SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

# ubc library bulletin

No. 127 October 31, 1975

## CAN YOU HAVE A LIBRARY WITHOUT BOOKS?

The book budget is in bad shape. It is divided into many funds for general acquisitions and for more specialized fields. Some of these funds are seriously over-committed to the point that a large part of next year's budget will be necessary to cover the commitments and it has been recommended that ordering on most funds be stopped until further notice. The most important of these funds, in terms of the number of people they affect, are Continuations, Periodicals, Main Multiple Copies and Replacements, Reference Books, Research Books, Government Publications, New Subscriptions, Sedgewick Current, and Woodward Budget Year Books.

The question of periodical subscription cancellations has also become even more pressing. We have in the past tried to keep people happy about getting fewer books or losing subscriptions, but the time has come when things are going to hurt as book requests are refused and both multiple and even unique periodical subscriptions are curtailed.

The Senate Library Committee meets during the early part of November and from their meeting should come more definite word on the situation.

There is one good thing about all this--with fewer new books coming in, we should be right on top of things in processing. And we'll have time to get to know the books we've already got.

## SIXTY YEARS AGO

In 1915/16, the Library's budget for all purposes, building, salaries, collections, supplies, and expenses, was $7,452.01.

## CAN YOU HAVE A LIBRARY WITHOUT 3 x 5 (OR 7.5 x 12.5) CARDS?

A meeting of division heads was called October 28 by the Head Librarian at which the present crisis in card catalogue maintenance in North America was discussed. (In case you hadn't noticed that there was a crisis happening, it manifests itself as Author/title Catalogue drawers bristling with unrevised filing, outrageous filing errors below the rods, and, in unluckier libraries, yards and yards of cards waiting to be filed.)

It was the expressed consensus of the meeting that the decision to close off our card catalogue should be made and that a concrete proposal of alternatives should be presented to the same group so that they could react with the problems they foresee arising in each of their differing situations. The proposal should be produced as soon as possible.

The possibility of closure of the card catalogue based on imprint date 1975, with 1976 publications being listed in the new alternative mode was mentioned. Mc Elrod stated that with the application of the Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules at the Library of Congress (remember the article on desuperimposition?) LC cards which we now use to make our own catalogue cards probably could no longer be economically integrated into the existing card catalogue. The Head Librarian and the Assistant Librarian for Technical Services seemed to feel that Computer Output Microfiche (COM) (remember those initials, they may be more important to the library world for a while than even LC) was an alternative which took advantage of automated methods and was both financially and technologically possible in the short run. Computer terminals for public use or, in other words, an on-line catalogue, were seen as the ultimate solution when and if they become financially and technologically feasible.

Basil remarked that most of us have learned to drive cars and operate typewriters (and even to use the Circulation printouts) and he felt that he could learn to operate a computer terminal within an hour if someone took the time to instruct him.

SENDING MATERIAL TO STORAGE?

Circulation, when it puts books in storage for a location other than the Main stacks, simply takes care of the physical handling. No list is made of the material and no records are changed or kept by circulation. It is up to the location sending material to storage to make a list of that material so that Cataloguing may change the shelf list and location file records. The lists submitted to Cataloguing should be addressed to Added Copies and should be arranged in call number order. The best form is a Xerox of the location's shelf-list cards for the items being sent to storage. Queries about this procedure should be addressed to Carole Wisdom (local 5951).

Students are understandably upset when they have walked to an outlying branch following the information on the location file card, and find that the material could have been acquir simply by a request at the Main loan desk.

CATALOGUING-IN-PUBLICATION

If you've been carefully examining new books in the last five or six years, you've noticed, on the verso of many title pages, printed information which resembles catalogue card entries. Publishers and libraries have joined forces to speed library cataloguing by assuring the appearance--inside books, accessible and indelible--of all relevant data.

In the States, this process has been coordinated by the Library of Congress, and Cataloguing-in-Publication, or CIP as it is usually known, is widespread. Some Canadian publishers have been participating in the CIP programme, but only a few. This summer the National Library announced that they would undertake this Fall to oversee a Canadian CIP project. At present the project is awaiting approval of the budget drawn up by the National Library and presented to the federal government.

