

ELAN Ex Libris Association Newsletter

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New Library Technology: Timely Presentations at the 2005 AGM

BY MARJORIE BENDER

Third-millennium technology continues its onward march. Those who work in libraries as reference librarians know this very well. Technology has transformed the entire reference process and continues to do so. At the November 7, 2005 Annual Get-Together, Vivienne Monty, Senior Librarian at York University's Glendon Campus in Toronto, gave a presentation of her own experiences and reflections regarding this phenomenon. Her 33 years as a reference librarian at York have enabled her to acquire a thought-provoking overview. The title of her presentation was "How Technology has Changed Reference: From Gutenberg to Gates".

In the libraries of today, retrieving information is no longer confined chiefly to locating material contained in books and/or periodical articles. Instead, computerized databases or Internet databases have become an essential component of any information search. The intent of these searches is to locate suitable material online. Such material can be read online and then downloaded. The York University library, where our speaker works, obtains new databases almost daily. Their contents include a wide range of subjects; for example, art or biology. These are considered "trial" material, but seven new acquisitions in a month are possible.

Another development in Monty's library is Digital Reference, also known as CHAT Reference or DIGIREF. Up to three people at one time, all seeking answers, can

become part of a reference chat line. These individuals are unseen and often unknown. Communication is entirely via keyboard. It is also possible to CHAT cooperatively with other libraries, anywhere in the world.

Vivienne Monty related a number of concerns about these various technologies. Databases are not uniform. Not all of them have full text. Sometimes a so-called full-text source contains bits and pieces from a particular journal. Indexing varies from one database to another. Also, each database has its own search strategy. Users can spend considerable time trying to learn how to use a particular database, never mind the time needed to decide what material to use. Most of all, this enormous dependency on databases has led to an increasingly rapid cancellation of paper acquisitions, including paper journals. Monty believes that, eventually, this will have serious repercussions for existing library collections.

Monty's comments about DIGIREF were also somewhat critical. She claimed that this virtual reference is a "bad bargain". The average Digital Reference session takes almost 10 minutes – much more time than one-to-one reference service or even a telephone reference call. Furthermore, it doesn't meet all the information needs of a user, nor does it develop a user's research capabilities.

Monty had more to say about student users' research capabilities. She believed that many students are

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dependent on their favourite database and are reluctant to try an unfamiliar one, even though it would provide better research material. They are often reluctant to use something useful if it is in paper format, possibly located in the stacks. Many do not realize that there is a world beyond Google – Google and its cousins account for only 15% of the Internet. She recalls how one patron did express satisfaction when, after an Internet search for the *Quebec Act* and other related constitutional material, she was shown some books on the subject in the Reference section. A single publication containing all the required sources was located. The satisfied happy patron also avoided any downloading fees on that occasion.

Despite these misgivings, Vivienne Monty does believe that the technological world of today contains many good things. The York University Library branch where she works is relatively small and, at one time, was limited to paper resources only. Their current access to database resources provides a wealth of additional material. The 250 and more computers have caused the return of a good number of faculty and students not seen for some time. Such items as Racer (via a push of a “button”, the library can obtain material from any academic library in Ontario); Scholars Portal, a one-stop-shopping device that has “fantastic features”; and Google products such as Google Print (which contains bibliographies with excellent lists), and Google Scholar (which, among other things, provides information about academic websites) are very much appreciated.

A most interesting and informative session!

The afternoon speaker was Ken Setterington, Children and Youth Advocate for Library Services at the Toronto Public Library. As his job title suggests, Setterington is an advocate of public libraries performing a significant role in the lives of youth and children, especially in our technological world. He also believes in

the importance of storytelling in our automated environment.

Ken Setterington began his session by telling us a story, capturing the attention of everyone with his original approach. He then described a recently completed research study – the first of its kind in Canada – that was undertaken in libraries to assist them in their provision of services to children. This study, *Opening Doors to Children: Reading, Media, and Public Library Use by Children in Six Canadian Cities*, is available from the Canadian Library Association (328 Frank Street, Ottawa, ON, K2P 0X8). The six participating city libraries were Vancouver, Regina, Toronto, Hamilton, Montreal and Halifax. Children from Grades 1 to 7 were interviewed, and data pertaining to library use in both 1977 and 2005 were compiled.

Not too surprisingly, in 1977, libraries and their users had less technology. By 2005, the presence of on-line catalogues and the Internet had become quite routine. As well, in 2005 libraries featured DVDs, video games and compact discs – not yet seen in 1977. In 1977, most homes had a television set, but the proliferation of home computers was yet to come. More than one-third of the children surveyed in 2005 had their own home computer. Furthermore, the major information source for the children interviewed was the Internet at home, not at the library. The study also indicated that a larger number of home television sets meant a much lower reading frequency, especially where children have their own TVs. Conversely, a larger number of books within the home increased the frequency of reading.

Survey results indicated that the reading habits of boys and girls differ. Boys like adventure, mysteries, “something scary” and “something funny” – in that order. Girls prefer fairy tales and romance, and read more overall. Boys like videos, video games and DVDs. Both boys and girls like new books and request them.

The afternoon report was very timely. All in all, it was an interesting and timely day. □

Ex Libris Association Biographical Project

BY NANCY J. WILLIAMSON

In keeping with ELA's interest in the history of libraries and librarianship, at its meeting on February 21, 2006, the Ex Libris Board approved a project to develop a biographical database of Canadian library and information science professionals. The goal of this project will be to document the contributions of those who have made their mark in some way in the library history of English Canada, from its beginning. The project will be complemented by a similar one for French Canada, being developed by a group of retired librarians in Quebec. The biographical database will be accessible through the Ex Libris website with links to the institutions holding each biographee's personal papers, where this is applicable. The database will continue to grow over the coming years.

There are many sources of information available – published biographies, library and information organizations, newspapers, newsletters, historical material and Ex Libris members, to name a few. We have already begun to collect information from such sources as *The History of the Book in Canada*, obituary notices in the *Globe and Mail*, the *Ottawa Citizen*, the *Saint John Telegraph Journal* and other newspapers, and from the histories of Mechanics Institutes. Back issues of *ELAN* are also an important source, and we will be contacting the many relevant existing organizations across Canada, including the provincial associations and special-interest professional groups.

Most important, there is material out there that you, as Ex Libris members, may know about that the Biographical Project Committee doesn't know about. You may have names to suggest, or you may know of lists or other important sources that can be tapped.

We need your help!! There is no existing tool that even begins to cover our biographical history, and the Biographical Project database has the potential to

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Introducing the ELA Board of Directors

COMPILED BY JEAN WEIHS

Many of you have met some of us during your careers. We welcome your contributions to *ELAN* or your suggestions for Ex Libris activities. You can contact any or all of us at the address on the last page of this issue.

Executive

President FRANCES DAVIDSON-ARNOTT. U of T '70 & '74. 1970-1972: Ontario Institute for Studies in Education Library. 1973: Canadian Association in Support of Native People Library. 1973-1986: Centennial College Library. 1986-2003: Seneca College Library & Information Technician Diploma Program faculty.

Past President PETER MUTCHLER. U of T '61. 1961-1969: Fort William Public Library. 1970-1976: Thunder Bay Public Library. 1976-1980: St. Albert Public Library. 1981-1989: Alberta Energy and Natural Resources Library (later Alberta Energy, Forestry, Lands and Wildlife).

Recording and Correspondence

Secretary JEAN WEIHS (also worked as Jean Northgrave and Jean Riddle). U of T '53. 1953-1959: University of Toronto Library. 1960-1964: North York Public Library. 1965-1966: Scarborough School Board secondary school library. 1966: Ontario Institute for Studies in Education Library. 1967-1969: East York Board of Education Technical Services. 1969-1986: Seneca College Library Techniques Program faculty. 1986-present: consultant.

Treasurer

DOREEN SHERMAN LONDON, McGill '74. 1974-1975: Champlain Regional College Library. 1975-1977: Metro Toronto Reference Library. 1977-2004: Seneca College Library.

Membership Secretary

JEAN WHEELER. U of T '78. 1980-1990: U of T Library, Information Science Library. 1990-1991: McGill University Library, Information Studies Library.

Board Members

PHEBE CHARTRAND. University of Ottawa '69 & McGill '84. 1969-1970: law firm library. 1970-1978: consultant. 1978-1996: McGill University Library & McGill University Archives.

SHIRLEY (Proctor) LEWIS. U of T '58. 1958-1960: New Toronto Public Library. 1964-1970: Canadian Book Wholesale. 1970-1979: Shirley Lewis & Associates Consulting. 1980-1984: The Learning Tree. 1985-1997: Shirley Lewis Information Services. 1997-2000: National Book Service.

BETH (Johnson) MCLEAN. UWO '70. 1971-1972: National Library of Canada. 1973-1997: North York Public Library (until amalgamation with Toronto Public Library). 1998-2004: Toronto Public Library.

JIM MONTGOMERY. U of T '69, '70. 1970-1987: Scarborough Public Library. 1987-2003: Toronto Public Library.

PHYLLIS PLATNICK. Syracuse '66. 1966-1967: McMaster U. Library. 1967-1998: York University Library (Glendon College & Archives). Also 1968-1969: Bibliocentre.

PEGGY WALSHE. U of T '75. 1971-1975: Toronto Public Library. 1975-1977: Ontario Medical Association Library consultant. 1977-1978: Inco Metals Library. 1978-1980: Canadian National Institute for the Blind Library. 1980-1985:

Metropolitan Toronto Reference Library. 1985-1993: CISTI. 1993-2003: Kitchener Public Library.

ELIZABETH WARRENER (also worked as Mary Warrener). U of T, '74. 1974-1975: Etobicoke Public Library. 1976-1977: Toronto Public Library. 1977-2001: Etobicoke Public Library. 2001-2002: Toronto Public Library.

