

The spring general meeting of the Manitoba Library Trustees' Association was held Saturday, June 2, 1973 at the St. James-Assiniboia Public Library, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Coffee and registration took place from 9-10 a.m. and the meeting convened at 10:05 a.m. Mr. Streuber chaired the meeting and Mrs. Issett took minutes.

Mr. Streuber welcomed the delegates, and a special welcome to those library boards who were represented for the first time. The chairman expressed pleasure that Mr. Peter Hanlon, Director of Library Services for the province, Miss K. Gillespie, chairman of the Manitoba Library Association, and Mr. D. Craw, Secretary-Treasurer of the Canadian Library Association, were able to be present at the meeting.

Mr. Ducharme moved adoption of the minutes of the Annual meeting, October 14, 1972, as circulated, seconded by Mr. Creighton. CARRIED.

Mr. Craw moved adoption of the 1972 Financial Report as presented, seconded by Miss Burnett. CARRIED.

Correspondence: Letters were read from Miss K. Gillespie, chairman of the Manitoba Library Association re trustees' membership in the MLA.

Letter from Thompson Public Library Board with regret that none of the board members could attend, Mrs. Henderson, the librarian would be present at the afternoon session.

Letter from Evergreen Regional Library Board requesting that Miss S. Stefansson be given an honorary life membership in the Association.

Regrets expressed by Mrs. H. Brydon, that none of West Kildonan Public Library Board could be present at the meeting.

The secretary also reported phone calls from Mrs. Philp, of Souris, and from Mr. Wallace Hood of West Man. Regional, Brandon, that their Board members were unable to attend.

The letter from Miss Gillespie, chairman of the MLA and trustees' membership in the Association were discussed. It was the opinion of most of the trustees present that membership in the Trustees' Association took top priority and because of restricted budgets, many boards hesitated to take out individual memberships of \$5.00 each per board member.

A motion by Mrs. Levi, seconded by Mrs. Nicholas, that a letter be sent to the MLA stating the trustees' feelings, with the suggestion that perhaps a \$5.00 board membership fee could be introduced, allowing the board to designate one member as voting member for the board. CARRIED.

The letter from the Evergreen Regional Library Board re honorary life membership in the Association was read, as well as Miss Stefansson's name, Mrs. Laurie Tegelberg was also suggested.

A motion by Mr. Hall, Seconded by Mr. Craw that Miss S. Stefansson, of the Evergreen Regional Library Board, and Mrs. Laurie Tegleberg, past chairman of the Transcona Public Library Board, be presented with Honorary Life Memberships in the Manitoba Library Trustees' Association at the annual meeting. CARRIED.

The chairman announced that the Canadian Library Conference would be held in Sackville, New Brunswick, from June 15-21st. Mrs. Issett is Manitoba's provincial representative on the Canadian Library Trustees' Association Executive, and has been nominated as the conference counsellor for 1974.

A motion by Mrs. Johnson, seconded by Mrs. Levi, that \$150.00 be advanced to Mrs. Issett, the Secretary-Treasurer, to represent Manitoba Library Trustees' Association at the Conference. CARRIED.

Mr. Crow, Secretary-Treasurer of the Canadian Library Trustees' Association, announced that the Canadian Library Conference would be held in Winnipeg, in 1974.

The chairman announced that a Nominating Committee would be appointed to bring forth a slate of officers for the Annual Meeting. Mr. Streuber and Mrs. Issett will not stand for re-election in the fall.

Mr. Hanlon, Director of Library Services for the province of Manitoba, spoke to the delegates in regard to the formulation of a plan for library development in the province. This plan for a regional library system will be developed within the next few months. Mr. Hanlon stated that the Public Library Advisory Board as stipulated in the Public Libraries Act would not be re-activated, but representatives of those involved in library affairs in the province, would be consulted on the development plan for the province. Library grants in 1973 would remain the same as in previous years.

Open discussion on the following points took place:

Library Grants, and the inadequate financing.

Stand off towns and villages who do not wish to participate in already established regional library systems.

An analysis is being done on the Parkland regional library system as to its value and the services provided.