The Canadian programme will be built on a foundation laid some years ago by the three B.C. university libraries. In 1970, U.B.C., U. Vic, and S.F.U. began exchanging catalogue cards in an effort to reduce expensive, time-consuming "original", or in-house, cataloguing. Soon, the group had grown to include ten libraries across Canada, each "rush" cataloguing and dispatching cards for titles within a certain segment of the alphabet, or in certain languages or type specialties. As the convenience of the American CIP program became apparent, some members of the shared cataloguing group (U.B.C., U. Vic, and York) offered to supply CIP data to Canadian publishers for inclusion in their books. Some publishers took up the offer, but, again, only a few.

The coordination now planned by the National Library will ensure more participation by publishers, and more comprehensive coverage. The Bibliothèque Nationale du Québec will supply data for French-language titles, York University will supply data for English-language titles published in the east, and U.B.C. will supply data for English- and other language titles published in the west.

A useful off-shoot of the project is the new Forthcoming books section of Quill & Quire. Based on CIP data submitted to them by the cataloguing agencies, the first forthcoming books column appeared in this month's issue.

DISPLAYS

"The world of chess and its literature" is the current display in the fifth floor case outside the Ridington Room. Nick Omelusik has provided books written by world champions from 1866 to the present day, as well as information on international grand masters, chess player ratings, systems of notation and a demonstration of the most famous single move ever made on a chess board. You'll also find books for the novice or the master, or even the observer.

In the Main entrance hall are two new displays in for a short time. On the north wall David Varnes shows some of his photographs taken during registration week; on the south wall Ann Reynolds exhibits information on Amnesty International, a group whose objective as a human rights movement is the release of prisoners of conscience, among whom are many academics.

FOUL AIR

The Library Administration has received a petition signed by one hundred and forty-eight staff members, urging it "to prohibit smoking in all work areas of the library, for the benefit of everyone". Before responding to this petition, the University Librarian would like to hear from the smokers. Individual expressions of opinion are solicited, and those sending notes (unsigned if you want) to Basil on this subject should include suggestions on ways and means of reconciling the interests of smokers and non-smokers.

The following smokers have submitted their ideas to start things coming:

Julie Stevens, Humanities, writes:

If a smoker shares an office with others, he or she should consider their attitudes and comfort. In the lounge, if someone objects strongly to my cigarette smoke, they have the option of moving. In an office, however, people do not have the option and they should be considered.

Mavis Balshaw, LC Cataloguing, writes:

Despite being a confirmed smoker, I must agree with the principle behind the petition to prohibit smoking in work areas of the Library. Smoking is a personal decision--one which should not be imposed on others--even second-hand. Therefore, smoking should be restricted to designated areas. Let's face it, the harder you make it for the smoker, the better it is for everyone's health. However, human rights must be considered too, and smokers should be allowed to degrade the atmosphere somewhere in the Library. The coffee room is the obvious place because there one can choose whether one wants to subject oneself to a polluted atmosphere--a choice not available in work areas. Meanwhile, if you can't stand the smoke-laden air in your work area, refresh your lungs on smokeless Floor 7!

Laine Ruus, Social Sciences Division, writes:

Once upon a time, smokers and non-smokers co-existed quite comfortably. Unfortunately, this idyllic situation has changed; it has become a war, a war declared by the non-smokers, provoked by the non-smokers, and waged daily, stridently, incessantly by the non-smokers. AND WE HAVE BEEN STYLED THE VILLAINS IN THIS PIECE! Not content with mild, polite expressions of disapproval, of the great-aunt Emily genre, today's non-smokers are loud, raucous, and RUDE! They resort to underhanded tactics such as opening the windows wide in the midst of winter, taking ashtrays to use as saucers under flower-pots, having public areas segregated, and having smoking totally banned in such places as municipal buses, stores, theatres, auditoriums, libraries, conference rooms, etc., and most annoyingly, continually exhorting one to stop smoking "for your own good, dear". (in this category it is the self-righteous ex-smoker who is the worst).

Further, non-smokers seldom admit all the direct and indirect benefits accruing to them from smokers: Federal tax revenues ($565,000,000 in 1973--alcohol contributed only $426,000,000 in the same year; what would happen to income tax if government didn't get this revenue?); employment; associated businesses and industries such as advertising, tobacconists, vending machine distributors, and manufacturers, ash-tray, lighter, and match manufacturers, paper industry, and all those health and health-related industries.

As to the effects of smoking on the health of the smoker and those around her/him--granted, there are probably some detrimental effects to the smoker's health (but you will never catch me admitting it). But how many other things, in which we indulge equally voluntarily, are not equally if not more detrimental to our health--such as consumption of birth control pills, engaging in pregnancy, consumption of alcohol (to much greater potential moral and physical harm to those around us), of red dye #6, driving automobiles, etc.