MARY WILLIAMSON. U of T '59, '69. 1960-1965: Toronto Public Library. 1965-1969: Education Centre Library. 1970-1995: York University Library.

NANCY WILLIAMSON. U of T '50, '64. 1950-1965: Hamilton Public Library. 1965- present: University of Toronto Faculty of Information Studies faculty.

MARIE ZIELINSKA. 1962-1973: University of Montreal (various libraries). 1974-1994: National Library of Canada. □

We Invite You to Get Involved in ELA

This is your organization and you are invited to get involved. If you would like to be on a committee, or even be a corresponding member of a committee, or just help out from time to time, please get in touch with Frances Davidson-Arnott frances.davidson-arnott@senecac.on.ca or any of the executive.



ELA Board 2006. Back Row, left to right: Jim Montgomery, Mary Williamson, Peter Mutchler, Peggy Walshe, Beth McLean, Front row, left to right: Phyllis Platnick, Jean Wheeler, Doreen London, Frances Davidson-Arnott, Jean Weihs, Nancy Williamson, Liz Warrener. Missing: Phebe Chartrand, Shirley Lewis, Marie Zielinska

Photo credit: Diane Henderson

How I Became a Librarian

BY PATRICIA APPAVOO

VANCOUVER – A few years ago, my daughter and I were lunching together and chatting about libraries and books. For some reason, this conversation led to my reflections on libraries I had known in my childhood and the story of how I became a librarian.

I grew up in small prairie towns. My elementary education was in Manitoba and my high school education in Saskatchewan. The earliest memory I have of a library is of my father's study where he, a clergyman, had two walls of books on theology, philosophy, history, as well as the *Harvard Classics*. This library fascinated me, because it was my father's retreat from the noise and shenanigans of my younger brothers and me. If we tried to get his attention while he was reading, we would have to call to him and shake his arm several times before he responded. To a young child, there was something mysterious in that.

My earliest memory of a lending library per se was at age 5 or 6. While accompanying my mother on a Saturday shopping trip, we visited the Women's Institute Library. What comes to mind is walking up the stairs to a second floor room that was dark and cramped, and presided over by an elderly lady dressed in black. I was not impressed, but I know in retrospect that the books available were a source of good reading for my mother.

One of my school friends was fortunate enough to have a playroom in her home. One wall of that room was lined with shelves of children's books – much more interesting than theology, history, etc. When I learned to read, I became curious about these books and discovered such titles as *Uncle Remus*, *The Bobbsey Twins*, *The Wind in the Willows*, which caught my attention because they created a different world from that of *Dick and Jane* readers and

Sunday school papers. Reading became one of my favourite pastimes.

The year I started Grade 7, we moved to a town in Saskatchewan that I thought was grand, because it had 3,000 people. In contrast, the town we left had only 1,500 people. This new town also had a public library, but it was a bit bigger than the first library I experienced. It even had some bought books as well as the donated ones.

When I was in Grade 9, the Saskatchewan Regional Library System came to town. The old high school building was transformed into a bright, cheerful library with lots of interesting books and, although it was only one floor, I was impressed! Indeed, I discovered historical fiction there, but, alas, it was in the adult section and I was not old enough to go there. Much to my surprise, the librarian consulted with my parents about my reading interests and the outcome was “open sesame” – I was allowed to borrow adult books.

In Grade 12, we students talked about what careers we were going to train for after graduation. All I could think about were the careers I didn't want – nursing, legal secretarial work, social work or teaching. That didn't leave many other options for a young woman in those days, so I decided to study English! I was in my 2nd year at U of Alberta (another move by my clergyman father) when I saw an ad for student assistants in Rutherford Library. Desperate for spending money, I applied and was taken on. I enjoyed it enough to continue as a student assistant in my third year.

In the second semester, with graduation only three months away, I still didn't know what I was going to do when I grew up. It was at that time that my supervisor, Norma Freifield, suggested library school to me and mentioned government grants that were available for a year of study. Then I learned that the only library programs in Canada were in Toronto and Montreal. All of that was too good to ignore: Money and the opportunity to go to Toronto

clinched my decision to become a librarian.

I have never regretted that decision and am indebted to Norma Freifield for pointing me in that direction. As a librarian, I have worked in large academic library systems (the Universities of Alberta, Victoria and Toronto); organized seminary libraries in Bangalore, India and Antananarivo, Madagascar; managed academic library services for distance education at Athabasca University; and last, but definitely not least, overseen the development of an academic library from the ground up at University of Northern BC–Prince George. While carrying out my professional duties at the various libraries, I also enjoyed stints of participation in library organizations, including CACUL, LAA, BCLA and COPPUL.

What stands out in my mind when looking back over nearly 40 years in academic libraries are the many wonderful colleagues I encountered along the way and the astonishing changes brought about in library practice with developments in technology. While I was often mystified by technology's intricacies, I was always glad to have the faster access to information that it provided.

It was in my second month of library school that I decided cataloguing was not for me and public service would be my niche. It is so ingrained in me after all these years that when I see tourists (and there are throngs of them in Vancouver) looking puzzled, I feel compelled to say, “Can I help you?” □

ELA Annual Conference and Get-Together

Our Annual Conference and Get-Together for 2006 will be on Monday, November 6 at North York Central Library in Toronto. Mark it on your calendar and plan to attend.

News from British Columbia



BY SYLVIA CROOKS

VANCOUVER – The first phase of the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre, a reconstruction of UBC's Main Library, opened last October. Its Automated Storage and Retrieval System (ASRS) is a first for Canadian libraries and dramatically improves access to storage materials while reducing the space needed for storage.

In the ASRS system, some 800,000 books and other materials are specially coded and placed in about 19,000 stainless-steel bins, piled from floor to ceiling in a secure, climate-controlled area of the library. The system is linked to the library's on-line catalogue so that, when an item from storage is requested, a robotic crane locates the item and delivers it to a landing area where a library staff member retrieves it. In all, the process takes about two minutes. The system can hold 1.8 million volumes and gives the UBC Library about 15 years of growth space.

Professor **Peter Ward**, previously associate dean in the Faculty of Arts, has been appointed deputy university librarian and is responsible for day-to-day management of library operations. University Librarian Catherine Quinlan continues with her primary function of fundraising, strategic planning, and development of the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre, which is scheduled to open in early 2007.

Another development in the UBC Library system was the opening last July of the new UBC–Okanagan Library, located on the north campus of the former Okanagan University College in Kelowna. The college's col-

lection had to be divided between the new UBC–Okanagan Library and Okanagan College, which continues to offer first- and second-year transfer courses. Division and integration of collections, and also of staff and on-line catalogues, has been a major challenge and is ongoing.

As reported in the last issue of ELAN, Professor and UBC University Librarian Emeritus **Basil Stuart-Stubbs** was invested as a Member of the Order of Canada, in recognition of his lifetime contribution to Canadian libraries, publishing and heritage. Basil was instrumental in establishing UBC Press, collaborated in the production of the first edition of *Canadian Books in Print*, and was one of the founders of the Canadian Institute for Historical Microreproductions (now Canada.org). He was also a founding board member of the Canadian Centre for Studies in Publishing at Simon Fraser University. Basil's research and writing of Canadian library history continues.

In November, a celebration of the life of **Sheila Egoff** at the Vancouver Public Library was attended by more than 170 friends, colleagues, former students, teachers, librarians, writers, illustrators, publishers and booksellers. The event was also a book launch for Sheila's memoir, *Once Upon a Time: My Life with Children's Books*, written in collaboration with Wendy K. Sutton and published by Orca Books last fall. For more about Sheila Egoff, read her obituary in the Fall 2005 issue of ELAN.

It was a spirited evening of tribute and anecdote. Among those who spoke of Sheila's unique contribution to Canadian children's literature and children's public library services were Dr. Sam Rothstein, founder and first director of the UBC School of Librarianship (now SLAIS), Associate Professor Judith Saltman of SLAIS, writers Maggie de Vries and Nan Gregory, long-time friend Celia Duthie, and former students Kit Pearson and Sarah Ellis.

Two other losses were felt by the BC library community in the summer and fall of 2005. **Bryan Bacon**, former chief librarian of Burnaby Public Library and Prince George Public Library, died on July 30. Harry Campbell, former head of the Toronto Public Library, claimed that "Bryan put Burnaby on the map". Vancouver Public Library Director Paul Whitney (who succeeded Bryan as director at Burnaby Public Library) wrote of Bryan, "He was a visionary, passionate, insightful and principled librarian who, after his retirement, continued to influence younger librarians as a sessional lecturer at SLAIS". Bryan was also a talented artist and devoted much time to painting in his retirement years.

Colin William (Bill) Fraser, a major innovator in health library services in BC, died on October 12. He was director of the BC Medical Library Service for 30 years and, during that time, he greatly expanded and shaped a wide network of hospital libraries. Bill also taught medical librarianship at SLAIS, where a scholarship is named after him. He was the recipient in 1993 of the BC Library Association's Helen Gordon Stewart Award, the highest award given by the association for outstanding contribution to librarianship.

Vancouver Public Library embarked last November on a groundbreaking children's outreach program, aimed at significantly improving young children's readiness to read. Called Ready to Read, the program aims to reach families with children from infancy to five years, especially in Vancouver neighbourhoods where literacy and English-language skills are needed most. Five newly hired children's outreach librarians are working with parents and caregivers to help children become more comfortable and familiar with the rhythm and structure of language during their earliest years.

The first of its kind in Canada, the program is delivered through partnerships with childcare, multicultural, lit-

Report From Ottawa



BY MARIE F. ZIELINSKA

This year is a very special one for the Ottawa Public Library, as it celebrates its 100th anniversary. The original building, at the corner of Metcalfe and Laurier Streets, opened its doors on April 30, 1906 in the presence of its benefactor, Andrew Carnegie, who announced, "I want you to remember, as the last words of Andrew Carnegie, that this is the library of the people". This building served Ottawans faithfully for almost 70 years, until it was demolished and a new building opened in 1974. It was triple the size of the original, but the population of Ottawa was growing at such a pace that it became obvious within a few years that what Ottawa really needed was a completely different building.

