

NEWSLETTER

Volume 1

Issue 3

June/July, 1976

Last Meeting

Date: April 26, 1976

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Place: Fanshawe College

Attendance: 16 present with a quorum

Minutes from the March 15th meeting were carried.

Director's Report:

We will be letting you know if the fees will be tax deductible this year.

All changes to the Provincial Constitution, as they were printed in the last newsletter, were passed by the LRB members.

New Business:

Cheryl Horton, our past Provincial Director, wondered if anyone was interested in running for the Director's position. Eleanor Irwin's name was put forward. Since no one else showed any interest Eleanor became our new Provincial Director by acclimation. Congratulations Eleanor, and good luck in 1976-1977!!

Our new student representative for 1976-1977 is Kathy Stirling, who will be in her second year at Fanshawe in the fall. We also wish her the best of luck in this position.

The members felt that it would be more convenient to hold our meetings a little later in the evenings, so for regular meetings, the time has been changed from 7:30 to 8:00 p.m. We hope that through this change, more people will be able to get out to the meetings.

THE LONDON REGIONAL BRANCH OF THE OALT/ABO

PRESENTS

ED PHELPS, M.A., B.L.S.

REGIONAL HISTORY AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS LIBRARIAN

D. B. WELDON LIBRARY, U.W.O.

WRITER, LECTURER, REPRODUCER OF HISTORICAL ATLASES

MEMBER: LONDON HISTORIC SITES COMMITTEE, MIDDLESSEX
COURT CENTRE BOARD, LONDON HISTORICAL MUSEUMS
ADVISORY BOARD.

DISCUSSING

REGIONAL HISTORY AND THE LIBRARY

ON

MONDAY, APRIL 26, 1976 AT 8:00 P.M.

FANSHAWE COLLEGE, ROOM A1040

THE AGENDA FOR THIS EVENING WILL BE:

7:30 BUSINESS MEETING

8:00 MR. PHELPS

9:00 LUNCH

COME TO THIS INFORMATIVE AND INTERESTING EVENING

BRING ALONG A FRIEND

The University Staff Association Position is still open - if anyone is interested in any way, please contact Meg Sinclair. (Unfortunately, the deadline was June 24. At the time of printing this newsletter, Zizi Stockwell, a member of LRB, had been nominated for this position).

Regional History and the Library:

At the last general meeting of LRB we devoted the last half of our time to a talk on Regional History, presented by Mr. Ed Phelps from Weldon Library at the university.

Mr. Phelps told us about the types of materials that should be found in a regional history section of a library and how to obtain these materials. His talk was directed mostly at public libraries but included academic libraries as well. He passed around samples of books and pamphlets common to such a collection. He also told us about many interesting encounters which he personally had experienced.

All who attended, enjoyed his presentation very much. We concluded the brief question period with a lunch.

3RD ANNUAL CONFERENCE OALT/ABO - THUNDER BAY:

The 3rd Annual Conference of the OALT/ABO held in Thunder Bay during May was well attended by the various local branches. We experienced warm and sunny weather for the duration of our stay. We almost had to land in Ottawa on the way back due to adverse weather conditions in Toronto, but after circling the airport a couple of times we landed safely in Toronto.

We have asked those who attended the conference to write a short article about the workshops which they attended. We were very fortunate in that at least one of our members attended each workshop with the exception of the one dealing with VTR, so this information has been taken from the brochure received at the conference. These write-ups will be found at the end of this newsletter.

We are also happy to announce that Meg Sinclair was elected as the President of the OALT/ABO. We wish her success in this position!!! The provincial Vice-president is Bette Wilson from Sudbury, Ray Hickman from Toronto is our Secretary/Treasurer, Publicity Co-ordinator is Linda Landreville from Ottawa, and Jean Martin is Advisor from Past Executive. Jean is from Hamilton, so as you can see our Provincial Executive is well distributed across the province. We wish them all the very best.

Another big announcement made in Thunder Bay is that the 4th Annual Conference of the OALT/ABO will be held in LONDON. Tentatively the Conference is planned to be held at Huron College at the University of Western Ontario from the 26-28 of May, 1977. We hope that all of you will volunteer your services in on way or another to make this conference a big success.

Next Meeting:

The next general meeting of the LRB will be a Barbque. All food and mix will be provided. All we ask you to bring is yourself, a lawn chair, a friend and anything which you might like to mix with a soft drink (to make it weaker of course). We hope that everyone will find this date convenient and attend. (See coloured insert in this newsletter)

Workshops from Thunder Bay Conference:

Library Technicians and Community Colleges - "Help"

This workshop was conducted in the form of a panel discussion with Robin Inskip, librarian, Seneca College, Douglas Willford, Library Technician, Humber College, and Margaret O'Kane, Library Technician, Seneca College.

The discussion was on the role of library technicians in Community Colleges, how much assistance to render to the students, how the library relates to the community at large and how to maintain the collection.

Before the discussion, each of the participants was asked to introduce themselves and identify the college they were associated with.

The three panalists described the different working atmospheres within community college libraries. The participants were then invited to join in an open discussion and share their experiences in their working environment.

This workshop was an ideal opportunity for community college library technicians to meet and exchange ideas.

Jill Anderson

LIBRARY TECHNICIANS AND UNIONS - Have I Got a Grievance for You!

