

# ubc library news

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## LIBRARY COLLECTIONS BUDGET UPDATE

In the last issue we indicated that inflation and devaluation of the Canadian dollar would have serious implications for our purchasing power next fiscal year. That situation continued to deteriorate in February. Jonathan Wisenthal, Chairman of the Senate Library Committee, and Doug McInnes, University Librarian, met with President Strangway early in March to discuss the urgent need for increased collections funding. An increase of about \$500,000 each year for the next two years is required to bring the collections budget up to a level which will maintain the present rate of acquisitions. Without adequate increases, substantial reductions in purchasing will be required in 1986/87, and by the 1987/88 fiscal year, the reduction in serial subscriptions and book purchases would be such that the Library's ability to support research would be severely damaged. At the present time, there can be no assurance of adequate budget increases.

As one means of addressing the need for funds, the Library will develop a proposal to have the collections themselves designated as an existing "centre of excellence", worthy of special support. As a resource unique to the Province, and one that is well used by other institutions and organizations, the U.B.C. Library collections merit special consideration. Certainly, it is in the best interest of the Province that the quality of its major library resource be maintained and, where possible, improved to support new research priorities. It is difficult, however, to estimate the likelihood of obtaining funding from this source.

... serials cancellations, see back page

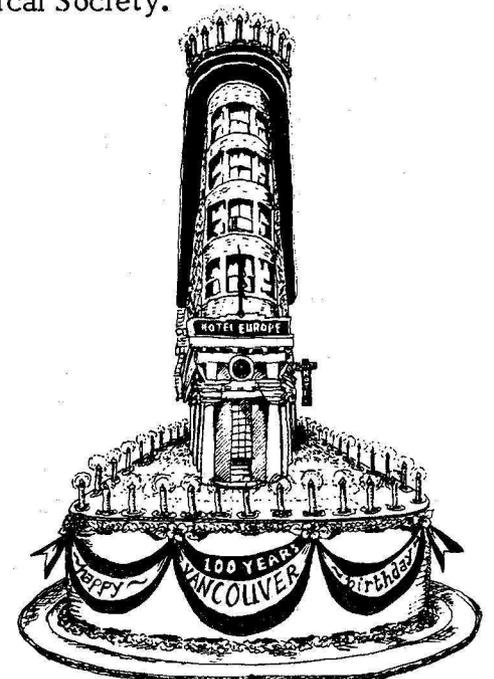
## HAPPY BIRTHDAY, VANCOUVER

Interested in Kerrisdale or Strathcona? Temperance in Vancouver? Urban Planning? Stanley Park? Hudson's Bay Company? Chinese in Vancouver? These topics are a small sample from the subject index of the four volume bibliography just published by the Vancouver Historical Society.

The Vancouver Centennial Bibliography, compiled by Linda J. Hale, is the result of a three year project funded primarily by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council. It was compiled at UBC Library, which provided office space and facilities, interlibrary loan services, systems assistance, and advisory help from the Special Collections librarians.

This comprehensive, thematic bibliography lists over 15,000 items about the city of Vancouver from the earliest time to the present. It includes geographical studies, local histories, technical reports, company reports, articles, photographs, manuscripts, architectural drawings, maps, exhibition catalogues and musical scores. There are name, title, subject and series indexes.

A copy is available in Special Collections and other copies will soon be on reference in the Ridington Room, Main Library and in Sedgewick Library.



## **TELEFACSIMILE MACHINES FOR HEALTH SCIENCES NETWORK**

The P.A. Woodward Foundation, a generous supporter of UBC's biomedical libraries, has given \$22,106 to the Library to purchase four telefacsimile machines for the Health Sciences Network libraries. (Since 1982, the hospital libraries at Vancouver General, Children's/Grace/Shaghnessy and St. Paul's have been organized with Woodward Library into a network that draws on the strong collections in Woodward to supplement the working collections at the hospitals.) The telefacsimile machines will enable the network libraries to share their resources more efficiently.

Telefacsimile is an electronic communication system which allows fast interchange of documents and graphics between geographically separated locations. Images (printed pages, diagrams, photos) are transmitted from one machine and reproduced almost instantaneously on paper at the remote receiver. The Health Sciences libraries will use the system primarily to speed up processing. Requests for delivery of materials through the system has increased from 24,000 in 1982/83 to over 40,000 in 1984/85. Instead of staff keying requests into the computer, the forms completed by patrons will be transmitted directly via telefacsimile. In addition, if a copy of a document is needed urgently, it will be sent via telefacsimile rather than on the Faculty of Medicine's daily delivery truck. Copies of documents may also be received from the Canadian Institute for Scientific and Technical Institute (CISTI) in Ottawa or other libraries, thus eliminating postal delays. The system should be installed by late Spring.

## **KIWANIS GIFT TO CRANE LIBRARY**

The Kiwanis Club of Vancouver recently gave \$3,000 to the Crane Library's Talking Books Program. With this gift, Crane Library was able to record several textbooks required by blind students. Kiwanis-sponsored textbooks include a casebook on law for a blind law student and a book for a Master of Social Work student's thesis.

Crane Library's Talking Books Program produces tapes of books needed by blind and visually impaired students at U.B.C. Although volunteer readers help, making a talking book is expensive and complex. The casebook on law took three hundred hours to record, was ninety hours long and filled sixty cassettes. Demand always exceeds supply for this important service - donations like the Kiwanis gift provide needed extra funds.

