REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Board of Directors held its spring meetings in Ann Arbor, April 24-25. By meeting there, we were able to meet personally our new administrative officer, Ms. Dana Hull, who reported for work in the business office April 4. The Search Committee unanimously selected her as its first choice among the applicants, and we are delighted that she has accepted the position. Since the close of the Nashville meeting, the office has been managed by Bill Weichlein, who will train Ms. Hull in her new duties. In the interests of continuity, he has been reappointed Executive Secretary by the Board to serve until the end of the Boston meeting, March 4, 1978. Ms. Hull has degrees in both music and library science; she sings, plays the organ, has worked in music libraries, and has been an MLA member in the past.

New member-at-large assignments include asking Maria Calderisi to act as resource person for the Board in matters relating to IFLA and its new statutes. After the first report, Maria was designated MLA’s official voting delegate to IFLA, succeeding Jane Franck, who served as our representative for several years. Since Clara Steuermann has been invited to present a paper on music libraries at the IFLA meeting in Brussels, MLA will have more than one representative on the science for the first time. In planning how best to participate in IFLA activities, we need more eyes and ears to report on section meetings. Members who plan to be in Brussels are urged to inform Maria (10 Drayway, Apt. 1003, Ottawa, Canada K2P 1C7) or Clara, who between them will coordinate our activities there.

The Nominating Committee for our next election is composed of Mary Wallace Davidson, Jerry Emanuel, Ray Reeder, with Kathy Logan as chairperson. This year we elect a vice-president/president-elect, secretary, and three members-at-large. Suggestions for possible candidates will be welcomed by Kathy for consideration by the committee. Other new appointments include Barbara Henry to succeed Carolyn Hunter in charge of the placement service, William Lichtcrsenger to succeed Edward Waters as MLA representative to the Universal Serials and Bok exchange, and Jack Ralston as chairperson of the 50th Anniversary Commemoration Committee to plan events for 1981.

In response to the sentiments expressed at the business meeting in Nashville, the changes in dues have been rescinded and referred to the Finance Committee for further study. A new rate for retired members, however, was set by the Board at $12.00 per year.

I shall represent MLA at a meeting of ALA affiliates in Detroit on June 15. Moreover, I have been invited to attend meetings of the audiovisual committees of the Public Library Association, the Association of College and Research Libraries, and the Resources and Technical Services Division of ALA, the first time these committees have welcomed a representative of MLA to their discussions. For a report, see the next NEWSLETTER.

You will be receiving the program for the Santa Barbara meeting soon. Plan now to attend.

Dena Epstein
President


The International Folk Music Council’s 24th Conference will be 13-15 August 1977 at Honolulu, Hawaii.

The International Association of Music Libraries will hold its 1977 Congress in Mainz, 4-9 September.


NASHVILLE 1977 (CONT.)

OPEN FORUM: AT LAST, A MUSIC IN PRINT?

The first topic on the agenda at the Open Forum was music-in-print, a bibliographical phantom whose latter-day pursuers gather periodically - somewhat in the spirit of the scientifically equipped trappers of the Loch Ness monster - to plot yet another attempt to capture.

A panel led by MLA president Clara Steuermann included members of the Music Publishers Association and of MLA. From the former there were Walter Bendix (C.P. Peters), Joseph Boinin (Joseph Boinin, Inc.), Frank Moore (Novello), Corbett Evans (Peer-Southern and standing in for MPA president Ronald Freed who was ill and unable to attend), and John Rice (Boosey & Hawkes); from MLA there were Walter Gerboth and Melva Peterson. Mrs. Steuermann added that she had received a letter from another, an obvious advocate of such a project, who was unfortunately unable to attend, Mack Resnick of Musicdata, publishers of the series that has begun with Choral Music in Print and Organ Music in Print.

Recent meetings of the joint MLA/MPA committee have included some discussion of publishing a music-in-print serially, with both NOTES and the MPA Newsletter having been suggested and subsequently rejected. The main concern has been how to expand coverage. A plan for doing so opened the panel discussion. Presented by Mr. Moore, it consists of a computer produced list from the first Morningside Associates, the compilers of the New York Times information bank. Kraus-Thompson would publish the list, an estimated two volumes of 5,300 pages, every two years at a cost of $125. There would be 200,000-500,000 titles. Such a project would require a market of 2,000 sets. There was a hand-out of a single sheet approximating the proposed format, and questions arose immediately about the detail of citations, which Moore felt would be more refined than that found in Musicdata publications. He expressed the hope, in fact, that music librarians would participate in an editorial capacity. The list would be compiled initially from catalogues provided by music publishers (MPA member firms), who would thereafter maintain currency by informing the database of additions and deletions.

Questions of both coverage and format occupied the rest of the discussion from the panel and from the floor.

(Cont. on p.2)
Mr. Bendix noted that another catalogue whose coverage would overlap that of Musicdata raises the matter of the exclusion of European publications, which, Mr. Boonin observed, constitute 50 to 60 percent of the music printed. He added that the identifying words of those titles are not in English. A music-in-print needs a format in which titles are easily discernible, and thus before producing one we must think of how to codify the uncontrollable mass of bibliographic data. David Fenike asked if there will be any attempt to ensure that what is listed is actually available, raising the issue of legal implications for both publisher and consumer of omitting and retaining titles. He also asked if the publisher listed will be the original or the American agent. The original, perhaps coded, seemed to be the answer.

Miss Peterson introduced the subject of standards for publishers' catalogues, which has also been discussed by the MLA/MAA committee. Michael Keller read a list of 30 items which constitute a preliminary draft of guidelines for this most essential means of conveying information. Mr. Bendix gave assurance that members of MPA are indeed attempting to improve their catalogues, noting that there are also many German catalogues which are not much better than in the past, to the extent that entries are sometimes in English. Dana Epstein asked if that meant that the catalogue is in one language while the title page of the publication is in another. Yes, but more and more frequently both title page and foreword are bilingual, and trilingual presentation is being contemplated. Jay Shulman observed that with the increase in detail that is being asked of catalogues it may be that publishers will have to charge for them. Walter Gerboth said that in his present form Mr. Keller's list is not long enough, that publishers should not accept it, and that they are not so, the size of the proposed music-in-print would be far too great.

Mr. Boonin claimed that, after all, though there are some gains, the present state-of-the-art is not as good, and he cited several examples including the catalogues by Margaret Parish and Robert King. Miss Peterson wondered if we would prefer classified lists, to which Mr. Moore replied that no decision has been made about that, but the information in the data bank could be retrieved in any order. Why not microfiche? The list was originally planned as such, but no longer. Charles Slater suggested producing a PIA, which would not only give an idea of the size of the literature but would provide an opportunity to test the market. Geraldo Orsario New England Conservatory of Music

OPEN FORUM (CONT.)

