

National Library News

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RESOURCE SHARING

National Library Purchases Files from A-G Canada Ltd.

The National Library of Canada has purchased from A-G Canada Ltd. copies of more than eight million bibliographic records representing the holdings of 46 Canadian libraries (see sidebar). The records are part of the CATSS database that was acquired by A-G Canada Ltd. from ISM Information Systems Management Manitoba Corporation when A-G bought ISM's Library Information Services Division in June 1997.

Under the terms of the purchase agreement between the National Library and A-G Canada, the National Library now has the right to load the records into its AMICUS database as part of the national union catalogue and to provide access to the records for resource-sharing purposes through its Access AMICUS service. Also covered by the agreement between A-G Canada and the National Library is the reciprocal exchange of new records and record updates to these selected files, and the designation of A-G Canada's database as a node in the virtual Canadian union catalogue (vCuc).

The files purchased from A-G Canada were selected by the National Library to complement the approximately 500 library files currently represented in the AMICUS database. The file selection was based on established criteria for inclusion in the national union catalogue. The new acquisitions cover academic, public,

government, and special libraries from all regions of Canada, and vary in size from files of a few thousand records to one file of almost three million records.

The purchase of the files is consistent with the Library's key role in facilitating resource sharing among Canadian libraries: as noted by National Librarian Marianne Scott, the CATSS database has been for many years an important part of the resource-sharing infrastructure. "For some time there has been concern about the possibility of the database being sold to interests outside Canada and what that might mean for the continued viability of the national resource-sharing infrastructure. With the National Library's acquisition of a copy of key files from the CATSS database, and agreement with A-G Canada on reciprocal exchange of file updates, I believe we have the kind of 'insurance policy' we need to ensure





Files Acquired from A-G Canada Ltd.

Federal Libraries

Canadian Broadcasting Corporation
 Canadian Coast Guard College
 Canadian Forces College
 Canadian Heritage, Canadian Conservation Institute
 Canadian Museum of Civilization
 Canadian Museum of Nature
 Canadian Space Agency
 Citizenship and Immigration Canada
 Foreign Affairs and International Trade
 Justice Canada
 National Defence, Defence Research Establishment Atlantic
 National Defence, Director General Operational Research
 National Defence, Records and Library Services
 National Film Board
 National Museum of Science and Technology
 Natural Resources Canada, CANMET
 Revenue Canada

Academic Libraries

École des hautes études commerciales
 École polytechnique de Montréal
 Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (O.I.S.E.)
 Université de Montréal
 Université de Sherbrooke, Bibliothèque des sciences humaines
 University of Manitoba, Elizabeth Dafoe Library
 University of Toronto, Faculty of Information Studies
 University of Toronto, John P. Robarts Research Library

University of Toronto, St. Michael's College

University of Toronto, Trinity College

Public Libraries

Halifax Regional Library
 Ottawa Public Library
 Saskatoon Public Library

Provincial Government Libraries

Alberta Education, Materials Resource Centre for the Visually Impaired
 Bibliothèque nationale du Québec
 Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Citizenship, Manitoba Legislative Library
 Ontario Hydro
 Ontario Ministry of Finance
 Ontario Ministry of Transportation
 Royal Ontario Museum Library
 Saskatchewan Provincial Library

Law Libraries

Alberta Justice, Law Society Libraries
 Alberta Justice, Provincial Court Libraries
 British Columbia Courthouse Library Society
 Justice Institute of British Columbia
 University of Toronto, Bora Laskin Law Library
 University of Victoria, Diana M. Priestly Law Library

Health Sciences Libraries

McGill University, Osler Library of History of Medicine
 University of Manitoba, Neil John Maclean Health Sciences Library

National Library

News



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The National Library of Canada's logo is based on a detail from the mural "La Connaissance/Knowledge" created by Alfred Pellán for the Reference Room of the National Library.



effective ongoing support for resource sharing within Canada.”

“Retaining this valuable collection of data as a Canadian resource was of paramount importance to us,” said William Kliss, chief operating officer of A-G Canada and Auto-Graphics, the parent company. “That’s the reason we established A-G Canada, and we are very pleased to be

recognized by the National Library as a node in the virtual Canadian union catalogue, vCuc. A-G Canada now offers access to those millions of records and holdings via the Internet by using the Web, which offers improved flexibility, simplified communication management, and economies of scale. Additionally, we are now providing our *Impact/ONLINE* resource-sharing

product in Canada, furthering our objective of improving all services to Canadian libraries.”

Loading the purchased files into the AMICUS database will be a major endeavour. More information about the project’s development will be published in future issues of *National Library News*. ♦



UNION LISTS OF SERIALS IN CANADA:

Current Status

by Emilie Lowenberg,
Chief, Union Catalogue Division

BACKGROUND

In 1963, the National Library of Canada began to compile a union catalogue of serials in the social sciences and humanities. The Library published its first union list of serials, *Periodicals in the Social Sciences and Humanities Currently Received by Canadian Libraries*, in 1968. Through the 1970s, work continued on automating the union list of serials in cooperation with the National Science Library, now the Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information (CISTI). It was during these early years that the Library began to forward union catalogue reports for scientific serials to CISTI for processing.

CISTI published its first *Union List of Scientific Serials in Canadian Libraries (ULSSCL)* in 1957. By 1980, the Library’s union catalogue operations had been completely automated thanks to the the Library’s DOBIS system, and the Library published, in microfiche, the *Union List of Serials in the Social Sciences and Humanities Held by Canadian Libraries (ULSSHCL)*. Also in 1980, CISTI began using DOBIS to maintain and produce *ULSSCL*, switching to

AMICUS after its implementation in 1995. Thus, since the 1980s, *ULSSCL*, in printed and microfiche form, and *ULSSHCL* (later entitled *CANUC:S*) have been based on serials data from the Library’s online union catalogue.

CISTI WITHDRAWS FROM LIST ACTIVITY

In February 1997, CISTI advised approximately 300 libraries reporting serials for *ULSSCL* that CISTI would withdraw, as of April 1, 1997, from union list activity, citing budgetary pressures and a refocussing of CISTI’s priorities.

CISTI staff contacted reporting libraries between March and April 1997. If appropriate, libraries were asked to contact the National Library to make arrangements to begin reporting their scientific serial holdings. About one-third of these libraries already had arrangements for reporting their other holdings to the Library’s AMICUS system.

LIBRARY EXPANDS SERIALS ACTIVITY

As soon as CISTI advised the National Library of its decision to withdraw from

union list activity, the Library began working to accommodate the CISTI reporting libraries. It was decided that, to the extent that resources permitted, the Library would endeavour to integrate the former CISTI reporting libraries into its union catalogue operations. Canadian libraries were assured that their serials holdings data would remain in the AMICUS database, and the National Library has advised libraries that its resources will be focussed on maintaining AMICUS as an effective tool for supporting interlibrary loan.

FOLLOW-UP WITH REPORTING LIBRARIES

Over the past year, Library staff have contacted representatives of all the CISTI reporting libraries that have not yet made arrangements to report their holdings of scientific serials to the Library. The National Library is pleased that about half of these libraries are now reporting, or will be doing so in the near future. Slightly more than 10 percent of the remaining libraries have indicated that, for various reasons, they will not continue to report updates to AMICUS. A further five percent have closed or merged with another library. With regard to the remaining libraries (approximately 35 percent), it is not yet certain whether they will continue to report or not. Over the next few months, Library staff will continue to communicate with these libraries.



