Things are different now—a new power structure, new "viewpoints and outlooks" and a larger role for the State Library Staff!

Recently I spent a day at the State Library attending to several matters regarding the Farmington Public Library. As I moved from place to place taking care of the various things I had gone there to do, I was reminded of my first visit to the State Library—in November of 1970 when I was visiting New Mexico as a tourist. Since that time there have been some major changes at the State Library—changes that run deep!

- Completion of the A.D. Little Survey completed by March, 1970, but responsible for many of the changes...
- A dynamic new director at the State Library—in November of 1970 he had been on the job only six months; would be responsible for much of the new look...
- Development of the Coordinated Library Systems—making new demands on the State Library...
- Numerous changes in the membership of the State Library Commission...
- Major changes in the makeup of the State Library Staff with a greatly different characteristic and appearance...
- Reorganization of the State Library, its services, programs and staff...

The early years under Ed Dowlin, who became State Librarian on April 13, 1979, were ones of assessment and reorganization. The staff evaluated State Library operations according to New Mexico’s library needs—needs which were indicated in the A.D. Little Survey completed in October 1970. The New Mexico State Library Commission governing the State Library gives the State Library Commission authority to establish "a statewide library system." In the light of this authority and the recommendations of the Little Report, the problem was to determine who was going to do what in order to achieve the statewide goals. Dowlin has strong beliefs concerning problem solving and accountability—"first you try and identify problems, analyze them, and then plan a course of attack." He felt that there would be little or no progress made on library problems unless all librarians pooled their expertise. To this end, a series of conferences were begun late in 1970 at Ghost Ranch where the Coordinated Library Systems plan was hammered out.

The State Library was identified as the coordinating and administrative center of CLS, and thus began preparing for that role. The chances of having a staff the size found in larger, better funded State libraries was small; yet it would take a well organized agency to carry on all the functions incorporated in CLS.

As things developed, the State Library staff agreed on three tasks they felt were best performed on a statewide basis or were most economical when performed centrally:

1) Work toward the design and development of statewide systems.
2) Operate certain support functions as part of the systems—i.e., operate the State Library's portion of CLS.
3) Extend library services to those areas where others are not operating—when local service has shown itself capable of performing a library service, the State Library would support, but not duplicate, these efforts.

The State Library has re-arranged itself many times over in order to fulfill these statewide commitments as well as to offset the ever present in-roads of havoc being made on library programs by having to depend so heavily on federal funds. This restructuring has resulted in three basic units—two responsible for systems design and development, and carrying out specific programs, while the third provides the necessary administrative backup and support.

The first of these divisions is the new Information Services, Resources and Systems Division, formed by the merger of the Technical Services Division and the Information Services and Resources Division. ISRS has the task of operating the State Library's portion of CLS, functioning as the hub of the network to which librarians refer requests for information or resources that are not available locally. The work of the division is done by three separate, yet interrelated sections:

a) NEMISYS Operations Center (the systems section of ISRS) operates the communications terminals.

b) NEMISYS Acquisitions Center for the State Library headquarters and six bookmobiles.

c) NEMISYS Division attempts to procure answers from the headquarters collection before initiating the borrowing of materials from other libraries in New Mexico and the United States.

Section serves as a special library providing SSI services to State government, gives reference service to libraries and the public, and maintains the library resources to small public libraries, film, books, and other materials.

(Continued on Pg. 3.)
President's Column...

The Summer of '73 has been unique for your President. The highlight of all activities occurred July 5th when Freddy and I had a 7-pound 6-ounce son, David Joseph. Also appearing on the scene was David Edward Clark, son of Alan Clark, born June 22nd, and a new patron for Albuquerque Public Library.

The Library scene has been active these past months. The U.S. Congress passed a continuing resolution in June funding state library agencies through October 1st. Then the June decision of the U.S. Supreme Court has caused much discussion and concern — intellectual freedom and libraries will be an issue for all of our 1974 conference in Albuquerque at the Four Seasons.

