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TECHNOLOGY

What's New from the National Library's Digitization Program

by Doug Hodges,
Information Resource Management

What do the names Emile Berliner, Claude Champagne, Michael Kusugak, Louis S. St. Laurent, Vincent Massey, and Jeanne Mance have in common? Yes, they all have a Canadian connection! And each of them features in one of six new National Library digitization projects recently established on the National Library's Web site (www.nlc-bnc.ca/digiproj/edigiact.htm). This article provides an update on the National Library's digitization projects and activities.

The past 12 months have seen improvements to many of the National Library's digitization sites. The *Glenn Gould Archive* (<http://www.gould.nlc-bnc.ca/>), for example, has been extensively augmented in 1997-1998, and now includes audioclips from Gould's recordings, a discography, and new materials. And several new sites have been added, including:

• **Virtual Gramophone: Canadian Historical Sound Recordings** is a multimedia Web site devoted to the first half-century of recorded sound in Canada. When completed, this site will provide researchers and enthusiasts with a comprehensive look at the 78-rpm era in Canada, which began with the first 78-rpm releases of the Emile Berliner Company of Montreal in 1900, and ended with the advent of 45-rpm and

33 1/3-rpm recordings in the 1940s and 1950s. The first phase of the project, carried out during the winter of 1997-1998, covered the 2 000 seven-inch and eight-inch discs released by the Berliner Company between 1900 and 1908. On this new site you can listen to more than 175 complete recordings from the early days of the E. Berliner Company, a pioneer of flat disc audio recording. Also included are catalogue entries for 78-rpm recordings issued by Berliner before 1925, images of all of the disc labels, photos and biographies of some Canadian performers of the era, and a history of the company.

• **Bring A Legend to Life** is based on the National Library's 1993 Read Up On It kit, created to mark the International Year of the World's Indigenous People. That year, the





annual Read Up On It kit described the best books written for children and young people and dealing with Canadian Aboriginal peoples. *Baseball Bats for Christmas* (Toronto: Annick Press, 1990) and *Hide Hide and Seek* (Toronto: Annick Press, 1992), both by **Michael Kusugak**, are among the works noted in the kit. Also included is a list of children's books that have received national and regional literary awards, as well as selections from the Canadian Children's Book Centre and Communication-Jeunesse. This resource will be very useful to librarians and teachers for promoting an enthusiasm for reading. (<http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/ruoi/1993/index.htm>)

• **Canadian Prime Ministers 1867 to 1998** is a collection of speeches by Canadian Prime Ministers which will interest those pursuing research in Canadian history, public policy, and biography. The site includes speeches, in English and French, by Prime Ministers dating back to Confederation, biographical notes, and links to related Internet resources. For example, a researcher interested in **Louis S. St. Laurent** can follow a link that leads to an "online visit" to the Prime Minister's birthplace, which can be found at the "National Historic Site" established on the Web by Parks Canada (<http://parkscanada.pch.gc.ca>). In some cases, a speech gives the only recorded statement of a policy position or government decision; consequently, such speeches are important as primary source materials for Canadian studies research. The site incorporates materials from two earlier SchoolNet Digital Collections projects: "Canada Speaks" and "Canadian Prime Ministers: 1867-1996".

The following National Library Web sites were developed with assistance from Industry Canada's SchoolNet Digital Collections program (<http://www.schoolnet.ca/collections/>):

• **Claude Champagne Virtual Exhibit** celebrates the achievements of **Claude Champagne**, a pioneer not only as a composer and musician, but also as a teacher of music and an administrator. His work, with its emphasis on precision and conciseness, was inspired partly by French aesthetics at the turn of the century and partly by elements of French-Canadian poetry and folklore. His careful attention to method made him an excellent teacher, composer, and performer. In 1972, the National Library of Canada's Music Division acquired Claude Champagne's archives. The National Library paid tribute to Champagne's importance to Canadian music and marked the centenary of his birth by mounting a major exhibition in 1990-1991, which was the basis for this virtual exhibit.

• **Heroes of Lore and Yore** holds some surprises. Heroes are admired for outstanding achievements and noble qualities. Since the qualities we esteem reflect the forces and values that characterize our society, a consideration of Canada's heroes leads to a better understanding of the history, attitudes, and influences that have shaped this country. Twenty-one Canadian heroes are included here, and a short list of some names — **Jeanne Mance**, Poundmaker, Terry Fox, Sir Sandford Fleming and Grey Owl — hints at the liveliness and diversity of this site. Based on a National Library exhibition, "Heroes of Lore and Yore" is of particular interest to a younger audience, although the suggested readings and links to other Internet resources offer useful possibilities to

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 Pelan for the Reference Room of the National Library.



anyone interested in Canadian heroes and heroism. (<http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/heroes/>)

• **The Royal Commission on National Development in the Arts, Letters, and Sciences**, often referred to as the “Massey Commission”, was established by Privy Council Order on April 8, 1949, and chaired by the Honourable **Vincent Massey**, who later became the first Governor General of Canada born in this country. The Commission was instrumental in the establishment of the National Library; its recommendations were strongly influenced by the positions of the Canadian Library Association, the Association des bibliothécaires de langue française, the Royal Society of Canada, the Canadian Historical Association, and many other groups. The Commission also made recommendations on broadcasting, cultural agencies, aid to research and Canada’s relations with UNESCO. This site incorporates the full text of the Commission’s 1951 report in English and French, and a representative selection of more than 450 formal submissions.

Several of these Web sites also incorporate the results of research and development work carried out by the National Library as part of its ongoing digitization program and in connection with other digital library initiatives. For example, “Virtual Gramophone” is the National Library’s first digitization project to use the new digital library infrastructure resulting from Phase 2 of the Digital Library Infrastructure Project (DLIP).² For the Massey Commission project, the value of embedding GILS (Government Information Locator Service) metadata in HTML files was examined. And a modest test of full-document

digitization methods investigated book-cradle scanning and compared digitization costs when different approaches are used.

Partnerships continue to play an important role in many projects and programs of the National Library, and digitization is no exception. An important joint project for the National Library is the Early Canadiana Online Project (<http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/cihm/ecol/>), in which the Library is working with the Canadian Institute for Historical Microreproductions (CIHM), the Université Laval library, the University of Toronto library, and the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec. This project will make available on the Web over 3 000 titles from the CIHM microfiche collection of pre-1900 monographs, and the comparative use and economics of online publications, microforms and print copies will be documented. Another key partnership concerns the Canadian Initiative on Digital Libraries (<http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/cidl/>), for which the National Library provides the secretariat.³ And the National Library is continuing to collaborate with the SchoolNet Digital Collections program of Industry Canada.

Since January 1997, CAN/MARC field 856, which contains the URL for Web sites, has been included in the CAN/MARC records distributed by the National Library. The National Library makes available the results of its digitization efforts, adding new Web sites and other electronic networked resources to its electronic collections. These resources are also catalogued for the national bibliography, *Canadiana*. Those libraries that receive these records and have access to the Web can incorporate the resources into their own virtual electronic collections. Users can then

find the records online, and link directly to the resource.

And during the next year? The National Library intends to augment the recordings and other information at its “Virtual Gramophone” site, and there are other projects at the planning stages. The National Library will continue to focus its digitization efforts on its area of greatest strength: Canadiana. In doing so, the National Library will help to increase Canadians’ access to works from the nation’s published heritage by employing the most modern technology.

