

APROPOS

vol. 2 no. 4

January-February 1981

Best wishes for the new year and welcome to the first double issue of Apropos. Good things come to those who wait - and we hope that this edition of our regional newsletter will be one of those "good things". Volume 2, nos. 3 and 4 of Apropos contains provincial news, the salary scale for Ontario Public Service library techs. and more...

DD

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Since the last newsletter, there have been two meetings of the provincial executive and regional directors.

On October 4, 1980, we greeted the interim provincial vice-president, Nancy Mack, and treasurer, Dorothy Kew. A study into the feasibility of advertising to subsidize the provincial newsletter was proposed. A slide/tape presentation is in the works and the provincial has requested slides from the regions. A board policy was passed to provide those who travel by car, i.e. the directors and the executive reimbursement at the rate of 16 cents per kilometre. (At the Dec. 6, 1980 meeting, the provincial treasurer was asked to look into this proposal based on our present financial situation.) The Sudbury director was appointed to attend a workshop at Cambrian College on how to apply for a grant. (The information gleaned from that all-day workshop was handed over to the provincial executive, Dec. 6, 1980).

On Dec. 6, 1980, we found out that Revenue Canada has granted us a tax exemption for publications. It was also decided that

the treasurer, even in absentia, must submit a written report to the executive/board of directors. The financial books of the late treasurer, Eva Schnurr, were audited and found to be correct. Nomination forms for the provincial election will be available at the Feb. 7, 1981 meeting. The membership cards for 1981-1982 will be orange. Also the question of student members was clarified: students are library technician students, otherwise, the members are to be classed as associates.

Members are welcome to the March 28, executive/board of directors meeting. Any person wanting to attend can obtain more information from Denise Denomme.

DD

CAMBRIAN COLLEGE NEWS

A number of things are presently happening at Cambrian, both in the Library and in the Library tech. program that you may be interested in hearing about.

Firstly, effective Jan. 1, 1981, Cambrian College Library and the Instructional Media Centre are to become one under the able supervision of IMC's Chris Bartlett. We, in the Library are very much looking forward to this amalgamation. Eventually, perhaps, all resource material will be located in one place and will therefore be more readily available to all Cambrian College users. Also, in April 1981, Monique Chasse and Bernard Bregaint will be moving on. Monique to a position in Ottawa and Bernard to-----

Two major changes have occurred in the Library technician program. Adolph Amadi resigned from Cambrian in Dec. 1980, Bernard Bregaint has temporarily taken Adolph's place. Mr. Amadi is going to work in Nigeria

and hopes to eventually establish his own business there. All of us at Cambrian will miss Adolph but we wish him every success in his new ventures. Vicki Skelton will be leaving the program in May, 1981 to become a librarian at the North Central Regional Library. We wish Vicki luck in her new position.

With these resignations in the program I wonder how the students will survive and if the program will continue.

I am sure the changes in the Library are for the best but only the future will tell us if Cambrian will continue its Library Technician program.

J.L.

I'M AN "ITINERANT TECHNICIAN"

Imagine the problems of working at a job where you are constantly travelling from one place to another--transportation of yourself and your supplies, storage when you have neither a desk nor an office, forgetfulness as to what you did the last time you visited a particular school, so each day you must decide where you are going and what you will do once you are there.

Few people would relish these upsets, and I agree that even though they do occur often (some more often than others) there are a number of rewards that help tip the scale.

There are 52 different and unique elementary school libraries in the Sudbury Public School system that depend on the services

provided by four itinerant library technicians, that's 13 schools per tech. The technician must be able to appease the school principal, assist the teacher librarian, supervise and sometimes train library clerical help. It's an education! It's alot of hard, very satisfying work!

The itinerant library tech. is responsible for the original cataloguing of print material but leaves the physical processing to the clerical helper. Sometimes the library tech. must organize and plan workshops on such things as book processing, mending and vertical file processing.

The library tech. spends half a day every 2 weeks at each of her schools. She also must schedule time in the central office for cataloguing and attending meetings. The rest of her time is her own, in that she is free to spend time at a school that is more in need of her services.

What are the professional and personal benefits of this job? Responsibility, supervision, independence and adaptability. But primarily, a great feeling of satisfaction when a principal or a teacher-librarian says: "Thank-you for coming. I don't know what I would have done without your help."

