

## Table of contents

	page
Retirement dinner honouring Isobel Steedman Natalia Pohorecky	1
Events	3
New and improved job mart	4
1985 M.H.O. Conference Pat Hebert	5
Available	6
Spring Together Helen Wheeler	7
People ; new databases	8
Library consultation visits Hélène Proteau	9
New Union List of Selected Serials ; Selected Books and Journals	10
Basic reference tools - update	11

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.



## RETIREMENT DINNER HONOURING ISABEL STEEDMAN



A lovely retirement dinner, honouring Isabel Steedman, was held on the evening of November 22, 1984, at the Winnipeg Squash & Racquet Club, 275 Stradbroke Avenue.

Among the 60 guests attending, were faculty and staff from the Oncology Centre, Health Sciences Centre, St. Boniface General Hospital and the University of Manitoba, Faculty of Medicine.

Hosts included Dr. Lyonel Israels (Executive Director, Manitoba Cancer Research Foundation) who delivered the main address, Dr. Robert Publow (Assistant Executive Director) who sang a medley of old Scottish favorites, and who was accompanied on the piano by Dr. Nung Won Choi (Professor, Social & Preventive Medicine/Director, Epidemiology & Biostatistics, Manitoba Cancer Research Foundation) and Dr. John Foerster (Head, Dept. of Medicine, St. Boniface General Hospital) who opened the reception by the saying of grace.

Isobel was gracious in her response to each host in turn, and eloquent in her farewell message to all the guests present.

On November 27, 1984, Isobel left for Inverness, Scotland, where she planned to spend Christmas with relatives and friends, visiting for several months before returning to Winnipeg in April, 1985.

Isobel began her career with the Cancer Relief and Research Institute 36 years ago, in 1948, as private secretary to the Director of the Institute, Dr. P.A. MacDonald. (It became the presently-known Manitoba Cancer Treatment & Research Foundation in 1957).

In 1962, after serving 14 years as private secretary, Isobel was appointed by the Director to set up a library at the Foundation. Isobel began this very formidable task by gathering all the books and journals scattered throughout the various departments of the Foundation, consolidating them into one area, organizing the collection, maintaining and building it, nurturing it from these very modest beginnings into the indispensable well-equipped small specialized resource library that it is today, presently housing 2,810 books and 4,573 bound volumes.

In 1978, with funds received from the Canadian Cancer Society, Isobel extended her library services to include a "Patient Information" Library for both patients and their

families seeking help either in the form of general knowledge or emotional support. This collection included books (86, to date) which may be borrowed, and numerous give-away pamphlets.

On this, the occasion of Isobel's retirement, it is important to note and acknowledge the very vital and crucial role that Isobel had played in the original organizing of the many small health libraries in Manitoba.

Some time prior to 1974, the Canadian Association of Special Libraries (a division of the Canadian Library Association) formed a Health Sciences Section in an attempt to bring together the various private libraries in the health field. The formation of local groups, however, was left to the individual provinces.

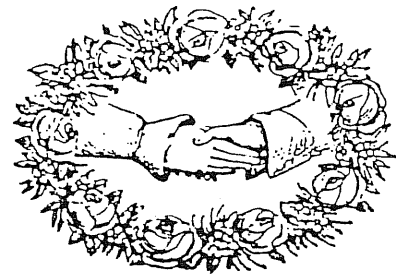
Because no action had been taken in Manitoba, Isobel decided, in 1974, to take the initiative of obtaining a list of all special libraries in the Province and then personally contacting those in or near Winnipeg. Despite initial obstacles and discouragements, Isobel, with her characteristically unobtrusive but unrelenting determination, managed to arouse sufficient support to arrange three informal meetings with interested health library workers during that year. During the following two years, with the active assistance of such established bodies as the Medical College Library (principally, Audrey Kerr), the Manitoba Association of Registered Nurses, and the major

city hospital libraries (principally Rena Kroeker), more informal meetings were subsequently held until finally, during a historic meeting at the Manitoba Association of Registered Nurses, in October, 1976, which brought 21 health library workers together, all present voted unanimously to organize on a formal basis - thus giving birth to the Manitoba Health Libraries Association.

As a friend and colleague, Isobel was devoted, selfless and generous, kind, considerate and compassionate.

