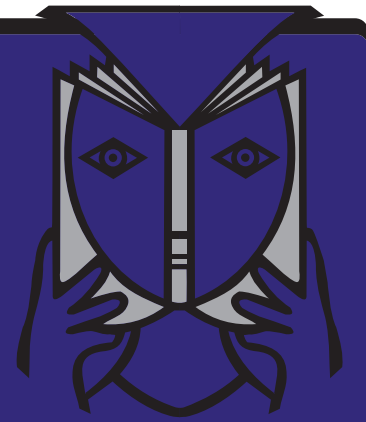




National Library News

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COLLECTIONS

From the Rare Book Collection...

by Michel Brisebois,

Rare Book Librarian, Research and Information Services

Alain Grandbois, 1900-1975.

Poèmes. Hankow [China]: 1934. [32] double leaves.

Among the Canadian writers who had the privilege of knowing Paris between the two wars, one thinks mainly of Morley Callaghan, John Glassco, Marcel Dugas, Simone Routier and Robert de Roquebrune. They published their memoirs, more or less romanticized, describing their meetings with famous French and foreign writers who lived in Paris at that time.

One often forgets the writer who was probably the most present, and, at the same time, the least vocal, Alain Grandbois. He was a friend of Paul Morand, Paul Valéry, St-John Perse, Blasco Ibanez, Ernest Hemingway and many more. He would enjoy a morning coffee with Jean Giraudoux before setting off to explore the streets of Montparnasse with Léon-Paul Fargue. Private and modest, Grandbois told his story in bits and pieces especially through the memoirs of such friends as Marcel Dugas.

Alain Grandbois was born into a family of wealthy merchants in Saint-Casimir de Portneuf, Quebec. After eventful and often interrupted studies, he is admitted to the bar, but never practises. In 1925, he leaves



Canada to settle in Paris, and apart from a few short visits to his family, does not return to Canada until 1939. Though Paris occupies his attention for



a few years, Grandbois is thirsty for escape and travel. It is a time of exoticism and speed, long automobile trips, and the opening of air routes to North Africa and Indochina.

Like his friends Paul Morand and Léon-Paul Fargue, Grandbois roams all over Europe, and makes his way to North Africa, India and the Holy Land. It is difficult to follow his exact footsteps since the notes he scribbles during his trips are either lost on a train to Siberia or forgotten in a Moroccan kasbah. In the winter of 1933, he publishes a biography of Louis Jolliet, *Né à Québec*, in Paris, then boards a ship for the Far East.

His itinerary takes him through Africa to Ceylon, to Singapore, and, across Indochina and Cambodia, to Shanghai. From Shanghai, he makes his way to Hankow, the largest inland harbour in China. There he meets a French merchant to whom he shows a few poems that he has written during the trip. His host promises to have them printed while Grandbois continues his voyage to Tibet.

Back in Hankow a few months later, a surprised author receives 150 copies of his book. It is an attractive book printed on laid rice paper with card boards covered in blue silk. The frontispiece shows a man lying on a mat smoking opium. In the upper right-hand corner of the cover are five Chinese characters which can be translated as "at the same instant as inspiration surges, the poem is done". Printed August 25, 1934, the book contains seven poems, which were reprinted later in *Les Iles de la Nuit* (Montréal: Parizeau, 1944) but in a different order, and illustrated by the author's old friend Alfred Pellán.

Grandbois brings back a dozen copies and puts the rest on a passing junk. The precious cargo disappears in the Sea of China, victim of a storm or pirates. The only known copies were preserved by the author's friends or

family. Only six copies of this work have been located: three in libraries (the National Library of Canada, the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec and the Université de Montréal) and three in private collections.

Fleeing the war, Grandbois returns to Canada in 1939, financially ruined. He publishes a few books of poetry, *Les Iles de la Nuit* (1944), *Rivages de l'Homme* (1948) and *L'Étoile pourpre* (1957), short stories in *Avant le chaos* (1945) and a biography, *Les voyages de Marco Polo* (1941). Now bibliographer at the Bibliothèque Saint-Sulpice, he publishes articles in periodicals, presents a long series of radio programs, and speaks at conferences.

Alain Grandbois is one of Canada's most important poets. His work, which is of great density and depth, has influenced many generations of creators.

It was through the intervention of Dr. Guy Sylvestre, the National Librarian at the time, that the National Library of Canada acquired its precious copy of the *Poèmes* of Hankow in the 1970s. ♦

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more about a topic, please let us know and we will write about it in a future issue of *National Library News*.

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DECENTRALIZED PROGRAM FOR CANADIAN NEWSPAPERS (DPCN):

Western and Northern Canada Updates

by Sandra Burrows,
Research and Information Services

“Update on the Decentralized Program for Canadian Newspapers (DPCN)” (*National Library News*, vol. 29, no. 10, October 1997, pp. 8-9) focused on national accomplishments. A second article focused on provincial contributions and future developments of the DPCN on the East Coast (“East Coast Updates”, *National Library News*, vol. 30, no. 6, June 1998, pp. 14-16).

This article examines the role of the provinces and territories in the program and reports on recent developments in British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba, the Northwest Territories, Saskatchewan and the Yukon. The information was received from DPCN contacts in 1997 and taken from 1998 reports, as well as recent updates from some of the contacts.

In 1982, the National Library of Canada adopted a framework for national and provincial/territorial responsibilities with regard to the collection, preservation and accessibility of Canadian newspapers. Some 17 years later, much has been accomplished by the National Library of Canada in coordination with the provincial/territorial contacts who attended the first National Newspaper Colloquium in 1985.

The DPCN was intended to be voluntary and decentralized, with specific roles and players. The key element was that the onus was to be placed on local organizations to initiate specific programs within each province and territory.¹ The provincial/territorial responsibility was to plan newspaper collection and preservation within each jurisdiction and to ensure availability and access within each

province/territory through lending, location and reference services. The National Library of Canada was to provide initial assistance in financing the preparation of plans and checklists. The Library also agreed to buy a copy of the microfilmed newspapers, as resources permitted. Since the publication of provincial and territorial lists of newspapers, which began in 1992, the following activities have been initiated. The material below is drawn from responses provided by provincial contacts to questions posed in June 1997. Credits are listed in the endnotes.

ALBERTA

PRESERVATION MICROFILMING

In 1997, Assistant Legislature Librarian Karen L. Powell reported on newspaper microfilming activities at the Legislature Library of Alberta, as follows:

The collection of Alberta newspapers in print form now numbers over 4 110 000 printed pages with a growth of approximately 240 000 pages per year. Since 1976, the Library has filmed parts of the weekly newspapers in its collection to preserve fragile

material and provide continued access to its contents.