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Notes

- ¹ For previous articles on the Library’s digitization program, see the following *National Library News* articles: “Incunabula, Hebraica & Judaica Now on Internet”, vol. 30, nos. 3-4, March/April 1998, p. 12; “Coming Soon to a Web Browser Near You! An Update on the National Library’s Digitization Projects”, vol. 29, nos. 7-8, July/August 1997, pp. 4-6; “Digitizing Collections: The National Library in Partnership with Industry Canada”, vol. 28, no. 9, September 1996, pp. 6-8; “The National Library of Canada’s Digitization Program”, vol. 28, no. 5, May 1996, pp. 7-8.
- ² See “A Digital Library Infrastructure for the National Library”, *National Library News*, vol. 30, no. 2, February 1998, pp. 10-12.
- ³ See “Canadian Initiative on Digital Libraries (CIDL): Looking towards the Digital Future”, *National Library News*, vol. 30, no. 6, June 1998, pp. 11-13, and “Canadian Initiative on Digital Libraries (CIDL): Update”, *National Library News*, March-April 1998, pp. 4-5. ♦

The National Library of Canada's Disc-o-logue Web Site

by S. Timothy Maloney,
Research and Information Services

The original *Disc-o-logue* index was created by Louise Lamothe, who sold it to the National Library of Canada (NLC) in 1986. It consisted of close to 90 000 3" x 5" index cards listing data on primarily French-language sound recordings which were commercially available in Canada from about the mid-1950s to the mid-1980s. All types

of music were covered, including pop, classical, sacred and jazz, but *Disc-o-logue* was particularly strong on mainstream French-language pop, country and folk music, with a high percentage of Canadian content. It constituted a detailed discography, for the period in question, of the songs of such Canadian musicians as Madame Bolduc, Les Classels, Diane Dufresne, Jean-Pierre Ferland, Pauline Julien, Jacques Labrecque, Le Soldat Lebrun, Félix Leclerc, Monique Leyrac, Jacques Michel, Ginette Reno, Les Séguin and Gilles Vigneault, among many others, as recorded by themselves and, subsequently, by other artists. In fact, the period covered by *Disc-o-logue* is considered by some to have been a "golden age" of French-language songwriting.

Mme Lamothe began to compile her index in 1958, just as LPs and 45-rpm discs began to circulate widely, and as 78-rpm recordings were becoming obsolete. The production of sound recordings in Canada between the mid-1950s and early 1970s has not been generally well documented, and many Canadian discs from that era are neither catalogued nor held by the NLC. The mechanism of legal deposit¹ for sound recordings was established in

Canada only in 1969, a year before the NLC's Music Division was created, and the deposit of discs by many manufacturers was not routine until the early 1970s. As a result, much information contained in *Disc-o-logue* would be difficult, if not impossible, to find elsewhere, even at the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec, and particularly in such comprehensive form. For example, many of the Quebec record companies referred to in *Disc-o-logue* were small and are now defunct. Acquiring this index for the NLC was seen as extremely important both to assist the retrospective acquisition of recordings by the Library for its national preservation collection, and to support future research by discographers and historians of popular culture. The NLC continues to seek out and acquire Canadian sound recordings issued prior to the mid-1970s.

Mme Lamothe created the *Disc-o-logue* index for her own use as the owner of a record store in La Tuque, Quebec. In addition to maintaining the index on file cards from 1958 to 1985, she published annual cumulations of the data, entitled *Disc-o-logue*, from 1962 to 1979. This publication was sold, along with periodic supplements, on a subscription basis. The original intent of the published *Disc-o-logue* was to share information on new

French-language recordings with other record-shop owners and radio stations for purposes of ordering and promotion. *Disc-o-logue* eventually circulated to 550 subscribers throughout Quebec. Later, she also captured information relating to the copyrights pertaining to each song, in her capacity as manager of La Société des droits de reproduction mécanique du Canada Ltée (SDRM), the French-language mechanical reproduction rights agency for Canada which she founded in 1969 and managed until 1985. Since 1985 it has been known as La Société du droit de reproduction des auteurs, compositeurs et éditeurs du Canada Inc. (SODRAC).

Each file card contained such data as song title, composer, lyricist, performer(s), producer, format (e.g., 45-rpm, LP), and the dates of release and deletion from the producer's catalogue. The cards were filed alphabetically by two points of access: song title and performer. Before the card index was offered to the National Library of Canada, Mme Lamothe discarded the complete set of cards filed under "Performer", leaving access to the index only by "Song Title". Between 1986 and 1997, when the data were computerized, it was impossible to make substantive use of the index for any other types of searches.

Creation of the DISC-O-LOGUE database and Web site was proposed and ultimately supervised by Richard Green, Head of the NLC's Recorded Sound and Video Collection. The digitization project was completed between January and September of 1997. It involved the following steps:

- inputting the data from approximately 90 000 index cards into an InMagic database program
- proof-reading and verifying the information in the completed database

¹ Adapted from Canadian Association of Music Libraries (CAML) newsletter



- migration of the data from InMagic to Glimpse, a Web-compatible database application
- verifying that the data were uncorrupted by the migration
- design and creation of the DISC-O-LOGUE Web site, including search interface, searching instructions and ancillary pages
- creating all appropriate links among the Web pages, the database and the NLC's main Web pages
- editing, testing and debugging the finished product.

In addition, the NLC had to obtain permission from Louise Lamothe to use the Disc-o-logue name on its Web site.

I wish I could report that inputting the data from the index cards was a high-tech operation involving scanning and optical character recognition (OCR), but the truth is that the index cards were difficult to scan with any degree of accuracy. A test batch was scanned via OCR but the variety of typewriter fonts and the existence of hand-written annotations on many of the cards necessitated time-consuming corrections to the computer files. Ultimately it proved quicker to use the old-fashioned method: keying data directly into the InMagic application.

Because of the size of the Disc-o-logue card index, the project to digitize its contents was managed in two phases. Phase 1 was undertaken between February and May 1997 using contract typists, with funds donated to the NLC by the Stentor Alliance specifically for digitization activities. By the end of May 1997, data from about 65 000 cards had been input. A second phase of re-keying took place between June and September 1997 using summer students with funding from Industry Canada's SchoolNet

Digitization program initiative. The total number of records in the finished database reached 89 183.

The search interface is similar to those developed by the NLC for the Canadian Music Periodical Index (<http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/wapp/cmipi>) and for the three databases which form part of the Glenn Gould Archive Web site (<http://www.gould.nlc-bnc.ca>). Key-word and key-phrase searching of the following elements are possible, both by individual fields and as a single index:

- title
- composer
- performer
- format
- label
- issue number
- date received
- date deleted from circulation

One detail not captured on the index cards was LP album titles, so the NLC's DISC-O-LOGUE database lacks this information. However, the contents of LPs can be discerned by searching under specific issue numbers and issue dates. The date of issue for particular sets of song titles can be linked with album titles gleaned from other sources. A further stage of the project could add new fields for album titles and locations (for recordings not held by the NLC), but no enhancement of the database is planned at the present time.

The search engine for this database is Glimpse, a basic, Web-compatible search software which is being adapted by the NLC for individual projects while we test and evaluate several more powerful search engines. At present, search terms can be linked only by the "AND" operator, giving limited boolean searching capability on the DISC-O-LOGUE Web

site. Searches will return HTML-encoded Web pages which can be navigated using a Web browser. When the Library has chosen a full-text search engine for its Web activities, we plan to have DISC-O-LOGUE and other Music Division databases on the Web migrate to the new software.

The DISC-O-LOGUE Web site also includes a capsule history of the original card index and publication, biographical information on their creator, Louise Lamothe, images of the index cards and of pages from the published *Disc-o-logue*, reproductions of album covers from recordings included in the database, and some of Lamothe's listings of "Best Sellers" from that era. A "mail to" feature allows visitors to comment on the site or share further information with the National Library. Links exist from this site to other addresses on the National Library's home page and to other related Web sites.

