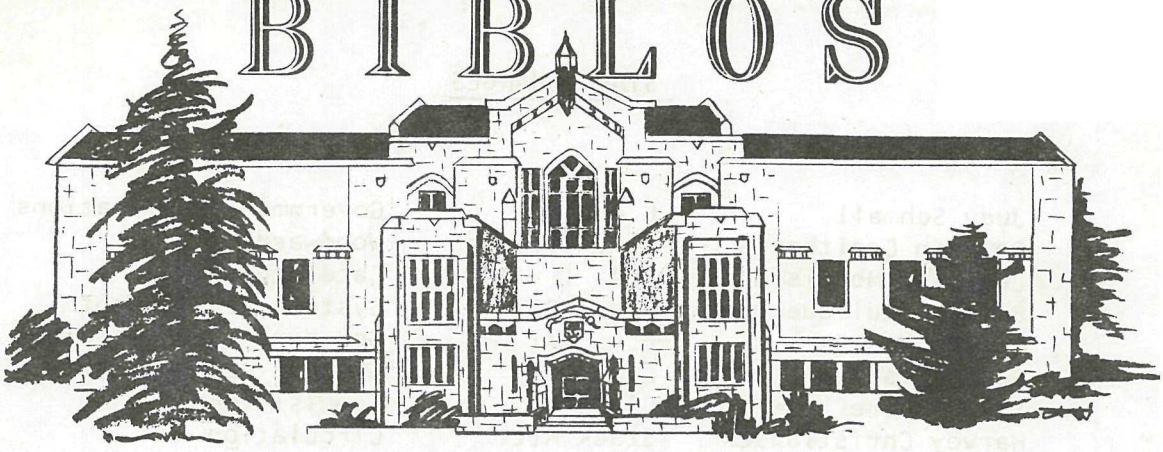
BIBLOS



VOL 4 NO. 8 OF THE UBC LIBRARY STAFF NEWSLETTER JULY-AUGUST 1968

Herewith the last issue of the current Biblos year. With the next issue there will appear before you a new panel of enthusiastic writers of news, stories, gossip and funny patter - along with a couple of hang-overs from the present staff - for continuities sake.

So-from our editor, Mrs. Helen Constable, who we congratulate this month for her production of a baby boy (8 lbs. ?oz.) in lieu of Biblos, and from Shannon McJannet, Martina Cipolli, Pat McCalib, Lynda Moss, Lynda Putnam, Bob Tudge and yours truly Pat LaVac, we say thanks for a good year.

Thanks also to our illustrators, Di Cooper, Dianna Colquhoun and Suzanne Dodson, our photographer par excellence, Carol Freeman, and those hardworking typists in the "Front Office" who always find time for the Biblos, Lynne, Pat, Maureen and Phoebe.

And thanks to all those independent contributors who have been pushed, prodded or otherwise cheerfully answered to the call of "an article please."

And now dear staff for all our sakes
Do keep an eye on those coffee breaks
Who needs a clock for goodness sakes?

STAFF CHANGES

We say goodbye to -

Judy Schmall	L.A. II	Government Publications
Colleen Copithorne	L.A. III	Woodward
Lorraine Morrison	L.A. I	Cataloguing
Barbara Hullquest	Flex. Op.	Systems Development
Sue Buchanan	L.A. III	Government Publications
Susan Statham	L.A. III	Systems Development
Brian Shore	Clerk I	Acquisitions
Harvey Christiansen	Stack Att.	Circulation
Jane Pierson	L.A. I	Humanities
Judy Inouye	L.A. III	Cataloguing
Lorraine Morrison	L.A. I	Cataloguing
Ann Diano	L.A. III	Cataloguing
Helen Derewenko	L.A. IV	Science
Rick Crowe	L.A. II	Cataloguing
Barbara Williamson	L.A. I	Sedgewick Library
Loree Rose	L.A. I	Circulation
Jean Law	L.A. III	Cataloguing
Nuola O'Shea	L.A. III	Cataloguing
Brigitte Willemson	L.A. IV	Cataloguing
Letitia Goldstrom	Clerk II	Acquisitions
James Thomas	Stack Att.	Circulation
Kathy Kujundzic	L.A. II	Science
Phoebe Nahanni	Clerk/Typist	Administration
Judy Sangha	L.A. II	Forestry/Agriculture
Jean Baily	L.A. I	Circulation
Barbara Kristel	L.A. I	Prebindery
Larry Campbell	L.A. I	Special Collections
Dawn Anderson	L.A. II	Mathematics

A Warm Welcome to -

Gillian Stoneman	L.A. III	Cataloguing
Valerie Roddick	L.A. IV	Science
Heather Jones	Sec. II	Woodward
Christine Mitchell	L.A. I	Circulation
Huberdina Van Elst	L.A. I	Woodward
Cathy Batten	L.A. III	Cataloguing
Louise Hazel	L.A. I	Circulation

