

WASHINGTON HOTLINE



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Several provisions of interest to academic and research librarians are buried in the mammoth trade bill recently passed by Congress and signed by the President on August 23. The legislative history of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988 (HR 4848, now PL 100-418) is complex. An earlier version, HR 3, was vetoed. HR 3 included all the provisions high-lighted below, and like many omnibus bills, originated in a series of proposals (many with their own bill and report numbers) developed by the various congressional committees, in this case at the request of congressional leadership early last year.

Florence Protocol. Section 1121 of the trade bill provides implementing legislation for the 1976 Nairobi Protocol (or supplement) to the UNESCO-sponsored Florence Agreement (Agreement on the Importation of Educational, Scientific and Cultural Materials) which eliminated import tariffs on printed and certain other materials. The Nairobi Protocol provides for the removal of import duties on audio-visual and microform materials and materials for the blind and physically handicapped not included in the original agreement. On imports, a number of U.S. tariffs on materials from all countries will be eliminated; on exports of affected U.S. materials, the countries adhering to the Protocol (16 so far) are obligated to make the same tariff eliminations. ALA has been a long-time advocate of the protocol. Permanent implementation will also fulfill a recommendation of the 1979 White House Conference on Library and Information Services.

NTIS. Section 5163(c) prohibits the National Technical Information Service from further contracting out except for contracts of \$250,000 or less. In addition, NTIS is to "maintain a permanent archival repository and clearinghouse for the collection and dissemination of non-classified scientific, technical, and engineering information." Separate bills to reorganize NTIS are still pending.

HEA II-D. An additional \$2.5 million for FY 1988 (and such sums as necessary for the next three years) is authorized in Section 6241 for the Higher Education Act II-D College Library Technology and Cooperation grants, for "activities that will enable libraries to participate more fully in the initiative funded under the Education and Training for American Competitiveness Act of 1987." This title refers to the education portion developed by the House Education and Labor Committee. Rep. Major Owens (D-NY) saw the relationship of academic library technology to U.S. competitiveness and pressed for this provision early in 1987 when the newly-enacted HEA II-D had not yet been funded.

The original II-D statutory language in the Higher Education Act authorized \$5 million for fiscal year 1987 and such sums as necessary for each of the four succeeding fiscal years. Congress provided first-time funding of \$3,590,000 for FY '88, and funding of \$3,651,000 for FY '89 is in the final stages of congressional approval at this writing. Because almost two years have lapsed since the trade bill language was proposed, the practical effect on the program of the added authorization now available is unclear.

(cont'd on p. 644)

Letters

Statistics

To the Editor:

In the June 1988 issue, I read with interest the article by Emerson Hilker, "Survey of Academic Science/Technology Libraries." The Engineering Libraries Division of the American Society for Engineering Education, a group of about 180 academic engineering librarians, has published a survey of engineering libraries that may interest ACRL members.

The first edition of the engineering libraries statistical survey covered 1984-85 and included more than 100 libraries. The 1985-86 data is now ready for publication. The results have been useful, par-

ticularly during the accreditation process and for comparing library resources.

We originally intended to collect data on engineering libraries. However, through the process of gathering data and speaking with librarians, we learned a great deal about the services, resources, and collections in both engineering and science libraries; our publication reflects this.

If you wish to obtain a copy of the Engineering Libraries Division survey, you may contact the American Society for Engineering Education, Suite 200, Eleven Dupont Circle, N.W., Washington, DC 20036. The cost is \$12.00.—*James Fries, Feldberg Library, Thayer School of Engineering, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH 03755.* ■■

ACRL continuing education scholarships

ACRL will offer two tuition-free scholarships for ACRL continuing education courses held prior to the ALA Annual Conference in Dallas or the ACRL National Conference in Cincinnati.

The applicant must:

1. be a member of ACRL by the application deadline (December 1, 1988).
2. hold a master's degree in library science from a program accredited by ALA.
3. have at least three years experience in a library prior to the application deadline.
4. be currently employed in a library in a position generally accepted as "professional," as defined by their institution.
5. have not previously been granted and utilized this scholarship.
6. have given evidence of professional growth as indicated by committee work, membership in professional organizations, etc.
7. have the prerequisite background to benefit from the course selected.

Awards will be made based upon:

1. evidence of commitment to librarianship as a profession.
2. potential benefit to the individual and the profession.
3. relevance of the course requested to current position or clearly identified career track.
4. financial need.
5. service to ACRL, ALA, or the wider profession.

For additional information about these scholarships, contact ACRL/ALA, 59 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611-2795. ■■

Samuel D. Proctor to speak at ACRL National Conference

Samuel D. Proctor, a clergyman, educator and author, will be one of the keynote speakers at the ACRL Fifth National Conference, April 5-8, 1989, in Cincinnati, Ohio. Proctor served as the associate general secretary of the National Council of Churches during the 1960s and became the senior pastor of the Abyssinian Baptist Church in New York City in 1972. He is a former president of Virginia Union University (1955-1960) and North Carolina A & T State University (1960-1964) as well as a former director of the Peace Corps. From 1964 to 1984 he was Martin Luther King Professor in the Graduate School of Education at Rutgers. Since his retirement in 1984 he has been professor emeritus there.