As the Provincial Archives was not able to secure the required funding for the microfilming of newspapers, the Glenbow Archives microfilms all Southern Alberta newspapers as funding becomes available and the Legislature Library concentrates on newspapers published in Central and Northern Alberta.²

Where community funding can be provided for a jointly funded project, the Legislature Library arranges for filming priority to be given to these titles. Since 1976, 241 newspaper titles from 82 communities have been filmed. Most print issues of the weeklies are then returned to the place of provenance. The Legislature Library has also purchased sets of 93 additional titles in 60 communities, mainly filmed by the Glenbow Archives, with some filmed through local community efforts and grants. The peak year was 1985, when 196 911 pages were filmed. By contrast, only 75 068 pages were filmed in 1996/1997. In 1993, a cost estimate of \$721 209 was placed on filming the existing collection of print newspapers. An additional \$31 000 was estimated for processing currently received issues. Because of the high cost, any large filming projects are unlikely to be undertaken without community funding. The Library is giving priority to filming titles published before 1950.³

Some of the titles filmed in 1996/1997 include: the *Clive News Record*, 1914 to 1918; the *Erskine Review*, 1917 to 1921; and the *Hardisty World*, 1924 to 1952. As the Olds Historical Society, the *Olds Gazette* publisher and the Glenbow Archives were able to contribute to the *Olds Gazette* microfilming, all the newspapers available from 1907 to 1992 were also filmed. The newspapers from Clive, Hardisty, Hay Lakes, Olds and Stirling were returned to the communities after filming was



completed. In addition, a master microfilm storage project has been undertaken with the Alberta Records Centre, through which the masters are transferred there for safekeeping and a duplicate set is housed in the Legislature Library for patrons to use.

In March 1997, M.J. Harper, the publisher of the *Olds Gazette*, reported to the executive board of the Alberta Weekly Newspaper Association on the Legislature Library's microfilming program, in an effort to stimulate interest and support in future filming projects. The newspapers from Crossfield were also to be sent to the Glenbow Archives for filming. In 1997/1998, newspapers from Clyde, Jarrow, Lake Saskatoon, Millet, New Sarepta, Ribstone (Dunn), Ryley, Sangudo, and Waterhole (Fairview) were prepared for filming. A project, developed with assistance from community groups, was also organized to film Wetaskiwin newspapers from 1963 to the present. The remaining newspapers to be filmed in Alberta communities represent 139 retrospective titles from 74 communities.⁴

Access to Alberta newspapers in the collection of the Alberta Legislature Library may be found on both the main library catalogue at:

<www.assembly.ab.ca/lao/library/library.htm> via telnet and the Legislature Library's *Union List of Serials*. The intention is to have all newspaper titles and holdings current on the database by the end of 1998.⁵ The Legislature Library also hopes to update or create a supplement to the valuable *Alberta Newspapers, 1880-1982: An Historical Directory* by Gloria M. Strathern. [Edmonton: The University of Alberta Press, 1988. 568 pp. 0-88864-137-0 (cloth); 0-88864-138-9 (paper)].⁶

A list of current weekly newspapers may be viewed at the Alberta Weekly Newspaper Association

site at: <www.awna.ab.ca/>. The Alberta Family Histories Society has produced some indexes on its Internet site: <www.calcna.ab.ca/afhs/publish.html#vital> which include birth, marriage and death notices from the *Calgary Herald* and the *Calgary Tribune*.

No digitization project is underway at the Legislature Library at present. The Assistant Legislature Librarian is interested in any ongoing Canadian digitization/scanning projects for newspapers to garner information or advice for Alberta newspaper proposals.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

PRESERVATION MICROFILMING

In 1997, the Legislature Library approved a new B.C. Newspaper Microfilming and Retention policy which was also accepted by the British Columbia Information Management Services (formerly the British Columbia Provincial Archives). The Legislature Library of British Columbia continues to purchase paper copies of all British Columbia newspapers which are retained for two years; however, the filming program has been curtailed since 1995. In 1997, filming was reduced from 158 titles to 37. The in-house filming program ceased in March 1997 with the retirement of the in-house microfilmer. The rest of the filming has been contracted out to Deines Microfilm Services Ltd. with 30 current newspapers retained for continued filming based on geographic coverage, quality of content, uniqueness of relevant information, editorial comment and historical significance. In 1997, 54 rolls of film containing 32 current B.C. newspaper titles were filmed. For 1997, seven retrospective titles were filmed before March. After this, filming priorities switched to current titles. A project to update all online records in the British Columbia Legislative Library's database

was completed in 1997 and a project to update old and minimal bibliographic records is likely to be completed in 1999. A list of titles is available at: <www.bcars.gs.gov.bc.ca/library/newspaper/legis/lilib_a.htm>.⁷ The 41 commercially filmed titles are still being acquired for both Legislative Library and Archives researchers. British Columbia Information Management Services maintains the retrospective newspaper collection on microfilm and in print. A list of titles may be found on the Internet at: <www.bcarchives.gov.bc.ca/library/newspapr/newspapr.htm>.⁸

The newspapers are filmed from titles to which the Legislature Library subscribes. It arranges for the filming and transfer of the film to the Archives. Approximately 11 000 reels of microfilm are available. Although the titles are not obtainable on interlibrary loan, they may be consulted on site. The major dailies are available from public and university libraries in Vancouver and Victoria.

ACCESS TO BRITISH COLUMBIA NEWSPAPERS

The Legislature Library also provides selective indexing of the *Victoria Times Colonist*, the *Vancouver Sun* and the *Vancouver Province* and the index has been available via the online catalogue since 1991.

Researchers should also note the newspaper clippings files available at the City of Vancouver Archives at: <www.city.vancouver.bc.ca/ctyclerk/archives/g_geneal.html-ssi> for genealogy guides. These include the J.S. Matthews fonds of news clippings from 1886 to 1970, indexed via card files, and the City of Vancouver Archives files from 1972 to the present as well as two Pacific Press news binders from 1930 to 1985. The City of Victoria Archives at: <www.city.victoria.bc.ca/archives/genogy.htm> has newspaper indexes for the *Victoria Times*, 1901 to 1939, marriage and obituary notices, and the



Times Colonist 1985 to June 1993, obituary notices and extensive City of Victoria clipping files. An interesting paper on the history of early West Coast newspapers, *The First Newspapers on Canada's West Coast: 1858-1863* by Hugh Doherty (a research paper prepared at the University of Victoria graduate history department in 1973) may be found at:
<members.tripod.com/~Hughdoherty/index.htm> .

