THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

F O U R T E E N T H R E P O R T

of the

L I B R A R Y C O M M I T T E E

to

T H E S E N A T E

Covering the Financial Year

April 1942 - March 1943

October, 1943.

The University of British Columbia

Vancouver, Canada.

President L. S. Klinck, M.S.A., D.Sc., LL.D.,
Officier de l'Instruction Publique,
Chairman of the Senate,
The University of British Columbia.

Dear Sir:

As Chairman of the Library Committee I have the honour to submit, for consideration of Senate, the Fourteenth Report of the Librarian of the University, covering the period from April 1st, 1942 to March 31st., 1943.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

BLYTHE EAGLES,

Chairman.

October 15th, 1943.

REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN

Dr. Blythe Eagles,
Chairman, Library Committee,
The University of British Columbia.

Sir:

I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Library Committee, the Fourteenth Report of the Librarian of the University, covering the financial year April, 1942 - March, 1943.

The Book Collection

The book collection continues to grow at the rate of more than 5,000 volumes per annum. The number of books accessioned up to March 31, 1942, was 130,485. A year later the total was 135,949, an increase of 5,463 volumes. This corresponds with 5,510 new accessions in 1941-42, and 5,145 in 1940-41.

Actually the number of volumes new to the campus was substantially lower in 1942-43 than in the two preceding years, as the accessions included approximately 1,000 volumes received from the Department of Geology, which made the books available in order that they might be accessioned and catalogued, and thereby become an integral part of the main Library. Fewer books were acquired by purchase, as book prices have risen and the appropriation for books has, if anything, fallen. Moreover, a much higher proportion of the books bought must now be imported from the United States, and in most instances exchange and war taxes amounting to 21% must be paid upon these purchases.

Allowing for unaccessioned duplicates, unbound files, and so on, the total number of books in the Library at the end of the year was about 140,000.

Gifts

Gifts received during the year were as numerous as usual. Donors included a number of other libraries. The Victoria Public Library presented 26 volumes of the "Poet Lore Poets" series, and 10 volumes of the Chansonnier Historique. A collection of 14 local directories, varying in date from 1882 to 1936, was received from the Provincial Library, and filled many gaps in our files. The Library of the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, presented a large and most useful collection of duplicate periodicals and bulletins. The Henry E. Huntington Library furnished complimentary copies of six books all works of research based largely upon source material in its manuscript collection. A number of books were received from the libraries of the Royal Bank of Canada and of the Canadian Medical Association. The William L. Clements Library, at the University of Michigan, presented a copy of its "Guide to the Manuscript Collections," a volume widely recognized as a model, both from the point of view of content and of fine bookmaking.

The Carnegie Endowment for International Peace forwarded copies of many publications that it either printed or subsidized including the new additions to the well-known series, "The Relations of Canada and the United States." The Carnegie Institution of Washington added to our file of its valuable scientific series. The National Theatre Conference, Cleveland, presented a 20-volume set of "America's Lost Plays." In the course of the year the Library purchased certain files from the Field Museum of Natural History, and the Museum sent us copies of new additions to some

of these, and to certain other series already in our collection.

Thanks to the kind offices of Dr. Hunter Miller, the Department of State presented five volumes of the monumental "Treaties and other International Acts of the United States," of which Dr. Miller is editor. These volumes completed the Library's set. The Library is further indebted to the Department of State for the gift of a set of the Proceedings of the 8th American Scientific Congress.

It is impossible to list the names of all the friends whose generosity has enriched the Library, but special mention should be made of the gifts received from Captain S. H. Lawrence, and Mr. R. W. Pillsbury, both of Vancouver, and from Mr. J. Duff, of Sidney. Captain Lawrence presented an elaborate genealogical record and index of the Lawrence family, and a number of books on heraldry and genealogy. Mr. Pillsbury's gift included 27 rare issues of the National Geographic Magazine, dating back to 1907, 1908 and 1909.

