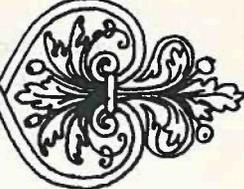


U.B.C. LIBRARY NEWS



Volume II, No. 2

February, 1969

Vancouver, B.C.

This newsletter appears once a month as an information service for faculty and other people outside the Library. It contains feature articles and news items about developments in the Library system which we feel will be of interest or concern to the larger community. The *News* welcomes all comments, criticisms, and suggestions for future articles.

LIBRARY GUIDE READY THIS MONTH

By early February, a much-needed student guide to the U.B.C. Library will be available for distribution. The large illustrated handbook covers all major aspects of the university library system, and includes detailed sections on use of the card catalogue, location file, and periodical indexes. Students working on assignments due later this term will find it especially useful.

Copies may be obtained from public service and reference desks throughout the Library system. Publicity notices will appear in the *Ubysey*, but the Library would be grateful if faculty members would also make a point of telling their students about the handbook.

The Information Division is now preparing a similar library guide especially for faculty. The publication date will be announced in a later issue of the *Library News*.

PLAN FOR LIBRARIES REVISED

In 1966, the University Librarian issued a document entitled *A Plan For Future Library Services*. Since then, however, it has become obvious that U.B.C. will have to handle a far greater number of students in the next few years than had been expected. A revised edition of the *Plan* has therefore been drawn up, and will be presented to the Committee on Academic Planning Needs on February 5th. A summary of the contents will appear in next month's *Library News*.

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS FEATURED

The Library has agreed to display recent publications by U.B.C. faculty. Faculty members are invited to submit a copy of their recent books for display and for preservation in the University Archives.

Because of the volume of material available, please send in only separate monographic publications. These should be directed to the Special Collections Division, where they will be permanently housed after the display.

A BIGGER AND BETTER CATALOGUE

Near the end of January six new catalogue cabinets were installed in the Main Concourse, permitting the expansion and resumption of filing in the Author-Title Catalogue.

A new project has been started to make this catalogue more consistent and easier to use: title cards are now being typed retrospectively for books which previously lacked them. Until last year, author, title, and subject cards were interfiled in one large dictionary catalogue. As a result, title cards were not made if they were worded the same as a subject heading (e.g. Religion and Science) or the first part of a cross-reference to another subject heading (e.g. Religion and education SEE Church and education).

Now that the subject headings are filed in a separate catalogue, these title cards are needed in the Author-Title Catalogue. Typing and filing have begun, and should be completed by summer. From now on, all newly received books in this category will be given title cards during cataloguing.

The Library's practice for subject-related titles beginning "Introduction to . . . , Outline . . . , Handbook . . . ," etc., has been inconsistent. Missing title cards here are also being typed, but filing will not start until all typing has been completed.

LOST AND FOUND

The Library's Lost and Found service has recently moved from the Main Loan Desk to the Information Desk in the Main

Concourse. Articles will be held here for *one week* only; each Friday noon all unclaimed items will be sent over to the central Lost and Found in the Student Union Building.

Please note: lost library cards and articles found after 10 p.m. should still be turned in at the Main Loan Desk.

CORRECTION

Last month's issue of the *Library News* stated erroneously that a donation of \$1,025 had come to the Library from the late Miss Mabel G.J. Johnston. We have since learned that the money was a gift from Miss Islay Johnston in memory of her sister. It will be used to purchase books on Indian and Eskimo culture.

PHOTOCOPYING AND THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
—MARVEL OR MENACE?

As recently as 15 years ago, it was a rare library indeed which contained even one photocopying machine. Today, however, photocopying is so much a part of the library scene that few of us realize just how brief its history has been.

The U.B.C. Library, for instance, did not install its first Xerox copier until 1962. Even then there was some doubt as to whether the expense involved would be justified by use. As it turned out, the librarians need not have worried. In the first year of operation, receipts from that one machine totalled \$10,000.

Since 1962 the number of photocopiers has increased steadily as the Library attempts to keep up with growing demands. Currently there are 15 machines operating in libraries around the campus: 4 in the Main Library, 2 in Sedgewick, Woodward and the Curriculum Laboratory, and 1 apiece in the downtown Biomedical Branch, Law, Music, Forestry/Agriculture and Social Work Libraries.

The number of copies produced has risen phenomenally over the last few years, as these figures show:

<u>1965/66</u>	<u>1966/67</u>	<u>1967/68</u>	<u>Oct-Dec. 1968</u>
402,410	532,000	871,110	406,120

It seems almost certain that this year's total will exceed one million copies, or roughly 50 for every student and faculty member at the university.