MANITOBA

There have been two updates to the Manitoba section of the article that appeared in *The Serials Librarian* (vol. 26, no. 3/4, 1995, pp. 55-83). Although the Manitoba Library Association's ad hoc committee on newspaper preservation did not develop a formal resource-sharing plan among its participants (the Legislative Library, the Winnipeg Public Library, the University of Winnipeg and the University of Manitoba), by 1996/1997, the majority of rural newspapers had been filmed to the end of 1994. The single-copy masters now number over 5000 reels with 200 new reels produced annually.⁹

Through a legal-deposit stipulation, the Manitoba Legislative Library is still able to acquire all newspapers published in Manitoba. A second subscription is purchased to ensure that an intact copy exists for filming. The Legislative Library also purchases commercially produced microfilm and arranges filming for non-commercial community newspapers through the services of a private company. Although the microfilming budget has been reduced over the last several years, the microfilming program continues. The Manitoba Newspaper Checklist database and master printout have also been maintained and updated since they were first produced in 1986;

however, holdings of libraries other than the Legislative Library have not been updated since 1989. There are plans to digitize the *Checklist* after updating non-Legislative Library holdings.¹⁰ The Legislative Library also subscribes to electronic editions of Manitoba newspapers (where available). The Web page, *A List of Current Manitoba Newspapers at the Legislative Library*, may be found at: <www.gov.mb.ca/leg-lib/webnwsp.html > .

The original newspapers are retained and stored at the Legislative Library with the exception of the major dailies, the *Winnipeg Free Press*, the *Winnipeg Sun*, the *Brandon Sun*, and the *Portage La Prairie Daily Graphic*. Only current issues of these newspapers are retained. The rest are discarded when the microfilm arrives. (The National Library of Canada has kept the *Winnipeg Free Press* in print form since 1967 as one of the 12 newspapers retained and stored permanently). The storage facility for newspaper retention has an approximate timespan of eight more years before full capacity is reached.

Four indexes have been noted.

- The *Boissevain Recorder* indexed for the years 1899 to 1909 by the Manitoba Newspaper Committee of the Manitoba Library Association in 1988 to test the *Guidelines for Indexing Newspapers with the Manitoba Subject Headings List*;
- *An Index of Birth, Marriage and Death Notices from Manitoba Newspapers* by Kathleen Rooke Stokes et al. of the Manitoba Genealogical Society, Inc. in 1986 for the years 1859 to 1881 (vol. 1, marriages and deaths only); 1882 to 1884 (vol. 2); and 1885 (vol. 3);
- *Manitoba Notices: Selected Births, Marriages, Anniversaries and Deaths Extracted from the "Winnipeg Free Press", November 1984 to February*

1986 by John G. De Groot, covering November 1984 to February 1986 on individuals of French origin with accompanying photographs, 1991;

- *The Winnipeg Tribune Subject Clipping Research Files: Microfilm Master Index* by Mary Pallet produced for the University of Manitoba Libraries' Department of Archives and Special Collections in 1986, a microfilm collection of 167 reels of clippings arranged alphabetically by subject and subdivided chronologically. The Legislative Library has no plans for future indexing projects but it does maintain subject clipping files on topics related to provincial government programs.

At present, the Manitoba Legislative Library is still the major player in newspaper collection and preservation in Manitoba. The long-term intention is to integrate the newspaper holdings into its electronic catalogue via MAPLIN at: <pls.chc.gov.mb.ca:8080/pls/pls.htm> . Although the ad hoc committee on newspapers through the Manitoba Library Association is no longer active, the cooperation between the adjoining Legislative Library and Provincial Archives ensures that researchers have easy access to both published and primary newspaper materials.¹¹

A number of native newspapers from Western Canada are available at the home page of the Aboriginal Multi-Media Society (AMMSA) at: <www.ammsa.com/ammsa.html> . Other native media links may be found at: <www.mb.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca/~asw/files/alink_ef.html> , the home page of the Aboriginal Single Window Initiative, a cooperative effort by the Government of Canada and the Province of Manitoba.



NORTHWEST TERRITORIES/NUNAVUT

In 1993, the National Library of Canada acquired the master microfilm and a positive copy of a large number of Northwest Territories newspapers including the following titles (names at time of publication are used):

- Aklavik
Aklavik Journal November 1955 to May 1957;
- Arctic Bay
Arctic Bay News=Ikpiarjukmit pivaliayuik November 15, 1991 to December 13, 1991;
- Cape Dorset
Cape Dorset News May 14, 1974 to July 26, 1974;
Cape Dorset NWT Newsletter April 22, 1974;
- Chesterfield Inlet
Chesterfield Hi-lites September 1963 to April 1964;
Kisark May 1966;
Kisaut December 1966 to May 20, 1969;
- Eskimo Point
Arviat Nipinga May 1971 to April 16/30, 1976;
Tusautit August 2, 1966 to July 1, 1970;
- Fort Good Hope
Dene Express January 1975 to 1997;
Hare Express, June 9, 1969 to December 1974;
- Fort McPherson
Peel River Press September 15, 1970 to 1971;
Tulita Spring 1973; October 1973 to December 1973; February 1974; June 1974 and November 1974;
- Fort Providence
Goondee Cho March 1971 to April 1972;
- Fort Simpson
Confluence February 4 to July 23, 1977;
- Fort Smith
Fort Smith Journal August 12 to December 16, 1978;
The Mackenzie Pilot January 18, 1973 to August 21, 1975; September 3, 1975 to January 15, 1976; April 1, 1976 to March 31, 1977;
The Norther January 13, 1963 to September 30, 1971;
- Frobisher Bay/Iqaluit
The Eastern Arctic Newsweek October 28, 1968 to May 22, 1969;
Eastern Arctic Star October 17, 1969 to January 17, 1972;
Nunatsiaq News on microfiche from the Ontario Community Newspaper Association from 1985 to 1997;
Tusaqvik=Listening Post July/August 1968 to November 1971;
- Hay River
Hay River News March 8, 1967 to May 4, 1972;
Hay River Optimist May 14, 1963 to 1973;
The Mackenzie Press February 22, 1962 to July 19, 1963;
- Igloolik
Igloolik Weekly Newsletter June 27, 1972 to September 30, 1972;
Iklulik Qakutikut=The Igloolik Irregular March 1975;
Midnight Sun April 1969 to April 1974;
- Inuvik
Mackenzie Drift April 3, 1979 to August 27, 1980;
- Pangnirtung
Pangnirtung October 4 to November 3, 1971
Pangnirtung News November 1986
Tusarasapit Nutat September/October 1972 to January 16, 1974
Tusautit Tusarasat=Tusautit Newsletter November 25, 1983 to March 1986
Ukalimagat=News and Views December 1971 to April/May 1972
- Pine Point
The Pine Pointer May 1965 to June 15, 1987
- Pond Inlet
Piasuarusirmi Pivatlaiyat Mitimatalikmi = Newsweek of Pond Inlet January 21, 1972 to April 1973 in two editions
Suwagug February 1974 to October 1975; March 1976 to June 1, 1978
- Rankin Inlet
Kagikliniap Pikkusigit=Rankin Times October 5, 1973 to June 4, 1975; March 4 to March 22, 1976
Rankin Inlet Newsletter December 1972 to January 1973
- Resolute Bay
Arctic Antics October 31 to November 16, 1966
- Yellowknife
Northern Star January 5, 1994 .

Two other newspaper collections of note are those northern newspapers which are part of the Dick Hill Northern Collection at the Inuvik Centennial Library at: <www.inuvik.net/icl/dick.htm>, the Canadian Circumpolar Institute Library at: <www.library.ualberta.ca/library_html/libraries/ccl.html>; The Northern News Services at: <www.nnsl.com/ops/pub/publish.html> and *Nunatsiaq News* at: <www.nunatsiaq.com/> .



