# U.B.C. LIBRARY NEWS

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Now it can be told. Since September the *News* has been edited - anonymously - by Mr. Tom Eadie. With this issue, the changeover becomes official.*

Tom has had a long and varied experience in the publications field, including six years as editor of the Canadian literary journal *Quarry*. He recently joined the Library as publications coordinator.

*The former editor has enjoyed these four years with the News thoroughly. However, she has developed a bad case of writer's cramp. Over to you, Tom.

Elsie de Bruijn Editor, 1968 - 1972

## THE PHOTOCOPIER AND COPYRIGHT LAWS

Commissioner Davis of the U.S. Court of Claims has issued a report favouring Williams & Wilkins Publishing Company, who had charged the U.S. National Institute of Health and the National Library of Medicine with infringement of copyright for having made unauthorized photocopies of articles from its journals. (See *Library News* Vol. 5, No. 4 -- copies available from the editor on request.) While it took some four years to arrive at this point, the legal arguments are hardly over. The Commissioner's Report has been made, but the Court of Claims itself has yet to give a decision, and any judgments which it issues may of course be appealed. Despite this, Williams & Wilkins have announced special institutional subscription rates which provide for "an automatic license to make single-copy photocopies of articles". For multiple copies they require a remittance of 5¢ per page. Whether or not they are within their rights in setting these surcharges is yet to be determined. They apply only with the United States, so that they do not immediately concern Canadian libraries. But the implications for libraries everywhere are serious.

In announcing their new rates, Williams & Wilkins point out that it has been "customary" for publishers to charge higher rates to institutional subscribers than to individuals because "the copy of a journal owned by a library or other institution serves more readers than does the copy owned by an individual". This is, of course, why libraries exist: to spread the cost of books, journals, etc., over many users. If publishers raise the cost of journals (and then perhaps books) which are purchased by libraries, so as to cover the loss in potential sales to library users, then libraries may be put out of business. It will be as economical to buy private copies of books for all users as to maintain library systems.

This is, of course, taking an extreme view. Williams & Wilkins have not raised their rates that much. But the writing may well be on the wall. Some libraries feel this is so, and have cancelled their subscriptions to Williams & Wilkins journals. The issue has been raised by the widespread use of the photocopier, but it is not clear that such mechanical copying is in any essential sense different from copying by hand: certainly the justification cited above has been carefully made in terms of the amount of use materials receive. If the view taken by Williams & Wilkins receives full endorsement from the courts, is embodied in pending U.S. copyright legislation, and becomes the pattern for legislation in other countries, then libraries may become, in effect, publishers' rental agencies.

*News Flash*

As the *Library News* was on its way to press, our attention was drawn to the December 1972 issue of *American Libraries* which notes a concession made by Williams & Wilkins, apparently resulting from the National Library of Medicine's determination to drop its subscriptions to W & W journals, and exclude them from *Index Medicus*. They have now ceased to connect their new institutional subscription rates with a "license to photocopy, implied or otherwise", and have withdrawn their 5¢ per page interlibrary loan charge until the appeal of their case has been heard.

At about the same time as the W & W announcement, though, Marcel Dekker, Inc., announced increased institutional subscription rates as partial compensation for granting photocopying rights, so the battle is still on.

## DATA LIBRARY - A PROGRESS REPORT

During 1972 the Data Library has been changing and growing. We moved into new quarters, Room 447A in Civil Engineering, and already the extra space and its proximity to the Computing Centre have proved valuable.

In December we issued our first printed catalogue of holdings. A glance through its 63 pages shows that our strength still lies in public opinion and election studies; however we are branching out into census data, as well as economic and financial material. We will add other areas as demand arises. The catalogue is available for inspection in the Main Library (Social Sciences, Government Publications, Information Desk), in the six social sciences readings rooms, the Curriculum Laboratory, the Law Library, and the Woodward Library. New additions to the collection are reported regularly in the Computing Centre Newsletter.