What lies behind this exploding demand for photocopied material? We must remember, first of all, that two distinct groups use the Library copiers: faculty and students on the one hand, and Library staff on the other. As we will see, their needs differ somewhat.

To students and faculty doing research, photocopying is, more than anything else, a means of saving valuable time. When it takes fifteen minutes to copy a printed page by hand and only one minute to reproduce that same page mechanically, it is no wonder that library users turn to the machine. For five or ten cents they can buy not only a far more legible copy but a full fourteen minutes of working time. What used to be a day's work can now be completed in less than an hour. As a result, library closing hours and loan restrictions are far less of a handicap to users today than they were before the advent of the copier.

The U.B.C. Library staff, too, is becoming increasingly dependent on photocopying. Rapid growth in student enrolment, combined with more emphasis on outside reading, has created an unprecedented demand for library materials. Unfortunately, this comes at a time when money and shelf space are already at a premium. Without some system for fast, inexpensive copying of printed materials, it is doubtful that the Library could continue to give efficient service on its present budget.

Photocopying has done much to reduce the money spent on duplicate copies of books and journals. For one thing, the Library can now reproduce brief required readings, such as journal articles and extracts from books, without having to order additional copies of each source volume. Secondly, lost or mutilated pages can be copied and restored for a fraction of what it would cost to replace the entire book or journal. Finally, as more and more library users abandon note-taking for fast machine copying, there is some decrease in the number of duplicate copies of a title needed to satisfy a given number of readers.

Mechanical copying has also made the interlibrary loan system more efficient. Copied material can now be mailed out to borrowers while the original remains free to circulate locally; and, by the same token, U.B.C. researchers can borrow photocopies from other libraries which would have refused to lend the original.

Because of its speed and low cost, photocopying is widely used in a number of other library processes. Some (but by no means all) are listed below.

1) Acquisitions.

--Duplicating order cards and invoices

2) Cataloguing.

- Providing copies of title pages for use in original cataloguing
- Reproducing catalogue cards
- Duplicating pages from the cataloguing manual for staff use

3) Circulation.

- Printing overdue notices for books not in the IBM system
- Listing reserve books by means of photocopied course file cards

4) Government publications.

- Duplicating documents needed to fill out incomplete files

5) Sedgewick Library.

- Reproducing contents pages of current journals for quick reference
- Duplicating new order slips for a current file by title

In less than ten years, photocopying has become an indispensable part of the U.B.C. Library system. The 1966/67 *Report of the Librarian to the Senate* put it even more strongly:

"To librarians everywhere working in an era of mass education, it now seems unthinkable that libraries can meet their responsibilities without the modern copying machine."

There is every reason to believe that as photocopying becomes faster, easier, better and cheaper, the volume and range of its use within the Library will continue to grow.

But the prospect is not entirely a happy one—not, at any rate, for publishers, authors, librarians, or lawyers. Under Canada's present Copyright Act, much of the copying done by or for library users is illegal and leaves the person responsible for the copying technically open to prosecution. As photocopying becomes even more widespread, and violations of the Act more flagrant, libraries which offer copying services without controls and without the obtaining of individual permission from copyright owners can expect increased opposition on the part of authors and publishers. If and when the Copyright Act is revised, it is hard to say whether library photocopying will be allowed to continue on the same scale as it has up till now. Many librarians doubt that any new Act will allow as much freedom in the reproduction of copyrighted materials as is taken for granted at present.

The last completely revised Canadian Copyright Act was passed in 1921, long before the development of the modern copying machine. Even with successive amendments since then, mechanical copying has not been explicitly dealt with. The most recent consolidation of the Act and its amendments may be found in Chapter 55 of the *Revised Statutes of Canada*, 1952; but the relevant sections are given below:

COPYRIGHT.

3. (1) For the purposes of this Act, "copyright" means the sole right to produce or reproduce the work *or any substantial part thereof* in any material form whatsoever. (Emphasis mine.)

TERM OF COPYRIGHT.

5. The term for which copyright shall subsist shall, except as otherwise expressly provided by this Act, be the life of the author and a period of fifty years after his death.

INFRINGEMENT OF COPYRIGHT.

17.(2) The following acts do not constitute an infringement of copyright:

- (a) any fair dealing with any work for the purpose of private research, criticism, review, or newspaper summary.

Unfortunately, nowhere does the Act define "fair dealing" or suggest how much of a work constitutes "a substantial part". Yet the meaning of these rather nebulous terms is of the greatest importance to libraries wishing to stay within the law.