SASKATCHEWAN

Saskatchewan Legislative Library newspaper titles are available at their onsite catalogue at: <pleis.lib.sk.ca/pleis/logon/leg.htm> which is part of the PLEIS (Saskatchewan's province-wide Library Electronic Information System). The Library retains the current five years of the microfilmed daily papers. After five years, the microfilm is transferred to the Saskatchewan Archives where the public may consult it. The daily papers from Regina, Saskatoon, Moose Jaw and Prince Albert are retained only until they are replaced by microfilm (approximately two to three months for Regina and Saskatoon, four to six months for Moose Jaw and Prince Albert). The Legislative Library also subscribes to all currently published Saskatchewan local newspapers with the exception of local "shopper" publications whose primary purpose is to disseminate advertising and sales information. The Library retains only the current year of each weekly newspaper. At the end of the year, the paper copies are sent to the Saskatchewan Archives where they are microfilmed. The Library does not have microfilm of the weekly papers. These are available from the Saskatchewan Archives Board.¹²

The Saskatchewan News Index Project was initiated in 1992 by Darlene Fichter of the University of Saskatchewan Libraries. In the initial phase, article citations from the *Saskatoon Star Phoenix*, the *Regina Leader Post* and the *Western Producer* were sent to the University of Saskatchewan Libraries and made available on the Internet. The successful conversion of the 1987 print volume of the *Star Phoenix* set the stage for future digital projects. Subsequent phases of the project have been produced by the University of Saskatchewan Libraries, Main and Education Libraries with funding

provided by Schoolnet Digital Collections, Industry Canada. The index was produced from a number of print and electronic indexes held by Saskatoon Public Library, Saskatchewan Provincial Library, Regina Public Library, Legislative Library of Saskatchewan and the Saskatchewan Archives Board. It contains stories originating mainly from Saskatchewan, including top news stories on agriculture, beginnings and landmarks, health, higher education, heroes and outlaws, arts, science and technology, sports, conflict and struggle, politics and the development of Saskatchewan newspapers.¹³

Newspapers and coverage include: *Index to the Regina Leader 1883 - 1903 & 1904 - 1920*; *Index to the Saskatoon Phoenix 1902 - 1908*; *Index to the Morning Leader, Regina January, 1921 - April, 1930* and the *Leader-Post (evening edition) April, 1930 - December, 1934*; *Index to the Regina Leader-Post January 1, 1935 - December 31, 1943* (copyright for all is held by the Saskatchewan Archives Board); *Saskatchewan Newspaper Index, 1935 - 1965*, which includes items of Saskatchewan interest contained in the four daily newspapers of the province (*Regina Leader Post*, *Moose Jaw Times Herald*, *Prince Albert Daily Herald*, *Saskatoon Star Phoenix*), and the weekly *Western Producer* (the Saskatchewan Legislative Library retains copyright in this database); *Saskatoon Newspaper Index, 1981 - December 31, 1997* containing citations from volume I to volume VII 1981 to 1986) and items found in the *Star Phoenix* (Saskatoon), *The Saskatoon Sun*, *The Saskatoon Mirror*, and *The Saskatoon Shopper* (the Saskatoon Public Library retains copyright to these citations); *The Western Producer, 1991 to 1994*, which includes over 90 percent of the content (excluding classifieds) of *The Western Producer* and *Western People* for the period January 1991 to August 1994

(the citations were provided in electronic format by the Saskatchewan Provincial Library which compiles and retains copyright); and the *Regina Leader Post, 1992 to 1995* with citations from the *Regina Leader Post* for the period 1992 to September 1995, and the *Regina Sun*, beginning January 1995 included in the online index (the citations were provided in electronic format by Regina Public Library which retains copyright).⁷ The Legislative Library also retains clipping files from 1984 to 1987 inclusive on 16 mm microfilm and clipping files from 1988 to 1990 on microfiche, in the reference department. The remaining files are housed in a storage area in the Legislative building and can be retrieved on request. The individual clipping files are not listed in the Library's online catalogue at this time, nor do they circulate outside the Library.¹⁴

THE YUKON

The Yukon Archives, which is a program of the Department of Education of the Government of the Yukon, maintains responsibility for the filming and preservation of Yukon newspapers. The Archives has over 50 titles, including the *Dawson News, 1899 to 1953*; *Klondike Nugget, 1898 to 1903*; *Yukon Sun, 1899 to 1904*; *Whitehorse Star, 1901 to date*, and other early Yukon newspapers in their original form and on microfilm.

The Archives also maintains a large number of gold-rush newspapers from the United States and over 40 northern-oriented current newspapers including Yukon community newspapers. The microfilmed newspapers are available on interlibrary loan with a priority given to Yukon libraries. The Archives is working on a Web version of its microfilm catalogue.¹⁵



Two newspaper indexes of note are: *The Yukon Sun, 1898-1905 : Index and Summary* compiled by Helen Dobrowsky, Rob Ingram and Felicitas Tangermann; prepared for Heritage Branch, Department of Tourism, Government of the Yukon, Whitehorse: *The Branch*, 1994 and *Dawson Daily News, 1899-1920 : Index and Summary* ; [Whitehorse, Yukon]: Heritage Branch, Government of Yukon, 1991. The *Yukon News* is available on the Internet at: <www2.yukon-news.com/news/> and the *Whitehorse Star* is available at: <www2.whitehorsestar.com/star/>. Both have archival databases which may be searched at the above-noted sites.

Any comments or additions are welcome, and should be sent to:
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Notes

- ¹ National Library of Canada, Resource Network Committee, "A Decentralized Plan for Canadian Newspaper Preservation and Access" (January 1983), p. 1.
- ² *Microfilming of the Legislature Library's Collection of Alberta Community/Weekly Newspapers*, submitted by Karen L. Powell to Sandra Burrows for the June 1997 DPCN meeting, May 16, 1997. p. 1.
- ³ Ibid.
- ⁴ Ibid. p. 2.
- ⁵ Annual report of the Legislative Assembly office for 1997, Information Reference, and Coordination Services: Legislature Library by Lorne Buhr, Legislature Librarian, p. 13.
- ⁶ *Microfilming of the Legislature Library's Collection of Alberta Community/Weekly Newspapers* Submitted by Karen L. Powell to Sandra Burrows for the June 1997 DPCN meeting, May 16, 1997. p. 1.
- ⁷ Letter to Sandra Burrows from Joan Barton, April 29, 1997.
- ⁸ *Annual report of the British Columbia Legislative Library for 1997*, prepared by Joan Barton, Director, British Columbia Legislative Library, June 4, 1998, pp. 19-20.