In response to requests for such information we are building up a file, arranged by broad subject areas, recording data we know to exist elsewhere. Initially strongest in language and literature, it is by no means restricted to the humanities and social sciences. This card index can be consulted in the Data Library.

Once more we are asking for information about machine-readable data sets held by members of the UBC teaching and research community. Ten studies listed in our new catalogue have come to us from faculty members; others will be added as soon as time allows. Much of this is British Columbia material, which we expect will be in great demand.

## SENATE LIBRARY COMMITTEE 1972-73

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## U.S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT REPORTS

Since 1957 the Library has been a depository for the above report series, and copies of the non-classified R&D reports have been available on *microfiche* in the Government Publications Division (Main Library, level 6) where they can be studied or copied using microfiche readers/printers.

The subject scope of these reports originating from the USAEC and its many contractors covers a wide range from chemistry, earth sciences, engineering, and life sciences (incl. medicine) to nuclear physics; and the Library has judged this to be a valuable and potentially useful collection.

Where originally the reports (some 8600 titles per year) were deposited free of charge, this is no longer the case. In 1968 the USAEC designated the National Science Library in Ottawa to be its only depository in Canada. At that time the UBC Library investigated the possibility of continuing as a paying depository (the only one) in Western Canada, and this proved to be feasible.

Current budget restrictions have forced us to take a second look at this sizable and expensive collection and its use. Statistics have shown that over the past nine months only fifteen reports were consulted. We therefore reached the reluctant conclusion that the collection is not well enough used to justify its high annual cost in the present financial climate - and in view of its availability from Ottawa.

The Library will therefore cancel its subscription to the reports, but will maintain its subscription(s) to *Nuclear Science Abstracts* which forms the key to finding individual reports. The reports themselves will remain available on microfiche from the National Science Library - through normal "interlibrary loan" channels.

Thus new reports will continue to be available to the apparently small number of users on the UBC campus - not immediately but with a short delay. The existing collection (1957-72) will remain in the Library and will be directly available to all users.

# FEEDBACK

At some point in time, library staff working with the public begin to wonder how many questions they *don't* get. How many users have problems or complaints that they don't want to bring personally to a stranger behind a desk?

With this in mind, the Information and Orientation Division set up a bulletin board last September in the Main Library's front hall. Part of the board serves as a distribution point for do-it-yourself guides to the Library and its holdings. The other half is a question-and-answer section called "FEEDBACK". Questions or complaints dropped in the suggestion box are collected daily and distributed to the staff members best equipped to deal with them. All answered questions are photocopied before being posted. The Xerox is filed while the original question and answer go up on the public board for a minimum of five days. In addition, a detailed subject file is kept, tallying the number of questions or complaints received on particular topics.

"FEEDBACK" has now been operating for three months, and the results should be of interest to library users. From September 11 to December 15, 183 questions were received and answered. The number coming in increased substantially each month, roughly in proportion to the increase in library use as measured by circulation statistics. If the present trend continues, 90 to 100 questions will be received a month during peak periods.

As suspected, there are questions which seldom or never come directly to the staff. Topping the list are complaints about physical conditions in the Main Library, which account for 58 out of the 183 responses. The main problem areas are the hot, noisy, overcrowded study facilities, and the lack of segregated areas for those who wish to eat, smoke or talk. Thirty-two complaints specifically mentioned the bad study conditions in the bookstacks, 11 made the same complaint about studying in the public areas, 8 asked for improvements in the lounge facilities (which are almost non-existent) and 7 miscellaneous complaints had to do with general physical conditions in the building.

Hours of access were another sore point. Of the 25 questions relating to hours, 16 wanted the building open longer on Saturdays and Sundays, while 9 complained about evening closure of the turnstile at the rear of the main entrance hall. Many complaints suggested that the library cut back on other services, if need be, to extend these hours. It has been felt that the Brock Hall study area was an adequate substitute for Main Library space, since it is open longer and allows eating and smoking. However, students never mentioned Brock favourably, and pressed for better study conditions in the library near the materials they needed.

