



AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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From: Peggy Barber, Director
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For immediate release

Press Room: New York Hilton
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The findings, recommendations and implications of six years of study by the School Library Manpower Project will be presented during the program of the American Association of School Librarians at the Annual Conference of the American Library Association in New York, on Tuesday afternoon, July 9, 2 - 4 p.m. at the New York Sheraton Ballroom.

The program will feature a media review of the activities conducted during Phases I and II of the School Library Manpower Project which was funded for over a million dollars by the Knapp Foundation of North Carolina, Inc. The first half of the program will conclude with recommendations to library educators and to the library profession based upon the findings and experiences of six experimental programs funded during Phase II of the Project. The six experimental programs were located at: Arizona State University (Tempe); Auburn (Alabama) University; Mankato (Minnesota) State College; Millersville (Pennsylvania) State College; the University of Denver (Colorado); and the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. An evaluative report of the six programs, Curriculum Alternatives: Experiments in School Library Media Education; will be released by the American Library Association during the conference week.

The second portion of the program will focus on processes, findings and

implications of a summative evaluation study of the six experimental programs which was implemented during Phase III of the Project. The summative evaluation conducted for the Project in cooperation with the Human Resources Research Organization, Alexandria, Virginia, utilized the Behavioral Requirements Analysis Checklist instrument developed by the Project during Phase II. Data gathered from the research instrument and follow-up interviews includes responses from experimental program graduates, in-program students, experimental program directors and staff, and supervisors of the graduates in the field. During Phase III a number of techniques were developed and information obtained on the evaluation of competency-based education programs. These techniques will be discussed at the Project's program during the Annual ALA Conference and will be of interest to those concerned with the education and performance of professional school library media personnel.

Program presentors will include Robert N. Case, Project Director; Anna Mary Lowrey, Associate Director; and Dr. C. Dennis Fink and Dr. Harold Wagner of the Human Resources Research Organization; Bernard Franckowiak, President of the American Association of School Librarians, presiding. The chairman of the Project's Advisory Committee is Leslie H. Janke, University of California at San Jose.

At the conclusion of Phase III in August 1974 a final report will give special emphasis to (1) the degree to which the experimental training programs prepared students to perform those activities which they are actually required to perform on-the-job, and (2) the degree to which graduates could capably perform in the field those activities which were covered in the experimental programs. The final report will be available for distribution from the American Library Association in December 1974.