BIBLOS

V. 1, No. 12 of the U.B.C. LIBRARY NEWSLETTER Sept. 1965

TO US!

This is another month of innovations and about to be innovations. BIBLOS, keeping tuned to the times, also announces a fairly drastic change. We quit! Our probationary term of one year ends this month and for the next twelve issues we throw your newsletter to a completely different, fresh, keen, sprightly committee.

But first a few parting shots from us. After a year we still are forced to admit that great numbers of you do not realize that BIBLOS is your newsletter - not the committee's or the administration's, but rather one in which you could participate to a much greater extent than you have. We also sadly confess that we never received a "letter to the editor" type of communication either for or against us, and both would have been a welcome sign of active reading.

On the other hand, some of the staff who informed us we would only last three months, and others who informed us they were painfully bored, later became staunch supporters. We cheerfully acknowledge a stubborn core of still bored readers and non-readers. BOO! To those who regularly sent us choice bits of information and to those who contributed articles, many thanks and please continue to do so.

For our part, we confess to having enjoyed the experience of editing BIBLOS tremendously or, as one committee member put it, "I'm going to miss the meetings". Let's be honest, "nosiness" may not be next to "godliness" but it certainly can be a lot of fun.

INTRODUCING THE NEW SPRIGHTLY BIBLOS COMMITTEE

Kathy Ward - new committee chairman, automation expert, talented paraphraser of poems.	Circulation
David Thomas - a humorous insight into life's little foibles.	Cataloguing
Jean Rennie - willing and able.	Woodward
Diana Cooper - artistic, etc. see August issue of BIBLOS for complete rundown.	Fine Arts
Mary Adolph - able and willing.	Social Science
Pat LaVac - not known for artistic taste BUT possesses excellent poetic judgement.	Acquisitions
Pat O'Rourke - noted beauty critic and burgeoning poet.	Stack Attendent

More people came home from terribly dull holidays.

EXTRACTS FROM A 16-PAGE LETTER TO A FRIEND ABOUT HUNGARY

by Pat Gorgenyi
Acquisitions

... After visiting a number of friends and relations, I came to realize their main purpose is to feed you until you beg for mercy. The word "no" seems to be missing from the Hungarian vocabulary. Don't think it's an exaggeration - it's not! I'll give a typical example of the food you are expected to consume in an hour's visit. You start with 2 or 3 glasses of liqueur, not very sweet, but pure alcohol and deadly. Then comes a demi-tasse of strong, black coffee. With the coffee there are assorted sweet pastries offered again and again. When you think you're quite full, the next course arrives - a rich, creamy, filling dessert. Then off you'd go to visit someone else with more of the same...

... I have one anecdote to tell which typifies the general attitude of the people toward the government. A lady was seated by a coffee machine in a rather large restaurant and was passing the time by cleaning her nails. She was heard to reply indignantly to the head waiter, "Don't tell me to do anything, I'm only here to make up the number of people required by the government for a place of this size"...

... As you know, Hungary has always been an agricultural country. Unfortunately, since the start of "collectivization" the farmers have migrated almost en masse to the cities. Much of the very fertile farmland is lying fallow, yet whatever is produced is of a high quality. So much so that almost all Hungarian wheat is sent to France. One bushel of Hungarian wheat is exchanged for $2\frac{1}{2}$ bushels of French wheat. There is such a difference in the quality.

... When you go to Budapest a must on your itinerary is a visit to the large outdoor market on a Saturday morning. (I'm getting to sound a bit like a travelogue.) It opens about 4:30 a.m. every day of the week but it is at its best on Saturdays. At the entrance you are greeted by women selling bouquets of flowers. Hungarian people love flowers and they are very cheap to buy. No one seems to leave without a bouquet large or small. It's fascinating to stroll around between tables piled high with green paprika, tomatoes and fresh mushrooms of all varieties. There are long counters with all kinds of cheeses and jars of natural sour cream - quite a contrast from our hygenic supermarkets...

... One of the nicest things about coming home is that you no longer feel like a museum piece. Imagine going into an art gallery and realizing that you were the only one looking at the paintings and that everyone else was looking at you. The tourist in Hungary is a walking advertisement for the West.

GIVE BLOOD October 4 - October 8.

CANADIAN RED CROSS BLOOD DONOR CLINIC

9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., armouries.

SCOTTISH DANCING

Reels and Scottish country dances with instruction in Hut L5 every other Friday, 8:00 - 10:30 p.m. (beginning October 1st). Further details from Hugh Thurston, local 3138.

