From Inside the DLP

By Dr. Katharine M. Stokes


A great many of you are, no doubt, readers of The Acquainte, "An International Newsletter for Academic Consortia for Higher Education," published by KCRCHE, the Kansas City Council for Higher Education. I find it unfailingly stimulating and full of new information instead of the repetitious items used in many other professional sources.

The December 1970 issue was of special interest to the DLP because of the reports of the activities of two consortia in making periodical holdings available to their members. Both groups have been awarded Title II-A (HEA) Special Purpose Type C grants in the College Library Resources program, so we are particularly happy to read of their successes. Just in case you don't see The Acquainte regularly, I'm going to be guilty of repeating the two items.

The Associated Colleges of the Midwest (ACM) maintain their Periodical Bank at their Chicago headquarters, 60 West Walton Street (zip 60610). The twelve members of the group are in five states, Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin.

The Acquainte reports (page 2) that ACM's board of directors has recently made it possible for non-ACM colleges to join the Periodical Bank as associate members, with an annual membership fee and charges for photocopies of articles from its holdings. The Bank is designed to complement and augment the periodical holdings of its member colleges, and has backfiles, both in paper and microform, for approximately 1,884 current subscriptions and 300 ceased publications. Three types of services are provided: (1) Photocopies of tables of contents of periodicals currently received; (2) Photocopies of articles from Bank holdings; (3) Photocopies of articles from periodicals not in ACM holdings but available from other Chicago libraries. Orders for photocopies are received by TWX and they are normally filled within twenty-four hours of receipt. Copies are sent by first-class mail. If an order cannot be filled from the Bank, a few days are usually necessary for obtaining a copy from another Chicago library. In ten months of fiscal year 1969-70 the Bank filled 12,276 orders.

The second item (page 10) is about KCRCHE itself and illustrates perfectly the hope the DLP has cherished that the College Library Resources grants may act as seed money for germinating much larger projects than federal funds can support. On September 23, 1970, the Women's Chamber of Commerce of Greater Kansas City was honored for a project that led to the establishment of the KCRCHE Periodicals Microfilm Bank. Funds raised by the Women's Chamber served as the matching funds for the federal grant to establish the collection now housed at Park College. Representatives of the Women's Chamber visited the Bank, witnessed a demonstration of its operations, and were guests of honor at the luncheon attended by representatives of the KCRCHE board of directors, the librarians, the committee of academic deans, and the KCRCHE staff. The Bank's 3,191 reels of microfilm are providing access for 42,000 area college students to most periodicals listed in the leading periodical guides for the period since 1955. Using the KCRCHE telephone network, a requesting library can call the Bank and have a printoff of an article placed in the mail that day. Lists of holdings of the Bank have been provided to librarians for distribution to faculty members as well as samples of catalog cards for adding the Bank's holdings to library card files.

Although we would like to think that the Title II-A (HEA) Special Purpose Type C grant in 1969 was the biggest factor in the support of KCRCHE's interesting project, many of the consortium's members have also benefited from Title III (HEA) grants for Strengthening Developing Institutions. Such grants may not have been directly related to this library project, but they have undoubtedly helped the institutions in learning how to cooperate successfully in all sorts of academic activities, including library services.

MINITER NAMED FOR GOOD TEACHING AWARD

The Good Teaching Award Committee of Beta Phi Mu International Library Science Honor Society announces that John J. Miniter has been named Library School Teacher of the Year for 1971. Miniter is a member of the faculty of the School of Library Science of Texas Woman's University, Denton. His teaching interests include special library administration, library automation, and information storage and retrieval. Recipients of the award are elected by students of library schools accredited by the American Library Association from among those professors whose courses they attended. Miniter is the tenth teacher to be named for this honor since it was first given to Frances Neel Cheney of Peabody Library School in 1959.