

MRS. T. ROWLAND MILLER

May 15, 1979

Dear Jane:

I've always felt that in the N/C banquet, AHS has a winner. Everyone loves a winner! Not only is the N/C banquet the best-known activity of the division, it ~~also~~ has the distinction of being the most prestigious event of the AHA annual conference.

Librarians, school and public, whether or not they are involved with children know about the awards and the culminating event - many do not know the division name and certainly do not recognize it has been changed.

I think in questioning past presidents and board members

we are surveying the wrong group of librarians. This is, without exception, a privileged group with long years of attendance to A.A. and to the N.C. dinner. A certain amount of enthusiasm must surely wane after so many repeat performances. The publishers, who ~~take~~ ride the hoopstrut circuit, are victims of the same disenchantment. The librarians in the field who come to A.A. to attend the N.C. dinner are the ones to survey.

The proposed alternative, distinct me even more. Last year, as A.B.C. president, I attended the A.A. St. Gallen which was a rough cocktail party. When the precalculus were made, I could neither hear nor understand the speaker, and I was very near. Three rows in the back of the hall were, seemingly, unaware that anything was going on up front. It was ghastly. My one experience with the National Book Awards presentation was equally disastrous. Interestingly, the most

usual critics of that affair...  
were the publishers, my hosts.

As for the library, students  
who can't afford a ticket to the  
dinner - I want the alternatives  
exact a fee and for much less?  
And as it is now, anyone may  
enter the hall and hear the  
addresses - free. Many do.

There are several changes I'd  
like to see in the N/C procedures -  
namely the whole Indicated  
scene - but as far as the  
banquet is concerned - I'll keep  
the Cabby and merely change the  
wash water.

Thanks for reminding me to  
express my prof. I had planned to  
do so but as is customary, those  
who support the status quo are often  
less vocal.

See you in Dallas.

Cardially,

Barbara