The Library Development Committee last year under its chairman, Doris Cox, has provided the kickoff program for the 1973-74 NMLA year. This year's program is devoted to a needs assessment of public libraries and rural areas. Workshops were held October 5th at Gallup and October 19th at Las Vegas; others will be held November 2nd at Las Cruces and November 16th at Roswell. The State Library and NMLA hopes that there will be participation by librarians and interested persons so that there will be a better understanding of New Mexico libraries and their needs.

In June I mailed questionnaires to municipal libraries concerning the possibility of city librarians becoming an active sub-division of the New Mexico Municipal League. Hopefully an announcement will be forthcoming this year. If we do become associate members, public librarians will have a responsibility to make it an active participation.

Public libraries have received their basic grant of $1,500 in State Aid from the State Library. The State Library Commission met September 19th and allocated supplementary and special purpose grants. Grants for all public librarians will be publicized this State Aid and at the same time send a letter of thanks to their representatives and senators who supported House Bill 81.

The Trustee Division under Chairman Sally Burkstaller is eagerly seeking new trustees for NMLA. If you know of a trustee or an interested person, try to get them involved in NMLA. Mrs. Burkstaller has been writing to trustees and I encourage everyone to sign up trustees as members of NMLA.

I hope that this year will be an active year for NMLA and this can only be done through your active participation.

For Trustees:

The NMLA Conference held this past Spring at Las Cruces brought mixed feelings. There were only eight trustees in attendance — not really enough for a quorum; and bringing us to a year of decision.

My feeling is that either we trustees get involved and support NMLA and libraries or we should dissolve the Trustees Division.

It is my goal this year to attempt one more time to make our library board a viable group. Therefore I have asked each library board in the State to appoint one member to be a direct representative to the Division. This individual will take it upon himself to act as a liaison between the Division and the local board by keeping informed about matters relating to trustees as presented in the state newsletter and mailings from the Division itself. He will then relay that information to other members of the local board at board meetings. The individual appointed should also plan to attend next year's conference in Albuquerque or see that a substitute does. I plan to have an informative and interesting program for those trustees present.

Those library boards which have not already done so should appoint their liaison member and send the name to me. I will keep you informed of NMLA activities throughout the year.

Mara, Steve Burkstaller, Chairman NMLA Trustee Division 600 North Lee Avenue Roswell, New Mex. 88201

Laura Ingalls Wilder Award

The Laura Ingalls Wilder Award will be given for the fifth time in 1975. The Children's Services Division of ALA presents the award every five years to "an author or illustrator whose books, published in the United States, have over a period of years made a substantial and lasting contribution to literature for children." Anyone involved with children's books — child or adult, parent or professional — is invited to send nominations by June 1, 1974 to Caroline Fuller Bauer, Laura Ingalls Wilder Award Committee, 1607 Front Drive, Lake Oswego, Oregon 97035.

Eben Magazine for June, 1973 has an article on Robert Wedgeworth, Executive Secretary of ALA.

Area Meetings Fall '73

New Mexico librarians have chosen a community and rural Needs Assessment as their priority for this year. NMLA and the State Library have prepared a method and bring it to you at this Fall's Area Meetings. A profile of your community has been prepared and will be ready for your discussion at the meetings — Why have you a Needs Assessment? How will we do it? What will follow from it?

Schedule:

Gallup ............. October 5th Las Vegas ......... October 19th Las Cruces ......... November 2nd Roswell ......... November 16th Albuquerque ......... November 30th

SWLA Executive Secretary Selected

The Search Committee for an Executive Secretary recommended Marion Mitchell to the Executive Board for the position of permanent Executive Secretary of SWLA. The Executive Board approved her appointment, and she began her duties on August 6, 1973.

Mrs. Mitchell recently received her M.L.S. from North Texas State University Library School. She is the wife of an executive vice president of the public relations firm of Tracy Locke. She has had extensive experience in community educational and library activities.