Sincerest best wishes to you, Isobel, on your retirement - your many years of dedicated service both to your patrons and to your colleagues shall never be forgotten!

- Natalia Pohorecky



# EVENTS

## 76th ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

The 76th Annual Conference of the Special Libraries Association will be jointly sponsored by the Canadian Association of Special Libraries and Information Services.

DATE: June 8th through June 13th.

PLACE: Winnipeg Convention Centre.

THEME: The Information Specialist : a bridge to the new communication.

The program includes sessions on:

The Computer in the One Person Library: Useful Tool or Killer Toy.

Software Handling in a Special Library.

Training New-physicians for Online Database Retrieval -

and many more exciting sessions!

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Barbara Carstens

0830 - 1130 hrs. Gov't. Pub.

Section Dafoe 474-9530

1300 - 1630 hrs. Agricultural

Library 474-9457

## CANADIAN HEALTH LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION (CHLA) ANNUAL CONFERENCE, 1985

DATE: June 9-12

PLACE: Sandman Inn, Calgary, Alberta

THEME: Health Information Providers: Their Role by 1995.

The keynote address will be given by Nina Matheson, Welch Medical Library, Johns Hopkins University.

FOR PROGRAM INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jill Brown 787-3416

The CHLA Annual Conference will be followed by the

## CANADIAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

DATE: June 13th through June 18th.

PLACE: Calgary, Alberta

THEME: Information is Power: Yesterday's Prophecy, Today's Reality, Tomorrow's Economy.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

Love Negrych 786-4342

## New and Improved Job Mart:

### Under New Management

For those planning to attend the upcoming CLA conference in Calgary, there will be at least one pleasant surprise. The new and improved Job Mart, an employment assistance service, will be organized and operated this year by members of the Library School Students/New Librarians Interest Group (LSS/NLIG). Claire MacDonald, Job Mart Coordinator, will ensure that friendly, effective services will be available at the conference for both job seekers and providers.

#### What is the Job Mart?

The Job Mart, designed by LSS/NLIG co-convenor Jackie MacDonald, is loosely based on the ALA employment services used at their conferences. It is hoped that the Job Mart will become a regular CLA conference feature. The main objective of the Job Mart is: to facilitate contact between employers and potential employees by advertising job vacancies, and assisting the scheduling of appointments or interviews for the interested parties.

Individuals seeking employment in the library community, and who wish to use the Mart's services, are urged to register with the Job Mart Coordinator before the end of May at the latest. Organizations interested in advertising employment vacancies at the conference should also to contact the Job Mart Coordinator. Further information and registration forms may be obtained from:

Ms. Claire MacDonald  
Job Mart Coordinator  
c/o 404A - 2041 Arrowsmith Drive  
Gloucester, Ontario K1J 7V7

## 1985 M.H.O. CONFERENCE

Report on MHLA's involvement in the 1985 MHO conference.

This year's theme for the conference was "Health in the 80's; Mental Health; Re-thinking the options." For our session we had invited Dr. Bryan Tanney from Calgary, Alberta, to speak to us about the developments of SIEC (Suicide Information & Education Centre) Information Centre.

Twenty-three people attended this session, and it was a pleasure to note that not all of these were MHLA members, or indeed connected to any library. This proved that our topic was one of broad interest as had been our intention.

Dr. Tanney was a very relaxed and easy speaker. He was able to give a very clear idea of why the centre was originated and of the many problems to be encountered when attempting to implement a special type of information service.

Of particular interest, is the fact that the service they decided to develop is an online computerized one. Since they were aiming specifically to reach high school students and the general public they were unable to use the

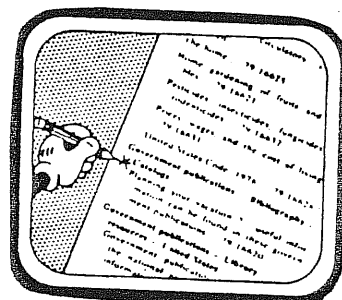
existing facilities at the University.

It is difficult to summarize what was said and discussed. From defining what is suicide it took several University professors one year to come up with a satisfactory definition - to creating a thesaurus for the subject terms they used to describe data, it was all hauntingly familiar. (At Red River one of our instructors had been closely involved in setting up the computerized system used in the Learning Resource Centre)

All in all, I felt it was a very informative, interesting, and worthwhile session. Since I was on the planning committee I don't want you to think that my opinion was in any way biased.

