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Maine Newspaper Project Advisory Board Memo

Jane E. Roberts

Maine State Library

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Maine Newspaper Project

Director, Library Development Richard E. Arnold

Director, Reference & Information Benjamin Keating

To:

Maine Newspaper Project Advisory Board

From:

Janet E. Roberts

Date:

May 23, 1996

Subject:

Maine Newspaper Project Advisory Board meeting (and other stuff)

Put it on your calendar! MNP Advisory Board meeting June 12, 10:00, Maine State Library!

1) Just in case this project has receded in your memory (it's only been several years since our last meeting!), here's a brief update:

We started the Newspaper Project Cataloging Grant in the summer of 1994. The cataloging started in earnest in February of 1995. For the past year and a half, Niki Thoreau (the Cataloger) and Diana Thiers (the Cataloging Assistant) have been working at the Maine Historical Society (in-state papers complete, out-of-state papers postponed), Maine State Library (in progress), and University of Maine (also in progress). The grant is theoretically done at the end of June, but we will be extending it for almost another year. The papers are being catalogued on OCLC.

Our next task is to submit a grant for the microfilming portion of the project. The grant due date is July 1, 1996 (yes, only 1-1/2 short months away!) for a project that begins the following May. Needless to say, some of what we put in the grant proposal will be an educated guess, since the work we do in the intervening ten months will affect the project.

We have just received almost 50 years of *Le Messager* from Center for Research Libraries (1917-196?). Ed Wheaton (State Archives microfilmer) and I will begin collating and prepping for microfilming, but once we have the procedures down pat, someone else will be doing the work. *Does anyone know of any detail-oriented volunteers who might be interested?* This collection is fairly complete, but there are missing issues, and we would like to re-film the first few decades. *Does anyone know where hard copy of the paper might be?*

2) The next meeting of the Advisory Board will be on Wednesday, June 12 at 10:00 am. It will be held in the Conference Room of the Maine State Library, Augusta. Please let me know whether or not you will be able to attend. (Call 287-5791 or e-mail jroberts@saturn.caps.maine.edu). In the grant proposal, we need to name specific titles which we are going to film. The primary purpose of this meeting is to come up with that list of titles. For the meeting, I will have a coherent list of what has been filmed so that we can make informed decisions. We will probably also discuss whether URSUS is still our vehicle of choice for making the information available to researchers here in Maine.

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