PRENTICE-HALL IMPACT AWARD

June Harwell, Chairman of the Library Living Division, NMLA reminds public librarians of the IMPACT Award proposed by Dwight Myers at the Las Cruces Conference. Public libraries wishing to compete for this years award — to be given for an innovative method of providing services to the business community — should submit their project in writing, detailing the program and its results to: Denis Roark, Chairman, NMLA Membership Committee, Eastern New Mexico University Library, Roswell, New Mexico 88201. February 15th, 1974 is the deadline for applying. See the May, 1973 issue of NEW MEXICO LIBRARIES for details.
Different Look — Continued From Page 1.

The responsibility of the second division, the Library Development Division, was to develop a statewide information system: to extend library services to those areas where others are not available, to extend LSNA and State grant projects. This completely revamped division consolidated the collections of all funders under two heads:

a) With the need for specialized knowledge with respect to a statewide information system, a Systems Coordinator and a Staff Coordinator were added. This coordinator established the groundwork for network development which gave birth to NEMISYS, and is continuing research and development of an information system for the State.

b) All programming and consulting services as well as federal projects dependent upon LSNA — public library services for physically handicapped persons and for institutions — were transferred under a Program Coordinator. This section also administers State aid appropriated through the Public Library finance Act. It issues the book review center; plans and coordinates staff development and statewide programming; and analyzes public library statistics.

The third major unit is comprised of the Administrative Services Officer and his staff which provides fiscal and personnel backup and support necessary in helping the other divisions accomplish their objectives. It is this office's responsibility to see that the lack of fiscal or personnel information does not hamper operations.

Looking back over the past two years, the most noticeable changes are those that occurred in the administrative staff — people are not always as important as things! "The people who fill the major positions in the new organizational setup help decide what needs to be done — based on a systematic approach to problem solving — and must prove they can get results." The staff are now better aware of what is occurring in the Library Development Division but they occurred in other libraries as well. Today new leaders fill the major positions in the library as they are perceived and known as the problems change. The staff — all essentially new this year — display a calm, methodical approach to problem solving.

The new division head, recently given the title of Associate State Librarian for Development, is Esta Lee Albright, formerly Staff Development Coordinator. She has a background in university, school and public libraries, and as an archivist at the Smithsonian Institute.

Doris Gregor, who has been in the Division for three years, is known to most of us. She considers herself the "curator" of the Examination Center for Trustees in the State Library.

The newest newcomer brings us to the Information Services, Resources and Systems Division, Louise Miller, a former librarian in Pennsylvania, took over the reign of the old Information Services and Resources Division in October, 1973.

NEMISYS Operations are headed by Mary Borland, a twenty-year veteran of the staff with a thorough understanding of technical services. Mary is known to nearly all the librarians around the state. The Information Services and Resources Section of NELDA is headed by Sandra Esquivel.

The Administrative Services Officer is Jerry Catanzaro, a longtime staffer in the former Local Government Division.

In June, 1973, the United States Supreme Court decided five cases which seriously affect the application of the First Amendment to materials having sexual content. The effect of these decisions is rather ominous for libraries. Collectively they effect a fundamental change in the nature of local First Amendment guarantees and substance, they change previous laws in the following ways:

1) works which, while having some redeeming social value, but which do not taken as a whole, have "serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value" shall be subject to censorship;

2) the determination of the seriousness of an issue is the value of a work to be made by the jury on the basis of "contemporary community standards" applied by the "average person";

3) the "contemporary community standards" to be applied by the "average per- son" are not those of the First Amendment to materials having sexual content. The effect of these decisions is rather ominous for libraries. Collectively they effect a fundamental change in the nature of local First Amendment guarantees and substance, they change previous laws in the following ways:

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Executive Board Meetings

Business conducted during the Executive Board Meetings, July 13-14 and September 21-22, 1973, included:

- Discussion of the 1974 NMLA Conference theme and agenda.
- Discussion of "Library Service in New Mexico: A Needs Assessment" as the theme of the 1974 Conference.
- Discussion of a letter from the Chairman of the Trustee's Committee to form a more active trustee group.
- Discussion of difficulties concerning the handling, preserving, and retrieval of New Mexico Libraries Newsletter for discussion. Publications and funding were asked to look into ways the publication could be preserved without changing the format.
- The Legislation and Intellectual Freedom Committee Chairman presented a resolution of the state's federal funding and what had been done in the last months by the L&IF Committee.
- The General Publicity and National Library Week Committee reported work on a New Mexico National Library Week poster. An artist had been approached to submit a design. The poster would be sold to pay the costs involved, any profits made would be placed in the scholarship fund.
- Future NMLA Conference sites were approved: 1974 Albuquerque, 1975 Socorro, 1976 Santa Fe.
- Approval of a resolution to committee to revise the New Mexico interlibrary loan code.
- Asked the Scholarship and Recruitment Committee to revise their guidelines for distribution of scholarship money.
- Approved the 1973-74 NMLA budget.
- Heard the State Librarian present the 1973-74 budget requested by the State Library for the 1973-74 Fiscal Year, along with a breakdown of State Library priorities. His presentation indicated that the State Library's responsibilities lie in areas other than funding in the past, and that the focus should be on developing a statewide network of planning, referral centers, and collaborative librarianship.

For all nominations for distinguished Librarian of the Year or Trustee of the Year should be submitted to Denis Roark, Chairman of the Membership Committee by February, 1974.

Intellectual Freedom Legislation

The American Library Association has filed a petition calling for a review of the First Amendment to materials having sexual content. The effect of these decisions is rather ominous for libraries. Collectively they effect a fundamental change in the nature of local First Amendment guarantees and substance, they change previous laws in the following ways:

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PEOPLE, PLACES HAPPENINGS

Kenneth Romero, formerly of the Northwestern Regional Library, is now the attendance officer for Los Lunas Schools. Eugene Koskey, University of Albuquerque has moved to Wisconsin. John Becher, NMSU Library has taken a position at the University of Illinois. Laurie Samborg has moved to San Antonio, Texas. Amanda Bible, El Paso Public Library is now a county librarian in North Carolina. Joan Schaefer joined the staff of the Lovelace Medical Library in August. Noel Ross retires at the end of September from the State Library.

Woody Anderson is the Young Adult Librarian at Farmington. Lawrence Clark Powell is in New Mexico researching a new book of essays on southwest authors. Jane Gillentine is now Program Coordinator at State Library. William Scholtz has been appointed Systems Coordinator at the State Library. David O. Kelly, UNM Zimmerman Library retired June 30th. Mary Lucile Moore joined the UNM Library staff in September as Head of Special Collections. Velma Coppock has resigned as Librarian at Springer Public Library.

UNM Zimmerman Library has given an important collection of letters, clippings and papers relating to the breaking of the Teapot Dome scandal. Lucy Ramsey will be leaving Lovingston High School for a new position in North Carolina. Donald Foster, Assistant Professor of Librarianship at the UNM has published Prints in the Public Library (Scarrow Press, 1973) a basic handbook for librarians in setting up a print collection.

Charles Rushion is now Education Librarian and Melinda Davidson the Catalog Librarian at ENMU Library. Barbara Allen has joined the State Library staff as Public Library Consultant. Robert Vore recently joined the library staff at the College of Santa Fe.

Dowlin has been elected to the Executive Board of the Association of State Library Agencies; also, he recently began a term on the ALA's Legislation Committee. Doris Cox is now librarian at Carlsbad High School, replacing Mildred Neal, who retired at the end of the past school year.

Mary Lindley replaces Doris at Carlsbad Middle High. Branigan Library in Las Cruces is undergoing a $140,000 renovation project and struggling to keep open despite many obstacles. Renovation conclusion is November 25th.

The New Mexico Humanities Council was funded July 1st with a $150,000 grant. The New Mexico State Library has a 20-minute slide program entitled "A Very Special Card" which is an exceptional presentation and is available for loan to libraries. Contact Sandra Esquivel at the State Library for more information. Millie Harburg, Chairman of the School Libraries, Children and Young Adult Service Division has recently become Millie Boyle. The New Mexico Bookkinder have contributed $500 to the NMLA scholarship program.

NMLA is planning a slide show and photos display at the 1974 conference. Pictures of libraries, summer reading programs, staff, members, buildings, etc. are now being called for by Mary Lindley, 708 North Oak, Carlsbad 88220.