The NLC is pleased to mount such an extensive body of discographical information on the World Wide Web. This project places the NLC in the forefront of international research on French-language popular music, as well as demonstrating the Library's continuing commitment to make its collections and access tools more widely available. For further information, please visit the site: <http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/discologue>

Note

- ¹ A regulation which requires copies of books and commercial audio and video recordings to be deposited at the National Library of Canada to form part of a national preservation collection of print and audiovisual materials. ♦



Links Abroad

Canada House, the headquarters of the Canadian High Commission in London, U.K., has made an electronic link from its Web site, "Virtual Canada House", to the National Library of Canada's Web site, "Canadian Prime Ministers: 1867-1998", which incorporates and augments the contents of two previous Web sites ("Canada Speaks" and "Canadian Prime Ministers: 1867-1996"), both of which were joint projects of the National Library of Canada and the Library of Parliament, and which were funded by Industry Canada's SchoolNet Digital Collections program in 1996.

The "Virtual Canada House" site was developed to coincide with the official re-opening of Canada House by the Queen and Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, which took place on May 13. The site was developed by the Faculty of Information Studies and the School of Continuing Studies at the University of Toronto, which were contracted by Bell Canada, one of the corporate sponsors for the re-opening of Canada House. "Virtual Canada House" is part of a "showcase of Canadian technologies" that can be accessed by visitors to Canada House in London.

"Canadian Prime Ministers: 1867-1998" includes speeches, some of which date back to the early post-Confederation period, that are an excellent resource for students of Canadian public policy, biography, history and society. To find out more, go to the SchoolNet Web site (<http://www.schoolnet.ca/collections/>) or to the National Library's Web site (<http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/digiproj/edigiact.htm>). To check out the "Virtual Canada House", go to <http://www.bell-virtualcanada.com>.

COLLECTIONS

FROM VILNA TO MOUNTAIN SIGHTS AVENUE:

A Sketch of David Rome's Library

by Cheryl Jaffee,

Curator, Jacob M. Lowy Collection

David Rome was a prominent figure in the cultural circles of Jewish Montreal and non-Jewish francophone Quebec. A founder of the bridge-building *Cercle juif de langue française* in the 1950s, he also was involved for decades with the Canadian Jewish Congress, especially its extensive archives. Mr. Rome authored numerous historical

studies and bibliographies, and when he died in Montreal in January 1996, one room of his small Mountain Sights duplex was overflowing with books reflecting his intellectual and geographic journeys. David Rome was born in Vilna (Vilnius, Lithuania) in 1910 and raised in nearby Zoslya, and the intellectual flavour of Vilna itself permeated the room. The acquisition of works from David Rome's library has immeasurably enriched the National Library of Canada's collections,

especially the Jacob M. Lowy Collection of rare Hebraica and Judaica.

Vilna's greatness as a Jewish intellectual centre reached its peak under the rabbinical authority of one of Eastern European Jewry's greatest figures, Elijah ben Solomon Zalman (1720-1797), the Vilna *Gaon* (the honorific title accorded a great academic leader). Rigorous intellectual discipline characterized his scholarship, and this paradigm was widely emulated.

A work on ethics, *Nefesh ha-hayim* (Vilna, 1837), was authored by Hayim ben Isaac Volozhiner, a leading disciple of the Vilna Gaon. A rabbi and masterful educator, Hayim ben Isaac established the prototype of the European Yeshiva, the Jewish institution of higher learning.

In the 18th century Hasidism was flowering, spreading from southeastern Poland to the north and west. Easily accessible to the many Jews who were looking for spiritual leadership, Hasidism began to pose a challenge to the status quo. The centre of opposition to Hasidism was located in Vilna, and its adversaries were called *Mitnagdim*, opponents. *Sefer Matsref ha-avodah* (Königsberg, 1858) is a discussion of the "Great Debate" engaging the disciples of the Vilna Gaon and the Hassidic leader Levi Isaac of Berdichev. This work has been attributed to Jacob ben Moses Bachrach (1824-1896), a rabbi who was learned in traditional and secular subjects, and an early advocate of the



Jewish return to the land of Israel.

Among other nascent Zionist writings from David Rome's library is *Sefer Tsevi le-khol ha-aratsot* (Vilna, 1893), with a dedication that is finely inscribed in the hand of author Kalman Schulman.

In the late 18th and throughout the 19th century, the voices of a third group were heard as the Jewish Enlightenment (*Haskalah*) spread from Germany into eastern Europe. This group did not continue the long and heated debate between Hasidim and their opponents, but rather sought to lead the vast majority of Jews into the world of secular European culture through cultural and educational reform. Vilna was one of the great centres of the Eastern Enlightenment. Because of the brilliant and multifaceted Jewish culture that flourished there, the city was known as the "the Jerusalem of Lithuania".

Among the fruits of the Enlightenment is the bio-bibliographic *Toldot Rabenu Zerayah ha-Levi* (Prague, 1853) by Jacob Reifmann. The work reflects this scholar's efforts to

merge traditional learning with Western thought. These early efforts to transform the nature of Jewish scholarship isolated Reifmann from his co-religionists. Among later books that endeavoured to reveal the mysteries of the modern, secular world to readers are Nahum Sokolov's translation into Hebrew of a work on natural sciences, *Metsuke erets* (Warsaw, 1878), and a fascinating volume on natural science that introduces recent inventions, *Sefer Kaveret Davshash* (Warsaw, 1888). Dispersed throughout the Rome library were many volumes from the renowned press of Vilna's Romm family (to which David Rome sought an elusive genealogical link until the end of his life). A profusion of research by later scholars crammed all other available space, along with piles of journals and boxes of documents.

Among the volumes selected for the Lowy Collection, two treasures from Amsterdam stand out: the first printed editions of the Bible in Yiddish. *Torah Nevi'im u-Khetuvim bi-leshon Ashkenaz* was printed by Uri Phoebus in 1676-1678, and a rival edition was produced shortly after by the Athias firm in 1679-1687. These Bibles are two of 20 Yiddish volumes from the Rome library, and two of six imprints from 17th- and 18th-century Amsterdam.

Many books from the Rome library show signs of this century's barbarity. There are books confiscated from libraries and individuals by the special task forces of Nazi ideologue Alfred Rosenberg. These books were shipped to Frankfurt to form the vast library with which to research "the Jewish question", and in the aftermath of the Second World War, were transferred by the American occupying forces to a warehouse in nearby Offenbach. They bear the stamp "ARCHIVAL DEPOT OFFENBACH A.M." In the words of historian Lucy S.

Dawidowicz, "The smell of death emanated from these hundreds and thousands of books and religious objects — ... mute survivors of their murdered owners."¹

By contrast, the tractates of the Shanghai Talmud, printed in China between 1942 and 1946 for refugee Yeshiva students and teachers, exemplify the eternally adapting and



David ben Shalom Shakhna ha-Levi Horvits, 1858-1914. *Sefer Kaveret Davshash*. Warsaw: Me'ir Yehi'el Halter, 1888. A book devoted to natural phenomena and scientific inventions. Shown here: a telegraph machine.



Talmud (Nedarim). Shanghai: be-Hotsa'at Menadvim, 1942 or 1943. The oval stamp reads in English: "Ezrat Torah' the Library of the Mir Yeshiva at present in Shanghai".

enduring human spirit. Twenty-three tractates of this Talmud, crudely sewn into wartime bindings, have been moved from the Rome library to the Lowy Collection.

The Rome library held some great surprises. Among the Hebraica and Judaica lay a superb copy of Lactantius' works in its burnished vellum binding. Printed at the Venetian press of Aldus in 1515, it seems almost untouched by the centuries. The old saying inevitably comes to mind: like people, books have their destinies.

