



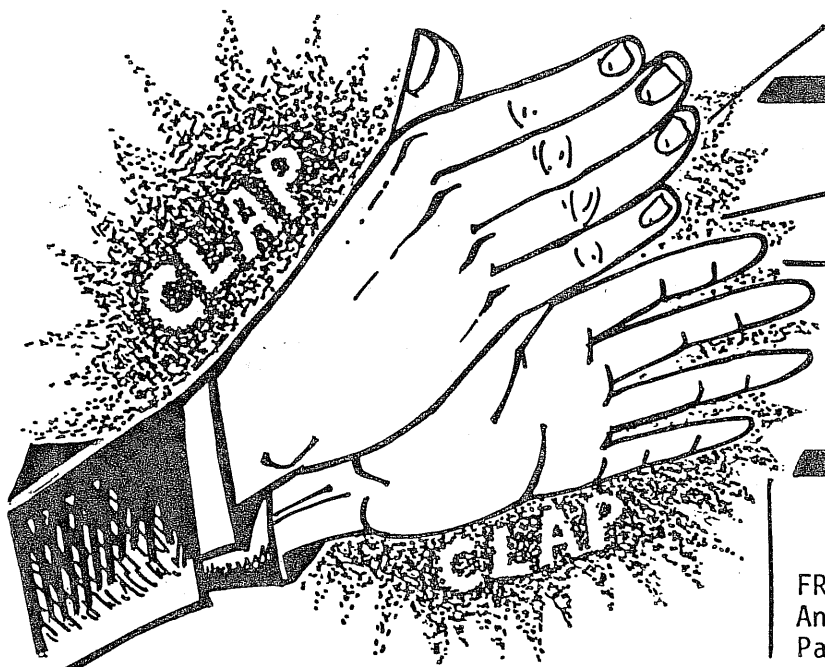
Manitoba Health
Libraries Association

NEWS

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August 1983



THANK YOU

FROM
Ann Manning
Past-President, CHLA

The Winnipeg CHLA Conference is now History. It was a resounding success in every way, and I didn't hear a single word of complaint. The programmes were interesting and timely; the social events were particularly enjoyable, and even the business meetings went smoothly.

To our Manitoba Colleagues who so professionally engineered this Conference, CHLA owes a large debt of gratitude. Toronto will have a very hard act to follow.

On behalf of the Board I should also like to thank the city, the provincial government, the University of Manitoba, and all the other organizations who contributed materially and through the work of their staff members to the success of the Conference.

Last, but not least, a big thanks to our American friends for providing a splendid send-off at the end.

ASSOCIATION NEWS.

THE WINNIPEG HEALTH INFORMATION NETWORK

In 1981 the recommendations resulting from the M.H.L.A. Task Force on Shared Services included the suggestion that a full time coordinator be hired in order to improve access to health care information by maintaining and developing programs and services that would facilitate resource sharing and information transfer among health sciences libraries in Manitoba.

A grant from the Winnipeg Foundation has now turned this dream into reality, providing funding for a librarian to work towards these goals on a full time basis for the next 18 months. Needless to say, the opportunity to become involved in such an exciting project (and a few other minor personal considerations!) was more than enough to bring me back to Winnipeg from the wilds of Saskatoon.

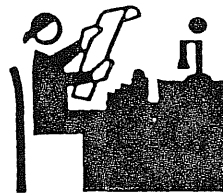
During the next few weeks I will be visiting health libraries around the city to gather ideas and suggestions for services that could be developed during the course of this trial. Some of the projects suggested to date include the development of an audio-visual union list, a duplicate exchange program for journals, user education programs and promotional

materials, regular workshops for library staff, and an inventory of patient education resources available in the city. There are no doubt lots of other exciting ideas that will develop as the trial progresses. Do give some thought to the kinds of services that you would find most helpful in assisting you to meet the information needs of your particular user group - the possibilities are almost endless so let your imagination run wild!