Welcome to (continued)

Ingeborg Fleet	Sec. III	Circulation
Marg. Haire	L.A. I	Cataloguing
Irene Everest	L.A. III	For/Agr.
Jane Johnson	L.A. I	Law.
Marlene Hamakawa	L.A. I	Cataloguing
Maria Ussner	L.A. II	Serials
Jane Shinn	L.A. I	Sedgewick
Karol Parsons	L.A. II	Gov. Pubs.
Diana Brown	L.A. II	Systems
Vivian Reid	Flex. Op.	Systems
Petale McCarthy	L.A. III	Gov. Pubs.
Gina Sen	L.A. I	Cataloguing
Vera Wall	L.A. I	Circulation
Steven Slavik	L.A. III	Cataloguing
Courtney Palsson	L.A. III	Cataloguing
Judy Mitchell	L.A. III	Cataloguing
Gladys Hart	L.A. I	Humanities
Brigitte Gassman	L.A. I	Cataloguing
Paul Rodgers	L.A. I	Cataloguing
Dennis McElhatton	L.A. I	Cataloguing
Francisca Schmal	L.A. I	Cataloguing
Carol Washburn	L.A. III	Cataloguing

Congratulations to

Bertha Kleinhenn	L.A.II to L.A.III	Cataloguing
Monica James	L.A.III to L.A.IV	Circulation
Hilda van den Bosch	L.A.I to L.A.II	Sco. Work
Pat Bolton	KPO Cat to L.A.III	Systems
Pat Heaslip	L.A.I to Clerk II	Circulation
Kathy Watt	L.A.I to L.A.II	Circulation
Fred Wong	L.A.I to Stack Att.	Sedgewick
Sonja Gillham	L.A.I to L.A.II	Cataloguing
Shirley Bouchard	L.A.I to Flex.Op.	Cataloguing

Congratulations to (cont)

Deanna Moore	L.A. I to L.A. II	Cataloguing
Joy McKinnon	L.A. I to L.A. II	Cataloguing
Sally Dorward	L.A. I to L.A. II	Cataloguing
Janice Cundal	L.A. I to L.A. II	Cataloguing
Paul Deglau	Stack Att. - Stack Sup	Circulation
Dorothy Frigon	L.A. I to L.A. II	Cataloguing
Lynda Putnam	L.A. II to L.A. III	Cataloguing
Ardele Bruce	L.A. I to L.A. II	Cataloguing
Glenda Craig	Clk. I - L.A. II	Circulation
Bernard Olson	L.A. II - Clk. III	Woodward
Julie Abel	L.A. III - L.A. IV	Cataloguing

Congratulations to Helen Derewenko of the Science Department who has received a five year Music Scholarship to Moscow University, where she will be studying Music, Russian Language and Literature. She will be living at the university residence and will have the opportunity to visit with relatives in the Ukraine.

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after all those staff changes a timely quote .....

> "Fathers and brethren! Wherever you find mistakes of copying or incomplete statements, read, correct, but for God's sake do not complain."
>
> Manuscript from
> Nestor's Chronicles. ca.1074 A.D.

The Canadian Library Association Conference in Jasper attracted many participants from the U.B.C. Library. Two views of the procedures are reported herewith; -

AN AMERICAN VIEW OF CLA

J. McRee Elrod

Despite my best efforts in practicing "Z'ds, chesterfield, and holidays" (for "Z's, sofa, and vacations") and scattering "u's" about in various words, I have been asked to give an American's reaction to CLA.

Accustomed to various state level library associations and to ALA, CLA is a new and different experience. Comparable in size to the former, but in calibre to the latter, it combines the advantages while avoiding the major shortcomings of both. The smaller size allows groups to function and have meaningful discussions, and there is not the maze of conflicting meetings one finds at ALA. The representation from across the country and from several major institutions prevents the big-frog-in small-puddle complex which so often afflicts the state university librarian at state meets.

For the university librarian the proportion of academic librarians to public and school librarians is a distinct boom and in sharp contrast to American groups.

The huge ALA could not have met in the beautiful Jasper setting, but then we were removed from any major library, theatre, or restaurant center. (The paper place mats at Japser's only American Express eatery informed us that atop the skyride "the world lays (sic) at your feet." The food wasn't very good either.)

The feature of the conference which most struck me, used to the rough and tumble of American meetings, was the understatedness of the presentation of points of view (except for me of course). If a State Librarian arose at a meeting and announced the revision of the State Library Law without its first having been discussed with the profession, howls of anguish would have greeted him from the floor.

One feature of the conference different from previous CLA's and comparable to ALA institutes was the morning study programme.