- ⁹ Notes on pages 69-70 by Doreen Schafer, Head, Collection Development, Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Citizenship Legislative Library, to "The Decentralized Plan for Canadian Newspapers: 1983 to 1994 and Beyond" by Sandra Burrows. Co-published simultaneously in *The Serials Librarian* (The Haworth Press, Inc.), vol. 26, no. 3/4, 1995, pp. 55-83; and *Serials Canada: Aspects of Serials Work in Canadian Libraries* (ed.: Wayne Jones), The Haworth Press, 1995, pp. 55-83.
- ¹⁰ Susan Haigh, "Digital Resources in Canadian Libraries: Analysis of National Library Survey", *National Library News*, vol. 29, no. 6 (June 1997), p. 3.
- ¹¹ Letter to Sandra Burrows from Doreen Schafer and Sue Bishop, July 7, 1997.
- ¹² The Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan Legislative Library, Legislative Library Collections Unique and Interesting Subcollections page at:
<www.legassembly.sk.ca/LegLibrary/library/libcolun.htm> See Sask. Weekly Newspapers.
- ¹³ Saskatchewan News Index Credits page at: <library.usask.ca/sni/credit.html>.
- ¹⁴ Saskatchewan News Index Copyright page at: <library.usask.ca/sni/cpyrts.html>.
- ¹⁵ The Yukon Archives Web page at: <www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/archives/yukarch.html>.

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LIBRARY COMMUNITY

LIBRARY-PUBLISHER RELATIONS IN THE NEXT MILLENNIUM:

The Library Perspective

by Marianne Scott,
National Librarian

(Adapted from a presentation at the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions [IFLA] conference in Amsterdam, August 17, 1998.)

Speculation about the next millennium is a little daunting. The pace of change has been so rapid in recent years—in technology, in the economy, and in society more broadly—and the effects of change have been so far-reaching, that I find it difficult to predict what kind of change we might see in the next two years, let alone what we and our successors might witness as the next millennium unfolds.

I propose to highlight key aspects of the current relationships between libraries and publishers, and to look at significant trends affecting those relationships over the past decade. Using that as a frame of reference, I will then try simply to identify the key challenges that lie ahead as those relationships evolve and we cross the threshold into the next millennium.

Because the relationships between libraries and publishers are multifaceted, I will approach the topic by looking at three broad dimensions of those relationships—the commercial, the legal, and the collaborative.

COMMERCIAL RELATIONSHIPS

First, some general observations on the commercial relationships between libraries and publishers as they currently stand.

Libraries rely heavily on publishers as the suppliers of one of the

library's most important resources. By the same token, publishers rely heavily on the library market. For many publications, the purchases made by libraries represent a significant proportion of total sales; for some publications, libraries may, in fact, be the publisher's primary market.

Although it is difficult to establish the overall monetary value of commercial relations between libraries and publishers, it is safe to estimate that it is billions of dollars a year. Statistics compiled for the 121 member libraries of the Association of Research Libraries in the U.S. and Canada show that those libraries alone spend over \$700 million a year on the purchase of monographs, serials, and other materials for their collections.¹

Over the past 10 years or so, the commercial relationships between libraries and publishers have been strained by economic pressures. In many sectors, library budgets have declined significantly; in others, while budgets continue to increase, they have failed to keep pace with price increases and with increases in demand for library services. Adding to those pressures, libraries in many countries have had to deal with the declining value of their domestic currency against the foreign currencies in which their suppliers' products are priced. The impact on acquisitions budgets has been particularly acute.

If we look again at the statistics compiled by the Association of Research Libraries, we see that over the last 10 years, the average unit cost of

serial subscriptions purchased by ARL member libraries has increased by more than nine percent a year. Total expenditures on serials have more than doubled over that same period, and while fewer titles are purchased, serials acquisitions are consuming an increasingly large portion of the libraries' total budget. Inflationary increases on monographs have been less dramatic (averaging about 4.5 percent a year), but the price increases, combined with the pressure to maintain serials collections, has resulted in a significant decline in the number of monographs purchased.² Those figures represent the situation as it exists in one of the strongest economies in the world. In weaker economies, libraries find themselves under even greater pressure.

For some time, libraries have looked to the emergence of electronic publishing with the expectation that the technology would reduce their costs, particularly for subscriptions to scholarly journals. But that has not yet happened. For the most part, electronic journals have not yet displaced their paper counterparts. As a result of pricing strategies adopted by publishers, a subscription to the electronic version of a journal often requires the library to continue its subscription to the paper version as well, and as a result there are no tangible savings to the library. Add-on costs may be needed to cover the "supplemental" electronic version of the journal. Cost studies by publishers of scholarly journals even suggest that once the transition to electronic publishing is complete, and the paper versions of journals have been displaced, the total cost of the publishing activity will likely not decline as much as anticipated.

The continuing pressure on library budgets, and the tempering of expectations with respect to cost savings associated with electronic



publishing are further exacerbated by a perceived threat to libraries resulting from a growing trend toward the concentration of publishing interests in the hands of a relatively small number of multinational corporations. From a consumer's perspective, that kind of concentration carries with it the spectre of further price increases resulting from the reduction of competition in the marketplace.

Another emerging trend affecting the commercial relationships between libraries and publishers in recent years is a move toward the licensing of publications. With the introduction of CD-ROM products, publishers moved from the sale to the licensing of the product. With the introduction of online electronic publications, licensing has become the norm. This trend has two significant implications for libraries. First, it means the library must develop the capacity to deal with licences as legal contracts—ensuring that the terms and conditions of any pre-set licence are fully understood, and defining terms and conditions in a negotiated licence that will satisfy the library's needs. Second, it means the library must put in place the administrative mechanisms necessary to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of the licence. The net effect is that dealing with a licensed publication is more complicated than dealing with a purchased publication. Multiply that effect by the number of individual licences a library may have to deal with, and the differences in terms and conditions there may be from one licence to another, and you can appreciate the overall impact of licensing on the kind of high-volume service operation that libraries have to manage.

The factors currently affecting the commercial relationships between libraries and publishers are not unique. Budgetary pressures are widespread, not only in the public sector, but in the

private sector as well. Market pressures resulting from the globalization of trade are affecting industries and consumers in virtually all sectors of the economy. And the new information and communication technologies are having far-reaching impacts on commerce across the spectrum. My reason for highlighting some of the specific impacts of these pressures and changes on the commercial relationships between libraries and publishers is not to suggest that the problems we face are atypical, or that they are of disproportionate magnitude, but simply to serve as a reminder that the pressures are real, and that they do affect the day-to-day relationships between libraries and publishers. It is also important to note that the effect of pressures on commercial relationships cannot be compartmentalized; they inevitably form a backdrop to relationships between libraries and publishers in areas quite separate from their commercial dealings.

LEGAL RELATIONSHIPS

That brings me to the legal relationships between libraries and publishers.

