U.B.C. LIBRARY NEWS

Volume IV, No. 4 April, 1971 Vancouver, B.C.

This newsletter is published as an information service for UBC faculty, students and other readers outside the Library. It contains feature articles and news 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.

SPRING CALL-IN

Faculty members are reminded that all books borrowed before April 17 should be returned or renewed by May 1. As each book must be seen and checked by the library staff, telephone or mail renewals cannot be accepted. However, the Library Delivery Service will pick up any material you do not wish to bring back in person. Please call local 2854 or 3208 for the location of the nearest delivery station.

MAY–JUNE LIBRARY HOURS

During May and June last year the larger libraries extended their schedules to give service four nights a week and all day Saturday. Because few readers took advantage of the longer hours, the intersession schedule has been cut back this year. Most campus libraries will be closed on weekends, and the Main, Sedgewick and Woodward Libraries will give evening service only two nights a week. On these nights, however, the three libraries will stay open until 11 p.m. to accommodate readers taking evening extension courses. A complete schedule for May and June is given below.

MAIN AND SEDGEWICK LIBRARIES

April 29	THURSDAY	8 a.m. – midnight
April 30	FRIDAY	9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
May 1 – July 4	MONDAY	9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
	TUESDAY – WEDNESDAY	9 a.m. – 11 p.m.*
	THURSDAY – FRIDAY	9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
	SATURDAY – SUNDAY	CLOSED

* Staffing during the evening hours will be minimal

WOODWARD LIBRARY

April 29 – 30	THURSDAY – FRIDAY	8 a.m. – midnight
May 1	SATURDAY	8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
May 2	SUNDAY	12 noon – 10 p.m.
May 3	MONDAY	8 a.m. – 10 p.m.
May 4 – 5	TUESDAY – WEDNESDAY	8 a.m. – 11 p.m.
May 6	THURSDAY	8 a.m. – 10 p.m.
May 7 – 8	FRIDAY – SATURDAY	8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
May 9	SUNDAY	CLOSED
May 10 – July 4	MONDAY	8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
	TUESDAY – WEDNESDAY	8 a.m. – 11 p.m.*
	THURSDAY – SATURDAY	8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
	SUNDAY	CLOSED

All other branches will be open the following hours:

MONDAY – FRIDAY	9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
SATURDAY – SUNDAY	CLOSED

beginning on the dates given below:

CURRICULUM LABORATORY	Friday, April 23
MARJORIE SMITH (SOCIAL WORK) LIBRARY, MUSIC LIBRARY	Saturday, April 24
MATHEMATICS LIBRARY	Wednesday, April 28
RECORD COLLECTION	Thursday, April 29
ANIMAL RESOURCE ECOLOGY, CRANE, LAW AND MACMILLAN LIBRARIES	Saturday, May 1

N.B. All campus libraries will be closed on Victoria Day (Monday, May 24) and Dominion Day (Thursday, July 1).

ALBRECHT DÜRER: 1471 – 1528

In 1970 the world celebrated the 200th anniversary of Beethoven's birth. This year the art world honours the 500th anniversary of another great German: Albrecht Dürer. A master draughtsman, portraitist and designer, Dürer is best known for his superbly powerful woodcuts and copperplate engravings.

During April and May the Library will be displaying fine reproductions of his work. The exhibit will stay in the showcase outside the Ridington Room until Dürer's birthday on May 21st.

CAN'T FIND THE LOST AND FOUND?

Readers are reminded that the Main Library's Lost and Found service has been moved from the Information Desk to the Circulation Division. Please turn in or claim articles at the "Library Cards and Enquiries" window before 5 p.m., and at the Main Loan Desk evenings and weekends. Most items will only be held at Circulation for 24 hours. After that they will be sent over to the main UBC Lost and Found at the Student Union Building.

However, there is one exception to this rule. Valuables and identification will be kept in the Library for up to one week before being sent to SUB. During this time they can be claimed from the Librarian's Office, just across the hall from Circulation.

NEW SERIALS LIST AVAILABLE

Looking for a periodical UBC doesn't carry? The staff at the Main Library's Information Desk should be able to tell you if another library in the Vancouver area has your title. The Desk has a reference copy of Simon Fraser University's serials list, and has just received Vancouver Public Library's new *Periodicals List.*

The VPL guide was produced by photocopying title cards from the downtown library's catalogue. In most cases these give all the information a reader would want, including the location of the periodical and the date the library's subscription started. If an entry seems unclear or incomplete, please see the Information Desk librarians.

SAME RATES, DOUBLE LOAN PRIVILEGES FOR RECORDINGS

If you haven't been borrowing LP's from the Recordings Collection, next month would be a good time to start. Beginning on May 15, borrowers will be able to take out twice as many records at each visit: four single LP's instead of two, or two multi-record sets instead of one. The annual fees will not be increased, though. UBC students and faculty members will still pay only $5 a year for loan privileges, and off-campus borrowers $7.

