



U.B.C. LIBRARY NEWS

No. 3

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Vancouver, B.C.

This newsletter appears once a month as an information service for faculty and other people outside the Library. It contains news items about current developments in the Library system which we feel will be of interest or concern to the larger community.

ANNUAL REPORT APPEARS

Just before press time, one of the major Library publications of the year was released: the Librarian's *Annual Report to the Senate*. Because of space limitations, only a few highlights of the *Report* can be reprinted here. Faculty members are urged to read it in full, since they and their students will be directly affected by the problems and developments Mr. Stuart-Stubbs outlines. Copies will be sent this week to all deans, department heads, and departmental library representatives. Other faculty members may get copies from the Information Services Desk in the Main Library (local 2077).

FROM THE REPORT:

Physical Conditions.

----- "It is customary to give over to a discussion of the collection the earliest chapter of the annual report. This year, however, the inadequacy of the Library's physical accommodations far outweighs in importance the state of the collections. The aim of a library is simple, even though it may be difficult and expensive to achieve: to provide readily the materials a patron requires and a table at which he can use them. The University of British Columbia Library is failing in this prime objective, and it is failing because of its physical accommodations, and for no other reason . . . An honest acknowledgement that the Library faces nearly insoluble problems may at least prepare the University community for the difficult times that lie ahead."

----- "In five years the collections have doubled in size . . . Despite the opening of new libraries, there is little space remaining for the expanding collections, and the need for study seating, in libraries or outside of libraries, has not been met for this year's enrolment of 20,000 students. Even with the inclusion of new study facilities in Brock Hall, there is only one seat for every seven students at present. Standards for a large university consisting for the most part of commuters call for roughly one seat for every three students in the humanities and social sciences, one for every four students in the sciences."

----- "Unfortunately what is already a bad situation can only get worse. No funds for further construction are in sight, and even if funds were available today, it would be several years before new library buildings were ready for occupancy. The physical library system as it exists today is all that will be available for the increases of the near future."

----- " . . . New estimates of student population are now available, and . . . today the figure is a staggering 34,371 by 1973/74."

Finances.

----- "In 1967/68 the expenditures for books dropped suddenly and drastically from \$1,515,364 in 1966/67 to \$1,011,181. This signalled the end of the funds available from the gift of Mr. H.R. MacMillan. . . . Regrettably the University has not since been able to maintain anything approaching the level of spending on collections necessary to the development of a university with growing ambitions in research and graduate study, and with increasing numbers of undergraduates."

----- "Overall Library expenditure per student at Toronto increased from \$200.69 in 1967/68 to \$210.28 in 1968/69, and at Alberta from \$245.17 to \$247.55. British Columbia's universities have not registered the same gains. . . . Simon Fraser University's level of expenditure dropped from \$307.99 to \$251.50, and the University of Victoria's from \$322.50 to \$307.63. At the University of British Columbia the decline was from an already low \$169.24 to \$162.09. At this rate, U.B.C. became twenty-sixth on a list of thirty-six Canadian university libraries in terms of per capita support."

Staff and Salaries.

----- "There are now 366½ positions in the Library's establishment, 91½ of which are positions for professional librarians. . . . U.B.C. Library is thus the second largest library in Canada in terms of staff. . . . For the first time in many years, the salary floors for [professional] librarians were not raised, placing the Library at a disadvantageous position in recruiting. . . . Out of thirty-three institutions responding to an annual survey conducted by the Canadian Association of College and University Libraries, one library has a starting floor of less than \$6500, U.B.C. shares the \$6500 floor with four other institutions, and the twenty-seven remaining institutions offer more than \$6500. Fifteen offer \$7000 or over."

Senate Library Committee.

----- "At its meeting of May 22, 1968, the Senate adopted new terms of reference for the Senate Library Committee. In the new terms there is an increased emphasis on communication between the Library, the Senate Library Committee, the Senate, and the University community. In response to this, the Library has begun to issue on a monthly basis a newsletter to Faculty, *U.B.C. Library News*, and the Senate Library Committee has adopted a heavy schedule of meetings for 1968/69, and proposes to bring to Senate reports on their deliberations, particularly as they affect policy."

Systems Development.

----- "In its fourth year of operation, the computer-based book lending system is still the largest of its kind in the world, and has afforded benefits to library staff and users not to be obtained by manual systems. While it has increased the efficiency of routines and record-keeping, the information on the borrowing habits of students and faculty which it compiles is equally important to the future success of the Library. During the year two other systems went into operation: one for the management of serials records, one for the acquisitions process. . . . Few libraries in North America can boast of such a comprehensive programme of automation. What is particularly impressive is that so much has been accomplished with a staff of two systems analysts, two programmers, and eleven machine operators."

Reserve Book Use.

----- "... A use study of the books housed in the Main Library's Reserve Book Collection revealed that of 9,000 volumes, 5,000 were not used frequently enough to justify being placed on reserve, and that in fact the students would have been able to make better use of the books had they been loaned on the usual basis. Further such studies will be performed, involving the relationship between the size of classes, the length of reading assignments, and the use of books, with a view to developing practical guidelines for faculty to use in preparing their reserve lists."