FROM HOME -- THOUGHTS OF ABROAD

by Marion Gilroy
School of
Librarianship

Jessie Mifflin wanted to bring home an Armenian. Or so she said in the sixth toast at a dinner under the apple trees of a collective farm. David Foley and Loretto McGarry learned polite phrases in Russian and decided to keep on studying the language. Dan Sudar - whose Russian is already fluent - wants to go back again next summer. I want the Rembrandts and the Matisses in the Hermitage.

Whether we represented the Canadian Library Association adequately or not for two weeks last summer in the USSR we may never know. We enjoyed the meetings with librarians and visits to some of the great libraries and one or two humble ones.

N. F. Gavrilov, Chief of Main Library Inspection of the Ministry of Culture, told us that the USSR has 382,000 libraries, of which 125,000 are public libraries. In Moscow, the Lenin Library, the Library of Moscow University, and the Library of Foreign Literature needed days instead of hours to see satisfactorily; but we kept moving. At the Canadian Embassy's reception for the parliamentary delegation we met some of our favourite M.P.'s and Senators.

In Moscow we heard the Kirov Opera Company sing Lohengrin, of all things, in the great new hall in the Kremlin which seats 6,002 people.

We did not flinch one evening when, hungry and weary after a busy day of library visits and a wild ride through the mountains, our small bus veered into a park of the hills above Yerevan, capital of Armenia.

One hundred boys and girls about six years of age and up - Young Pioneers - surrounded us and sang and danced around a huge bonfire. The firetruck's arrival (not needed) marked our departure. That night we ate our good dinner with special gusto, five mosquito bitten Canadian librarians all wearing Young Pioneer pins. The heat and high spirits of Armenia warmed us after the cold and rain of everywhere else we had been, Lapland excepted, in this worst summer in memory for much of Europe.

The evening we spent with the librarians of Yerevan had the din of a B.C.L.A. get-together. We visited the Republic of Armenia's state library, the Academy of Sciences Library and a fascinating institute of scientific research on ancient manuscripts, the Matenadaran. Mount Ararat -- just over the border in Turkey -- shone through the haze from time to time, a fitting landing place for Noah's Ark.

Impressive Leningrad. The Hero City. Here in a rare sort of rare book room we talked with the Chief Librarian of the Saltykov-Shchedrin Library and some of its other librarians. We especially admired and coveted their incunabula, and the rich manuscript collection. "Tolstoy often came here", we were told. All through the siege of Leningrad, one reading room was kept open. The library staff brought wood with them, picked up on the way to work, so there would be a fire in the stove. Pictures taken at the time show readers there wearing fur caps and huge coats.

The Director and five of the faculty of the library school in Leningrad named for Lenin's wife, N. K. Krupskaia, gave us a detailed account of their program. Just one point here: of its 4,000 library school students (2,700 correspondence, 600 evening) the 700 day students are distributed about evenly in each of the four years of the course. The school's crowded quarters are the once elegant mansion built as the Austrian embassy,

later used as the English embassy. Pushkin's quarrel here led to the duel in which he was killed. The school will soon have extra nearby space but with it may come still more students because librarians in Russia, as here, are in demand. After our tour of the school we had a gay lunch in the director's office with eloquent toasts to the librarians of Canada, the USSR, and everywhere, both present and future.

The summer circus from Moscow delighted its Leningrad audience. Oleg Popov, the clown, deserves his fame and the great bursts of rhythmic clapping. I wanted to bring him home.

In Defense of BIBLOS Artistic Taste

by Per Se a Bish Shellshock

Stanzas written in dejection, in the staff lounge.

Lift now the bright blue veil which some who scorn
Call tripe; though unreal shapes be pictured there,
And it but limit all we would consume--
Its colours gloomily spread. Around lurks Pat (the rat)
LaVac, false protector. Who can weave
Some spells o'er the sad man so frightful and dread?
Know anyone who would lift it - have it bought?
In the midst of many does he sit, unmoved,
A shade among the living, a gloomy blot
Upon this bright scene; a Spirit that strives
For favour, and, like this poem, finds it not.

Some of those announced changes and innovations

ANOTHER GAME OF HIDE AND SEEK
or, SEEK AND HIDE!