After we've finished our "idea inventory" we'll be sitting down to prioritize the projects suggested on the basis of need and feasibility, and establishing a tentative schedule to put the various services into operation. Beginning September 1st, back up reference assistance for Winnipeg health libraries will be available by contacting me at 786-4342. I'll be working from both the Health Sciences Centre Libraries and the University of Manitoba Medical Libraries so that I'll have access to a wide variety of search tools and resources and should be able to help with questions from any and all user groups.

Regular updates on the WH?NET project will be appearing in the NEWS so stay tuned for the latest developments. In the interim, don't hesitate to send along any questions, comments or suggestions that you might have.

Judy Inglis
Research Associate
Area Health Libraries
Coordination



News is a publication of the Manitoba Health Libraries Association. The opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily the official policy of the Manitoba Health Libraries Association.

CHLA/ABSC

A Report of the
Seventh Annual Meeting of
CHLA/ABSC, June, 1983

Ada M. Ducas

This meeting brought together the different aspects involved in informing and educating patients about health care. Though it was directed primarily at librarians and the role that they play, other members of the health care team were represented and described their function as educators of patients.

Dr. D. LeTouzé, Vice-President of Research at CHA, gave the keynote address. He discussed health information, how new technology affects it, and how the CHA is keeping in step. He noted that technology has changed the way information is disseminated making possible the centralization of the management, training and evaluation systems in hospitals. He also informed the group that the CHA is developing databases on poison information, hospital health (e.g. child restraint devices) and hospital organizations.

After giving a brief explanation of why the CHA discarded its library, he went on to define the role that librarians must play in the new technology. He said that librarians must go beyond their passive roles as guardians and must learn how to manage information better. Librarians should familiarize themselves with a multitude of databases so that they can be used as resource persons by both the hospital administration and by patients. Since there are now many databases to choose from, a need for guidelines and standards arises. Librarians should be at the forefront establishing these guidelines. He ended by reminding us that if we wait for users to come to

us, alternate sources of information may develop which will lessen the role of the health librarian.

The next part of the meeting was moderated by Dr. J. G. Wade, Dean, Faculty of Medicine, University of Manitoba. It dealt with the Legal and Ethical Issues in the Provision of Health Care. The panel consisted of an author, pathologist, librarian, judge and family physician, and dealt with who is responsible for providing information to the patient and the role that librarians should play. Ms. Frances Groen emphasized that librarians are there to provide accurate and precise information and not to interpret information. Justice C. Huband pointed out the legalities of disseminating health information by noting that librarians are not experts in medicine but, rather, experts in information. He illustrated the risk of giving potentially incorrect information, and the value of a disclaimer, by referring to the famous British case of *Hedley-Byrne vs Heller*. The problem of access to patient records was also discussed, in particular how incorrect information on a patient's medical record should be treated. Justice Huband suggested it should be expunged while Mr. Allentuck suggested it should be amended. Other issues raised were: What is health information? (Mr. Allentuck) Who is the information intended for? (Dr. V. J. Thorsteinson)

The next session was called The Role of the Individual Health Care Provider. A physiologist, librarian, nurse, pharmacist, social worker and dentist each gave a brief description of their duties and how they provide health information/education to the patient. They pointed out that progress in technology and medical science has improved the quality of people's lives and has given them a longer life span. The consensus was that today people are more aware of what is going on, and they demand more information, and are more knowledgeable in its use. They emphasized the need for counselling and follow up to ensure that information given is understood

and utilized correctly. Mr. Farber's comment that "information should not be given in a vacuum" but that it should be tied up to the various aspects of people's lives nicely summed up the role that health providers play.

The last session was called The Role of the Institution in Providing Health Information. Presentations were given by librarians who work in: a hospital library, public library, government library and a community health information centre. The librarians noted that the "medical book" for the lay person is a form of literature that is burgeoning. Quality control in this area is difficult, especially when clients want to read literature on questionable therapies (e.g. macrobiotic diets). Ms. G. Pyryhora said that the Winnipeg Centennial Library would not keep a book advocating a questionable therapy but would have books reviewing and commenting on such therapies. The question of censorship was raised when she made this comment.