In 2004, the current Main library was adapted as much as possible to accommodate growing needs. Because it was squeezed between two older buildings,

no real expansion was possible. As mentioned in previous reports, a big discussion evolved concerning the location of a new library building. OPL CEO Barbara Clubb prepared an excellent, very precise outline of conditions imperative for a successful relocation, but none of the suggested sites was found to be suitable.

OPL tried, therefore, to organize a series of public consultations in January 2006. Their purpose was to gather information about the future of the Ottawa public library system. Unfortunately, the sessions were cancelled at the last minute as City Council refused to contribute funds to the cause. It is hard to believe that cities like Vancouver, Edmonton, Montreal, Winnipeg and others have been able to obtain funds for spectacular new buildings while Canada's capital must serve over 800,000 people and 32 branches from a building designed to serve 300,000 people and six branches.

Despite all these challenges, there will be a bright moment during this June's CLA conference in Ottawa. There will be tours of a brand-new branch in the south end of the city. All interested conference attendees will be invited. We'll have a more detailed history of Ottawa Public Library and a report on the centenary celebrations in the next issue of *ELAN*. □

Flesherton Library Board for its resistance to censorship.

In 1960, the OLA Intellectual Freedom Committee mounted a display of banned books at its annual conference. The display and our short bibliography covered 2,000 years of censorship, from Homer to Nabokov.

In 1963, in high dungeon, I wrote a piece, "In Defence of Henry Miller", in response to the banning of books by Canada Customs. Intellectual freedom was a lively and emotional issue in those "good old days". Nowadays, it seems to be a dead issue because of liberal judgments of the courts, changes in the attitudes of society and the difficulty of controlling content on the Internet. Many television channels carry material that would certainly have been restricted in the long past. We accept, albeit reluctantly, foul language, nudity, violence and all sorts of crazy ideas in films, books, television and on the Web. Government censorship of printed matter has almost disappeared.

Perhaps the efforts of librarians over the years have contributed to this desired effect. Or, perhaps it is because books are becoming less important as conduits of controversial ideas. I hope that this is not the case. Unfortunately, now Pandora's box has been unlocked, and a general irresponsibility and unconcern for the consequences may indicate that society has gone too far.

The Death of Censorship

BY ALBERT BOWRON

In the good old days, the Intellectual Freedom Committees of our library associations had lots to deal with. *Lady Chatterley's Lover* was banned in Canada until 1959. Henry Miller's *Tropics*, also banned. James Joyce's *Ulysses* was banned until 1949, as was *The Well of Loneliness* by Radclyffe Hall. The list goes on. *The Naked and the Dead*, *Peyton Place*, *God's Little Acre*, *Memoirs of Hecate County*, etc. All

banned by Canada Customs, the courts or the tariff code.

The *Canadian Library Journal* published my article on the Flesherton incident. It happened in the small town of Flesherton, Ontario in 1955. An attempt was made to ban four totally innocuous books from the local public library. It became a nasty community issue that received a good deal of press coverage. The library board resisted. The librarian became a hero for refusing to take the books from the shelves. The incident petered out. The Board won the day and Angus Mowat, then director of the Provincial Library Service, arranged for a special grant to be awarded to the

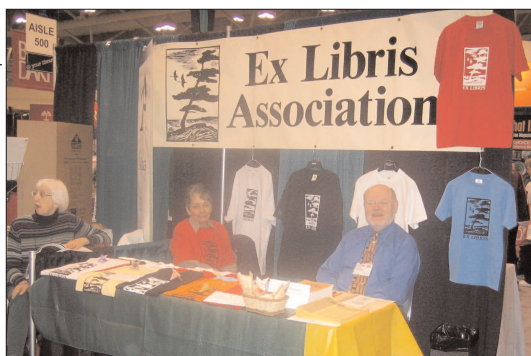
Of course, would-be censors still make occasional efforts to keep us from the free discussion of current controversy. An example is the recent attempt of one Ontario school board to withdraw a book about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict from its school libraries – an effort that was strongly and successfully opposed by the Ontario Library Association.

Personally, I believe the intellectual climate is better now than it was in the 60s and 70s, when librarians had to be on guard. Now, however, we are beginning to question the allowable limits and the strength of the social contract again. □

Ex Libris Session at the OLA Super Conference

BY FRANCES DAVIDSON-ARNOTT,
JANICE SELLARS AND JEAN WEIHS

Ex Libris Association sponsored and organized a session called A Time to Volunteer, held on February 3 at the OLA Super Conference. A panel of four interesting speakers explained their involvement in volunteer work of a type that many of our members would consider. The audience of approximately 45 people included both Ex Libris members and general conference goers. The session was moderated by Frances Davidson-Arnott, President of Ex Libris.



ELA's booth at the OLA Super Conference, 2006. Left to right: Mavis Cariou, Diane Henderson, Doug Willford

This event focused on a long-standing interest of ELA and its members, local and international volunteering. While most people are positive about their experiences, there are practical considerations that make some foreign postings more difficult. In addition, the emotional involvement is rewarding, but can be draining.

Shirley Lewis, a retired librarian, spoke with passion and enthusiasm about her experiences as a volunteer with VSO (Volunteer Service Overseas) in Ethiopia. Over a five-year period, she worked in two different library settings – in Jimma in southern Ethiopia and in Gondor in the north. By sharing her skills, she changed Ethiopian lives; she too was changed by what she saw. Shirley now spends much of her time speaking about global education and volunteering. She has also started a Canadian branch of the Children of Ethiopia Education Fund.

Shirley was much affected by the severe deprivation of families – and especially children – who found themselves home-

less because of illness (AIDS, malaria and TB are but three of the deadly diseases stalking Ethiopians), death and extreme poverty. She outlined the education crisis: the government lacks funding for adequate school facilities, and many people cannot afford to send their children to school because school is not free there.

As a volunteer, she was able to help build the infrastructure so desperately needed. She made the point that seniors in good health are welcome as volunteers in countries such as Ethiopia.

Josephine (Jo) Atilia, founder and volunteer executive director of Literature for Life, a literacy program for disadvantaged young mothers and their children in Toronto, described her organization's work. The young

mothers live in difficult situations and feel negatively stereotyped by society. We were distressed to hear that there are mothers in their very early teens – and even some preteens, many of whom got pregnant through abuse within their own families. Through linking literacy and books, the mothers have an opportunity for group discussion and learning about child language development. Some of these young women have written their own stories and produced their own newsletter, *Yo' Mama*. In their group discussions, they are able to share their concerns and gain confidence to change their lives, go back to school and gain independence.

Jo's own background as a teacher led her into volunteer work of this type in Chicago. Returning to Ontario, she decided to continue the work here, starting Literature for Life. The work has become very important to her. Her dedication and commitment are inspiring. For more information about the organization, go to www.literatureforlife.org.

Daniella Liebrechts, volunteer and membership co-ordinator for Librarians without Borders (LWB), talked about the creation of this organization by students at the University of Western Ontario's Faculty of Information and Media Studies (FIMS) in 2005. Also in the audience was Melanie Sellar, founder of LWB. Daniella is a master's student at FIMS. Her youth and enthusiasm were charming. She has volunteered since she was a child and has developed an attitude of caring for others. LWB appealed to her immediately.

The mission of LWB "is to strive to improve access to information – regardless of language, geography or religion – by forming partnerships with community organizations in developing regions". Daniella told us about LWB's efforts to raise funds and build awareness of their mission. They have achieved not-for-profit status and have begun their first project: creating a medical collection for a university library in Angola. They plan to do this by building partnerships with Portuguese publishers and then helping to make the library sustainable. The first part of the project is the collection of medical and nursing resources for a Portuguese-language library, Biblioteca Tutangi, based in Huambo, Angola.

Their challenge is to fill the library's empty shelves, hire skilled support staff, and establish a plan that ensures its long-term viability. The technique being used is a campaign called Sponsor a Book, allowing LWB to buy Portuguese-language resources that have been carefully chosen as essential to the collection. As Daniella explained, "...over the next couple of years, Biblioteca Tutangi will hold a collection of approximately 7,000 resources. We believe we can achieve this goal, but clearly, only with the help of volunteers who can apply their knowledge and skills towards building this collection and who share the same passion".

Daniella ended her presentation with an inspiring explanation for her volunteer work: "One book in one small community may only reach one pair of hands,

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Our President's Report



BY FRANCES
DAVIDSON-
ARNOTT

Ex Libris Association celebrates its 20th anniversary this year. We are all very

proud of what Ex Libris has accomplished in the first 20 years and hope that we can continue the terrific record set by our predecessors. Over the years, we have published high-quality books, articles and special newsletter issues. There have been gatherings of both intellectual and social merit. Since Ex Libris represents individuals rather than institutions, we have the great advantage of being able to lobby and make statements about issues without fear of reprisal. With our members' long experience, we are able to put our collective memories and broad perspectives to great professional use.

We have had a very successful year so far. A lot has happened since Peter Mutchler's last President's Report in the Fall 2005 issue of *ELAN*. As you will read elsewhere in this issue, three events have been held: the Annual Get-Together in November, an event at the Ontario Library Association Super Conference on volunteering in February, and a session on gathering oral history at the Faculty of Information Studies, University of Toronto in March. All were successful and well attended. We also had a very good exhibit booth at the OLA conference.

In the planning stages now are exhibit booths at the annual conferences of APLA in Fredericton, New Brunswick in May, and at CLA in Ottawa in June. Our agreement last year with CLA gives us the opportunity to share CLA's booth at any provincial conference where they exhibit. At APLA,

Norman Horrocks is organizing a gathering to showcase Ex Libris. One of our intentions this year is to expand our presence outside of the Toronto area, especially with local events. Our next November meeting, renamed the Annual Conference, is being planned by Beth McLean and promises to be very exciting. It should be noted here that ELA events are largely self-financing, including the Annual Conference; members from outside areas where events are held are not paying for meals or activities in another location. Having said that, the Board has agreed to spend a small amount to get regional events off the ground. I will keep you posted on future events.