Alright, already, where did it go? In a fit of let's move, shift, expand, contract, etc., the Map Room disappeared from its advantageous 7th floor home - close to coffee room - and reappeared on the 8th floor cosily tucked into Special Collections' reading room. It looks rather messy at the moment, but the Map Room staff must appreciate being able to see the light of day again. Back on Floor 7, the crowded and noisy state of the typing room has been partially alleviated by shifting some of the overflow and louder machines into the vacated Map Room area.

THE BACKLOG IS NOT A FORGOTTEN CLUMP, CLOT, BLOT OF BOOKS.

The Cataloguing Department is working hard to solve the unwieldy problem of the ever-growing backlog. If cataloguers appear a mite unfriendly at times, it's all for a noble purpose, so DO keep away from their backlog section. Each book in said section is being assigned and arranged in accession no. order. Punched cards are made up containing accession no., short author, and short title. This is rather a neat job in itself - as keen cataloguers try to abbreviate intelligently a 200 letter author and title into the allowed 50 spaces on the punched card. From the punched cards a printed list of the books in backlog will be made and circulated to faculty members. One card will also be printed and will serve as a temporary card in the main catalogue to acquaint the general populous with backlog's hidden potentiality. Upon request, by accession

no., to the Loan Desk, a "backlog" book can be rescued and circulated once. However, when the book returns, it will not pop into backlog again, but will await briefly for cataloguing.

NOT THE INK ***** THE TYPEWRITER

Little things happen that can only point to progress! Even our markers are now having a whack at innovations and such like. The famous steady hands which previously inked on the classification nos. are now required to type said nos. on labels which are thereupon pressed onto the books with a hot iron. While it is not yet known how lasting the labels will be, visually speaking, the white labels with evenly typed black numbers are more easily read.

WOODWARD LIBRARY

At the present time, there are no restrictions on access to the Woodward Library. If the building becomes overcrowded, however (just prior to exams) cards will be checked at the entrance and access limited to those holding Woodward cards <u>and</u> to those who wish to use the collection.

No one who wishes to borrow material from the Library or to have reference assistance will be turned away <u>at any time</u>, although 1st and 2nd year students may be asked to try the Sedgewick Library first for their material.

AUTOMATION ANYONE?

"But when?" you ask. Hopefully by the time you read this we will be wired up and operational - but don't bank on it.

Various forms of red tape have intervened. For example, a requisition sent to Buildings and Grounds well over 3 months ago to initiate work on wiring and installation was happily chanced upon several weeks after arrival. Then, because of the amount of money involved, it was passed on to the bursar... ah, the wheels of the gods grind slowly.

"Punched, laminated borrowers badges"...AAGGHH!! It is strongly advised that this phrase not be mentioned in the presence of the Circulation staff or peculiar fits, nervous tics, etc. may immediately result. Some faculty members have voiced frustration because they find it very difficult to carve their signature into their library card.

Then, picture the case of the poor graduate studies student who has a carrell and is also authorized to take out material in a faculty member's name. He will need a case to carry all his laminated cards - AMS, ordinary library card, authorization card and carrell card. By the time he has shuffled through the lot, his study time may be cut down somewhat, but he'll be able to deal a fast bridge hand.

"Necessity may be the mother of invention, but the invention may cause a nervous breakdown".

Actually, we know what we're doing (please, no incredulous laughter) and we know that it works. S.F.U. and universities in Alberta and Saskatchewan are also converting to a punched card and bookcard system. They will be able to benefit from our "birth pangs" and avoid some of the unnecessary pitfalls.

Currently, we are only short one stack entry badge-bookcard charging unit and 2 pedestals. Once we get everything working and up on the pedestals we can kneel down and worship - if we have any strength left.

THIS (GOOD GRIEF) IS FOR REAL

Question from Simon Fraser faculty member (Identities of author and title have been changed to eliminate litigation).

SFU Faculty — Q. Do you have a book by Prof. Stuart-Stubbs on girls?

UBC Librarian — A. Let's check the card catalogue.

Q. Where is the catalogue? I am from Simon Fraser...

A. Follow me... No, we don't have that title.

Q. That's good. I don't want any of my students to find it. I'm basing a course on this book and I don't want the students to look up the answers to the problems that I'm giving them.

A. Why don't you change the problems? Ah, perhaps you wouldn't be able to figure out the answers (giggle). Our copy may appear on the shelves at any time, and your students may indeed find it.

Q. Well, let's hope not. I've ordered copies for Simon Fraser, but they won't release them until I've finished the course. (no giggles) It's a fantastic book!

