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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

For the past two years, I have been president of Sudbury Regional Branch of OALT/ABO.

When I first assumed my duties as president, I thought that the enthusiasm, energy and time that I had at that moment would bring an untold wealth of information and sharing into our organization and that this spirit would last forever.

However, when I look back on the past two years, I see that my youthful flight of fancy was just that, and I have gained a great deal of insight regarding my abilities as an organizer and as an executive member. I am neither by temperament. Disorganization, tardiness and unfinished projects have followed in my wake.

But I was very fortunate in having members who were patient, forgiving and willing to help relieve some of the workload. My greatest affection and thanks to them for all the hours they gave to make the Sudbury Regional Branch somewhat more than a dream, if less than the reality I had hoped for.

(This article was written on the eve of our regional elections. Due to unforeseen circumstances I found myself, once again, as president for the region, and also as director. I felt that this article was still of value and for that reason, included it in this edition of APROPOS.)

Denise Denomme
President

REGIONAL ELECTIONS 1980 - RESULTS

At the general meeting of Tuesday, May 6, 1980, elections (of sorts) were held. In other words, volunteers filled all positions.

The positions filled were:

President - Denise Denomme
Secretary Treasurer - Judy Laplante
Information Coordinators - Monique Fuchs & Linda Davis

Bette Heard volunteered to be our director but had to resign later, because of her election, at the conference, to provincial public relations coordinator. She is being replaced by Denise Denomme, who will attend provincial meetings as director.

Paulette Thibault, our ever-dependable secretary/treasurer, did not let her name stand for a position, as she had been nominated for president at the provincial level. (At the conference she was elected to that post.)

PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS - 1980

At this year's conference, INFORAMA 1980, one of the major points on the agenda, was the election of a new provincial executive.

For the year 1980-81, the OALT/ABO provincial executive is:

President - Paulette Thibault (Sudbury)
Vice-President - Hilke Grunys (Thunder Bay)

-Hilke resigned May 6,
see director's report.

Secretary - LaRea Moody (Thunder Bay)
Treasurer - Eva Schnurr (Halton-Peel)
Public Relations Coordinator - Bette Heard (Sudbury)

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

On Saturday, June 7, 1980, an executive/board of directors meeting was called and chaired by the new president, Paulette Thibault. Highlights of the meeting were:

- a transfer of the OALT/ABO treasurer's books had still not occurred because the books were unaudited. This resulted in the tabling of all matters pertaining to finance. Until this matter is settled, the provincial body has no operating budget.

- the membership directory will be printed in June.

-the provincial newsletter may be increasing in size to include editors' comments, questions and answers, editorials and news from the regions.

- Huronia suggested a bylaw change, which would result in holding elections by secret ballot, rather than by block vote which has been the practice at previous annual conventions. (Please forward your opinions on this matter to local president Denise Denomme)

-the next conference will be May 14-17, 1981, at Brock University in Ste. Catharines. The first mailing of information will be out to members in August.

- the 1979 conference proceedings still are not ready, but the Ottawa organizers of the 1980 conference feel their proceedings will be ready by the end of summer.

- the vice-president, Hilke Grunys, resigned as she is moving to Calgary. The board of directors will vote on her replacement.

- at the conference in Ottawa, it was moved that the board of directors appoint a committee to look into conference funding. Carolyn Boardman, Halton-Peel Region, has been chosen chairperson of this committee and will submit a written report at the December 6 meeting. If you have any suggestions as to how funding for conferences can be procured, please contact me, or Carolyn Boardman
950 Cresthampton Lane
Mississauga, Ontario
L5H 2X1

- Upcoming meetings of the provincial executive and board of directors will be held on these dates:

October 4, 1980
December 6, 1980
February 7, 1981
March 28, 1981
April 25, 1981

The tentative location is the Northern District Library, 40 Orchardview Blvd., Toronto. If you are interested in the inner workings of OALT/ABO, feel free to attend any of these meetings.

- the Ottawa Branch of OALT/ABO has tote bags available at a cost of \$5.00 each. If you are interested in purchasing one, please contact them.

Until the next newsletter...

Denise

INFORAMA 1980 - A PERSONAL OVERVIEW

The seventh annual conference of OALT/ABO is now a thing of the past. The workshops were a great success with well-qualified personnel covering 24 different areas of concern for the delegates.

There was some dissatisfaction, of course, as not all parts of a conference can run smoothly all the time. The biggest problem seems to have been in the area of accommodation--Plan 1, 1A, 2, 2A, 3A..., and still not covering all the options for delegates who wished to attend lunches and workshops but who didn't require bed and breakfast. Suggestions to correct this have been made to next year's committee. By the way, those who did stay in residence found the rooms pleasant and the meals extremely enjoyable.

Social activities consisted of a barbeque, a soiree and the closing banquet. All three functions were well-attended and apparently satisfied the need for informal contact with friends in the field.

On the whole, I am inclined to say that INFORAMA 1980 was a great success. The few bugs that appeared will, I am sure, be removed in time for the 1981 conference in Ste. Catharines.

Bette Heard

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES

At the end of August, the Ontario Government Building, newly erected on the corner of Paris and Larch Streets, will be housing most of the provincial ministries of the region. This addition to the Civic Square complex, centralizing the various ministries, should provide Ontario citizens with a clearer perspective of the function of their government and recognition of its numerous services.

