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From the Editor

The focus is definitely on Tennessee. The perspectives vary.

Many of us regularly explore the vast world of information known as the Internet but have yet to discover various interesting sites right here at home. Anne Langley and Gayle Baker highlight some of the Tennessee treasures they have found. We hope you'll enjoy exploring these sites.

Bill Robinson has conducted a study of the articles about Tennessee libraries that appear in Newsbank and has made some comparisons nationally. The topic itself points to the larger issue of public relations for libraries. His recommendations encourage us to evaluate the importance of media attention.

Jim Gravois draws our attention to historically black colleges and universities, specifically their libraries. He places the statistics he has gathered for Tennessee within a national framework. Then he urges Tennessee librarians to evaluate what these statistics reveal and to take appropriate action.

For thirteen years now, the spring issue of this journal has featured the Tennessee Bibliography. For all of these thirteen years, Mary Glenn Hearne, with the assistance of various other Tennessee librarians, has faithfully compiled this list. Her commitment to the task has weathered an amazing increase in publication, the advent of new technologies, and many changes in editorial. Thank you, Mary Glenn, for serving the Tennessee Library Association in this and in many other ways.

Glimpses of our annual TLA conference are here. Conference reports will appear in the summer issue.

Marie Garrett

Information and the Problem of Communication

Recently it came to our attention that certain observers have noted what they consider to be the passing of the information age. What they see emerging is a "new" communication age. For those of us who consider ourselves to be principals in the information age and information society, this revelation is a bit shocking. We in the Tennessee Library Association may define ourselves and each other in one of several different categories all of which center on our interest in, and support of, things that are inherently information-esque in nature. We are librarians, information specialists, or information scientists; our lives are centered around this stuff we call information. Our function is to identify, select, acquire, organize, disseminate, create, and utilize information either personally, professionally, or on behalf of others.

It seems that this revelation on the part of these observers and commentators is serious and represents more than just the latest musing in the ever-changing patterns of language and frames of reference. We in this profession have spent three or, perhaps, four decades trying to convince our clients and library patrons of the emerging force of information in the modern world, supplanting industrial production. Of course, this transition is not complete, but since 1956 it has been well documented that the service and information sectors in the world economy have supplanted heavy industry in productivity. This is so just as industry did so much to supplant agriculture as the life-blood of modern civilizations. Now that this post-industrial, service economy has taken hold, its validity and influence are refuted by critics who are perfectly willing to utter the Last Rites, if not post mortem for the information society itself. They herald the arrival of the so-called communication society. On the one hand we might conclude that these social critics are out beyond the leading edge of us mere mortals. They may be trying to get the jump on the next wave, as it were, repositioning themselves for some future moment when they may look back and marvel at their own prescient far-sightedness. A handy technique for those who are trying to pre-validate their own guess work. A sort of preemptive "I told ya so!"

On the other hand, their perspective may not be without merit. It may very well be that the information age was in fact dead on arrival in the life of the general population. Or, rather, that the information age came and went with such rapidity that many of us failed to take heed of its passing while we were busy trying to get folklore to speed and online. Or that some golden opportunity was missed or otherwise failed through no fault of our own. Any one of these simple notions is possible, and there are others that we have overlooked.
For our money, the communication age refers to that time in the immediate post-World War II period when television and radio grew to enormous popularity and diversity. We are referring to that epoch which ended with the arrival of Howard Stern and his intellectual progeny Weis and Beach. Were those creations to be the offspring of the information age we could also be found at its grave side, owl in hand. So, perhaps these far-seers of visionaries are right. If the information age is now gone, or worse, never existed at all, we are confronted by troubling thoughts.

Lest we examine some of the recent evidence.

Item 1. In a local school library with which we have some familiarity, there has arisen a matter of censorship concerning a parent's objection to a book that uses the phrase "creation myth" in reference to a variety of stories of creation from around the world. Simple enough; but the book makes the equivocation that the creation story in Genesis is not unlike the creation tales from other cultures and civilizations, ancient and modern. Nothing vulgar or obscene in any of this. What is at issue is the use, by a world-class scholar of the genre, of the term "myth" to characterize the account in the Old Testament.

Item 2. Two university students are brought before disciplinary review boards for having posted a obscene (pornographic) or b) defaming (profane) commentary on a public access, un-moderated bulletin board.

Item 3. A very earnest, young male college student confronts us with the demand that all Internet access be eliminated and computer accounts be terminated at the university because, early that morning, while retrieving printout from a public access printer in the computer lab, he discovered, to his horror, a graphic image of "a naked lady." It was never clear to us why this was considered our problem or responsibility; nevertheless, we were threatened, to the best of his abilities, with Federal prosecution and, most likely, eternal damnation. Move over Faust, we're online now! He kept the two-tone image: "it's evidence!" he quivered.

Item 4. A University business officer cornered as complaining about the extraordinarily high level of paper consumption on the networked printers in the new computer network. His concern was the discovery of an effective cost-recovery scheme to compensate for the expenses just now discovered. What a surprise! And this being the paperless information society. We must have missed something along the way.

Item 5. This just in. A corporate librarian and information specialist is demoted, removed from managerial rank, and placed under the direction of a computer programmer. Presumably, now that the world is so effectively and completely inter-networked, there is no longer the need for her high-level, information skills. This gambit arises from the mistaken notion that the network is the information. We just need more PC's; let the plumbing and playing begin.

This was not our best week.

Clearly, we are not operating in an information environment, we are not being informed. We need not retreat to the pedagogical maneuver of eliciting from some more book the technical, dictionary definition of information. We may stipulate, broadly, that information is that which informs, that which conveys meaning, data, or knowledge from one being to another. All of the aforementioned incidents relate to a process of communication; that is, the simplest transmission of content from one to another. They are all evidence of that which is the worst of communication and which has little or nothing to do with information. These five incidents all bear the marks of communication in the absence of information or the informing process. One, the misunderstanding by an individual unfamiliar with the use of specialized language in a scholarly discipline. Second, the corruption of a public information utility for 1) titillation or 2) defamation. Third, an individual confronted by a graphical image that threatens his personal value-construct. Fourth, an individual (who should not be unaware of data flows at a university) is shocked at the high cost of large levels of paper consumption in printers operated by low-skilled, college students without instruction, supervision, mediation, or intervention. Fifth, high-level information services are shunted aside in favor of a guy with a screwdriver in his pocket protector. Here we have most of the down-side attributes of freedom of information! Let folks have access and they will just use it. The nerve!

Against the backdrop of these incidents, we are mindful of another recent commentary which characterized our current social scene as being flooded with information; yet we are the least informed electorate we have ever been. Hyperbole perhaps, but not without insight. The ancient mariner (thanks, Joyce) would complain: "Water, water everywhere. Nor any drop to drink." We answer back, admiring and becalimed in our own sea, "Information everywhere. Nor a thought to think." Candidates for national office, or offices with national prominence, operate now in the mode of sound-bite politics and are known generally as "loose cannon," "bomb throwers," or "wafflers." All of this suggests that there is a deficit of meaningful communication, that is, an absence of informed beings; we are awash in information sources and materials but we are not informed.

Those of us who work directly in educational institutions have been aware for many years of the problem of trying to convince our clientele that there exist skills and techniques to be learned and mastered which will facilitate the gathering of relevant information supportive of their research interests. These concerns are redoubled as we encounter a profusion of information sources that exist now in far greater abundance and variety than ever before and require ever-higher skill levels for mastery and success. Surely all libraries now, or will soon, suffer these effects.

Absent from our clients' considerations is the fundamental notion that the point of effective information retrieval centers on the timely delivery of highly relevant information into the hands of the user. Powerful search engines are designed to filter the enormous amount of information that may be of the point, though not to the point. As personal computing has increased with the development of powerful microcomputers we experience tremendous increases in processor speed, ever-larger random access memories, faster and broader telecommunications, and wonderfully brilliant screen displays. But if the human information recipient and user of the device does not correctly perceive the displayed image nor adequately understand the full meaning of the message, the significance of the information message is not used to advantage. The user is not informed, becoming, rather, merely a target for the communication ordained by the sender. It is not enough to say that we have extraordinary increases in power, that our reach has extended many fold, if at the same time our grasp does not improve concomitantly.
So it may be the observer is correct. The information age may in fact be past; there may be something to the claim that it was never here. We have been deflected from a teasing brush with information and have collided with communication. And we see communication as simply the transfer of content. It bears no meaning nor relation to the information process. Beavis and Butthead may communicate a point of view, a disrespect for humanity and a flagrant disregard for reality, but we wouldn’t confuse that with an informing process. Certainly is the case if we take information transfer to be the conduct of message-bearing content from one sentient being to another. The information age may be characterized, then, as a time during which there is a clear process for the systematic creation and availability of information for transfer in a meaningful manner for the purpose of reducing uncertainty, eliminating misunderstanding, increasing knowledge, or solving problems, either intellectual, moral, or material.

We may further observe that what we experience with the so-called information, communication, or publishing explosion is not so much the generation or creation of new knowledge. That breath-taking pace cannot be distinguished from the rates of increase persistent for several decades of the post-war period. Rather, it is the generation of variant formats of the self-same information itself. Derivatives. Witness the emergence of CD-ROM based encyclopedias which are largely identical with the printed version. Fancy that. In and of itself, this trend is indistinguishable from the rendering of magazines and newspapers on microfilm which, we remember, was all the rage about thirty years ago.

The force of this electronic rendering process is evinced by the current controversies, legal and intellectual, centering on the WestLaw database and its claim to copyright over the laws of the land. Though this begins to touch on matters of value-added processes, and the like, we will not be distracted from the present topic. What is important to remember is that the information is the same, only the technology is in variance. May be it is really a communication problem, not an information problem.

The many libraries that we represent in the TLA are forced, now, to struggle with the allocation of already scarce resources to include the acquisition and distribution of non-unique, parallel information constructs, all to meet the demands of patrons for the newest and latest mechanisms. Most of us would be willing to argue that our purpose is to serve the demands of the users. The “give ‘em what they want” school of thought is a dominant professional impulse at the moment.

But it is unlikely, we believe, that the proliferation of formats of content-bearing messages has led to a significant increase in our intellectual capabilities. We would just as easily concede that our research capabilities are vastly improved, and our productivity is much facilitated; however, it does not follow that these more powerful search engines, text processors, and computer crunchers have in any way resulted in a higher quality of research output. Neither do we detect a greater number of Nobel contenders, nor have we been suddenly overwhelmed by a proliferation of sublime thoughts. What we may readily observe, and that by which we may measure our progress, is a new level of abundance denoted more by technique than content, equipment not cognition.

As information has been rendered up in the hearts and minds of many folks, it is but a tangible thing, something to be handled, fondled, or manipulated. This is true whether they be adolescent computer jocks, itinerant hackers, or academic administrators who think the point is to seed computers across the campus like the medieval farmer scattered seed grain. We see before us the sterile field. The crop flies and grows fat; the farmer’s children are hungry.