B.C. RECOGNIZES LIBRARIES

Smile at the turnstile girls. Send flowers to the reference staff. Better still, take a librarian to lunch. B.C. is about to celebrate its first Library Week. Minutes approved earlier this spring by the Lieutenant Governor note:

> *That the accelerated developments of knowledge and technology are creating relentless new pressures for reading and information materials and for their maximum use and availability to a rapidly expanding population:*
>
> *And that libraries are of prime importance in meeting the needs of the people of British Columbia for information, education and recreation, holding as they do the keys to cultural and economic opportunity so essential for developing, through guidance, stimulation and communication of ideas, informed citizens capable of making the many choices and complex decisions that confront our Province today:*
>
> *And that it is deemed appropriate in British Columbia's Centennial year to issue a Proclamation appointing the week of May 2 to 8, 1971, inclusive, as LIBRARY WEEK in British Columbia to recognize the vital role of the libraries in past years of provincial development and the continuing importance of that role in tomorrow's world:*
>
> *And to recommend that a Proclamation be issued appointing the week of May 2 to 8, 1971, inclusive, as LIBRARY WEEK in the Province of British Columbia.*

The main event during Library Week will be a massive Centennial Citizens' Conference on Libraries. Scheduled for May 3 in Victoria, it will bring together 250 invited delegates from all parts of the province. Speeches and discussions will focus on the theme, "Libraries: Vital to Tomorrow's World". As a follow-up to the Conference, delegates will organize regional meetings throughout the province.

Libraries of all types are cooperating to make the Conference a success, and UBC has been especially well represented. The School of Librarianship has supplied three committee chairmen and a featured speaker. Other librarians from the School and from the Information Division have spent the past few months working on displays, programmes and publicity.

SHARED CATALOGUING SCHEME ATTRACTS INTEREST

In 1969 the libraries of B.C.'s three public universities began a cooperative program to speed up book processing. Under the old system, each library normally received cataloguing copy from the Library of Congress and used that copy to make up sets of cards for current books. All items without LC copy had to be catalogued by the individual library. Under the new "shared cataloguing" arrangement, the three libraries waited a maximum of six weeks for the cataloguing copy to arrive. After that, items without Library of Congress copy were rush catalogued, with each library taking responsibility for one-third of the alphabet. Duplicates of the master cards were distributed to the other libraries.

The system expanded in 1970 to include three eastern universities: Windsor, Waterloo and York. Each library is now responsible for roughly one-sixth of the alphabet. To speed up cataloguing even more, the six-week waiting period for LC copy has been dropped. All current works within a library's alphabetical area are catalogued as soon as they come in. Cataloguing copy is then sent to the other five libraries.

Because of the interest shown by other Canadian universities, a meeting on shared cataloguing was held this month at the University of Alberta. Representatives from the three B.C. university libraries explained how the present system worked and outlined ways in which it might be improved. Before the end of 1971 at least two more libraries may decide to join.

However, the future of the shared cataloguing program will be more definite after a second meeting is held in June. Any new developments will be reported in the June-July *Library News.*

NEW PRESS COOPERATES IN CATALOGUING EXPERIMENT

On March 25 UBC announced the establishment of its own scholarly press. Basil Stuart-Stubbs, the University Librarian, is also chairman of the advisory committee on the new UBC Press. He feels that a Canadian university press on the west coast will be a valuable contribution to research. "It will provide a greater opportunity for the work done in this region to be made known and available internationally," he says, "and will serve as a stimulus to scholarly study of many aspects of western Canada." Other areas the Press will emphasize are Asia and the Pacific, international law, and Canadian literature.

One of the first books the Press will publish is by two UBC librarians, Inglis F. Bell and Jennifer Gallup. Their *Reference Guide to English, American and Canadian Literature* will be released this summer.

This book, and all others published by the UBC Press, will be pre-catalogued for faster library processing. As part of a pilot project sponsored by the UBC and University of Victoria Libraries, some B.C. publishers are being sent basic cataloguing copy for each book they plan to bring out. This information, printed on the back of the title page, would include the author's name, title, added entries, suggested subject headings, and Library of Congress and Dewey classification numbers. Libraries buying the book would be able to make up a permanent catalogue card for it immediately.

Since it cuts processing time to a minimum, cataloguing-in-publication is something libraries would like publishers to introduce on as wide a scale as possible. The B.C. project will give both groups a chance to see how well it actually works in practice. The first samples should be available by mid-June, in time for the Canadian Library Association's annual conference and for a meeting of the Institute of Publishing in Canada a week later.

USERS' OPINIONS ON THREE BRANCH LIBRARIES

At a university the size of UBC there is nearly always strong pressure on the library to offer decentralized service through small, specialized branches. The arguments for and against spreading out library collections and services in this way are legion. In the end, however, the real test is in the degree of satisfaction achieved for the user of the branch library.

In order to find out how users feel about the services and collections offered in UBC's branch libraries, the Library has been distributing a series of questionnaires. So far the survey has covered three branches: Music, Marjorie Smith (Social Work) and MacMillan (Forestry/Agriculture). A brief summary of the results follows.

PHYSICAL FACILITIES

Unlike users of the Main Library, the faculty and students using the three branches had little difficulty in finding seating space. Of the 363 people who returned questionnaires, only 20 felt that seating was inadequate. These were divided fairly evenly between the Music Library and the MacMillan Library.