Respectively submitted

P. Hebert.



# AVAILABLE

The Centre on Aging at the University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, has prepared a publication entitled Mental Health and Aging: An Annotated Bibliography 1970-1982. This is a 300-page comprehensive compilation of the non-physiological, non-biological literature on mental health and illness in the United States, Canada, and Great Britain. The focus is primarily on the elderly but includes lifespan studies which extend into later adulthood.

Copies may be obtained by sending an order form and cheque for \$15.00 payable to:

Centre on Aging  
338 Isbister Building  
University of Manitoba  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
R3T 2N2

ALL ORDERS MUST BE PREPAID

A COMPLETELY NEW REFERENCE  
WORK FROM CISTI

"HEALTH SCIENCES INFORMATION IN CANADA: ASSOCIATIONS" lists nearly 500 Canadian associations in all areas of health science.

SEND ORDERS TO:

Publications Section  
Canada Institute for Scientific  
and Technical Information  
National Research Council Canada  
Ottawa, Canada  
K1A 0S2

from the National Film Board of Canada

OUR BODIES, OUR MINDS : film,  
video and multi-media resources  
for health education

Topics included are: aging, death and dying, the disabled, environmental health hazards, fitness and nutrition, and more.

This catalogue is available on request from the local National Film Board office.

MESHIN' AROUND OR I GOT IT FROM  
THE HORSE'S MOUTH compiled by Midge Wos is a dictionary of mesh terms with scope notes which provides in a single source, an alphabetized, 13 year cumulation of the annual list of new mesh descriptors with scope notes as published originally in NOTES FOR MEDICAL CATALOGERS from 1972 through 1984. This is designed as a companion searching and cataloging aid to the annotated mesh and provides the clarification of mesh terms as used by NLM indexers and catalogers.

AVAILABLE FROM

Midge Wos  
2339 West Edgerton Avenue  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
53221

PRICE: \$46.90 Canadian

Have you ever wondered about the librarian's role in providing health information to the general public, especially in certain unusual situations? If so, the seminar given by Professor Alan Rees, titled "Evaluating Consumer Health Needs" given on Saturday, April 19th, 1985, at the Manitoba Joint Spring Library Conference, would have provided answers, provoked thought, and absorbed your interest.

Professor Rees discussed the needs of people seeking health information, the material required to satisfy these needs, the judgement required of the librarian, guidelines for selecting reference material, networking, and related issues.

There are many trends that influence the public in seeking information, one of the most powerful being the information media, especially television. Health issues are to be found in documentaries, educational programs, soap operas, dramas, newscasts, advertising, political debates, economic discussions, sports, religious programs, etc. Certain popular catchwords such as "acupuncture", "euthanasia", "participaction", whet curiosity. The current interest in "wellness" as opposed to "illness" has encouraged interest in nutrition, exercise, psychology, religion, and other aspects of health. The wholeistic approach to health is a current trend.

Negative feelings generated by some programming has sent the public seeking truth. Worry over the use, administration, side effects and abuse of drugs, the profit motive sometimes apparent in medicine, quarrels within the profession, uneasiness about the real value or costs of

products or services, the genuiness of claims for miracles cures, the reliability of statements, has agitated the public to the library.

Professor Rees paid particular attention to the skills required by the librarian in dealing with the client seeking information for personal reasons. These library users must be treated with sensitivity, judgement, and special care, keeping in mind the policy of the library in providing health information. He used short dramatic case histories to illustrate emotional situations and the audience was asked to solve these. He emphasized the fact that the librarian's job is to provide information, not advice.

The importance of reference material selection was discussed. Several books were evaluated by the audience using an evaluation list supplied by Dr. Rees. He stressed the importance of supplying material that would be of assistance to the public in making intelligent decisions concerning its own health problems and the use of health care agencies. Pamphlets, popular magazines, newspapers, and ephemeral information were discussed.