Bette Heard

HELP!

Do you have an idea for a program that OALT/ABO Sudbury Regional Branch could arrange to present at a future meeting? Would you like to invite a speaker, learn about developments in a particular field, enjoy a social event? Let us know what you want to do at your meetings! Ideas and encouragement are appreciated.

DID YOU KNOW?

--there are basically 2 types of law in Canada. 1. Statute law-- laws passed by municipal, federal or provincial governments. 2. Common law or case law--a system of law which originates from customs, traditional usage and which derives its authority from precedents.

--sections 91 and 92 of the BNA Act set out the divisions between the provincial and the federal governments.

--after a bill has received Royal Assent making the bill law, the bill number is no longer used (except by newspapers) and the passed bills are assigned chapter numbers.

--s.d. stands for sine die meaning without a specified date.

D.D.

LIBRARY TECHNICIAN WAGES & THE ONTARIO PUBLIC SERVICE

The library technicians working in the Ontario Ministry of Education libraries were making in 1980 the following amounts:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Salary/week</u>
Library tech. I	200.73--224.01
Library tech. II	228.69--256.65
Library tech. III	272.17--307.13
Library tech. IV	316.44--359.17

The technician in the Ministry usually starts at a Tech. II classification and can through experience and the completion of further courses increase their classification. But it is generally very difficult to become a Library Tech. IV.

The same tech. working in a Community College which is also part of the provincial government was making in 1980 the following amounts:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Salary/week</u>
Library tech. I	253.85--289.50
Library tech. II	278.00--317.37

We have only two classification levels and for the most part start and remain in the Library tech. I position.

We wonder why, when both groups of library technicians work for the provincial government, is there such a discrepancy in our wages. How can we hope to get wage parity with outside techs. when we can't even get it in our own group.

S.L.

THERE IS FINALLY A MEETING

Sudbury Regional Branch OALT/ABO is finally having its first meeting of 1981.

WHY? JUST TO GET TOGETHER (AND TO HAVE AN ELECTION OF OFFICERS)

WHEN? FEB. 25, 1981. 7:30 p.m.

WHERE? CAMBRIAN COLLEGE

SO COME ON OUT--WE NEED YOUR HELP, YOUR IDEAS AND MAYBE EVEN YOUR BODY ON OUR NEW EXECUTIVE.

HOPE TO SEE YOU!

ELECTIONS 1981

It is again that time of year ... where people go into hiding at the whisper of the word "election". It is a necessary evil, but it can also be a rejuvenating, cooperative process, if people are willing to give some time to an organization that exists to represent their interests.

OALT/ABO, like any other organization, needs people who care, in order to continue to live and grow.

Right now, nominations for the provincial executive are being sought. The forms are included. Send them to:

OALT/ABO
P.O. BOX 682
OAKVILLE, Ont.
L6J 1C5

before March 13, 1981.

At the regional level, the same people that have been putting out this newsletter, have also been and are members of the region's executive. They have been expected to guess at the interests, wants, and needs of a very silent membership. We need new people on the executive.

The positions to be filled are:

President/Chairperson
Secretary-Treasurer
Information Co-ordinator (s)

A director for the region will also have to be found and that is an appointed or volunteer position. But that person must be prepared to travel to the executive/board of directors meetings held approximately every two months and make reports for and about the meetings.

All these positions involve work, as much or as little as the person in it, is willing to put into it.

Please think about volunteering your time and experience for just one year.

Denise Denomme

CONVENTION 1981

As you already know, the 8th annual OALT/ABO convention, "Branching Out", is being held May 14-17, 1981, at Brock University in Ste. Catherines. Workshops are planned for Thursday and Friday, with the annual business meeting being scheduled for Saturday morning. The tentative costs for attending are:

Graduate/Associate	\$155
Student	\$140
Non-Member	\$185

There are also, according to the Niagara Regional Branch Newsletter, fee schedules excluding meals or accommodations. For more information, you can contact Andrew Porteus at 357-4570 or write to :

Branching Out
Niagara Regional Branch, OALT/ABO
P.O. Box 611
NIAGARA FALLS, Ont.
L2E 6V5