A somewhat abbreviated open forum, chaired by Pauline Shaw, followed the multifaceted discussion of the possibility of a music-in-print project. Of major concern was the revision of the copyright law that becomes effective in 1978. Some further changes and clarifications are expected before next year, however, and individuals and institutions interested in receiving information on such matters are encouraged to write to the Copyright Office (Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20559) to have their name added to the mailing list.

Several comments on advantages and disadvantages of audio cassettes prompted queries regarding the concept of fair use as defined in the copyright revision. Current duplication procedures and circulation policies in some libraries may be questionable depending upon the exact interpretation of fair use, market availability, and deterioration of materials. Carolyn Hunter volunteered to seek legal clarification on this point; her report is to be found elsewhere in this issue of the NEWSLETTER. Hopefully further guidelines will be established before the summer meeting in Santa Barbara, at which time the subject of copyright is to be treated in more detail.

In answer to a request for aid in selecting audio equipment, Lenore Coral strongly urged employing an audio consultant. Expertise provided by such a professional can influence the overall successfulness of design as well as assist in preparing carefully worded specifications for equipment bids to assure that the product purchased actually possesses the desired capabilities.

Gordon Rowley
Northern Illinois University

PUBLIC LIBRARIANS ACTIVE AT NASHVILLE

In Nashville, following cocktails, banquet, and entertainment by a gospel choir, a group of eleven public music librarians, invited but serious, met to discuss their common concerns and the possibility of forming an interest group in MLA for public librarians. The following statement was drafted and signed: Mary Ashe of San Francisco Public Library read the statement at the business meeting.

"We, as public librarians, having convened at the Music Library Association meeting in Nashville, wish to bring to the attention of the Board of Directors of the Music Library Association our concern for the special interests of public music librarians and our desire to be represented in the administrative structure of the Association. We wish to be recognized as an interest group in the Music Library Association and to have meetings of the public librarians' interest group listed on the program for national meetings."

Carol Mcllwain, District of Columbia PL
Irwin Kraus, NYPL
Clarice Ostertag, D.C. PL (retired)
Melville J. Ostertag, D.C. PL (retired)
Ida Reed, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh
Thomas E. Moore, Houston PL
Marion Lounsberry, Denver PL
Mary Alice Rhea, Tampa PL
Forrest Alter, Flint PL
Donna Mendro, Dallas PL
Mary Ashe, San Francisco PL
Harris Jackson, Atlanta PL
Irel R. Carpeson, Ann Arbor PL
Katheryn M. Lewis, Detroit PL
Richard LeSuer, Ann Arbor PL
Arlene V. Root, Wichita PL
Cheryl Osborn, Greater Victoria PL

MLA officers have expressed an interest in the formation of an informal group and have supported the proposition that public librarians' activities be listed in the program for national meetings; they are definitely in favor of increased involvement of public librarians in MLA.

We public librarians must make others in MLA aware of our concerns through participation in national meetings and Chapter activities and by voicing opinions on the formation of an interest group and what we feel such a group might do to further communication among public librarians in MLA. Please send reactions and ideas to co-coordinators pro tempora Cheryl Osborn (Greater Victoria Public Library, 794 Yates Street, Victoria, British Columbia, V8W 1A8 Canada) or Carol Mcllwain (District of Columbia Public Library, 901 G Street, Washington, D.C. 20001).

A GOOD DISONNANCE LIKE A MAN

As an added attraction a special showing of the 60 minute color film "A Good Dissonance Like a Man" was held Wednesday evening for MLA'ers. The film, a fascinating documentation of the life, careers, and struggles of Charles Ives, was produced and directed by Theodore Timreck and presented through the New York Foundation for the Arts. It is available for showing from Betsey Stang, Theodore Timreck Productions, 75 E. 50th St., New York, NY 10022; phone (212) 685-1154.

Stephen M. Fry, UCLA
FRIDAY NIGHT AT THE (NEW) GRAND OLé OPRY

The Grand Ole Opry is a living monument to Country Music, even though its present home is a commodious and comfortable hall seating nearly 5,000 applauding fans. For over a half century, Country Music has poured from the stage of Ryman Auditorium and the new Opry House over the waves of WSM. The performances of Country Music stars Little Jimmy Dickens, Lester Flatt, Roy Acuff, Del Reeves, Ray Dillon, Sru Phillips, Barbara Mandrell and Jeanne Pruett and others demonstrated in vivid contrast the range of musical styles found in Country Music of the 1970's. The flashy costumes and mannerisms dazzled the eye while the extraordinary amplification frizzled the ear.

Country Music is described by its devotees as the commercial extension of folk traditions and it was obvious immediately that the entire show was commercially oriented. The evening's program was broken into 15 and 30 minute segments with a liberal sprinkling of commercials. The incongruity of having a spell to sell chewing tobacco framing a religious number seemed to pass unnoticed. The professionalism of the performing stars and groups was obvious and apparent informality was a put-on in a program which was tightly structured and carefully paced and timed. Some might have complained that the Friday night show was on the long side (7:30 to 11:00 PM) but consider the announced Saturday show (6:00 to 12:00 PM). This is Country Music at its best played in its home town by its top stars. Exciting, heady stuff!

Jack L. Ralston
University of Missouri at Kansas City

BUSINESS MEETING

The MLA business meeting brought to light many new activities and changes in the organization, including a restructuring of the finances, new board members, a clearinghouse for administrative and statistical information (Ohio State University, is in charge) and the inevitable change of administration. Clara Steuermann (Schoenberg Institute, USC) to a thunderous ovation from the standing MLA audience, passed her presidential gavel and responsibilities on to Dena Epstein (University Chicago).

After an evening outing to "Grand Ole Opry," Nashville's country answer to the New York Met, MLA members were not anxious to leave and the audience at the important MLA Cataloging and Classification Committee was quite large. Don Seibert (Syracuse University) presided over the meeting and, with admiral aplomb, kept the scores of reports from subcommittees and project spokespersons moving at a sprightly pace. Most of the important reports will appear in the MLA Cataloging Bulletin.

This was an exceptionally interesting and informative conference, one which seemed to satisfy the rather different expectations of MLA members from all types of library situations.

Stephen M. Fry
University of California at Los Angeles

IAML/US

Chairman Vincent Duckles outlined the guidelines which will be followed for the distribution of travel funds for the Mainz conference. Priority will be given to official delegates and program participants. Attempts are being made to obtain travel assistance grants from ACLS and CRL.