Information has come to be evaluated on the basis of its entertainment value. We are told we must convince the user that knowledge acquisition is fun, that it is satisfying or amusing; to do otherwise would be to risk losing them to the corner arcade. When that becomes our reality, then our purposes as a profession are compromised and information, as information, is further degraded; our challenges are increased, our successes foreshortened, and our goals are further removed.

Education becomes, then, a core feature of the information age. It centers on the correct assimilation of transmitted messages in the broadest sense. The information content must be provided to those who are prepared to comprehend and utilize, those who are equipped to understand, meaningfully modify, and subsequently disseminate. Failing that our much-prized information content will be no more significant than the newest video game, fanciest electronic puzzle, or the latest networked gossip.

We may be forced to concede that the commentators mentioned previously may be correct and lamentably so. We are in an age of communication. The information age may have been a Chimera. But still there is something in us that argues that is not necessarily the case. Despite sometimes overwhelming evidence to the contrary, there are those who gather information for its content; those who seek edification, inspiration, and self-improvement; those who will always hunger after the solution of life’s problems; and those who seek the improvement of the human condition. We cannot allow the best work of the last fifty years in information processing and management in information centers and in our profession to be dumbed-down to the level of mere entertainment, titillation, or gratification. Just as there is still room in this world for gourmet restaurants amidst the proliferation of fast-food eateries, perhaps there is the opportunity and mechanism by which information transfer can be effectively, efficiently, and intellectually provided in the midst of the electronic gaming and amusement interests.

To be sure we will see all-too-frequently the corruption of high technology for fun and games. For the sake of libraries, and a society based on the production and distribution of information, there will be those who read and follow label instructions and those who will seek rigorous interpretations of the complex problems. It is our good fortune in our business, our profession, and in our daily lives that we find ourselves more frequently aligned with, and in the presence of, individuals who are productive, interested, educated, and, yes, informed.

John E. Evans
Featured Collection

Ben West's Children's Department Collection

by Phyllis Grubbs

Many generations of Nashvillians have enjoyed the children’s division of the Ben West Library, located at 225 Polk Avenue in downtown Nashville. While well known for its marionette productions and its enchanting story room, the division also houses a collection of almost 32,000 volumes.

The collection includes a wide range of books on all topics with a strong emphasis on supporting the curricula of local schools as well as serving the needs of preschoolers, home school families and educators. Half of the collection consists of juvenile nonfiction titles. Some of the strongest areas of nonfiction are folklore, poetry, the sciences and biography. The folklore collection features stories from around the world and is used by students, teachers, and storytellers. With the revival of the art of storytelling and the trend toward multiculturalism, this collection receives heavy use. It includes a number of folklore titles and covers a broad range of cultures. It is shelved in the Tudor style story room along with the language and literature collections. The 800s feature a diverse poetry section with collections of both classic poetry as well as the works of many contemporary children’s poets. This collection is heavily used when students compile poetry notebook for language arts assignments.

The story room also houses a core collection of paperbacks often assigned as required reading. With required reading, an active summer reading program and readers who simply prefer paperbacks, this collection receives heavy use. Series paperbacks like the Babysitters Club and Goosebumps are shelved on revolving racks. The paperback racks are often the first place that middle readers go to find the books they really want.

Over the past few years the science collection has grown in response to the popularity of school science fairs, increasing concern for the environment and general concern about science education. Books which deal exclusively with science experiments are coded with red dots on the spine to help students quickly identify them. These receive heavy use from January through March. The department also maintains an extensive bibliography of holdings which deal with science experiments. Several science experiment indexes also help students find what they’re looking for. Math text books, dinosaur books and animal books are also popular.

The Children’s Division also maintains a collection of about 1,400 biographies. Many of these are about unique personalities and are sometimes the only book available in the library system on a subject. Biographies are popular with middle readers and make good choices for reluctant readers. Schools also encourage the reading of biographies for biographies month, women’s history month and in character education programs.

Also of major importance is the library’s collection of picture books. These circulate heavily and offer children their first experience with the pleasure of stories, language and the written word. This collection is heavily used by families and preschool teachers. The department maintains extensive picture book bibliographies covering more than 100 topics to support the preschool curriculum. These include topics like colors, community helpers, dinosaurs and numbers. The bibliographies are kept in large three ring binders at the reference desk, and teachers quickly learn to help themselves. More volumes of bibliographies are maintained on topics of interest to older students. These include a volume of folklore, historical fiction and a miscellaneous volume which covers topics like AIDS, black history, Native Americans and science experiments.

Although the collection is designed to serve children from first through the 8th grade, a wide range of adults are also served by the collection. Elementary and preschool teachers and students of children’s literature regularly take advantage of the collection. A recent Sunday afternoon found students from Belmont, Tennessee State and Vanderbilt Universities huddling over the department’s reference collection of Newbery and Caldecott award winning books. A reference collection heavily devoted to children’s literature is also used by this group.

In addition, the department also maintains a small (128 volumes) historical reference collection which features old or rare titles.
The Ben West Library’s children’s division circulated 120,000 volumes in 1994. The department also provides programming throughout the year. Last year 7,300 children participated in departmental programs. The Wednesday morning Prime Time Puppets story hour is popular with families, kindergarten and preschool classes. Under the direction of library performing artist Careen Ceval, the library presents marionette shows on Thursdays and the first and third Saturdays of the month. Recently renamed the Town Puppet Players, the library utilizes a collection of over 300 marionettes built by the late Tom Tichenor who worked at the library for many years. Last December the players presented the first new marionette show in 14 years, Countdown to Christmas. The show was written by Ceval, who also created new set pieces and restored some of the Tichenor marionettes. The soundtrack tape was created using staff members and several outstanding volunteer actors.

The department is headed by director Susan Johnston and operates with a staff of six. It is open Monday - Friday 9am-8pm, Saturdays 9am-5pm and Sundays 2-5pm.

Tennessee Internet Treasures

by Anne Langley and Gayle Baker

Cruising the Internet can seem like a stroll through a giant flea market. Now resources are popping up almost hourly, and to sift through all the knick knacks and secondhand junk in order to find the real treasures can be a daunting task. In an effort to help library users, some libraries have begun to “collect” Internet resources much as they do books and other media.

Some sites based in the state of Tennessee have attracted considerable attention. We have highlighted a few of these resources as “Tennessee Internet Treasures.” We selected sites which offer distinctive or unusual in formation, stylish presentation, or useful collection of pointers to other Internet resources.

These sites have many sponsors, including schools, governments and private enterprise. Some are accessible via Gopher clients, others via browsers for the World-Wide-Web (WWW); a few are accessible by both. In the list which follows a Uniform Resource Locator (URL) is supplied for all of the sites. A WWW browser can access Gopher servers, but users restricted to Gopher can only access sites with a URL beginning in “gopher.”

Tennessee Internet Treasures

What: Friends & Partners

URL: http://solar.rtd.utk.edu/friends/home.html

Who: Greg Cale, gcale@solar.rtd.utk.edu, Office of Research Services, University of Tennessee and Natasha Bulashova, natasha@ibpm.serpulkov.ru, Institute of Biochemistry and Physiology of Microorganism, Russia Academy of Science, Pushchino, Moscow Region, Russia

Where: University of Tennessee, Knoxville

This WWW site grew out of a question on electronic mail about setting up a Gopher site. It is a joint effort to improve communication and cooperation; facilitate friendship and working partnerships between the people of the United States and the former Soviet Union using shared information resources made available through the global Internet computer network. Beginning in 1993 as a Gopher site, it quickly evolved into a WWW site in order to take advantage of the
capabilities for images, sound and video. The vast collection of information resources covers a wide variety of topics: Geography, Education, Music, Literature, Language, News, Weather, Space, Post-Soviet Studies Resources, Funding and Exchanger Opportunities.

What: Oak Ridge National Laboratory
Who: Beeky Varastegui (info_server@ornl.gov)
URL: http://www.ornl.gov/
Where: Oak Ridge

Personnel at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory put together their first Gopher server in 1993. Recently, the lab decided to cease work on its main Gopher server and develop a WWW server. This server makes excellent use of satellite images, maps, photographs, computer-generated images, audio, motion pictures, etc. in describing the lab’s mission, research programs and services. It includes a directory of staff phone numbers and E-mail addresses, a tour of the site, and a history of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. There are several on-line publications, including the ORNL Review. Papers and technical reports are searchable. There are no gratuitous graphics; rather, the graphics enhance access to the information. This is one of the best-organized government sites.

What: Rhodes College Webserver & Gopher
Who: Blair@rhodes.edu
URL: http://www.rhodes.edu/ OR gopher://gopher.rhodes.edu/
Where: Rhodes College, Memphis

Rhodes College has both a Gopher server and a WWW server. It is a model college/university site, providing resources of use to the campus community (the library, Internet resources, financial aid information, computer center access and software), as well as local residents (local weather and events). It also serves as a recruiting tool for potential students, highlights campus and local events, and makes the college catalog available on-line. An interesting feature of this site is that it points to a student-run WWW server, called "The Virtual Diehl" after a former president of the college. The Virtual Diehl features student home pages, information on campus organizations and a gallery of student art.

What: Institute of Egyptian Art and Archeology
URL: http://www.memart.edu/egpyt/main.html
Who: University of Memphis Art Department
Where: University of Memphis, Memphis

The Institute of Egyptian Art and Archeology, founded in 1984 as a part of the University of Memphis Art Department, is a Tennessee Center for Excellence and maintains a collection of over 150 items. This WWW site features an "Artifact Exhibit" with photographs and descriptions of five different pieces, including two statues, a mummy, a model of a granary and a triangular loaf of bread that is over 4000 years old. (We hope that more pieces from the Institute’s collection will be added in the future.) There is also a "Short Tour of Egypt" featuring images of the Nile and pyramids from the Old Kingdom. This server is a good example of how museums and historical sites can make use of the Internet.

What: Center for Earthquake Research and Information
URL: gopher://gopher.ceri.memst.edu
Who: GopherAdmin@ceri.memphis.edu
Where: University of Memphis, Memphis

Many people don’t know that the New Madrid seismic zone near Memphis, “is regarded by seismologists and disaster response specialists as the most hazardous zone east of the Rocky Mountains.” The Gopher server at the University of Memphis Center for Earthquake Research and Information was created in 1993. It contains a collection of earthquake-related information, with some resources related specifically to seismic activities in the Memphis area. It also points to geophysical information from NASA and the United States Geological Survey, and to other sites that feature seismological information.

What: Bill’s Lighthouse Getaway
URL: http://gopher.lib.ukc.edu:70/lights.html
Who: Bill Brittan, Systems Librarian
Where: University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Bill’s Lighthouse Getaway showcases lighthouses in Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, the Mid-Atlantic Region, the Outer Banks, the South Atlantic Region, California and more. This hypertext document/page has over 120 beautiful color photographs. The well-written text covers historical facts, local lore, geographic information, and whether or not the lighthouse is accessible to visitors. Not just the typical Internet “fluff,” this page has substance.

