership in the establishment of the Library Documentation Centre of the National Library of Canada. She is praised as well for her dedication to research in the field of library science and for her commitment to library education. A colleague notes: "She is undoubtedly a chief architect in our profession's immense progress in public image and status, and in our own motivation and direction as professionals.

A native of Canso, Nova Scotia, Dr. Anderson holds Bachelor and Master of Arts Degrees from Dalhousie University, a Bachelor of Library Science Degree from McGill University and a Ph.D. from Walden University. She was the 1987 recipient of the Award for Special Librarianship in Canada, given by the Canadian Association of Special Libraries and Information Services, and was honoured by the Special Libraries Association in 1988 with the John Cotton Dana Award in recognition of exceptional service to special librarianship.

Since her retirement in 1987, Dr. Anderson has served as a valued consultant

to the National Library of Canada and other organizations, and has pursued her interest in archaeology through extensive travel.

Sheila Egoff. The New Republic of Childhood: a Critical Guide to Canadian Children's Literature in English by Sheila Egoff and Judith Saltman was reviewed by Elizabeth MacCallum in the Globe and Mail, April 21, 1990. She wrote "This is not merely a revision of Sheila Egoff's The Republic of Childhood (the last edition was in 1975); nearly three quarters of the new version considers works published in the eighties.

Egoff and Saltman successfully serve the needs of both specialists and generalists by introducing each chapter (such as The Outdoor Survival Story, or Novels For Young Adults) with a general history of the field, and then follow with a concentrated treatment of Canadian examples. While the encyclopedic work sometimes dwindles into lists, for the most part there are thorough

and comprehensive descriptions. Critical judgments are sometimes overly kind, but the authors present strong argument for the peculiarities of Canadian literature.

The New Republic Of Childhood may not be a book to take to bed, but it is an essential reference book for anyone interested in Canadian children's literature."

Frances Morrison. Issue Number 4 (February) 1990 of the Saskatoon History Review includes an interesting, well-illustrated essay, "The Saskatoon Public Library 1913-1965", by Arlean McPherson, formerly Local History Librarian with the Saskatoon Public Library.

The essay covers the development of the library service from its inception "in 1913 until the demise of the old 'Main' Library in 1965". Four librarians directed the course of events during that time. They were - David Murray (1913-1932), Angus Mowat (1932-1937), James Wood (1937-1961) and Frances Morrison (1961-1980).

The Review is a publication of the Saskatoon Heritage Society and Saskatonians are to be considered fortunate that such a vehicle is available to carry and deliver the record of their cultural history.

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## MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY

Although the majority of our present members have retired from service in librarianship, membership is open to others interested in the program of the Association as it refers to library history.

Enquiries about membership should be directed to the Association's office.

## AWARDS

Miriam Tees, retired professor at the Graduate School of Library and Information Science of McGill University, has received the 1990 Corporation of Professional Librarians of Quebec's Annual Merit Award for her accomplishments in the field of special libraries. Her contributions as a teacher were honoured in 1988 by the School with the establishment of a scholarship in her name. She continues to teach the course in special libraries at McGill. (Feliciter Jul/Aug '90 p.19)

Ron Yeo, retired Director of the Regina Public Library, is to be honoured by the University of Regina at the Fall Convocation, October 1990, when an honorary degree will be conferred on him. The Ronald F. Yeo Library Bursary in administration, established by the Regina Public Library, is being offered for the first time this year.

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## RETIREMENTS

Nancy Hall, Chief Executive Officer and Secretary-Treasurer of the Etobicoke Public Library Board has taken an early retirement. She joined the Toronto Public Library in 1954, moved from there to the Scarborough Public Library and became chief at Etobicoke in 1979. She recently received the 1990 Alumni Jubilee Award from the Faculty of Library and Information Science Alumni Association of the University of Toronto. (Feliciter June '90 p.10)

Betty McCamus, Professor at the School of Library and Information Science, The University of Western Ontario, retired at the end of June, 1990. Her association with SLIS began in 1967 when she enrolled as a part-time student in the first class of the new program. Following graduation in 1971 she was appointed to the Faculty and became the Administrative Officer of the School. In 1978 she enrolled in the School of Business Administration where she received her MBA Degree in 1980. On her return to SLIS as a full time faculty member her specialties were Personnel Management, Administration, and Conservation and Preservation in Archives. On her retirement she was honoured by The University by being designated Professor Emeritus.