A. (silently) ?&/***XXX!!!

BOOKS OF THE MONTH

U.S. Atomic Energy Commission reports recently acquired by the Science Division.

Project dribble. TID-21630 (Nevada Operations Office, Las Vegas) Aug. 1, 1964. 23 p.

Triplets and triality. CALT-68-8 (California Inst. of Tech.) 8 p.

Tan Hot Shop and Satellite Facilities. IDO-17032 (Phillips Petroleum Co. Atomic Energy Div., Idaho Falls) Nov., 1964. 89 p.

Whaddayadoo with the didjeridoo? A generalized ASI-2100 program for handling data from the ND-160 pulse-height analyzer. (Argonne National Lab.) Jan. 1965. 53 p.

I-131, I-133, and cow milk. UCRL-14146 (Lawrence Radiation Lab.) Apr. 10, 1965. 17 p.

Octopus/6600 users' manual. UCRL-12256 (Lawrence Radiation Lab.) Jan. 1965. 64 p.

PERIODICALS OF THE MONTH

BEACON; a magazine of esoteric philosophy, presenting the principles of the Ageless Wisdom as a contemporary way of life.

MAIN currents in modern thought; a cooperative journal to promote the free association of those working toward the interpretation of all knowledge through the study of the whole of things, Nature, Man and Society, assuming the universe to be one, dependable, intelligible, harmonious.

PEOPLE

Resignations

Jean Bradley	Acquisitions	Aug. 16th
Vivienne Cable	Acquisitions	Sept. 29th
Lynne Fernie	Circulation	Sept. 30th
Janet Sheldrew	Circulation	Sept. 14th
Diane Edwards	Fine Arts	Sept. 14th
Lisabet Ernst	Cataloguing	Sept. 30th

Hirings

In Circulation

Helene Grunig	Clerk I	Sept. 20th
Mary Alford	Clerk I	Sept. 15th
Emily Talbot	Keypunch Operator	Sept. 15th

In Cataloguing

Gracey Jones	Keypunch Operator	Sept. 2nd
Helen Goetz	Clerk II	Oct. 1st
Isabel Godefroy	Librarian I	Sept. 20th

In Sedgewick

James Lamphier	Clerk I	Sept. 7th
Penelope Persons	Clerk I	Sept. 20th

Fine Arts In

Lynda Kincade	Clerk I	Sept. 17th

In Serials

Roger Sperle	Clerk I	Sept. 8th

In Acquisitions

Marilyn McMeans	Library Assistant	Sept. 7th
Suzanne Bowden	Clerk I	Sept. 22nd

In Asian Studies

Marian Chen	Librarian	Sept. 20th

As of September 23rd Mr. Alfred Hall became the new Commissioner.

One Wedding

On August 28th, Hannelore Kaye of the Acquisitions Division became Mrs. Velmer Headley.

POSITION VACANT

The School of Librarianship requires a Clerk II immediately. (Pay Grade 5) This position involves varied duties in a two-girl office. Anyone interested can contact Dr. Rothstein at local 2404.

Point to Ponder

Next time you meet a werewolf, please remember to call it a werwolf, like all good followers of Library of Congress. ('Werewolf, see Werwolf') unless you prefer to play safe and call it a lycanthrope.

ABROAD, ABROAD, MY KINGDOM FOR A ...

Europe appears to be acting like a magnet this year. Come October 8th, two well-known members of the Front-Office, Mr. Basil Stuart-Stubbs and Mr. Robert Hamilton, are off on a month long trip to London, Paris, Stockholm, Amsterdam, Brussels and The Hague (Copenhagen - thanks a lot!) Publicized as a book-buying expedition, Mr. Stuart-Stubbs has been heard to admit that this will be his first trip abroad. Happy book-buying!

Our noted beauty critic, Pat O'Rourke, also visited Europe this summer and reports back that his 'top six' are still tops.

PATS POISE AND PERSONALITY

- well really!

Well ladies that's the score,
I picked the six, who could ask for more.
In my own mind, I think I'm right,
But lots may think that I'm quite blind.
The six I picked you should agree
Are the ladies with the personality.

AND

FROM LONDON, ENGLAND

I've seen them fair,
I've seen them tall,
But believe me ladies,
You're the fairest of them all.

A NEW LOOK IN SOCIAL SCIENCES

Before term began SSD interfiled all their open shelf Z's with HD's in the stack area on Floor 5. On the shelves so cleared they have now filed their indexes and abstracts so that these are now located near to the Reference Desk.