The Board and committees have been busy. The Promotion and Public Relations Committee, now under the able direction of Shirley Lewis, is off to a good start with a burst of activity and planning. The Biography Project is getting off the ground. The Website Committee has been very active with revisions and additions to ELA's website and the now-operational listserv. Peter Mutchler, as a member of the Promotion and Public Relations Committee, has been looking after the W. Kaye Lamb Award this year; it should be popular with the new \$500 prize. The Newsletter Committee has Liz Warrenner as its new co-chair, and she has jumped in very successfully. The Membership and Recruitment Committee is still plugging away at gaining members for us, sending out messages and letters and encouraging organizations to give memberships to Ex Libris as retirement gifts.

As President, my greatest wish is to get many more members involved in activities. Please get in touch with any of us on the Board if you are interested in doing something, large or small. The success of Ex Libris depends on the participation of its members.

Many thanks to all who have been involved this year! □

Ex Libris Association Biographical Project

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become an important source of that history. What we need are volunteers to help us gather existing information. The Ex Libris Board believes that the best volunteers will be our own members, who can supply names, stories and recollections. This will provide an opportunity for you to participate in what could become one of ELA's most important activities.

We are currently developing a plan for collecting the material and preparing a style sheet for recording the data. We can start small and build. For example, a name, libraries worked in, positions held and dates in which the person flourished is enough to set up an entry. As more information becomes available, we can add to entries. As the database builds, we will also encourage you to peruse the site to help us fill in the blank spaces.

We hope you can help us! More information will appear on the Ex Libris listserv as the plan unfolds. If you are already excited and willing to volunteer, please contact me (I'm chair of the Biographical Project Committee) by mail at:

Nancy J. Williamson
Faculty of Information Studies
University of Toronto
140 St. George Street
Toronto, M5S 3G6
By e-mail at nancy.williamson@utoronto.ca
Or by phone at 416-978-7079

Thanks! □

CLA CONFERENCE

Ex Libris Association will be at the Canadian Library Association Conference from June 14 to 17, 2006.

Be sure to stop by our booth in the exhibit area. Ask us about the celebratory cake and cake-cutting ceremony for our 20th anniversary.

See you there!

Atlantic News



BY NORMAN HORROCKS

People

Iain BATES died in Sault Ste. Marie on January 18, 2006 at age 65. He joined Acadia University as deputy university librarian in 1976 and served as its university librarian from 1982 to 1992. He coauthored, with Alan McEwan, the report *The Global Library* in 1990. A former treasurer of the Canadian Library Association, he received the Atlantic Provinces Library Association Merit Award in 1993. Contributions in his memory may be made to the Parkinsons Foundation.

Susan COLLINS, Director of Information Services, Ward Chipman Library, University of New Brunswick–Saint John, retired in May 2005.

Jennifer EVANS was appointed provincial librarian of Nova Scotia in September 2005. She began her career as a school librarian in Yarmouth. She worked in Halifax libraries for the past 15 years in a variety of positions. Prior to taking her latest position, she was branch manager at Alderney Gate Public Library in Dartmouth.

Norman HORROCKS, a life member of the Intelligence Corps Association (www.army.mod.uk/intelligencecorps/intelligence_corps_association_ica/index.htm) contributed an autobiographical chapter, "Spies of the Airwaves", to the ASIS&T monograph "Covert and Overt: Recollecting and Connecting Intelligence Service and Information Science", edited by Robert V. Williams and Ben-Ami Lipetz. It was published by Information Today Inc. in 2005 (ISBN 1-57387-234-2). This volume also contains chapters by David Batty and

Charles T. Meadow, who taught at McGill University and University of Toronto, respectively.

Isobel Mader HORTON, born May 10, 1917, died January 24, 2006. She had a long association with Acadia University. Her BA was from Acadia and her BLS from McGill (1937). When she and her husband moved to Wolfville in 1954, she joined the library staff and later became Head of Cataloguing before becoming university librarian from 1976 to 1982. In retirement, she spent many years as a volunteer in the University Archives, for which she was recognized by the Baptist Convention. She was predeceased by her husband Sydney Rowland Horton, a Baptist minister. Memorial contributions may be made to the Chaplaincy Endowment Fund, The Atlantic Baptist Fellowship, c/o John Churchill, Box 56, Port Williams, NS, B00 1T0.

Patricia JOHNSTON, Acting Chief Librarian, Ward Chipman Library, University of New Brunswick–Saint John, retired in December 2005.

Madeleine LEFEBVRE, University Librarian, Saint Mary's University, has been featured on radio, television, in the press and at various association meetings discussing her book *The Romance of Libraries*, published by Scarecrow Press this year (ISBN 0-8108-5352-3). Copies are available from the Saint Mary's University Bookstore or online from www.scarecrowpress.com.

Doris RAUCH, Head, Engineering and Computer Science Library, University of New Brunswick–Fredericton, retired in June 2005.

M. Eileen TRAVIS, CM, former Saint John Regional Librarian (see *ELAN*, Spring 2005, p. 13) died December 21, 2005 at the age of 74. She was a graduate of St. Francis Xavier and McGill University. She began her library career as head of the Children's Dept. and ended it as regional librarian. In the latter position, she oversaw the expansion of the library system in New Brunswick

and the building of the new library in Market Square, St. John. A willing volunteer in a variety of causes, she received the Queen's Jubilee Medal in 2003 and the Order of Canada in November, 2005.

Events

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY. The Master of Library and Information Studies program at Dalhousie was accredited by the American Library Association in January 2006, with the next regular comprehensive review set for Fall 2012. The newly renamed School of Information Management moved from the Killam Library and is now located in the Kenneth C. Rowe Management Building, a \$25 million building that opened in September 2005.

EX LIBRIS ASSOCIATION is to hold its first meeting in the Atlantic Provinces in May 2006 during the Atlantic Provinces Library Association annual conference in Fredericton, NB. The speakers at the Ex Libris Association Wants You! session will be ELA members Sheila Laidlaw, former Library Director, University of New Brunswick–Fredericton, and Norman Horrocks, Editorial Consultant, Scarecrow Press (Lanham, MD) and Professor Emeritus, School of Information Management, at Dalhousie University. By the kind courtesy of the Canadian Library Association, ELA will have space at the CLA booth in the exhibits area to display ELA publications and T-shirts. For a photo of the t-shirts, please see the ELA website (<http://exlibris.fis.utoronto.ca/Shop/T-shirt/t-shirt.html>).

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY is celebrating the 30th anniversary of the opening of the Patrick Power Library on June 10, 1976, with a series of exhibits and lectures. □

Reflecting on the Past, Bridging to the Future

BY ELIZABETH WARRENER

The experiences and challenges of collecting oral history were the subjects of a lively group of talks by three library history researchers at an event on March 8, sponsored by the Ex Libris Association together with the Faculty of Information Studies and its Student Association.

Leslie McGrath, head of the world-famous Osborne Collection of children's literature at the Toronto Public Library, was the first



speaker. Her discovery of some reports in boxes in the Osborne archives sparked her interest in what eventually became her doctoral thesis, *Service to Children in the Toronto Public Library: A Case Study, 1912-1949*. The reports were daybooks from 1912, 1914, 1916, and subsequent years. They chronicled the day-to-day activities of children's librarians: programs, procedures, discipline problems (apparently, a number of children were banned from library premises for egg throwing!). These daybooks told a different story from the published records of the period: they told the front-line view.

Intrigued, Leslie went on to research children's library services of the past and to conduct interviews with retired librarians from the period and their successors. Judith St. John, Harry Campbell, and Sheila Egoﬀ were among the interviewees. Although interviewees were offered anonymity, they all turned it down. The interviews dispelled some of the myths surrounding early TPL children's services and confirmed some of the facts; for example, the feeling of solidarity among early children's librarians.

Lillian Smith, the first head of TPL's children's services, espoused the philosophy that the library should treat every

child the same way. Race was seldom mentioned and collections were of uniformly high standard across the branches. Inclusion was the name of the game: librarians were careful not to use books that only described one religion, one set of holidays or one set of stories.

The interviews were the most rewarding part of Leslie's study. Her suggestion for future researchers is to investigate why some records are retained and others destroyed.

Leslie brought with her a concrete example of historical information she uncovered during her research. It was a videotape made from a silent film of a children's puppet-making program at TPL in 1938. The power of historical record was obvious as we watched the attractive young librarian (Miss St. John) and the fresh-faced children assembling their puppets 68 years ago.

Next, **Susan Hoffman** talked about her experience as local history librarian for the Kitchener Public Library. Since 1984, KPL has had a separate local history collection, housed in the Grace Schmidt Room. The oral history collection started in 1981. By 2006, the collection numbered 1,060 tapes representing the memories of 666 people. Funding for the program came from various sources. Interviewers were eventually hired and paid a fee for each interview.



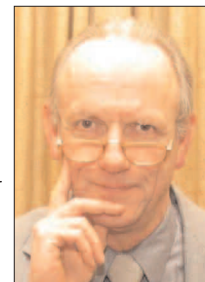
Choosing people to interview was a challenge. Not all of the people suggested were suitable candidates and, often, people declined to be interviewed. Useful sources of ideas for interviewees were the regional newspapers, as well as members of the historical society and the local branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society. People from all areas of Waterloo region were included. It was important to maintain a balance between the urban and the rural sectors. After the interviews, the interviewees signed waivers. The completed tapes are stored in a secure area. Tapes can be listened to in the KPL's local his-

tory room; however, no one knows how long the cassettes will last. Some transcripts of the tapes have been done as a backup.