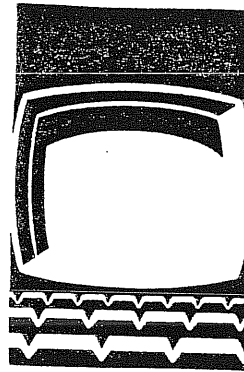
Professor Rees did not deal with audio-visuals except to use them as teaching aids in his presentation. Perhaps example is the best teacher. He did not deal with computerized information. He involved his audience in discussion and elicited questions which he answered knowledgeably, often humourously.

The Professor will soon be leaving his position at Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio, where he has been lecturing "Health Sciences Information", as the Library School is closing its department. He will be doing more freelance work and I strongly suggest attending any of his seminars if offered.

- Helen Wheeler

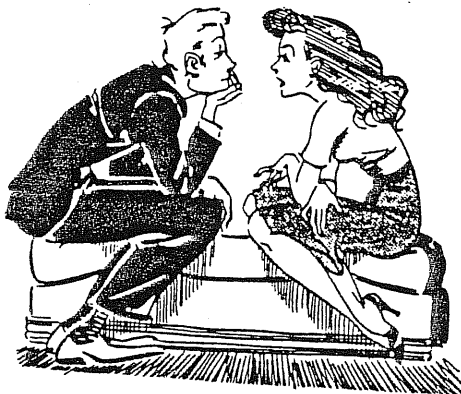
# PEOPLE

Congratulations to Judy and Michael Tennenhouse on the birth of their daughter. Rachel Ellen weighing 7 lbs. arrived on March 3rd. She is a sister for Anna and Heather.



Ada and John Ducas are the proud parents of a new daughter, as well. Anne Athena was born on Feb. 18th and weighed 8 lbs. 6 ozs.

The telephone number for Brandon General Hospital is listed incorrectly in the latest issue of the Union List of Selected Serials. Please use 726-2257, not 2256. 2256 is Kathy's private line.



## MEDICAL AND DRUG REFERENCE CREATED EXCLUSIVELY FOR DOW JONES NEWS/RETRIEVAL

Dow Jones' new database, //MEDX offers the public a database of medical and drug information assembled by a panel of distinguished physicians. The database covers over 1000 illnesses and their medical and surgical treatments. The database is not diagnostic but is aimed at providing information to the patient in order to enable them to interact more successfully with their doctors or pharmacists.

### PDQ

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) in Washington have a new cancer information service called PDQ for "Physicians Data Query". The service offers a computerised data base of cancer treatments. The system is tailored to the physician with access to a computer and a modem, who is faced with a patient diagnosed with cancer and is wondering what the latest or best treatment is. PDQ is available through MEDLARS computer centres.

## LIBRARY CONSULTATION VISITS

In my capacity as Extension Librarian, since June 1984, I carried out several library consultation visits. From June 1984 to January 1985, I visited hospitals or personal care homes in the following centres: Manitou, Notre-Dame de Lourdes, St. Claude, Selkirk, Portage la Prairie, Hamiota, Teulon, Crystal City and Churchill. Of these, 5 hospital libraries were evaluated and I had a chance to talk with 6 groups of Hospital Administrators who were planning a library. I am pleased to say that I was warmly greeted everywhere I went. Administrators and physicians alike made me feel at ease and were receptive to suggestions and changes to improve their collections or their library services. Following is a short report on my visit to the Churchill Health Centre Library.

### CHURCHILL HEALTH CENTRE LIBRARY

At the end of November 1984, Dr. V.W. Sawatsky from Churchill called to request that I come as soon as possible to evaluate the Medical Collection at the Churchill Health Centre Library. The trip was therefore scheduled for the end of January 1985.

I arrived after lunch on Monday, January 28th. Dr. Sawatsky and the staff greeted me warmly and gave me a tour of the Health Centre facilities. Mrs. Irene Dunn, who oversees the library, was very helpful in introducing me to their classification system. The remainder of that day was spent going over the collection and deciding how the weeding should proceed. I spent all day Tuesday analyzing the collection, section by section, drawing up a list of titles to add or to replace out-dated editions. Wednesday morning, I met with the medical staff available and explained what I had done. They accepted my proposed recommendations and expressed certain concerns of their own. As soon as I returned to Winnipeg, I drew up an official report and submitted it to Dr. Sawatsky and Mrs. Irene Dunn.