To help offset some of the Library's costs in assuming CISTI's union list activity, CISTI is providing assistance that gives the Library the equivalent of four person-years throughout the fiscal years of 1997-1998 and 1998-1999. Libraries that had been reporting manually to CISTI are being encouraged to begin reporting electronically to the Library by using MARA (MACHINE-Readable Accessions) or the Access AMICUS Update Locations function within the next year, while these additional resources are still available.

UPDATING THE DATABASE

The National Library, CISTI, and other Canadian libraries share a conviction that the union catalogue must be kept current and accurate to support interlibrary loan and document delivery. This requires regular reports to AMICUS of holdings changes and new

acquisitions. A corollary is, of course, the timely addition of updated information to the database.

To respond to the extra demands of processing the data, the Library has adopted several approaches. We are encouraging libraries to report via MARA or via the holdings update function on AMICUS (there is no longer a charge for using the Access AMICUS Update Locations function). Both reporting methods make it easier for Library staff to process serial-holdings updates. For more than two years, the Library has kept up-to-date with loading of current files submitted by MARA libraries, including CISTI.

PARTICIPATING IN RESOURCE SHARING

The National Library's commitment to maintaining effective support for resource-sharing activities in Canada has been reaffirmed during numerous contacts with Canadian libraries over

the past year. However, effective resource sharing needs active participation and cooperation from all participants. Libraries that have not yet made arrangements with the National Library for updating their scientific serial holdings in AMICUS are invited to do so. The National Library looks forward to working with Canadian libraries to ensure that the maximum benefits and advantages of sharing our serial resources are available to all.

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LIBRARY COMMUNITY

CANADIAN INITIATIVE ON DIGITAL LIBRARIES (CIDL):

Update

by Gwynneth Evans, *National and International Programs*
and Paula Tozer, *Information Technology Services*

The initial meeting of the Steering Committee of the Canadian Initiative on Digital Libraries (CIDL) was held on November 27 and 28, 1997 at the National Library of Canada (see "Digital Resources in Canadian Libraries: Analysis of National Library Survey", *National Library News*, vol. 29, no. 6, June 1997, pp. 1-7 and "National

Consultation on Digital Collections: Meeting Report", July/August 1997, pp. 1-4). The Steering Committee was formed in October following the results of a ballot distributed to full CIDL members. Committee members are: Pam Bjornson, Canadian Institute for Historical Microreproductions

(CIHM); Claude Bonnelly, Université Laval; Aldyth Holmes, Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information (CISTI); Ernie Ingles, University of Alberta Library; Carole Moore, University of Toronto, Robarts Library; Marianne Scott, National Library of

Canada; and John Teskey, University of New Brunswick, Harriet Irving Library.

The focus of the meeting was to review issues, determine priorities and decide on the next steps. Ernie Ingles of the University of Alberta was elected to assume the role of meeting chairperson.

ISSUES AND PRIORITIES FOR CIDL

The discussion on issues was based on the results of the CIDL membership survey distributed in October 1997. It was agreed that a coordinated approach to digitization is needed and that CIDL can act as the coordinating body. This approach is essential to ensure that long-term access and preservation requirements for digitized material are addressed. As well, it was agreed that CIDL's focus should be to develop



FOLLOW-UP

Canadian digital content, and that adherence to established standards is essential. The survey also indicated that a number of libraries are interested in pursuing digitization projects based on their local history collections.

Three priority areas of activity were identified during the meeting:

- Production/methodology for creating digital resources
- Organizational/access issues (metadata)
- Promotion/communications strategy

FEDERAL TASK FORCE ON DIGITIZATION

National Librarian Marianne Scott, co-chair of the Federal Task Force on Digitization, provided a brief overview of that body's work. She pointed out that although the Federal Task Force includes strong representation from national cultural agencies, it is focussed on digitization of government information that includes electronic publishing. The objective of the Task Force is to develop a framework for federal digitization based on the consideration of five key areas: accessibility to digitized content, selection of materials for digitization, common issues concerning intellectual property, identification of standards and best practices, and funding strategies for digital conversion.

The Task Force's final report was completed in December 1997, and recommends further coordinated work within the government and the development of a central fund for selected digitization initiatives. Co-chairs Jacques Lyrette (National Research Council) and Marianne Scott have sent the final report to the ministers of Industry Canada and the Department of Canadian Heritage for their consideration.

SCHOOLNET DIGITAL COLLECTIONS PROGRAM

Nora Hockin of Industry Canada presented an overview of the SchoolNet Digital Collections Program, emphasizing the Program's success both in creating employment opportunities for Canadian youth and in creating Canadian content on the Information Highway. Industry Canada is looking for alliances and partnerships, and welcomes further discussions with the CIDL group.

DEFINITION OF STRUCTURE

Three Working Groups were established:

- Working Group on Creation and Production Issues, led by Claude Bonnelly, Université Laval
- Working Group on Organizational and Access Issues (metadata), led by John Teskey, University of New Brunswick
- Working Group on Advocacy/Promotional Issues, led by Ernie Ingles, University of Alberta

FINANCIAL AGREEMENT WITH MEMBERS

Members have been asked to sign a Joint Projects Agreement with the National Library of Canada that sets out the terms of membership for the period from December 1997 until December 1998, with an option to continue until December 1999. The proposed agreement was reviewed and suggestions made for revision. The document was sent to CIDL members in December 1997.

The second meeting of the Steering Committee is scheduled for March 1998. The agenda includes a half-day session on advocacy and communications issues to allow the Steering Committee to develop a communications and advocacy plan. Development of the CIDL Web site is continuing, and a short article on CIDL activities appeared in the January issue of *D-Lib Magazine* (<http://www.dlib.org>).

The membership survey indicated that some members are willing to share their experience in developing and managing digital resources. As well, opportunities to form alliances with other groups and initiatives are being explored.

A summary of the responses to the questionnaire is available on the CIDL Web site: <http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/cidl/acte.htm>

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Focus on “Forging Forward”

by Gwynneth Evans,
National and International Programs

“*Forging Forward: National Symposium on Information, Literacy and the School Library in Canada*” was a very successful conference held at the National Library of Canada, November 19-22, 1997.

Sponsored by the National Literacy Secretariat of Human Resources Development and SchoolNet of Industry Canada, the conference was

hosted by the National Library and the Canadian Education Association. Contributing sponsors were World Book Educational Products of Canada, National Book Service, McClelland & Stewart Young Readers, CanebSCO/Ebsco, Micromedia, Carr McLean, Nichols Technology/Athena and University of Victoria Libraries. The keynote speakers, Suzanne de Castell, Ken Haycock, Heather Menzies, Bruce Powe and Lister Sinclair (see sidebar), made thoughtful and distinctive contributions to the conference. Their ideas stimulated group discussion, and were echoed in the exchanges of panelists and participants.

The organizers of the conference, members of the Canadian School Library Association (CSLA) and the Association for Teacher-Librarianship in Canada (ATLC), with the Association pour l'avancement des sciences et des techniques de la documentation (ASTED) and the Association du personnel des services documentaires scolaires (APSDS), intended to define the topics of information, literacy and school libraries and their relationships. Conference participants were invited to analyze the major issues facing school libraries and offer concrete recommendations and actions. Academics, library practitioners, educators, parents, officers from associations and private-sector representatives from education, publishing and information technology

were present to discuss the issues and how best to “forge forward”.

Some of the issues that were raised had been identified by Anne Galler when she conducted a needs survey of teacher librarians as a Fellow of the National Library in 1995 (see

Conference participants were invited to analyze the major issues facing school libraries and offer concrete recommendations and actions.

