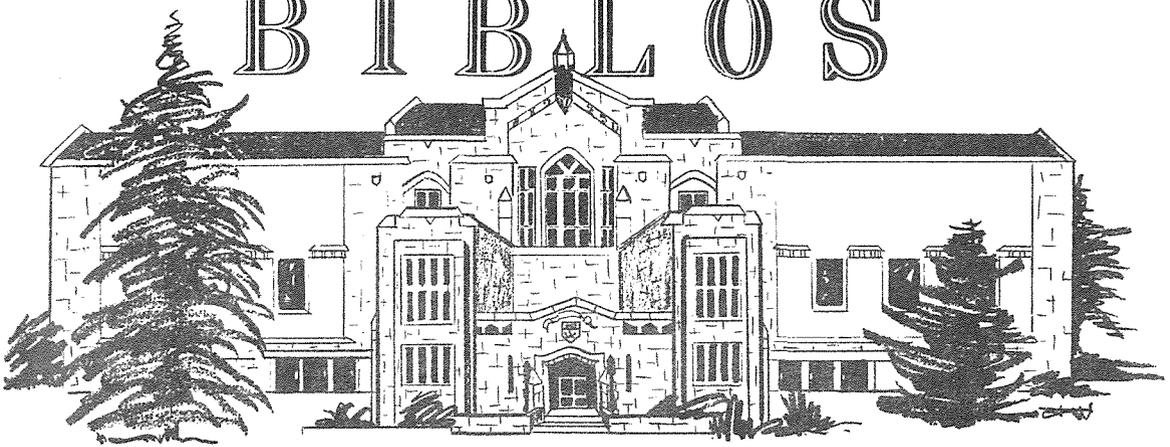


BIBLOS



VOL. 4, NO. ³ 2 OF THE UBC LIBRARY STAFF NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 1967



FRONT OFFICE REPORTS:

BSS and Dr. Coolie Verner completed the manuscript of their book (800 pages plus) on old maps of Canada, and delivered it to Longmans Canada who hope to publish in November, 1968.

The Annual Report of the Librarian was presented to the Senate on December 13th, 1967.

Gerry Dobbin has completed the text of the Student Survey. Hopefully, it will be published in January.

Lois Carrier completed her research project for the University of Toronto School of Library Science, entitled Undergraduate use of reserve material in six selected subjects. It proves that we don't need reserve books!

Mr. Hamilton has sent in a presentation to the Canada Council, asking for a considerable grant to improve and develop the research collections.

The Index to the Downs Questionnaire will be made available this month.

The November/December 1967 list of Current Accessions, put out by Cataloguing Division, is of unprecedented thickness.



"It's about ordinary every-day things, like sex and that, but it's so well written you can't put it down."

BASIL STUART-STUBBS.

On Cycling through Students.

As my bicycle weaves in and out of them
I creep up behind and then shout at them.
I could use a bell,
And a hooter as well,
But I'd much rather scare the hell out of them.

Merry Christmas!

Holiday fun.

We'd like you to be there
About half past three,
When Santa will hand out
Some gifts from the tree.

So come along Friday
(You'll find it's all true)
As Santa has promised
A small gift for you!

To : Mr. Basil Stuart-Stubbs.

AN INVITATION TO A PARTY!

The Biblos Committee
Would like you to come,
And help us to celebrate
Holiday fun.

We'd like you to be there
About half past three,
When Santa will hand out
Some gifts from the tree.

So come along Friday
(You'll find it's all true)
As Santa has promised
A small gift for you!

Staff Changes

A Warm Welcome to -

Marianne Knapp	Flex. Operator	Systems Development
Kent Martin	L.A. I	Sedgewick
Patricia Humphreys	L.A. I	Circulation
Joy McKinnon	L.A. I	Cataloguing
Heather Elliott	L.A. I	Sedgewick
Judy Inouye	L.A. III	Cataloguing
Bruce Stephenson	Clerk I	Acquisitions
Frances Wong	L.A. I	Law Library
Terri Bergsma	L.A. I	Circulation

Congratulations to -

Ruth Slater	L.A. I, Law to L.A. II Prebindery
Luba Kalmakov	L.A. I, Sedgewick to L.A. II Serials
Cheryl Howe	L.A. II, Woodward to L.A. III