Mr. Rome was a complex man. He never lost sight of Vilna, and in his



Bible (Yiddish). Torah Nevi'im u-Khetuvim bi-leshon Ashkenaz. Amsterdam: Uri Phoebus Ha-Levi, 1676-1678. First Yiddish translation of the Hebrew Bible.

library we see that he cherished both the jewels and the brittle remnants of Yiddish-speaking Europe. Yet he made abundant space in a densely packed room for the New World that had captured his heart. For decades a bibliographer of Jewish Canadiana, Mr. Rome was also a pioneering explorer of the culture of French Canada, and this interest was also manifest on his library shelves. The English, French, Yiddish and Hebrew-language Canadiana holdings of the National Library have been enriched through the efforts and achievements of David Rome's life, as has the Jacob M. Lowy Collection of rare Hebraica and Judaica.

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Note

¹ Lucy S. Dawidowicz, *From That Time and Place: A Memoir 1938-1947* (New York and London: W.W. Norton, 1989), p. 316. In this book, Dawidowicz relates her experiences at the YIVO Institute in Vilna, and the astonishing stories of its renowned library, which was plundered, dispersed, transplanted and reconstructed. ♦

From the Rare Book Collection...

by Michel Brisebois,
Rare Book Librarian, Research and Information Services

Albert Laberge, 1871-1960.
La Scouine. [Montréal]: Imprimerie modèle,
1918. 134 p. Wrappers.

It is only since the 1963 publication of Gérard Bessette's *Anthologie d'Albert Laberge* that the name of this author has become familiar to the general public. Eccentric and anticlerical, a pessimistic writer in the tradition of French Naturalism, Albert Laberge had everything to attract a posthumous following. His popularity has also spread among bibliophiles because all his works were published in very limited private editions.

Albert Laberge was born in 1871 on a farm in Beauharnois, near Montreal. After completing some classical studies, he became a journalist at *La Presse*, a position he held from 1896 until his retirement in 1932. Surprisingly, this lover of literature and the arts worked as a sports writer, and later as an art critic. Between 1899 and 1917, he wrote the various episodes of his novel *La Scouine*, and published parts of it in different newspapers such as *La*

Semaine. After *La Semaine* was accused of anticlericalism by the Archbishop of Montreal, Mgr Bruchési, the newspaper had to fold, and Laberge's book was attacked on the grounds of immorality. In 1918, the novel was published privately in an edition of only 60 copies, each numbered and signed by the author. An English version became available in 1977, under the title *Bitter Bread*.

Today, *La Scouine* is considered to be the first Naturalistic novel published in French Canada. It is the story of different members of the Deschamps family, and takes its title from the meaningless nickname, "La Scouine", given to one of the daughters, Paulina. In a series of scenes loosely held together, Laberge describes the ugliness and hardships of country life, and depicts the tragic lives



Albert Laberge (from *La Scouine*).

of cruel, unattractive characters.

It was only after his retirement in 1932 that Laberge was able to continue his literary career, publishing works between 1936 and 1955. In all, he published 14 books, mostly collections of short stories and tales. Today his most sought-after works, aside from *La Scouine*, are his memoirs and critical essays, such as *Peintres et écrivains d'hier et d'aujourd'hui* (1938),

Journalistes, écrivains et artistes (1945) and *Propos sur nos écrivains* (1954). Laberge died in 1960 in his Montreal home, surrounded by his books and paintings. The majority of Laberge's papers are held at the University of Ottawa.

The National Library of Canada owns two copies of *La Scouine*, one being from the André Marchand donation. This novel is certainly one of the rarest of all Quebec literary works of the 20th century. ♦

Gifts Enrich the National Library's Collections

by Monique Dupré,
Gifts and Exchanges, Acquisitions and Bibliographic Services

Since the beginning of the year, a number of donors have offered us old Canadian newspapers. Among those that are now part of our collection are the following two publications issued during the Second World War:

- *The Bullet*, Vol. 2, No. 6, Saturday, December 20, 1941. Toronto, Ont., Auxiliary Services, Military District No. 2.
- *Lowdown*, Vol. 1, No. 2, Thursday, December 6, 1945. Toronto, Ont., Public Relations Branch, Military District No. 2.

We also received several interesting Canadian brochures. The following titles are of particular interest because of the Prime Minister's recent visit to Cuba:

- *Cuba Confronts the Future: Five Years of the Revolution*. A Speech by Fidel

Castro, Jan. 2, 1964. Toronto, Fair Play For Cuba Committee.

- *A Report by Four Canadians on Cuba As They Saw It!* Toronto, Fair Play For Cuba Committee, [1963], 31 p.
- *Cuba's Road to Peace: A Speech to the United Nations* by the delegate Carlos Lechuga. Toronto, Fair Play For Cuba Committee [1963?].

Gifts from individuals and organizations in Canada and abroad assist the National Library in filling gaps in its Canadiana collection.

If you are considering disposing of any Canadiana publications, we encourage you to communicate with us.

For further information on making gifts to the National Library of Canada, contact:

Gifts and Exchanges
National Library of Canada
395 Wellington Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0N4
Telephone: (819) 994-6855
Fax: (819) 953-8508
E-mail: gifts@nlc-bnc.ca ♦

Clarification

The material supplied by the National Library of Canada for "Arctic Journeys: An Interactive Adventure" (see "Exploring the North: Interactive CD-ROM Now Available", *National Library News*, vol. 30, no. 6, June 1998, p. 19) was new material, rather than material based on the Library's 1993-1994 exhibition, "North: Landscape of the Imagination".



LIBRARY COMMUNITY

Reality Check as CLA Adapts to the Future

by Leacy O'Brien,
Director of Member Services, Canadian Library Association

When the Canadian Library Association met in Ottawa last June, conference delegates applauded President Paul Whitney's provocative and prophetic conference theme. "Reality Check: Seductive Futures, Sobering Present" captured the imagination of both the 1997 conference participants and the 1998

conference planning committee, and set the tone for a year in which the CLA's leadership was to carry out a reality check of its own — the design and implementation of a new strategic plan and significant organizational change, including a major change in CLA staff leadership. Karen Adams, who had served the Association as executive director for seven years, resigned earlier this year. New Executive Director Vicki Whitmell, former chief librarian at the Joseph L. Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto, was appointed to the position effective April 20, 1998.

Planning, partnerships and strategies for growth have been the focus for CLA leaders, staff and members over the course of the last 12 months. After broad consultation with members and non-members in forums that ranged from small focus groups at provincial conferences and chapter meetings to a large, facilitated planning retreat, a draft strategic plan was presented to the membership in early May. The plan, which emphasizes CLA's commitment to key principles and recognizes the Association's diversity and desire for enhanced services, was drafted by President Whitney, Vice-President Syd Jones and new Executive Director Vicki Whitmell. Under the broad goals of

advocacy, coalition building, direct member services, government relations and policy development, the plan calls for strategic alliances with relevant regional, national and international organizations on issues ranging from information policy and copyright in the digital environment to library advocacy and pre-school literacy projects.

The plan allocates high priority to developing and strengthening direct member services. This is an attempt to meet the needs of a new generation of library professionals, crafting career paths in a volatile employment environment that demands new skills and a high degree of entrepreneurship. The plan also calls for a communications review. It will study the potential of a redesigned Web site featuring employment resources, interactive communications, and members-only privileges, and examine the relevance and market appeal of *Felicitier* and the monographs program. Other planned service enhancements include an expanded menu of electronic information products available through the CLA OLAM service, a study of the feasibility of a continuing education certificate program, and expansion of the local chapter structure.