Proctor's books include *The Young Negro in America, 1960-1980* (Association Press, 1966) and *Sermons from the Black Pulpit* (Judson, 1984). He has received numerous awards and honorary degrees.

Proctor was the keynote speaker at an October 1987 ACRL workshop for librarians from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). He stated that librarians should play a significant mentoring role for inquisitive students at HBCUs. "We don't know," he said, "who these people are. They may be leaders of the future—a Jesse Jackson or a Douglas Wilder."

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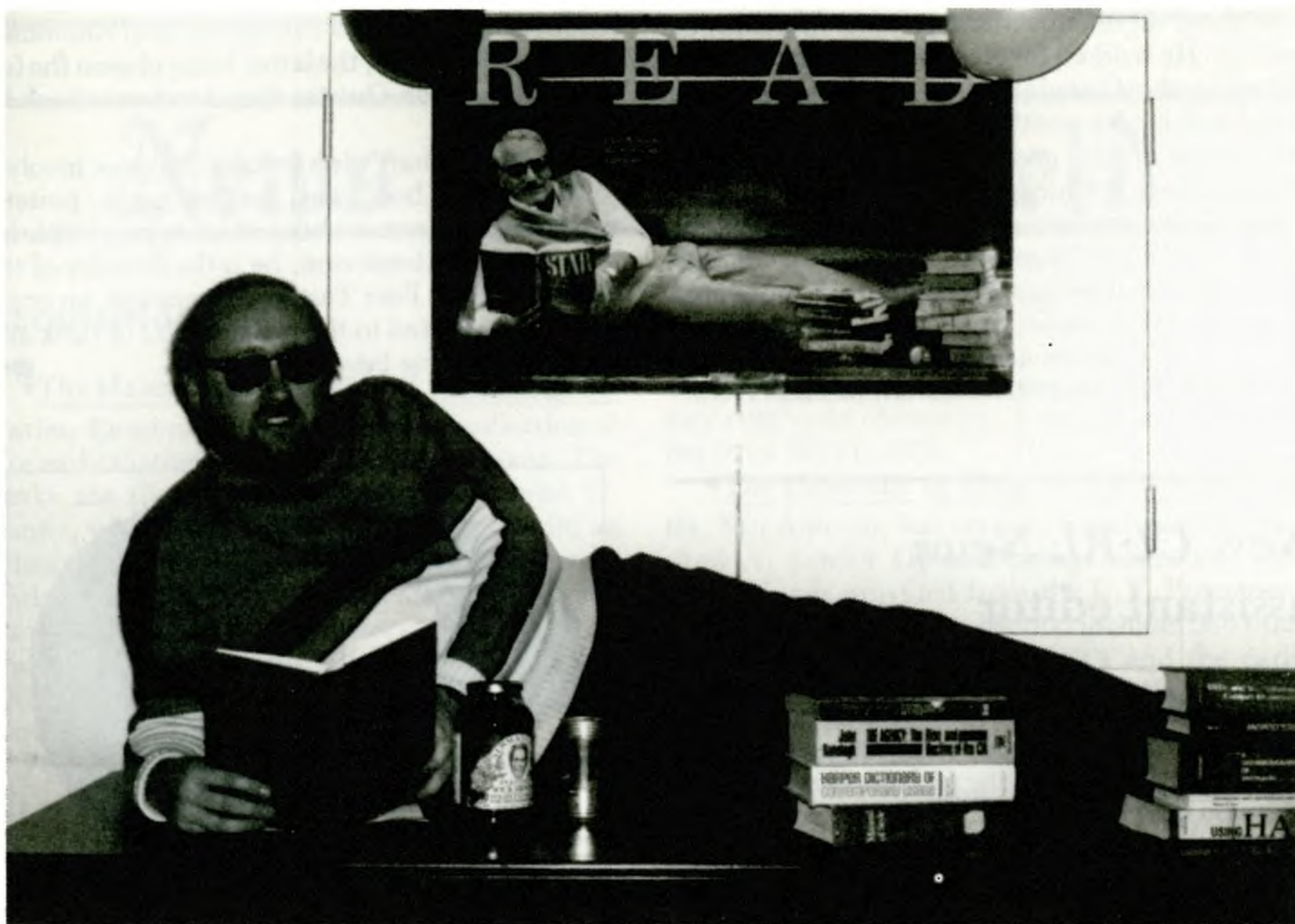


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George Eberhart attempts to emulate noted movie star at a recent ALA staff party.

ACRL staff profile

George M. Eberhart, editor of *College & Research Libraries News*, joined ACRL in 1980 after serving three years as serials/reader services librarian at the University of Kansas Law Library, Lawrence.