Making this a part of, rather than a preliminary to, the conference brought substance into the conference itself. The study sessions were somewhat like the VW bus - underpowered for that which they were supposed to accomplish.

From the librarian's point of view those leading the sessions on work study knew almost nothing of librarianship and saw it as clerical functions to which their methods of analysis could be applied. From the work-study people's point of view, the librarians were defensive of their professionalism and failed to see the simularity between work performed in libraries and work performed in offices and factories. The sessions were worthwhile efforts at inter-professional communication. (I was going to say cross-professional fertilization but that makes it sound like Masters and Johnson.)

A CANADIAN VIEW OF CLA — Anon.

If there are pleasanter spots for a conference than Japser (e.g. Jamaica), CLA hasn't yet discovered them. Mountain air, rather than "mountain dew",brought more librarians out during daylight hours than usual - although the schedule called for evening sessions, afternoons were generally free for hiking, bird-watching, swimming and golf.

Perhaps the meetings had more substance to them than one normally expects at conferences. A group including BSS and Bill Watson met for three days to discuss techniques in surveying libraries with Ellsworth Mason and George Piternick. Extremely favorable comment was overheard from some of the participants. A second and more widely attended study session was held on work-study techniques. Methods used in business and industry for studying performance and procedures were introduced, and the confrontation between librarians and the business-oriented instructors was worth watching. An alternate program "People, machines and motivation" dealt with more conventional library problems.

The General Meeting offered its share of drama, since resolutions relating to the recent appointment of the National Librarian and to the "bi-lingual" role of CLA were presented and discussed. With near unanimity, the Meeting agreed to change CLA's name,

dropping the "Association Canadienne des Bibliotheques" from its title and giving formal recognition to the Association Canadienne des Bibliothecaires de Langue Francaise as the national library association for French language librarians in Canada. As a result of the vote, prospects for co-operation between the two associations are now much better.

The possibility of holding conferences every two years, with regional meetings and smaller meetings in the alternate years was brought up and again will be studied by a CLA committee.

A Canadian Inter-library Loan Code and Telecommunications Code were accepted by the delegates.

"Xerox Corporation. How do you do and how do you do and how do you do again?"

• •

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT IN THE WOODWARD LIBRARY

Attention friends of Elisabeth Jupp!

Elisabeth Jupp, previously of Woodward Library, is arriving on August 15th from Boston where she is a librarian at Harvard's Andover Theological Seminary Library.

Elisabeth's headquarters during her month-long stay will be at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Hans Burndorfer on Puget Drive.

A recent issue of the Irish Medical Association Journal V. 61 75. 1968. reporting a particular kind of infestation in Limerick inspired a brief summary as follows:

Trichuris Tricuria in Limerick

If Trichuris Tricuria makes you sick
Its eradication should be quick,
And the place to go
To vanquish the foe,
Is the Regional Hospital in Limerick.

Betty McAully.

---

and if you want to see something of interest in that "long lunch hour" how about a trip to the Woodward Library where you may veiw ---

THE GOBELIN TAPESTRY

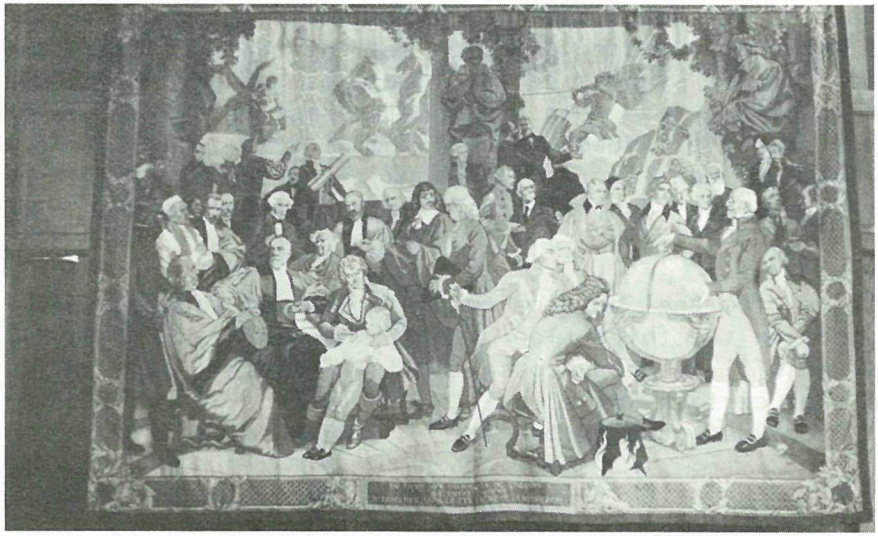
When the June 3, 1968 editions of the Journal of the American Medical Association arrived at the Woodward Library staff members were pleasantly surprised. Featured on the cover was a colourful photograph of the Gobelin Tapestry which hangs in our own Memorial Room. To accompany the cover photo, Dr. William C. Gibson of the Department of the History of Medicine and Science has written an interesting article on the Tapestry. Reprints of Dr. Gibson's article are available on request, from the Woodward Library.