Interviews were conducted with two retired librarians from KPL, Dorothy Shoemaker, chief librarian from 1944 to 1971, and Grace Schmidt, head of reference and assistant chief librarian until 1980. According to Susan, it is wonderful to hear the voices of these librarians: Their personalities really come through in the interviews.

The oral history program at KPL has been inactive for the past two years; the staff members are trying to decide how to proceed in the future. They are grappling with technology: Whether to use cassettes or more modern devices is a major issue. The possibility of more transcription is being looked at. Meanwhile, the tapes are being used by many researchers and students, including the authors of *Women of Waterloo County*, published in 2000.

The third speaker of the afternoon was **Stephen Cummings**, project manager for mycommunityinfo.ca. Stephen's doctoral thesis was on Angus Mowat, an irreverent, sometimes blasphemous, impassioned and fascinating character. The title is *Angus McGill Mowat and the Development of Ontario Public Libraries, 1920-1960*. The people who had worked with Angus were still alive, so Stephen interviewed them.



As Stephen said, oral history has a number of functions. It generates primary research materials in areas where there are none. It creates ancillary information where the document trail is incomplete. It delivers casual documentation, such as jot notes from interviews.

Stephen wanted to create permanent records. He discussed some of the challenges in doing oral history. Not everyone is good at it. You need to be able to work the technology, for example.

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Ex Libris Session at the OLA Super Conference

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but the knowledge from this pair of hands has the potential to transfer with one shake of a hand to 100 other hands. And that belief is why I enjoy working and volunteering with those who are involved with Librarians Without Borders". For more information about the organization, go to www.lwb-online.org.

Lorna Reevely, a retired teacher-librarian, has been a serious volunteer at home and abroad, both during her working years and in retirement. She related some of the cross-cultural experiences she had while working in Nigeria, China, and the Solomon Islands and how they have overlapped with her Ontario experiences. She also pointed out practical details about housing, jobs and what to think about before deciding to volunteer in another country. You never know what you will find, what you will need, or what the political situation will be like, so you have to approach it with an open mind. Her librarian's skills has been useful in areas other than libraries: Librarians are trained to respond to other people's needs, to organize things, and so on. She advises going abroad as early as possible in your career and not just waiting until retirement. She was fortunate in being able to take breaks from her work without losing pension credits. One of her current ongoing activities is the Trinity College book sale.

The panel then answered questions. Issues were raised about the whole business of volunteering. In an email before the event, **Arn Bailey** wrote, "One question that should come up is whether retired librarians should work as volunteers in libraries. [Will] young librarians lose out in jobs and ... [is] necessary work just not done without required staff?" Are volunteers allowing organizations to avoid hiring staff? An audience member pointed out that, in order to avoid this problem, many libraries have very strict controls about what kind of work volunteers are allowed to do.

Another concern is whether the work done will lead to better libraries in future or whether the efforts will languish once the volunteer goes home.

A handout at the session included selected examples of volunteer opportunities.

Overall, the speakers were very interesting and provided information as well as practical advice for getting involved as a volunteer in a variety of ways. We could have used another hour to allow for the pent-up questions and discussion. Perhaps another session about volunteering is called for!

We would be interested in receiving articles or notes for publication in *ELAN* from members with their own stories of volunteer experiences. Please see the back page of this issue for how to contact *ELAN*. □

News from British Columbia

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eracy, and health and community service providers. According to VPL Director Paul Whitney, "One of the exciting aspects of Ready to Read is that we have built-in tools in our plan to track our progress and measure the success of the program over time. In doing so, we'll be developing and refining a program that truly meets the needs of Vancouver's diverse community".

An innovative service also offered by **Vancouver Public Library** is a newly created genealogy website to help Canadians of Chinese descent explore their Canadian roots. According to the 2001 census, more than 26% of Vancouverites identified Chinese as their mother tongue. The new website offers a variety of unique and practical tools and resources for all stages of genealogical research – including information about individuals and families, traditional characteristics of Chinese names and how they were sometimes transformed after arrival in Canada. It

includes census and head-tax records as well as background materials on the settlement of Chinese people in Canada. The website uses Canadian-based English-language sources, but also includes references to Chinese-language materials and resources available in China. Workshops on using the website are being offered to patrons.

According to Whitney, the website has been enormously popular, and Library and Archives Canada has agreed to cooperate with VPL in its expansion. A presentation on the website at the IFLA conference in Oslo, Norway last August generated much interest. The website address is <http://ccg.vpl.ca>.

Another library in BC's Lower Mainland has for many years been a leader in genealogical resources. The Cloverdale Branch of the **Surrey Public Library** holds the largest family-history collection west of Ottawa. Many of its visitors come from afar to make use of its records on census, estates, immigration, Loyalists and the military, as well as church records. The collection also includes guides to genealogical research in other western provinces and Ontario. The Branch offers many workshops on genealogical research, writing, publishing and website design. □

Please welcome our new BC columnist, Sylvia Crooks! Sylvia retired from the faculty of the UBC School of Library, Archival and Information Studies in 2002, where she taught reference and outreach services for 16 years. She is the author of *Homefront & Battlefront: Nelson BC in World War II*, published in September 2005.

St. Swithun's Society

BY NORMAN MCMULLEN

No doubt, some readers have scanned the membership list of the Ex Libris Association and wondered who, or what, is the St. Swithun's Society. What possible connection could there be between a long-ago bishop of Winchester and a collection of bibliophiles and information specialists?

The Society's lineage can be traced back through the decades to the age of the former North York Public Library and its Technical Services building on Martin Ross Avenue in what was once Downsview. It was over 30 years ago when a group of young and impressionable staff from Cataloguing and Acquisitions decided that a "night on the town" was long overdue. This social event had been on hold for months as we tried to settle on a date that would please everyone. Following great discussion and planning, a date was finally set – July 15, 1974. The rest, as they say, is history.

Many Society members are now retired from the amalgamated Toronto Public Library system but, not surprisingly, whenever we reconvene, stories about our careers with North York Public Library always emerge. Our careers encompassed decades of tremendous growth in library service in what was then the Borough and later the City of North York. For many of us, there was a real sense of pride to be associated with this progressive and innovative organization.

My many years of service in Interlibrary Loan were rewarded by being one of the first staff to move into the new North York Central Library on Mel Lastman Square. We were privileged to witness the completion of the building from our third-floor vantage point "the ever changing panorama," as one staff member described it. The opening of this splendid branch and the range of library services that were offered were models for the library community across Canada.

So successful was that first outing on St. Swithun's Day, 1974 that it became an annual event. Despite a couple of near-death experiences in the mid-1980s, the Society has continued to prosper and flourish all these years. We now boast a membership of almost 300 around the world – an accomplishment that has been labeled proof of miracles by skeptics.

The Society's goals, when it was established, were to promote feelings of goodwill, to encourage the celebration of St. Swithun's Day and to pattern members' lives after the example of our patron. There would be no membership fees and we would intentionally operate with a minimum of bureaucracy.

Donations to the Sunshine Bag are requested at Society functions, and special fundraising events are held throughout the year so that we can continue to support various charitable organizations. Kevin Dark and Elisabeth Stenson, both of Richmond Hill and retirees from the North York Library, remain Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer, respectively. Perhaps there is a Canadian record here as the longest-serving Executive?!

Saint Swithun died in 862 AD and is numbered among the legion of British saints "about whom little is known". History records that he was a remarkably holy man who probably tutored Alfred the Great. A bishop of Winchester, England's ancient capital, Swithun was renowned for his miraculous deeds of a charming, domestic nature. As well as curing lepers and the lame in his diocese, he is said to have restored a basket of shattered eggs that were a poor widow's only marketable goods. Such was his concern for the less fortunate. On July 15, 1971, the Saint's remains were moved from their original burial site to a magnificent shrine inside Winchester's newly constructed Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul. Legend says that Swithun, a humble man, was so upset that his body was not allowed to lie where the faithful might pass over it that rains began, lasting 40 days and nights. This event is the source of the popular rhyme associated with our patron:

*Saint Swithun's Day, if thou dost rain,
For forty days it will remain.
Saint Swithun's Day, if thou be fair,
For forty days 'twill rain nae mair.*

Saint Swithun's Society is inclusive and non-denominational. It enjoys a wonderful cross-section of members in terms of age, religious affiliation, political persuasion and ethnic background. No doubt this fact, together with the spirit of fun and friendship that always accompanies our events, reflects that well-known image of St. Swithun as Pontifex – the bridge builder.

Honorary memberships are presented to individuals whom we feel best represent the spirit of our Society. Included in that number are philanthropist Ed Mirvish, comedienne Anna Russell, Mississauga Mayor Hazel McCallion, *Richmond Hill Liberal* columnist Fred Simpson and the popular star of *The Young and The Restless*, Jeanne Cooper. Craig Kielburger, founder of Free the Children, was awarded an honorary membership in 1996.

The Society also collects used postage stamps and sends them to Andrew Johansson, a disabled, former deep-sea diver in Northern Ireland. He sells the stamps and uses the money to supply guide dogs for people who, like him, are visually impaired. Andrew was made an honorary member in 1989.

The Society publishes an irregular newsletter entitled *The Water Spout*. Copies are available free upon request. Back issues are retained at the National Library of Canada and the Canadian Collection in the North York Central Branch of Toronto Public Library.

If you are interested in learning more about our Society or about upcoming events and activities, please contact us at the following address:

Norman McMullen, KStG, President
Saint Swithun's Society
427 Lynett Crescent
Richmond Hill, Ontario, L4C 2V6
905-883-0984
nmcullen@rogers.com ☐

Book Reviews

HISTORY OF THE BOOK IN CANADA. VOLUME II, 1840-1918.

EDITED BY YVAN LAMONDE, PATRICIA LOCKHART FLEMING AND FIONA A. BLACK

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO PRESS, 2005, 659 PAGES, \$75.