“Fellow Focusses on School Libraries”, *National Library News*, vol. 28, nos. 3-4, March-April 1996, p. 4). Budgets, staff, policy, the lack of standards and the emerging place of technology were among the concerns noted by those who completed the questionnaire.¹ More than two years later, these same issues were echoed at the conference, although, in many cases, the situation of school librarians has changed quite

dramatically and the use of technology in schools has increased, whether the library is the centre for its use or not.

A second survey conducted by Anne Galler was an international survey on school library policies (or the

lack thereof). The relevance of this investigation had been discussed at the 1994 Pre-Conference Seminar on School Libraries at the annual conference of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA). It is assumed that if there is appropriate infrastructure (legislation or policy, systems and services), then it is probable that a ministry of education has assigned resources to that infrastructure, and that school boards/districts will be assisted in applying or using the infrastructure to set up their own school library programs. Anne Galler found few instances of national public policy, although some professional library associations or the national bibliographic agencies have issued

public statements on the role of school libraries. During the last two years, some nations have demonstrated increased interest in teaching information and computer literacies and in promoting reading to improve the achievements of young people in the formal educational system.

Partly as a result of Ms. Galler's findings and in recognition of UNESCO's work in literacy, learning and the new technologies, the National

What concrete results can be expected from this conference?

Library of Canada has drafted a “School Library Manifesto”. Representatives of CSLA, ATLC, IFLA and the International Association of School Libraries (IASL) have offered their views on the essential aims, goals



and components of a school library program, which have been incorporated into the draft. It is hoped that the document will be approved at the next General Conference of UNESCO in 1999. From the perspective of many professionals, the manifesto provides a broad framework on which nations, regions, provinces and states can build infrastructures.

And, in the meantime, what of "Forging Forward"? What concrete results can be expected from this conference?

The National Library's hope is that a coalition can be built to establish programs that will promote information and computer literacy skills and reading in primary and secondary schools. School libraries are distinctive because of their instructional role: they are responsible for supporting the school's curriculum and contributing to the development of independent learners and decision-makers. The program of both the school and the school library is based on principles of resource-based learning (and those resources include many formats, such as videotapes and computer software) and is designed to achieve the goals of the school.²

It is increasingly evident that education for the 21st century must be based on the concept of lifelong learning, and that, for both individuals and groups, the four "pillars of learning" must include learning to know, to do, to live together, and to be.³ Strong school library programs will assist young people in gaining and applying essential knowledge for creating, gathering, analyzing, using and interpreting information in all aspects of their lives. "Forging Forward" promoted information, literacy and school libraries, which must be priorities for us all.

Keynote Speakers

Bruce W. Powe, York University, Toronto: "Literacy in a Technological Society, Part I"

Author of such acclaimed works as *Outage: A Journey into Electric City*, *The Solitary Outlaw* and *Noise of Time*, the text for the first CD-ROM portrait of Glenn Gould, he has taught in the English Department and the Humanities Division of York University since 1984.

Suzanne de Castell, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver: "New Literacy: From Data and Information to Understanding and Learning"

A professor in the Faculty of Education, she co-directs "GenTech", a project on gender/equity and new information technologies, and is the author/editor of *Literacy, Society and Schooling*, *Language, Authority and Criticism*, and *Radical Interventions*, and is working on a new book, *Scholars, Ink*.

Heather Menzies, Ottawa: "Reinventing School Libraries, Part I"

Adjunct professor at Carleton University and author of six books, including *Women and the Chip* (1981), *Fast Forward and Out of Control: How Technology Is Changing Your Life* (1989) and the best-selling *Whose Brave New World? The Information Highway and the New Economy* (1996)

Lister Sinclair, CBC Radio, Toronto: "Literacy in a Technological Society, Part II"

The host of the CBC radio program "Ideas", he has a long association with the arts in Canada, and has been involved in such productions as *The Nature of Things*, *Shakespeare and Shaw*, *Darwin and the Galapagos* and *A Is for Aardvark*.

Ken Haycock, University of British Columbia, Vancouver: "Reinventing School Libraries, Part II: Alternatives, Models and Options for the Future"

Director of the School of Library, Archival and Information Studies at UBC, he is currently the President of the American Association of School Librarians, Executive Director of the International Association of School Librarianship and President of the Council for Canadian Learning Resources.

Notes

¹ Anne M. Galler, "Canadian School Libraries (Needs) Survey: Analyses and Recommendations", *Feliciter*, February 1997, pp. 24-28.

² Ken Haycock, "Reinventing School Libraries: Alternatives, Models and Options for the Future", paper presented at "Forging Forward", p. 35.

³ *Learning: The Treasure Within: The Delors Commission Report to UNESCO on Education in the 21st Century* (Paris: UNESCO, 1996), pp. 85-96. ♦



SERVICES

BEHIND THE ICY CURTAIN:

Coping with a Natural Disaster

by Karen McGrath,
Development Officer

In common with other institutions in the National Capital Region, the National Library of Canada had just eased its way into the new year when nature brought all ordinary business to a jarring halt on January 8. Although weather forecasters warned that “the ice storm cometh”, no one anticipated such extreme results. As was widely reported

in the media, the storm pummelled eastern Ontario, western Quebec and parts of the Maritimes with such force that massive power outages sent first thousands, then millions, scurrying for matches, candles, flashlights and other emergency equipment. And the National Library did not escape the storm’s power.

As many readers know, the Library’s staff are located in several buildings in the National Capital Region. Most public services staff are at 395 Wellington Street in Ottawa, while acquisitions, cataloguing and systems staff are located across the Ottawa River in one of the federal

buildings in Hull, Quebec. So, when the main hydro line from Montreal to the Outaouais (Western Quebec) was damaged on January 8, Hull was plunged into cold and

darkness, disabling the Library’s systems as well.

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government buildings in Hull, Quebec. So, when the main hydro line from Montreal to the Outaouais (Western Quebec) was damaged on January 8, Hull was plunged into cold and

darkness, disabling the Library’s systems as well. over their listservs, to keep the Library’s users informed of developments.

The restoration effort offered a challenge in itself, since only a few people were authorized to enter the building to work on the systems. Staff

members struggled from Thursday, January 8 through Sunday, January 11 to counter the storm’s effects. However, on Monday, staff learned that Hydro Québec officials had requested that all federal government buildings in Hull remain closed that day, to allow Hydro workers to focus their attention on repairing the main power line between Montreal and Hull. In the end, those buildings remained closed for that entire week. However, by Wednesday, January 14, enough power was available to allow Library staff to restore AMICUS and the Library’s Web site.

Considering the widespread and deeply felt effects of the storm, it was fortunate that the systems were unavailable for only four days. The inevitable inconvenience to users is certainly regretted, but we are very proud of our dedicated staff who worked extremely hard under difficult conditions to get the Library online once more. We also thank those staff who relocated in temporary offices at 395 Wellington Street, and their colleagues in Ottawa who made them welcome.

The great ice storm of January 1998 will long be remembered by those who were affected by it. It is earnestly hoped that it will be long before there is another like it! ♦



THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF CANADA:

A Home Away From Home

by Jim Jackson,

Department of French, Trinity College, Ireland

Having lectured for many years on the literature and culture of Quebec at Trinity College, Dublin, I had long considered Montreal my spiritual home. When I contemplated my sabbatical leave, Montreal was always my preferred destination. With the resources of four university libraries and the *Bibliothèque nationale du Québec* at my

disposal, I felt that I inhabited there the best of all possible worlds. If ever I was tempted to change my venue, it was to Quebec City that I turned.

Then, four years ago, I made a discovery. Seeking to unravel a literary



subterfuge that had deceived readers in Canada and Ireland, I paid my first visit to that imposing building at 395 Wellington Street in Ottawa. I had just arrived from Montreal, and I enquired of a bus driver whether his route took him past the National Library. He gave me a quizzical look.

