Conference planners and ACRL attendees in Chicago have been treated to a new promotional film about Charm City with the above title. The theme of that film is “participate and relax.” For readers who want to be well prepared to enjoy Baltimore, a booklist is in the works to appear in a subsequent issue of College & Research Libraries News. In the meantime, you might write for the Special June 1985 issue of Baltimore Magazine for $1.75 at 26 S. Calvert Street, Baltimore, MD 21202; (301) 752-7375.—Bill Wilson.

Chapter visits

The ACRL Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director report on Chapter meetings in Florida, New England, and Wisconsin.

Florida. The Orlando Hyatt was the setting for the Florida Library Association Annual Conference on May 30. ACRL’s Florida Chapter convened jointly with its parent group, featuring a program on networking, a reception and presentation from ACRL Headquarters, and business meetings.

The morning program featured three speakers and an audience of 200! JoAn Segal addressed networking at the national level and presented material on the history and development of networks and a variety of trends. Dale Canelas’s paper on the Research Libraries Group described the history and activities of this networking activity, now being introduced in Florida. Marlene Heroux, of the SOLINET staff, described the services of that network—both those derived from OCLC and those originating at SOLINET. Peter Malanchuk served as moderator.

The elegant reception in the afternoon was sponsored by Ebsco Subscription Services. Chapter members and guests heard Segal talk about ACRL, its activities, staff, physical accommodations, plans, and hopes. In addition to the formal interaction, there were the hoped-for opportunities to share a moment during dinner, over a drink, or beside the pool.

Plans for future activities dominated the business meetings. With many good ideas, lots of energy, and very good leadership, the Florida ACRL Chapter is in excellent shape!—JoAn Segal.

New England. The New England Chapter convened at Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts, on April 30–May 1 to consider “Politics and the Workplace.”

The theme of politics was traced in relation to the nation at large, the higher education community, the campus, and the library. ACRL Executive Director JoAn Segal brought greetings to the chapter as the sessions began on Tuesday afternoon. Featured speakers on Thursday afternoon were: Martin Nolan, editor of the Boston Globe editorial page, who highlighted the national political scene; Mortimer Appley, past president of Clark University, who took faculty members to task for their failure to appreciate the administrator’s point of view of academic politics; and Hugh Atkinson, who presented some interesting ideas about the li-
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brary’s use of politics within the campus.

On Friday morning Ed Holley asserted that the academic librarian needs to have an understanding of higher education and of the politics of her own institution; an appreciation for the life of the mind and an ability to make contributions to the body of scholarly knowledge; an understanding of how knowledge is obtained in various disciplines; and an ability to evaluate research. He emphasized that the broader the training, the more likely the individual will have these characteristics.

An A.J Anderson case study dominated the remainder of the Wednesday morning program. After a panel of New England librarians offered solutions to the problem posed by Anderson, the audience participated actively in the discussion of the case. Leigh Estabrook then presented her paper on politics and the library workplace, emphasizing the stress caused by change.

Social activity was also an important part of the meeting. An elegant champagne buffet on Tuesday afternoon preceded a fine dinner, which was followed by a reception featuring coffee and liqueur, jazz and conversation.

As one of ACRL’s oldest and strongest chapters, New England continued its tradition of high quality programming and active member participation.—JoAn Segal.

Wisconsin. “High Tech/High Touch: A Librarian’s World” was the theme of the Wisconsin Association of Academic Librarians Annual Conference, April 17–19, 1985, at the Abbey on Lake Geneva. Conference participants might find it difficult to name the best session on the program planned by Mary Jane Scherdin (UW-Whitewater). On the lighter side, some might say that the “Fashion Parade from the LC Double-Take Salon of Lake Geneva” was certainly the high point of the conference. Engineered by Constance Holt (UW-LaCrosse), the fashion parade had 12 brave librarians modeling the latest in academic apparel. Another popular activity, now a tradition at WAAL programs, was the Fun Run/Walk where athletic participants were instructed to “jog, walk, ski, crawl, roll or writhe” along the exercise trail.