What: Vanderbilt Television News Archive
URL: http://tvnews.vanderbilt.edu/ OR gopher://tvnews.vanderbilt.edu/
Who: John Lynch, Director, Vanderbilt Television News Archive
Where: Vanderbilt University, Nashville

The Vanderbilt Television News Archive’s monthly publication, Television News Index and Abstracts, available at this site, includes abstracts from network evening newscasts, summaries of special reports and periodic news collected by the Archive, and summaries of collections pertinent to major events. The menus are well-marked and easy to follow. We were able to find information with minimum effort and in very little time. This is a wonderful and easy-to-use tool. The index is available via the WWW and Gopher.
What: Lady Vols Home page  
URL: http://www.utnlib.utk.edu/BD/ladyvols/  
Who: Thalia Hecker, thalia@utk.edu  
Where: University of Tennessee, Knoxville

This hypertext document covers the Lady Vols basketball team from just about every possible angle. It includes many color and black-and-white photos of the team, individual players, and coach Pat Head Summitt. Included also are individual players' stats, game-by-game summaries, box scores, cumulative stats, biographical information, ticket information, and pointers to other sports information. In short, this home page contains in-depth information about all aspects of Lady Vol basketball. A must-see for Lady Vol fans.

What: Nashville.Net  
URL: http://www.nashville.net/  
Who: Webmaster@Nashville.Net  
Where: Nashville

This site includes not only a clickable map for accessing its resources, but a text/menu version as well. A text version, crucial for those who do not have access to graphic interface software, is unfortunately missing from many graphic-based WWW pages. The Nashville.Net was formed with the intention of providing a way for all of Nashville to distribute information in an organized fashion. By clicking with a mouse on either the map or the menu, the user can connect to well-annotated subject areas, including Business, Community, Government, Music & Entertainment, Shops & Restaurants, Sports & Hobbies, Local Links, and Out of Town Links. Each of these pages also contains an annotated menu pointing to other pertinent Web pages. The most useful page, Local Links, carries an extensive annotated list of many new Nashville-based WWW, Gopher, ftp and telnet sites. This Website also supports a listserv, Nashville-Scout, which sends out a mailing every Sunday night about new WWW pages and Gophers in Nashville.

What: Manuscript Finding Aids to Materials in the Special Collections Library, UTK  
URL: http://www.lib.utk.edu/70/1h/UTKOnline-Catalog/manuscripts OR gopher://www.lib.utk.edu/70/11s/UTKOnline-Catalog/manuscripts  
Who: Special Collections, special@utklib.lib.utk.edu  
Where: University of Tennessee, Knoxville

A great boon to scholars with access to the Internet is the WWW and Gopher service, these manuscript finding aids offer detailed descriptions of what is held in the Special Collections Library at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. The contents of the collection are listed by box number and by folder name; the finding aids usually include notes on the scope and content of the manuscripts, as well as biographical sketches of their authors. As of this writing, the library has loaded 202 finding aids for collections ranging from TVA drama script records for Norris Dam to the papers of Alex P. Haley. While a full text search of all the finding aids is available on-line, researchers can also download the aids and use their own word-processing software to search for the materials they need, before they visit the library. A real time-saver.

What: Nightingales  
URL: http://nightingales.con.utk.edu/70/0/homepage OR gopher://nightingales.con.utk.edu/70/0/homepage  
Who: The University of Tennessee, College of Nursing, Florence@nightingales.con.utk.edu  
Where: University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Accessible from WWW or Gopher, this site is a great one-stop shopping spot for nursing information. The WWW page includes a form for interacting with those in charge of its upkeep, an audio welcome message, and well-organized subject areas such as Research, U.S. Political Happenings, Education, Professional Nursing Communications and more. The Gopher is similar, but lacks the whistles and bells.

What: Southern History Sampler, University of Tennessee Press  
URL: http://www.lib.utk.edu/70/1/UTKgophers/UT-PRESS/Sampler/Sampler.html  
Who: Stan Inwater, UT Press, inwater@utkux.utk.edu and Tamara Miller, Library Systems. miller@utklib.lib.utk.edu  
Where: University of Tennessee, Knoxville

This impressive collaborative effort was created by a systems librarian and the managing editor of the UT Press in order to see how much of the richness of the printed page could be replicated digitally. The collection is rich indeed. The 12 UT Press titles represent a variety of disciplines. The jacket art, title pages, tables of contents, front matter (forward, introduction, etc.), significant photos and other artwork, bibliographies, and indexes are all easily found by clicking either the book's title or cover. When the front matter is short, the creators have also included the complete text of the first chapter. Ordering information can be found at the bottom of the main page. The first time we looked at this, we became so involved in the book on screen handling that we were glued to the computer screen until we had read all of the text and looked at every photo. Wow, what a site!

This list is in no way complete. Many other sites show promise—especially city frencets, efforts in and with the public schools, and the planned statewide network for which the state has received a National Telecommunication Infrastructure Administration (NTIA) planning grant. These efforts will soon create new Tennessee Internet Treasures.
References


Acknowledgment
The authors wish to give special thanks to their editor, Jon Wallace.

An Interlibrary Loan Librarian Does Not Have to be Alone

TennShare has a network of experienced ILL librarians ready to help new ILL personnel learn the ropes.

Call Deborah Brackstone at 901-678-2262, deborah.brackstone@stjude.org
Marilyn Gordon at 901-761-2293, or Willa Reister at 614-544-5755, kplarc@ai@utklib.utk.edu

In the News: Articles about Libraries Appearing in Newsbank, 1986 - 1993

by William C. Robinson

Abstract

Over 1,000 articles on libraries found in Newsbank between 1986 and 1993 were examined. In a typical year, about 135 stories about libraries appeared in major U.S. newspapers. California had substantially more stories than any other state with 182 stories while Tennessee had 11 stories. Nationally, most articles (56 percent) were about public libraries with academic libraries second (23 percent), special libraries third (15 percent), and school libraries fourth (7 percent). Most articles dealt with facilities (52 percent). Other popular subjects were money (20 percent), gifts and archives (10 percent), censorship (8 percent), technology (5 percent), and the parent institution (4 percent). Correlations were discovered in the relationship between type of library and story subject. For example, 63 percent of the stories about school libraries dealt with censorship in contrast to 3 percent of the public library stories. News stories about Tennessee libraries are compared with other southeastern states as well as the United States as a whole.

Introduction

In a time of austerity for many libraries, public awareness of services and collections is increasingly important. The community is more likely to fund an agency that it knows and understands. Marginalization of libraries through inadequate resource allocation may be a function of lack of awareness or awareness of an inappropriate stereotype. Berger (1979, p. 179), writing about New York says: "Lacking the visible vitality of a police precinct, a fire house, or a hospital ward, the three library systems in the City are in what one official called a state of suspended animation, awaiting word on how deeply the budget knife will cut." Although written fifteen years ago, the point about "visible vitality" remains important. The American Association of Law Libraries Special Committee on Public Relations (1993, p. 42.), for example, in a 1992 report on the need for a strong public relations initiative for law libraries said:

"The library profession is in crisis. The crisis is seen in the diminishing pool of library science teachers, the decreasing competition for library school admission, the declining library school enrollment."
and, in the most glaring cases, the closing of library schools. It is demonstrated in the poor salaries and negative image of libraries and librarianship.

Ford (1985, p. 386), in an article on public relations in academic libraries, notes that informing users, potential or present, of the resources available and maintaining adequate financial support in the face of inflation and budget cuts requires solutions to "communication problems that result from outmoded stereotypes of libraries." The value and role of libraries, she says, is often misunderstood or underrated.

The "visible vitality" of the library in the community may result from media coverage, especially the local newspaper. A 1991 study (MediaMark Research, p. 551) of multimedia audiences found that almost 84 percent of adults (18 and older) read a newspaper. In contrast, 93 percent of adults viewed television and 85 percent listened to the radio.

While libraries have long had a variety of public relations initiatives, many of these may reach a relatively small number of community members, perhaps those who are already library users. Berger (1979, p. 180) makes this important point: "Whether or not libraries receive adequate support is strongly influenced by the kinds of relations they have with their public—their total public, including non-reading and non-library user groups." Norton (1984, p. 292) states that for U.S. public libraries, success has traditionally been "accompanied by an imaginative, energetic promotion." Seliken (1989, p. 352) also contributes an important element: "We ask people to use the library when instead we should be asking them to support the library." News stories about the library in the local paper are particularly important in developing this support, especially in those who are not now library users.

These news stories may reinforce stereotypes or change them. A negative story about the library can result in considerable damage. For example, a series of negative articles in New York Newsday (Legislator, 1993, p. 687-690) caused much grief for the Queens Borough [New York] Public Library. Newspaper stories about censorship may create the impression that the library is a place where offensive material is found. Stories about technology in the library, however, may create the impression that the library is exciting, on the leading edge, and central to the information society.

The problem investigated here is the degree to which news about the library appears in the newspaper. How often does the newspaper write about the library and what does it write about? It was hypothesized that there would be relatively few stories about libraries and that these stories would focus on financial and censorship problems.

No relevant research literature was found on this topic. While there is considerable literature on libraries and news, including newspaper libraries, little was found on libraries in the news. There are several items on public relations for libraries and some (Rice, 1972) of these suggest methods for libraries to get their story into the newspaper. National Library Week, sponsored by the American Library Association, is probably the best example of a well-known library public relations initiative. Berger, in a study (1979, p. 184) of public relations and public libraries in Connecticut, found a strong relationship between public relations activities and community budget support.

Method

The Newshark Index was used to provide access to newspaper articles. Newshark indexes and provides the full text of articles from 659 newspapers in the fifty states plus the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Newspapers covered include both traditional "general" newspapers as well as some devoted to business news. It was assumed that Newshark provides relatively comprehensive and accurate coverage of representative major newspapers in the United States. Newshark is reasonably current with its quarterly and annual cumulations and is easily searched, especially in the CD-ROM version used for this study. All articles dealing with libraries were identified and counted, yielding 1027 cases. Variables examined included: year, month, state, library type, and primary subject. Information on these variables was coded into a machine-readable file and analyzed using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences. Besides descriptive statistics, relationships between some variables were examined using the Chi Square Test of Significance to see if relationships were generalizable and Cramer's V to test the strength of relationship between variables.

Findings

Context

Table 1 provides information on the number of stories found in Newshark for selected subjects.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>US</th>
<th>TN</th>
<th>KY</th>
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<th>AR</th>
<th>MS</th>
<th>LA</th>
<th>FL</th>
<th>SC</th>
<th>NC</th>
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<td>195</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>253</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>171</td>
</tr>
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<td>Police</td>
<td>10787</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>490</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>107</td>
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<td>148</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>332</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks</td>
<td>5093</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>320</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Museums</td>
<td>4542</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welfare</td>
<td>3372</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Libraries</td>
<td>1146</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>26</td>
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<td>13</td>
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<td>Recreation</td>
<td>354</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theatre</td>
<td>234</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The data collection for this phase of the research was done at a later time so that the N for libraries is slightly larger here.
There are 6 stories about public schools, 4 stories about museums, and 4 stories about parks for each story about libraries. Table 2 provides similar information for selected southeastern states.