Most of the atlas collection formerly housed in SSD has been moved up to the Map Division, together with the wall maps. SSD now has only a small reference collection of atlases stored in the big atlas case by the stack entry. The shelves cleared in this area will be used to house bibliographies.

The Odlum Collection has been moved to the Ridington Room balcony. More about that in a subsequent issue.

PREVENTIVE LIBRARIANSHIP

by Elisabeth Jupp Woodward

I always felt faintly nauseated when people said to me, "I do love books, don't you?" But it was not until I became a librarian that I just disbelieved them.

There is nothing so certain to cure an unconsidered love of books as having to do with thousands of them, tens of thousands of them, and hundreds of thousands of them. One longs for a peaceful little chained library, better still for Eden where all knowledge grew upon one tree. There are those among us who think they can control the flood by machine but this is to play Canute with a computer. A radical solution is needed. We must practise preventive librarianship.

When the idea first came to me I thought how happily and how simply one could work as a preventive librarian. There would be so few needs: a chair, a drawerless desk, a good supply of trash cans to hurl books into, and someone to convey the cans to the city dump. Perhaps a professional should hurl and a non-professional convey, but the jobs would go just as well the other way; one could hurl and convey by turns. It would be work at one's own idiosyncratic pace and yet gradually the backlog would disappear, the nineteenth-century-cotton-mill atmosphere of the seventh floor be dissipated, staff be relieved of their duties, desks and chairs be thinned out. At last a preventive librarian and an interlibrary-loan librarian would run the whole place between them -- and I suppose Al would stay to drive the truck to the dump.

Could it really be as happy and as simple as that? No, for what professional could be content to treat only symptoms? Preventive librarians would have to attack causes. Librarians would be needed to go through BIP and select the most offensive authors, others to send warning letters to anyone who had published more than three books, bibliographers with foreign languages to examine French and German and Slavonic catalogues. Staff would be re-engaged and desks crowd back to floor seven. Even this would be merely palliative. Enforcement is always necessary. Terrifying threats would have to be sent to authors who disregarded warnings: 'THE BLACK HAND WILL GET YOU'. And then, of course, the black hand would have to get them. The organization would be vast: Selection Dept., Warnings Dept., Threats Dept., and Liquidation Dept. with secret agents travelling constantly to the States and Europe. The staff at home and abroad would number hundreds. Robert Harris would press for computerization, and one day the IBM 1313's would arrive, horrid black boxes. Preventive librarianship would have come of age, complex, efficient, dedicated, deadly.

There can be no return to Eden.

A BIBLOS 'Guess what the book is about' feature.

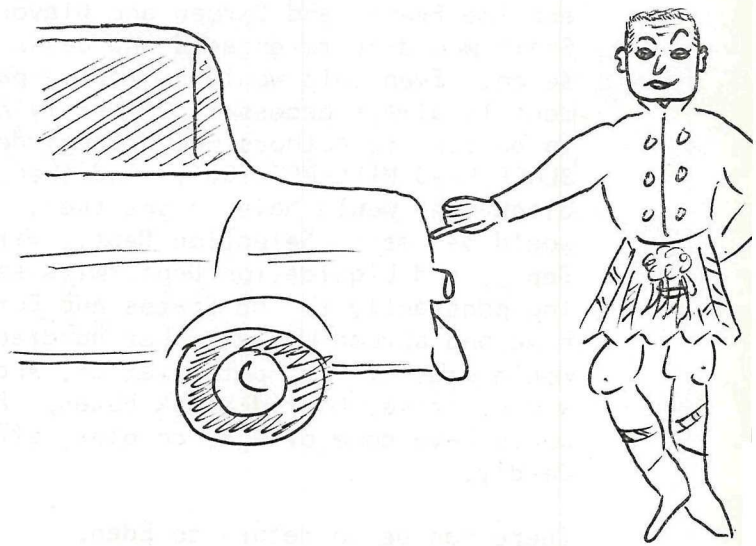
E 184
A1 H27
1951a Handlin, Oscar

The uptooted.

O

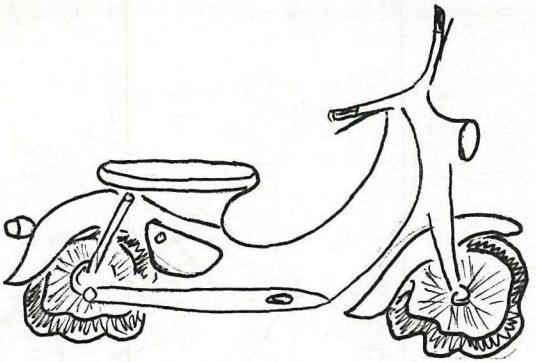
FRONT-OFFICE METHODS OF SELF-TRANSPORTATION

This is a man--brilliant analysis!