Loan periods and circulation procedures are still a problem area, but together they only accounted for 20 complaints. Eight people asked for longer loan periods on various types of materials; 7 wanted more checks made before renewals were allowed or overdue notices mailed; and there were 5 complaints that faculty were abusing their loan privileges.

Students also used "FEEDBACK" heavily as a finding service for books or information they needed. "Do you have...", "What happened to..." questions came in daily. The following examples are typical:

> Is there a safe place to leave textbooks overnight? I'd leave them on my carrell, but people rip them off.
>
> For the life of me, I cannot find any documentation on the Berkeley theory of lateral vision....It's very important to my work.
>
> How about having a room full of calculators? I think they would go over quite well--you could have a charge, say 25¢ - 75¢ for half an hour....
>
> What happened to NK494 M5 N4?
>
> Who should I see to get information on microfilm production costs?
>
> Why don't you have more newspapers from India?
>
> Is there any way I can borrow an 8mm movie camera and tape recorder to finish an assignment?
>
> When did the Asian Studies Division get started? Is it really the largest in North America? How many books are there in Asian Studies? What is the oldest book they have there? HOW CAN I FIND THE NATIONAL ANTHEM OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA?

Judging by the steady increase in questions - and the fan mail "FEEDBACK" receives - students have accepted the suggestion board as a useful alternative to the Library's service desks. The staff, in turn, are getting involved with a range of questions and complaints they seldom meet with in their regular work. For example, the plans for the new Sedgewick Library allowed for smoking throughout the bookstack and study areas. Student reaction, through "FEEDBACK" and other channels, was so negative that a formal survey is planned to see whether the rules should be tightened up after all. The new library will also be setting up its own suggestion board, patterned on "FEEDBACK".

This is not to say that the results can be taken as statistically accurate indicators of student opinion. One would not want to argue, for instance, that conditions in the Main Library bookstacks are exactly twice as much of a problem to library users as the Saturday and Sunday hours. There is no real way of telling how many users agree with the complaints "FEEDBACK" gets, or how many feel - without bothering to say so - that the library facilities and services leave little room for improvement. What "FEEDBACK" does give us is a basis for future opinion surveys, and a strong hint that certain policies are worth reviewing. The suggestion board started as an experiment, but there is every reason to continue it as a permanent feature of the library.

## LOCAL INTERLIBRARY LOAN SERVICE

A more generous interlibrary loan code has been adopted by the libraries at U.B.C., Simon Fraser University, and the University of Victoria. It will become effective on January 3, 1973.

The new code will apply only to loans among the three local university libraries, but for these it will replace the somewhat restrictive code observed nationally and internationally.

Under the new regional code, "any type of library material, regardless of format, needed for the purpose of study, instruction, information or research, may be requested...." While the lending library may still decline to lend items that are in heavy current demand or limited for some good reason to use on the premises, every effort will be made to share such resources with the other local libraries.

For the first time as general practice, undergraduates will also be eligible to request materials, provided the items requested are available from Simon Fraser or the University of Victoria. Except in special cases, this hasn't been possible through traditional interlibrary loan agreements - obviously, large research libraries outside the Province are reluctant to lend our undergraduates materials that should be available locally. And yet, more and more frequently, undergraduates have been asking for materials either not held or unavailable at a given moment. Local cooperation appears, in many instances, to be the most effective answer.

The code aims to improve service to users at all three libraries by permitting freer access to collections. While it will certainly result in increased borrowing, especially by undergraduates, the change will not be significant enough to affect use of U.B.C.'s library by our own students and faculty, nor will the costs of the increased traffic be unreasonable (at U.B.C., requests received from Simon Fraser and Victoria are handled by a special staff unit, and all costs are absorbed by those two universities). Introduction of the code is, however, a significant step in the direction of permitting wider use of extremely expensive resources.