Table 2
Number of general news stories for each library news story in southeastern newspapers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>TN</th>
<th>KY</th>
<th>AL</th>
<th>AR</th>
<th>MS</th>
<th>LA</th>
<th>FL</th>
<th>SC</th>
<th>NC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public Schools</td>
<td>15*</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Museums</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welfare</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The data collection for this phase of the research was done at a later time so that N is slightly larger for number of libraries news studies.

For Tennessee, there are about 15 stories about public schools, 9 stories about museums, and 4 stories about parks for every story about libraries.

Year
The first variable examined was year. Table 3 lists the number of stories about libraries by year.

Table 3
Library News Stories by Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>15.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>13.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>16.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>10.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>11.7</td>
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<td>1991</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>13.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>11.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993*</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>7.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*1993 is a partial year (through October)

Spring 1995

Note that 1993 is a partial year. The mean full year had 135 library news stories. If the atypical California is removed from the sample, the mean full year had 106 stories. With 50 states, this means that about two news stories about libraries are published in each state each year. For Tennessee, 1987 was the most visible year for libraries with three news stories. Other years saw one or two news stories.

Month
More news stories were likely to appear in July, November, May and February. A significant (at the .009 level) and low (Cramer’s V = .14) relationship was found between month and type of library. Stories about school libraries were much more likely to appear in September and December. Public libraries were more likely to be in the news in May and June. Academic libraries were most likely to appear in the newspaper in January and November while the special library and information center was more likely to appear in a July issue.

There was a significant (at the .000 level) and low (Cramer’s V = .16) relationship between month and subject. Technology news stories were more likely to appear in December, finance stories in May, facilities stories in June, and stories about the parent institution in September. September had more than twice the censorship stories of any other month. Gift stories were much more likely to appear in January and July. No pattern was observed in Tennessee news stories, although they were somewhat more likely to appear in January or April.

State
Table 4 lists articles by state. Note that the states are here ranked by total number of articles. However, the number of daily newspapers and the percentage by state is included to control somewhat for the number of newspapers in a state. The number of library stories is positively and significantly (at .000) correlated with the number of daily newspapers in the state. The Pearson correlation coefficient is .59, a strong relationship. In general, the rank list of these two variables is similar, but there are some differences.

California is clearly in a category by itself with more than three times as many stories as any other state. California has nearly 17 percent of the daily papers and nearly 18 percent of the library stories. Texas has 14 percent of the daily newspapers but only 5 percent of the library stories. The District of Columbia has only two daily newspapers—nearly 0 percent of the 659 U.S. newspapers, but had 3 percent of the library news stories. In general, people living in states with more newspapers are more likely to read stories about libraries.

When we look at the number of articles per Newsbank indexed newspaper, Rhode Island with six articles per newspaper is the leader. Illinois, California, Georgia, and the District of Columbia had more than three articles per newspaper. Typically, the mean newspaper had one article about libraries during the 1986–1993 period.

There was a significant (at the .000 level) but modest relationship (Cramer’s V = .29) between state and year with different states having more library stories in different years. No clear trend or pattern is evident. California had 46 stories in 1987, Texas had 17 in 1993 and Illinois had
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Articles</th>
<th>Daily Papers</th>
<th>Articles per Daily Paper</th>
<th>Papers in Network</th>
<th>Articles per Network</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>17.7</td>
<td>10.3</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>11.0</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>9.3</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Connecticut</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>1.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maryland</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table above provides data for 50 states in the U.S., including the Articles, Daily Papers, Articles per Daily Paper, Papers in Network, and Articles per Network. The data is presented in a tabular format, with each state listed in a row and the corresponding values in the columns to its right.
Tennessee with its 13 news stories was an “average” southeastern state since 13 stories represented both the mode and the median for this group. Almost all of the Tennessee news stories appeared in either the Nashville Tennessean or the Commercial Appeal. This is a pattern often repeated throughout the southeast. There are usually one or two leading newspapers accounting for all the library news stories: the Richmond Times-Dispatch; the Lexington Herald-Leader; the Arkansas Gazette; the Times-Picayune; the Clarion-Ledger; the Raleigh News and Observer and the Charlotte Observer; and the Greenville News and The State. Only in Florida are news stories about libraries found in newspapers around the state.

REVIEW

States were collapsed into regions to see if there were regional differences. As expected, because of the many stories in California newspapers, the West was the leading region with 33 percent of the stories (337), then came the South with 21 percent (218), the East with 20 percent (200), the Midwest with 15 percent (130), and the Mid-Atlantic with 11 percent (112). Mean stories per year per region were: 42 for the West, 27 for the South, 25 for the East, 19 for the Midwest, and 14 for the Mid-Atlantic. On a per state basis, the number of stories per year in the West was 3.2 for the South, 2.8 for the East, 2.3 for the Midwest, and 3.5 for the Mid-Atlantic.

TYPE OF LIBRARY

The type of library found in the news story appears in Table 6.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>% of News Stories on Topic by State</th>
<th>US</th>
<th>TN</th>
<th>VA</th>
<th>KY</th>
<th>AR</th>
<th>LA</th>
<th>MS</th>
<th>AL</th>
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<th>SC</th>
<th>NC</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public</td>
<td>56 39 79 47 80 71 56 100 73 86 54</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Acad</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Money</td>
<td>20 23 5 21 23 0 44 33 12 14 23</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Censor</td>
<td>8 0 11 16 15 14 0 0 19 14 8</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bldg</td>
<td>52 39 16 42 8 0 22 0 8 14 31</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gifts</td>
<td>10 8 11 0 31 14 0 0 12 20 8</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>1027 13 19 19 13 7 9 3 26 7 13</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Slightly more than half of the library news stories were about the public library. Academic libraries came next with 23 percent of the stories and special libraries had 15 percent. That only 7 percent of the stories were about school libraries was unexpected since these were expected to be more visible in the community and of greater interest or concern than the special library.

No particular trend or pattern was visible in the relationship between library type and year. If 1992, the last complete year examined, is indicative of change, there will be more coverage...
of school libraries and academic libraries in the future, less coverage of special libraries, and coverage of public libraries will remain about the same.

A significant (at the .001 level) and moderate (Cramer's V=.37) relationship was found between type of library and state. In five states—Hawaii (40 percent), Iowa (33 percent), North Dakota (23 percent), and Montana (23 percent)—news stories were much more likely to be about school libraries. In seven states—New Mexico (100 percent), Vermont (61 percent), Oregon (50 percent), Tennessee (55 percent), Wyoming (50 percent), Indiana (50 percent), and New Hampshire (50 percent)—news stories were much more likely to be about academic libraries. In eight states—South Dakota (100 percent), Alabama (100 percent), Ohio (89 percent), Missouri (88 percent), Illinois (88 percent), Alaska (85 percent), South Carolina (83 percent), and Puerto Rico (80 percent)—stories were much more likely to be about public libraries. In four states—District of Columbia (65 percent), Georgia (38 percent), California (34 percent), and Minnesota (28 percent)—the news was much more likely to be about special libraries and information centers.

Table 5 provides information on the type of library focus of selected southeastern states. In Tennessee, about 54 percent of the stories were about academic libraries with 39 percent about public libraries and 8 percent about school libraries. Tennessee is close to the national average in its coverage of school libraries, but gives substantially more coverage to academic libraries than to public ones. In the southeast, news stories about public school libraries were most likely to be found in Florida and Louisiana but remain a modest percentage even in these states. Public libraries are most likely to be in the news in Alabama, Arkansas, Virginia, and Louisiana. They are least likely to be in the news in Tennessee. Academic libraries are most likely to be visible in newspapers from Kentucky and Tennessee. No story about a special library or information center appeared in a southeastern newspaper during this time.

A significant (at the .001 level) and moderate (Cramer's V=.37) relationship was found between type of library and subject. News stories about school libraries are likely to focus on censorship (33 percent), facilities (16 percent), and finances (15 percent). Stories about public libraries are likely to focus on facilities (48 percent), finances (28 percent), censorship (7 percent), and technology (7 percent). Stories about academic libraries are likely to focus on facilities (61 percent), archives (17 percent), finances (14 percent), and technology (5 percent). Stories about special libraries and information centers are likely to focus on facilities (71 percent), archives (17 percent), and the parent organization (5 percent).

Tennessee academic library stories were mostly about facilities—the new University of Memphis main library building. Public library stories were likely to focus on funding problems.

A significant (at the .001 level) but low (Cramer's V=.15) relationship was found between region and type of library. Stories about school libraries were more likely to be found in the West. Public libraries were more likely to be found in the newspaper in the Midwest and Mid-Atlantic. News about academic libraries was more likely to be found in the East and the South. Special libraries and information centers were more likely to be found in the newspaper in the West and East.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Facilities</td>
<td>420</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Money</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gifts and archives</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Censorship</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent Institution</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>4</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Scarcey more than half of the library stories dealt with facilities. An example of a story about facilities would include one on how shabby the Denver Public Library looks and another on the attractiveness of the newly remodeled Herbert Hoover Presidential Library and museum.

Financial concerns were the next most popular topic with 20 percent. Examples of financial stories include county library hours being cut in Northern California to save money and the University of Arizona library cancelling $700,000 worth of periodicals because of budget shortfalls.

Few stories were about either technology (5 percent) or censorship (8 percent). Examples of stories about technology include a high technology high school library in Idaho Falls, Idaho, and an automated public catalog in Marco Island Public Library in Florida. Censorship stories include requests to prevent access to adult materials by children in Lansing, Michigan, and a request to remove Rolling Stone magazine from a school library in Virginia City, Nevada.

It was unexpected to discover that stories about gifts and archives were more likely to be found than stories on these two seemingly more important topics. Examples of stories about gifts include the widow of Theodor Geisel giving his manuscripts and other memorabilia to the University of California at San Diego, fund-raising difficulties associated with the Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum, competition between universities to secure the papers of famous people, and the donation of the papers of a famous sports writer to a library in Knoxville, TN.

A significant (at the .001 level) but low (Cramer's V=.17) relationship was found between subject and year. Interestingly, stories about technology in libraries increased in both 1992 (10 percent) and 1993 (13 percent). Stories about financial concerns were more likely to appear in
1991 (35 percent), 1992 (31 percent), and 1993 (28 percent). Censorship stories were also more likely to be found in 1992 (13 percent) and 1993 (14 percent).