In addition to meticulous editing of all *C&RL News* articles and columns, Eberhart oversees production for the magazine. Using an elaborate but enlightened system of PC-based text coding, Eberhart is able to transmit the entire issue via modem to a typesetter in Indiana, who then delivers relatively error-free galleys the following day.

Although aided considerably by such time-savers as an optical text scanner, electronic mail, and a very flexible word processing software package (Xywrite III+), Eberhart and the *C&RL News* assistant editor still are under an incredible amount of pressure the first two weeks of every month to bring ACRL members the high quality news magazine they have come to expect. "We jokingly refer to those days as Hell Week," Eberhart said, his desk a byzantine morass of papers and press releases, "because all our concentration is focused intensely on *C&RL News* production. If other staff members want us to do other tasks like fill out time cards, submit payment requests, or go to lunch, we just laugh and tell them to wait a week."

Eberhart also manages production for the semi-annual *Rare Books & Manuscripts Librarianship*, advises the section newsletter editors on editing and production matters, and helps the *C&RL News* assistant editor with the classified advertising workflow.

On weekends Eberhart serves as librarian and archivist for the J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies, a research facility in Chicago set up by the former director of the Astronomy Department at Northwestern University and scientific consultant to the U.S. Air Force's Project Blue Book. "I don't know whether or not UFOs are alien spacecraft," Eberhart said, "but I do think the UFO phenomenon is a scientific mystery that should be examined by all branches of the sciences. Most UFO reports—about 95%—can be explained as aircraft, stars, satellites, or other misperceptions. It's that 5% of unexplainable cases that is the essence of the problem."

Eberhart's comprehensive two-volume bibliography, *UFOs and the Extraterrestrial Contact Movement*, was published in 1986 by Scarecrow Press.

A 1973 graduate of the Ohio State University School of Journalism, Eberhart obtained his MLS from the University of Chicago in 1976. His master's thesis topic was the historical cartography of

Greenland (at one time he aspired to map librarianship). He worked for five years as a paraprofessional in the Circulation Department at Ohio State, and held a position as research assistant for the *Journal of Law and Economics* while going to library school at Chicago.

Eberhart contributes reviews to *Booklist* and the *International UFO Reporter*, and writes a monthly column for the *Chicago Weekender*. He presented a paper on UFO literature at the annual meeting of the Popular Culture Association in New Orleans last March. His other books include *Monsters* (Gar-

land, 1984) and *A Geo-Bibliography of Anomalies* (Greenwood, 1980), the latter being chosen the following year as an Outstanding Academic Book by *Choice*.

One of Eberhart's less esoteric hobbies involves collecting root beer cans, bottles, mugs, posters, and root beer memorabilia of all types. With his wife, Jennifer Henderson, he is the founder of the American Root Beer Tasters Association, an organization dedicated to the preservation of facts and folklore about the beverage. ■■

New C&RL News assistant editor

Cheryl Robinson-Smith has been appointed assistant editor of *College & Research Libraries News*, effective in July. She replaces Gus Friedlander, who has enrolled in a master's program in history at Northwestern University.




Cheryl
Robinson-Smith

Robinson-Smith's most recent position was as an editorial assistant for the Institute of Gas Technology, Chicago, where she edited, produced, and wrote copy for *gaslink*, one of the Institute's newsletters, and keylining and production for *Energy Topics*. She was also responsible for production work on research reports and technical papers.

A 1985 graduate of Roosevelt University in journalism/public relations, Robinson-Smith is completing a master's degree in communications at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She is a Chicago native, and has worked as an intern for the development office of Jobs for Youth, a non-profit Chicago youth counseling organization, and for the National Easter Seal Society. She enjoys reading current popular fiction, and does keylining and other production work on a freelance basis.

As assistant editor of *C&RL News*, she will be responsible for several of the regular *C&RL News* columns, all ACRL classified advertising, including the Jobline and the *Fast Job Listing Service*, and she will oversee production of the section newsletters. ■■



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Correction

The St. Catherine Monastery of Mount Sinai is located in the Arab Republic of Egypt, not Israel as reported in the June 1988 issue, p.384.



degree from ALA-accredited school and minimum of four years experience, including online database searches in university library. Teaching experience desirable. Position available: immediately. Salary: \$22,000--\$24,500. Send letter of application and resume with names and telephone numbers of three references to: Director of Human Resources Management, **Northwest Missouri State University**, Maryville, MO 64468. An affirmative action, equal opportunity employer, Northwest encourages women and minorities to apply.

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(Washington Hotline, cont'd)

Other provisions. The trade bill also includes a variety of literacy, education, and technology programs, including a student literacy corps, technology education, regional technology transfer centers, and an Education Department Office of Training Technology Transfer to serve as a clearinghouse for education and training software. It also strengthens international enforcement of intellectual property rights.

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For conference information contact:

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