In the *News*

This issue offers an eclectic mix of articles and news items for your perusal this summer. ACRL immediate past president, Barbara J. Ford, gives highlights of ACRL's 1990–91 activities and ACRL president, Anne Beaubien, offers a look at her plans for 1991–92.

Katie Laurence shares with us some wonderful photos and descriptions from the menu collection at the Cornell University School of Hotel Administration Library. Imagine sitting down to a dinner offering 111 different dishes including 10 ornamental confections and five different species of duck! Evelyn Riché-Olivier recaps the 1991 John Cotton Dana Public Relations Awards and urges us

to think about our own p.r. plans. The Bibliographic Instruction Section developed a detailed checklist for planning end-user searching instruction that is reproduced in this issue and our columnists provide you with timely updates on their usual beats.

The advent of summer usually means a change of pace for those working in academic institutions; I hope your summer includes a break from your usual routine. *C&RL News* will be back with the September issue.

—Mary Ellen K. Davis
Editor and Publisher

ABEU libraries propose cooperative collection development to combat increasing costs

Directors of the Association of Big Eight University (ABEU) libraries and other regional research libraries met at Kansas State University, Manhattan, on May 1–2. The meeting focused on the growing inability of individual research libraries to purchase publications needed on campus by researchers and students. The group proposed implementation of a regional library cooperative with ABEU Libraries as the nucleus to share resources among the research libraries of the region. Such a strategy would shift the emphasis from acquisition of publications by individual libraries to sharing of materials via an improved access and delivery system.

Participating in the meeting were Owen Cylke, president of ABEU, and representatives of all the libraries of universities participating in ABEU (University of Colorado, University of Nebraska, University of Kansas, Kansas State University, Oklahoma State University, University of Oklahoma, University of Missouri, Iowa State University). Other participants represented the University of Arkansas, University of New Mexico, and Linda Hall Library of Kansas City, Missouri.

The proposed programmatic basis of the regional cooperative includes providing detailed information about the serial holdings of participating libraries, by implementing a regional OCLC union list of serials, and the rapid delivery of materials by using fax technology. This will allow transmission of optically scanned and digitized copies of documents from microcomputer to microcomputer (and finally to a printer) via Internet. Cooperating libraries will also propose to enhance document

delivery by implementing a one- to two-day overland courier system using a commercial courier service. ■ ■

Call for poster sessions at the ACRL National Conference

The National Conference Executive Committee invites you to submit a poster session proposal for the ACRL Sixth National Conference to be held in Salt Lake City, Utah, April 12–14, 1992.

Poster sessions are informal presentations of unique and trendsetting programs and activities being carried out in academic or research libraries. Potential presenters of poster sessions should submit a poster session proposal form (call the ACRL office, (800) 545-2433, ext. 2516 for the form). The deadline for submitting a completed form is November 1, 1991. Send the completed form to Jean E. DeLauche, ACRL Poster Sessions, 7040 North 60th Street, #203, Milwaukee, WI 53223.

The conference theme, "Academic Libraries: Achieving Excellence in Higher Education," will explore the major issues confronting academic libraries now. The following are the sub-themes of the conference: diversity in the academic community; the increased complexity of information resources in many formats; the research agenda for academic and research libraries; and technology and library users.