The Tapestry, a 1948 Gobelin was produced by Monsieur T. Cochery, then head of the Gobelin house, as a proof for one commissioned for the Thesis Room of the Sorbonne. It measures 16 feet by 11 feet and depicts over forty figures famous in the history of medicine and science. Among those depicted are Michael Farady, Louis Pasteur, Rene Descartes, Edward Jenner and Benjamin Franklin.

Gobelin tapestries are famous for their own particular style of weaving. An interlocking treatment is used which gives a continuous surface of even weight. The resultant effect closely approximates that of a painting and is highly prized because of the subtly of shading and attention to detail. These characteristics are distincly shown in the Woodward tapestry which is very brightly coloured. The glowing red tones are especially evident.

The tapestry was presented to the Memorial Room as a gift by the Mr. and Mrs. P.A. Woodward Foundation and is a distinquished addition to the Library.

Lynda Moss



R.B.C. What art thou ! ! ! ! ! !

It has come to our attention via the grapevine that many new - and possibly not so new - members of the staff do not know where or what R.B.C. is, R.B.C. being short for Reserve Book Room. We are on the third floor, hiding behind the Colonial Shutters just inside the North entrance and having as our closest neighbor the Fine Arts Department.

We owe our recent publicity to the fact that if you happen to be feeling a bit under the weather you can come and visit with us long enough to sign your name in a little green book and be handed a key which will give you access to the peace and quiet of the "Sick Bay". However the Reserve Book Rooms' primary function is to handle a collection consisting mainly of titles available for short term loan periods. The titles are, requested by professors and are supposedly the one which will be in heavy demand during term or session. These loan periods are anywhere from 2 hours to 3 days and theoretically allow for more students to borrow, however briefly, the readings required for their courses.

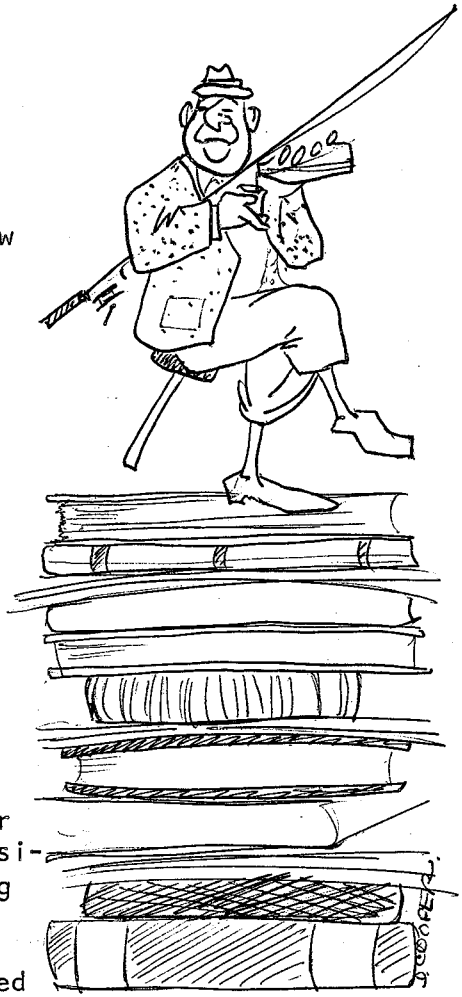
During term it does get a little hectic especially as fines mount up very speedily at 25 cents an hour. However the shuttered office of the R.B.C. has provided a great many laughs for its seven charming staff members. When the shutters are closed students do not realise that intimate conversations on the other side can sometimes be heard with embarrassing clarity and when the shutters are open students constantly poke their heads through the windows to ask, time, directions, or "can I borrow Handbook of Personnel Management on Thursday please" and of course the occasional reference question.

So if you too feel an urge to pop your head through the shutters on the third floor front, North side, next to Fine Arts, we will be happy to say hullo! --- don't wait until you need that certain key.

freely adapted from notes by Judy Cardin.

and in the "DID YOU KNOW?" department .....

That there is a collection in the library of approximately 500 books on the subject of Fly Fishing, or to be more precise. "The Harry Hawthorne Foundation for the Inculcation and Propagation of the Principles and Ethics of Fly-Fishing". This collection is scattered through out the main collection and is presently being bibliographed by Miss Susan Starkman a recent graduate from the U.B.C. Library School.