Copies of the new code can be obtained through the Interlibrary Loan Office.

## SEDGEWICK TO OPEN SOON

Believe it or not, the new Sedgewick Library is finally going to open. After six years of planning and building, the 3.8 million dollar "underground" undergraduate library will open its doors to the students and faculty of UBC on January 3rd, 1973.

Sedgewick Library is only one of a large number of undergraduate libraries which have been built in North America during the past twenty-five years. The idea of a separate library designed solely for the needs of undergraduate students first became a reality with the completion of the Lamont Library at Harvard University in 1949. Since then, more than twenty undergraduate libraries have been built on campuses in Canada and the U.S. Some of the best known, perhaps, are at Stanford, University of Illinois, University of Michigan, and Cornell. The closest one to us is the one at the University of Washington, which was just completed in December, 1971.

UBC's own undergraduate library technically began in 1964, when the University Librarian suggested that the College Library, serving only first and second year students be expanded to serve all undergraduate

students (first through fourth year). He also suggested that the facility be named after Dr. Garnett Sedgewick, who was Head of the English Department from 1920 to 1948, and for whom a reading room in the Main Library had been named. The Board accepted the Librarian's ideas, and in 1964 the South Wing of the Main Library became the Sedgewick Undergraduate Library.

Since then, Sedgewick's book collection, geared to the courses and related interests of UBC's undergraduates, has grown to 135,000 volumes, with a staff of seven librarians and twenty-three library assistants to help students use the library. It might be interesting to those who use Sedgewick often (and even to those who don't) to see how we compare in certain ways to some of the other undergraduate libraries in North America. Among the twelve major undergraduate libraries, Sedgewick ranks first in number of books circulated, first in total expenditure for books, first in weeding the collection of outdated material, third in total reference questions asked during the year, and fifth in number of professional hours at the reference desk. (These statistics were gathered by the Undergraduate Libraries Newsletter in 1970).

As these statistics help to show, much time and energy has gone into developing the quality of materials and service available to udnergraduates in Sedgewick Library. In an attempt to provide the best possible physical facilities for this material and service in the new library, librarians in Sedgewick and the Main Library and other consultants spent many months of careful and creative planning with the architects. The needs of UBC's undergraduate students were kept constantly in mind, and two questionnaires were used to gauge students' opinions about what they would like to see in a new library.

When all was said and done, it was decided that the new library would be built under the Main Mall, using the eight oak trees (which had once been considered obstacles to building in this location) as a major part of the design. Even before construction began, the new Sedgewick won a design award from the *Canadian Architect Yearbook, 1970*.

> "A most impressive solution to a very complex problem. The very simple structure of the building totally integrated with the landscaping produced the least possible interference with existing buildings or surroundings and yet improves the functions of each. This is a superb example of architectural ingenuity and humility." (Professor Douglas Shadbolt, The *Canadian Architect Yearbook, 1970*, p. 46).

The inside of the new Sedgewick Library has been as carefully designed as the outside. An attempt has been made to balance materials and color tones so that the overall impression is one of integration with the outside landscape, accented with vivid colors and bold patterns. Rough cedar dividers and the green carpet and pale green study carrels provide a pleasing contrast to the four-color supergraphic on the wall and the deep gold of the shelving and counter tops. One of the most interesting aspects of the inside design is the variety of study spaces available. The questionnaires filled out by students indicated that one of the things each student wanted most of all when studying was his own space clearly defined. This was kept in mind by the architects, and students will have their choice of many different kinds of study spaces, made of a variety of materials, located in a variety of areas throughout the building. There are also numerous carpeted lounging areas for relaxing.

The students were also kept in mind when services were planned for Sedgewick. Available in the new library will be vending machines for candy and beverages, a typing room with free typewriter use, an enlarged browsing paperback collection located in various lounging areas, a newspaper clipping file in the reference area, some microfilm editions of various periodicals, a suggestion box, and numerous other facilities which we hope will help make things run smoothly for the students. The Wilson Recordings Collection will also be housed in the new building.