REVIEWED BY HARRY CAMPBELL

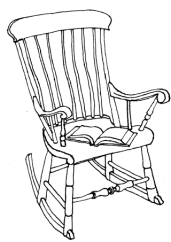
The genesis of this three-volume project – Volume I, published in 2004 – was set out in *ELAN's* Fall 2005 issue by Francess Halpenny. Volume II covers the years 1840 to 1918, essentially Canada's Victorian past. In English Canada, the assimilation of British imperial values was one of the dominant concerns of this period. In French Canada, a culture dominated by strict church control, books and printing provided the expression of early national feelings.

A nine-page chronology indicates highlights as publishing evolved in Canada over eight decades. These decades are covered in seven parts, which can be viewed separately.

Part I deals with the periods in which publishing evolved along with contemporary changes in Canadian society. The editors' introduction also serves this purpose and should be read to understand the scope and purpose of the volume. The conditions that native people, colonials and newcomers had to face are outlined. The editors identify the railway as the main technology altering Canada. Through this means, printing reached Winnipeg by 1859 and Dawson City by 1898.

The next six parts can be summarized as follows: Part II explains the progress in the physical forms of printing to 1918. Part III looks at authorship as an emerging profession over the period.

Part IV describes the distribution of books through sales outlets. Three case studies are examined in this section:



Credit: John Warrener

first, the Toronto News Company founded in 1876; second, Tobias Schantz, a subscription book agent from Berlin (Kitchener) Ontario; and third, the books and magazines sold in Eatons' mail-order catalogues from 1884 to 1910.

Part V covers the evolution of libraries from 1840 to 1918. There are two sections: Personal Libraries and Collectors, and Libraries and their Publics. The contributors are well-known for their knowledge of this topic. Eight pages of notes and references testify to the extensive literature on which the articles are based.

Part VI covers print in daily life, with a total of no less than 36 contributors. This part is divided into the following sections: Serials, Politics and Print, Religious Print, Popular Print, and Print for Work and Leisure. The two latter sections cover cookbooks to sport and take up 74 pages, plus seven pages of references.

Part VII deals with readers and reading. At this point, my space for this review is almost exhausted. So I can just mention the 68 well-chosen illustrations, the excellent index, the list of references cited, and the eight pages of contributors' names and qualifications. For more, you will have to turn to the volume itself. You can get it in both French and English.

OPENING DOORS TO CHILDREN. READING, MEDIA AND PUBLIC LIBRARY USE BY CHILDREN IN SIX CANADIAN CITIES

BY ADELE FASICK, ANDRE GAGNON, LYNNE HOWARTH AND KEN SETTERINGTON
REGINA PUBLIC LIBRARY, 2005.

REVIEWED BY SHIRLEY LEWIS

This survey of children's library services across Canada is meant to provide libraries and children's material providers (publishers, media producers,

etc.) with relevant data that should help meet the informational and recreational needs of Canadian children.

Using the 1976 Regina Public Library study of children's library service as their inspiration, the research team, headed by Adele Fasick, expanded the 1976 report's base by studying library service to children across Canada. Concurrently, they reduced the base by studying service to users from Grade 4 to 7 only, compared to the previous study's range of Grades 1 through 6.

Using the public libraries in Vancouver, Regina, Toronto, Hamilton, Montreal, Montreal Island and Halifax, the team did their best to get proportional representation, and went to considerable effort to include francophone as well as anglophone users. This book comes as close as one can reasonably get to a truly Canadian study without spending millions trying to include Newfoundland, the multitudinous rural areas and the various library users of the North. A total of 3,486 children contributed their time and stated their opinions. The authors came up with remarkably homogenous results, considering the wide geographical spread.

There is an acknowledged slant toward the favourable by the very nature of the study's questionnaire, which was voluntary and distributed through public libraries and schools in each municipality. However, children quickly identified themselves as frequent or infrequent library users and were offered non-threatening opportunities in focus groups to talk frankly about their opinions of library service.

This was no small study; the result is a meaty, 227-page report with helpful graphs that clarify the major aspects of each section. They show responses by age, sex, location and type of reader.

The study results are interesting, although hardly spectacular, and encouraging to library supporters and library administrators because of the positive responses of children to their public libraries.

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Book Reviews

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Basically, children like coming to libraries, feel comfortable there, usually come with their parents rather than friends (even in Grades 6 and 7) and still prefer books over other media – although graphic novels and games, such as video and computer games, are of increasing interest to boys all across Canada. There are lots of interesting facts in this book; for example, over 90 per cent of the children surveyed had access to the Internet and tended to research their homework on it. While libraries are still the focus of homework, the Internet's role is one of the new facts

of life for librarians. However, children still see reading for pleasure as their main reason for using libraries.

How satisfying! But there is much more to learn from this well-written and well-presented delving. Everything from effectiveness of reading clubs, author visits and library websites, to what children like and don't like about libraries has been researched and reported. The book includes a summary and suggestions.

Every library administrator needs to read this book. Although it is too detailed for the general public, anyone with an interest in children's reading and library use will find it manageable and worth the attention. □

Retired Members Guild

BY JEAN WEIHS

A British association of retired librarians, the Retired Members Guild, has a different type of structure from that of ELA. The guild is part of the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP), previously known as the Library Association; however, it is self-financing and does not have representation on CILIP's Council. The guild is managed by a committee, which is elected every two years. The stated purpose of this group is "to enable retired librarians to keep in touch with each other, to participate in activities and to assist CILIP in its promotion of libraries of all types." The Retired Members Guild is able to maintain branches because, unlike Canada, the United Kingdom is situated in a compact physical area, making branches easier to manage and travel to meetings less costly. Local coordinators exist in most branch areas to help in the organization of activities and to maintain liaison with CILIP. The

guild publishes four newsletters annually.

Like ELA, the Retired Members Guild is concerned about preserving history. It is compiling a Professional Achievements Register that will "record the key achievement of library and information professionals who are CILIP members, so that their contribution to the profession is not lost upon retirement or death."

The guild responds to requests from voluntary societies and charities for assistance with their library services where these comply with the CILIP guidelines for voluntary work. It also seeks out additional financial and other benefits available for retired and older people and makes these known. The guild arranges meetings and visits to libraries and places of interest to librarians both at home and overseas. In 2004, guild members visited libraries in Canada. □

More information about the guild can be found at:
<http://www.cilip.org.uk/specialinterestgroups/bysubject/retired>

Library History Interest Group

Canadian Library Association

Ottawa, June 15, 2006,

1:00-2:30 P.M.

1:00 Introduction

1:05-1:25 "Uncomfortable Bedfellows: CLA and Intellectual Freedom 1946-1959"

Dr. Ann Curry, Associate Professor & Chair of Doctoral Studies Program, School of Library, Archival and Information Studies, University of British Columbia

1:35-1:55 "William Castell, Calgary Public Library, and the Baby-Boom Era" Gloria A. Dingwall, Manager, Serial Acquisitions, University of Calgary Library

2:05-2:25 "The Library of Parliament and English/French Tensions in the Confederation Era"

Ross Gordon, Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa

2:25 Business Meeting

Throughout its history, Canadian librarianship has been defined by community-building activities. A few examples include defending intellectual freedom, providing baby-boomers with libraries, and addressing English/French rivalries. In stimulating presentations, leading library historians will discuss three case studies and their implications for the present and future.

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In Memoriam

BY BRIAN LAND, PROFESSOR EMERITUS, UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO FACULTY OF INFORMATION STUDIES

The University of Toronto Faculty of Information Studies lost two of its retired professors during the fall of 2005 – John Maitland Marshall and Edith Tyyne Jarvi – both of whom contributed significantly to teaching, research and the library profession in Canada.

John Marshall, 1919-2005

John Marshall was born in Winnipeg on August 5, 1919. He graduated from the University of Saskatchewan with a BA in English and chemistry in 1938 and with a Secondary School Teacher's Certificate in 1939. In 1945, he obtained an MA in English and, in 1952, a BLS, both from the University of Toronto. In 1952, he secured a job with the Fraser Valley Regional Library (School and Children's Services) and, in 1953, accepted an offer from the Victoria Public Library to establish and manage a new bookmobile service.

It was during his brief tenure in Victoria that John came to national and international prominence. At an in-camera meeting of the Library Board on January 23, 1954, he was summarily dismissed without any reason being given. The media, however, had been informed by persons unknown that, for some years in Winnipeg, John had worked for left-wing causes, including the Canadian Peace Congress. Although supported by colleagues and friends, John was obliged to move – this time back to Saskatchewan where he took a job as librarian with the Yorkton School Unit. In 1958, John left Yorkton to become Librarian in Kitimat, BC, where he remained until 1960. That year he joined the North York Public Library as an adult services librarian and, in 1961, was appointed branch librarian at Bathurst Heights.

As it turned out, the Victoria Public Library was not finished with John. Some 44 years after his dismissal, he was invited to a special meeting of the

Greater Victoria Public Library Board held on November 20 1998, when he was presented – with an expression of deep regret at the 1954 action of the Board – with a sincere public apology. (See John's own account, "Victoria: In the Fullness of Time" in *Ex Libris News*, No. 26, Autumn 1999, pp. 2-4). In his honour, the British Columbia Library Association decided to name its intellectual freedom award for John Marshall. The adversity and persecution he and other activists for social justice suffered in the 1950s were documented in Len Scher's film, *The Un-Canadians*, produced by the National Film Board in 1996.

In July 1966, John was recruited to the faculty of the University of Toronto School of Library Science as an assistant professor. Promoted to associate professor in 1971, John's special areas of interest included the library and society, the public library and the community, adult education, intellectual freedom, service to the disadvantaged, and library technician training programs.

From 1968 to 1976, John conducted an annual survey of library technician training programs in Canada, published by the Canadian Library Association. He was also active with the Institute of Professional Librarians in Ontario, editing its newsletter from 1962 to 1964 and serving as president in 1964/65. John contributed numerous articles to library journals and was active in a number of library and adult education associations. In 1984, Scarecrow Press published the monograph he edited, *Citizen Participation in Library Decision-Making: The Toronto Experience*.