My trip to Churchill was not all work. I took a few hours off on Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning to visit the town which, by the way, is much smaller than I had expected. Although Churchill is located in a subarctic region, I can boast that while I was there, the temperature was 20 degrees warmer than in southern Manitoba where the thermometer plummeted to -40 degrees Centigrade.

The scenery around Churchill is drastically different from anything I've ever seen before. Throughout the day, the air is filled with tiny ice particles which are driven about by the wind and adhere to everything in the way of their progress. Consequently, the buildings, the ground, the Bay, the River and even the sky appear covered with a sheet of white icy crystals. And at night, you can feast your eyes on the most spectacular Northern Lights darting to all parts of the sky.

I greatly enjoyed the short time I spent in Churchill and I'm already looking forward to my next trip which will hopefully be scheduled for June 1987...

- Hélène Proteau

The Manitoba Health Libraries Association has produced a 1985 edition of its Union List of Selected Serials. The list provides a guide to the holdings of eighteen health libraries in Manitoba. It features over 1,000 serial titles. Cost is \$10.00 for contributing MHLA members, \$20.00 for non-contributing MHLA members, and \$25.00 for non-members. To order a copy contact Helene Proteau, Extension Librarian, University of Manitoba Medical Library 770 Bannatyne Avenue Winnipeg, Manitoba R3E 0W3 Phone: 786-4342.

SELECTED BOOKS AND JOURNALS FOR MANITOBA HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

"That 'Selected Books and Journals' be published in sequential format in the issues of MHLA News, and the responsibility be given to H. Proteau and J. Brown, editor of the MHLA News."

Coming up in the next issue:

- Quality Assurance --- 1) Basic Core List
- 2) Selective Bibliography

## DICTIONARIES

1. DORLAND'S ILLUSTRATED MEDICAL DICTIONARY. 26th ed. Philadelphia : Saunders, 1981. 1985 version \$35.95 U.S.
2. MILLER, BENJAMIN F. AND KEANE, CLAIRE B. Encyclopedia and Dictionary of Medicine, Nursing, and Allied Health. 3rd ed. Philadelphia : Saunders, 1983. \$24.95 U.S. (Index) \$18.95 U.S. (Plain)

## DIRECTORIES

3. CANADIAN HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION. Canadian Hospital Directory, 1984. Volume 32. Toronto : The Association, August 1984. annual. \$60.00
4. NEWCOMBE, A., ed. CANADIAN MEDICAL DIRECTORY, 1984. Don Mills, Ont.. Southam Communications, 1984. annual. \$64.10

## HANDBOOKS

5. CANADIAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION. Compendium of Pharmaceuticals and Specialties. 16th ed. Toronto : The Association, 1985. annual. \$45.00
6. BERKOW, ROBERT, ed. Merck Manual of Diagnosis and Therapy. 14th ed. Rahway, N.J. : Merck, 1982. \$19.75 U.S.
7. BRUNNER, LILLIAN S. AND SUDARTH, DORIS S. Lippincott Manual of Nursing Practice. 3rd ed. Philadelphia : Lippincott, 1982. \$39.75 U.S.

## INDEXES

8. ABRIDGED INDEX MEDICUS. Monthly. \$54.00 U.S. per year (1985) \$75.00 Can. "A monthly bibliography, based on articles from 117 English-language journals, designed for the individual practitioner and libraries of small hospitals and clinics" (Available from: Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, WASHINGTON, D.C., 20402. Send payment in U.S. funds with order, quoting the GPO Subscription Code "ABIM".)
9. CUMULATIVE INDEX TO NURSING AND ALLIED HEALTH LITERATURE. Bimonthly. \$120.00 U.S. (1984) \$180.00 Can. "CINAHL indexes all major nursing periodicals as well as selected periodicals for the allied health professions". (Available from: Glendale Adventist Medical Centre Publication Service, Box 871, GLENDALE, California, 91209. Send payment in U.S. funds with order.)
10. HOSPITAL LITERATURE INDEX. Quarterly. \$150.00 U.S. per year (1985) \$225.00 Can. "Journals (and sections of journals) directly pertaining to health care administration are indexed. The fourth issue is an annual hardbound cumulation including citations for the fourth quarter." (Available from: American Hospital Association, 840 North Lake Shore Drive, CHICAGO, Illinois, 60611. Send payment in U.S. funds with order.)