Officials and staff of the University have again been generous in their support of the Library. The Chancellor, Dr. R. E. McKechnie, continues to send the current files of a group of most valuable periodicals. The Library is indebted to President Klinck for many books and pamphlets, including 21 volumes of "Studies in the Social Significance of Adult Education in the United States." Dr. A. F. Barss presented no less than 860 agricultural publications to the Library, many of which were new to the collection and filled gaps in our files. Prof. F. H. Soward

presented 24 books and many valuable pamphlets, including a long run of the data papers submitted at the last conference of the Institute of Pacific Relations. Other gifts were received from Prof. T. Larsen, Prof. A. C. Cooke, Prof. W. H. Gage, Dr. Ian McT. Cowan, Prof. G. Riddehough, and Dr. M. Y. Williams.

As noted in previous reports, a nominal valuation is placed upon all gifts received, for purposes of record, and upon this very conservative basis the publications received during the year were valued at $949.00. It should be remembered that this estimate includes neither books and pamphlets received on exchange, nor the thousands of government documents that reach the Library each year.

Circulation Statistics

(a) Total loans, by years:

	General	Reserve	Total
1939-40	63,393	62,513	125,906
1940-41	62,592	65,767	128,359
1941-42	57,955	66,742	124,597
1942-43	47,405	55,452	102,857

(b) Monthly statistics of circulation:

	1941-42			1942-43		
	General	Reserved	Total	General	Reserved	Total
April	4023	8528	12551	3966	8167	12133
May	725	-	725	956	14	970
June	1008	92	1100	1325	95	1420
July	3269	3398	6667	2814	2222	5036
August	2234	2154	4388	1729	961	2690
September	2291	2572	3863	2222	1450	3672
October	7294	9448	16742	6446	8600	15046
November	8366	11287	19653	6559	10741	17300
December	3617	5810	9427	2722	5197	7919
January	6695	6850	13545	3797	3833	7630
February	7857	7144	15001	6910	6856	13766
March	8066	10459	18525	5819	7316	13135
#Nursing	2400	-	2400	2140	-	2140
	57955	66742	124597	47405	55452	102857

#Circulation from Nursing and Health Reading Room, which is reported annually.

Circulation

Circulation fell sharply in 1942-43, as compared with the previous year, the decrease amounting to over 14%. About half the decline was due to the smaller registration at Summer School, and to the fact that the University was closed for nearly a fortnight in January, which is normally one of the Library's busiest months. The war, in one way or another, clearly accounted for the balance, Military drill and women's war work occupy hours which many of the students would otherwise spend in the Library. Moreover, there was at times a clear relation between the amount of work done by the students, and the good or bad progress being made by the United Nations. At times the Library was as busy as it has ever been; at others, the vast majority of the students seemed to be quite unable to concentrate on their studies.

The open-stack reserve system, which has proven very popular, has undoubtedly accounted for much of the decline in the circulation of reserve books. A student now goes directly to the shelves, and although he may look at a dozen books, only the one or two which he removes for intensive study will appear in the circulation record. Under the old system students would frequently ask for half a dozen titles at a time in order to choose the particular book that best suited their purpose, and the whole half dozen would be included in the day's circulation. Moreover, a good deal of browsing is done in quiet hours in the reserve stack itself, but none of this reading appears in the

Library statistics.

The figures given above apply only to the main circulation desk, and to the Nursing and Health Reading Room (the latter still being the only one of the so-called departmental libraries that makes any consistent effort to keep circulation records). Additional services given by the Library to various outside groups should be noted. Students taking Directed Reading Courses borrowed 1,114 volumes, most of them by mail, during the Reading Course session, September, 1942 - June, 1943. A total of 1,549 books were loaned to study groups, evening course students, and others registered with the Department of University Extension . The Extension Department's drama collection continued to be popular, 4,530 volumes being borrowed by drama groups all over the province.

Missing Books

The number of books found to be missing at the time of the annual inventory in May, 1942, was 550. Of these 252 were back on the shelves in May, 1943, leaving a net loss of 298 volumes. This was a definite improvement over the previous year, when the net loss was 358 volumes. Closer supervision of the stackroom undoubtedly contributed to this result. During the year under review this supervision became closer still, and it may be added that at the inventory taken in May, 1943, the number of books missing was 380, or 170 less than in May, 1942. At the time of writing nearly a hundred of these are already back on the

shelves, and there is thus reason to hope that, at long last, the annual book loss will be reduced to a more reasonable figure.