The books for the collection have been acquired by means of cash donations, money collected from the levying of fines on the members of the foundation and outright gifts of books. A recent acquisition has been the Tommy Brayshaw collection which was willed to the Foundation. Mr. Brayshaw himself an ardent angler was a school teacher at Vernon for many years. He was also a noted wood carver and illustrator. Many of his illustrations appeared in Western Angler and in the books of Mr. Haig-Brown. The collection is composed of approximately 285 books plus many periodicals, illustrations and Mr. Brayshaw's fishing diary.

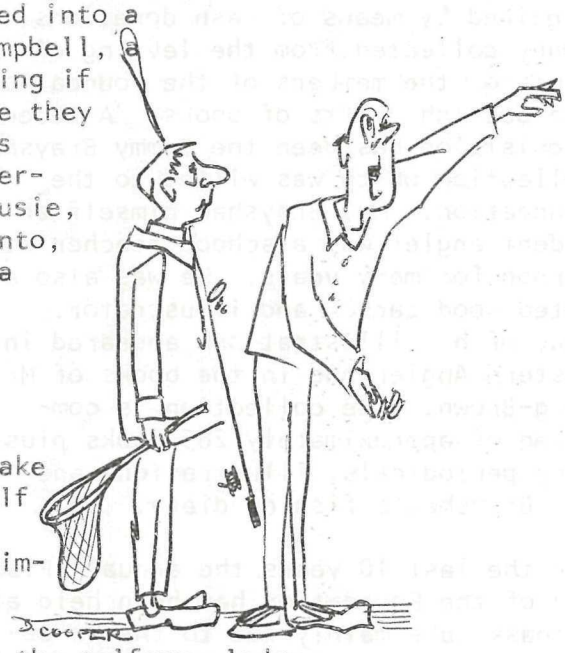
For the last 10 years the annual "Fish In" of the Foundation has been held at Pennask Lake mainly due to the co-operation of Dr. Leon Ladner, who is now an honorary member of this exclusive body. And if that name sounds familiar it should as Dr. Ladner is also responsible for the Campus Campanile now rising in our midst.

The Foundling Fathers of this unparalled collection were Messrs. Hawthorne, Read, Weaver, Duff, Harlow, Haig-Brown and MacKenzie, but let one of their number tell you more on the beginnings.

History Enough of the
Harry Hawthorne Foundation for the Inculcation and
Propagation of the Principles and Ethics of Fly-Fishing

(Trial edition, by an Eyewitness.)

In the Beginning. Hardly a document is now at large which bears upon the origins of this singular society. No one can deny, however (correct me in a footnote if I'm wrong) that in May 1953, hard upon the University's Spring Congregation a band of fleeing academics made their frugal way in somebody's Chrysler Imperial to an island off the coast of Point Grey. Reaching the shores and irked at coming to land so soon, they turned still westward up a river until it broadened into a bonnie loch called Upper Campbell, a combination suggesting nothing if not scotch and water, where they tarried. Mark you, now this mixed bag of guileless fishermen from New Zealand, Dalhousie, McGill, California and Toronto, how they quickly fell into a compromising situation but by blunt application of truth, beauty, and reason, squeaked out of it.



The Setting. This lovely lake looked out upon a lot of half burned trees and luxurious lodge all festooned with flimsy fishpoles.

The Rising. A little later the selfsame lodge, well laden with rye and scotchmen, surveyed an evening lake alive with lumpen fishermen. Who caught the first fish? "I", said Generous Geoffrey. "No, I," cried Studious Stanley, and there was no truth in any of them. And who landed the longest fish? "Not Rod," said Duff quite devilishly; "with my rod," he said instead. Pray who got the largest number? "None other," claimed Honest Harry who had a handful of helpers. And they played poker until the rum ran out.

Quick Solution to a Nasty Problem. After night after night came the great reckoning - gaming gamblers, larcenous lawyers, lying laymen, bickering fishermen, malevolent magistrates all in a row or row. First, largest and most numerous? Let the Court speak up and he did. "On this Foundation do I set my seal, and the gates of hell shall hardly hold a candle to it." And he said let there be books on fly-fishing. And here they are.

The day is here,
The toil is done,
Let's give a cheer,
For everyone,
Who sorted, filed and sometimes swore,
To end confusion in the drawer.

During the past year several things have happened to the Public Card Catalogue of the Library:

I) It has been divided. The catalogue is now in three parts.
   1) An Author-Title File
   2) A Subject File
   3) A classed Location File

II) It has been enlarged.
   1) The holdings of the Sedgewick Library have been included in all three files.
   2) The holdings of periodicals in all locations have been included in the Location File.
   3) The Music Library and materials in Fine Arts not classed in N have been included in the Location File.
   4) For new titles going into the Location File because of a copy in a branch or division: additional copies in stacks, N (Fine Arts), or a "half mast" location (Asian Studies, Juvenile Collection, Law Library, Special Collections) are ticked.