Ms. K. Eagleton stated that "information is power - especially when it is not shared" and that medical personnel have used this power to shut the patient out. In the past librarians passively supported this behavior because their traditional role was to "limit information to the patient and to leave the role of giving information to the care giver". She urged librarians to become more active. This point was reiterated by Ms. Snell who saw the librarian/educator role as one of productive participation in the consumers' lives.

In summary, this meeting gave librarians the knowledge that they have an active role to play in the delivery of health care information. This role has an effect on the consumer who sees them as legitimate sources from whom to obtain accurate information. Librarians, however, must always keep in mind that they are purveyors and not interpreters of information.

Ada Ducas is reference librarian at the University of Manitoba.

AND AGAIN

To encourage rural participation in the conference, two rural members were sponsored by MHLA. One of the conditions of this sponsorship was that they provide a report to the News on their experience. The following is Joyce Denby's report. Joyce is library assistant at the Flin Flon General Hospital.

Editor

REPORT ON THE 1983 CHLA CONFERENCE

Attending the 1983 Canadian Hospital Library Association Conference was a new experience for me. The Monday workshop sessions were interesting and informative. With Edna Allen conducting the "Getting to Know You" section, everyone soon felt at ease.

The first general session "An Overview of the Collection Development Process" touched on important points such as analyzing the library users' needs, the necessity to have a good policy with written guidelines concerning subjects and levels of coverage, formats of material, collection development policies, gifts and weeding of material.

The small group sessions were thought provoking as we all pondered the solutions to the various case studies presented us. I particularly liked the "A to Z of a One-Person Library". It certainly made you think of the many duties you perform on a regular basis. The many listings received in the CE5 folder will certainly be a great help to me for ordering various publications.

The last session of the day covered "Alternative of Acquisition in Collection Development". It gave us information concerning the use of interlibrary loans.

This is an ideal way to examine books etc. before actually purchasing them. Networking activities that include acquiring union lists are certainly a necessity for small hospital libraries.

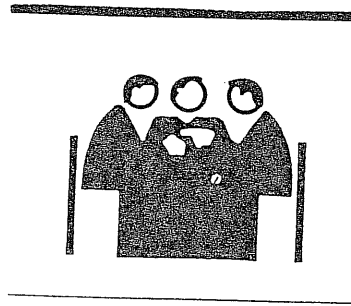
The Tuesday afternoon session concerning the health science librarian was informative. I was very interested in hearing about the increasing availability of consumer health information. This is an area I would like to develop in our particular hospital.

The Wednesday morning session covered the role of the health librarian in the hospital. Ms. Eagleton made several good points, mainly; building an appropriate collection, incorporating health and fitness products in our visual aids, providing a central depot for health promotion, submitting a feature of the month in the hospital newsletter, providing requested information and making preventative components available.

The welcoming reception Monday evening provided an excellent means of meeting many interesting people. Tuesday night's delicious banquet and lively cabaret was very enjoyable. The organizers of these events are certainly to be congratulated for their excellent planning.

I found many of the delegates who attended the conference to be extremely friendly and more than willing to discuss the problems that occur when trying to organize a library. I shall certainly keep their words of advice in mind.

In closing, I would like to thank those responsible for the CHLA Conference grant. The Conference was a great opportunity for me to broaden my knowledge of the health library system.



MHLA COMMITTEES 1983/84

The following committees have been formed. If you would like to get involved, it is not too late. Phone SHARON ALLENTUCK at 786-8109 or the chairperson of the committee you are interested in serving.