According to the Treasurer's Report given by Secretary/Treasurer Don L. Roberts, the current U.S. Branch membership totals 205 institutions and 202 individuals. Chairman Duckles announced that the U.S. Branch will be well-represented in the forthcoming IAML election. Nominees include Barry Brook for President, and Rita Benten, Donald W. Krummel, and Geraldine Ostrove for Vice-President.

There were a series of reports on the Bergen Conference. Garrett Bowles reported that most of the Cataloging Commission's activities were devoted to a discussion of TSBd for non-book materials. Don Krummel stated that the Research Libraries Commission discussed preservation and management while the Committee on Bibliographic Discussion was concerned with terminology and a bibliography of music publishers' catalogs. A report on American activities for the latter was given by Lenore Coral. Barry Brook discussed the recent activities of RISM, RISM, and RISM. Otto Albrecht called for additional entries for RISM.

Don Roberts described a series of national papers on the training for music librarianship which was given in the Commission on Education and Training. Don Leavitt and Gerald Gibson indicated that the Record Commission deliberated on the establishment of international standards for discographic description and worked with the Cataloging Commission on the TSBd for non-book materials.

Charles Lindahl discussed the revision of volume 1 of RISM C, "The Directory of North American Music Libraries." The revision will include an expanded coverage and will no longer be limited to collections of pre-1800 items. Chairman Duckles announced that the next meeting of the IAML-US Branch would be in Santa Barbara in connection with the August MLA meeting. Harald Heichmann and Anders Tönn have been invited to speak.

Carol Mekkau described the activities of the Public Libraries Commission and requested suggestions for this Commission's proposed basic list of music.

Don L. Roberts
Northwestern University

NEWS FROM THE CHAPTERS

CHESAPEAKE
At the chapter's fall meeting, held at Fairfax County Public Library, Fairfax, Virginia, November 13, 1976, the election of officers for 1976-77 was held. New officers are: Thelma Diercks, chairperson (Hollins College, Va.); Anita Lamkin, vice chairperson (Fairfax County Public Library); and Harry Price, secretary treasurer (Library of Congress).

Our spring meeting was held jointly with the Washington Chapter of the American Musicological Society at Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. on April 16, 1977. Papers given were:
1) Early copyright records and the musicologist (Carolyn Hunter, Copyright Office, Library of Congress), a discussion of the history of copyright and suggestions as to how the musicologist may find much information in these records that is of great value.
2) Advances in the use of timpani in the early 19th century orchestra (Dr. Edmund A. Bowles, IBM), a discussion of the development of the instrument and its utilization in the music of the period.

cont. on p.9
ARE MUSIC LIBRARIANS INTERCHANGEABLE?

EXCHANGING JOBS: A CASE STUDY

THREE REPORTS

Part 1: Exchange of Positions for Six Months Between the Oberlin Conservatory Library and the Cornwall County Library

The plan is for Judith A. Coon, Oberlin Conservatory Librarian in charge of recordings, to exchange positions and salaries with Ann Tomkins, Music and Drama Librarian of Cornwall County, England. It is also anticipated that standards and costs of living (except for local transportation) will be exchanged. Thus I will be living in Miss Tomkins' apartment in Truro and working in St. Austell fifteen miles away.

The individuals concerned in the exchange will gain on-the-job experience being music librarians in totally different settings. The public versus academic setting is just as important as the United States versus England background. Ann and I will have an opportunity to learn new techniques of dealing with patrons and materials. The institution and their staff will benefit by working closely with a librarian of different training, background and emphasis in dealing with music library procedures and problems. I will have an opportunity to deal with the problem of publicity and "selling" the public library while Miss Tomkins will be able to learn more about the librarian-as-teacher in dealing with Oberlin's somewhat more captive audience. I will also have the opportunity to deal more extensively with music and the general public than is the case at Oberlin, although I do function as a reference librarian concerned with books and scores in addition to phonorecords in my current job. Ann will also be able to learn about current automation techniques through Oberlin's involvement with OCLC. The skills which each of us brings to our temporary position have already been evaluated and accepted by the libraries involved.

The exchange is looking upon this exchange as a pilot program in considering a broad range of further exchanges. If the exchange is successful for both the individuals and institutions involved, the library intends to use the exchange as an ongoing means of staff development. Several projects have already been discussed. We are considering an exchange between Oberlin and Ysgol Gwynedd College where, perhaps, the cultural differences will be the focal point. Relations have been established with Purdue University whereby exchange of technical processing librarians is envisioned. Oberlin's involvement with OCLC and Purdue's experience with LC classification are the obvious drawing cards for this proposal. There is also a possibility of an exchange with Earlham College. In this case the emphasis would be on public services, as both colleges have tried some innovative techniques in bringing the librarian and the library into the traditional classroom approach of teaching. Again OCLC would be involved, as Earlham is currently considering joining the network.

The exchange is by far the most important part of the entire project; however, any value in working in a different environment will be increased immeasurably by comparison with yet other institutions in England. The plan for the rest of my project is not to look only superficially at music collections, but to stay long enough to observe techniques, talk with involved staff and look at catalogs, collections, and physical plans. Another advantage to this approach is that I will also be able to share my American experience with European librarians.


While I am getting an in-depth look at an English county music library, I would like to supplement this with short visits to various English music library centers. In all cases I am interested not only in collections but also in processing and methods of serving the public. Comparisons between British and American music libraries should be most instructive and interesting. I am already well acquainted with many of the major U.S. music libraries, including such institutions as the Library of Congress, New York Public Library, Yale University Library, Indiana University Library, Sibley Music Library at the Eastman School of Music, etc.

As presently projected, I am planning for these visits to occur while I am working in Cornwall. Weekends, compensatory time, released time granted by Cornwall, and vacation time will be used to make these visits since I will essentially be working a full-time job for six months. I am planning four relatively short trips from Cornwall. I am also assuming that Cornwall would undertake to sponsor any visits to the nearby center of Plymouth for inter-county comparison.

One by-product of this program will be that I will be better qualified to assist Oberlin music faculty in establishing necessary scholarly ties or alliances with important English music libraries. Any personal contact helps greatly in establishing working relationships with other institutions. Another benefit of the travel is that I will be able to make personal contact with certain key phonorecord and score distributors for the Oberlin Conservatory.

Advantages of an Exchange

Each exchange gains different experience which should improve or enhance job performance upon return. New experiences always change the outlook of an incumbent. An exchange probably will bring a new outlook on how to solve some problems, and may make the incumbent more aware of some problems that had tended to be pushed aside before.

Each institution gains the advantage of a fresh outlook on procedures, duties, problems and even job definition from the exchangee without being bound to follow his/her recommendations.