We say Good-Bye to -

Donna Maloney	L.A. I	Cataloguing
Linda Boynton-Lee	L.A. III	Woodward
Daniel Kasowitz	Clerk I	Acquisitions
Lydia Lobach	L.A. III	Humanities
Maureen Biden	L.A. II	Government Pubs.
Danae Chambers	L.A. I	Cataloguing
Leslie Coutts	L.A. IV	Bio-Medical Branch
Wayne Wiens	L.A. III	Circulation
Nan Burroughs	L.A. IV	Social Sciences
Linda Jenkins	L.A. I	Woodward
David Clark	L.A. I	Cataloguing

A special congratulations to -

Anna Leith, who is our new Head of Woodward Library
and to
Rein Brongers, who took Anna's position as Head of Science Division.

MESSAGE FROM THE TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT: Received by Serials Department

On Her Majesty's Service

Service de Sa MajesteCANADA
POSTAGE PAID
PORT PAYE24000 CHEVRO-66 J27815*1967
SERIAL 6c6303817096F
THE UNIVERSITY OF B C
VANCOUVER 8 BC

Would anyone knowing the whereabouts of the above Faculty or Staff member, please ask him or her to return the Truck Traffic Questionnaire he recently received, as soon as possible.

* * * * *

CLOUDED VISION : Cloud Atlas : an artist's view of living cloud.

"Cloud occasionally reveals her particular beauty, and I desire to chase the beautiful clouds. I may be only a man who keeps to watch living clouds with my scientific eye, from their birth to their death. These twosupports keep me to study clouds!": the author of this book confesses his ambition.

He has made continuous effort for taking pictures of living clouds during the last thirty years in his life. His love to clouds manifests in this book; his continuous effort and strong desire, how to reproduce real appearances of clouds, accomplished the publication of this book. Not only catching magnificent beauty of clouds but compiling scientifically in accordance with the classifications of clouds in the International Cloud Atlas of World Meteorological Organization is a remarkable characteristic of this book.

You will see it that this book is a valuable guide to envisage clouds with your scientific eye, on the other hand, you may love living clouds with the Ode to Nature, when you have this book.

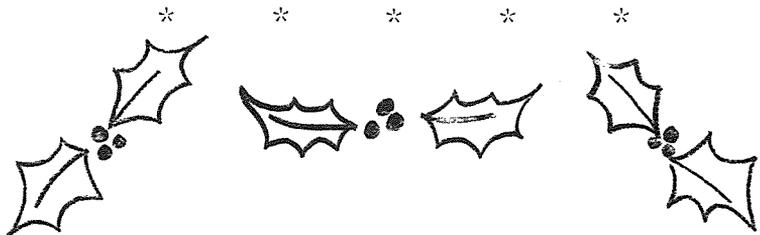
PROGRAMME FOR THE CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sedgewick, 22nd December 1967, 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES - Ture Erickson

BAND - Scott Benny and his Trio.

- 2:00 p.m. Reception Line : Santa Claus
Santa's Helpers
- General gathering : greet Santa, collect your balloon, enter your name for the Bran Tub Draw, eat, drink and chat.
- 2:30 Carol singing, led by the Library Choir, leader John Johnson. Get your song-sheet from Santa and sing along.
- 3:00 Dancing : modern dancing, hokey pokey, congo line, bunny hop, waltzes, spot dances.
- 3:30 The Great Gift Giving; The Master of Ceremonies and Santa Claus will make presentations to the Administration Division.
- 4:00 Carol Singing, led by the Library Choir. A different selection from the previous session, so if you missed your favourites the first time, come again.
- 4:30 Dancing : modern dancing, your suggestions.
- 5:00 The Band quits!



CATALOGUE QUESTIONNAIRE:

With the division of the public catalogue and the publication of new ALA filing rules both in the immediate future, the Catalogue Division was anxious to have information concerning the catalogue user's approach to that tool. A search of the published literature on catalogue use studies from 1934 to 1967 as reported in Library Literature (made by Ann Craig) reveals that while filing rules have been troublesome for many years no study to ascertain the patron's approach has been made. A study was undertaken here with the hope that any consistent pattern of patron use as revealed by the study might well influence our filing rules, or at the very least influence our orientation procedures.