A significant (at the .001 level) and low relationship (Cramer's V = .284) was found between subject and state. Four states—Nebraska (40 percent), Indiana (30 percent), Idaho (29 percent), and Florida (26 percent)—were much more likely to have stories about technology in libraries. Five states—Delaware (60 percent), Missouri (47 percent), Tennessee (46 percent), Mississippi (47 percent), and Maryland (38 percent)—were much more likely to have stories about financial concerns. Four states—Iowa (38 percent), Montana (31 percent), Arkansas (29 percent), and Colorado (27 percent)—were much more likely to have stories about censorship in libraries. Six states—New Mexico (100 percent), Minnesota (82 percent), Illinois (76 percent), Maine (75 percent), Vermont (71 percent), and Alaska (70 percent)—were much more likely to have stories about facilities.

Table 5 presents information on the subject focus of articles from newspapers in selected southeastern states. Tennessee is very close to the national average percentages in stories about technology, funding, and gifts or archives. However, there are fewer stories about censorship and buildings. In the southeast, stories about library technology are most likely to be found in Florida and the Carolinas. Financial problems receive the most visibility in Mississippi and Alabama. Censorship is most likely to be in the news in Florida. Buildings are likely to be in the news in Kentucky and Tennessee. Gifts and archives stories are more likely to appear in Arkansas and South Carolina papers.

A significant (at the .005 level) but low (Cramer's V = .10) relationship was found between region and subject. Stories about technology in libraries were more likely to be found in the Mid-Atlantic and Midwest. News about finances was more likely to be found in the Midwest. Censorship stories were more likely to be found in the West and the South. Stories about facilities were more likely to be found in the West. Stories about gifts and archives were more likely to be found in the East.

**Conclusions**

In comparison with other community agencies, libraries are rarely in the news. Traditionally, some libraries have felt that the library does not need public relations, does not need to be in the news. Berger (1979, p. 180) puts it well:

> Most library directors seem to need to be persuaded that public relations is an essential management function; some may think that such an activity is undignified or commercial. They will suggest that ‘everyone knows’ that libraries, like motherhood and apple pie, are good simply because they exist, that a society without libraries is incomprehensible, and it is therefore unnecessary to publicize them.

In a climate where resources for public services are often limited, good news about the library would seem to be essential. It is curious that there is no apparent increase in the number of news stories about libraries over time. Given the financial burdens facing many publicly funded libraries as well as the rapid adoption of information technology, libraries would seem to be more

newsworthy today than in the past. Libraries need to be more visible in the community. It is not clear if the low number of news stories is the result of lack of news or if the library is, in fact, newsworthy but does not adequately share the good news via press releases, conferences, open houses, and the like.

Journalists often use the phrase “news values” in discussing how worthy a potential story might be.

> A newspaper has only so many column inches, and a broad-caster has only so many minutes to tell about the day’s events. Competing for that space and that time are diverse groups with varying amounts of sophistication. On the whole, teachers are unsophisticated in ways of gaining access to media coverage. The lack of sophistication can be attributed to their ignorance of the value system that governs reporters and editors who select what information is printed or broadcast (Oates, 1981, 38).

Librarians, like the teachers mentioned above, are often unsophisticated about news values. A story with news value is likely to be published. A story without news value is likely to remain unpublished. Frequently mentioned news values include: significance, conflict, progress, disaster, impact; novelty; human interest; and currency. Corrigan (1990, 657) found that prominence, conflict, and timeliness were the most important news values in front page news stories. Boone (1993, p. 27) found that the “more important news values, to both readers and editors, appear to be conflict, impact [or consequence], timeliness and proximity.”

The stories found in Newspack clearly reflect these news values. Recent Tennessee stories have been dominated by the new library facility at the University of Memphis; a handsome, state of the art library has strong “proximity” value for those in Memphis. The State Library and Librarian have been the major focus of Virginia news stories about libraries. Kentucky stories have dealt with a variety of problems associated with the University Libraries. Arkansas newspapers had three stories on Ku Klux Klan gifts of materials to libraries. In all three states, “conflict” is clearly evident. Anything involving the Klan is guaranteed to create conflict. Stories about repeated and highly visible complaints about the state library or the university library are also likely to create conflict.

The comparison between libraries, parks and museums in the number of news stories is striking. Museum stories are based on series of interesting events, usually with considerable human interest, that occur on a regular schedule. Most museums depend on admission income for some part of their funding and that is a major difference with libraries. Still libraries might develop a series of “exhibits” designed to highlight various aspects of collections and services and to attract customers.

It is curious that news stories about the library are much more likely to occur in a few states. Obviously, the population size of a state and the number of newspapers have some impact. But why does Maine, for example, have nearly twice as many stories as Virginia? Are libraries in some states notably more public relations oriented than those in other states? Do some state libraries assist local libraries to be more effective in promotional work with the media?
The fact that more than half of all news stories were about public libraries is not unreasonable, especially since public libraries are most likely to be substantially involved in public relations (Ford, 1985, p. 397). The fact that Tennessee public libraries are much less in the news than public libraries in the southeast or the nation is a matter of some concern.

While special libraries and information centers account for 15 percent of the library news stories nationally, there were no stories about special libraries in Tennessee or the southeast. Given our genuinely excellent special libraries and information centers, including some at the Oak Ridge National Laboratories with international reputations, there may be considerable potential for interesting stories.

The finding that only seven percent of the articles were about school libraries was unexpected. While individual school libraries might interest only neighborhoods, school libraries in a community ought to be of some interest at a time when so much attention is being given to multimedia, networked information. Perhaps district level school library coordinators need to give more attention to news opportunities. Given topical interest in education, information technology, and censorship, public school libraries should be more newsworthy. School library stories would also seem to have considerable "impact" because of the large number of people affected—students and family members. Perhaps the problem is that there is no large, central school library to attract media attention and neighborhood school libraries may not interest metropolitan media. The large proportion of school library stories devoted to censorship—nearly two thirds—is understood since censorship generates much newsworthiness "conflict." Still, this is a source of concern since it may reinforce stereotypes and divert attention from the good news of school library using information technology to add vitality, reach, and excitement to learning. It was interesting to discover that relatively few public library news stories were devoted to censorship incidents. Does this reflect the fact that there are far fewer censorship incidents in public libraries in recent years or that these are less likely to make the news?

Facilities and finances are responsible for three-quarters of the news stories about public libraries. Facilities and archives are responsible for slightly more than three-quarters of the academic news reports. For special libraries, facilities and archives are the subjects of nearly ninety percent of the news stories. This emphasis on buildings is probably appropriate given the need for new buildings and remodeling of older ones. Too, attractive new buildings are news and a source of community pride—these high proximity values appear to insure publication. However, emphasis on the library as a place may divert attention from the library as a source of service and material. The small proportion of news stories, about five percent, devoted to information technology was a surprise. Information technology, with its bells and whistles, would seem to be very newsworthy with news values of progress, impact, novelty, and human interest. In the last two years, there has been a trend to an increasing number of stories devoted to finances and information technology. These subjects, then, may be much more important in the future.

The Tennessee Library Association would surely benefit Tennessee libraries and the citizens of Tennessee if it developed and implemented a thoughtful program to keep our libraries and information centers in the news. A workshop devoted to news values and how to prepare tip sheets for local media would be of considerable value. Since no reporter can be aware of all

newseworthy events, tips from librarians are important. As Oates (1981, 41) says: "By taking the initiative to provide the reporter with story ideas that are compatible with the news values of the trade, English teachers [or librarians] can find another channel of communication with their public and with the taxpayer."

In an age of austerity for many libraries, at a time when some people doubt that libraries will be needed in the age of the information highway, the visibility and public awareness of library services and collections is essential. Without shared and realistic expectations, the future of libraries may be difficult.

Acknowledgements

I would like to express my appreciation to Lisa Baker Hill who provided major assistance with data collection and data entry. The University of Tennessee Computing Center provided statistical packages for the Social Sciences and computing support.

References


Books and Bucks:
Comparing Support for the Libraries of Public Historically Black Colleges and Universities
by Jim Gravois

During the spring of 1994 the author began research for a poster session to be presented at the annual conference of the American Library Association in Miami Beach. The purpose was to gather statistics that might throw light on the following question: How well do the various state systems of higher education, including Tennessee's, support the libraries of historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs)? The author sought the answer through a comparison of public HBCU libraries with the libraries of traditionally white public colleges.

Literature Search
Finding an answer required some preliminary steps, including a literature search, the identification of public HBCUs, and the selection of a source of library statistics. A thorough search of Library Literature found a number of articles and books about HBCUs, but very little about their libraries. Susan T. Hill's 1985 study estimated that the libraries of all public four-year HBCUs in the country held sixty-five volumes per student, on average, compared to sixty-two volumes for comparable "white" college libraries. Robert Molyneux published the results of his survey of HBCU libraries for the Association of College and Research Libraries in 1991. Although his survey questions were quite thorough, he did not include all public HBCUs and he offered no way to compare the data with comparable white colleges.

Methodology
Using information from the U. S. Department of Education, the author compiled a list of thirty-six public four-year HBCUs in eighteen states, along with 187 public four-year white colleges with sufficient library data. (See Table 1 for a list of the HBCUs in this study.) West Virginia's two HBCUs were dropped from the study because their student bodies are now overwhelmingly white. To gather data on each library, the primary source was Bowker's American Library Directory 1993-94. When a particular bit of information was lacking, the author consulted The College Blue Book.* Three HBCU libraries supplied missing data directly. For two others the author used the Molyneux data.

Since some libraries do not report all requested information, the author chose the categories of data most frequently available. These categories are: student enrollment, total number of volumes, total library salary expenditure, total library staff, and the breakdown of professional and non-professional staff. Staff totals do not include student workers, but only full-time equivalent
employees. Using these six categories, the author entered the numbers into a database using PC-SAS software and produced the following areas of comparison:

1) volumes per student,
2) salary expenditure per student,
3) salary expenditure per library staff member,
4) total library staff per hundred students,
5) professional library staff per hundred students, and
6) professional librarians as percent of staff.

While it would have been extremely helpful to have more information, such as expenditures for acquisitions or automation, these data were too inconsistent to make comparisons across such a large number of libraries.

Results

In 1977 the U.S. Office of Civil Rights published criteria for plans to bring about desegregation in state systems of higher education. Among other things the criteria called for improvements in the libraries of public HBCUs as a means of attracting more white students to those campuses. In the same year a court order merged the predominantly white University of Tennessee, Nashville with historically black Tennessee State University, seemingly with the same end in mind. Nevertheless, although Nashville does not have another public four-year college, Tennessee State is still predominantly black, with sixty-three percent of its student body being African-American. Of the eighteen states in this study, eight, like Tennessee, have only a single public four-year HBCU. Only five have three or more. Tennessee State, originally founded as a normal school for Negroes in 1912, is one of only nine public HBCUs, out of thirty-six, which offer the doctoral degree. Three quarters of the HBCUs in this study do not offer the doctoral degree.

This background should lend perspective to the results of this study. For each of the six categories, Tennessee State’s figures are compared to the average for all eight of Tennessee’s public white colleges and then to the average for the five white Tennessee doctoral institutions. Furthermore, the averages of all of Tennessee’s colleges are ranked in comparison to the averages for each of the other seventeen states. Finally, the results for Tennessee State are ranked in comparison to the average results for the HBCUs in the other seventeen states.