Even if the exchangee cannot carry out many projects in the time limits of the exchange, he/she can identify problems and outline possible solutions. Thus an exchangee almost always plays the role of a consultant or advisor, but there is time enough to really try solutions and see possible implications.

An exchange forces everyone involved with the position concerned to take a more objective look at it. Almost paradoxically, all parties will also take a closer (or more detailed) look at the position concerned than ever before. Exchanges force reports and instructions are forced to bring some order to their thoughts about the job. Supervisors and others reading reports end up with an increased awareness of the job - its potentials and problems. They may even become aware of what is essentially done in the position exchanged.

General Recommendations on Carrying Out the Actual Details of an Exchange

Primary contact

Have one person in each institution responsible for arranging all the details of the exchange. This should be someone other than the person exchanging, of course. I would recommend the direct supervisor of the person involved if at all possible. Obviously the contact will have to be responsible for co-ordinating and talking to many agencies (government and otherwise) involved in the exchange.

Dates

Specify as soon as possible the exact dates of each exchangee's work. If an overlap in work time is desirable or even if the time coincide exactly, get authorization in writing of exactly whom is paid for working when. Spell out in writing in advance any vacation and travel time granted to an exchangee by each institution.

Salary and fringe benefits

Salary, income tax, retirement (superannuation), health insurance, life insurance and any special benefits should be clearly stated in writing prior to the beginning
of the exchange. Be sure that each institution and agency involved in the exchange knows about it in advance. Proof checks should arrive on time, made out in the proper amount and with the proper deductions. Make arrangements ahead of time for the assignment of social security or national health numbers. Fill out the appropriate tax form prior to the beginning of the exchange. Arrange to have any tax or retirement refunds made before the exchange leaves.

Duties

Try to balance the professional experience and personal life styles of the exchanges as much as possible. The actual routine jobs expected of each exchangee should be specified in writing in advance. A list of possible special projects should be prepared. The exchangee can (or should be able to) pick and choose among these special projects after having been on the job for a month or two. Try to have similar types of housing and transportation to exchange if possible. Be sure that all personal exchanges and responsibilities are also spelled out by the exchangees in writing ahead of time. It may work out very well to exchange quite disparate styles of living, but be sure that each exchangee knows exactly what (s)he is getting into.

Time involved

The optimum time for an exchange would be nine months. This allows time to get settled in and to actually complete some special projects. Be sure that there is a blend of regular duties and special assignments of projects for each exchangee.

Instructions

It should be the responsibility of each exchangee to leave clearly defined written instructions for procedures followed in the routine jobs to be carried out by the other exchangee.

Report

The final report of the exchange is extremely important. A daily work diary kept by each exchangee is invaluable in writing this report, and on sorting out final impressions gathered from an exchange experience.

Publicity

Publicize an exchange as much as possible in any way you can think of. This should help to stimulate interest in your services. Also it may open up some interesting social contacts for the exchangees.

International exchanges

Special visas or work permits are needed for aliens in international exchanges. It takes some time to get this type of paperwork taken care of. Obviously the exchangees must also get passports and may need help in this as well. Aliens in England must register with local police and will need help in arranging this. Be sure that the visa is arranged for a long enough time period to take in travel and other considerations. It is very time-consuming to send in a passport and visa to the Home Office for an extension. Each institution (or the primary contact person) should arrange to have the exchangee register with a doctor and should explain medical rights and procedures to them. The exchangee will probably need help in contacting a bank -- this should be arranged before beginning the exchange. Be sure that all travel details are arranged and that someone meets the exchangee upon arrival both in the living and working situations. It would be helpful if the contact person could introduce the exchangee to stores, shopping procedures, banking procedures and driving and other transportation conventions.

Correspondence

If the exchange involves an overseas country always use airmail for any correspondence relating to the exchange. It is a bit more expensive, but delays of four to six weeks in even the most minor details can make it difficult to arrange the exchange. It can also mean that expensive trans-Atlantic phone calls have to be used.

Judith A. Coon
Oberlin College Conservatory

Ann Tomkins (B.A., University of Sheffield; Diploma of Librarianship, University of Wales), a former student of David Batty (now at McGill University, Montreal) was invited to take part in interviews for the position of Conservatory Librarian. The charge of score cataloging this position had been held by Robert Filgate, who had resigned in order to accept the position of head of the public library in Biddeford, Maine.

At the time of the interview which took place about mid-July, 1976, Ted Johnson suggested that, since Ann was not interested in a long-term commitment (i.e., two years or more), an exchange might be arranged. Judy Coon welcomed the opportunity to be the other person in the exchange.

Visa and financial arrangements were among the first concerns. In December of 1974, we had all the papers ready to send in application for an H-1 visa ("Alien of distinguished merit and ability to perform services of an exceptional nature requiring such merit and ability"). However, we found out from David Nog, then Assistant Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and Foreign Adviser, that it would be more expeditious and appropriate for Ann to apply for an exchange visitor visa. This required that Ann fill out a "Certificate of eligibility for Exchange Visitor (J-1) Status," from the Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. She sent this certificate to the consulate nearest her and obtained the visa without any problem.

Both Ann and Judy applied to the Council on Library Resources for travel grants. Neither application was successful. However, Judy applied to the Oberlin College for a Powers Travel Grant and was successful.

Permission for Ann to take part in the exchange had to be obtained from her supervisor, Roger Hale, who then petitioned to the Staffing Committee of the Cornwall County Council. The request to the committee was for an unpaid leave of absence for six months; these terms seemed the most likely to be approved. (There was concern at a later point about whether six months was a long enough period for the exchange, but it seemed clear at the outset that six months was more likely to be approved than a full year.) This request was made under the assumption that for the period of the exchange Ann would receive Judy's normal salary and Judy would receive Ann's. (This proved to be a somewhat difficult point, since Judy's salary was substantially more than Ann's, but the loss to Judy was partially made up by the Powers Travel Grant and the provision by Oberlin College of air transportation to and from London.) Permission from the County Council was granted in January of 1975. Permission from the administration at Oberlin for Judy to take a leave of absence was obtained with no problem.

During the fall of 1975, and the following winter and spring, negotiations concerning various aspects of the exchange continued. Problems involving fringe benefits and taxation were somewhat difficult to resolve, mainly because of the difference between the British and U.S. systems. Hospitalization and retirement especially took some time to straighten out. The agreement to exchange residences, however, was fairly uneventful.

It turned out that Judy was able to be covered by the British medical plan. She had to pay British taxes and retirement, but was able to recover this money after the exchange was over. Ann was able to be covered by Oberlin's medical plan.