"Never heard of the place," he answered.

I gave him the address.

"Oh, you mean the National Archives," said he patiently. "Hop on, I'll drop you right outside."

Climbing on board, I pondered: was the existence of the National Library the best-kept secret in Ottawa?

My experience in the national capital was unlike anything I had known before. The wonder I felt on that first visit was akin to that of a young child who has been let loose in a toy store. There was nothing of the drudgery and frustration I had experienced in France's *Bibliothèque nationale* in the 1970s. Ottawa's National Library has been designed with the best interests of the researcher in mind. From the moment I requested a reader's ticket at the front desk I was taken in charge by a succession of staff members who guided me expertly and effortlessly through their own particular domains.

Everything I needed was available, and deliveries were made with an ease that never failed to astound me. Here was a working environment that was second to none — and I have been hooked ever since.

I write these lines having returned home after a two-and-a-half-month stay in Ottawa, from October 1 until December 14, 1997. My research topic was the Irish involvement in the 1837-1838 Rebellion in Lower Canada, and once more the National Library lived up to my high expectations. I needed to consult the two Montreal English-language newspapers, the *Canadian Spectator* and *The Irish*

Vindicator, which had supported Louis-Joseph Papineau and the Patriote Party over a period of 15 years. Both newspapers were available on microfilm. Problems that arose concerning vague bibliographic references were invariably solved thanks to one of the many research tools now available in the Library. And what other major national library offers the luxury of the nation's archives on the next floor up?

There is even more to the National Library of Canada than just the wealth and breadth of its collections and the excellence of its bibliographic information services. It has eliminated all the stuffiness and elitism that one might too readily associate with a place of such high learning, and substituted friendliness and collaboration. From the attendants who register your daily comings and goings and remember your name to the subject specialists who are always ready to share their erudition, the National Library opens its doors to all readers.

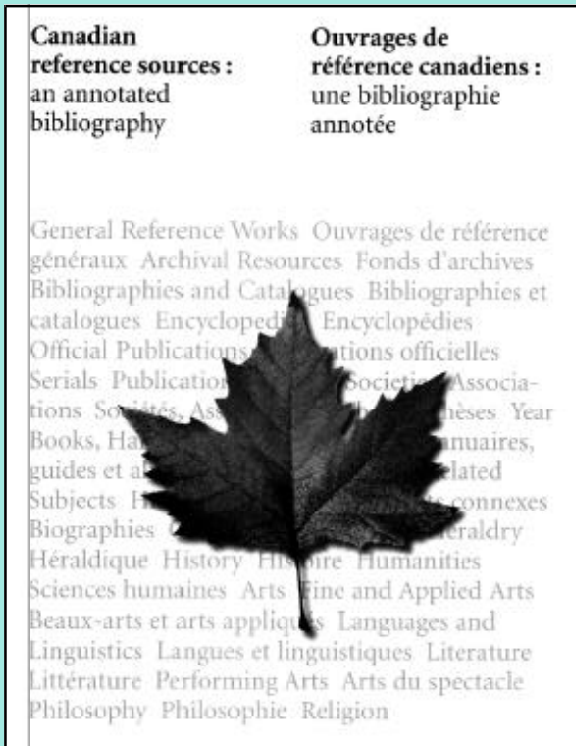
I will finish with a particularly good example of the staff's professionalism. One day, an elderly gentleman arrived at the information desk in the Reference Room. "Is there anyone here who knows something about books?" he enquired in a voice that immediately caught everyone's attention. There was muffled amusement from some researchers, but the gentleman was answered with courtesy and respect. He had, in fact, come to donate a much-prized book which had been in his family for generations. The National Library, he explained, was the best place for it: a new home for a treasure that will become accessible to others.

What better illustration could there be of the special role that the National Library of Canada plays in the life of the country? For the ordinary citizen as for the most demanding of Canadianists, it is a home away from home. ♦



Did You Know...

that *Canadian Reference Sources: An Annotated Bibliography* by Mary Bond has been chosen as one of the Most Important Genealogy and Local History Books by Thomas Jay Kemp in his book, *The 1996 Genealogy Annual: A Bibliography of Published Sources?* *Canadian Reference Sources*, published by UBC Press in cooperation with the National Library of Canada and the Canada Communication Group, was selected from all genealogy books published in 1996 for its genealogical content, usefulness, and permanent value.



The 1996 Genealogy Annual: A Bibliography of Published Sources is published by Scholarly Resources Inc., 104 Greenhill Avenue, Wilmington, Delaware 19805-1897, telephone (302) 654-7713, fax (302) 654-3871, toll-free (800) 772-8937, Internet: sr@scholarly.com.

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Official Publications and Genealogy? An Exhibition

The fact that official or government publications contain a wealth of genealogical data may initially surprise some genealogists and family historians. Further consideration brings to mind the numerous ways in which governments are involved in individual lives: military service, divorce, education and immigration, for example, are all personal experiences that lead to government publications.

Perhaps because they can be difficult to find and to use, official publications are often overlooked as sources of potential information for genealogists. An exhibition at the National Library of Canada, entitled "Official Publications and Genealogy?" demonstrates the

potential value of making the extra effort to explore the Library's vast official publications collection. The exhibition shows a selection of Canadian and British official publications dating primarily from the 19th and 20th centuries. Lists of

immigrants in Canadian parliamentary sessional papers, a divorce act from the *Statutes of Canada*, and British and Canadian military lists represent a few of the riches exhibited.

The exhibition is located in the Special Collections Exhibition Room on the ground floor of 395 Wellington Street and is open free to the public 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m., seven days a week, from Wednesday, April 1 through Sunday, May 10, 1998. Both novice and experienced genealogists will find that the exhibition opens up research possibilities that might establish new leads on elusive ancestors! ♦



COLLECTIONS

THE COUNCIL OF THE JACOB M. LOWY COLLECTION:

Supporting Rare and Old Hebraica and Judaica

by Cheryl Jaffee,
Jacob M. Lowy Collection

The members of the Council of the Jacob M. Lowy Collection, which was established in the spring of 1996, share a common belief in the role of the Lowy Collection in the intellectual and cultural life of Canada's citizens, both Jews and non-Jews. This conviction is coupled with a diverse array of personal interests and goals that make these individuals well suited to the Council's work: they are creative, reliable and smart.

The Council members are dedicated to supporting and promoting this unique Collection, moulded over a period of 50 years by Montreal philanthropist Jacob Lowy and nurtured for another two decades within the National Library. Some examples of its riches are 15th-century books in Hebrew, Latin and Italian, and holdings created in 16th-century Italy and Poland. The Lowy books have individual histories that pass through cities as diverse as Offenbach, Vilnius, Budapest and Shanghai.

Through media publications, lectures, film screenings, seminars, exhibition openings and tours, the Jacob M. Lowy Collection is being brought to national and international attention. The Council is dedicated to establishing an interest-bearing endowment as a stable source of funding for vital acquisitions, and to supporting scholars and researchers whose work exploits the Collection's riches.

The Council was the brainchild of Dan Mozersky, bibliophile, entrepreneur and great friend of the National Library: his vision and "can do" attitude brought the idea of a Lowy

Council into the realm of reality. Another dedicated Lowy friend of long standing to whom we owe a debt of gratitude is Claire Cohen. Her many discussions with potential members made possible the first Council meeting on July 15, 1996. Among those who have been the Lowy Collection's impassioned advocates from the Council's earliest days are Shirley Berman, Sylva Gelber, Elliott Gluck, George Marcus and Miriam Sobel.