PUBLICATIONS - Janet Kochan, Grace General Hospital Library

UNION LIST OF SELECTED SERIALS - Judy Inglis, Area Health Libraries Coordination

PROGRAMME COMMITTEE - Kathy Eagleton, Brandon General Hospital Library

UNION BOOK CATALOGUE COMMITTEE - Peggy Brown, St. Boniface Medical Library

MEMBERSHIP/NOMINATIONS - Dallas Bagby, St. Boniface Medical Library

CURRENT AWARENESS - Doris Pritchard, University of Manitoba Dental Library

HEALTH MANPOWER REPORT - Marilyn Hernandez, Department of Health Library

A/V INTEREST GROUP - Barbara Greeniaus and Tim Spencer, Health Sciences Centre Library

SELECTED BOOKS AND JOURNALS - Dale Nelson, University of Manitoba Medical Library

PEOPLE



BARBARA GREENIAUS AND BILL ISRAEL were married on July 16th at the Winnipeg Art Gallery. After playing a large part in the success of the CHLA/ABSC Conference, assuming the mantle of CHLA/ABSC presidency and arranging a most delightful wedding, (Bill helped a little with the latter) perhaps Barbara can now slow down to a walk.

SANDRA AND DAVID FISH have left for a year's sabbatical in Sri Lanka. Their first stop was to be England. Hopefully the violence on Sri Lanka will have diminished by the time they reach there.

SHARON ALLENTUCK is back on the job at the Misericordia. After a spring and summer with new baby daughter Sarah and son Adam, and doing more than her share of the preparation for the Conference, Sharon will be glad for the quiet life of the Library(?)

Congratulations to JANICE SAUNDERS on the birth of her daughter. Lindsay Joanne, a sister for Chris and Tim, arrived on June 4th. Janice will be back to work at Deer Lodge in December on a part time basis.

On July 2nd, RAE HOVORKA became Mrs. Stephen Porrior. Stephen is a library technician and met Rae during his work practice at the Health Sciences Centre. Never let it be said that we at the Health Sciences Centre are not more than friendly to the student technicians.

GOOD NEWS



A group of audio-visually interesting (and interested) people met for an afternoon at the Health Sciences Centre last May.

We swapped A-V stories, matched familiar names with unfamiliar faces and made a game plan for this new alliance.

Tim Spencer and I promised to send a letter to all those who had attended our debut, outlining a policy for the circulation of audio-visual material between health institutions. From notes made on the back of a greasy Paradise Restaurant place mat, we put together a tentative policy and sent it to all the names on our hit list. If you didn't get a copy, and you would like one, please contact me or Tim.

Although we had a good time, we didn't feel that we could meet again without first defining our *raison d'être*. Tim and I volunteered for this assignment, too. (You guys must have seen us coming!)

What follows is a draft of our immediate goals and objectives:

The A-V Interest Group of the Manitoba Health Libraries Association has been formed to foster cooperation among those MHLA members who collect, purchase and/or use A-V material.

The Group will propose a standardized lending policy for the inter-institutional circulation of A-V material; will preview non-print instructional media in a group; will review new productions; will produce a catalogue of software available for loan from members; will research new hardware and vendors and will purchase cooperatively when possible.

Please consider the value of these proposed objectives to your particular situation and be prepared to react to them at our next meeting. (T.B.A.) See you then.

BAD NEWS

In the last issue of the MHLA NEWS, you read about the services available from the Canadian Book Exchange Centre. On June 3rd, Guy Sylvestre, National Librarian, issued the following statement:

"The National Library will continue to fulfill its obligations under the National Library Act to accept and dispose of surplus material from federal libraries. We have with great reluctance taken the decision that, effective July 1, 1983, C.B.E.C. can no longer accept shipments of surplus materials from other libraries."



Monsieur Sylvestre goes on to say that the C.B.E.C. will continue to distribute surplus materials to all libraries but that these services will have to be considerably scaled down. That would seem self evident since the staff is being reduced from 13 to 6, and they will have very little material coming into the Centre.

I'm sure that it is totally coincidental that the MHLA advertised this service and the federal government immediately acted to eliminate it. But, maybe they were afraid that Manitobans would bombard the C.B.E.C. with boxcars of books and journals. As if we have enough to spare...

In any case, be it a sorry coincidence or a malevolent conspiracy, we will all suffer from this curtailment of library support.