   N.B. Titles with copies only in stacks or a half mast location or N are still not in the Location File. ("Half mast" refers to the name of the collection half way down the left edge of the card.)

III) It has been refiled.
   1) In the Author-Title File, all entries under a man's name are interfiled by title whether he is the author, joint author, editor, etc.
   2) In the subject file, all subject entries are filed behind a guide card for that entry. New cards have the subject entry ticked in red in the tracing rather than typed. Divisions of subject entries are interfiled alphabetically whether they are dash (-) or comma (,). These are followed by chronological divisions.

IV) It is expanding. The catalogue is growing at thousands of cards per month.
   1) The subject and location files have been expanded to accommodate these cards.
   2) The author-title file has spilled over into a few extra drawers before its scheduled expansion next summer, in the form of an experimental Canada and U.S. Author catalogue.

V) The catalogues of the major branches have followed suit.
   1) Most branches catalogues are now divided, refiled, and with new subject guides.
   2) The Woodward Biomedical Library's experimental filing of cards within subject by date of publication (latest first) has been termed a success and extended to Sedgewick Undergraduate Library.

"You will please address me as 'Librarian,' Sir—I am not *a 'Bookie'!"**

and our Roving Reporter has found the facts Ma'am (Man), the facts, on that concrete edifice across the way ------

TUUM EST.

From September on one will be able to take refuge from the 'mists of mellow fruitfulness' in the new Student Union Building, most considerately being erected behind our Library.

Sixteen months of intensive construction is resulting in a $5 million, 3-storey structure of 190,000 square fee, with an area of 6,000 square feet for future expansion. Though ostensively for student use, library personnel are welcome to enjoy all the varied amenities and facilities.

Situated on the ground floor are a bank, barber and college shop, rest-rooms, and games area. Those favourably endowed can dispense energy between table tennis, 5-pin bowling and billiards.

The main floor, housing cultural activities and food services contains eight committee and meeting rooms, which can be hired for private dining, a cafeteria and snack bar capable of serving 4,000 per sitting, two music lounges, complete with head-sets, TV lounge, reading lounge and a small library. Alongside a 420 seat auditorium is a 2-level art gallery with conversation lounge extending from the lower level.

The upper floor contains student activity areas, further meeting rooms with adjoining kitchenettes, club-rooms, a large ballroom with raised stage and, adjacent to a spacious courtyard, two party rooms.

Should future lunch hours be unintentionally prolonged, I hope understanding will prevail.

Martina Cipolli

From the outer spaces of Vancouver Island a communication has been received from our erstwhile colleague "RJL". By way of explanation of the first paragraph this communication is in the form of a "Thanks for your Hospitality" card expressing the sentiment.

You made things so pleasant
The moments just flew
Thanks for that wonderful visit with you.

To my colleagues of these forty years -

If that was a "visit" what would a stay be? Your "hospitality" is, rather, your forbearance and good tempers.

I am fortunate in making the double change, for it would be unsettling at the old house to get up on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday to the daily breaking of a long habit. Certainly moving and re-settling are experiences drastic enough to take one's mind off other things. If you must move do it often enough that you won't accumulate.

I am fortunate also (one could use a harsher word) in being the recipient of two handouts. A second time, many thanks. The first gift is a very pragmatic one. I am making a list for the first trip to Nanaimo - shortly, we are still busy finding and placing this and that - starting with pickaxe (the ground here is something!) work boots with steel toecaps, steer manure (very powdery; when applying you steer clear) and so on and so on. Even at todays prices I shall accumulate many useful - mostly permanent - articles (This is the last move.)

The place here - 1 mile south of Ladysmith, just above the Island Highway - is easy to recognize. It is the smallest house in the area, with the littlest car. It is conspicuous in having no power-boat; it has the fewest dogs (none) and for the time being is the most unkempt (it was rented for about a year, and has been vacant for three months - it is uncomprehensible how much soil can so over produce a mass of weeds and bushes. Thistles! - Scotch and Canadian. A compensation is the wild blackberry, now ready to pick. It can stop being ashamed only in the matter of view.

I went to the et-laryng (etc)-ist shortly before I left, he said "Hum, hum, I'm tempted to try another operation. Here's a new one - Hm (nod) Hm (nod and long pause) How old are you? I told him, - quickly, "Oh! forget it. Your hearing will last out your life time". I wondered as I walked away if I could ask to be re-instated. Why did I quit work, if, to a doctor, I am younger than my actual years? Then slowly I realized that he was thinking of my physical condition. So I'm gone and I can't tell you how much I'm going to miss all of the reference books.