The workshop was led by three people: Jack Elwert, lecturer in Labour Relations at Confederation College, moderator; a representative from the Canadian Union of Public Employees; and a representative from the Ontario Public Services Employees Union. Each of the union representatives gave a short overview of what they have done in the library field and examples of agreements with library technicians. CUPE had made up a small booklet giving samples of agreements made with library technicians all across Canada. A short time was also spent describing the unions opinion of the Anti-Inflation Board guidelines, although this did not seem to directly affect the discussion on Library Technicians and Unions.

There was a great deal of general discussion on unions and libraries which did not get down to the nitty gritty of the difficulties of getting recognition from the unions as well as the libraries. Several people attending the workshop tried to ask specifically how the unions could help library technicians get better recognition through separate classifications and more open job descriptions. Both union representatives tried to answer each question but successfully evaded the real questions. This only led me to the conclusion that the unions are no more interested in the worker than management is, but rather as so often is the case, the almighty dollar rules all.

I found the workshop extremely frustrating because these men were so professional at their jobs and there was no way to get through to them. The only thing that I found good about the workshop was that it confirmed my suspicion which had been based on no experience with unions, that unions are not the answer to job security and satisfaction. I learned a great deal about unions during the workshop and now feel more secure in my distrust of them.

Submitted by

Meg Sinclair

Children's Programming

Three library technicians from the Children's Department of the Thunder Bay Public Library put on an excellent, 3 hour workshop about children's programming.

We were told about the children of various age groups that come into the library and the types of programs that the staff put on for them. The children have story hour, are taught numerous crafts, how to make puppets, finger painting for the younger ones, and large group projects, film animation, drama etc. The older children write and present their own puppet shows and plays to the general public.

The staff work with groups in the library but they also go to the various schools in the city, to the hospitals, crippled children's centers, parks, the community center, etc.

The girls showed us numerous samples of the children's work, animated films made by the children, read stories to us like they would to the children (we were told that as adults we were not as willing to imitate animal sounds in the stories as the children). They concluded their workshop with a half hour puppet show put on by the three girls.

They could have spent much more time telling us about their projects and they would have had a very interested audience.

Susan Williamson

Periodicals Workshop: "Periodicals are a Pain"

A representative from the Ebsco Subscription Agency, Mr. F.V. Turton; Mr. Bill Match, Central News, a local Newstand Agent; and the Serials Librarian for Lakehead University were the discussants for this workshop. Mr. Turton (Ebsco) began the discussion by outlining the steps involved in periodicals acquisition with emphasis on his agency and their policies.

The news agent said he felt that he had little to contribute as he did not deal directly with libraries but would participate in the question period later. The Serials Librarian, a Mr. S.O. Alexander, discussed his working situation and lectured on the basics to periodicals. A good review (if people had not been so hot and sleepy) or for anyone not informed on the basics of periodical departments a good beginning. For example: budgeting, checking in, claiming, filling missing issues through exchange or gift programs, and definitions of terms used in periodicals. This was followed by a short question and answer period involving all three participants.

Jacquie Jessup

Government Documents

This workshop was aimed for people who have had little or no acquaintance with government documents. It was also helpful for people who had vast experiences with government documents. Our resource people Mrs. Kathleen Walker, a member of the reference staff at Lakehead University, and Mr. Gilles Marleau of the Information and Reference Department in the Library of Parliament in Ottawa, were very well qualified and happy to answer questions as we thought of them.

Mr. Marleau spent the first part of the session explaining how government documents are published. Government documents cover almost anything from the smallest municipal government to the largest branch in the federal government. Most federal government documents are published by the legislative branch. From this source comes; Debates of the House of Commons and Senate, Orders of the Day; Minutes of the Proceedings, Votes of the Proceedings, journals, bills, acts etc. Almost everything that goes on in government is recorded somewhere and is available to the public by some means. The methods used in locating and obtaining government publications can be the very straight forward to being very complicated depending what information you want and how correct your preliminary information is.

Some publications are sent directly to deposit libraries, others have to be ordered and purchased through bibliographic publications subscribed to through government agencies. From here on in Mr. Marleau got more explicite and unless you are experienced with government documents to some extent it is too hard to explain. His part of the session covered locating, ordering and receiving of government documents.

Mrs. Walker now explained how CODOC took over. As she put it "Now that I have all these things, where and what do I do with them?" CODOC means Corporate Documents Systems Project; CODOC is actually a systematic approach to classifying and storing government documents to be retrieved and used with ease by the patron. We as a group got to classify and code some government documents. The example I liked best and will illustrate was "Sex Expression in Cucumbers"

(CA 2 ON AF4 S22) ENG OPAL D LF A SB2 actual class number

CA2 CA - country - Canada 2 Level of govt. - provincial

ON pub. - Ontario

AF4 organization - Agr. & Food 4 - municipal

74 year

S22 S 1st letter of word sex 22 e cuttered in sex & E cuttered in expression

ENG language - English

OPAL symbol for Lakehead - supplied info.

D location - documents

Lf feature - leaflet
A form - this was for research
SB subject - information given to us
2 source from which publication came - mailing list

and from all this chaos there is some order. It was very interesting and I feel I really learned something.

Deb Holme

Saturday Morning Colloquium

The Colloquium on Saturday morning of the Conference was, generally speaking, a rap session. Topics were not discussed at any great length. The employment situation regarding technicians and librarians was one of the topics covered. Of special interest were three slide shows - one of a technician's duties at a branch library; the training of technicians, and one of the Gogama Library set up in a railway car by student library technicians. The session ended with a call to delegates to return to workshops which they felt needed further exploring.

Cheryl Horton