I have written a letter to Francis Fox and I urge you all to do the same. Sorry to be the bearer of bad tidings. If we write enough letters we may have happier news to report in the next issue.

-Barbara Greeniaus

ASSOCIATION NEWS... AGAIN

MOVED

The Alcoholism Foundation of Manitoba William Potoroka Memorial Library is now settled in its new premises at 1031 Portage Avenue.

There have been no changes in the services provided by the library since its relocation. The A.F.M. library is open to all residents of Manitoba and is responsible for providing information on alcohol and substance abuse and related subjects.

Our services include the lending of books and non-book material such as kits, games and 16mm films. Reference and interlibrary loan services are also available.

A copying machine has been installed for the convenience of our patrons. The charge for copying is 5¢ per page. For members of M.H.L.A. copying is done free of charge.

Brochures on alcohol use and other drugs are available through the library. Film bookings can be made between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Our new phone number is 786-3831 -
Library Ext. 277
Film Library Ext. 279

Diana Ringstrom

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of MHLA will be in BRANDON on FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14.

The morning session will be centered around
"Being sick in Westman - what are my chances".

The afternoon, hopefully, will be a hands on session and the business meeting.

Lunch will be arranged at a local restaurant with excellent Chinese food and also American food and sandwiches. It is licensed!

More news will be sent out when confirmed.

NEW LIBRARY HOURS FOR MISERICORDIA HOSPITAL LIBRARY

MONDAY - THURSDAY - 0930 - 2000 hours

FRIDAY - 0930 - 1600 hours

SATURDAY & SUNDAY - 1030 - 1430 hours

CLOSED ALL STATUTORY HOLIDAYS

TRAIL OF THE ROVING LIBRARIAN

A Trip to Churchill or

Three Days in Canada's Bermuda Triangle



Dale Nelson
Extension Librarian
University of
Manitoba

CHURCHILL: A desolate speck of life in the north-east corner of Manitoba. An assortment of drifters, con-men, tough, rawboned natives, and southerners looking for a fast break. An unlit powder keg, just waiting for someone to light the fuse. That's where I come in. My name's Nelson; I'm a librarian.

I arrived on the PWA redeye at 3:30 p.m. on a Monday afternoon, June 6, 1983. They met me at the airport and whisked me off to the hospital almost immediately. I'd been told from the start it would be a big job. A large amount of unexpected cash had become available. Needless to say, I didn't inquire about the source. I was here to do a job, and the less I knew, the better. I just wanted to get on with what I was there for.

I took a look over the collection that same afternoon. Pretty much as I'd expected. The titles and subject coverage were more than adequate, but certainly the age of the material was a bit questionable. I'd seen worse, but considering the fact that money was available, it seemed only reasonable to try to bring it up to date right away. Anyway, it looked to me like they wanted to launder the dough as fast as they could.

Next morning I arrived bright and early and began making up the hit list. I was showing little mercy as I pulled

title after title off the shelf, condemning each to incineration. After ruthlessly tearing the collection apart, it was also my duty to recommend replacements. Using the aforementioned rather generous infusion of capital as my guideline, I put together a list of recommended books that the library could consider purchasing. I staggered home to my lonely hotel room that night to be awakened constantly by disturbing dreams of books flying off shelves, beating me about the face and neck. No wonder my shrink says I've got to get a different job.

Next morning, I had a meeting with the "Big Cheese", Dr. James Wright, and Irene Dunn, who was to take over the library on Dr. Wright's impending departure. Most of my recommendations were accepted. We discussed some library procedures, such as the signing out of books, and they queried me about a new classification scheme. Changes were made in both of these areas, and purchase orders were prepared. I left the Churchill Health Centre Library feeling like we'd made some major accomplishments, and that future staff members would have a resource centre they could be proud of, and one that they would find extremely useful.