## IN MEMORIAM

### Reginald (Reg) Bradley, former Chief

Librarian of the Sarnia Public Library and Art Gallery, died in Sarnia on August 20, 1990 at the age of 78. Reg emigrated from England in the early 1950s and after short stints at Etobicoke and London Public Libraries, went to Sarnia Public in 1953 to succeed Dorothy Carlisle. A couple of years after his arrival planning began to replace the old Carnegie library and, as Reg said, he was able to develop a new building as a people place that included both a small theatre and an Art Gallery. The library is a major centre of activities for the people of Sarnia. He leaves behind his wife, Margery, three children and six grandchildren. Because of his great interest in the Arts the Sarnia Public Library Board has decided to establish an award to be given to the top graduate in the Art Fundamentals Programme at Lambton College. Anyone interested in making a memorial donation should contact Howard Ford, Director, Sarnia Public Library and Art Gallery, 124 Christina St. S., Sarnia, ON N7T 2M6.

Kathleen Mennie de Varennes, a well-known librarian, bibliographer and genealogist, died on January 17, 1990. Among her many publications is the six-volume work on the genealogy of Canadian families - "The Annotated Bibliography of Genealogical Works in Canada" published in 1986 by the National Library of Canada. (Feliciter May '90 p.15)

Doris Pauline Fennell, retired Education Officer with the Ontario Ministry of Education, died on April 12, 1990. Mrs. Fennell, well-known school librarian, was School Library Co-ordinator of the Toronto Township Board of Education from 1964-66 when she joined the then Ontario Department of Education as Assistant Superintendent.

### Marjorie C. Holmes, retired Assistant

Provincial Librarian of British Columbia, died on January 17, 1990 at the age of 95. She formed the Provincial Library in 1920 and served as Assistant Provincial Librarian from 1936 until her retirement in 1954. She compiled two major bibliographies of government publications, "Publications of the Government of British Columbia 1871-1947" and "Royal Commissions and Commissions of Inquiry Under the "Public Inquiries Act" in British Columbia, 1872-1942". In her retirement Ms. Holmes organized a library for the Victoria Times newspaper and undertook a history of libraries in B.C. for the Public Library Commission published as "Library Service in British Columbia, a Brief History of its Development". In appreciation of her contributions to the field and her activities in the profession she was made a life member of the British Columbia Library Association in 1954. (Feliciter May 1990 p.15)

Constantine (Tim) Hotimsky was one of the founding faculty members of SLIS, The University of Western Ontario, recruited by the School's first dean, Andrew Osborn, from Australia in 1967. An avid book collector, Tim was instrumental in building the SLIS Special Collections. He specialized in Slavic Librarianship and taught many of the courses related to book collecting. He retired in 1980 and died in Paddington, New South Wales, Australia, on April 20, 1990, after an illness of some months.

Morton Jordan The death of Morton Jordan, Director of Vancouver Public Library from 1970 through 1979, occurred on 13 December 1989. In 1946, after discharge with the rank of Flight Lieutenant and service overseas as a pilot, Mort enrolled in Arts at the University of Toronto. His interest in

librarianship was generated by R.D. Hilton Smith and Martha Shepard for whom he worked part-time in the Reference Department, Toronto P.L. during his undergraduate years. Subsequently he graduated from McGill Library School in 1949 and moved to Vancouver in the same year. He started in Acquisitions in the V.P.L. at that time- his wife, Margaret, went into the Boys and Girls department. Mort held a number of senior staff positions before being appointed Assistant Director in 1958 and then Director in 1970. Over the years he took part in many professional activities with B.C.L.A. (ten years on the Editorial Board of the B.C.L.A. Quarterly), C.L.A. committees on Membership, Finance, and Public Library Standards, and on the Administrators of Large Public Libraries Committee. He also found time to earn a Masters Degree in English Literature (U.B.C., 1954) and of course to play a leading role in the development of the Vancouver Public Library services and the Greater Vancouver Library Federation.