A major milestone was the Council's public launching at the opening of the exhibition "Jerusalem: Historic, Sacred, Celestial" on April 18, 1996. The co-sponsors of this event were the Embassy of Israel and the Canada Israel Cultural Foundation (CICF). This collaboration proved spectacular in all ways, and brought to the Lowy Council three members whose contributions have been invaluable: Dr. Norman Barwin, Council Chair as of January 1997, Miriam Algom and Tova Clark. To our great benefit, the Council's Vice-Chair, Dr. Truda Rosenberg, also joined the group, along with Michael Davidson, Susan Lightstone and Aharon Mayne.

The first cultural evening organized by the Council was a fund-raiser on May 13, 1997, featuring the film *Nothing to Be Written Here*, written and directed by Wendy Oberlander (see "Lowy Council Presentation: *Nothing to Be Written Here*", *National Library News*, vol. 29, no. 9, September 1997, pp. 16-17). Two hundred people turned out to see this film, an exploration of the experiences of Austrian-Jewish refugee Peter Oberlander, and the impact his wartime internment in Canada had on his daughter. Ms. Oberlander and Dr. Helmut Kallmann, former Chief of the National Library's Music Division and former internee, were moving speakers. The Council was invigorated and inspired by the success of the evening. More recently, the Council has put its efforts into two major cultural events: the opening evening of the exhibition "The Canadian Jewish Press, 1897-1997" (see "Centenary of the Canadian Jewish Press", *National Library News*, vol. 29, no. 12, December 1997, pp. 19-20), and the Jacob M. Lowy Collection's 20th-anniversary celebration. The Council's input is evident in all aspects of these events, from the superb promotional materials, to speeches delivered and refreshments served.

CELEBRATING A PHILANTHROPIST: THE
JACOB M. LOWY COLLECTION OF RARE
HEBRAICA AND JUDAICA

The National Library celebrated the 20th anniversary of Jacob M. Lowy's gift on Sunday, November 23, 1997, with a lecture by Professor B. Barry Levy, Dean of the Faculty of Religious Studies at McGill University.

Erudite and engaging, he spoke on "Bibles, Rabbinic Bibles and Other Great Books". Professor Levy guided the audience through the maze of intellectual and political concerns that



“Incunabula, Hebraica & Judaica” Now on Internet

Adapted from an article prepared by Joanna Warwick & Associates Inc., Alcove, Quebec

In 1977, Montrealer Jacob M. Lowy, industrialist, philanthropist, and bibliophile, gave the National Library of Canada one of the three foremost private collections of rare Hebraica and Judaica in the Western Hemisphere. The holdings of the Lowy Collection span more than five centuries and include some 400 volumes of Hebrew and Latin incunables and more than 100 early and rare editions of the Bible in many languages. The Collection contains copies of nearly one-quarter of all Hebrew books printed during the 16th century.

During the summer of 1997, a catalogue written by Brad Sabin Hill for the 1981 National Library exhibition “Incunabula, Hebraica & Judaica” was digitized by a team of Ottawa high school students and launched on the Internet. The project was part of Industry Canada’s SchoolNet Digital Collections Program, designed to give Canadians 15 to 30 years of age entrepreneurial and technology-based job experience in converting collections of material into digital form for display on SchoolNet. SchoolNet Digital Collections has become one of the most noteworthy digital portraits of Canada on the information highway.

Cheryl Jaffee, project leader and Curator of the Jacob M. Lowy Collection, stresses the significance of this effort, which enables researchers to access the equivalent of 200 pages of text and images.

The response to the SchoolNet Digital Collections Web site on the

Lowy catalogue has been very positive. Listed as one of the best Web sites on Judaism,* it was also the subject of a glowing review in the October edition of the *Ottawa Jewish Bulletin*.



From *Incunabula, Hebraica & Judaica Exhibition Catalogue* (1981): *De antiquitate Judaica. De bello Judaico* by Flavius Josephus, ca. 38-100 (Augsburg: Johann Schüssler, 1470).

The project team consisted of three students from Yitzhak Rabin High School in Ottawa. Team leader Bram Bregman, along with Moshe Minywab and Jonah Rabinovitch, scanned the catalogue, transferred it into digital format and put it on the Internet. Bregman said he enjoyed every aspect of his summer job. At the outset, he and his partners registered a start-up business to accommodate the project. Although he had previous experience in designing a Web site as part of a school project, he said it turned out to be pretty basic when faced with

the exacting standards of the National Library of Canada.

“We definitely learned a lot about Internet technology,” he said. “I already knew a little about HTML, but this project taught me better ways to use the code.” Bregman is modest about his achievements. He had already started another small company in the desktop publishing business, and regularly turns out brochures and flyers for his father’s pizza store and for school fund-raising events. “The most significant part for me was having a real job, in an office, and experiencing what it’s like to go to work every day.”

He said that as a religious Jew he felt fortunate to be able to work on the Lowy Collection. “There was little room for error on this project. It really had to be as perfect as we could make it. We took two weeks just to revise and edit our work.”

Visit the SchoolNet Digital Collections World Wide Web site at: <http://www.schoolnet.ca/collections> and the National Library’s site at: <http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/incunab>

*In *Judaism on the Web* by Irving Green (available both in print and on the Web at <http://www.mispress.com/judaism>), the Lowy site is acclaimed as one of the 500 best sites on Judaism on the Web.



shaped the contents of the biblical texts called *Mikra'ot Gedolot* (literally, “Big Bible”). In the Christian world these texts were given the name “Rabbinic Bibles” because of the commentaries by Jewish scholars that flanked the Biblical text. Through his examination of a



At the lecture, left to right: National Librarian Marianne Scott, Prof. B. Barry Levy, Mrs. Clara Lowy.

series of Rabbinic Bibles, mostly produced in 16th-century Venice, Professor Levy demonstrated how editors and printers of any period could, and did, shape our knowledge and understanding of Scripture. Professor Levy also used the example of the Rabbinic Bibles to illustrate the importance of the Lowy Collection's rare Hebraica in the scholarly world of historical bibliography and textual criticism.

Following the Levy lecture, guests were feted with champagne and cake. An impressive demonstration of the new Lowy Web site was led by Yitzhak Rabin High School student Bram Bregman (see sidebar). One of three students who spent the summer of 1997 working on the digitization of the 1981 Lowy exhibition catalogue *Incunabula, Hebraica & Judaica* (<http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/incunab>), Bram was an articulate and informative guide who left the audience with a glimpse of future possibilities — a fitting way to end a celebration of deeds past.

A CENTENARY CELEBRATION: THE CANADIAN JEWISH PRESS, 1897-1997

The idea for an exhibition to mark the centenary of the Canadian Jewish Press was first presented by Lewis Levendel, author of *A Century of the Canadian Jewish Press: 1880s-1980s*. His informal proposal to National Librarian Marianne Scott came to fruition with a National Library exhibition which ran for six weeks in November and December 1997, and drew praise from radio correspondent Alvina Ruprecht on “CBO Morning” on November 24, 1997.

The formal opening of the exhibition on the evening of November 12 brought National Library staff, Lowy Council members and a full house together to hear guest speaker Mordechai Ben-Dat, editor of Canada's largest English-language Jewish newspaper, *The Canadian Jewish News*.