As I boarded the 3:30 p.m. pinkeye back to Winnipeg on that Wednesday afternoon, I had a general feeling of well being. I glanced down at the Health Centre as the big silver bird passed over. In my mind's eye I had a picture of the staff, studiously pursuing questions of medicine in the comfort of their library. Another case resolved for good, or just another chapter in the continuing saga of medical librarianship? I really wasn't sure, but I felt like I'd done the best I could. I tipped my hat to Churchill as we began the long flight south. As I nodded off into an exhausted sleep, a voice echoed deep in the recesses of my consciousness: "THERE ARE EIGHT MILLION STORIES IN THE NAKED LIBRARY; THIS HAS BEEN JUST ONE OF THEM".

MANITOBA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The Annual General Meeting and Fall Conference will be held on SEPTEMBER 23 and 24.

The AGM and wine and cheese party will be held at the Centennial Library on Friday evening. The Conference will be held at Red River Community College on Saturday.

Plans for three workshops are being finalized:

Saturday a.m.

1) PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL with Professor Terry Hercus of the Faculty of Administrative Studies, University of Manitoba.

2) PROGRAMMING AND MARKETING with Karen Lebuik, Wapiti Regional Library, Prince Albert, Saskatchewan.

Saturday p.m.

3) PROFESSIONALISM - Karen Adams will discuss professionalism in general. This will be followed by a panel made up of: a professional other than a librarian, a librarian, a library technician, and an untrained library worker.

Lunch will be catered to by Red River Community College.

COST \$30.00 for members
 \$35.00 for nonmembers

CONTACT Barb Carstens for more information.

New subscriptions... for 1983

HEALTH SCIENCES CENTRE

British journal of hospital medicine v.29-
Clinical instrument systems v.4-
Emergency medicine v.15-
Fitness report v.4-
General hospital psychiatry v.5-
Harvard business review v.61-
Hospital risk management v.5-
Hospital topics v.61-
Infoage v.2-
International journal of health services v.13-
Issues in comprehensive pediatric nursing v.6-
JEN Journal of emergency nursing v.9-
The Journal v.12-
Journal of health politics policy and law v.8-
Journal of psychosocial oncology v.1-
Journal of public health policy v.4-
Medicine : North America 1983
Neonatal network v.1-
Nursing life v.3-
Nursing management v.14-
Oncology nursing forum
Patient care v.17-
Policy options v.4-
Promoting health v.4-
Same-day surgery v.7-
Supervisory management v.28-

EXCERPTA MEDICA
ONLINE TRAINING WORKSHOP

The University of Manitoba Medical Library will be hosting an Excerpta Medica online training workshop to be held SEPTEMBER 29 and 30.

SESSION 1 on the 29th will provide introductory training.

SESSION 2 on the 30th will be orientated for the more experienced searcher.

Both sessions will be FREE of charge.

If you are interested in attending or would like more information please contact

MICHAEL TENNENHOUSE at 786-4342.

HOPE ALL OUR NEW APPLES DON'T KEEP THE DOCTORS AWAY!

Brandon General Hospital and the Health Sciences Centre have stepped even further into the computer age with the purchase of apple computers.

I don't know about Brandon but the Health Sciences Centre staff will not be giving out advice on apple computers for some time yet.

Small Computers

The Graduate Library School, University of Arizona, publishes a newsletter, *Small Computers in Libraries*, which is certain to be of interest to librarians trying to keep up with developments in microcomputer applications in libraries. A recent issue (v. 2 #2, February 1982) includes a column on the potential of combining video disks with microcomputers and an article on a new Radio Shack computer, the TRS-80 Model 16. The editors of *Small Computers in Libraries* are gathering information on microcomputer projects in libraries; they will eventually publish a directory of projects. Subscriptions to *Small Computers in Libraries* are available for \$20/year from SCIL, Graduate Library School, College of Education, University of Arizona, 1515 E. First Street, Tucson, AZ 85721.

From the editor's pad »

I had planned on ignoring the above heading but now find that I really must thank everyone who so willingly contributed to this edition of the News.

Contrary to what I expected, I have had fun putting this newsletter together. Please continue to send in contributions (LOTS!), criticisms (not too many or I will cry), and new ideas to the address below.

Jill

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