On the basis of the results, there are three major aspects of the catalogue which must be stressed in introducing the catalogue to its users:

- 1) Filing is word by word, that is, New York before Newark; or as cataloguers are wont to say: Nothing before Something.
- 2) The completed works of an author file before the individual works.
- 3) Cutter numbers are decimal.

A majority of patrons are not aware of any of these three points!

In all other cases the new UBC filing rules (and ALA rules insofar as we know them through correspondence with the editors) will reflect patron expectation as revealed in the study and in many instances will be a change from present filing practice:

1. The majority know that initial articles, including French ones, are ignored in filing.
2. The majority of users are not aware of umlauts; they look for Muller among the Mullers. (All diacritical marking will be ignored under the new rules).
3. Most users look for names with prefixes as though they were one word, whether or not they are so written.
4. A majority of users look for compound surnames interfiled with titles rather than immediately after the first part used as a simple surname.

5. The majority expect each letter of an initial heading to be filed as a separate word; i.e. IBM comes after "I am a camera" and before "I beat the system".
6. Most users file hyphenated words with a prefix (e.g., electro-magnetism) as one word, regardless of how it is written.
7. Although compound hyphenated words, such as ground-water, are considered as two words by the majority, UBC will follow the new ALA rule which files compound words as one word.
8. The majority look for "labour" as spelled in the heading, rather than under "labor".
9. A large majority look for London, Ont. within the subdivisions (e.g., London. Whitehall.) of London, England. But England was not included in the London headings given on the questionnaire. The users appear to consider a straight alphabetic order first, and would therefore have no difficulties if [England] were included in the London headings. Only a few responders noted that they would prefer to have London, Ont. in a separate file after the entries for London alone. ([England] will be included on the guides for London entries.)
10. A large majority make no distinction between period (.) and dash subject sub-divisions. (They will be interfiled.)
11. Most people look for the author entry first if they know it.
12. A majority (59.6%) look for people as subjects in the subject catalogue, although a significant percentage would look for them in the author-title catalogue.

Mc Elrod.

* * * * *

The opening of a newly constructed library in Fort Worth, Texas, has been long delayed. A bulletin board at the adjacent shopping center announced: "This is the first time a whole library is overdue".

CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS

One event in history divides time. The year of Christ's birth is now thought to be 7 or 5 B.C., the month and day open to speculation, but early in the 3rd Century the Church of Rome devined the date as 25th of December.

Pagan, Religious and secular customs fused in becoming our Christmas, the ritual of a Bacchanalian December having commenced in AD 378. Numerous pagan festivals were practised during the winter solstice; Marduk, the chief god in ancient Mesopotamia was worshipped for renewing the world at the end of each year, heathen Rome celebrated Saturnalia, its midst being December 25th, the day the sun was calculated as being at its lowest ebb, ready to increase and impart its warmth to growing things. Mithraism, Persia's sun-worshipping religion and rival to Christianity, held sacred December 25th. Norway observed festivals for the god Thor during Yule, the time of midwinter festivities.

St. Augustine, sent by Pope Gregory in AD 579 to convert the heathen English, was instructed to adapt the less vicious practices into the Christmas observances, thereby inadvertently insuring survival of pagan customs. It is probable the Christmas tree derives from the Druidical worship of oak and mistletoe, symbolizing hope, peace and good-will, enemies meeting beneath mistletoe embraced and maintained a truce for one day, hence the modern privilege, hope, peace and good-will theoretically following. St. Boniface, in the 8th century, replaced pagan oak with candled fir-trees, the burning Yule log is the continuation of bonfires lit as part of sun-worshipping rituals, and the adornment of indoor evergreens was originally winter hospitality to the spirits who haunted the leafless woods. Gift-giving was first associated with the 4th century Dutch saint, St. Nicholas, who later developed, through German folk-lore, into Santa Claus. The originators of carols, St. Francis of Assisi and his friars, composed homely songs in the vernacular on the facts of the gospels.