Probably the most important area of law pertaining to the relationship between libraries and publishers is copyright law. International conventions and national legislation relating to copyright and the so-called "neighbouring" rights provide the legal framework for the use of the intellectual property that is central to the publishing industry's commercial viability. In protecting the copyright owner's exclusive right to authorize a wide range of uses of an original work, copyright law ensures the owner's right to control the commercial exploitation of the work for the duration of its term of protection. However, those same international conventions and national laws also recognize the need to protect

the "public interest" through limitations and exceptions to copyright that permit certain uses for purposes of research, education, and private study. Libraries and their users obviously have a large stake in those exceptions.

In Canada, we have recently been through the process of amending our copyright legislation to address a number of outstanding issues, among which was the matter of exceptions for libraries, archives, and museums. In the debate over the proposed legislation, those representing authors, musicians, publishers, and the copyright collectives argued that the exceptions proposed in the bill were too broad in scope. Some went so far as to suggest that the very notion of exceptions to copyright is inappropriate. They claimed that the sole purpose of copyright law is to protect the economic and moral rights of authors, and that copyright law is not the place for government to address the interests of the users of copyrighted works.

It is not uncommon for librarians and publishers to take opposing views on this issue. As a librarian, I cannot accept the argument that copyright law should have as its sole purpose the protection of the rights of copyright owners. I believe that copyright law is ultimately an instrument of public policy, and that it cannot be viewed in such narrow terms. Clearly the protection of intellectual property rights is an issue of central concern in copyright law. But copyright has important implications for more than just property rights. As an instrument of public policy, copyright law must address broader social values as well. It should promote research and the advancement of knowledge; it should promote and protect our cultural heritage. We should not, therefore, limit the scope of what can be achieved through copyright strictly to the protection of individual property rights. Copyright law provides us with an



opportunity to support cultural enterprise in a broader sense, to protect the works of our writers, musicians, and artists for future generations, and to do what we can to ensure the continued vitality of both creative and scholarly endeavour.

The Berne Convention makes it clear that exceptions and limitations to copyright are entirely appropriate, provided they do not detract from the author's right to control the normal economic exploitation of his or her work. If we accept the basic notion that copyright law is about more than just the protection of individual property rights, and that the protection of rights must be viewed in the context of broader social values and public policy objectives, then it seems to me that it comes down to submitting specific proposals for exceptions to a test of common sense and to our collective perception of what is reasonable.

From a library perspective, what is reasonable includes provisions within copyright law to permit the "fair use" of copyrighted works for the purposes of research, education, and private study. Publishers and librarians may differ on how we define "fair use", and on how exceptions permitting the use of copyrighted works for purposes of research, education, and private study should be framed, but I would hope that on the question of principle both sides would acknowledge the legitimacy of providing for such exceptions.

One of the most contentious issues dividing publishers and librarians today centres on the interpretation of "fair use" in the context of digital technologies. As a librarian I would argue that the debate on that issue needs to be grounded on the underlying principle of reasonable access and the broader purposes that are served by copyright in promoting research and the advancement of knowledge, and in protecting our cultural heritage.

Obviously digital technologies have the potential to undermine as well as to enhance copyright protection. We need to be certain that the economic and moral rights of the copyright owner are not infringed by the illegitimate use of those technologies. But it is important to make a distinction between illegitimate use and legitimate exceptions to copyright. Our efforts should be directed toward reaching consensus on what constitutes a legitimate exception, and finding mutually agreed ways of expressing those exceptions in our copyright laws.

COLLABORATIVE RELATIONSHIPS

Despite current pressures on the commercial relationships between libraries and publishers, and the tensions that exist over issues of copyright and its application in a digital environment, libraries and publishers continue to collaborate in a number of areas, and those collaborative efforts continue to be very productive.

For a number of decades, libraries and publishers have collaborated at both a national and an international level in the development of standards that have benefited both sectors. The collaborative development of the International Standard Book Number, the International Standard Serial Number, and the International Standard Music Number, and the joint investment by both publishers and libraries in the programs that control the assignment and registration of those numbers stand as examples of the kind of success that can be achieved and the benefits that can accrue to both sectors when publishers and libraries work together.

Similarly, programs initiated by libraries to support bibliographic control—such as Cataloguing in Publication programs and the CONSER Abstracting and Indexing project—have enlisted the cooperation

of publishers and have had significant benefits for both sectors. Libraries and publishers have also worked together with paper manufacturers, the microfilming industry, the information technology industry and others to develop standards, implement processes, and define software requirements that have served to benefit libraries and publishers alike.

In the past few years, we have seen an emerging interest within both sectors in the development of standards for metadata in the context of electronic publishing and networked access. Again both sectors have participated collaboratively—in initiatives such as the Dublin Core and the Warwick Frame—in an effort to define requirements and to develop metadata standards that will serve to meet our mutual needs.

With the emergence of electronic publishing, we have also seen collaborative efforts in the development of standards and systems to support the administration of copyright in a digital environment. Under the aegis of the European Union, projects such as COPEARMS and Imprimatur are bringing together experts in a wide range of fields, including librarians and publishers, to address the complex issues.

One area of mutual interest, in which there has been less collaborative effort to date than might be expected, is the development work on a digital object identifier (DOI) initiated by the International DOI Foundation. Libraries worldwide have an obvious interest in the development of an identifier scheme for electronic publications, and undoubtedly could contribute expertise to the development effort from a user's perspective. To date, however, libraries have not been represented in the International DOI Foundation, presumably because the minimum \$10 000 fee serves as a formidable



barrier to membership. Perhaps even more disconcerting is the fact that plans relating to the administration of the DOI, which will affect a large number of national libraries functioning as ISBN Centres worldwide, are being developed without the involvement of those libraries.

CHALLENGES

That brings me to the challenges that lie ahead for libraries and publishers as we enter the next millennium. In all three dimensions of our relationships—commercial, legal, and collaborative—major changes affecting us both individually and collectively are at work. Both sectors face significant economic pressures; both are experiencing the impact of technological change. Issues emerging from our inter-relationships need to be resolved so that we can move forward to achieve our goals.

If I were to compile a list of the strategic issues requiring resolution and collaborative effort by libraries and publishers as we begin the next millennium, the priority issues would be:

- The resolution of outstanding issues related to “fair use” and other exceptions to copyright in a digital environment.
- The development of an economically viable means of maintaining the support structure for scholarly communications.
- The establishment of an effective and efficient means of formulating and managing licences for the use of electronic publications that meets the needs of both consumers and suppliers.
- The development of standards for metadata, electronic resource locators, and electronic document architecture to facilitate access to and

management of electronic publications.

- Cooperative planning of infrastructure programs to administer the registration of electronic publications.
- Joint research on the preservation of digital media and the archiving of digital documents.

Libraries and publishers play an important role in the information continuum. Through our individual and collective efforts, we add significant value to the process of information exchange. We have very real mutual interests in the efficient management of published materials and effective user access to those materials. As we grapple with the newly emerging technologies and with a changing market environment, we are attempting

to re-define and re-position ourselves. The transitions that we must make are not easy. Our objectives are not always mutually compatible. But I expect that we will continue to operate in close relation to one another well into the next millennium, and that our interests in many areas will continue to converge. I believe that through constructive dialogue and collaborative effort we can successfully resolve the issues that challenge us today, and lay the groundwork for productive and mutually beneficial relationships in the future. ♦

Notes

¹Association of Research Libraries. *ARL Statistics, 1996-97*. Washington, D.C.: ARL, 1998.

