

AID TO DISASTER AREAS

There will be a container in the Lobby of Margaret I. King North for donations to Kentucky disaster areas. Items of clothing, bed-clothes, non-perishable food, etc. will all be acceptable. DEADLINE FOR DONATIONS WILL BE WED. - 4/10.

T H E

G R E E N

B E A N

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY LIBRARIES
NEWSLETTER

4/5/74

UKLA

University of Kentucky Librarians' Association will meet April 9, 1974 at 3:30 p.m. in 206 Student Center. The speaker will be Pete Manchikes of University Information service. He will speak on the general area of Library Services and Public Relations.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

The following xeroxed items have been placed on reserve for those who are interested:

1. Hopkins, "The Ohio College Library Center," Library Resources & Technical Services. 17: 308-19 (Summer 1973).
2. Kilgour, "Initial System Design for the Ohio College Library Center: A Case History," in Clinic on Library Applications of Data Processing, University of Illinois, 1968, Proceedings, p. 79-88.
3. Kilgour, "A Regional Network - Ohio College Library Center," Datamation 18: 87-89 (Feb. 1970).
4. Kilgour et al, "The Shared Cataloging System of the Ohio College Library Center," Journal of Library Automation 5:157-83 (Sept. 1972).

PERSONNEL

I am pleased to announce the following personnel changes in the Library.

Effective April 1, Ronnie Lloyd and Trudy Bellardo exchanged positions. Ronnie has moved to the Reserve Room and Trudy to the Art Library.

On April 15, additional changes will be made. In each case the individual and his position will be transferred.

1. Sandy Gilchrist will move into Reference on a full-time basis.
2. John Richardson will replace Sandy in Inter-Library Loans.
3. Dean Trivette will serve as State Documents Librarian in GPD on an interim basis.
4. Becky Heath will go from Cataloging to the Agriculture Library.

CATALOGING

A reorganization of assignments in the cataloging department has resulted in one new section and changes in other sections.

Joan Gatewood and Pamela Williams will be the head and the assistant head, respectively, of the catalog maintenance section. New duties of this group which includes the typing section, will be the supervision of student filers at the public catalog and shelf list, the removal of all cards and slips from the catalog and shelf list for withdrawals and transfers, the making of duplicate cards, substituting clean cards, providing overlays and checking errors.

Later duties to be assumed will be those of subject heading coordinator. It is hoped that the section will be able to assume revision of the public catalog and shelf list by the first of next year.

Bindery Preparations will assume the labeling of all books formerly labeled in cataloging.

Serials holdings on shelf lists will no longer be added. The Central Serials Record will have the only complete record of holdings.

Jane Dean will be cataloging serials with copy.

These changes will take place as of April 8.

Gail Kennedy will become head of the quick cataloging section of the cataloging department as of July 1. Gail will receive her MS in LS degree from the School of Library Science at the end of the summer session. She was a member of the circulation department staff before she came to cataloging.

E.V.S.

BOOKNOTES

Justice Arthur J. Goldberg discussed the recent Supreme Court decision on obscenity which permits different communities to set their own standards at a recent Student Forum on Obscenity and the Law; the former Supreme Court Justice stated that there should be constitutional safeguards applicable in Kentucky as well as in New York City.

The American Library Association at its annual meeting passed a resolution asking for a rehearing of the Supreme Court decision in Miller Vs. California, and many of its members were incensed by the Association taking a position on such a controversial issue. What is the proper role of libraries and librarians with regard to censorship and the community?

Let us first put the question into the framework of the status of censorship as an instrument of socialization in the United States. Historically, censorship, both political and moral, has been the rule rather than the exception. In fact, public libraries were created in the image of right-minded men attempting to socialize the common man into an acceptance of right-reason and benevolent rule. Nineteenth

century philosophy contained no belief in the common man; rather, it was the governance of a docile group of well-trained workers by a highly educated elite that comprised the philosophy of emergent industrial capitalism and Social Darwinism.

Early political censorship was highlighted by the imprisonment of William Bradford in Pennsylvania for printing the colony charter and by the trial of John Peter Zenger in New York for seditious libel. In 1800 political censorship was still rampant despite the First Amendment; however, Jeffersonian government brought with it the demise of the Alien and Sedition Acts. Jacksonian Democracy brought a new wave of censorship against abolitionist literature that was only exceeded in fervor by the growing puritannical Comstock movement which swept the nation in the post-Civil War era. During this time, the basic anti-obscenity laws, both state and federal, were enacted. And again, libraries and librarians led the movement against social disease, idleness, drunkenness, sexual excess, and all other forms of moral decadence.

The latest period of repression began in World War I when German language was banned in some schools and Wobblies and labor agitators were prosecuted under the Espionage Acts. However, librarians at this time began to represent a new public, the intellectual or academic elite, and the philosophy became one of library protection of sources of information against the inroads of censorship. The new library philosophy was not antithetical to the former position of librarians as right thinkers and purveyors of the right way to think; rather, it was an expression of a new scientific era that discarded Social Darwinism for empirical science. Censorship must be viewed in terms of the actual patron of the library's service, the self-selected intellectual elite; mass socialization was never really attempted by the library; consequently, there is no real evidence available as to what effect books do have on the public, i.e., good books as opposed to dirty books or bad books.

The Supreme Court has held that a book need not "be utterly without redeeming social value," but rather the test is, "whether the work, taken as a whole lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value." Miller vs. California. Moreover, the Court held the standard to be whether, "the average person, applying contemporary community standard" would find the work, taken as a whole, appeals to the prurient interests. However the Court stated that the conduct must "be specifically defined by the applicable state law, as written or authoritatively construed." In fact, the community standard in the light of national norms has been the rule; convictions are usually reversed because of illegal search and seizures, and the same Court reversed an obscenity conviction under Kentucky law because of confiscation of media without a proper warrant. This does not, however, mean that local and lower courts and state legislatures will not take advantage of the Supreme Court's ruling to enact stricter obscenity laws and to rule unfavorably on censorship, sure that the Supreme Court will deny review of the case.

Should the American Library Association have taken a stand on the issue? The academic profession might say this was an issue of intellectual freedom which means a stand against censorship. Those

in favor of social responsibility might say banning pornography is wrong; therefore, we must actively advocate against the decision. I would say it was an issue affecting library responsibility to the public upon which the library profession must make the issues known to the public. The conclusion is that the question is not whether the Association should take a stand but how it should be done, and my answer is that the library and the librarian has a professional duty to bring information to its users, the public, without censorship and without bias on the part of the librarian. Yes. The American Library Association has not only the right but also the duty to uphold its professional responsibility--the giving of information to its users.

A.L.M.

COMING UP

April 19 - Jerome Yavarovsky from Columbia University will speak to us.

NEW STAFF MEMBERS: Beverly Little, Bindery IV (April 1); Marilyn Seiler, Cataloging V (March 25); Tayyaba Allaudin, Cataloging V (April 1).

NEEDED: a ride to New York City for ALA this July. Can't drive but would share gas and expenses. Also need a roommate for the occasion, to lessen the expense of a couple of nights in New York. (Call Nancy Arthur Collins, Law Library, 257-1729)

POSITION OPENING: Medical Center Library--Technician II.

A unique opportunity. Key punch and related cataloging activities. Knowledge of key punch helpful but not essential. See or call Sara Leech at 233-5949.

The joint Spring meeting of KLA Special Libraries Section and the SLA Kentucky Provisional Chapter will meet on April 25-26 at Shakertown.

NEXT DEADLINE APRIL 17