

University of British Columbia Library Bulletin

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Vancouver, B.C.

The four week interval since the last appearance of this Bulletin has been a period of intense activity on the vacation front. Those left holding the fort while others were away have tended to carry on with their work and to defer major decisions for the return of their sun-tanned (and, in at least one case, bearded) colleagues. Here, then, is the weekly Bulletin for August.

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VACATIONS for Administrative Staff:

- Mr. Stuart-Stubbs - will be away from August 19-23
- Mr. Bell - returned to work on August 12, no further holidays
- Mr. Hamilton - returning to work on September 3
- Mr. Watson - holidays finished
- Mr. McInnes - returning to work on August 19
- Mr. MacDonald - returned to work on August 14, no further holidays

PACIFIC NORTHWEST Library Association Conference:

This Association of librarians from Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, and British Columbia is meeting at the Bayshore Inn, August 13-16. As a by-product, many visitors are expected. A visit to UBC is scheduled for Thursday afternoon, 2:30-5:00 p.m.; the delegates will simply take a charter bus out from the hotel and get off to wander the campus at will. No conducted tour is planned.

Many UBC librarians will be attending the conference on Thursday and Friday, which should help to explain some of the staff absences on those two days.

STAFF ROOM Vending Machines:

Recently a new contractor won the bid to install vending machines on campus. He has put a cigarette and a candy machine into the Staff Room already, and has been asked by the University's Purchasing Agent to follow this up with machines for soft drinks and soup.

ACQUISITIONS DIVISION - Automation:

The automation of the Acquisitions Division is proceeding as planned. As of August 1st, all new orders are being typed on a Flexowriter with the requisition forms and process slips being filed by order number into one of the division's new tubs.

Until the next step has been achieved, which is to generate an alphabetic "on-order/in-process" listing from the Flexowriter tape, a copy of the multiple order form is still being filed into the old Order File. This means that, as far as the outsider is concerned, the Acquisitions Division is functioning as usual.

Any changes involving the use of the Acquisitions Division's files will be announced and explained clearly as they become effective.

The ISAD/LC MARC Institute on Computer Technology:

On July 18-19 an institute was conducted in Seattle by the Information Systems Office of the Library of Congress and the Information Science and Automation Division of the American Library Association (hence the abbreviation "ISAD/LC").

The program of the institute was made up of four parts: 1) a general session involving the hundred registrants on the purpose and history of the MARC pilot project; 2) three sessions of 35 persons each on the MARC II format, input, and output; 3) four sessions with 25 participants given by people from libraries which have experimented with the MARC I tapes; and, 4) a general session on costs and evaluation of the program.

Participants sought answers to questions about the possible benefits, problems, and costs involved in making use of the machine-readable cataloguing data that can be bought from the Library of Congress after October 1, 1968. Attending from the UBC Library were Gerry Dobbin, Mc Elrod, Steve Johnson, Bob MacDonald, Nick Omelusik, Bill Parker and Bill Watson.

SERIALS DIVISION - Annual Serials Listing:

Those who use the annual cumulation, the next issue of which is to appear in September, must remember that this listing is still only a visible by-product of the current drive to put all the Library's serial records onto magnetic tape - it is not an end in itself. At this stage the emphasis is on the collecting of data about the titles themselves, and in this effort the Serials Division solicits the help of all those who find errors in the new listing. Please continue to send corrections to the Division for attention, but do not expect an up-to-date inventory of bound holdings until the project is in its final stage, that is, when the Cataloguing Division's Shelflist has been incorporated into the system.

Meanwhile, remember that it is still necessary to use the annual cumulation in conjunction with the Location File and the Main Card Catalogue to get a complete picture of the Library's serial holdings.

RESOURCES of Local Bookstores:

Since local booksellers do not generally publish catalogues, it is difficult to know whether they have books of interest to the Library. To make an estimate of local resources and to establish relationships with booksellers, Mr. Stuart-Stubbs and Mr. Elliston visited ten stores in two days, took notes on 202 books and, after checking, purchased 67 books at an average price of about \$2.50 which is considerably below the average costs from catalogues.

UBC LIBRARY NEWS:

The first issue of the new newsletter to Faculty is now being distributed on Campus. It is similar in format to this bulletin, but is not limited in size; the current issue runs to two sheets.

MAIL ROOM Mystery:

Library supplies for branch libraries directed through the Mail Room sometimes fail to arrive at their destinations, or arrive in partial or damaged state. No one can understand why a person would want to cut rolls of binding tape into pieces or take several cartons of marked envelopes, but this is the sort of thing that has been happening - which seem to indicate that that sort of person does, indeed, exist.