Partnership development has been a significant activity for CLA for

several years. Increasingly, CLA looks to other associations, government and private-sector organizations that share common goals as a means of delivering programs and services that benefit the library community. The CLA has revived its national continuing education program. In cooperation with provincial and regional library associations, noted Canadian intellectual property lawyer Lesley Ellen Harris delivered a series of copyright workshops at a dozen sites across the country.

The national conference, generally acknowledged as the centrepiece of the Association's professional development program, has also been adapted to incorporate partnerships with other associations to inject new energy and added value for delegates. In 1999, conference participants will be treated to the largest exhibit yet and will have numerous opportunities to hobnob with the literary set, thanks to a cooperative trade show agreement with the Canadian Booksellers Association. Plans are now well under way for a joint conference with the Association of Canadian Archivists and ARMA International. To be held in Edmonton in the year 2000, it promises to be an interesting convergence of three information professions. And further in the future, CLA looks forward to working with the American Library Association on a Toronto conference in 2003.

Government partnerships are key to CLA's national advocacy strategy. One of its strongest relationships is with the National Library of Canada. Longtime collaborators in endeavours such as the National Core Statistics Program (see *National Library News*, vol. 28, no. 6, June 1996, p. 20; vol. 29, no. 2, February 1997, pp. 11-12; vol. 29, no. 6, June 1997, p. 13; vol. 29, no. 12, December 1997, p. 11), joint



publishing ventures and the Library Book Rate program, CLA recently became an active partner in the National Library's annual Read Up On It project, together with the National Literacy Secretariat, Canada Post and the Canadian Federation of University Women. CLA also works closely with Industry Canada on a variety of initiatives related to the role of libraries in the federal government's "connectedness" agenda, in conjunction with the representatives of provincial and territorial library agencies. A recent initiative coordinated by CLA, in cooperation with the National Library, Industry Canada, the Association pour

l'avancement des sciences et des techniques de la documentation (ASTED) and the provincial and territorial agencies, was the integration of a library component into an Ekos Research study on the information highway and the Canadian "communications household".

1997-1998 was a year of discovery and thought-provoking discussions as CLA's leadership worked toward a strategic plan to establish the Association's priorities for the coming millennium. A reality check, to be sure, but one with the promise of the seductive future articulated in the conference theme.

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<http://www.cla.aamlibs.ca> ♦

NATIONAL CORE LIBRARY STATISTICS PROGRAM:

The Second Year

by *Ralph W. Manning*,
National and International Programs

The National Core Library Statistics Program was created to provide a mechanism for the collection and dissemination of statistical data on Canadian libraries of all types (see "Canadian Interlibrary Loan: Some Statistics", *National Library News*, vol. 29, no. 6, June 1997, p. 13, and "National Core Statistics Program",

National Library News, vol. 29, number 2, February 1997, pp. 11-12). Such statistics can provide a basis for planning, policy development and effective lobbying, and make it possible for libraries to draw comparisons with other libraries.

Data for 1994, the first year of the Program, were published by the National Library in 1997. Data for 1995 have been analyzed and will be published on the Web during 1998. Because there were virtually no changes in the data-collecting process, interesting comparisons are possible.

The following information is taken from the report prepared by Mark T. Kinnucan for the National Library. The complete report is now being finalized for publication in the fall of 1998.

The total number of libraries reporting data for 1995 was 1 832, which represents an increase of almost seven percent over the 1 719 libraries whose data were included in the 1994 database. Most of the new participants were government and non-profit organization libraries, while there was a slight decline in the number of academic libraries that reported.

Intensive participation by the Canadian Health Libraries Association members was beneficial in increasing the number of reporting libraries. Despite the overall increase in the number of libraries represented, not all libraries that reported in 1994 also reported in 1995. However, a total of 1 501 libraries reported in each year, which provides a useful base for comparison.

The number of service points in Canadian libraries appears to have declined slightly overall. While academic and government libraries closed more service points than they opened in 1995, public libraries modestly increased their number of branches. Looking at the data province by province, it appears that most of the closings were in Ontario, Newfoundland and the Territories, while libraries in Saskatchewan and Alberta increased the number of their service points.

The average percentage of total expenditures devoted to collections in 1995 varied from six percent for provincial libraries to 42 percent for libraries in profit-making organizations. This percentage increased substantially



from 1994 in "profit" libraries, while it decreased considerably in public libraries. Manitoba and Quebec libraries devoted the largest percentage of expenditures to collections in 1995, while libraries in New Brunswick devoted the smallest. The number of serial subscriptions fell in every type of library except public libraries, where there was a small increase of 0.9 percent.

About 279 million circulation transactions were reported by libraries in 1995. This represents an increase of 3.6 percent for those libraries that also reported in 1994. Public libraries account for about 84 percent of these circulation transactions.

The number of librarians in Canadian libraries decreased between 1994 and 1995, while the number of non-librarians rose slightly. Reporting libraries counted 5 293 librarians (full-time equivalents) in 1995, which was a 7.3 percent decline for libraries

that reported in both 1994 and 1995. The largest decrease in staff numbers was reported by public libraries.

Libraries reporting to the Program spent \$1.59 billion in 1995. For libraries reporting in both 1994 and 1995, this represents an increase of 5.9 percent. The largest increase was in public libraries (13.2 percent), but spending in government libraries declined by six percent.

Overall, 1995 was a year of modest growth for Canadian libraries, although there were also signs of retrenchment. Several statistics can be cited on the positive side. For example, the number of library holdings was up, particularly in public libraries. Circulation was up in academic and public libraries. In 1995, there was an increase in total expenditures compared to 1994, and the average salary and benefits of Canadian library employees grew by five percent. On the other hand, serial subscriptions decreased

considerably in academic and special libraries. Furthermore, there was a seven percent decrease in the number of librarians employed in Canadian libraries, especially in public libraries.

The complete report, with tables and figures, as prepared by Mark T. Kinnucan for the National Library of Canada, will be available shortly. Data collected for 1996 will provide a third year of comparison.

For more information, contact:

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ILL Request Form Now on Web

The National Library of Canada's Interlibrary Loan Division has introduced an interactive Web form for requesting interlibrary loans. This form allows libraries registered with the ILL Division to send interlibrary loan requests to the National Library via the Internet.

To use this form, libraries must have a valid library symbol, a user name and a password. The symbol, name and password are assigned by the National Library when the library registers with the ILL Division.

- Libraries that use En voy can continue to use En voy or can use the Web form.

- Libraries that use AMICUS/ILL can use the Web form for items that do not have records in the AMICUS database.

Libraries that can send requests with an ILL software package based on the ILL protocol are asked not to use the Web form. The form is not available to individuals.

To register as a user of the ILL Web request form, please complete the form at the Library's Web site (<http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/ill/einstruc.htm>). The one-time registration process is done by electronic mail only.

For more information, please contact:

Hélène Charbonneau
Client Services Coordinator
Interlibrary Loan Division
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395 Wellington Street
Ottawa, Ontario
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Fax: (613) 996-4424
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OBITUARY

Homage to Alice Jean Elizabeth Lunn, 1910-1998

by Gwyneth Evans,
National and International Programs

Less than two months after the opening of the Canadian Bibliographic Centre on May 1, 1950, under the direction of Dominion Archivist Dr. W. Kaye Lamb, Dr. Jean Lunn was appointed Bibliographer. She had a doctorate in Canadian history from McGill University, had served on the staff of the McGill Library and was the Librarian of the Fraser Institute in Montreal at the time of her appointment to Ottawa.

Jean Lunn played a central role within the national and international bibliographic communities for more than 30 years. Her work was instrumental in laying the groundwork for standards and cooperation in the cataloguing of materials and the presentation of bibliographic records so that they can be shared within countries and across borders.

