

# HOLIDAY HOUSE



18 East 53rd Street, New York, N.Y. 10022

MU 8-0085

May 8, 1979

Mrs. Alex Sutherland  
1418 East 57th Street  
Chicago, IL 60637

Dear Zena,

I was so glad to talk with you and firm up our plans for meeting in Dallas during ALA.

Concerning the matter of the Newbery/Caldecott Banquet and its future, I emphatically concur with alternate ideas you and others have mentioned, which would broaden the attendance and free up banquet organizers to enable them to utilize their time on "projects directly related to library services for children."

The many factors which have escalated the banquet costs have caused this special highlight of ALSC/ALA to become almost prohibitively expensive, in the light of all the other monetary responsibilities, for the participants of ALA.

Aside from the expense for the experienced librarians, and the inability for many of the new members to the field to afford this event, the expense is becoming a serious concern to established publishing houses as well as to the newer and smaller independent houses.

Change is always difficult to put across especially after so many years of lovely memories of past banquets, but life is made up of change. The easy way is to leave things as they are but that way gives rise to inflexibility and staleness. Perhaps the time has come to let new ideas and events breath new life and vigor into our lives. Let's move on to newer and better events. Tradition is very important but means nothing if that tradition becomes a great burden.

Again we are so happy that we'll have a chance to relax and chat during that hectic time in Dallas.

Fondly,

Kate