RJL.

More Correspondence.....

To the Health and Welfare of Sick Books Department

(A plaintive letter received in Circulation from a concerned borrower.)

Dear Sirs,

... I think you will find that I returned the book some time ago ... If I recall correctly, this book was approximately a hundred years old, and I noted on using it that the spine had become seriously weakened (Well wouldn't yours be, too) Therefore, when I returned it I trussed it up with cardboard and string and put a note with it concerning its condition.

Yours truly.

(With a description like that the "injured" volume was found almost immediately)

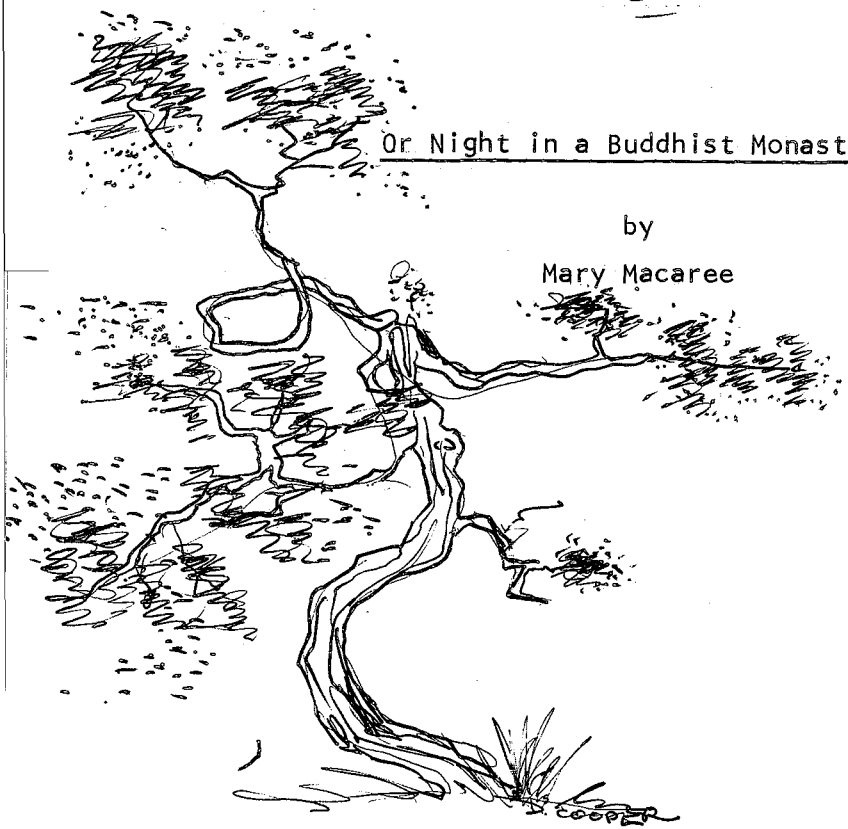
BIBLOS BOOK SUPPLEMENT

KOYASAN

Or Night in a Buddhist Monastery

by

Mary Macaree



KOYASAN,

Or a Night in a Buddhist Monastery.

When I was first asked to write something of my visit to Japan I was appalled at the thought of trying to fit such a multitude of confused impressions into a few pages of orderly typescript. On second thought, however, I decided to try to give merely the flavour of two days spent in a Buddhist centre not frequently visited by foreigners.

Some of us had spent the previous day hiking across the mountain range above Amami and from there a local train took us to join the express by which we travelled through winding gorges deeper into the mountains lying southward from Osaka. These valleys, unbelievably true to Japanese landscape paintings, were quite beautiful, being clothed with a wonderful variety of fresh greens including the dark of pines and palms side by side with the yellow of bamboos and camphor trees. Finally, at Hashimoto, we left the express and continued by cable railway to the strains of tinkling Strauss waltzes, (probably copied from the European model along with the idea for the fanicular itself). Our journey ended on the mountain top at Koyasan which lies in a bowl surrounded by eight hills, each representing a Buddha.

Koyasan is the religious centre of the orthodox Shingon sect whose founder was Kobo Daishi and for some 1,000 years pilgrims have been coming to do homage to the man who discovered this place while searching for a refuge where he could establish a centre from which to spread the teachings of Shingon. Here, 3,000 feet above sea level, amid thick forests of pine, fir and cryptomeria (a cedar-like tree) Kobo Daishi and his disciples began to build the temples which increased till, at one time, they numbered many hundreds, though now there are just over a hundred left, time and fire having taken heavy toll of the old wooden structures. And, in fact, many of the existing buildings have been burned down and rebuilt several times throughout their long history.