In 11th to 17th century England, the days from Christmas Eve to Twelfth Night were accompanied by such unrestrained 'merrie making and debauchery' that the Puritan Parliament of 1644 abolished it, decreeing 'no observances shall be had of the five and twentieth

day of December, commonly called Christmas Day.' London congregations found themselves imprisoned for attending church at Christmas, one such law-breaker was the diarist Evelyn. The honour of first observing Christmas in the New World goes to the French explorer Jacques Cartier in 1535, at what later became Quebec. South of the border, the Puritans celebrated their first Christmas in a manner deemed proper : by working hard and building 'ye firste hours for comone use'. Returning to the Mayflower, they were distressed to find their victuals were 'much spente, especially our Beere'. A famous New England preacher, of 1711, denounced his flock from the pulpit for having 'on Christmas nightte a Frolicke, a revelling Feast and a Balle, and a Tendency to corrupt yette more'. This attitude prevailed until 1856 when Boston made Christmas legal. The Dutch who settled Manhattan in the 1600's brought their own gay customs, including St. Nicholas. No council meetings were held in December, being a busy month for celebrating and consuming vast quantities of 'the doughty doughnut, the tender Oly-koek, and the crisp and crumbling cruller'.

Christmas is not invariably a unifying force, many countries have opposed certain aspects of our 'western' festivities, including Spain, who in 1950, banned the use of the English word Christmas in newspapers, principally because the Catholic clergy consider Christmas folk customs essentially Protestant. Hungary followed Communist 'line' by deriding Santa Claus as a 'took of american capitalist interests'. A cultural organization in South Africa denounced Santa as a 'foreign importation unsuited to the ideals of Afrikanders'.

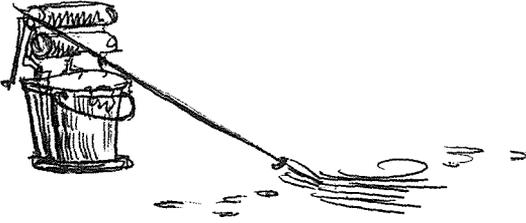
But, whatever customs you observe, whichever you prefer saying - Noel, Natale, Nadolig, Genethlia, Navidad, Weihnacht, (or, more correctly, wein-nacht), the meaning is constant -

have a very happy

C H R I S T M A S

Martina Cipolli

P.S. And a prosperous New Year.



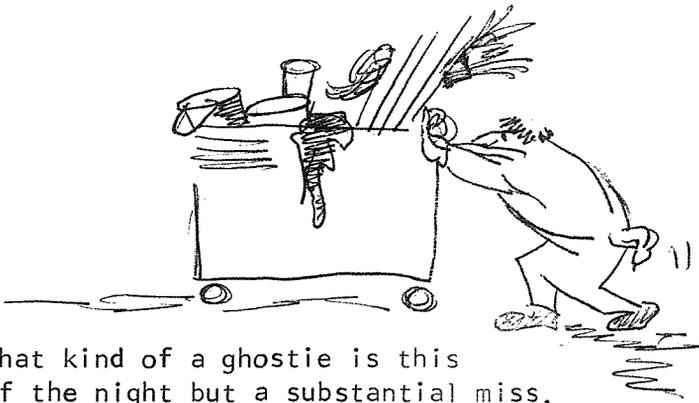
Five past midnight and all is still,
No sound to break the empty chill
of darkened hall and shadowy stair,
Where hung the hot and fetid air,
Now shadows crawl in hungry packs
Around the dim and lonely stacks,
Reaching in the murky gloom
For some forgotten soul to doom,
But no one prowls in frantic quest
'Tis night, the library lies at rest.



But hark what sounds now fill the falls,
Of dragging steel and soft foot falls,
Is it Marley's ghost of Christmas Lore?
Or maybe the phantoms of Ruddigore,
Perhaps 'tis a being from a Poe nightmare,
Or that miserable spirit of Whiddicombe Fair.



THE
LIBRARY
OF THE
CITY OF
BOSTON
1850



But stay, what kind of a ghostie is this
No wraith of the night but a substantial miss,
With bonny pink cheeks and hair in a scarf,
Well really, it's one of the housekeeping staff.
Her cart piled high with cleaning equipment
She'll work through the night to fill her commitment
She and her helpers, numbering ten,
Polish and scrub and polish again,
And when the sun rises like tired leprachauns
They vanish to sleep as the library day dawns.
So to Bossman Jim, Chet, Doris and Tom
Two Anna's and Flo, another Jim and John,
Thanks for your efforts to keep our lives bright,
Merry Christmas to all and to all a Good Night.

Pat LaVac



SHORTAGE OF MANPOWER IN NETHERLANDS LIBRARIES:

Library,
RIJKS INSTITUUT VOOR DE VOLKSGEZOND-
HEID,
Sterrenbos 1 - Utrecht - The
Netherlands.