To improve public relations, every

civil servant has been instructed in handling general reference questions from the public to avoid the anguish of cutting through "red tape" all the way to Toronto. An employee's basic tools are the KWIC Index to the Government of Ontario, produced yearly by the Ministry of Culture and Recreation and the Citizens' Inquiry Bureau, and the Government of Ontario Telephone Directory compiled by Ministry of Government Services twice a year.

As a library employee of any resource centre, knowledge of the various government ministries and their services would be an asset to reference work. A tour of the new provincial building could provide a library person with much information. Any of the ministries there will inform you of all the documents and pamphlets available. The Ontario Government Publications, a monthly pamphlet, will keep you up-to-date with government documents.

Some of the ministries such as Education and Culture and Recreation, publish a newsletter or other serial which a library could subscribe to. Films may be borrowed from most ministries for group use, if ordered in advance.

It is the responsibility of all library employees to help patrons take full advantage of the new facilities at the Ontario Government Building, and to give proper referral service as it is deemed necessary.

Monique Fuchs

THINK POSITIVELY

June 1980--what does it mean to you? To many, it means holidays, trips, camps and a nice cold beer. But, to new graduates, June is the time to find a job, and if you are lucky, one in your chosen field.

Library technician graduates face the same problems as most people graduating in the applied arts field. Why? Well, we have all heard the stories...the market has been flooded, government cutbacks, fewer and fewer jobs being created. But don't get discouraged! If you are persistent, intelligent, courteous and willing, you will eventually find a position.

I know many of you are thinking, "It's easy for her to say, she's got a job," but believe me, it was a year and a half after my return to Sudbury before I got a full-time position. Many times I was discouraged.

If a new graduate asked me, a five year "veteran" library technician, for some advice, there are two things I would have to say:

- 1) Never give up, not on looking for a job; nor on yourself. Keep taking courses to improve your mind and your body!
- 2) Try to become active in OALT/ABO because professional organizations have a lot to add to the professional you. It's not just a tax deduction.

Well folks, I'm off on my holidays. To you new graduates, take heart and never give up!

See you in September...

Judy Laplante

CONTACTS HELP

The Sudbury Board of Education's second P.D. day for library technicians couldn't have happened if it weren't for the contacts and experience gained through OALT/ABO.

Lionel Bonin gave a very good overall description of AACR 2 in the half day he was allowed. He had handouts and recommended reading for those intending to use AACR 2. Mr. Bonin is employed by Laurentian University in the School of Education, and as a part-time instructor of cataloguing for Cambrian College. His workshop was very enjoyable and informative.

The afternoon session was split between a discussion of how to process non-print materials (led by Enna Sedunow, Library Technician at Germell Resource Office), and the advantages and disadvantages of association memberships (Dick Jones, North Central Regional Library). Both sessions were interesting, with Ms. Sedunow showing examples of materials processed at the Resource Centre and explaining the reasons behind each label placement. Mr. Jones stressed the importance of being actively involved in professional associations. He mentioned that he does not receive \$35 worth of newsletter from one membership he owns, but that because the work of the organization is important to him, he continues to pay the required fee.

Technicians from the Separate School Board were invited to join the Public Board technicians for this meeting. Hopefully another one will be on an even larger scale, including technicians from Laurentian University, Cambrian College, Inco and other libraries.

Bette Heard

L.T. PROGRAM DYING?

A special meeting of the Library Technician Program Advisory Committee was held recently to discuss present and future plans for the program.

The Program Chairman and the Dean of Applied Arts explained that due to poor placement statistics and difficulty with staffing, first year students will be admitted only every other year.

Although the Advisory Committee was not pleased to hear this, the general feeling was that it is better to produce a few well-educated graduates than to push more through with a lower standard of training.

Now the question is--will the full plan be carried out, or will the college administration dispense with the LITN program in September 1981, considering it a non-viable program? The moves have started to phase it out--no coordinator, new enrollment only every second year...what will follow?

Bette Heard

NEW BOOK

A new book, of interest to all people in the library field, will be available in the early summer.

Written by George Whalen, librarian at the Ministry of Education in Sudbury, and Marilyn Kogon, a secondary school librarian in North York, it is titled Organizing the School Library.

McGraw-Hill Ryerson is publishing the book which will retail for \$14.95.
ISBN: 0-07-077833-7

DID YOU KNOW THAT?

- The Canadian Library Association Book of the Year Award has been won by James Houston for his novel River Runners. Set in the far north, River Runners is the story of the attempts two teenagers make to survive a brutal arctic winter.

- The Canada Council Award for Children's Literature has been given to Barbara Smucker for Days of Terror, which tells about a Mennonite family who endured the horrors of the Russian revolution for an opportunity to begin a new life in Canada.

- Every census of Canada has an index (of sorts) except the census of 1851-52.

- The first Canadian library was the library of the Jesuit College of New France (1632 - 1800)

- The Laurentian University Library will be going to a COM catalogue (Computer Output on Microform) in September 1980.

FALL EVENT

An OALT-Sudbury Branch get-together is tentatively being planned for Tuesday, September 30, 1980. This, we hope, will provide graduates, students and others with an opportunity to get to know one another.

The next APROPOS will provide more details but keep this date open. Everyone is welcome, so plan to attend and bring your co-workers along!

Have a pleasant summer!!