In fairness to the students it should be noted that these figures include every known loss, no matter how trivial. Scores of the titles included are pamphlets or bulletins of no great consequence. On the other hand, some of the thieving definitely reflects on the student body. Two years ago, to quote one example, a volume of the Enclopaedia Britannica was stolen. Fortunately this could be replaced, but more recently a volume of the Grande Encyclopédie was taken, and there is little if any prospect of picking up an odd volume to make good the loss.

Hours

Except for the fortnight preceding examinations, the Library was open only three nights weekly in 1942-43, instead of five nights, as previously. Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings have always been the busiest of the week, and experience in 1941-42 indicated that attendance on Thursday and Friday nights was not sufficient to justify the expense of heating, lighting, and staffing the building.

Dimout regulations made it necessary to darken the main reading room at the prescribed hour each evening. This made it practically impossible to give any reference service after the lights were put out, but even at the busiest times, the wing reading rooms and stackroom proved capable of accommodating all

the students who attended.

Stackroom Control

Until recently stackroom permits were issued freely, and some years they were granted to as many as 700 students. As there are only about 50 carrels available, congestion was so great, and seats were so difficult to come by, that possession of a permit really meant little or nothing. There was the added disadvantage that the continual movement of students in and out of the stackroom resulted in so much noise and commotion that serious study was next to impossible.

Commencing with the session 1942-43, permanent permits were issued only to 4th year honour students in Arts and Science, 4th year students in Agriculture, and 5th year students in Applied Science. Not all of these were found to need or desire "A" permits, which call for the assignment of a definite carrel. Many of them, notably the students in Applied Science, only required "A" privileges for one or two periods weekly. Every applicant for a permit was interviewed by the Librarian and Miss Lanning, Head of the Circulation Department, and every effort was made, within the limits of available accommodation, to meet the peculiar needs of individual students. On the whole the plan has worked very satisfactorily. Senior students are assured of the facilities they require, and others urgently in need of access to the stackroom are granted temporary permits, whenever space is available.

Reference Department

The work of the Reference Department has continued much as usual, but one important new project was launched during the year - the organization of a map collection. The need of such a collection has been felt for years, but it has been impossible hitherto to do more than place to one side such maps as the Library happened, in one way or another, to acquire. Last year it was found possible to provide a number of drawers on floor 6, and with these available it was decided to make a start on the organization of the collection. The number of maps already on hand was found to be surprisingly large, and a systematic appeal was made to various Provincial and Dominion authorities to complete our files of their various map series. Because of restrictions on distribution due to the war the collection is uneven, but it already forms a useful and even valuable nucleus upon which to build. It includes such varied types of maps as political, economic, soil, topographical, historical, geological, vegetation, mining, census, rainfall, and Admiralty charts. It covers all quarters of the globe, though the emphasis is naturally on British Columbia and Canada.

A special grant of $300 was made by the Board of Governors in March in order that a start might be made on the work of backing the maps with linen, and this sum will enable at least 600 maps to be so treated. By the end of March, 1943, the number of maps and charts in the collection was in excess of 2,500.

To organize the collection the Library is making use of the manual for cataloguing and classifying maps compiled by the United States Department of State. A rough initial classification was made during the Christmas vacation, and the collection was usable for the spring term. Owing to lack of staff and time complete cataloguing will have to be a long-term project, but some part of the work is done whenever opportunity offers.

The collection has already outgrown the accommodation at present available on floor 6, and additional drawers will have to be added before many of the maps can be referred to quickly and in comfort.

Interlibrary Loans

The number of loans was slightly higher than last year. A total of 123 books were borrowed, and 62 loaned, a grand total of 185. The corresponding total for 1941-42 was 178.

Government Documents

The war has had a very definite effect on the publication of official documents. A great many series have been discontinued for the duration - particularly trade, mining, and technical reports - while others have been reduced in size or in frequency of publication. Both the Canadian and American government now require a letter explaining why the Library should be retained on the mailing list for each series, and occasionally it is necessary to write such a letter for every bulletin published. All these

changes have added greatly to the burden of correspondence required to keep the Library's files anything like complete.