In the first category, books per student, Tennessee State has 47.60, compared to the average of 50.85 for the eight white colleges. Limiting the comparison to the other doctoral granting institutions, those five average 52.70 books per student. Out of the eighteen states in this study, Tennessee’s average for all its colleges ranks last. Compared to the averages for HBCUs by state, Tennessee State ranks fourteenth of eighteen. Table 2 gives the individual results for each of Tennessee’s nine public colleges.

The second category is salary expenditure per student, in which the total for Tennessee State is $102.41 per student, compared to $115.27 for the eight white colleges. The average for the other five doctoral institutions is $117.68. In the ranking measures, Tennessee’s colleges come in sixteenth of the eighteen states, while Tennessee State is thirteenth in the averages for HBCUs by state.

The third category is salary expenditure per full-time staff member. Tennessee State averages $19,094 per staff, compared to $22,414 for the eight white colleges. The other five doctoral institutions average $22,129. In this category, Tennessee’s colleges rank seventeenth of the eighteen states, while Tennessee State comes in at seventeenth place out of the eighteen states compared to other HBCUs.

The next two categories measure staff per hundred students. Tennessee State employs .539 staff members per hundred students, compared to .505 staff members at the eight white colleges. The five other doctoral institutions average .532 staff per hundred students. Compared to the other states, Tennessee’s colleges rank twelfth in this category, while Tennessee State ranks tenth out of the eighteen states.

In the measurement of professional librarians per hundred students, Tennessee State has .229, compared to .170 for the eight other colleges. The white doctoral institutions are not much different, averaging .171 professional librarians per hundred students. In the eighteen-state rankings, Tennessee colleges rank thirteenth in this category, while Tennessee State ranks ninth out of eighteen.

The final statistic measures professional librarians as percent of total staff. At Tennessee State professionals make up 42.5 percent of the staff, compared to 33.7 percent at the eight white colleges and 32.2 percent at the five other doctoral institutions. Compared to the other states, Tennessee’s colleges rank fifth out of eighteen, and Tennessee State ranks ninth compared to the state averages for other HBCUs.

Conclusions

Conclusions must be tentative because of the limitations of this study. First, the data are only as reliable as the self-reporting libraries chose to be. Furthermore, there was no attempt to ascertain the age of collections, to compare the relative state of automation at different libraries, to measure the effectiveness of interlibrary loan activity, or to investigate patron satisfaction with the libraries. Any of these factors could reveal more information about state support for its HBCU libraries.

Within these limitations, however, some conclusions are obvious. First, as a group, Tennessee’s public academic libraries, black or white, rank near the bottom in almost every category compared to the other states. Second, Tennessee’s traditionally white college libraries receive greater support in terms of book collections and salary expenditures than does Tennessee State. On the other hand, Tennessee State appears to average a better ratio of staff-to-students and professionals-to-staff than do the white college libraries. Finally, compared to the thirty-five other HBCUs, Tennessee State ranks in the bottom half in five of the six categories.

Further research is recommended to ascertain the reliability of these conclusions. Tennessee's academic librarians owe it to themselves and their patrons to investigate these matters. Would a compilation of data comparing library budgets and acquisitions funding at Tennessee's public academic libraries back up the results of this study regarding Tennessee State University? Is there demonstrable need to upgrade all of Tennessee’s academic libraries? Is there other information which could justify and explain away Tennessee’s seemingly low ranking compared to other states? As academic libraries continue to play a central role in providing access to ever-growing supplies of electronic information, budgetary decisions can have the effect of creating a class system among academic libraries. Library directors
and college presidents must draw their own conclusions and take whatever action is necessary and feasible during these budget-tightening times.

References and Notes


10. *Undergraduate Catalog: 4.*

11. East Tennessee State, the University of Memphis, Middle Tennessee State, Tennessee Tech, and the University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

12. Out of thirty-six public HBCUs, Tennessee State's rankings were 29th, 27th, 31st, 20th, 18th, and 17th.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>College</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Degree Level</th>
<th>Percentage Black</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Alabama A &amp; M</td>
<td>AL</td>
<td>M</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>M</td>
<td>98.0</td>
</tr>
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<td>B</td>
<td>81.0</td>
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<td>DE</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>62.1</td>
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<td>FL</td>
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<td>GA</td>
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<tr>
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<td>M</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td></td>
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<td>TX</td>
<td>M</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Texas Southern</td>
<td>TX</td>
<td>D</td>
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<td>M</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia State</td>
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**TABLE 2**

**TENNESSEE LIBRARY STATISTICS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College</th>
<th>% Black</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Book/Student</th>
<th>Salary/Student</th>
<th>Salary/Staff</th>
<th>Staff/Student</th>
<th>Prof./Student</th>
<th>% Prof.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Austin Peay</td>
<td>19.8</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>31.65</td>
<td>100.20</td>
<td>25,090</td>
<td>.40</td>
<td>.14</td>
<td>.34.8</td>
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<td>East Tennessee St.</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>48.84</td>
<td>102.95</td>
<td>24,057</td>
<td>.43</td>
<td>.16</td>
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<td>Memphis</td>
<td>19.0</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>47.68</td>
<td>114.47</td>
<td>22,082</td>
<td>.52</td>
<td>.14</td>
<td>.26.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Middle Tenn. St.</td>
<td>9.7</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>39.43</td>
<td>80.26</td>
<td>26,136</td>
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<td>.13</td>
<td>.43.2</td>
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<td>3.5</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>46.09</td>
<td>88.97</td>
<td>21,352</td>
<td>.42</td>
<td>.18</td>
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<td>U/T-Chattanooga</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>44.52</td>
<td>89.40</td>
<td>23,243</td>
<td>.38</td>
<td>.18</td>
<td>.46.7</td>
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<td>D</td>
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<td>.23</td>
<td>.42.5</td>
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</table>

**Spring 1995**

**Tennessee Bibliography 1995**

Mary Glenn Hearne, Chair
Public Library of Nashville/Davidson County

Patricia M. LaPointe
Memphis/Shelby County Public Library and Information Center

John David Marshall
Middle Tennessee State University

Barbara S. Cook
Knox County Public Library

This thirteenth annual Tennessee Bibliography consists of books published in 1994 which are about Tennessee or by Tennessee authors. Some items published before 1994 but not listed in previous years and a few 1995 titles are included. Government publications and pamphlets are generally omitted. Children's books are designated by an asterisk. Annotations are used to identify, in case the title does not, why the work was included.

Adams, Deborah. *All the Hungry Mothers.* New York: Ballantine Books, 1994. 209pp. $4.00. This is the fourth mystery novel by the Waverly, Tennessee, novelist.


Clark, Roy with Marc Eliot. My Life—In Spite Of Myself! New York: Simon and Schuster, 1994. 224pp. $22.00. This autobiography is by the co-host of the Hee-Haw TV show.


Grant, Michael A. Beyond Blame: Race Relations For The Twenty-First Century. Smithsonian-Berry Publications, 1994. $12.95. Grant is a former Nashville NAACP branch president.


Graves, Marjorie and Patty Hodge, comps. Lewis County Pictorial History. Hohenwald, TN: Lewis County Sesquicentennial Committee, 1994. Unpaged. $25.00. PB Order from: The author, P.O. Box 136, 38462.


Hall, Patricia and Charlie Seeman, eds. Folklore And Museums. Nashville: American Association of State and Local History (530 Church St., # 600, 37219), 1994. 194pp. $15.00. Editors are Nashvillians.
Hancock County, Tennessee And Its People, vol. 2. Sneedville, TN: Hancock County Historical Society (P.O. Box 277, 37869-0277), 1994. $47.50.


Harwell, Sara, ed. The Papers Of Delbert Mann: A Manuscripts Catalog. Nashville: Vanderbilt Special Collections (4121st Ave. S., 37203), 1994. 302pp. $10.00. Mann is a 1941 Vanderbilt graduate and a member of its Board of Trust. Harwell, librarian and archivist, works in Special Collections.


Marshall, John David. Books Are Still Basic. Compiled by Sharon Campbell Parnes. Murfreesboro, TN: Chartwell South Press, 1994. 16pp. A keepsake edition of 99 copies was made for colleagues of the author at his retirement after more than 40 years in academic librarianship, 26 of those years having been spent at Todd Library, Middle Tennessee State University.


Memphis Little Theatre Players Association.  
Book details the founding and growth of one of the country's oldest and best-known amateur theaters.

Menzel, George.  Portrait Of A Flying Lady:  
The Stories Of Those She Flew With In  
Battle Pacahoa, KY: Turner Publishing Co.  (412 Broadway, P. O. Box 3101,  
World War II bomber pilot Myron L.  
King, proprietor of Lyon's Frames and  
Fine Art in Nashville, has his story aboard the 401st Bomb Group told.

Mill Creek Baptist Church.  Mill Creek Church  
Meeting Minutes, April 1977-April 1981.  
Davidson County, Tennessee.  
Nashville: The Church (Grace Church Baptist  
Church, 2635 Nolensville Rd., 37211-  
2296), 1994.  61pp.  $10.00.  PB.

Minnis, Kathleen.  Laughter In The Amen  
Corner: The Life Of Evangelist Sam  
Book opens with Jones' revival in Nashville and meeting with Thomas Ryma.

Mitchell, Rick.  Garth Brooks: One Of A  
Kind.  Workin' On A Full House.  
A Fireside Book.  128pp.  $12.00.

Montell, William Lynwood.  Upper  
Cumberland Country.  Jackson, MS:  

Mooney, Jack.  Printers In Appalachia: The  
International Printing Pressmen And  
Assistants' Union Of North America,  
Green State University Popular Press,  
1993.  193pp.  $39.95;  $16.96 PB.  
Hale Springs, Tennessee, became Printers'  
Home in 1911 and national headquarters  
for IPPA until 1967.  Author is Associate  
Professor of Journalism at East Tennessee  
State University.

Moore, David.  Tennessee Mountain Bike  
Adventures: A Collection Of Trails From  
Memphis To The Great Smoky  
Mountains.  Hendersonville, TN: Big Air  
Publishing, (105 Northblade Ct.,  37075),  
1993.  116pp.  $9.95.  Author is a financial  
advisor in Brentwood.

Moore, Harry L.  A Geologic Trip Across  
Tennessee By Interstate 40.  Outdoor  
Tennessee Series.  Knoxville University  
$19.95.

$9.25.  Memphis African American writer  
and attorney has done this collection of  
poems.

Muncy, Estle P.  People And Places Of  
Jefferson County.  Rogersville, TN: East  
343pp.  $20.00.

Murray, Raymond L.  Grandpa Saw It  
Happen: World War II.  NormanBY  
Beach To Elbe River.  Cleveland, TN:  
The author (3890 Bow St. NE.,  37312),  
1993.  250pp.  $19.95.  Work is a personal  
memoir of a World War II soldier from  
Cleveland, Tennessee.