December 1, 1967

Woodward Library
University of British Columbia,
Vancouver 8, B. C.

Dear Sir,

We have received your list of duplicate literature. If still
available we would like to receive:

JAMA 200 (1967) 6-9

Yours faithfully,

ASS! LIBRARIAN,

* * * * *

After heavy rains in Sausalito, Calif., the main street was an
unsightly stretch of mud that had washed down the cliffs and
through some of the shops. Flanked by two stores advertising
"Mud Sales", the Tides Bookstore displayed this sign: "Dirty Books".



UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

LIBRARY

SIZE AND GROWTH OF COLLECTIONS

	March 31 1966	Additions to March 31/67	Withdrawals 1966/67	October 30 1967
Volumes	741,361	103,631 (Partial)	9	1,022,500
Documents	359,764	65,926	-	460,690
Microfilm (reels)	6,907 (Partial)	2,671	-	18,448
Microcard (cards)	15,810 (Partial)	11,951	-	132,480
Microprint (sheets)	236,130 (Partial)	-	-	455,000
Microfiche (cards)	12,934 (Partial)	3,314	-	127,240
Maps	40,285	11,050	57	53,787
Manuscripts	410 ft*	27 ft*	-	471 ft*
Phonograph Records	8,278	1,691	187	11,200

* Thickness of files

AUTOMATION IN A UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, Part II.

By Basil Stuart-Stubbs

Last month we read how the Semperlax University Library was to be automated under the strong arm of new President Blockbuster. Unfortunately for Librarian Lassis and Serials Librarian Miss Anguish, the job is to be done by experts who know little about the library and are not about to learn. But Desmond Keeney, after 6 months in the Serials Division, is eager for Progress.... Now read, on as the sinister story unfolds....

Dr. Auflein (Head of the Computing Center) calls Keeney and suggests they meet with Wiseman for lunch, an invitation which both flatters and intimidates Keeney. He has had little to do with the higher reaches of academe, and yet he finds himself singled out. It troubles him that although he has had a few thoughts about automation and has read a few articles on the subject, he lacks information and experience of a practical kind, and has had no contact with the actual equipment. If he visited the Computing Centre now it would be an admission of ignorance, so he calls on the office of a computer manufacturer, and there meets one of the most engaging, knowledgeable and confident men he has ever met, Sidney Allsmiles.

Allsmiles produces a few company publications on library applications, and a basic manual on business machines. He talks convincingly of successful applications with which his company has been associated. Keeney is impressed by Allsmiles' command of problems which he had thought were the exclusive property of librarians. Quickly, Keeney absorbs the principles of data processing and picks up a little jargon. By the time he has lunch with Auflein and Wiseman, he can hold his own.

A moral : the first mission of a good salesman is to sell. Experts they may be, but experts with a motive.

Another moral : a little knowledge is a dangerous thing. The truly knowledgeable man knows what he doesn't know. The person with a smattering of knowledge can make a lot of trouble in the area of automation.

Lunch is successful from everyone's point of view. Wiseman wonders how old Lassis has been smart enough to employ a young man of such vigour and promise. Auflein is heartened to know that his staff



J. Huehnergath

won't have to carry the ball alone. Keeney enjoys the confidence of these powerful men and feels that he is being given a mission and a mandate.

It is decided that Wiseman will open discussions with Lassis. When Lassis is confronted by the subject, he expresses reluctance to get into something which has not been fully tested and proven, but in the end he must submit to pressure from Wiseman or be branded an opponent of progress. Wiseman then tells Lassis that he has heard that there is a young man on the staff, Desmond Keeney, who is thoroughly conversant with computers, and could be employed.

To confirm this news, Lassis calls Millicent Anguish, whose reaction is practically violent. But by this time Lassis is in no position to listen to her reservations, because if he ignores Keeney he defies Wiseman. Besides, there is no one else. Miss Anguish feels diminished and worse than that, threatened. Her world is up for destruction.

Another moral : changing conditions arouse the defenses of those affected. The wily administrator who wants to make changes will pre-condition his staff. He can and should help his staff to become acquainted with the techniques and machinery of automation, by any number of means. Besides the seminars and institutes which are being held with greater regularity, he can arrange his own, drawing upon members of the computing centre staff or representatives from the manufacturers of computers. There is plenty of literature, and the best articles can be copied and distributed.