This, then, is the Sedgewick Library. It has gone through many stages of growth from its beginning in 1964, through the years of planning for the new library, to the new building which will open on January 3rd, 1973. We want to encourage everyone, especially UBC undergraduate students, to come in and take a look at it. Hopefully you will feel like staying and taking advantage of all new services and facilities available!

## BUCHBUNKER BECOMES PLEASURE PALACE

Librarians in the UBC Main Library, as well as those from further afield, have watched with interest and some envy the progress of the almost completed Sedgewick library as it evolved from an underground buchbunker into what turns out to be something more akin to Kubla Khan's pleasure dome. A couple of weeks ago Orientation librarians from UBC, Simon Fraser and the University of Victoria toured the 'library with the racing stripe' (or 'supergraphic', as Sedgewickians call this gaudy pennant). As a counterweight to the sober account given of Sedgewick above, it should be noted that the sorts of things which seemed to get the most attention were the hexagonal honey-comb 'study cubicles', the plush effect of the various padded and upholstered nooks and gathering places, and the varying shades of tinted lighting (culminating in 'pleasure pink' in the staff lounge). Of course, it may be different when they get the books in.

## MODERN POETRY MANUSCRIPTS BY INTERLIBRARY LOAN

The Center for Research Libraries informs us that it has recently completed microfilming the modern poetry manuscript collection of the State University of New York at Buffalo. The collection contains manuscripts, work-sheets, letters, and so forth, of twentieth century poets writing in English. Notable are the holdings of manuscripts of James Joyce, William Carlos Williams, Robert Graves and Dylan Thomas. The card catalogue of the collection and the special catalogue of the Joyce Collection have also been filmed. A positive print of the 119 reels of the collection itself, and of the 12 reels of catalogue, is available on loan from the Center. Those interested in making use of this collection should contact the Interlibrary Loan Division of the UBC Library.

Students of Canadian history may also be interested to learn that the Center for Research Libraries has received the following consular despatches on microfilm from the U.S. National Archives:

Consular despatches. Montreal, 1850-1906.
Charlottetown, 1857-1906.
Halifax, 1833-1906.
Quebec City, 1861-1906.
Ottawa, 1877-1906.

Once again, these despatches may be obtained through Interlibrary Loan by any interested students or faculty members.

## MARJORIE SMITH LIBRARY

The Marjorie Smith (Social Work) Library will be changing its hours of operation, effective January 3, 1973. From that date until the end of Spring term, it will be open from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Monday and Thursday, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday. As in the past, the Library will remain closed on Sundays.

## SERIALS WANTED

The following out-of-print journals are needed to complete the library set:

*B.C. Lumberman*, vol. 56 no. 5 (May, 1972).

*Commentary* (N.Y.), vol. 51 no. 1 (1971).

*Scholastic Coach*, v. 41 no. 5 (January, 1972).

If you can help, please contact Graham Elliston, Bibliography Division, Main Library, (Local 2304).

## BUDGET PROBLEMS WITH PERIODICALS

In the past few years, increases to the book budget have not kept pace with the inflation. Meanwhile, periodical prices have been increasing rapidly. Accordingly, the decision has been taken that no new subscriptions to periodicals will be authorized for the UBC Library System unless a title (or titles) in the same field and of equivalent cost can be cancelled. Lists of titles will be compiled for possible action in May 1973 for cancellation to take effect with the first issue in 1974. It is hoped that a proposed national lending library for periodicals to be started by the Centre for Research Libraries, Chicago, and to function in close cooperation with the National Lending Library at Boston Spa, England, will in some measure alleviate the difficulties posed by these budgetary measures. The CRL lending library is to begin functioning in 1973.

Editor: Tom Eadie Information & Orientation Division