Nashville Metropolitan The Black Yellow  
Pages, Inc. (1106 28th Ave. N. 37208),  

vol. 1.  Nashville: StagePost (255 French  
Landing, 37228), 1994.  37pp.  PB.


Nelson, Betty Palmer.  Uncertain April, 1909-  
Nelson, who teaches at Volunteer State  
Community College, writes an  
tergenerational novel about Tennessee  
women in a small town.

Netherton, John.  At The Water's Edge:  
Wading Birds Of North America.  
$29.95.

O'Neal, Bill.  The Southern League: Baseball  
In Dixie, 1883-1994.  Austin, TX: Eakin  

Ogilbany, Tim.  Suzann Says: Featuring  
Suzann.  The First Hearing Impaired  
Comic Character.  Bell Buckle, TN: Bell  
Buckle Press (Box 486, 37020), 1992.  
47pp.  PB.

Orsborn, Carol.  Enough Is Enough: Simple  
Solutions For Complex People.  San  
1986.  203pp.  $10.95.

—. How Would Confucius Ask For A Raise:  
One Hundred Enlightened Solutions To  
Tough Business Problems.  New York,  
Orsborn is a student at Vanderbilt Divinity  
School.

—. Inner Excellence: Spiritual Principles  
Of Life-Driven Business.  San Rafael,  
203pp.  Orsborn moved to Nashville from  
San Francisco.  $17.95.

Overton County History Book Committee.  
History Of Overton County, Dallas, TX:  
Curtis Media Corp. and Overton County  
Library (225 E. Main St., Livingston,  
TN 38570), 1992.  574pp.  $49.50.

Padgett, Hilda Brit.  The Erwin Nine.  Johnson  
136pp.  $9.95.  Book relates the  
experiences of nine young men from  
Erwin, Tennessee, during World War II.

Parton, Dolly.  Dolly: My Life And Other  
Unfinished Business.  New York:  

*—. Coat Of Many Colors.  New York:  
her first children's book.

Paeschall, Henry Franklin.  Identity Crisis In  
The Church: The Southern Baptist  
Convention Controversy.  Nashville:  
Gospel Progress, Inc. (2438 Bear Rd,  
37215), 1993.  160pp.  $10.00.  Author  
details doctrinal controversies of the  
Baptists headquartered in Nashville.

Patton, Darryl. *America's Goat Man: Mr. Chex McCartney.* Leesburg, AL: The Little River Press (1 Box 85-A, 35983), 1994. $21.95. McCartney, age 106 and living in Georgia, is described as one of Tennessee's unique folk characters.


Perry, Elisabeth Israel. *A History Of The Cumberland Valley Girl Scout Movement.* Nashville: National Endowment for the Humanities and the Tennessee Humanities Council, 1992. 33pp. PB. Focusing on Girl Scouting in Middle Tennessee and Southern Kentucky, this work is by a Vanderbilt History Professor.


Renkl, Margaret. *The Marigold Poems.* Galloway Township, NJ: Still Waters Press, 1992. $5.00 PB. Author teaches at Harpeth Hall School in Nashville. Her brother, Assistant Professor of Art at Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, did the art work.

Rohen, Harold (Bud). *Cross Index To Tennessee Criminal Statutes, Procedure And Penalties.* Chattanooga, TN: The author (P. O. Box 2, 37401-0002), 1997. $19.95. PB. Rohen, of Chattanooga, is an administrative assistant to a criminal court clerk.


Rutledge, Thom. *If I Were They.* Nashville: The author (331 22nd Ave. N., Suite 1, 37203), 1994. $5.00. PB. $8.95.


*Taber, Betty Joyce. The Sergeant Has Four Legs.* Johnson City, TN: Overmount Press, 1993. 588 pp. $8.95. A teacher in Johnson City has written this true story reflecting the history of the police department.


*Tradition Of Hope: A Look At The Life Of A Church On The Move For Christ—Stey-Hubbard United Methodist Church, Founded 1873.* Nashville: Published by the Committee on Church and Society with support from the Leadership for Social Ministry Project of the Kelly Miller Smith Institute, Vanderbilt University Divinity School, 1992. 57 pp. PB.


Watson, Ritchie Devon, Jr. _Yeoman Versus Cavalier: The Old South West's Fictional Road To Rebellion_. Baton Rouge, LA: Louisiana State University Press, 1993. 183pp. $29.95. Work by a Randolph-Macon English professor includes several Tennesseans.


Williams, Robyn. _Preconceived Notions_. St. Louis, MO: Fireside Books, 1994. 500pp. $19.95. PB. This novel, which has a Nashville setting, is the first for the author, an 1987 graduate of Tennessee State University.

Williamson County Arts Council. _Williamson County Celebrates The Written Word_. 2nd ed. Franklin, TN: Williamson County Arts Council, 1994. 58pp. Work is distributed to members and includes fiction, non-fiction, local history and genealogy and poets with short biographies, most of whom have Nashville connections.


Wooten, Paul, No Longer Hangs The Fluted Stud. Lebanon, TN: Lillian Wooten (P.O. Box 2703), 1994. $14.95. Wooten may be the only nationally published poet from Wilson County.


**Genealogy**


Bicentennial Bible/Family Records (Tennessee, 1796-1996). Johnson City, TN: Watauga Association of Genealogists (P.O. Box 117, 37605-0117), 1994. $27.00.


East Middle School, Eighth Grade. Mount Moriah And Holman Cemeteries. Tullahoma, TN: East Middle School, 1991. 45 pp. Teacher Allen has his students compile another cemetery project.

East Middle School, Tullahoma. The Shoffer Cemetery. Tullahoma, TN: East Middle School (Tommy Allen, 510 Wanda Lane), 1993. 5 pp. PB.


Parker, Clara M. Giles County, Tennessee, Early Marriages: Pulaski, TN, C. M. Parker (Rt. 1, Box 313, Ethridge, TN 38456), 1994. 61pp. PB $20.00.


Potter, Dorothy Williams, ed. 1820 North Carolina Federal Census, Supplemented With Tax Lists, 2nd ed. Nashville, TN: The author (200 Sheffield Place, 37215-3235), 1993. 516pp. $49.75. Potter is a Nashville genealogist and editor of the Middle Tennessee Genealogy.


In Memoriam: James Marion Kimbrough
(1926[?] - 1995)

[Editor's note: At the TLA annual conference, our State Librarian and Archivist had these words to say about Marion Kimbrough, former Peabody Library School professor and life member of TLA.]

In saying a few words in remembrance of Marion Kimbrough, who died in his native Giles County on March 19, 1995, I am sure that I am speaking on behalf of those other colleagues who worked with Marion at the Peabody Library School over many years; they include Mrs. Cherney, Mike Rothacker, Wil Clouse, Bill Corbin, the late Virginia Harman, Cosette Kies, Wiley Williams, and others, along with many others who knew him as students and through this very organization, the Peabody Library Association, in which he was active over much of his career.

Marion was a gentleman. Although he did not aspire to be a scholar in the true sense, like Chaucer's Clerk of Oxenford "gladly wolde he lerne, and gladly teche." Gladly teach he did, as well as anyone I have known. In fact, he was so good that it was rumored that he even made cataloging both interesting and fun!

Marion's rural upbringing brought him to work every morning with the birds, and by noon he had done a good day's work. As my assistant director at Peabody for many years, though, he had the annoying practice of returning administrative assignments to me before I was ready for them. I have always envied such efficiency and thus I could not have done without him.

Again I say, Marion was a gentleman. He possessed a winning smile, a soft demeanor, a world of patience. Many people know this gentle man, and yet even those of us who worked closely with him never penetrated that private reserve which we were pleased to grant him. Now we say, Marion, we hardly knew you, yet what we knew we loved and we will miss you deeply. Ole friend, may flights of angels sing thee to thy rest.

Edwin S. Geaves
Proclamation

Whereas, the School of Information Sciences at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville had its origin as the Department of Library Service in the College of Education in 1944; and

Whereas, the Department of Library Service began offering a masters degree in instructional materials in 1958; and

Whereas, the Department of Library Service began offering a masters degree in library service in 1964; and

Whereas, Dorothy E. Ryan, as Head of the Department of Library Service from 1959 to 1971 is most responsible for the early success and development of the School; and

Whereas, Dr. Gary Purcell, officially opened the Graduate School of Library and Information Science, on 1 July 1971 offering the Master of Science in Library Science; and

Whereas, Dr. Jose Marie Griffith has directed the School since 1992, known as the School of Information Sciences since 1994; and

Whereas, celebrating 50 years, the School of Information Sciences is recognized regionally and nationally as a program of choice, with more than 1400 graduates nationwide;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that I, John Evans, President of the Tennessee Library Association, by and for the Association, do hereby proclaim and affirm our great personal and professional appreciation for this history of progress and accomplishment, this dedication to professional growth and development, and this record of service to the State of Tennessee, this Association, and the thousands of library users who have benefited from these many efforts and contributions.

By and for the Tennessee Library Association
John E. Evans 30 March 1995
Governor Sundquist Attends TLA General Session:

National Library Week in Tennessee
Proclaimed

[Editor's Note: Although April will have come and gone by the time this issue reaches its readers, I am pleased to include this proclamation by the Governor and to express appreciation for his support of Tennessee libraries.]

To universal surprise and delight, the General Session of the Tennessee Library Association annual conference was the scene of a surprise visit by Governor Don Sundquist and First Lady Martha Sundquist. Having been told previously that the Governor's schedule was too demanding for such a visit, all expectations for the delivery and presentation of the National Library Week in Tennessee Proclamation were handily exceeded. This being the first executive appearance at a TLA conference in many years, our pleasure is re-doubled by the first Library Week proclamation in as long. It has come to our attention that not since Lamar Alexander's term has such consideration been shown to the Association. In addition to the proclamation, the Governor spoke freely about the importance of libraries in his own life and the lives of his children; he provided fond reminiscences of the Shelbyville library he frequented in his early years in Tennessee.

It is especially useful to remember his words of encouragement, apart from the formality of the proclamation, when he stated "I support you and what you do; I am here with you." Though we all realize the strictures of public finance across the land and the limitations placed on all public officials, it is heartening to know that supportive thoughts and words are readily forthcoming.

We have reason to be encouraged by this overt demonstration of concern and interest. Several individuals approached us after the session and commented favorably on the visit. One such individual, who voiced prior, election-year support of candidate Sundquist, was very pleased to see demonstrated the individual, the human being behind the electioneering. It is indeed impressive and noteworthy to watch what people do when they want to, as opposed to doing what they think they must for some other purpose.

Thank you, Governor, for being there with us.