A welcome concession was secured for the Library from the Provincial Government at the end of the year. Under the terms of an Order-in-Council approved on March 23, 1943, the King's Printer is directed to forward free of charge to the University Library two copies of every publication printed in the Government Printing Office. Both in dollars and cents and above all as a convenience, this order is a great boon, and the Library is greatly indebted to the Premier, Hon. John Hart, for his kindness in arranging to have this privilege granted to the University.

The Library Catalogues

The 5,463 books accessioned during the year were all fully catalogued and placed on the shelves.

The number of cards added to the Library of Congress depository catalogue has increased sharply in recent years. At one time the total was about 45,000 annually. Last year it rose to 63,633; this year the total soared to no less than 77,614. The total number of cards now in the catalogue is 1,859,951.

As noted briefly in the last report, the Association of Research Libraries has arranged for the publication in book form of a photolithographic reproduction of the Library of Congress catalogue. The Library has subscribed to this set, which will consist in all of about 160 volumes. Publication will probably

be completed in 1945. This printed version of the depository catalogue will include all cards issued up to July 31, 1942, and will supersede the card catalogue at present in use. In view of this fact, all cards issued by the Library of Congress since July 31, 1942, are being placed in a special supplementary file, which will be used later as a supplement to the printed catalogue.

Publication of this catalogue came at a fortunate moment for the Library, as the two large filing cabinets acquired at great expense specially to house the depository catalogue were becoming very crowded. The cost of the printed catalogue will be only a fraction of the cost of a third filing cabinet. As it is, some of the depository cards (which, incidentally, remain the property of the Library of Congress) have already been placed in storage, and eventually it should be possible to use one of the depository filing cabinets to house the main catalogue of our own Library.

Periodicals

The situation as regards current publications has changed little during the year, except for the worse. British scholarly journals are being harder and harder hit by the war. Some are falling badly in arrears; others are telescoping numbers; still others are issuing much less frequently than usual. The number of pages becomes steadily fewer; the quality of the paper steadily worse. Remarkably few losses have been suffered in transit, but some of these have been serious, as they included copies of

important periodicals that are now printed in very limited editions. Replacements are therefore practically unobtainable.

Efforts to acquire and complete long sets have continued as heretofore, and a dozen or more valuable runs were secured in the course of the year. These included the following:-

(a) Received by gift:

American Society of Refrigerating Engineers, publications (title varies), 1914-1940. A practically complete set, presented by the Library of the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.
The Oologist, 1884-1941 (ceased publication). Complete set, presented by the editor.
New Zealand Journal of Agriculture, v. 7 (1913)-49(1934). A somewhat broken but valuable file that fits into the Library's previous holdings.
Zeitschrift fuer Weltforstwirtscaft, 1933 (v. 1) - 1939. Presented by the Forest Products Laboratory.

(b) Acquired by purchase:

American Journal of International Law, v. 16-30, 1922-1936. The Library's file already included 1937 to date.
Annals of Mathematics, v. 1 - 2nd. ser. v. 40, 1884-1939. This file is being continued by a current subscription paid for by members of the Department of Mathematics.
Behavior Monographs (later Comparative Psychology Monographs), nos. 1-21; 1-30, 1911-1929.
British Quarterly Review, v. 8-83 (ceased publication), 1848-1898. A few volumes are lacking.
California Academy of Sciences, Proceedings, 2nd. series and most of 3rd. series. 1888-1906.
Hesperia, v. 1-11, complete, 1931 to date.
Medical Classics, complete set, 1934-1941.
Die Neue Rundschau, 1904-1919. Some missing numbers.
Pacific Coast Avifauna, nos. 1-22, 1900 to date.
Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine, Proceedings, v. 21-48, 1923-1941.
Teachers College Record, v. 12-22, 1911-1921.
Wisconsin Academy, Transactions, v. 1-34, 1870 to date.