Mr. Ben-Dat spoke eloquently about the role of the Jewish newspaper, both as a record of Jewish history and as an instrument for creating a sense of peoplehood. He described himself and other editors and journalists as links in a chain. The Canadian part of this chain was forged in 1897 with the publication in Montreal of the first issue of the first enduring Jewish newspaper, *The Jewish Times*. Mr. Ben-Dat noted that the chronicling of contemporary society is an ancient preoccupation which began with the chronicles of the Bible, the first historical record of the

Jewish people. Inspired by antiquity, Mr. Ben-Dat expressed a deeply felt commitment to provide a forum where the most meaningful aspect of peoplehood — sharing a common history and destiny — could continue to develop.

The exhibition itself had three distinct sections. The first comprised framed reproductions from *The Jewish Times* (1897-1909), among them front-page articles and sketches on the dedication of synagogues in Ottawa, Toronto and Saint John, New Brunswick. Also reproduced were *Jewish Times* articles about Dr. Solomon Schechter, who in 1897 uncovered a vast storehouse of medieval manuscripts in a Cairo synagogue, and Theodor Herzl, who presided over the first Zionist Congress in Basel, also in 1897.



At the exhibition, left to right: Dr. Norman Barwin, Mordechai Ben-Dat, Lewis Levendel, Dr. Truda Rosenberg.

The second and most important section showed the original newspapers. Among them was the first issue of *The Jewish Times*, with an article about and



a drawing of Alfred Dreyfus. Dreyfus's ordeal in France and the anti-Semitic writings that proliferated abroad and at home underscored the need for Canada's Jews to have their own voice in public affairs. Also on display was an article by Johannes Steel printed in *The Jewish Standard* of September 22, 1933, entitled "Gold for Hitler". The article drew much attention because of its eerie evocation of contemporary investigations into Third Reich finances. Steel's article is a detailed examination of the unexpected sources of financial support enjoyed by the Nazi party and the approaches used by party representatives to tap into these sources. In all, the exhibition contained 25 different titles in five languages.

The last part of the exhibition was dedicated to the people who wrote the news. The many editors and columnists of the Canadian Jewish press included such literary figures as J.I. Segal, A.M. Klein, Carroll Ryan, Naim Kattan and Ted Allan, musicologist Israel Rabinovitch, historian B.G. Sack and linguist A.A. Roback. A selection of writings by these and other contributors was displayed.

TO GET INVOLVED...

The Council of the Jacob M. Lowy Collection is approaching its second anniversary, well tested and ready to explore new ground in 1998 and beyond. Prospective members are

invited to call Dr. Norman Barwin (613-728-5711) or Lowy Curator Cheryl Jaffee (613-995-7960). Prospective donors are invited to contact Georgia Ellis, Executive Director, Friends of the National Library (613-943-1544) for information about tax-deductible gifts.

For information about the Lowy Collection, contact:
Cheryl Jaffee
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Fax: (613) 995-1969
TTY: (613) 992-6969
Internet: cheryl.jaffee@nlc-bnc.ca ♦

CANADIAN STUDIES

SAVOIR FAIRE:

Noting News and Naming Names

by Norma Gauld,
Reference and Information Services Division

The audience members at the *Savoir Faire* seminar on November 25, 1997 were fortunate to hear two excellent speakers, Ken McLeod and Alan Rayburn, who described the process, and the rewards, of their research projects.

Ken McLeod began his career as a researcher 15 years ago. His interest in shipwrecks led him to the National Library, where he sought information on ships with sunken treasure. He has since branched into other areas of research — genealogical, military, maritime and photographic — and the National Library's collection of Canadian newspapers has proven a rich resource. He collected examples of valuable, difficult-to-find information items and organized them into a slide presentation: "Missing in Action:

Obscure Sources of Information in Canadian Newspapers".

By way of example, Mr. McLeod showed the slides concerning information he located in newspaper articles about the inhabitants of the community of Athens, in Eastern Ontario. His well-illustrated presentation went beyond the familiar information notices found in newspapers, such as birth, death, and marriage announcements, to a wide variety of information about the residents. In the process, he also gave

us a glimpse of the community's social life. Notable among the many examples were the names of citizens in articles about fraternal orders (for instance, a list of members of the Orange Lodge); a list of farm labourers; details of a ladies' picnic in Winnipeg with the names of participants and their place of origin, one of whom was from Athens, Ontario; and descriptions of train disasters. He was able to trace individuals through details given in regular newspaper features such as "Comings and Goings" and "Letters Home" from residents living or travelling elsewhere. His presentation was an excellent reminder to Library staff, researchers, genealogists and archivists in attendance of the rich diversity of information in the Library's Canadian newspaper collection.

The second speaker, toponym specialist Alan Rayburn, presented a paper on "The Origins of Place Names: Writing Them Right, and Righting the Wrongs". Mr. Rayburn is a former Executive Secretary of the Canadian



Permanent Committee on Geographical Names (CPCGN), 1973-1987. His most recent books are: *Naming Canada: Stories about Place Names from Canadian Geographic* (1994); *Place Names of Ontario* (1997) and *Dictionary of Canadian Place Names* (1997), which have been the subject of numerous media interviews. In his research Mr. Rayburn consulted published sources in the National Library's reference and general collections, as well as Canadian newspapers and official publications.

Fresh from the experience of having completed two books in 1997 (which coincided with the 100th anniversary of the CPCGN), Mr. Rayburn spoke first about the publishing process, comparing his experiences with two different publishers, namely University of Toronto Press and Oxford University

Press. He discussed lessons learned, the sheer volume of names (*Dictionary of Canadian Place Names* contains over 6 000 entries and 2 338 names in the index) and problems associated with publishing place-name sources.

He then turned to a consideration of errors that have been perpetuated in the records and the efforts made to correct the official files and published material. By way of example, he described the process for tracing the origin of Wright's Town or Wright (early names of Hull, Quebec) and of Orléans, Ontario. He also discussed a group of Ontario townships named after King George III's children, and the challenge of finding information on one in particular, Adolphustown, which appeared to be an anomaly. Additional examples led

to lively discussion and questions from the audience.

Savoir Faire is a seminar series given by researchers and staff members of the National Library. The series focusses on scholarly activity at the National Library and fosters exchange of information between researchers and staff.

For more information, please contact:
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395 Wellington Street
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Telephone: (613) 992-6942
Fax: (613) 943-1112
TTY: (613) 992-6969
Internet: norma.gauld@nlc-bnc.ca ♦



SAVOIR FAIRE:

A Historiography of the Irish Famine

by Anne Pichora,

Reference and Information Services Division

1 997 marked the 150th anniversary of the 1847 Irish Famine, and the National Library was privileged to welcome visiting scholar Professor Jim Jackson of the Department of French, Trinity College, Dublin. Professor Jackson, currently Vice-President (and past-President 1994-1996) of the Association of Canadian Studies in Ireland, was the speaker at the Savoir Faire session on December 4 (see elsewhere in this issue for an article by Professor Jackson).

Professor Jackson's lecture focussed on his research on the historiography of two works that give a vivid account of an Irish schoolteacher travelling from Ireland on one of the famine ships. He arrived at Grosse Ile, a quarantine station for immigrants in the St. Lawrence River estuary, where he

perished during the summer of 1847. This account first came to Jackson's attention when it was published as non-fiction in Ireland in 1991 under the title, *Famine Diary: Journey to a New World*. This title was attributed to a Gerald Keegan and was almost immediately a bestseller.

