Dallas greeted us with a blazing Texas sun, a
new convention center, several spectacular
hotels, and a conference schedule crammed with
activities. We had everything at Dallas except the
time to do everything.

The Rare Books and Manuscripts Section led
off ACRL activity down in San Antonio, Texas,
with a preconference that attracted 190 persons.
The preconference featured papers (on topics
such as creating an OCLC record for the Guten­
berg Bible or buying "sleepers" at the London
auction galleries) and offered five informal work­
shops. The social activity culminated in a cocktail
party at the Alamo.

Back in Dallas, the Bibliographic Instruction
Section drew 225 people to the campus of South­
ern Methodist University for a three-day precon­
ference on library instruction. Participants re­
ceived room, board, and participation in a work­
shop of their choice (six were offered) for the bar­
gain cost of seventy dollars.

At the Hyatt Regency Hotel (a crystal palace),
fifty-nine people attended the Continuing Educa­
tion Committee's first preconference (on work­
shop planning). Thus encouraged, the committee
is looking forward to holding a second preconfer­
ence next year on staff development.

At the ALA Conference itself, the big news
was council's decision to increase dues to fifty
dollars (subject to membership approval by a mail
vote).

From the ACRL Board came the announce­
ment that Jay Poole of the University of Texas at
Austin Libraries had been selected as the editor
of Choice. And at a special reception given by the
Baker & Taylor Company, Henriette Avram and
Frederick Kilgour were named corecipients of the
second ACRL Academic/Research Librarian of
the Year Award.

Two Dallas events drew ACRL members in
throngs. One was the Saturday night music and
dancing at the conference reception at the Dallas
City Plaza. Undeterred by the ninety-degree
heat, hundreds of academic librarians danced to
the music of the Lone Star Express. While the
music and free refreshments inspired the gyra­
tions of the dancers, a helicopter hovered over­
head in the night sky. It blinked out the message
that Dallas was available as the future home of
the National Periodicals Center.

In the cooler atmosphere of the Fairmont
Hotel on Monday afternoon, 750 people crowded
into the ACRL Program Meeting to hear
sociologist Hugh Cline and psychologist Loraine
Sinnott talk about their use of social science
techniques to study collection development activ­
ities at seven academic libraries. At the conclu­
sion of the program, the crowd moved on to the
ACRL reception to enjoy an impressive spread of
food and drink provided by Carrollton Press.

The Community and Junior College Libraries
Section held one of the nearly twenty ACRL pro­
gram events sponsored by ACRL sections, com­
mittees, and discussion groups at Dallas. The
community college librarians put on a day of ac­
tivity that included a talk by Dr. John Roueche
on the needs of users, a presentation on grants
applications, discussion sessions, and a dinner at
the Sheraton Dallas.

If you weren't with us at Dallas, please put
it on your agenda to join us next year in New
York.

Editor's note: Terry Belanger, Joleen Bock, and
Carolyn Dusenbury kindly submitted news for
this article.