John, who retired from the Faculty of Library Science in 1983, was one of those who met with the late Stanley Beacock to consider establishing a group for retired librarians; their discussion ultimately resulted in the Ex Libris Association.

John died October 26, 2005 in Toronto, after a long and difficult illness. He was predeceased by his first wife, Christine Smith, and is survived by his widow, Betsy English, his daughter and son, and their respective families.

Edith Jarvi, 1921-2005

Edith Jarvi was born in Toronto on May 12, 1921. She joined the Windsor Public Library in 1940 and was subsequently granted leave of absence to take her Diploma in Librarianship at the University of Toronto Library School, a diploma she received in 1943. After graduation, she returned to the Windsor Public Library and worked in adult circulation. From June 1945 to September 1946, she served as Lieutenant, Canadian Army Libraries, Military District No. 13 (Alberta).

Following her army service, Edith attended Victoria College, University of Toronto, graduating with a BA in 1948. She returned to the Windsor Public Library, where she successively held positions as branch librarian, reference librarian and head of reference. In 1955, she returned to the University of Toronto and completed her BLS degree. In 1963, she was awarded the George H. Locke Scholarship and left Windsor Public to complete her MLS degree at U of T, from which she graduated in 1964.

In July 1964, Edith was appointed assistant professor at the Toronto Library School, with teaching responsibility for courses in bibliography and reference. Promoted to associate professor in 1971 and to professor in 1979, she broadened her competencies to include collection development and literature of the social sciences.

One of Edith's special areas of expertise was Canadian government publications. With the support of a Canada Council grant, she undertook a survey of government publications in 56 academic libraries and 95 public libraries in Canada. Her report, *Access to Canadian Government Information in Canadian Academic and Public Libraries*, was published by the Canadian Library Association in 1976.

Another of Edith's research projects was the preparation of a standard catalogue of significant Canadian books and periodicals for adults, a study funded by the Ontario Provincial Library Service

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In Memorium

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through the Metropolitan Toronto Public Library Board. The product of the study, *Canadian Selection: Books and Periodicals for Libraries*, was published by University of Toronto Press in 1978, with a supplement in 1980.

In addition, Edith had an impressive list of publications, including *Bibliography of Windsor and Essex County* (1955), with a supplement in 1960; *Labour in Canada*; *Basic Books for Canadian Public Libraries* (1963); and *Guide to Basic Reference Materials for Canadian Libraries* (better known as *The Jarvi Guide*), which was published biannually from 1967 to 1980 by University of Toronto Press.

Edith was active in the work of several library associations and served as the first secretary of the newly founded Institute of Professional Librarians of Ontario in 1958. She was a staunch supporter of the Ex Libris Association, and it was her major financial contribution that enabled the Association to publish *The Morton Years: The Canadian Library Association, 1946-1971* in 1995.

Edith was honoured as the first recipient of the Jubilee Award from the University of Toronto Faculty of Library and Information Science Alumni Association in 1979, for her significant contribution to the profession. She retired from the Faculty in 1984. She died in Sunnybrook Hospital in Toronto on December 8, 2005, after a long illness. □

Reflecting on the Past, Bridging to the Future

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You need to be able to transcribe accurately. He elicited a faculty member to check his transcripts for accuracy. Storage of tapes and transcripts can be tricky; for example, in an institutional move from one building to another, his cassettes and transcripts went missing. Years later, he found some photocopies of the transcripts in the back of a closet at home. He is now working to convert these to a searchable database.

There was a question-and-answer period at the end of the session. A discussion ensued on the preference for using audio cassettes (less invasive and less daunting in a person's home) over videotapes. Both Leslie McGrath and Susan Hoffman mentioned that lapel microphones are unobtrusive and work well during interviews. Stephen Cummings emphasized the importance of doing your homework thoroughly before an interview. Often, he said, questions are written out and sometimes sent to the interviewees ahead of time. This gives each person some time to go over specific time periods and helps interviewees to remember. With this preparation, people do not have to recall "in the heat of the moment" during the interview. Susan Hoffman spoke about the importance of give and take in an interview. It is best to begin with basic questions, but be prepared to go off on fascinating tangents.

It was a very interesting afternoon for the 60 people who attended. ELA and the dean of the Faculty of Information Studies expressed willingness to do something similar next year. Many thanks to Frances Davidson-Arnott (President of ELA) and Stanislav Orlov (President of FIS Student Association) for having the vision and for planning this stimulating event. □

The Great OLA Book Truck Race – Or, Keep On Truckin'!!

BY DOUG WILLFORD

Something very different, but highly entertaining, was introduced at the 2006 OLA Super Conference in early February. The first annual Library Book Truck Race proved to be a major highlight at the All Delegates Reception, held on Friday evening.

Organized by a committee of past OLA Conference organizers, the Book Truck Race was actually the brainchild of Frank Chenet, a vice-president of Brodart Canada, who became aware of this event at the ALA Conference. The wheels were set in motion (so to speak) when Brodart Canada donated the book trucks and the organizing committee sent out the challenge to all libraries.

In total, nine teams entered, with such interesting names as Happy Humberjacks, Speed Bumps, Al's Harem, Fleet Enemas, Be The Change,

OCULA Running, Dragon Tales, No Brainers and The Forest Femmes Fatales.

To lighten up the atmosphere, all the racers were required to decorate both themselves and their book trucks only with items supplied by the organizing committee – plastic table covers, glow sticks, masking tape, pipe cleaners, feather dusters, etc.

The object of the race was to manoeuvre the book trucks, with two people riding them, through an obstacle course. There were three heats, with the winner of each heat making it to the championship final. All the races were very competitive with close finishes, but, in the end, it was the OCULA Running team (Cynthia McKeich and James Buczynski from Seneca College, Don Kinder from Ryerson University, Robin Bergart from University of Guelph) who were the big winners. The prizes were Cranium games.

Because of its success and the great interest it aroused, the Great OLA Book Truck Race will be held again at the 2007 Super Conference. So start training early!! □

The Provincial Training School for Librarians

BY ELAINE BOONE

The history of education for librarians follows some general professional education trends, including apprenticeship, in-house training, workshops and mini-courses. The Province of Ontario tried to seek a middle ground between workshops and a full degree program with the institution of the short course.

For the first time in the summer of 1911, a short course for training librarians was offered in Toronto by the Department of Education. The establishment of this course was regarded as highly progressive in Ontario. It demonstrated the Ontario Library Association's success in lobbying government on the need for professional training. In its first years, students at the school were, in the main, already employed in library work, predominantly in public libraries. Applicants to the school generally had practical experience and often a significant amount of formal education. Senior matriculation was the minimum requirement.

From 1911 until 1917, the school ran for one month during the summer. In 1915, no course was held because of the war and administrative changes in the Inspector of Public Libraries office. In 1917 and 1918, the course was two months long. From 1919 until the close of the 1927 session, the library school ran for three months in the fall. Comments were generally positive about the school, but students and staff all felt that the course was too short.

Thirty-one students attended the first course, and 23 completed it. Students dropped out of this and subsequent courses for a number of reasons. Some students could only leave their place of employment for part of the time required; others became ill or had family commitments. Students were graded A, B, or C on their practical work and

the demonstration of knowledge gained. The government covered all costs, including stationery and travelling expenses, for those who successfully completed the course.

Most of the students who attended the Provincial Training School from 1911 until 1927 were women. Out of 460 in 16 years, only six were men. Thirty per cent of the students were university graduates.

The Inspector of Public Libraries and instructors in the school struggled to balance practical and theoretical instruction. Guest lecturers who were prominent in the library field were brought in to augment the sessions. Each session, some changes were made to content and structure to increase the professional nature of the course. In 1912, a final exam was instituted; certificates were awarded starting in 1914; and in 1921, an entrance exam was added. The introduction of certificates for successful students was an important step in government recognition of the professional nature of the work. According to academics who study the professions, credentialing is a significant benchmark in acceptance of professional status. The Inspectors of Public Libraries hoped that eventually all librarians in the province would have formal training and that the certificates would lead to higher wages for those working in the field.

Changes also occurred in procedures. The registration forms and requirements for admission were frequently tinkered with. The school became increasingly interested in each prospective student's educational background and library experience.

By 1919, the Inspector of Public Libraries, W. O. Carson, was successful in lobbying his superiors for a three-month course. Classes and practical work were held at the Toronto Public Library. With the course lengthened, social events became a factor. TPL staff members entertained students with teas and luncheons. Students were receiving an occupation-specific education, making career contacts, and developing a

sense of themselves as professionals. The school went well beyond instructing students in the basics of library work to foster a professional attitude toward their training and their work in the libraries of the province. With the new three-month course, a new type of student began to apply. Librarians from colleges, universities and government wanted to attend.

This session also marked an addition to the registration form. Two new questions were asked: "Are you free from serious organic affections and from defects in hearing and sight?" and "Are you in every way physically able for the work of a librarian?" The school, as well as libraries, wanted participants who would be healthy employees. In this era, in which society continually questioned the delicate physical nature of women and women's ability to function in the workplace, women needed to demonstrate that they were up to the work in a library. Women in delicate health needed not apply. There was a clear difference between urban and rural, and between ideal and reality, at a time when women were running farms and had been pressed into other types of war work.

Passage of a new Public Libraries Act in 1920 changed the legal status of the library school. Until this Act, the school was designed for librarians and assistants in Ontario. Those from other provinces or countries were not encouraged to attend. The school was also designated for those who had or expected to have paid employment in a library. The 1920 legislation gave library boards a larger grant in the expectation that each would use the additional money to hire trained librarians. In fact, the 1920 legislation was foreshadowing a time when being a trained and certificated librarian would be a prerequisite for employment in the province's public libraries. As a result of the new Public Libraries Act, potential students could now apply to the Provincial Training School without previous library experience. The school would serve as an educational means of entering the field.