This is a man pushing a Mercedes--poor system!

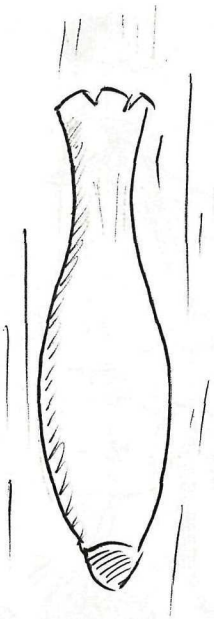
Who is this man?
Color him front!



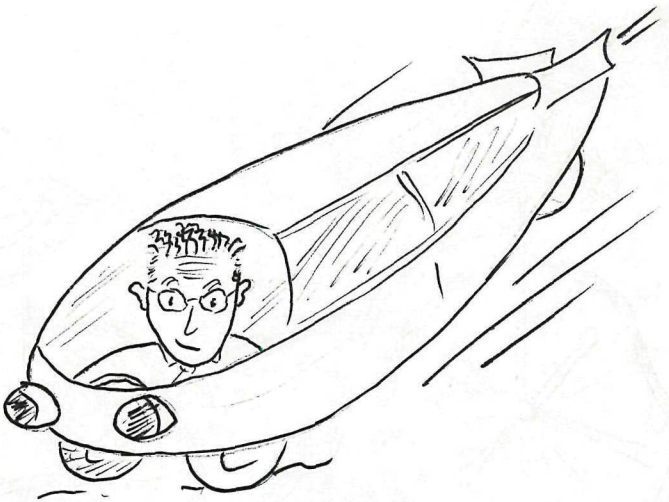
This (technically) is a serviceable vehicle.

This is a bearded man on a super Honda.

Ha! Ha! Ha!
Who wears this beard?
Color him front.



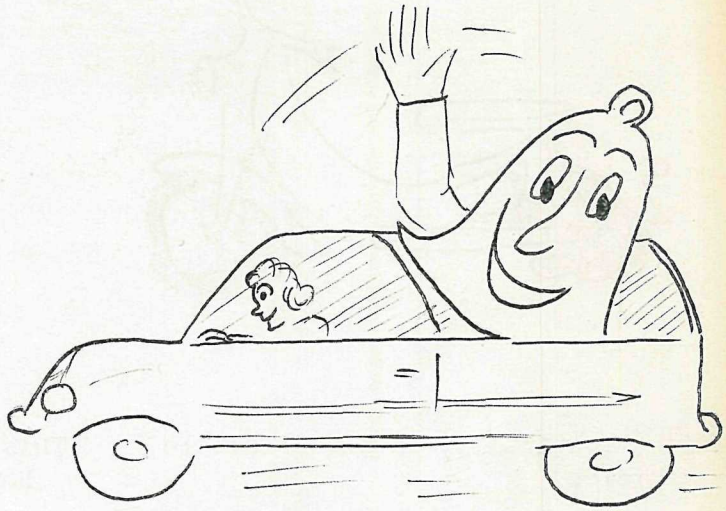
This is a bomb.



This is a hasty bomb racing from scene of parking lot.

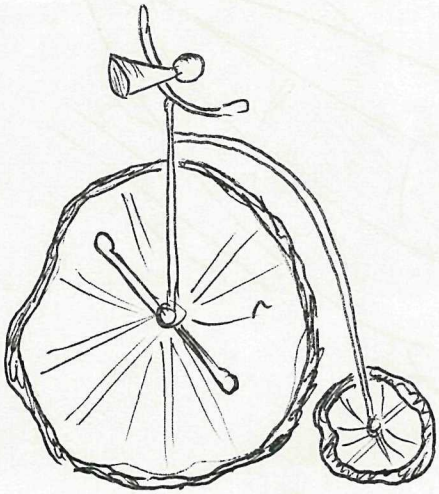
Who owns this pink bomb?
Color him front.

This is a wife--please ring for the chauffeur.



This is loyal wife transporting loyal husband from lovely library.

Who is this husband?
Color him front!



This is a bicycle.

This is a HEAD on a bicycle.

Who is this HEAD?
Color him front.