Users of the Marjorie Smith Library commented on the need for more stack space to house the growing book collection. This was also felt to be a problem in MacMillan. Although some steps can be taken to improve the situation, neither branch will be able to expand its stack area as much as some readers would like.

ADEQUACY OF COLLECTIONS

Users generally recognized that the branches' holdings could not be increased too greatly because of the limited amount of stack space available. However, most felt that the quality and content of the collections could be improved.

Faculty and students using the Music Library were concerned about building up a strong collection of musical scores, books and journals, since these materials were not available in any other campus library. Complaints from the other two branches took a different form. Users were annoyed because relevant material which *was* held in other libraries could not be found in their own branch.

The Music Library's problem is probably the easiest to deal with. As funds and space permit, the collection can be brought up to strength in the areas users feel are weak. But the other two branches attempt to serve faculty and students who work in much larger, multidisciplinary fields. These collections can never hope to contain all the material that their readers will need. The problem is to strike some kind of balance between the holdings of the specialized branches and those of the larger libraries which cover related subject areas. Working from the answers to the branch library questionnaires, the Library will try to improve the areas users feel have been neglected. However, as the Head of Public Services has pointed out in a memo to the Faculties of Forestry and Agricultural Sciences:

> . . . no single branch library (nor even an entire library system) can be completely self-sufficient in terms of its collections. . . .
>
> . . . Because of the complexity and increasing overlap of interests among faculty and students, the only truly effective answer to this particular question would be to bring all collections together again in one building. Clearly, from the large numbers who have indicated that the advantages of branch libraries outweigh the disadvantages, that kind of centralization would no longer be desirable.

ADEQUACY OF SERVICES

Users of all three branches were most impressed with the level of personal service offered. They felt that this was one of the major advantages of a decentralized library system. Some typical comments from the questionnaires were:

> Excellent staff – helpful and very co-operative.
>
> Library staff go out of their way to provide assistance.
>
> Staff seem more knowledgeable about the pertinent subjects and are more helpful. My impression is also that staff *interest* is enhanced and reflects itself in performance.

Only 15 of the 363 people who took part in the survey felt that staff attitude or performance needed to be improved.

The only complaint was that this service wasn't available long enough. Over 23% of the users surveyed felt that the branch libraries should extend their opening hours. There was some support for longer hours on week nights and Saturdays. but what users wanted most was Sunday service. At present Music is the only one of the three branches that stays open seven days a week, and even there users wanted longer Sunday hours.

The Library will have to decide whether the use made of each branch would justify the cost of extended service. It is also possible that the present weekly opening hours could be rearranged in a different pattern, if this would suit users better.

CENTRALIZED VS. DECENTRALIZED SERVICE

The final item on the questionnaire asked users how they felt generally about branch library service, compared with service from a larger, central library. The great majority of responses favoured the present system of decentralized branches. Most users commented on the physical convenience, more personal service, and specialized but more easily used collections offered by the smaller libraries.

> I feel lost in the large central library. Branch libraries have much more comprehensive cataloguing and it is much easier to find information – also better service, since people working in a branch library are usually very well acquainted with the subject.
>
> It's in my building; the librarians are better able to understand the field; finding books is easier in a small library; its isolation eliminates students from other faculties who would occupy the study space.
>
> Although there may be on occasions a shortage of material, the ease of locating needed information – the congeniality of the staff – and the high staff-user ratio outweigh the advantage of a larger resource of written material.

The most favourable responses came from the Music and Social Work Libraries, where almost 90% of the users surveyed were happy with branch library service. Faculty and students using the MacMillan Library were more critical. Although 71% felt that the branch offered better service than a larger central library would, many others complained that MacMillan's holdings were too limited and usually had to be supplemented by material from other libraries. The moral seems to be that a branch library is most successful when it covers a specialized subject area which is not handled by other campus libraries. However, it is reassuring to see that such a large majority of the users surveyed favour the kind of decentralized service being offered at UBC.

Results of each survey have been summarized and sent to the branches concerned. Faculty members in the Department of Music, School of Social Work, and Faculties of Forestry and Agricultural Sciences received personal copies. Other readers who are interested in the detailed results should ask at the branches surveyed.

These surveys will continue in the fall, and will probably cover the Curriculum Laboratory, Mathematics Library, Animal Resource Ecology Library, and the Medical Branch Library at the Vancouver General Hospital.

WHERE WE STAND

The UBC Library belongs to the Association of Research Libraries, which has just released statistics for the year 1969/70. Out of 76 member libraries, this is how UBC ranks:

Microforms in library:	2nd
Volumes in library:	46th
Volumes added:	18th
Expenditures for books and binding:	23rd

If the "volumes in library" figure could stand improvement, it still represents an enormous gain over past years. UBC's book collections are 750% larger now than they were in 1945. Below are the growth rates for eight other research libraries over the same period of time:

Columbia	282%
Illinois	221%
Indiana	397%
Michigan	316%
Minnesota	197%
Princeton	200%
Wisconsin	329%
UCLA	514%

Editor: Mrs. J.E. de Bruijn **Information and Orientation Division**