Professor Jackson described the research process through which he identified an earlier work about Gerald Keegan by Brother James J. Mangan, published in Quebec in 1982. Entitled *The Voyage of the Naparima: A Story of Canada's Island Graveyard*, it was later translated as *La traversée du Naparima*. Brother Mangan's work was a fictionalized account based on "The Summer of Sorrow", one of a series of tales by Robert Sellar which first appeared in the late 19th century in *The Canadian Gleaner*, a Huntington (Quebec) newspaper of which Sellar was the first editor. The story was subsequently published in 1895 in *The Summer of Sorrow: Abner's Device and Other Stories*. The tale depicted the horrors and tragedy of the "coffin ships" as told through the journal of an Irish schoolteacher called Gerald Keegan. Through extensive literary analysis and comparison of Mangan's and Sellar's texts, Professor Jackson concludes that both works cannot be



seen as genuine historical documents but must be considered historical fiction.

In addition to numerous published and unpublished sources in a variety of archives and libraries, Professor Jackson used many works in the National Library's collections. *The Canadian Gleaner*, the 1982 work by Brother Mangan and its translation, and an original copy and a microfiche version (the latter produced by the Canadian Institute for Historical Microreproductions) of the 1895 book

by Robert Sellar are all available at the Library.

much thought about a very significant part of Canadian history.

This engaging presentation strikingly illustrated the importance of bibliographic examination and research as a means of studying history.

This engaging presentation strikingly illustrated the importance of bibliographic examination and research as a means of studying history. It drew numerous questions and comments from the audience, and stimulated

The next Savoir Faire seminar, which will be presented by Betty Deavy on May 5, will be entitled "Great Britain Official Publications Collection at the National Library". ♦

PERSONNEL

National Aboriginal Career Symposium

by Claire Bourassa,
Government and Law Specialist, Reference and Information Services

The third biennial National Aboriginal Career Symposium, jointly organized by the National Research Council of Canada (NRC) and the Canadian Aboriginal Science and Engineering Association (CASEA), was held at the Government Conference Centre in Ottawa on November 13 and 14, 1997. The purpose of the Symposium is to promote careers in the fields of science and technology, prepare Aboriginal youth for the challenges of the 21st century and reinforce the idea that Aboriginal cultural identity can be preserved in the workplace.

More than 1 500 participants from grade six to the university level came to the Symposium. The students had the opportunity to attend more than 70 workshops and cultural events offered in English or French and led by Elders, Aboriginal role models or experts. Between activities, participants were able to visit the exhibition area where some 55 exhibitors representing businesses in the private sector, Crown corporations, departments and universities provided information on programs or

George Murray and Claire Bourassa explained the institution's mandate and role, and the type of work offered by the Library. They also answered questions from students who came to have their Symposium "passport" stamped. The university students, professors and students' parents could not resist online demonstrations of the Library's Web site and the resAnet catalogue, the *Read Up On It* kit and the various brochures on Library services.

The opportunity for information exchange at the National Aboriginal Career Symposium plays a vital role in enabling young people to learn more

Between activities, participants were able to visit the exhibition area where some 55 exhibitors representing businesses in the private sector, Crown corporations, departments and universities provided information on programs or employment opportunities within their organizations.

employment opportunities within their organizations.

While working at the National Library's information booth, staff members Steve Maiczan, Craig Obonsawin, Donna-Lyn Penteluke,

about various organizations and think about careers or potential employers. The Symposium is also an ideal opportunity to introduce the National Library to young Aboriginals, their teachers and other visitors. ♦



PUBLIC PROGRAMS

READ ALL ABOUT IT:

A Running Leap to “The Sports Pages”

by Mary Collis,
Canadian Children's Literature Service

What has

- an annotated book list of the best in Canadian sports books — novels, non-fiction and picture books — for children and young adults,
- an annotated guide to current award-winning books for children and young adults,
- a colourful, comical poster featuring a picture from *Take Me Out to the Ball Game* by well-known children's illustrator Maryann Kovalski,
- 16 bookmarks showing the poster's illustration,
- a list of sports-related activities to encourage children and young adults to read and to learn,
- a directory of publishers,

and was eagerly awaited during the autumn of 1997?

The National Library of Canada's *Read Up On It* kit!

The 1997 edition of *Read Up On It* was launched at the National Library of Canada on November 20, 1997. Now in its ninth year, *Read Up On It* is designed to encourage a love of reading in children and young adults and to foster an awareness of the wonderful Canadian books available. The *Read Up On It* kit, distributed every year to more than 25 000 individuals and groups, is a popular handout at conferences and workshops across Canada. One of the Library's most popular products, it is read by teachers, booksellers, parents, librarians and other children's literature enthusiasts — even by kids themselves!

The launch, part of the Library's celebration of National Child Day, was held while participants at the “National Symposium on Information, Literacy and the School Library in Canada” met at the National Library to discuss the



At the launch, left to right: Randall Ware, Coordinator, Canadian Literature Research Service, National Library of Canada; Maryann Kovalski; Marianne Scott; the Honourable Joyce Fairbairn; Jim Page.

role of school libraries in the development of literacy in children and young adults (see elsewhere in this issue). Attended by Symposium participants, Library staff members and others, the *Read Up On It* ceremony featured three speakers, each of whom

A Home-Run Hit!

During the first three months after the publication of the latest *Read Up On It* kit (between early November 1997 and early February 1998), the National Library's Marketing and Publishing office mailed out copies in response to more than 10 000 requests!

spoke fervently about books, reading and education.

National Librarian Marianne Scott emphasized the importance of a positive attitude in encouraging the use of books, saying that *Read Up On It* is the cornerstone of the Library's commitment to a fully literate society.

Senator Joyce Fairbairn, the Special Advisor on Literacy to the Honourable Pierre Pettigrew, Minister of Human Resources Development Canada, a sponsor of *Read Up On It*, linked libraries, literacy and lifelong learning. She said that we must “ensure that all of our citizens — from the youngest to the oldest — have full access to the written word — and every opportunity to develop a love of reading that will last throughout their lifetimes.”

A highlight of this section of the program was the introduction of Bob Coxford, author of *The Unknown*, a story of wolves



Marianne Scott with the Honourable Joyce Fairbairn.

and a trapper in the Canadian North. Mr. Coxford wrote his book after completing a literacy-upgrading course at Lambton College. Accompanied by his wife and Rose-Marie Ur, Member of Parliament for Lambton-Kent-Middlesex, he presented two copies of



the book for the National Library collection, thus fulfilling legal deposit regulations.

The third speaker, Jim Page, Executive Secretary of the National Literacy Secretariat, suggested that the theme of sports in this year's *Read Up On It* kit is particularly relevant to the Secretariat's work in promoting literacy



Jim Page.

throughout Canada. He noted that literacy skills, like muscles, must be used every day to be kept strong and vital. What better way to remind children about this message than through books about sports? He concluded with a message for children in the form of a sports metaphor: "Stand up to the plate, kids; grip your book good and tight; when you swing keep your eye on the plot; now keep that head still; hit a homer by reading every day."

The National Librarian presented launch participants with framed copies of the kit's poster. The illustration used for the poster, as well as for the bookmark and cover, is from the book *Take Me Out to the Ball Game*, written and illustrated by Maryann Kovalski (Richmond Hill, Ontario: Scholastic Canada, 1992). To the delight of the audience, the artist was present at the ceremony. Her humorous illustration is a delightful depiction of fans who, while watching the game, are also laughing, talking, eating, looking at other spectators — and even reading!

In conclusion, Marianne Scott thanked the partners and sponsors of *Read Up On It*: the National Literacy Secretariat of Human Resources Development Canada, Canada Post, the Canadian Federation of University Women, Access the Education Station



Marianne Scott with Kim Young, Executive Director, Canadian Federation of University Women.

and YTV. Their ongoing support is vital to the success of the program.