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The Provincial Training School for Librarians

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This instantly created a larger pool of applicants to the school and an enlargement in the pool of those able to staff the growing number of libraries.

Because of this willingness to relax requirements and let more people pass through the gates, or perhaps because the government was responding to large numbers of applicants who wanted to work in public libraries as trained professionals but did not have significant work experience, education for librarianship became part of the school's mandate.

For the 1921 session, all applicants without a university degree or senior matriculation sat an entrance exam on history, literature, and current events. The 1922 session brought yet another step toward higher professional standards for librarians. All candidates for the school who did not have a university degree were required to pass an entrance exam. The examination included questions covering history, literature current events and an essay question to test the applicant's level of writing ability. The 1922 course followed the form of previous sessions, with 40 per cent of the course devoted to lectures and 60 per cent to practical work.

In the announcement for the 1923 session of the library school, yet another new entrance requirement was introduced. Students were advised to familiarize themselves with, if not become competent in, the use of a typewriter. The ability to use a typewriter proved to be a double-edged sword for women in the paid workforce. Although in the early 1920s the technology of the typewriter increased the number of employment opportunities for women, unfortunately, it also tended to "ghettoize" women into the pink-collar workforce. This, in turn, reduced opportunities for management positions. In libraries, however, typewriters were understood as an increasingly necessary tool in the day-to-day operations and typing was a skill that librarians were thought to need, whatever their place on the library ladder.

The 1923 session also saw the introduction of a new application form with several new questions added to assess the applicant's aptitude for librarianship.

The Department of Education continued to ask applicants about their general health and defects in sight or hearing. Applicants were also questioned about their age; past 30 was unacceptable. Of course, most applicants to the school were women in their early 20s or younger who had completed high school or university and were looking for professional training. The questions were also designed to sort out those who might be seeking a long-term career and those who only sought a temporary stop on the way to marriage.

The *Ontario Library Review* in February 1924 held a strong caution: "Persons over thirty-five are advised against taking the work. Local libraries have their own rules as to the age limit at which they accept candidates. In the majority of cases this is thirty". If the Department of Education would not blatantly use age as a reason to exclude any candidate, the message was clear: Older applicants were unlikely to find a library job. It was just as well if those over 30 recognized that and left the field and spaces at the library school to younger applicants. Perhaps one reason for setting 30 as an age limit was to discourage married women, particularly those with children, from attempting to enter the field or perhaps because there would have been few employment opportunities. This may have been an accepted norm and perhaps no different from teaching or nursing.

The 1925 session continued to build on the previous years' successes, but the Inspector now saw the school as a compromise. He wanted a professional one- or two-year program along the lines of those common in the United States. For the time being, the three-month course, a balance between brief elementary training and a full academic year or more of professional training, would have to do. As the *Ontario Library Review* advised, "Librarians and assistants with little or no professional training are advised to attend the school for the purpose of acquiring the ele-

mentary qualifications that every librarian and assistant should desire." This publication and the Department of Education also began to refer to the school's instructors and special lecturers as regular staff. In 1926 and 1927, the school continued the pattern previously established, but the school was coming to the end of its usefulness. The Inspector was actively discussing a new educational order with members of the Ontario Library Association, George Locke at the Toronto Public Library, and the University of Toronto.

In looking back over the courses and special lectures given at the Library School from 1911 until 1927, one can conclude that students received a solid but elementary education. They were given experience in practical library matters and exposure to important library issues. The school ran smoothly with a core group of regular instructors and special lecturers, augmented each session by lectures from visiting library leaders in the United States and Canada. The program, which expanded into a three-month course, worked very well but was gradually recognized as a temporary compromise between a short course and a full academic year.

This article was first presented at the OLA Superconference in 2005. □

Help Wanted

ELAN is planning to publish an article on the history of the University of Ottawa Library School similar to those in our Special Issue, Summer 2004, "A History of Library and Information Studies in Canada". We are seeking a writer who knows the history of the School, as a graduate, faculty member, historian, or in some other capacity.

If you can help, or know someone who is qualified to write this article, please email:

ExLibris@fis.utoronto.ca, or write:
ELAN, c/o Jean Weihs, Newsletter Co-chair, 4 Fairview Blvd., Toronto, ON M4K 1L9.

Milestones

Compiled by Merlyn Beeckmans



Obituaries

John Rayson Adams died on January 26, 2006 in Brampton, Ontario at the age of 89. He received a BLS degree from the University of Toronto in 1952. He worked in public and university libraries in Canada and England. He and his wife Maureen founded the Adams Marionettes and gave puppet shows in schools and libraries.

Charles Brisbin died on March 16, 2006 in Waterloo, Ontario at the age of 88. He was chief librarian for the City of Waterloo and later chief librarian for the City of Hamilton, where he oversaw the development of the South Central Regional Library System.

Jean Rodgers (Kerfoot) Allen died on November 18, 2005 in Toronto in her 89th year. She was a graduate of the University of Toronto and McGill University. She served for many years as chief librarian of the Ontario Legislative Library.

Mary Gladys (Harrison) Barnett died on December 26, 2005 at the age of 87. She graduated from the University of Toronto and worked as a librarian at that university and at the Anglican Theological Library in Vancouver.

Barbara Ann Brooks died on December 22, 2005 in Leamington, Ontario at the age of 71. She worked at the University of Toronto Library for 35 years.

Moira Cartwright died in September, 2005 in Kingston at the age of 84. She held a BLS degree and worked for the Aluminum Company of Canada before becoming chief librarian for the City of Kingston. She was a member of Ex Libris.

Constance Robson Devine died on December 24, 2005 in Vancouver at the age of 84. She held an MLS degree from the University of Washington and worked at the Vancouver Public Library.

Cynthia Jean Durrance died on September 7, 2005 in Ottawa at the age of 65. She held an MLS degree from McGill University. Her career included positions at Carleton University, University of Waterloo (head of Cataloguing), National Library (director of the Cataloguing Branch) and the National Archives.

Katherine Elizabeth (Nutter) Hoffman died on January 27, 2006 in Toronto at the age of 55. She was a past president of the OLA and chaired the development of the Ontario Public Library Strategic Plan. She was also

chair of the committee for the development of the Winnipeg Millennium Library. The Ontario Digital Library was one of her concerns.

Diana-Rose Kerr died on March 1, 2005 in Ottawa at the age of 62. She worked at Carleton University Library and at the World Food Programme Library in Rome.

Eileen F. Kerr died on January 7, 2006 in Westmount, Quebec at the age of 96. She was a graduate of McGill University in library science and a long-time employee of the *Montreal Gazette*.

Alice Lorriman died on June 20, 2005 in Toronto at the age of 50. She was head librarian at Dawes Road, Main and Leaside branches of Toronto Public Library before becoming deputy CEO and finally CEO of the East York library system. She was a member of Ex Libris.

Katherine Scott (Ingalls) Lytle died on January 20, 2006 in Ottawa at the age of 89. She was a school librarian in Nepean and Ottawa.

Margaret Elizabeth (Malcolm) MacRae died on October 10, 2005 in Toronto at the age of 90. She graduated from the University of Toronto with a BLS degree. She became a children's librarian with the Toronto Public Library, where she spearheaded the development of elementary school libraries. Later, she lectured on children's literature and materials at the University of Toronto's Faculty of Library Science.

Anne Palijenko died on November 18, 2005 in Toronto at the age of 76. She was a medical librarian at Princess Margaret Hospital in Toronto.

Keitha Lynne Truax died on November 23, 2005 in Toronto. She was a graduate of the University of Western Ontario and the University of Toronto Library School. She was a long-time employee of the Ontario Government Health Policy Branch.

Margaret Ashwell (Carson) Williams died on August 18, 2005 in Toronto at the age of 88. She graduated from the University of Toronto Library School.

Mary Williams died on January 8, 2005 in Toronto at the age of 87. She worked as a librarian for the Ontario government and later for accounting firm Ernst & Whinney.

Milestones, continued

Awards

Douglas Lochhead, Professor Emeritus at Mount Allison University, Senior Fellow and Founding Librarian at Massey College, University of Toronto, a cofounder of the League of Canadian Poets and an Ex Libris member, has been awarded the Betocchi Prize for his collection of poetry *High Marsh Road*. Lochhead is the first non-Italian to win this honour. His collection was translated into Italian by Judith Rorai of the University of Pisa.

News

Melody Burton has been appointed head, UBC–Okanagan Library in Kelowna, B.C. She was previously a librarian at Queen's University.

Heather Tones White has become access services librarian at the University of Saskatchewan Library. She is a recent graduate of the University of Western Ontario's Master of Library and Information Science program.

Oh, If!

BY WILLIAM FITCH SMYTH (1910)

If I were made Librarian
I'd bear me like a king,
I'd sit with folded arms and scowl;
I'd never do a thing.
But if some visitor should dare
 To ask me for a book,
I'd thunder: "To the dungeon, knave!"
 And crush him with a look.

And should some reader seek for aid,
 I'd shout: "See here, my man!
I'll have you understand that I
 Am now LIBRARIAN!
Down on your knees, false villain, down!"
 I'd roar with rabid rage.
But oh, I'm not Librarian!
 I'm just a student page.

Submitted by Jean Weihs. Source: William Fitch Smyth, Little Lyrics for Librarians (Storrs, Conn.: University of Connecticut Library, 1974), p. 8. Reprinted in the January 2006 issue of American Libraries and reprinted here with their permission.

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<<http://exlibris.fis.utoronto.ca>>

Letters to ELAN

Sun, 11 Dec, 2005

Re: Irma Kadela's letter in Fall 2005 edition of *ELAN*

I was not a member of the class of '51, but rather the class of '52. Perhaps Irma

was thinking of Ruth Kennedy, who was a member of the class of '51, who also had red hair and who also worked for the Mississauga Library System when Irma was at Port Credit.

Helen MacIntosh

Back Issues of ELAN/Ex Libris News

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