The origins of Dr. Lunn's achievements can be traced to her academic interests and research in Canadian history and bibliography. She completed her doctoral thesis, *Economic Development in New France, 1713-1760*, in 1942. Her work was later translated by Brigitte Monet-Nish and published by the Presses de l'Université de Montréal in 1986 as *Développement économique de la Nouvelle-France, 1713-1760*.

In the June 1935 issue of the *Canadian Historical Review* (CHR), Dr. Lunn published an article entitled "Agriculture and War in Canada, 1740-1760".¹ In the December 1941 issue of the same review, her "Bibliography of the History of the



Dr. Jean Lunn.

Canadian Press",² initiated by the International Committee of Historical Sciences (ICHS) as part of its investigation of subjects bearing on the history of international relations, was printed, the Committee's publishing activities having been suspended because of the war. Dr. Lunn did this

work under the general supervision of the National Committee for Canada composed of E.R. Adair (McGill University); J. Bartlett Brebner (Columbia University, New York); and G. Lanctot (Public Archives of Canada). Dr. Lunn's interest in the press is evident in a second article, "Canadian Newspapers before 1821: A Preliminary List".³

In November 1950, as Chair of the Canadian Library Association Reference Section, Jean Lunn visited Europe to attend the UNESCO Conference on the Improvement of Bibliographic Services, and to visit a number of national libraries. The need for a conference had been raised by learned societies, which wanted action to gain control over the "flood of

printed materials by which we are presently being engulfed.... The ideal is, of course, world bibliography providing a subject approach to all branches of recorded knowledge in all its forms."⁴

In preparation for the conference, the Library of Congress, on behalf of UNESCO, had completed a survey of the problems, and Dr. Lunn had commented on this study from the Canadian point of view. The reports from national groups formed the working document of the conference.

By the end of the conference, a number of recommendations on the organization of national and international bibliographic services had been formulated. These recommendations directed the work of the Canadian Bibliographic Centre and the National Library of Canada. They were also essential to the Canadian planning committees formed to promote the development of bibliographic services, coordinate efforts, and provide links to international bodies.

One of the points made at the conference was that each country was considered to be responsible for its current national bibliography, which, ideally, would include records for maps, atlases, musical works and audiovisual materials, as well as books and pamphlets. Further recommendations included the need for a bibliography of unpublished theses, an index to articles in journals and newspapers, directories of periodicals and newspapers, and lists of publishers of all types.

The UNESCO conference participants recommended the establishment of a national library in every country to assure the preparation and publication of the national bibliography. Also emphasized was the need to collect at least one copy of every item published in every country. To that end, participants urged a law requiring the deposit of at least one copy of all publications in every member state within UNESCO. Other



recommendations concerned the additional desirable functions of a national library, the value of professional training, and the need for UNESCO to coordinate and facilitate appropriate international consultation and training. The application of these particular recommendations within Canada influenced the development of the National Library and its role in national and international bibliographic services as well as the country's schools of library and information studies.

After the conference, Dr. Lunn visited some of the great European libraries, and published some of her practical observations on these visits in the *Ontario Library Review*.⁵ She described how each country addressed the issues of both national and international bibliography. This article, among the many that appeared before Dr. Lunn's retirement in 1975, demonstrated her leadership, her intellectual interest and rigour, and her desire to be inclusive in developing national and international bibliographic services. In her articles and speeches, she expressed the need to identify the origins and explain the context of cataloguing, and to discuss the options for and consequences of bibliographic control over the increasing quantities and variety of printed materials.

While *Canadians: The National Bibliography* remains the largest and most continuing legacy of Dr. Lunn, she is well remembered for her work on the first edition of the *Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules* and its revision. She also participated in developing the International Standard Bibliographic Descriptions for monographs and serials and establishing Technical Committee 46 (Documentation) of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). During her tenure as Director of Cataloguing at the National Library, the additions to the Library of Congress classification schemes for Canadian history, law and literature were developed. In her

retirement, she completed the second draft of the *Study on a Model Law for Legal Deposit* for UNESCO, working in collaboration with the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA). In 1981, UNESCO published her *Guidelines for Legal Deposit Legislation*.

A review of her writings and works about the National Library between 1950 and 1975 reveals her impressive contribution to the Library from its earliest days and her influence on its direction and leadership. Some of her articles also demonstrate the humour that I and others remember as typical. In an inspiring address to the National Conference on Cataloguing Standards, held at the National Library of Canada in May 1970, Dr. Lunn describes the Canadian cataloguing situation as follows:

"Canada spells diversity. We are seeking for practical purposes a modus operandi in a situation which includes: (1) At least three cataloguing codes, one foreign, one continental, one international, one going, one here, one coming, none of them Canadian, all of them inherently variable, all of them trying to serve two masters, finding tool and bibliographical tool, one of them providing for the direct approach for ease of location, two of them sacrificing this facility in order to achieve uniformity; (2) The usual variety of types of library; (3) A number of major libraries heavily dependent upon the wholly admirable, indispensable services of a foreign national library; (4) Three systems, one manual (doubtless going), one mixed, that is partially automated (here) and one fully automated (doubtless coming); (5) Two official languages, and perhaps some increasingly insistent other tongues; (6) Eleven governments, not counting the municipalities, all with some jurisdiction over some libraries.

Have we any hope of achieving any standardization in this vertical, horizontal, transitional, institutional, technological, linguistic, jurisdictional mosaic? Canada is a microcosm of the world. IFLA believes that there is some hope for world uniformity. Perhaps we can be at least equally optimistic."⁶

Dr. Jean Lunn died in April 1998 in Ottawa. She will be impossible to forget. When I discussed her passing with colleagues, they recalled the enduring image of Jean Lunn leaving work with a bag of 3" x 5" cards to be checked, edited and returned the next morning. In both her energy and her dedication, she was matchless.

Former Associate National Librarian Hope Clement very aptly remarked: "Those involved in Canadian studies owe a tremendous debt to Jean Lunn for creating the bibliographic tools to make works published in Canada, about Canada and by Canadians accessible. She also played a pioneering and important role in the development of international bibliographic standards. On a personal note, I appreciated her as a wise and challenging mentor, whose wide knowledge and insistence on the highest standards, combined with a brilliant mind and a dry wit, made her a delight to be with. She was a unique character and will always be remembered as one of the original founders of the services of our National Library."

Notes

¹ *Canadian Historical Review*, vol. XVI, no. 2, June 1935, pp. 123-136.

² *Canadian Historical Review*, vol. XXII, no. 4, December 1941, pp. 416-433.

³ *Canadian Historical Review*, vol. XXV, no. 4, December 1944, pp. 417-420.

⁴ *Ontario Library Review*, vol. XXXV, no. 2, May 1951, pp. 142-145.

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ *National Conference on Cataloguing Standards*. National Library of Canada, May 19-20, 1970. Conference Paper no. 4, p. 10. ♦

Canadian Subject Headings, Third Edition, Supplement 10-11

by David Farris,
Acquisitions and Bibliographic Services

The 10th and 11th updates in a regular series of semi-annual cumulating supplements to Canadian Subject Headings, Third Edition (CSH3) are being issued as a combined number. This supplement will include approximately 150 new and changed headings. Supplement 8-9, May-November 1996, can be discarded on receipt of Supplement 10-11.

Canadian Subject Headings is essential for providing subject access to bibliographic materials and information sources on the topic of Canada. CSH offers in-depth coverage of Canadian topics, including those recently in the news; compatibility with *Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH)*; and copious references and scope notes.