Back to our story. Lassis has been caught napping, and has been placed in the position of having to automate by three men who don't know libraries, two of whom don't know computers either. Automate he must. But what? He has no policy or programme. So he must go along with the Library's self-elected expert, Keeney, but at the cost of damaging staff relations. So Keeney gets his mandate, and commences to automate serials.

Like a good librarian, he begins by searching the literature, reading all the articles and acquiring and digesting a few special reports of limited circulation. Then he gets together with Auflein who explains some of the technical problems. It is decided they will attempt a total programme, not just a listing; it will be a complete record keeping system, accounting for current issues, renewals, overdues and

binding. A format for keypunching is settled upon, and a keypuncher, Marie Tripp, is placed at Keeney's disposal. Keeney gives Miss Tripp the serials records for titles A to C. The information on these cards is patchy but Keeney doesn't want to waste time improving it or transferring it to work sheets, so he merely edits the old serials record with a red pencil and lets Marie punch from that.

Moral : The evil man keypunches lives after him. On recording information for any automated system, one thing that is called for is definition. Little errors breed and multiply.

Marie punches away at an impressive rate. Close to five o'clock one night she finishes the end of the C file. All of her cards are in neat boxes. The original cards are messy and now superfluous so she puts them in the wastebasket from which they are duly collected and destroyed.

Miss Anguish is disturbed by this, but Keeney assures her that everything will be all right in a few days, so periodicals arriving in A to C are put to one side.

Meanwhile, Auflein has turned Keeney and the project over to a programmer, Elmer Scopeless, after having made a few notes about the logic of the program. Scopeless, up till now, has been engaged in writing programs relating to animal population studies, using the only language he knows, FORTRAN. He doesn't really have time for Keeney, but Auflein is boss, so he puts together a program for sorting and listing the periodical entries, just to get the eager Keeney off his back, and behold! The first fruits : a list of periodicals, A to C.

Unfortunately it doesn't bear scrutiny. In the first place, much of the record is gone, since it wasn't keypunched. In the second place, the computer doesn't seem to know filing rules, or even punctuation. Keeney explains to Miss Anguish that it won't be too long before the check-in cards will be available, and suggests that for the time being A to C periodicals, piled up for two weeks, be simply added to the printed list. By the time that job is over the thin paper of the printout is in tatters, and so is Miss Anguish.

Time for a moral : if you are going out on a limb, be sure no one is going to saw it off. Better to operate a double system for a while than to be without any.

Now, if no one were interested in periodicals A to C it would have been all right. But in that two week interval Dean Wiseman had received a copy of the *Americal Journal of Sociology* containing an article by that distinguished sociologist Dean Wiseman. Knowing that the Library must also have received a copy, he refers his students to it. They report to Wiseman that not only were they not able to see the journal, but that the Library could not account for it. Dean Wiseman is not pleased.

The plot thickens! Wait for the next installment of this spine-chilling drama, in the January issue of *Biblos*.



"You can't hold yourself responsible for everything that's happened. Great ideas often have become corrupted, tainted, commercialized by others."

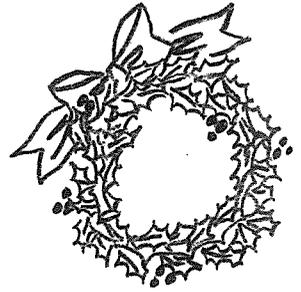
Anthony Burgess has taken a nicely perverse line in the British Museum debate. So far as he is concerned, libraries are more trouble than they are worth; all those knotty indexes, those fierce, obtuse librarians, those fines. And really big libraries are worst of all; they make Mr. Burgess feel small, they remind him that - in spite of what many of us were coming to believe - he is not the only one who now and then puts pen to paper: "The writer has to think of himself as a lone star. To know that he's a mere speck in the galaxies of Bloomsbury is dispiriting and inhibiting."

Books, Mr. Burgess' witty argument continues, ought not to be borrowed, because borrowed books have to be returned intact. A book, he muses, ought not to be treated like a lady, "with respect", but like a whore, with inky marginalia: "a book can be properly read only when lying down or slouched gracelessly ... one's personal library should be a kind of harem."





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WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS,

AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

WITH YOUR POCKETS FULL OF MONEY

AND YOUR BASEMENT FULL OF BEER!