The news media recently reported a study done at one of the research institutes at Harvard University on the effects of smokey environments on health. The researchers found that a person would have to stay in the smokiest cocktail lounge they could find for 100 consecutive hours in order to derive the same benefits from the atmosphere as a smoker does from the average filter cigarette.

My point is this: I enjoy smoking; I will not quit smoking; if I harm my health, that is my right; I am not harming your health to any appreciable degree.

Non-smokers stand vociferously on their rights and claim to have the RIGHT to breathe non-smokey air; I have an equal right to breathe smokey air. Non-smokers have the right not to smoke; I have the right to smoke. Non-smokers demand that those who insist on having a cigarette should leave the premises in order to smoke; I say that perhaps those who insist on a need for some fresh air leave the premises to get it. Non-smokers claim that smoke causes them physical discomfort; it causes me acute physical discomfort not to smoke.

However the battle lines are drawn, I think the saddest aspect of the whole situation is that it should have become a battle at all, that it should give rise to a great number of unpleasant situations and a bad feeling all around. Surely it is a problem to which there can be some kind of amicable solution.

In the Social Sciences Division office, non-smokers now outnumber smokers 5 to 3 (it will be an even 4 to 4 again in the New Year). Here as elsewhere the non-smokers expressed their discomfort, politely. The situation has been resolved as follows: the office is composed of two separate offices, one inner and one outer. Smokers are invited to retire to the inner, Lois's office to smoke during office hours, so as to keep the smoking separated from the non-smokers. We can take our work into the inner office and continue with it in comfort. It causes some inconvenience to the smokers as there are of course times when we cannot use the inner office, but at least we no longer have to suffer the verbal and non-verbal criticism as earlier. It is a compromise that seems to work to everyone's satisfaction, not an ideal solution but a workable one.

## ANNOUNCMENTS

### GIFTS AND EXCHANGES RECORD SALE

In the last issue of the Bulletin we advertised the sale of used lp records at 50¢ per disc. The response has been quite good (someone was heard to mutter "fantastic") so we now have another consigment to offer at the same price. This latest batch is from the Wilson Library so is more varied than the previous one. If it sounds interesting, drop into the Gifts & Exchanges Division and have a look. All money collected is put into the library book funds.

### GOOD NEWS

Recycling has started again, and all types of paper will be accepted. So collect up your newspapers, magazines, print-outs, cards and scraps, and bring them to the pick-up area on the 2nd floor of the Main Library, near the mail room. Pick-ups will be made on Mondays.

If other libraries, or individual people are interested in recycling, the man to contact is Jack Anders, 224-0278.

### QUESTIONS WANTED

The Women's Communication Centre, 392 Markham Street, Toronto, Ontario M6G 2K9 has compiled a core collection of resources, lists and referrals for women's groups and issues. They would like to receive questions and problems in this area in order to test their ability to provide information. Until December 1, 1975, they will be receiving queries either at the above address or at telephone number (416) 924-4728. So, female persons, if you would like to know how to convince your stubborn male acquaintances that being afraid to walk on the campus at night lowers the quality of life, or where to go to learn karate, give them a try.

### UPWARD MOBILITY

The following recruitment notice has been received by the Library. For details and contact addresses, check the publications shelf in the I&O Division.

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT ALBANY. Bibliographer, Business, Economics, and Public Administration. (Deadline: December 31, 1975) (Perhaps the postal strike will be over by then.)

### WANTED

The following out-of-print items are needed to complete the Library's holdings:

CANADIAN JOURNAL OF POLITICAL SCIENCE. 1974, no. 1.
CANADIAN LITERATURE. Any issues, especially recent ones.
INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL (Toronto). vol. 27, no.1 (1972), vol. 28, no. 3 (1973).
PRISM INTERNATIONAL (Vancouver). Any issues, 1971-1974.
QUEST: CANADA'S FIRST MAGAZINE FOR MEN. Any issues, 1972-1974.
QUEEN'S QUARTERLY. vol. 77, no.1 1970).
SOLEIL DE COLOMBIE (Vancouver). vol. 6, no. 51 (April 26, 1974).
WESTERN LIVING (later, WESTERN LIVING AND VANCOUVER LIFE). vol.1, no. 6 (1971).

### NEW APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, TRANSFERS, RESIGNATIONS

These will appear in the next issue of the Bulletin.