On the more serious side, the program was packed with sessions that could all vie for the “best” distinction. Maureen Sullivan (Yale University and ACRL CE instructor) offered a workshop on “Managing Conflict Skills for Today’s Academic Librarian” to a standing room only crowd. William Miller (Bowling Green University and ACRL/BIS chair) supplied a follow-up to his American Libraries article with “Fixing What’s Wrong With Reference.” The high tech offerings were varied with presentations and demonstrations of serials control systems, online catalog and circulation systems, end-user systems for online database searching and microcomputer software programs. John Corbin (University of Houston) focused his luncheon remarks on the “Human Side of Technology.” Rounding out the program were ses-
sions on legislation, lobbying, library instruction, copyright and a state-wide update.

ACRL Executive Director JoAn S. Segal and I did a session on “ACRL: What’s in It for Me?” In part of our program, we involved the participants in a priority setting activity as a pilot test for the 1985 President’s Program at the Chicago ALA Annual Conference. The WAAL participants helped identify bugs in the program design and provided sample data that will be compared to data from the Chicago Conference program. An analysis of the WAAL data indicated a high level of consensus on the priorities for ACRL: publications, standards, continuing education, library education, liaison with higher education groups and fiscal and political support for academic libraries. There was also a high level of consensus among all the participants that this Spring WAAL meeting was a success.—Cathleen Bourdon.

News from the Field

Acquisitions

- Brown University’s John Hay Library, Providence, Rhode Island, acquired the papers and memorabilia of Rabbi Baruch Korff, founder of the National Citizens Committee for Fairness to the Presidency and the U.S. Citizens Congress during the Watergate era. Although richest in material relating to Richard Nixon, the collection also contains much material connected with Rabbi Korff’s other political activities, his efforts on behalf of European Jewry under Nazi and Soviet persecution, his involvement in the founding of the state of Israel and other Middle Eastern affairs, and his rabbinical activities. Over 90 linear feet of papers, including retained records of the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe, the Political Action Committee for Palestine, and the two Watergate-era committees, have been received.

- Harvard University Library received a $1 million unrestricted gift from John W. Blodgett, Jr., class of 1923, and Edith Ferris Blodgett. This was half of a $2 million donation, the other $1 million going to Harvard College. The Blodgetts have helped to support the Library since 1933, notably in the field of history, where Mr. Blodgett funded the acquisition of Leon Trotsky’s papers and the formation of The Blodgett Collection of Spanish Civil War Pamphlets.

- Harvard University’s Houghton Library acquired the Americana portion of the Moldenhauer Archives, a major collection consisting of manuscripts, scores, letters, and in some cases the entire estates of leading 20th century composers. Notable musicians represented are Leonard Bernstein, Aaron Copland, George Gershwin, Walter Kaufmann, and many others. The acquisition is part of a joint program between Harvard and the Bavarian State Library in Munich, where a division of the Moldenhauer Archives was established in 1979. Hans Moldenhauer is noted as a concert pianist, teacher, and author, whose collection is in memory of his wife Rosaleen. This acquisition was helped by a generous gift from Francis Goelet, class of 1947.

- The Historic New Orleans Collection in New Orleans, Louisiana, recently acquired the papers of Lt. Charles H. B. Caldwell of the United States Navy. These consist primarily of orders received by Caldwell during the Civil War, the most important of which are those issued by Flag Officer David G. Farragut concerning the attack on Fort Jackson and Fort St. Philip, and the orders of Farragut and Capt. Thornton Jenkins during the siege of Port Hudson. The Caldwell Papers complement several other collections which give an excellent overview of the most important Civil War battle in Louisiana.

- The Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, received the papers of noted entomologist William Morton Wheeler (1865–1937). Professor Wheeler, who specialized in the study of ants, was also renowned as a lecturer, writer, linguist, scientific historian, and social philosopher. This gift was from his grandsons William M. Wheeler Jr., and Paul S. Wheeler, and consists of 187 volumes of historical interest; 35 boxes of administrative and scientific papers, including correspondence, manuscripts, and notes; 8 boxes of reprints; and 6 boxes of illustrations.

- Purdue University Libraries, West Lafayette, Indiana, have acquired a private collection of 20,000 volumes on American literature and culture. This collection represents the largest single addition to the Purdue Libraries during its 110 years of service to the University. The titles in the collection provide a comprehensive representation