There was a considerable delay in obtaining a British work permit for Judy. I wrote to Mr. Hale about the permit in December of 1974. It was issued in late April of 1975.

We found out well along in the negotiations that if Judy worked in excess of six months, she would be taxed on the normal basis of 33 1/3 per cent after personal allowances; a stay less than six months would have required taxation at an emergency, or higher, rate.

Also well along, we found out from the British consulate in Chicago that Judy needed only a passport and a work permit to enter England--no visa was necessary.
Ann arrived about April 25, 1975, and Judy's work permit arrived two days earlier. We had been (understandably) worried about the work permit. Judy departed on May 10 and began working on May 12. Ann departed during the last week of October and Judy returned on December 15, after one month of vacation.

On Judy's recommendation, Ann was assigned for the most part to special projects during her stay here. We now think it might have been better for Ann to participate more directly in the operation of record cataloging, even though the special project work that she did has proved of great value to us. At any rate, Ann did not have much cataloging experience before she came.

In August, Judy wrote to us and suggested an extension of the exchange to nine months. The idea was attractive to me, but Ann was rather anxious to get back to her job, for various reasons. The extension, therefore, was not recommended. Six months is actually a rather brief period for one to accustom oneself to new surroundings and learn new routines, and then to begin to work fairly productively. An exchange such as ours probably would have been more beneficial to all concerned had it lasted for a full year. However, at the beginning of the negotiations, as mentioned previously, the prospect of making up a whole year's difference between the British and U.S.A. was thus obtained for a year's leave of absence from the British authorities; discouraged us from planning for a full year.

The exchange turned out to be a success, although a somewhat qualified one; I think everyone concerned would agree with this terminology. The planning phase, although lengthy, did not seem to be thorough enough. Many times we waited weeks for British correspondence, and this caused delays in some important decisions. I was not certain that Ann would be able to make it until about the week before she actually arrived. And it was only about the time that Ann arrived that Judy received the all-important work permit. It probably could have been even more efficacious if we had been certain that the exchange was going to take place until it was actually taking place.

All the negotiations about visas, taxation, funding, and so forth, took so much time that there was little time left over to plan the actual work to be done. I think this lack of planning, mostly due to inexperience, was the weakest aspect of the exchange. We now realize that it should be agreed upon well in advance what routine work will be done and what special projects, if any, will be worked on.

The exchange grew out of a somewhat sudden inspiration and some good fortune. We were fortunate in finding a music librarian with the proper qualifications willing to come and to stay, and in having our staff another properly qualified librarian willing to work at the other end of the exchange. We were also fortunate in obtaining permission from the administrative offices. I hope that other libraries who may embark on a similar exchange may be similarly fortunate.

John E. Druasedow, Jr.
Oberlin College Conservatory

Descriptive Account of Projects and Tasks Performed

My first project, beyond familiarising myself with the basic procedures of the library, was a compilation of a report on the files used in the Conservatory Library, and their maintenance. Almost entirely a task of observation and enumeration, it was a useful preliminary exercise for me in setting down facts, and also gave me some indication of the workload problems in the library, with the imbalance in favour of technical services, and the necessarily un-systematic approach to some of the routine housekeeping tasks.

I did a small amount of score cataloguing which, whilst not contributing much to the workload, was of inestimable benefit to me, in understanding the way in which the library works. I had never used authority files before; neither had I worked with a system so closely tied to an outside cataloguing source. Corn-

well uses British National Bibliography heavily, but this does not cover music scores, so I am not involved there.

I began to learn the basics of using the computer terminal, and the principles of cataloguing for use by OCLC. Although familiar with the principles of defining and tagging each element of an entry, I had never before had a chance to do anything practical in this field.

Throughout the summer, just about every item in the main collection of books and scores was re-shelved, and I was given supervisory responsibilities for this. Miniature scores, and large (oversize and 'double oversize') scores were separated from the main sequence, the appropriate indications made on the shelf-list and catalogue cards, and all the books were separated from the remaining scores. My own part in this was minimal, since the planning was for the most part done before I started, and the physical work carried out by two students, Erik Wettstein and Emily Chair, the quality of whose work I cannot praise too highly. I merely gave occasional help where it was asked for, in specific problems. However, this was the first opportunity I had of co-ordinating a project involving more than one other person, and lasting several weeks, and I gained just a little insight into the problems which could be encountered, both operational and personal, in dealing with many small entities which arise, and the personal and operational entities which can occur. For example, the delicate balance between giving instructions and allowing use of initiative by those doing the work.

During July the Baroque Performance and Organ Institute took place. I was given responsibilities for providing guides to the library, for the assembly of new books which could be of interest to participants, and for the compilation of a list of those books. The guides took the form of a brief booklet describing in very general terms what the library had to offer, and the posting of guides was a task around the library (involving, as an experiment, the numbering of the alcoves, which seems to have caught on as an aid to locating material.) Both these projects appeared to be reasonably successful, and gave me helpful experience in orientation, which was developed later for Freshman Orientation in September. The assembly of books I regarded as only partially successful, as I omitted to search an area of uncatalogued material, and I was absent for the return of the books to Mudd, and therefore unable to help when the acquisitions department experienced problems with tracing the book plates of certain volumes. My list of books I regarded simply as a handlist, not a scholarly bibliography consistent in every detail, since I considered that the intensity of use would not justify the effort involved.

I was given a certain amount of responsibility for organising Orientation during September, since John Druasedow was to be absent during the preceding weeks. We discussed the possibility of staging some sort of display in the lounge, plus different methods of providing the traditional guided tour of the library. However, these were mostly outside the time available, so I concentrated on two immediate aspects, namely the re-orientation necessary as a result of our re-shelving activities, applicable to all users of the library, plus the provision of a leaflet giving a light-weighted guided tour, aimed at the new students. The former project took the form of a brief explanatory note to all faculty telling them what had been done and why, and the production of new floor-plans which are displayed in various parts of the library. In these, I drew on what I had learnt in preparing similar ones for the Institutes, and distinguished subject areas of the arrangements by a simple colour key, in addition to showing fairly precise locations by class number. Casual observation during reference hours seems to indicate that these charts are fairly useful. At any rate, they are consulted by the students.

The self-guided tour leaflet was well received by certain faculty and staff, mainly, I suspect, because its tone offered a welcome relief from the official leaflets
which proliferate at orientation, but I noticed very few students actually using them in the library. However, we have been asked for more of these leaflets, and have made some extra copies, so presumably they are in fact being used. One noticeable difference from last year's orientation was the appearance of many fewer students for the scheduled tour (possibly because of my suggestion, based on the existence of the leaflets) we did not specify times for each class. It may therefore be true that fewer people received any preliminary guiding in the library this year - if so, we should revert to the former practice of naming for the library class times. On the other hand, the object of introducing the leaflets was to allow students to show themselves around the library in their own time. We have no means of obtaining the feedback to determine the success of this approach.