It would presumably not be an infringement to copy one stanza from a ten-stanza poem, but what about duplicating an entire chapter from a ten-chapter book? Is it "fair dealing" to photocopy a complete article from a copyrighted journal? Most important, does the "fair dealing" clause really give a library the right to make copies for people engaged in private study and research? A rule-of-thumb definition of "fair dealing" has developed through precedent and common sense, although it may not be watertight in a court. It allows an individual to make a single photocopy of material for his private use in lieu of his personal hand-copying. A 1968 Canadian study suggests that unless the library itself intends to use the copies it makes, it has no legal right to make them without first obtaining permission from the copyright owner.

Librarians themselves disagree on what does or does not constitute infringement of copyright. As a group, however, they generally favour a liberal interpretation of the Copyright Act in the interests of public service. They argue that the library's function is to provide materials for research, and that the use of library material necessarily involves making some kind of copy, either mental, manual, or mechanical. No one has ever questioned the right of students and researchers to hand-copy any extracts they may need. It is argued that making a copy for the same purpose using a mechanical copier is equally justified, and that the only real difference is the speed with which the material is reproduced.

Most librarians hold the view that if a reader has the right to make notes for his own use, he also has the right to have them made for him. By providing photocopies on request, the library is merely acting as an agent for the researcher, and therefore cannot be held responsible for any infringement of copyright.

Librarians can also point to the results of recent U.S. studies, which indicate that single copies of library material can be provided without measurable economic harm to authors or publishers. Indeed, there is some evidence that wide circulation of photocopied journal articles, particularly in the sciences, actually adds to the reputation of both the author and the journal. Since so many of these articles are published without payment in the first place, the circulation of photocopies does not harm the author; and the publisher may even find that subscriptions increase as the journal becomes more widely known.

However, libraries are less sure of their ground when it comes to providing multiple copies of periodical articles or portions of books for circulation. In many cases such copying has been restricted to journal articles, but only 5 out of 31 major Canadian university libraries have ruled it out completely. The majority feel that the library has an obligation to make needed materials available as quickly and efficiently as possible, and that frequently multiple photocopying is the only practical answer.

Not surprisingly, authors, publishers, and booksellers oppose a liberal interpretation of the Copyright Act. They argue that instead of merely being a labour-saving substitute for hand-copying, mechanical copiers have made it possible to duplicate material so quickly and extensively that they are now competing with the printing press and the bookstore. This group feels that, unless the Copyright Act is strictly enforced, the demand for legitimately published copies may fall off to such an extent that booksellers may be put out of business and publishers may have to cease producing works of marginal economic prospect, however valuable to scholarship. This would, of course, have detrimental effects on both the authors and the users of books.

Librarians have maintained that as long as they merely provide the means for library users to make photocopies, they cannot themselves be guilty of infringement of copyright. Most authors and publishers discount this argument, pointing out that copies are never made without a charge, and that the library is therefore supplying copies as a commercial enterprise. "Even if the enterprise loses money," one writer adds, "this principle of a commercial transaction would still apply."

On these grounds, authors' and publishers' groups claim that it is the library's duty under the Copyright Act to impose strict controls on library duplication of copyrighted material, whether it is done for circulation, for individual readers, or by the readers themselves. The author's consent must be obtained before more than short extracts from his work are copied; and if permission is not given, it is up to the library to see that the material is not photocopied.

All these arguments for and against present library copying practices would carry more weight if the opinions were based on actual court decisions. As yet, however, no Canadian librarian has even been brought to trial for infringement of the Copyright Act through photocopying. Until the Act itself is revised, with specific amendments covering library photocopying, or until there are some court decisions to use as guidelines, libraries which offer copying services cannot be altogether sure of their status under the law.

By way of protection, many libraries now put a stamp on their photocopies to indicate that they were made for research purposes only, and not for further reproduction. Others issue photocopies only in return for a signed statement that they will be used for research or private study.

Publishers' and authors' groups, however, are asking for tighter controls, at least until the Copyright Act is amended. Most favour some form of national clearinghouse to grant licenses for the reproduction of all copyrighted works and to collect and distribute royalties. So far there has been less pressure in this direction from Canadian authors and publishers than from those in the United States, where the copyright law is also badly in need of revision, and where some publishers have already filed suits against libraries for illegal copying. However, the movement on both sides of the border is likely to grow in the absence of any other effective system of controls over public and institutional photocopying. Since this arrangement would probably require libraries to pay fees for the privilege of making photocopies, it has not gained wide support from librarians.

A national clearinghouse or licensing system might, of course, prove unnecessary if the present Copyright Act were amended. To be effective, the new Act would have to specify which types of libraries and institutions should be given copying privileges, and the limits of these privileges would have to be very clearly defined. Although Canada may eventually have such an Act, it is hard to predict when. A promising new Copyright Bill was introduced in 1963, but it did not even reach the committee stage. Until the law is revised to keep up with the changes in copying techniques and public demand, we will almost certainly have no final answer to the photocopying problem.

BILL BELL