New in this issue of the Supplement:

- New CSH headings and references required in *Canadiana* cataloguing, such as **Somalia Affair, Canada, 1992-**; **Canadien (The French word); Home children (Canadian immigrants); Legal assistance to native peoples — Canada;** and **Native arts — Canada;** and coverage of the Saguenay and Red River floods.
- LCSH changes through mid-1997 that affect *Canadian Subject Headings*, and continued emphasis on changes stemming from the ongoing rationalization of subject headings and subdivisions at the Library of Congress. For instance, this supplement includes modifications to headings for the Constitution; the new subdivision — **In art**; and several changes to subdivision order resulting from changes adopted by the Library of Congress.

- Headings for native or aboriginal or First Nation peoples in Canada. These changes result from the National Library of Canada's recent decision to adopt Library of Congress practice for the order of geographical and topical subdivisions (e.g., **Indians of North America — Housing — Canada; Inuit — Boats — Canada; Native peoples — Legal status, laws, etc. — Canada**). At the same time, the user will note the inclusion of headings formulated as phrases, where these have been adopted by LCSH to replace former heading and subdivision combinations (e.g., **Indian art — Canada; Indian land transfers — Canada**).

To order *Canadian Subject Headings, Third Edition* plain (Price: \$22.00) and/or *Supplement Number 10-11* (Price: \$34.95) please contact:

Canadian Government Publishing —
PWGSC Publishing
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0S9
Telephone: (819) 956-4802
Fax: (819) 994-1498
E-mail: publishing@ccg-gcc.ca

Subject authority records for *Canadian Subject Headings* are also available in AMICUS, the National Library's

bibliographic and authorities database. The authority records, with full MARC coding, can be downloaded via Access AMICUS, a fee-based service. For information about Access AMICUS, contact:

Client Information Centre
National Library of Canada
395 Wellington Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0N4
Telephone: (819) 997-7227
Fax: (819) 994-6835
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For information about CSH3 or its supplement, please contact:

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CANADIAN STUDIES

SAVOIR FAIRE:

Bombs from Balloons

by Sandra Bell,
Research and Information Services

“*Floating Vengeance: Japanese Balloon Attacks on North America during the Second World War*” was the theme of the *Savoir Faire* seminar given on March 17. The speaker was Michael Unsworth, Canadian studies librarian, Michigan State University Libraries. Mr. Unsworth, who has published works on the impact of these balloon attacks on some American states, is conducting research into the arrival of Japanese balloon bombs in Canada during the Second World War. The topic was of great interest to local researchers involved in military history.

After the bombing of Pearl Harbour, American bombing raids on Tokyo and other cities in Japan provoked a unique response from the Japanese army: the development of unmanned bomb-carrying balloons, produced under the auspices of a project named FUGO. These bombs were made with a special type of paper and potato paste, and produced by small cottage enterprises. It is reported that many of the workers were unaware of the balloons' intended purposes, which were to start forest fires, divert resources from the war effort and create panic in those being attacked.

Between November 1944 and April 1945, some 10 000 balloons were constructed. About 9 300 were launched by a new army unit, the Special Balloon Regiment, whose activity ceased with the destruction of Japan's hydrogen-producing facilities. The target of these balloon attacks was the Pacific Northwest of North America, and the majority of landings were in Oregon, Washington state, California and Alaska. Of the total number of balloons launched, a

disproportionately small number — about 300 — reached North America. Among the reasons for the poor success rates of the balloon bombs were the use of a weak antifreeze solution that did not prevent their batteries from freezing, and the difficulties of setting ablaze the cold, damp forests of North America.

At the time, the Japanese balloon offensive was not revealed to the North American population. The press cooperated with government and published little about the threat. This suppression of information was intended to prevent the enemy from learning about the success or failure of these balloon attacks, and to prevent public panic. However, when an Oregon minister's wife and five children were killed by a balloon bomb, limited information about the danger was disseminated.

IMPACT ON CANADA

Fewer than 100 balloon bombs landed on Canada during the Second World War. The second-largest number of

balloon bombs dropped on North American targets fell within British Columbia (the largest number fell in Oregon). A balloon released several bombs over Minton, Saskatchewan in 1945, but there was no loss of life. Bombs also fell in Alberta, Manitoba, the Northwest Territories and the Yukon. While the anticipated dangers of forest fires and germ warfare were not realized, much preparation had to be done federally, provincially and interprovincially. The Directorate of Military Operations and Planning at National Defence Headquarters in Ottawa was responsible for coordinating activities in Canada among the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF), the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), provincial police, forest rangers, trappers, bomb disposal squads, the army, navy, and research experts. Work was hampered because FUGO weapons did not appear on radar. Careful investigations of bomb incidents, coordinated in Ottawa, were undertaken by Bomb Investigation Squads based in Winnipeg (Manitoba), Regina (Saskatchewan), Edmonton and Calgary (Alberta), and, in British Columbia, Vancouver, Esquimalt, Prince Rupert and Prince George. As in the United States, there was a complete media blackout. All reports of incidents were suppressed. When a trapper in Mari Lake, Saskatchewan removed a piece of a bomb envelope and notified others before the area could be sealed off, the local press cooperated by not publishing information about the incident. The balloon attacks also promoted Canada-U.S. cooperation, particularly in the exchange of technical information.

CONCLUSION

According to most sources, the balloon offensive did not succeed. No forest fires were set, and no epidemics of disease broke out. FUGO documents were released in the U.S.A. at the end

of the war, but partly due to the low casualties, the topic was overshadowed by more prominent wartime episodes. Most primary sources on the balloon attacks remained security-classified until the early 1980s, but information

on FUGO technology was used for U.S. military balloon activities in the Cold War. It is believed that FUGO bombs may still exist undetected in many parts of North America. ♦

SAVOIR FAIRE:

Words and Deeds in Government Documents

by Mary Bond,
Research and Information Services

Inquisitionem in officio rotulorum cancellariae Hiberniae asservatarum repertorium. *Those who attended the Savoir Faire seminar on May 5 were privileged to learn that this daunting Latin phrase is the title of a Public Record Office publication held by the National Library which abstracts 16th- and 17th-century land ownership*

records of Ireland, including deeds, wills and leases. It was one of numerous sources described by Betty Deavy, former National Library of Canada Government and Law Specialist, in her talk on the riches of the Library's Great Britain official publications collection.

In her illustrated lecture, Betty Deavy demonstrated the value to Canadian studies of publications such as the *Parliamentary Papers*, the *London Gazette*, *War Dead of the British Commonwealth and Empire*, and the *Calendar of the Assize Records* for social, historical, political, economic and genealogical research. The last title, for example, provides the details of indictments in Sussex, Essex, Kent and Hertfordshire during the reigns of Elizabeth I and James I. Names of victims, criminals, jurors, and witnesses, and descriptions of the crimes and the punishments are recorded.

Members of the audience were able to peruse examples of richly

illustrated publications produced by museums, galleries and the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments, such as *Early Victorian Portraits* and *York: Historic Buildings in the Central Area, A Photographic Record*. Betty Deavy also noted several significant Web sites: for example, the sites of the Public Record Office and Her Majesty's Stationery Office (HMSO), which update the Library's print and microform collections.

Among those attending the seminar were staff of the National Library and the National Archives, some of Betty Deavy's former colleagues from the Library of Parliament, Carleton University and the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, as well as genealogists and other researchers. Many of the publications noted in her talk are included in the *Great Britain Official Publications: Collection Guide*, compiled by Betty Deavy and published by the National Library in 1996.