Related to Orientation, there is a longer-term project. I was asked to write a more extensive guide to the library, emphasizing the services offered rather than the passive 'warehouse' aspect of the library, but also including a brief history of the Conservatory Library. From hindsight, I can see that these two aspects would perhaps be better produced in separate booklets, but the time required would have gained me a great deal more research into the history, what I did learn was very interesting to me, and explained a lot about the peculiarities of the library, though it was not necessary to draw a line at a fairly superficial level. A great weakness which is also my lack of artistic imagination amongst the Conservatory Library staff, myself included, which raised some problems with the choice and inclusion of illustrations, and dullness of my proposals was immediately spotted by the Information Office, for whose admiring, I am immensely grateful, painful though it was! Never having done anything like this before, I was heavily dependent on advice. At the moment, the production is not complete, although the text is ready for preparation.

Beginning in September, we turned our minds to the problem of beginning work on the backlog of uncatalogued monographs on music, colloquially known as 'un-jamming the logs'. I was asked to investigate the normal treatment of cataloguing, and to determine how well it would best fit in with procedures of the 'main library' (Seely G. Hudd Learning Center) and to establish procedures and routing of materials. In practical terms, this meant describing the activities of the cataloging department, gathering together the uncatalogued books, establishing priorities in handling the backlog, and putting a number of books through the system suggested as a trial. By the time I leave, I hope to have processed materials through all stages of the cataloguing, barring original cataloguing, and to present a routing flow-chart which should enable John and the rest of the staff to reduce gradually the backlog, with the minimum disruption to normal routines. This is a largely analytical and descriptive task, and details will have to be refined as the project progresses, mostly after my departure. My chief regret is that we were not able to begin this project sooner in my stay here, so it could be involved in some actual cataloguing, and I could become more familiar with the Hudd processing departments, which would have been useful experience.

Although not requested to do so by Judy, I have attempted to push through some of the more routine aspects of her work. I have revised typing, a purely clerical task; I have 'revised' some LC cataloguing, again largely proof-reading, since the original input consists mainly of alterations to the description, and the additions of some analytical entries, with the amendment of certain others to conform to Oberlin practice. This makes me wonder whether it would be possible for certain categories of LC cataloguing to be done on a part-time basis, and be checked just once, at the post-typing stage, since the rate of error is so small. It also raised the question in my mind of the necessity of altering LC cataloguing at all, which rather undermines the usefulness of using it. Perhaps a time saved might be worth the few inconsistencies which would result?

For my own satisfaction, I have tried to find out a little more about the course support programme, its ideals, its prototype in the Hamline project, and its realities in Oberlin. Whilst not being directly relevant to my job in Cornwall, I can see possible uses of the principles behind it even in a public library, and even if the experience does not have much direct result, the seeds of thought have been sown, perhaps to germinate at some later stage.

Comments on the Job in Oberlin

In one of her early letters, Judy suggested that I should set down what I would do if I were taking on the job here in the long term. I have no original ideas to offer; everything which I mention has been suggested before, at various times. The small amount of Judy's job which I have done makes me feel that, without a major overhaul, the work would be too heavily biased towards technical services for my liking, and my interest would be chiefly concerned with reducing this bias, and turning the overseeing of the work-load with a view to simplification of procedures. Without altering most of Judy's job, though, I have not really come to terms with the details of the cataloguing, nor do I have much idea of what else she does, so it is impossible to do more than just indicate, as I have done, the general direction in which I would take.

As regards the Conservatory Library in general, it does not take great insight to be aware of the basic, day-to-day problems, caused by cramped working conditions and a workload leaving little time for anything beyond those essentials of keeping the library running, all of which results in the inability to give proper attention to the library, not to mention the occasional personality clashes and short tempers. I have personally found it extremely difficult to concentrate in the present workroom, though the removal of some of the staff to the new annex will undoubtedly help ease the space problem.

In concluding this section, I should state my feeling that my primary function here was to learn by working and by observing, not to make a specific study of the problems of the library, interesting though it would be. My thoughts therefore are somewhat vague on the subject of suggestions for the library's future, I feel that any benefits which Oberlin may have gained other than through Judy's experience will have been in the form in incidental run-off during my work, rather than in the suggestions I make here.

Personal, Financial and Domestic Arrangements

From my point of view, the domestic arrangements which we made have proved perfectly satisfactory. We simply exchanged homes and all their associated bills. Judy may feel less happy about this, for two reasons: 1. I do not live in the town where the music library is, although my home is conveniently near to the County Library Headquarters, so a fair amount of travelling is involved for her; 2. the standard of accommodation for Judy was lower in Cornwall, in that she was sharing an apartment, with fewer domestic appliances available, and without a garden (yard). On the other hand, it is much cheaper, a relevant factor in view of the considerable differences in salary. I would see that problems could arise in an exchange due to this salary difference if housing expenses were high in England. The financial problems which we had to solve concerned health insurance, pension fund contributions, and the details of which I have left to Cornwall's administration, who are far more capable than I am in this area, to sort out with Oberlin.
Obtaining a suitable visa for working in the U.S. was simple from my point of view; the appropriate form was forwarded to me from Oberlin, I completed it and sent it on to the American Embassy where I was given with a 1-year exchange visitor status visa within a few weeks, though it may well have taken longer had I not already obtained a visa to visit Oberlin the previous year.

I did not seek to obtain a grant to cover the expense of my air fare, although it might have been possible for a longer period. I seemed to fall between two categories, staying neither for a short period, say three months, of study, nor a full year exchange or study period leading to a thesis or as part of a higher degree. However, I was fortunate enough to receive a sufficiently large salary here in the U.S. to go a long way towards offsetting the expense of the fare, and to enable me to carry out a fair amount of travelling around the country.

One of the more valuable side-effects of the exchange was that it enabled me to live as a 'native' in another country, which meant that I saw a good deal more of what America and Americans are like than I would have done as an undergraduate.

Adjustment to the American way of life was not difficult; if anything, adjustment to the physical surroundings of north-east Ohio was more of a problem than the cultural differences. Barring such minor difficulties as the driving habits of Americans, and improving the common belief that we all speak the same language, the main problems I had to overcome concerned finance, weather and the climate. Whereas in England a cheque from one of the national banks is honoured anywhere in the country, here I found it necessary to carry traveller's cheques, which required just a little more foresight before taking off for an impromptu weekend trip somewhere. Also, no British wardrobe could possibly cope with an Oberlin summer without special preparation, and I had to make some hasty additions to mine to enable me to get through July and August in relative comfort.