²Ibid.



LIBRARY BOOK RATE:

A Valued Federal Government Program to Assist Libraries

by Carrol D. Lunau,
National and International Programs

The Department of Canadian Heritage and the Canada Post Corporation are renegotiating the library rate (commonly called the library book rate). The current contract expires in March 1999. The program, first introduced in 1939, was originally intended to assist in extending library services to rural areas. The postage paid by the

library at the time of mailing covers both the outgoing and return postage. The subsidy is paid directly to Canada Post by the government as compensation for revenue lost while offering lowered rates for mailing library books.

In late 1997, Canadian Heritage approached the National Library and requested background information on the use of the current program by Canadian libraries to assist them in

preparing for the negotiations. A three-person working group, consisting of Carrol Lunau (National Library), Leacy O'Brien (Canadian Library Association), and Pierre Daoust (Association pour l'avancement des sciences et des techniques de la documentation), was established to report on library book rate usage and make recommendations for the program.



A survey was mailed to 850 libraries. The goal was to gather information from both program users and non-users; consequently, the survey was made available at several library conferences held during the spring and summer of 1998. A total of 347 responses were received from all regions of the country. These responses indicate that the program is very important to small and medium-sized public libraries and is highly valued by the library community. One respondent from Alberta indicated that "our participation in provincial and national resource sharing initiatives is dependent on the reasonable rate for delivery." This opinion is shared by a librarian on the other side of the country in Halifax who stated "costs for ILL and mail-out services to the homebound and rural users would be much higher without the library rate and would probably mean a reduction of these programs."

The typical library book rate user is a public or regional library (74.06%) which has been using the rate for more than three years (90.72%). These libraries send fewer than 1000 parcels per year (73.89%). Their use of the program has increased over the last five years (89.9%). The majority of program users are satisfied with the program (95.53%) but 79.04% have experienced difficulties and 66.32% think the program should be improved.

How is the program being used by libraries? Sending or returning books on interlibrary loan is, by far, the predominant use. Other uses cited by significant numbers of respondents included:

- sending books to homebound users (12.03%);
- sending books for deposit to remote sites (11.68%);
- sending books to distance education students (9.97%).

One of the survey questions of particular interest to Canadian

Heritage was the percentage of material using library book rate compared to other means of dispersal. The answer to this question is virtually impossible to determine since exact figures on the number of parcels sent are not available and the interlibrary loan data included in the national core library statistics are incomplete due to a lack of standard data. Nonetheless, these figures were used to estimate that the number of parcels sent using library book rate is 15 percent or less of the total number of books lent on ILL.

Over 50 percent of the respondents identified three major issues which must be resolved within the parameters of the renewed program. The first is that staff in postal outlets frequently do not know about the program. Indications are that some libraries have been charged for the return of books even though they had the correct return label on the package. Mail has been returned to libraries stating that postage is due because the Canada Post staff were unaware of the program. One library has its staff carry a copy of the library rate listing sheet every time they take parcels to the post office to ensure that the right rate is charged. Libraries have also found that local post offices did not have the information necessary for them to register for the program or were unable to tell them current rates when rate changes were introduced.

The second issue is the lack of information available for libraries and for mail room staff on the program. Many of the non-users who responded to the survey indicated that they did not use it because they didn't know about the program or didn't understand how it worked. In some cases, librarians are aware of the program but mail room staff are not. Some users are ignorant of the program. One library responded: "from your description of this library rate program, it seems we have not used it correctly and, therefore, probably

have not taken advantage of this potentially lower rate."

A third issue is the exclusion of non-book materials from the program. This is a long-standing issue which was first raised by CLA in 1974 when the association failed to convince the government to allow special postal rates for mailing 16 mm film to patrons. A second attempt was made in 1984 when CLA asked the Department of Communications to include any library materials which could be mailed: audio and video cassettes, phonodiscs, films and microfilm.¹ The proposal made to the Department of Canadian Heritage in November 1994 again asked that the definition of a book in the library book rate program be changed to incorporate all formats of material.

This is an important issue, especially for libraries mailing materials to homebound users. As stated in the 1994 proposal:

Audio and visual formats are especially useful for those who have difficulty using printed materials. These include seniors who may have difficulty physically holding or reading a book, those with low literacy skills, children who need the opportunity of hearing stories to develop a love of books and reading, and those who learn most easily from visual and auditory presentations.²

It is ironic that a library can mail a novel to one patron using the reduced postal rate but must pay full postage to mail the same novel in the form of a talking book to a print-handicapped patron.

Other issues mentioned include the need for a one-way library rate and faster delivery times. The one-way rate is needed to cover the return of material that may have been borrowed from a library which does not use library book rate or from a library which

did not include the required return label.

The survey responses provide an indication of trends and changes in ILL among smaller public libraries. The influence of the Internet and the efforts which federal and provincial governments have made to connect Canadians are evident. Some libraries indicated that their use of library book rate had increased because, now that their catalogue was on the Internet as part of a provincial network, they were lending for the first time. Network developments in Alberta, British Columbia, and Manitoba were mentioned in this regard. The development of the courier service by SOLS (Southern Ontario Library Service) in Ontario was cited as the cause of a reduction in the use of library book rate by Ontario public libraries. Other factors identified as impacting on ILL were library re-organization and, in some cases, centralization, through which a library may have been newly designated to handle ILL for a group.

The use of electronic delivery (Internet, fax, or Ariel) was not cited as a significant cause of reduced use of library book rate by these libraries. Small decreases were noted, however.

In summary, it can be stated that the library book rate program is essential for small and medium-sized public libraries. The working group will recommend to the Department of Canadian Heritage that steps be taken to overcome and address the issues identified here and that the program be further strengthened to meet the needs of libraries while containing costs to libraries.

It is fitting to conclude this brief overview about library book rate by listening to the users' voices. The following three statements capture the realities of many program participants:

"We would need to cancel our ILL program to 44 rural branches if we were to pay the entire fourth-class rate."

"Overall our network of 96 public libraries uses the library book rate very effectively. The savings on mail charges help us successfully share our limited library resources."

"Please keep the book rate for libraries. It is crucial for the survival of our libraries."

Additional information about the library book rate program can be found on the Web at www.cla.amlibs.ca/lbr.htm or www.asted.org/publications/autres/tlb.html. ♦

Notes

¹ *The Library Book Rate (Postal Subsidy) September 1993*. Ottawa, Canadian Library Association, 1993.

² *Proposal to the Department of Canadian Heritage for the Continuation of the Library Rate (Postal Subsidy), November 1994*. Association pour l'avancement des sciences et des techniques de la documentation, Canadian Library Association, National Library of Canada. p. 8.