THE SENATE LIBRARY COMMITTEE

The Senate Library Committee has met twice since the beginning of September. The major topics of concern to the members were library building priorities and loan regulations. In fact, neither of these areas has yet been fully discussed, for they each involve very basically the present and future ability of the library system to perform its role, both on the campus and in the larger community.

At the meeting of September 16th, Mr. Stuart-Stubbs presented a short summary of the forthcoming revision of the 1966 document, *A Plan For Future Library Service*. The revision had been necessitated by the recently revealed statistical evidence that the U.B.C. campus will be expected to support a student population of 35,000 by the mid-1970's. Briefly, the summary document proposes a further decentralization of the Library system to serve students in the various faculties on their own home

territories. Even without the staggering increase in enrolment it was clearly evident that the Library would have to expand greatly in order to house its collections and serve its public. Now the needs are so urgent that they can be solved only through unstinting support for a vast building programme involving, as a first step, a new major library for undergraduates in the humanities/social sciences and libraries for graduates and undergraduates in the sciences, not to mention the requirements of the library administration and technical processing divisions.

The revised document has been presented to the Senate Committee on Academic Building Needs for its serious consideration.

The Library's loan regulations were the main item on the agenda of the October 3rd meeting and will appear again for further discussion on November 15th. The purpose of the detailed examination to which the regulations are being subjected is to make them rational within the present Library system and consistent with its aims and capacities.

FACULTY LIBRARY GUIDE

Information and Orientation Services is planning a Library Guide for faculty members. The Guide will contain a general description of the Library system, its collections, and the services offered to faculty members. More specific information on loan regulations, reserving procedure, and book ordering will also be included.

Are there any other topics you would like to see covered? All suggestions are welcome, and should be directed to Joan Sandilands (local 2077).

GRANTS FOR BOOK PURCHASES

In May U.B.C. received the first installment of a Canada Council grant for the purchase of research materials in the humanities and social sciences. Funds allotted to teaching departments in these two areas will total \$64,000 this year.

Heads of departments were asked in May to submit lists of books and periodicals to be purchased (with prices and sources, if possible). To date, only about half have done so. Those who have not are reminded that the Library needs these lists as soon as possible.

Last week notice was received from the Canada Council that similar grants will be available next year. More about this in later issues of the *U.B.C. Library News*.

ORDER LIST COVERS THREE YEARS

A new and much more comprehensive computer printout of books on order is now available to library users. It lists alphabetically all orders placed between January 1, 1965 and July 31, 1968 which have not yet been received. More complete information is given for orders placed after August 1, 1968. These will appear on the list even if they *have* been received, and users will be able to tell whether the book is currently in process or has been catalogued.

The 700-page printout will be kept up-to-date by means of daily supplements, and will be revised and reissued in full every three weeks. Copies are available in Sedgewick and at the Main Library's Information Desk. By the end of the month additional copies may be found in the following locations:

Main Library

Fine Arts Division
Social Sciences/Humanities Division

Other Campus Libraries

Forestry/Agriculture Library
Music Library
Woodward Library

CARD PRODUCTION SETS NEW RECORD

During the four months from June to September the Cataloguing Division has produced 165,000 cards for the public catalogues—a total greater than that for any full year up till now.

A year ago the division had a processing backlog of some 20,000 volumes. This backlog no longer exists; the books are on the shelves and available.

Although there is, inevitably, some delay in filing so many cards, the Library has been hiring staff specifically for this job. A temporary card (marked "TEMP" and distinguished by a green band at the top) is being filed for each book processed. This will be found under the name of the author or editor, or under the title if the work is anonymous. The temporary card will remain in the catalogue until the full set of permanent cards can be filed.

MISDIRECTED MAIL

Frequently the Library receives books and periodicals addressed simply to the "University of British Columbia". More often than not, these items have been ordered privately by teaching departments or individual faculty members, and should not come to the Library at all.

Tracing and redirecting this mail is taking up valuable staff time. Our readers can help by making sure that when they order printed material for personal use the address is given as fully as possible. For faculty members, information should include:

Name
Department
Room no. and building (if possible)
U.B.C.

NEW SERIALS LIST OUT

The annual computer printout of the university's serial holdings will be distributed this week to all campus libraries and reading rooms.

As we noted in last month's *News*, a limited number of copies are being reserved for sale to faculty members at \$5.00 apiece. Please inquire at the Information Desk in the Main Library.

THE NUMBERS GAME

As of October 28, four Main Library telephones have new numbers.

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|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1) Humanities Division | 2411 (formerly 2725) |
| 2) Information and Orientation | |
| --- Division Head | 2076 (formerly 2274) |
| --- Information Desk | 2077 (formerly 2411) |
| 3) Interlibrary Loan Office | 2274 (formerly 2411) |

Please make a note of these for future reference.



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