Jean Isabel Ross MacMillan, retired librarian of the Toronto Public Library, died on May 5, 1990. She was, for many years, the Head of the Toronto Public Library Reference Division.

David Rhydwen, former chief librarian of The Globe and Mail died on September 26, 1990 at his home in Gormley, Ontario. He had retired from The Globe in 1983 after 45 years at the newspaper and 34 as its Chief Librarian. Although not a graduate of a library school he had taken on the library after a few years as a reporter and had become preeminent as a newspaper librarian as he grew with the job. Not only had he developed a superior clipping-picture service into one of the best in the world but his early development of an on-line electronic record of the paper's contents is now InfoGlobe. He was a pioneer in the evolution of full text storage and retrieval of printed stories. His wife, Joy, survives him.

Carin Somers, former Provincial Librarian of Nova Scotia, died suddenly on March 9, 1990. After serving as Chief Librarian of Halifax County Regional Library she was appointed supervisor of public libraries with the Nova Scotia Provincial Library in 1973 and Provincial Librarian in 1974. In 1988 the Atlantic Provinces Library Association honoured her with its Merit Award. (Feliciter May '90 p.15 & Jul/Aug '90 p.2)

Margaret Tocque, retired Head of the Audio-Visual Department, St. Catharine's Public Library, died on June 5, 1990. (Feliciter, Sept '90)

## 1990 MEMBERSHIP

\* New members not listed previously

### LIFE MEMBERS

Beacock, E. Stanley  
Hardie, Betty D.  
Henderson, Dr. M.E.P. (Betty)  
Hughes, Geraldine  
MacRae, Lachlan F.  
Ryder, Dorothy E.  
\*Watson, Joyce N.,  
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White, Janette H.  
Wright, John G.  
Wright, Shirley E.

### SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Burness, Jean F.  
Coburn, Morton  
Fraser, Isabel  
Hall, Dorothy  
Home, Margaret  
MacPherson, John  
Mathews, Kathleen R.  
Murray, Margaret  
Parkhill, John  
Schryver, Louise  
Spicer, Elizabeth  
Sylvestre, Dr. Guy  
Tovee, Lyn E.  
Wigmore, Shirley K.

### SUBSCRIBERS'

Library, St. Catharines Pub.  
Stubbs, Basil Stuart-

### REGULAR MEMBERS

Allwood, Madge  
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Buttars, Honor  
Cameron, Marion D.  
Campbell, Harry  
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Eckmier, Jean  
Edwards, Rita  
Fyfe, Dr. Janet  
Galloway, Lucille

George, Marjory  
Giles, Grace  
Girey, Sara E.  
Greenfield, Katharine  
Hardisty, A. Pamela  
Hogan, Frances  
Hughes, Margaret  
Jacobsen, R.C. (Esther)  
Jamieson, Dr. Alexis  
Jarvi, Edith  
Johnston, Joan L.  
Jones, A. Kathleen (Kays)  
Kees, Stephen J.  
Kent, Charles Deane  
Knight, Nancy  
Lampel, Joan  
Layton, Jr., Robert B.  
Lee, Dr. Robert  
Locatelli, Anne  
Lochhead, Dr. Douglas G.  
Lockett, Elizabeth M.  
Lokk, Aksella  
Lothian, Helen M.  
Luoma, Lily  
MacDonald, Prof. Bertrum  
MacKellar, Verna  
MacLellan, Audrey  
McCallum, Heather  
McCamus, Betty  
McFarland, Alice Turner  
McKnight, Nancy L.  
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Overend, Howard  
Parsons, Ruth  
Partridge, Florence G.  
Peel, Bruce  
Pile, A.R. (Fred)  
Pilton, James W.  
Prodrick, R. Gerald  
Rankin, Reita A.  
Reddy, Ida E.  
Redmond, Donald A.  
Repcyte, Eugenia  
Roberts, Hazel J.  
Robinow, Beatrix H.  
Roedde, William A.  
Rothstein, Dr. Samuel  
Scollard, Rev. Robert J.  
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Smith, Olive I.  
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Webster, Alma  
Weihs, Jean  
Weiner, Roberta Wilson  
\*Wertheimer, Leonard,  
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Wilson, Marion C.  
Yeo, Ronald