In addition to the Great Pagoda, the Kongobuji, and the

many other temples and towers remaining, there are some fifty-four monasteries which have rooms reserved for the pilgrims who visit Koyasan, and it was to one of these monasteries, the Shinnion Temple, that we made our way upon arrival in the little town that has grown up to cater to the needs of the temples and their visitors.

At the temple we rejoined the rest of the UBC group which had journeyed ahead of us from Osaka, and slipperless, we entered the large, bare, tatami-floored room which was to serve as dining room and meeting place during our stay in the temple. Seated on the floor in a variety of postures, our unaccustomed legs finding the traditional kneeling position of the Japanese too demanding to maintain for long, we were served the green tea and little cakes which customarily greet the visitor whether in private home or inn.

Then we were shown our sleeping quarters. From five to eight people were allotted to each room depending on the number of bed mats it was possible to lay out side by side across the floor, the rooms themselves being really the partitioned-off sections of a very large sleeping area. This division of larger areas into smaller led to some unexpected results as, for instance, when the light switch was on one side of the partition with the ladies and the light on the other with the men, who went to bed in the dark and then spent the night bathed in a mysterious light which seemed to come on by itself. However no bed mats nor problems were evident on our arrival for the room appeared very similar to, though simpler than, those we had occupied elsewhere. There were half-a-dozen clothes hooks near the sliding paper panel which served as a door, a low table and cushions in the centre of the floor and an attractive flower arrangement under the scroll on one wall.

Immediately outside on a verandah facing into a small garden was a wooden trough into which mountain spring water was piped. Small wooden basins and ladles completed the toilet arrangements for the room. For more elaborate bathing there was one bath, only big enough to accommodate four people at a time, two soaping, two soaking. As a result we had to bathe to a schedule, reducing drastically the opportunities for socializing which a long, hot luxurious immersion seems to foster.

3.

Since our hosts belonged to the strictest, most orthodox of the Buddhist sects the food prepared for us was entirely vegetarian, but though the ingredients may have been humble there was nothing simple about the meals which included just as many surprising, delightful, and not so delightful dishes as elsewhere. Never, indeed, did I expect to eat cold spinach at breakfast and to enjoy it. What a relief, too, was the knowledge that at the end of each meal there would be a tasty vegetable-based soup, not a fishy one. The meals were served on small individual tables which, loaded, could stack one above the other indefinitely, it seemed, and thus it was fortunate that our servitors were hale young monks with a taste for balancing towers of tables as high as themselves.

On our first afternoon in Koyasan we visited some of the main temples and shrines, ending with a visit to the cemetery which must be unique. For a mile and a half through a forest of great cryptomerias and pines extends an avenue on each side of which are tombs and memorial stones. These monuments are of all kinds, large and small, simple and ornate, in the form of slabs, shafts, pillars and pagodas, all topped by rows of small pebbles thrown there by pilgrims for good luck. Near the end of the avenue stand seven bronze Buddhas to whom wooden tablets bearing the names of the dead are offered, at the same time as a ladleful of water is thrown over one or all of the gods, whose service to the dead improves the wetter they are kept. The pilgrimage ends at the Torodo which stands at the head of the long avenue -- a simple building in the Japanese style, containing many lamps burning in memory of the dead. Behind it in the centre of some minor shrines is the tomb of Kobo Daishi, before which the pilgrims make their prayers. After dinner and a seminar on Zen Buddhism we retired to our rooms to find the entire floor now occupied by our bed mats, and, thanks to a typical Japanese thoughtfulness, nestling under each quilt a hot bottle filled with glowing charcoal which remained warm and conforting the entire night - or almost the entire night, for we woke at five in order to attend prayers half an hour later. The service took place in a rather small chapel in front of a statue of the Law-giver and while the priests in the inner sanctum chanted the appropriate part of the Sutra, we, in the ante-room, took turns to burn

incense, led by a monk who studiously counted his beads as we each approached the pot, knelt and added our three pinches of incense.

After the service two of us walked upwards through and beyond the town until we struck one of the trails leading to the ridges encircling Koyasan. There we followed part of the trail used by the old-time priests who rose at midnight and completed a circuit of the eight hills by noon, repeating this nocturnal pilgrimage for a thousand times. They claim that up there all a man's troubles are cleared away by the breeze that blows over Koya's peaks; but then I believe that is true of the mountains in Japan or B.C., so I can't vouch for the particular efficacy of the Koya winds.

I can say, however, that we descended with considerable regret when the time came for our departure from the temple and our good-byes to the monks who had looked after us with great courtesy and thoughtfulness, spiced occasionally with a little harmless mischief, which it required no language to convey.

The Pope and population explosion are not the only topics of conversation amongst the library staff. The catalogue explosion is rapidly taking over as the number one concern with no artificial method of contra-expansion in sight. Last month the Catalogue Division produced in excess of 13,000 sets of cards!