Useful additions were also made to the Library's files of the Bulletin of the American Geographical Society, Metal and

Alloys, and Science.

A number of additional subscriptions have been entered in order to keep certain of the new long files complete to date. Others have been placed at the request of (and in most instances initially at the expense of) one or more of the departments. A few new periodicals have been ordered; one or two of these took the place of publications that have been suspended. The complete list follows:

#Agenda
Agricultural Engineering
(several back years purchased as well as current numbers)
#Archives of Biochemistry
Comparative Psychology Monographs
#La France Libre
#Comparative Literature Series
#Historical Studies, Australia and New Zealand
London Mathematical Society Journal
Metals and Alloys
American Society for Metals, Transactions
Quarterly Cumulative Index Medicus
Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine, Transactions
Bulletin des Recherches Historique
Canadian Cattleman
Character and Personality
#Journal of Animal Science
Canadian Psychological Society, Bulletin
#Nervous Child
#Nutrition Reviews
Research Quarterly (American Physical Education Assn.)
Membership, Music Library Association
Quarterly Journal of Speech

# indicates a newly started publication

Periodicals formerly received by the Library that have ceased publication included the American Labor Legislation Review, the Journal of Geomorphology, the Canadian Banker (now reduced to one issue per year), and the One-Act Play Magazine. One publication,

the Journal of Comparative Pathology and Therapeutics (London), made an unexpected reappearance after being dormant since 1940.

Binding

New volumes bound during the year totalled 959; the average cost per volume was held down, in spite of many difficulties, to $1.91. This compares with $1.87 the previous year, and $1.90 in 1940-41. The volume of new binding was lower than usual, as many more books were repaired and rebound. In addition a special stiff paper binding was placed on 130 volumes of publications of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, which the Reference Department found it almost impossible to keep intact in an unbound condition. This work, done by special arrangement with the King's Printer, in Victoria, has been very satisfactory, and it is hoped that the balance of the back file may be dealt with in the course of the next year.

The binding appropriation was again $2,850.00, and, in spite of the number of long sets purchased in an unbound condition, current requirements of the Library were again fully met. A total of 1,680 volumes were bound, rebound, or repaired in 1942-43. This does not include the hundreds of books which received minor repairs in the Library itself.

Gramophone Records

The loan service to students described in the last report was continued, with marked success. A total of 2,857 records were borrowed by students during the session September, 1942 - April, 1943, yet only two records were broken in that period. Both were promptly replaced by the students concerned. Judging by reports on similar services elsewhere, our breakage rate is phenomenally low.

The privilege of borrowing records is much appreciated, and it is interesting to note that music houses report that many of the students who take advantage of it soon start acquiring collections of their own. From the point of view of the Library the chief problem is to find the time necessary to prepare records for circulation, and to examine and file them when returned. Handling them takes care and time, and the staff is already fully occupied with other duties.

A grant of $50.00 for the purchase of new records was again made by the Board of Governors and additional records were secured with the balance accruing from students' registration fees.

Accommodation

Overcrowding in the stackroom has increased to the point where it is much more of a problem than overcrowding in the reading rooms. After all, books can be read almost anywhere, but they can only be properly housed and administered in an adequate stackroom. A traffic survey taken in the course of the year indicated that

the present reading rooms could accommodate all students using reserve books, or other volumes that cannot be taken from the Library building. The overcrowding is due to the many students who use the reading rooms primarily as a study hall.

This is probably true of most libraries, and its significance should not be exaggerated; but the point is that the Library's greatest and most pressing need is for more stackroom space. The immediate outlook in this respect is far from good. Even if money were available it would be impossible to secure the steel shelving required to equip floors 6 and 7, and the only space left which can be converted for stackroom purposes is a portion of the women's common room in the basement. It will be recalled that half the men's common room was appropriated for this purpose some years ago.

The long-term importance of this matter lies in the fact that the projected new wing to the Library, as designed in 1938-39, made practically no provision for additional stackroom space, and the very pressing character of this need points to the necessity of a drastic revision of the plan as then envisioned. Definite suggestions toward that end are in preparation, and the intention is that tentative plans for an enlarged building should be included in the next annual report.