## **ON-LINE LITERATURE SEARCHES - A BETTER WAY?**

A successful computer search will provide you with a printed list of citations on your topic. The citations may include books, journal articles, conference proceedings, dissertations, etc., depending on the data base used. Many printed indexes and abstracts are now in machine-readable data bases accessible by computer. The number and coverage of data bases in every field is increasing all the time - U.B.C. librarians currently can access more than five hundred.

A computer can search a large number of data-base records quickly and efficiently. If your topic interrelates several ideas or concepts, a computer search can be particularly useful. In addition, on some data bases, you can set certain parameters on the search before it begins. Citations might be limited by language, by document type or by date. For example, you could specify that you only want citations to English language articles after 1977.

Most data bases the reference librarians search have print equivalents, such as Chemical Abstracts, ERIC, or Psychological Abstracts. But, often, the on-line versions are more current, may include more information and provide better searching access than the print versions. In the print version of Psychological Abstracts, for example, it is very difficult to find citations to individual tests because the subject access is not specific enough. On-line, however, you can find the citations because the test

name can be searched in the abstract, identifier and title fields.

After a search is completed, the citations are printed on-line or off-line. On-line print-outs usually list the citations only; off-line print-outs include abstracts, if they are available. The library usually receives off-line print-outs about a week after a search is done. If a search was useful and you would like to keep it updated, it is possible to have the same search done regularly to retrieve new citations.

Any member of the UBC faculty, staff or student body may request a search. Search costs, which are partially subsidized, are based on the connect time between the library's terminal and the remote data base. They vary depending on the data base used, the time required to do the search and the number of citations printed. There is a special rate for students, \$10, but the search has certain restrictions. For non-UBC use of the service, there is an additional charge for the librarian's time and for equipment use.

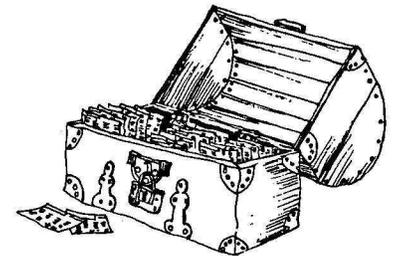
If you would like a computer search done, consult a librarian. A fair amount of preliminary work may be necessary. A computer search can be very productive but cannot always satisfy every information need. Sometimes, there may not be a suitable data base for your topic, or browsing through a printed index may be the only way to find citations not accessible by specific terms. The reference librarians in each subject area are familiar with the data bases in their fields. They will discuss your topic with you and determine the most effective and efficient search strategy to use—whether on-line, manual, or both.

The library has a series of one page sheets which describe computer assisted bibliographic services in the following areas –biological sciences, business/economics, education and physical education, engineering/technology, forestry/agriculture, health sciences, humanities, legal research, physical sciences, political science, psychology/sociology, and the social sciences. For a copy of any of these sheets, please phone the Information and Orientation Division (2076).

## HIDDEN TREASURES

Does the library have?

A Guide to farming in the Prince George area  
Computer communications and the mass market in Canada  
Forestry insect and disease conditions in Canada, 1984  
Aspects of the commercial trucking of grain: Prairie Region  
Seismic building upgrading for Vancouver's Gastown  
Wolf management in B.C.: protecting predator and prey  
Hotel/Motel occupancy statistics for Saskatchewan, 1984  
Background briefing notes on British Columbia/Japan trade and economic relations



If you check the November 1985 Microlog index, your answer will be yes.

Microlog is a microfiche collection of selected publications of Canadian federal, provincial and local governments and of non-government research institutions, professional associations and special interest groups. It has two parts: the monthly name, title and subject index and the documents on microfiche. Microlog began in 1979 and was preceded by Profile (1973-78) and Urban Canada (1977-78), the former limited primarily to provincial publications and the latter to municipal publications. The index and the microfiche collection are in Government Publications and Microforms Division, Main Library. The microfiche, along with readers, can be borrowed or fiche or paper copies of the microfiche can be made.

The reports and studies in Microlog are often invaluable and unique sources for research. Many would be very difficult to locate and acquire without a subscription to this collection. Microlog is an important source of Canadian information - a hidden treasure which should not be overlooked.

## **SERIAL CANCELLATIONS**

By the time faculty members receive this issue the lists of our proposed serial cancellations should be in the hands of academic department heads and library representatives. They will also be available for consultation at library information desks. Please make sure that you look at the list in your area of interest and convey your opinions to your department head or library representative.

## **HOT OFF THE PRESS**

Recently prepared or revised Library publications include:

- Start Here 11 revised, East Europe: Domestic Politics and Foreign Affairs
- Start Here 12 revised, Soviet Union: Domestic Politics and Foreign Affairs
- Start Here 94 revised, The Middle East
- Start Here 129, Information Sources in Computer Science at UBC
- Start Here 130, Native Land Claims in Canada
- Start Here 131, China: Domestic Politics and Foreign Affairs

If you would like a copy of any of these one or two page sheets, please phone the Information and Orientation Division (2076). Ask at any reference desk for information on the many additional publications available.

## **PLEASE RETURN OR RENEW ALL BOOKS: END OF TERM IS HERE**

Soon after April 11, the Library will send call-in notices for all outstanding books borrowed since August 15, 1985. Please return those books you no longer need and renew all others.

If you are planning to be away from campus during the spring and summer, remember that long-term loans are always subject to call-in. Please either return all books in case they are needed by others, or make arrangements to have someone check your mail and respond to Library call-ins.

Have you been billed for replacement of books in the past? We have assumed those books to be lost and are attempting to replace them but would be delighted to have them back. If you find any, bring them to the overdues department of the relevant branch and ask for an adjustment of the charges.