There are social differences, too, which I suspect may be in part peculiar to Oberlin. The outward-going, friendly nature of the social life proved to be an advantage in making friends, which is not always easy in an English town. Judy did in fact comment in one letter that social life amongst the library staff was 'easy' - this was not particular to her situation, but general. The British do not tend to socialise so much with their work colleagues. Another minor difference concerned transport. I made a decision not to drive here before I came; it seemed to me that I could manage without a car for six months, and indeed that has been the case. However, lack of public transportation is noticeable in Oberlin, even compared with rural Cornwall, but with a combination of a bicycle, lots of energy and plenty of friends this was not insuperable.

With regard to travelling in general during the exchange, Oberlin has been most generous in allowing me time to get around. I managed to visit Philadelphia, Washington and New York during a two-week period in the summer, when things in the library were very quiet, and a trip to Detroit to a library conference was made in work time, and even paid for by the library travel fund, for which I am grateful. Other trips so far have been at weekends. Not knowing how the finances would work out, I did not make any advance plans for travel before I came, but I would recommend that wherever possible, future exchanges should at least outline travel periods so the parties know where they stand with regard to vacation time and library visits. If I had not been here during the long vacation, getting away for a prolonged period might have been more difficult.

From a different point of view, then, I found very few major differences or 'culture shocks' living in America, and certainly nothing that any librarian would not be able to overcome.

Personal Comments on the Exchange and Exchanges in General

Two questions have been uppermost in my mind regarding the exchange as the six months draws to a close. These are:

1. Should an 'exchange' be just what it says, i.e. an exchange of all, or most, aspects of jobs between two librarians, or should the routine, ongoing operations be led up or delegated and the visiting librarians work on special projects?

2. What is the best length of time for an exchange, and what time of year is best?

I do not think that there is a hard and fast answer to either of these questions. Certainly, from where I stand at the moment, I can see arguments for several viewpoints. To take the first problem, that of what tasks should be assigned to the participants; in some situations, the question may be self-answering, in that there may be nobody else to do the job if the visitor does not do it. That is almost the case in Cornwall.

Whilst there is a competent assistant there, enough of the librarian's job is continuous for it to be imperative for some time to be devoted to just keeping the wheels rolling, and nobody can be expected to do two jobs. However, given a situation where it would be feasible for most of a person's job to be handled by somebody other than the visitor, the question is a relevant one.

In favour of a straight exchange of jobs is the depth experience gained by working in a particular area for the whole period; it also reduces the backlog of work when the exchange is over, and does not put too great a burden on the other members of staff who would otherwise have to take on extra tasks. Filling a definite post would make it easier for the visitor to become integrated into the operations of the library, and since the object of the exchange, as I understand it, is to gain wider experience rather than to undertake specific training, the possibility of being able to identify with the institution is a vital part of the process. It would, of course, be necessary to spend time learning the details of the job, particularly in my case, with a limited experience in the use of recordings in an academic library, but with advance study and detailed instructions, I am convinced that the project would have been feasible.

This is not to say that duties such as I had have not made a useful exchange. In general, much would depend on what type of projects are the alternative to maintaining the normal work. In my case, the setting of the library being so different from what I am used to, any experience would be valuable. However, if there is one thing which the work I have done seems to me to have lacked, it is depth, as I inferred in the description of projects. My activities have ranged over most aspects of the library services, but I have not been able to develop any real expertise, or fully come to grips with any one area. I was given to understand before I came that I would not be doing Judy's normal job, but neither John nor I had any clear plans for me when I arrived, and there was no overall plan to the six months. My one desire was to be active in a larger library system than I am used to, at any rate as far as the music library goes; this would have been difficult had I not had such a wide range of special projects, but the integration would have been more thorough still with an ongoing job.

To attempt to sum up this particular problem, my feeling is that some form of continuing job, whilst not essential, has many advantages, and the ideal solution for me would have been to carry out a part of Judy's regular job, but perhaps not all aspects, for example, omitting her committee work, or some other clearly definable area, in order to carry out some special project(s), i.e. to have a background of ongoing operation for the depth experience plus perhaps one project that fits out over the six months, as would probably happen normally during the summer vacation.
The other major question, the ideal length of an exchange, is no easier to answer, and I am no nearer the perfect solution with this problem than with the first. Six months is, I am sure, long enough to be valuable, and to learn enough to be able to make a contribution, given, as I have said before, sufficient briefing and advance study, if necessary. On the other hand, a longer period gives more time to understand and come to terms with the problems of a particular institution. But I feel that six intensive, well thought-out months could be more valuable than a longer period inadequately planned for. In other words, any period is useful provided the tasks to be done are tailored to fit the period.

So, to my mind, the first question to be answered is not 'how long should the exchange be?' unless there are personal factors, but rather 'Are the participants going to exchange jobs, or to carry out special projects?' If the former is the case, then I would say that six months is the minimum useful time, and a longer period should be considered; if the latter, then probably six months is the maximum that a person's colleagues should be expected to carry the extra burden of responsibility, and unless there is some longer-term project available, it is probably the limit of satisfaction of short-term projects.

Again, the work to be done will affect the timing of the exchange. It would be helpful for a year-long project of job exchange in a public library to be tailored to fit the financial year. In an academic situation, arrival and orientation during a relatively quiet period just before the beginning of the academic year would be an advantage. For a shorter exchange, though, it is more difficult. For an ongoing job, it makes little difference in a public library, though it would be an advantage not to have to cope with the annual report and budget-tying-up procedures. In an academic library, again, orientation during a quiet period would help, but speaking for my experience, it was not particularly useful when done during the whole of the summer vacation. The lack of students mattered less than the lack of colleagues, many on holiday. The only task for which the peace of the summer was essential was the re-shelving, August/September to February/March might have been more useful, if less pleasant climatically. I think it is important to remember that the period of an exchange, being of necessity a limited one, is primarily a learning experience for the participating librarians, and immediate benefits to the institution, if any occur, are incidental. It is on the return of the librarians to their original positions that the real gains to the institution will be felt as professional skills and ideas learnt during the exchange are developed. The timing of an exchange, then, should allow the maximum opportunity for interchange of ideas between librarians, and participation in the normal running of the library.