Report on the establishment of Information Canada mobile regional information officers across the province, a six months experimental program terminating at the end of September.

Information Canada mobile regional information officer now operating out of the Parkland Regional Library Headquarters.

The meeting adjourned for lunch at 11:50 a.m.

A delicious buffet luncheon was hosted by the St. James-Assiniboia Public Library Board. After lunch, Mr. Russell, chief librarian, conducted a tour of the library. The staff must also be thanked for their co-operation in manning their posts throughout the library and explaining the operation of the services provided.

Mr. Streuber thanked the Board for the enjoyable buffett and thanked Mr. Russell on behalf of the members present for the gracious hospitality extended by he and his staff.

The meeting re-convened at 2:15 p.m.

Mrs. Issett introduced the guest speaker for the afternoon programme, Mr. Bruce Cameron, chief librarian of the Wheatland Regional Library in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

The Saskatchewan Regional Library System was established in 1967; as of 1973 the seventh of the recommended seven regional systems will be finished.

Financing for this library system is done on a per capita basis, \$1.70 establishment grant. \$1.50 per capita per year from the provincial government and .90¢ per capita per year from Municipal government for a total funding of \$2.50 per capita.

The Provincial Library provides strong leadership in public relations. It has centralized cataloguing with a union catalogue of the library holdings throughout the province. The provincial library provides special language collections and these are provided as long term loan to the regional libraries. The Library Development Board is under the jurisdiction of the Dept. of Education; the secretary of the board is the Provincial librarian. In the Saskatchewan Regional system 82% of the potential population is participating in the seventh year of operation.

When a municipality joins a regional library system, the extension library services from the Provincial library are discontinued with a few exceptions for isolated families or communities in extreme northern areas. Library cards can be used at any library throughout the province.

Mr. Cameron reported on the operation of the Wheatland Regional Library system of which he is Chief Librarian.

Wheatland Regional Library system consists of thirty-three branch libraries, with holdings of 200,000 books (3.2 books per capita) and 1,800 cassette tapes and serves 72,000 people. In 1972, 23,000 requests were handled.

The Regional library board of 94 members meets once a year and elects an executive. The local autonomy is maintained within the system as the thirty-three small community library boards meet three or four times a year. Local people are involved through participation in activities related to their own library. Strong local boards and a strong regional board are needed. Branch libraries are staffed by interested people who relate to the public whom they serve.

The trustees are important as the grass roots support; strong trustees can make or break a regional library system. They must form pressure groups that are politically astute to force necessary funding.

In 1972, the S.L.T.A. asked for increased library grants, local boards wrote their M.L.A.'s. Result 20¢ per capita increase.

Bookmobiles are used in the system to infiltrate communities who do not belong to the regional system. Librarians and trustees must be good salesmen to promote libraries in areas which do not have library service. Advertisements on radio and television are also used.

The purchasing of books are done by the regional headquarters. Local input is done through a book purchase request system sent in to headquarters daily from the branch libraries. The union catalogue is searched and the books available from any library within the province are supplies.

Each branch has a small reference collection and additional material is provided from the Headquarters or the Provincial library.

There are no branch libraries in communities of under 1,500 people, these are serviced by bookmobiles. The bookmobile gives service on a three week schedule. It covers 38,000 miles in one year and costs \$11,470 to operate without the cost of book stock.

Mr. Cameron answered many questions from the interested trustees present, and Mr. Streuber thanked him for his talk and his willingness to participate in the program.

Mr. Ducharme extended an invitation on behalf of St. Vital Public Library for trustees to attend their Open House - celebrating 10 years in the present library building. The Open House to be held on June 8, 1973 from 1-9 p.m.

An invitation was extended from the Evergreen Regional Library Board to hold the Annual Meeting, October 13, 1973 in Gimli, Manitoba.

Miss Gillespie, chairman of the M.L.A. announced that the Annual Meeting would be held on board the Lord Selkirk, September 21 to 23 and invited trustees to join the association and attend.

A motion by Mr. James, seconded by Mr. Creighton to adjourn at 3:40p.m.