The next Savoir Faire seminar will be given by researcher David Boll on August 18. His topic will be "The History of Japanese Gardens and Bonsai" ♦

The guides to the official publications collections of the National Library of Canada include:

Great Britain Official Publications: Collection Guide by Betty Deavy (1996)

ISBN 0-660-59875-2

Cat. No. SN3-308/1996, Price: \$18.95 in Canada, \$18.95US elsewhere

The Official Publications of France: Collection Guide by Claire Bourassa (1994)

ISBN 0-660-59203-7

Cat. No. SN3-291-1994, Price: \$9.95 in Canada, \$12.95 elsewhere

The United States Federal Official Publications: Collection Guide by Betty Deavy and Sheila Ketchum (1993)

ISBN 0-662-59636-6

Cat. No. SN3-206/1993, Free

The first two are available from Canadian Government Publishing, the last from Marketing and Publishing at the National Library of Canada. See the Library's *Publications Catalogue* (<http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/pubs/ecurrent.htm>) for more information.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

THE ENLIGHTENED SCREEN 1997-1998:

Canadian Writers and the Changing Face of Canadian Film

by Kevin Burns,

Head, Seven Stories and member, Board of Directors,

Friends of the National Library of Canada

Without Sir Wilfrid Laurier there would not have been an "Enlightened Screen" series. It was in 1996, while we were working on a celebration to mark the centenary of Laurier's election as Prime Minister that Tom McSorley, Director of the Canadian Film Institute, and I started talking about innovative film programs. Under

contract to the Department of Canadian Heritage, we arranged to screen films that had been featured at the Canadian premiere, in 1896 in Ottawa, of Thomas Edison's Vitascope projector. That screening was the second recorded public demonstration of "the movies" in Canada. The first, a month earlier, took place in Montreal in June 1896 and featured a rival projection system invented by the Lumière brothers in Paris.

Laurier's prime ministership coincided with the arrival of cinema. A hundred years ago, films were essentially fragments that lasted about a minute: horse-drawn fire trucks racing by, a train arriving at a station, people playing with a garden hose, or a dancer performing a "butterfly" dance. By the time of Laurier's death, in 1919, the cinema was well on its way to becoming one of the most popular forms of entertainment in the world. These initial film fragments had evolved into authored "photoplays".

Cinema in Canada has remained a predominantly imported art form. Today, Canadian film-makers still fight for screen time in an industry where films from the United States are so dominant that Canadian films occupy less than five percent of screen

time in Canada. Even so, Canada's cinematic history is rich and impressive, and one of the latest developments in this remarkable story of endurance and innovation is the emergence of a group of writers who work in both literary and cinematic forms. For example, Governor General's Award-winning novelists Mordecai Richler, Carol Shields and



Atom Egoyan with admirers.

Guy Vanderhaeghe are currently engaged in adapting their novels for the screen.

After our Laurier experience, Tom McSorley and I developed "The Enlightened Screen", a series of film



Left to right: Tom McSorley, Kevin Burns, Michel Marc Bouchard.

presentations followed by discussions with writers. Our focus: Canadian writers working at the cusp of cinematic and literary adaptation. The Friends of the National Library of Canada commissioned the Canadian Film Institute to implement the series in the fall of 1997.

On January 22, shortly before his highly acclaimed film adaptation of Russell Banks' novel *The Sweet Hereafter* was nominated for two Academy Awards, Atom Egoyan spoke to an overflow crowd at the National Library. That evening, some 200 disappointed people were turned away from the box office. Egoyan was clearly surprised by the enthusiastic response he received and described the "The Enlightened Screen" as "a very important series". Following the film presentation, McSorley guided him on a journey through the themes in his films and enquired about the challenge of adapting someone else's novel. Then audience members asked questions. Among other things, they wanted to know how Egoyan chooses the music in his films and whether he considers it



important for a director to assume a moral stance in a film. Egoyan said feelings govern his music choices, and he adamantly refuses to judge any of the characters in his films.

As he made his exit, Egoyan was “scrummed” by people wanting him to sign film scripts. “Toronto is too cool for anything like this!” he joked during a sudden encounter with a lobby full of fans and two crews of student journalists hoping for unscheduled interviews.

Egoyan was not alone in his appreciation of an opportunity to talk with an audience. On November 13, Michel Marc Bouchard described how he adapted his play *Les Feluettes* into the movie *Lilies*. Both versions contain a complex play-within-a-play about two schoolfriends who meet to settle an old score after being separated for years. Bouchard spoke about learning to write within the strict limitations of a production budget. “After a tough phone call with the producer I would write ‘two horses’ instead of ‘eight,’” he confided.

Attending “The Enlightened Screen” gave Brad Fraser the occasion for his first visit to Ottawa. The audience was given a rare glimpse — through production photographs — into Fraser’s acting career in Edmonton before he became better known as a playwright. Following the screening on March 19, Fraser spoke about the apparent dilution of his highly charged play, *Unidentified Human Remains and the True Nature of Love*, into a relatively “safe” feature film, *Love and Human Remains*. Although he values the experience of having worked with acclaimed director Denys Arcand, Fraser told his audience: “One day I’m going to shoot that film according to

my original script.” He also spoke about his embarrassment when students approach him and say they are studying him in their courses. “I’ve become a text!” he admitted with some concern.

Jacques Godbout is one of Canada’s foremost film-makers, novelists and essayists. Forty years ago, he joined the National Film Board. In *Le Sort de l’Amérique*, his most recent NFB production, Godbout captures his spirited encounter with playwright René-Daniel Dubois as they look at different ways of interpreting the Battle



Brad Fraser (photo: Raoul).

of the Plains of Abraham, the deaths of Generals Wolfe and Montcalm, and the birth of Upper and Lower Canada. Godbout’s exploration of history and myth was the only documentary in the series and it generated a highly animated discussion on February 19. Godbout enjoyed himself, saying it was “a great, enriching experience”.¹

The film that launched the series on October 16 was David Adams Richards’ adaptation of his novel *For Those Who Hunt the Wounded Down*. Before meeting his audience, Richards

said he was concerned that the conversation might drift or get bogged down. To his surprise, the discussion was both energized and informed, focussing on the different ways he tackles scenes as a novelist and as a screenwriter. Richards said he was intrigued by the experience of talking with people who were so familiar with his novels that they were able to describe different nuances in the way he presented the same characters on the page and on the screen.

When we first discussed the series, this kind of exchange is exactly what Tom McSorley and I hoped “The Enlightened Screen” would produce. Our intent was simple: to put writers in conversation with their readers and their audiences, recognizing that, increasingly, established Canadian writers are also creating works for television and film. As Tom McSorley later reflected on the series, “It’s about making the connection between the collection in the Library and writers at an important time of cultural transition. A convergence, if you like, as more and more of our writers are writing for more and more media. Our foremost novelists are now writing for the screen as well as for the page.”

Last-minute changes in Anne Wheeler’s production schedule prevented her from taking part, but when renovations to the auditorium of the National Library are complete early in 1999, we intend to schedule her in what we hope will be “The Enlightened Screen: The Sequel”.

Note

¹ The National Library holds the manuscripts of Jacques Godbout. ♦



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.

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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
August 7	Information Technology Services, Training Room no. 1 National Library of Canada Hull, Quebec	August 18-19 (in English)
August 21	University of P.E.I. Atlantic Veterinary College Building Charlottetown, P.E.I.	September 15-16 (in English)
September 18	Information Technology Services, Training Room no. 1 National Library of Canada Hull, Quebec	September 29-30 (in French)
September 25	University of Manitoba Department of Academic Computing & Networking Microcomputer Centre Winnipeg, Manitoba	October 20-21 (in English)
October 16	Montreal, Quebec LOCATION TO BE CONFIRMED	November 2-3 (in French)
October 23	Yukon Place Room 2410 Whitehorse, Yukon	November 17-18 (in English)
November 6	Information Technology Services, Training Room no. 1 National Library of Canada Hull, Quebec	November 17-18 (in English)
November 13	Alberta Research Council Computer Training Room Edmonton, Alberta	November 24-25 (in English)