Conclusion

In discussing the exchange, I have tended to dwell on the less satisfactory aspects, in an effort to indicate the pitfalls to others who may contemplate undertaking a similar exercise. But I would like to make it quite clear that on balance I do regard this exchange as successful. Certainly, I know that I have learnt a tremendous amount, probably I shall not realise all I have learnt until I resume working in Cornwall. I hope that Oberlin too has drawn some benefits, and will gain from Judy's experience on her return.

I am still, however, left wondering just how all this came about, and how it happened to me! A large number of people from David Barrty who first suggested the contact, to the administrators who have had to put in considerable extra work, have been instrumental in my being here at all. My gratitude goes to all these people, and particularly the library staffs of Cornwall and Oberlin for their support and their tolerance of the inevitable disruptions which have resulted. Beyond saying 'Thank you', the best way I can show my appreciation is in my efforts to carry forward into my work in Cornwall and elsewhere the experiences I have gained here. 

Ann Tomkins
Cornwall County Library
England

A POSTSCRIPT

Since being appointed special officer for exchanges for MLA, I have already received several inquiries from interested music librarians. My own exchange experience was so rewarding professionally and personally that I hope those who are interested can have the same opportunity.

We are currently in contact with IFLA and TAML about setting up an exchange of visites of interested people. At the moment I am also pursuing contacts in England and France. The particular thing those interested can do at the moment is to continue to write to me at the address below expressing their interest in international exchanges. As soon as we have established some definite responses overseas I will be in contact with you. I am currently also working on devising a questionnaire, similar to those used by placement bureaus, which I will forward to those who have expressed an interest.

Several people have asked about the possibilities of exchanges within the United States. This too seems an excellent way of "continuing education." Those interested in this type of exchange should also contact me, and I will continue to keep you informed via the Newsletter.

Judith A. Coon
Exchanges
Music Library Association
37 West Lincoln
Oberlin, Ohio 44074

NEW FACES, NEW JOBS

Robert Skinner, Music Librarian,
Southern Methodist University

NEWS FROM THE CHAPTERS (cont. from p.3)

3) Are we ready for the Toccentinale? a panel discussion (Elizabeth Auman, Music Division, Library of Congress, moderator; Jon Neumon, Music Division, Library of Congress, and Richard Cox, Maryland Historical Society, panelists.) A paper by Jean Bonin, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, who could not attend the meeting, was read by the moderator. Discussion centered upon the many problems encountered by the collector and the archivist. Major concerns expressed were the need for cooperation among institutions and better ways of judging what materials should be saved and what may be discarded.

4) Some documents of the lauds-singing confraternities of Toccentro and Quattrocento Italy (Cyrilla Barr, Catholic University), a discussion of manuscript sources which provide evidence of what these societies were, the nature of the musical and dramatic form, and how laudes were performed.

At the business meeting, preliminary discussions were held about the possibility of the chapter working with the state library associations in Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia in the presentation of programs, such as, concerning music librarianship at the meetings of the associations, at our chapter meetings, or on an individual basis.

After the meeting, the membership was invited to a concert by the Catholic University Collegium Musicum.

Our next meeting will be held jointly with the Southeast chapter at Hollins College, Va., on November 6, 1977. Local arrangements will be by Thelma Biercks. Program chairpersons are Margaret Johnson, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and Vernon McCoy, Old Dominion University, Norfolk, Virginia.

Harry Price
Library of Congress
TEXAS

The spring meeting of the Texas Chapter of the Music Library Association was held on 26 March 1977 in the Moody Learning Center at San Antonio College, San Antonio, with an attendance of seventeen members. Don Drummond served as local arrangements chairman.

Following registration and a coffee hour, two interesting presentations were made. Stephen Sylvester, University of Houston, spoke on "Lithographic Music Printing in the Nineteenth Century," showing examples from his collection of stone plate prints. Ralph Holibaugh, Rice University, presented a research-in-progress report with the fascinating title "Maccaroni and Musica at the Turn of the Century: the Hauschild Music Publishing Co., Victoria, Texas," examining the influence of this firm on the historical and sociological aspects of Victoria. One of the scrapbooks kept by the Hauschild family was displayed, and a list of "Hauschild Composers" was distributed.

After a break for lunch, Tom Moore, Houston Public Library, led a panel discussion on popular music and distributed a list of Reference Sources: Popular Music, as well as a Selected Bibliography of Popular Music Periodicals. Ways of cataloging sheet music were reviewed, and reference sources still needed in the popular music field were suggested. Selection and acquisition policies were reviewed by participants Vicki Skinner, Austin Public Library, Donna Mendro, Dallas Public Library, and Betty Pierson, Our Lady of the Lake University, San Antonio.

Informal reports followed on the national meeting in Nashville, February 2-5, 1977. Since all eight Texas Chapter members who attended the Nashville meeting were present in San Antonio, the February meeting was well covered. Béla Foltin, a member of both the Audio Visual Microforms Committee, and the Subcommittee on Subject Headings of Nonmusical Music Recordings, reported on past, current and future projects of those committees.

At the business meeting, an excellent financial summary of the Texas Chapter from November 16, 1974 through March 23, 1977 was presented by Treasurer Mary Blanche Scales, who was accorded appreciation for her work. Chairman Jeffrey Earnest announced that the chapter constitution had been approved by mail vote. By unanimous vote of members present, the chapter dues were raised to $5.00 per year. Progress reports were given on the Union Serials List and recent and planned activities of the membership committee. A letter of greeting was read from Clara Steuermann. A discussion followed on a workshop project, possibly at the time of a Texas Library Association meeting, for those librarians who handle music, but who are not in a special music library. The fall meeting of the Texas Chapter will be in Ft. Worth at the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. It was recommended that the Texas Chapter extend an invitation to MLA to hold its national meeting in San Antonio in 1978 or some other year in the near future. An election of officers was held with the slate approved as follows for the year 1977-78: Vice Chairman and Program Chairman; Donna Mendro; Secretary-Treasurer, Nell Williams. Béla Foltin will serve as Chairman.

Jean Cassell
University of Texas at Austin

SOUTEAST

The Southeast Chapter of MLA sponsored a workshop on the "Acquisition and Processing of Music and Sound Recordings" at the Southeastern Library Association Biennial Conference, Knoxville, Tennessee, November 5, 1976. The bibliography prepared for the workshop, "Scores and Sound Recordings: Collection Development -- Cataloging and Classification," a list of out-of-print record dealers, and a list of materials distributed may be ordered from Jeannette Drone, Music Library, Memphis State University, Memphis, Tennessee 38152. COST: $1.25. Make check payable to Jeannette Drone.

The purpose of the NEWSLETTER is to keep the membership of MLA abreast of ideas, trends and events related to music librarianship. All pertinent communications and short articles are welcome.

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