In the summer of 1942 it was decided that some effort must be made to give the best possible protection against war risks to the most valuable and rare books and files in the Library. With this end in view several thousand volumes, including

the Library's file of Masters theses, were moved either to the main vault, in which additional shelving had been built, or to two smaller supplementary compartments which were built under the lower flights of the main staircase. A survey of the building seemed to indicate that the bottom deck of the stackroom probably afforded as much protection as either of these places, and the books selected for special storage were therefore drawn largely from the upper tiers, the Art Room, and the Librarian's office.

Even during the year that has elapsed since this move, the gaps left on the shelves by the removal of books and periodicals have filled up so rapidly that in many cases it will be extremely difficult to replace these on the shelves when the danger period is over.

Finances

The Library budgets for the last two years included the following appropriations:-

	1941-42	1942-43
Books & Magazines	$ 11,800.00	$ 11,810.00
Equipment	510.00	530.00
Binding	2,850.00	2,850.00
Supplies & Expenses	1,870.00	1,900.00
	$ 17,030.00	$ 17,090.00

The appropriation for books and magazines was supplemented in the course of the year by the following sums:-

Fines money	$ 553.85
Directed Reading Courses	550.00
Special grants:-	
Gramophone records	50.00
Dept. of Philosophy	125.00

In addition the sum of $ 2,753.12 was carried forward, against orders outstanding at the beginning of the new financial year. A total of $17,063.92 was thus available for expenditure. At the end of the year $ 2,800.18 was carried forward. Expenditures actually made during the financial year on books and magazines thus amounted to $14,263.74. This compares with $14,537.10 expended in the previous year.

Staff

The Library staff, on March 31, 1943, was as follows:-

Librarian's Office

W. Kaye Lamb, Ph.D.	Librarian
Evelyn Hearsey	Order Clerk
Eileen Heaton	Stenographer

Reference Department

Anne M. Smith, M.A., B.L.S.	Head
Dorothy B. Chatwin, M.A., B.L.S.	Assistant

Cataloguing Department

Dorothy M. Jefferd	Head
Doreen Woodford, B.A., B.L.S.	Assistant
Margaret Gillanders	Accessions Clerk

Periodicals and Binding

Roland J. Lanning, B.A., B.L.S.	Head

Circulation Department

Mabel M. Lanning, B.A., B.L.S.	Head
Eleanor B. Mercer, M.A., B.L.S.	Assistant
Eleanor Gibson, B.A., B.L.S.	Extension

Two staff changes took place during the year. Mrs. M. K. Cockburn, who first came to the Library as a page in 1933, resigned at the end of October, 1942, as she was leaving Vancouver.

In the worst days of the depression Mrs. Cockburn helped the Library to carry on by working as a volunteer, and for this and many other reasons the Library remains much in her debt. Her place was taken by Miss Doreen Woodford, a fully trained assistant who had served for three years as Accessions Clerk. The latter position was filled, in turn, by Miss Margaret Campbell, now Mrs. Gillanders.

Library Committee

The Committee appointed by Senate in October, 1942, consisted of the following members:-

Dr. Blythe Eagles	Representing the Faculty of Agriculture
Prof. A. H. Finlay	Representing the Faculty of Applied Science
Prof. T. Larsen Dr. D.C.B. Duff Dr. M.Y. Williams	Representing the Faculty of Arts

At the first meeting of this Committee Dr. Eagles was elected Chairman for the year 1942-43.

Conclusion

The Librarian wishes once again to express his deep appreciation of the assistance, courtesy, and co-operation that he has received throughout the year from the Library staff, the Library Committee, and the Faculty and Administration of the University. The Library is very short-handed, considering the number and variety of the services offered, and the energy and enthusiasm with which the staff has seized upon new

possibilities, even when already overworked, has to be seen to be believed. Once again, sincere thanks are due to the Library Committee and its Chairman for the liberty of action that has been accorded the Librarian. And, as in previous years, the President of the University, Dr. L. S. Klinck, has been most generous in the time and attention he has devoted to Library problems.

Respectfully submitted,

W. KAYE LAMB,

October, 1943. Librarian.