For more information about Canadian children's books at the National Library of Canada, including

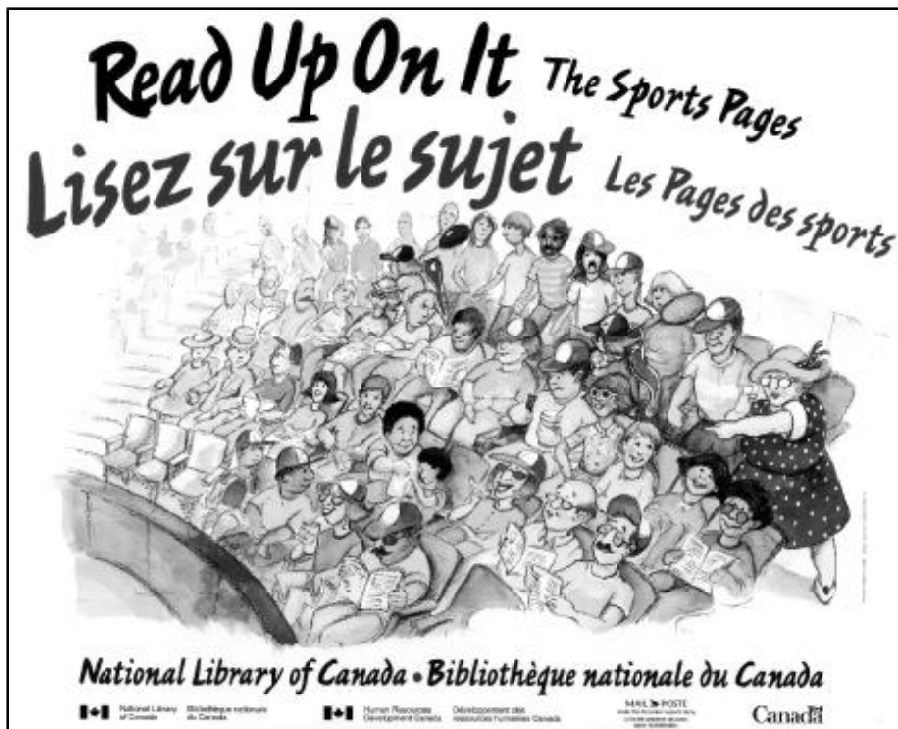
those in this year's *Read Up On It* kit, contact:

Canadian Children's Literature Service
National Library of Canada
395 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0N4
Telephone: (613) 996-7774
Fax: (613) 995-1969
TTY: (613) 992-6969
Internet: clsslj@nlc-bnc.ca

To obtain free copies of *Read Up On It*, contact:

Marketing and Publishing
National Library of Canada
395 Wellington Street
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0N4
Telephone: (613) 995-7969
Fax: (613) 991-9871
TTY: (613) 992-6969
Internet: publications@nlc-bnc.ca

A version of the *Read Up On It* kit is also available at the Library's Web site (address: <http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/ruoi/eruoi.htm>) ♦





Training Schedule

Access AMICUS is available to Canadian libraries, other institutions and individual researchers. It provides access to the AMICUS database via Datapac, the Internet or iNet. Training is offered across Canada. Training is recommended for efficient and effective use of the Access AMICUS service. Each user must sign an agreement concerning the use of Access AMICUS.

To register for a session, please call Information Technology Services at (819) 997-7227, Fax (819) 994-6835, TTY (613) 992-6969, X.400:

[cic-its]gc+nlc.bnc\govmt.canada\ca, or Internet: cic@nlc-bnc.ca. Registrations must be received by the deadline date for the session, as indicated in the training schedule. Sessions will be held only if the number of registrants is sufficient.

For new clients, the cost for training is \$315.00* per participant (including documentation and technical setup). For current clients, cost of training is \$225.00* per participant. Training fees are payable upon receipt of an invoice following the training. Registered participants who cancel one week or less prior to a session will be billed the training charges.

The National Library also offers on-site Access AMICUS training for groups, subject to the availability of trainers. Contact the Access AMICUS Coordinator regarding costs of specialized sessions.

Charges for the use of Access AMICUS following training are moderate. A minimum of \$40.00 is charged every three months if the system has been used during that period.

* Taxes not included

Note: Prices may be subject to changes.

Registration deadline	Location	Session Date
March 27	Information Technology Services, Training Room no. 1 National Library of Canada Hull, Quebec	April 7-8 (in English)
March 20	Memorial University of Newfoundland Queen Elizabeth II Library Room L-1015 St. John's , Newfoundland	April 7-8 (in English)
April 10	McGill University GSLIS Computer Lab McLennan Library Montreal, Quebec	April 28-29 (in English)
April 17	PSC Training & Development Canada Mackenzie Building Toronto, Ontario	May 5-6 (in English)
April 17	University of Saskatchewan Library, Room 161 Main Library/Murray Bldg., Saskatoon, Saskatchewan	May 12-13 (in English)
May 8	Information Technology Services, Training Room no.1 National Library of Canada Hull, Quebec	May 19-20 (in French)
May 1	Dalhousie University SLIS, Killam Library Computer Lab, 3rd Floor Halifax, Nova Scotia	May 26-27 (in English)
May 1	University of Calgary Math Sciences Bldg. Room MS-731 Calgary, Alberta	May 26-27 (in English)
May 1	University of New Brunswick Harriet Irving Library ITLC, Room 112 Fredericton, New Brunswick	May 26-27 (in English)
May 15	Université Laval Salle 3168, Pavillon Bonenfant Bibliothèque générale Ste-Foy, Québec	June 2-3 (in French)
June 5	Information Technology Services, Training Room no. 1 National Library of Canada Hull, Quebec	June 16-17 (in English)



Canadian Library/Information Science Research Projects

Compiled by Tom Tylor, Reference Librarian

The following is a list of those Canadian research projects, both completed and ongoing, that were reported by individual researchers and interested organizations to Library Information Services from April 1997 through January 1998.

The research projects are classified as either ongoing or completed investigations. Within these divisions, the arrangement is alphabetic by name of researcher(s), although the title is given first. Titles are highlighted to facilitate scanning. The entries comprise, if available: person(s) responsible for the research, address of institution where the research is being done or was completed, sponsoring body or body financing the research, starting date and completion date (if applicable), estimated costs, project title and citations for reports on the project.

SECTION I: ONGOING PROJECTS/PROJETS DE RECHERCHE EN COURS

A study of Canadian children's literature from 1990 to 1997.

Saltman, Judith. School of Library, Archival and Information Studies, University of British Columbia, 1956 Main Mall, Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z3. University of British Columbia, Office of Research Services, Hampton Committee, Humanities and Social Sciences Research Grant. \$3 000. 1996-?

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Projets de recherche en bibliothéconomie et en sciences de l'information

Compilé par Tom Tylor, bibliothécaire de référence

Cette liste porte sur les projets de recherche canadiens, terminés et en cours, qui ont été signalés au Service d'information en bibliothéconomie par des chercheurs et des organismes intéressés entre avril 1997 et janvier 1998.

Les projets sont répartis en deux catégories, selon qu'ils sont terminés ou en cours, et sont classés par ordre alphabétique d'après le nom du chercheur, même si le titre apparaît en premier lieu. On a mis les titres en caractères gras pour faciliter la consultation de la liste. Les notices contiennent, dans la mesure du possible, les renseignements suivants : nom du (des) responsable(s) du projet, adresse de l'établissement où la recherche se fait ou a été effectuée, organisme chargé de parrainer le projet ou de le financer, date du début et de la fin du projet (s'il y a lieu), coûts approximatifs, titre du projet et références aux rapports sur le projet.

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SECTION II: COMPLETED RESEARCH PROJECTS/ PROJETS DE RECHERCHE TERMINÉS

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