

EDITORIAL

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by Anne M. Galler

This issue of *Education Libraries* continues the theme begun with our previous issue, Vol. 22, No.3, covering collections outside the mainstream. Rosemary Kavanagh, the Executive Director of CNIB (The Canadian National Institute for the Blind) introduces the reader to the virtual library for the blind. As Kavanagh states, "among blind students literacy not only means competency with braille, but a variety of special access and other technologies." This article gives a rare insight into library services to this special population.

John Day continues the theme by addressing issues facing the deaf. He examines web sites which are most helpful to his patrons at Gallaudet University. This should assist education librarians in institutions serving deaf populations to find appropriate materials for their customers.

We have abandoned the annual "Conference Issue" which has caused increasing difficulties in past years. We were unable to secure copies of the presentations on time and/or in the proper format. Perhaps this was caused by the fact that many of the Education Division's programs at conferences are increasingly co-presentations with other SLA Divisions. Since they do not have a refereed journal, they are unaccustomed to submitting their presentations to the scrutiny of referees. However, Deanna D. Wood did submit her paper which was presented at the 1998 conference in Indianapolis. The topic, "Librarian and Unions: Defining and Protecting Professional Values" was deemed of interest and we are including it here, although it does not really fit the theme. While abandoning the conference issue per se, interesting and appropriate papers presented at such conferences will be included in future issues of *Education Libraries*. This will, of course, depend on the timeliness of the paper and the willingness of the presenter to submit it.

The ERIC column ties in with the theme of the issue as usual, and the New and Forthcoming reference books by Gladys I. Dratch and Deborah S. Carson cover a variety of interesting new publications. Thanks to the contribution of our ever-increasing circle of publishers, the Book Review column continues to include more and more book reviews. While we are not always able to tie in the book reviews with the theme, I would like to draw particular attention to the *AFB Directory of Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired Persons in the United States and Canada*.

ERRATUM

The first sentence in the fourth paragraph of the article "The Deaf Collection at the Gallaudet University Library" (Vol. 23, No.3) should read:

"One of Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet's sons, Edward Miner Gallaudet, (also hearing) followed his father into the field of deaf education." The editors misconstrued the author's sentence by incorrectly inserting the word "impaired." In fact, both Gallaudets had normal hearing. *Education Libraries* regrets the error.