John E. Evans

Proclamation

Whereas, America's schools, colleges, public, and special libraries are vital educational and information resources for millions of people; and

Whereas, libraries provide all people access to vast resources for their occupations, entertainment, and personal growth; and

Whereas, libraries nurture the minds and spirits of people of all ages; and

Whereas, librarians and information specialists provide invaluable expertise in the pursuit of knowledge resources; and

Whereas, libraries are one of our great democratic institutions, helping all to lead better lives; and

Whereas, libraries are an essential resource for our state and nation deserving our support; and

Whereas, the Tennessee Library Association represents more than fifteen hundred librarians across the state in service to more than four million Tennesseans, and meets annually in conference to develop skills and promote quality programs for all; and

Whereas, libraries and library supporters across Tennessee, and America, will celebrate National Library Week, April 9 through 15, with the theme "Libraries Change Lives."

Now, therefore, be it resolved that I, Don Sundquist, Governor of the State of Tennessee, proclaim National Library Week, April 9-15, 1995, in Tennessee and encourage all residents to use their libraries for the purpose of improving their lives and join me in thanking our librarians for the valuable and helpful services that they provide our state.

Signed
Don Sundquist, Governor
Ailey Darnell, Secretary of State

In 1942, a laboratory was built in a picturesque setting at a place that school children would learn to call the "secret city" of Oak Ridge, Tennessee. The majority of workers at the laboratory did not even know the significance of their work until the A-bomb was dropped in August, 1945. This book reports the history of this lab after the bomb was dropped. Both authors, Johnson and Schaffer, are affiliated with the University of Tennessee. They carefully chronicle the establishment of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) in 1947, which made it the oldest national laboratory in the U.S. on its original site. They lay out the evolution of the lab from atomic energy research in the post World War II Cold War era to the environmental research done today. This history involved a delicate balance of government, private industry and the very best of the scientific and academic communities. It was and is a story of survival.

The hero of this survival was Eugene Wigner, a chemical engineer who later gained the title of "father of Oak Ridge." His scientific expertise and political savvy allowed him to draw up a plan of action in the late 1940s to keep the laboratory open and productive. Every effort is documented here from the constant fight with the Argonne Laboratory for federal money and recognition, to the slow evolution of the lab. After the bomb, attention was focused on radiation medicine, a role that has recently brought recognition to the lab. Later, solid state physics and radiation metalurgy, which is the study of the effect radiation has on metallic structures, an important component of reactor construction, became the focal points.

With the differing political priorities of the 1960s and 1970s, environmental concerns and educational opportunities were the main focus of the Laboratory. Historically, the ORNL mirrored the scientific concerns of the Federal Government. Interestingly, these concerns made an about-face in the 1980s when political concerns for national defense and the national trauma of the launching of the Russian Sputnik made the Laboratory a central component of our national defense. These concerns later turned into the Laboratory's efforts to identify and use water pollutants among others.

It tells as much about the workings of our government in those years, as it does about the quality of our science.

It is a fascinating story. The writing style is direct and not unduly technical. It is a valuable complement to the many books written in recent years about the Manhattan Project and the production of the A-bomb. It is recommended for public and academic collections, especially those with science history interests.

Mary K. Freilich
Catalog Department
University of Memphis


Adapted from the 1990 Lamar Memorial Lectures at Mercer University, the three chapters of this book discuss the music of white rural Southerners in the nineteenth century, the influence of popular music and song in the South through the first two decades of the twentieth century, and the rise of the commercial country music industry through radio and recordings with its search for identity through the images of the mountaineer and the cowboy.

One of the great virtues of this work is that it is succinct but scholarly fashion with the notion that the music of southern white plain folk is some kind of rare "Anglo-Saxon," "Elizabethan," or "Celtic" legacy. While British elements certainly exist and form an important historical thread, Malone shows that everywhere they are mixed with elements from other ethnic traditions—German, Spanish, French, Czech, Italian, Hawaiian, Caribbean, Mexican, and especially African, as well as urban popular musical elements. The Anglo-Saxon purity is largely a state of mind of individuals both within and without the tradition who are concerned with shaping its image.

Since the early years of the present century this image has largely been presented in the guise of the mountaineer or the cowboy, even though only a minority of white rural Southerners fit these molds. As exemplified by the Carter Family, Buell Kazee, Jean Ritchie, and other musical figures, the mountaineer was the symbol of freedom-loving pioneer ancestry, love of home and family, and rural innocence. This figure was burdened, however, with notions of the ignorant hayseed, the comic rube, the moonshiner, and the feuding hill-raiser.

By the 1930s the cowboy image had become predominant, perhaps because real cowboys and their music had become overshadowed by literary and Hollywood imitations full of glamour and romantic nostalgia. It was an image that was attractive to millions of people and easy to manipulate. Indeed, in recent years it has even found expression in hip hop and outlaw garb. The mountaineer image did not entirely disappear and by the 1960s began to make a comeback via bluegrass and the folk music revival.

Malone neatly organizes a vast amount of musical material in this book and contributes many valuable insights. There is an implicit assumption, however, that the reader already has at least a general familiarity with the varied sounds of southern folk and "country" music. At the original lectures, Malone and his wife performed music selections in several styles. The book contains no examples, nor is there a selected bibliography or discography that would guide the reader seeking to find the music itself, although some help is gained through footnotes.

Despite this criticism, I find the book to be very readable and valuable for both the generalist and specialist. It deals with an important aspect of both regional and popular
culture, and it can serve as a framework for understanding the history of country music as well as its folk and popular roots in the previous century. University and many public libraries will find this book to be a worthwhile acquisition.

David Evans
Department of Music
The University of Memphis


Devotees of Southern literature will appreciate this collection of conversations between poet and award-winning news columnist Dannye Romine Powell and 23 Southern writers. The interviews were conducted between 1975 and 1994, many occurring during Ms. Powell's 17 years as Book Editor of *The Charlotte Observer.* Insightful questions reflect an obvious familiarity with and appreciation for the authors and their works. The lively exchanges are accompanied by at least one black-and-white picture of each writer, taken by noted photographer Jill Krementz.

A vivid writer herself, Powell introduces the conversations with a short biographical sketch of the author, or by describing the scene of the interview, thereby inviting readers to sit in on the discussion. We join her and Dori Sanders, for instance, as they talk between customers early one morning at Sanders Peach Stand in Filbert, South Carolina, surrounded by the bountiful produce that Sanders and her brother grow on their inherited land, which is depicted as "the tin-roofed stand trapping the night's cool air." Each introduction concludes with a brief paragraph that highlights the interview that follows. Krementz's portraits enrich the text by enabling readers to visualize the authors. Brief biographical information, place of residence, and a summary of publications, honors, and work(s) underway follow each interview.

Powell explores far more than the writing routines of each author, though readers may be surprised at the variety of individual approaches. Long-time Memphis resident Shelby Foote muses that the "best system that I know of is to be thoroughly aware that you will be miserable away from your desk, so that you stay at your desk in that kind of misery rather than fall back on the other kind of misery." The more restless James Dickey finds that as he roams among the typewriters located throughout his home, working on one piece "as long as it interests me" before moving on to another, "the various projects cross-pollinate one another."

Through the interviewer's questions come glimpses of how novels, poems and even specific characters evolve. The authors speak candidly of the myriad influences that have shaped their work, including family life, good or dysfunctional; illness, both physical and mental; and relationships, personal and professional. Their stories are by turns funny and poignant, serious and outrageous, but always beautifully articulated.

In her preface, Powell explains that her book is not "a compendium of the best Southern writers or... the most well-known Southern writers," but writers with whom she has "become vastly attached." As may be expected, most make their home in North Carolina. The interviews are arranged alphabetically and range from 4 to 20 pages in length. Each conversation and photograph is dated, which serves to place it in context of the time it was recorded. (In several instances, the photographs were not taken at the time of the interviews.) Two interviews and parts of others were previously published elsewhere in abbreviated form. The book is well indexed.

Perfect for someone interested in the lives, insights and personalities of a diverse group of writers all hailing from the South, this little treasure would be appropriate for public and academic libraries with a special interest in Southern writers.

Margaret R. Lambert
Reference/Instruction Librarian
The University of Memphis


The shootout on the streets of Nashville that led to the death of notable Tennessee political leader and editor of *The Nashville Tennessean* Edward Carmack, had repercussions in Tennessee political that lasted almost a half century. Bullets from the gun of Robin J. Cooper, son of prominent Nashville businessman and political leader, killed Carmack on a Nashville street in a shootout that was the culmination of a political and personal feud involving Carmack and Duncan Cooper, his former political mentor.

Summerville's thoroughly researched monograph places the Carmack shooting in the context of not only the social and political climate of Tennessee but also of the South as well. In his introduction, Summerville notes the fact that the *code duello* still existed de facto in the South, although dueling had long since been made illegal. If the shootout that killed Carmack involved honor, no jury in the South would convict the accused.

There were actually two trials. In the first, Duncan Cooper was convicted, but was pardoned by Governor Malcolm Patterson after an appeal of the verdict was turned down by the Tennessee Supreme Court. The trial of Robin Cooper resulted in an innocent verdict. However, Robin Cooper's badly battered body was later discovered in a Nashville stream. Although his killer was never found, according to Sullivan, Ned Carmack, bragged throughout his life that he had revenge his father's death. Summerville, however, points of evidence that suggests that Carmack's braggadocio was just that and he had nothing to do with the younger Cooper's murder.

Summerville's analysis makes this book a valuable addition to libraries who have collections focusing on Tennessee history.

Stephen M. Findlay
Memphis
Instructions for Authors

The Tennessee Librarian is the official publication of the Tennessee Library Association. It is a medium for professional and scholarly information, and a forum for the discussion of issues related to library and information services in Tennessee. The Tennessee Librarian seeks materials on all types of library and library activities. Manuscripts of the following nature will be considered:

- scholarly papers relevant to Tennessee libraries
- papers with quantitative or qualitative evaluation of library practice in Tennessee
- reports of studies or surveys of Tennessee libraries, emphasizing findings, conclusions, and implications.

Reader comments, guest editorials and letters will also be considered. News items should be sent to the TLA Newsletter.

Name, position, professional address, telephone number, fax number and e-mail address should appear on a separate title page. The author’s name should not appear on any other page of the manuscript.

Manuscripts normally should not exceed 2500 words. They should be double-spaced on one side of 8 1/2 x 11" paper. Please submit three copies along with a 3 1/2" disk copy if possible (Microsoft Word or WordPerfect preferred). Tables and graphics should be on separate sheets at the end of the manuscript. Black and white photographs are preferred. These materials will not be returned.

Notes should appear at the end of the manuscript, double-spaced. Style should conform to The Chicago Manual of Style, 14th ed. For example:


Submit manuscripts to Marie Garrett, Editor, Tennessee Librarian, The University of Tennessee Libraries, 1015 Volunteer Boulevard, Knoxville, TN 37996-1000.

Receipt of a manuscript will be acknowledged by the editor. Following review of the manuscript by two or three referees, a decision to accept or reject the article will be communicated to the author. Accepted papers will be published as soon as space permits. Authors will receive two copies of the issue in which the article appears.

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