DIGITAL IMAGING:

Towards International Agreement on Guidance, Guidelines and Best Practices

by Doug Hodges,
Information Resource Management

(Adapted from a report on the joint U.K. National Preservation Office and Research Libraries Group conference at the University of Warwick, England, September 28 to 30, 1998.)

The closing years of this decade have seen an increasing amount of digitization activity among libraries, archives, museums, and other organizations. The scope of this digitization runs the gamut from text to images, recorded sound, film, and other material of all shapes and sizes. As this work continues beyond experimental projects to larger-scale programs, many library managers and specialists are concerned about the issues of user needs, access, interoperability, preservation, effectiveness, efficiency, technological change, and a host of other topics.

A common denominator in most digitization projects is the use of digital imaging to re-format physical images so that they can be delivered to users over networks and preserved for future use. Such preservation is not trivial: the difficulties of using computer files that are only a few years old are well documented, as software, hardware, and formats continue to change.

Ensuring that digital images can be preserved for future access and use is a crucial issue for libraries and other organizations involved in digitization. There are plenty of standards for digital imaging, but which ones are most appropriate? What are the best practices? How should materials be selected, prepared, and scanned? What do we need to know about each image



in order to migrate it to new formats safely?

These are some of the key questions addressed at the recent "Guidelines for Digital Imaging" conference, held at the University of Warwick, in Coventry, U.K., from September 28 to 30, 1998. The working conference, organized jointly by the British Library's National Preservation Office (NPO) and the Research Libraries Group (RLG), was held so that participants could collaborate on working towards international agreement on guidelines and best practices for digital imaging projects. Major objectives of the conference included exchanging ideas on guidelines and best practices for digital imaging, achieving agreement on the purpose, scope, and practical implications of such projects, and learning more about current digital imaging projects.

Some 100 representatives of libraries, archives, museums, academia, and the private sector from the U.K., Ireland, continental Europe, the U.S., Australia, and Canada attended the conference.

In delivering the keynote address, Anne R. Kenney of Cornell University called on participants to work towards agreement on what is the best **guidance** for digital imaging projects, rather than necessarily on **guidelines**. She distinguished between the two by noting that while guidance encourages rational choices based on questions, guidelines tend to be prescriptive.

Experts gave presentations on issues involved in selection, preparation of materials, and image capture. Participants then joined one of three groups following these themes to determine areas of agreement on best practices, areas of significant differences of opinion, and areas where further work was needed. The convenors presented the results of the discussions in plenary sessions.

At the time of writing, the conference proceedings were still in preparation. The author takes responsibility for any over-simplifications or inaccuracies in this summary report. Readers are encouraged to view the complete proceedings at www.rlg.org/preserv/joint/index.html.

A. SELECTION

The convenors for the group dealing with selection of materials for digital imaging were Julia Walworth (University of London), Paul Ayris (University College, London), and Janet Gertz (Columbia University), who presented the results of the selection group's discussions. It was recommended that:

- no single set of guidelines be prescribed;
 - institutions should formulate their own selection policies and guidelines for decisions on what to digitize;
 - there should be a unified site for information and guidance on the process of selection for digitization.
- A number of general points were also made:
- in selection for digitization, the role of digitization in the overall institution (not just the library) should be considered;
 - there is a problem in finding out what users want/need;
 - selection requires a variety of expertise (content, systems, project management, digital imaging, encoding, etc.) early in the selection process;
 - rights management problems must be addressed;
 - overall collection needs must be considered;

- it is necessary to say "no" to proposals which do not meet institutional criteria, even when specific funding is available or can be obtained.

B. PREPARATION

The group dealing with preparation of materials for digitization was convened by Alison Horsburgh (Scottish Record Office), Ann Swartzell (Harvard University), and John McIntyre (National Library of Scotland), who reported general agreement on best practices or approaches regarding:

- control of lighting conditions (controlling UV light and lux hours, not just lux levels);
- obtaining and using book cradles (on this point, it was noted that many of the best book cradles are designed by conservators working with a knowledgeable engineer, builder or technician);
- conservation considerations;
- digitization of oversize materials;
- restrictions on access to originals once they have been digitized (user access to originals should be discouraged unless there is a legitimate need to examine them);
- provision of appropriate finding aids for digitized collections;
- linking the digital resource to the original through metadata.

It was also agreed that although digitization has a preservation value, it is not a preservation action as such; nor are the resulting digital objects preservation media per se. It makes sense to convert fixed media to digital objects to provide access and support preservation, or to convert to digital formats simply to provide access. But it does not make sense to digitize for preservation as an end in itself, with no consideration of present and future access.



A legitimate divergence of viewpoints on disbinding and the use of surrogates for digitization was recognized. The questions to be considered in these cases include the purpose of the digitization (e.g., will the quality of a surrogate suffice?), the projected life span of the material (will disbinding or surrogate production shorten this?), whether items must go off-site for digitization (which may argue against use of originals), and whether the physical items are already at risk of deterioration, in which case it is extremely important to minimize handling.

In terms of areas for action, it was agreed that more research on costs is required, and that collaboration is needed to help libraries develop staff expertise (where necessary) or to find coping mechanisms and appropriate training in preparation of materials for digital imaging.

C. IMAGE CAPTURE

The digital image capture group noted that, among other things, agreed definitions of what is sufficient or acceptable as a “digital master”, a “faithful digital reproduction”, and quality control guidance are required. The latter includes distinguishing between objective and subjective quality assurance criteria, though both have value.

General agreement was reached on which file formats should be used to help ensure preservation: images should be in the TIFF format (Tag Image File Format), or in emerging “TIFF-like” formats such as PNG (Portable Network Graphics format, pronounced as “ping”)¹ and SPIFF (Still Picture Information File Format). General agreement was also reached on the following points:

- digital image compression should be lossless;

- more flexibility is needed in image file headers so that all necessary metadata can be included (e.g., documentation of the gamma levels of colour);
- preventing irretrievable loss of image information is a key issue in choosing digital image formats for preservation;
- quality control is essential. Before work begins each day, attention must be paid to such basics as scanners and monitors.

The general consensus from the plenary session was that digital images should be created using the best standards and practices possible, but with due consideration to the practicalities and the larger picture. Longer-term needs and capabilities must be kept in mind. Therefore, the initial high-quality digital image files should be retained, even when access versions are produced and they make optimum use of current capabilities such as monitor resolutions and existing Internet bandwidth.

Following the plenary presentations, Michael Day (CEDARS Project) presented a paper on metadata for preservation. He noted that all the approaches aimed at ensuring continued long-term access to digital resources depend not only on descriptive metadata — which is clearly necessary to identify and manage digital items — but also on appropriate preservation metadata. Current approaches to long-term access include migration to new standards/formats, conservation of hardware and software, and technology emulation. All these depend on the identification and collection of relevant metadata, such as the standard(s) used in creating the digital files, the practices employed, and the hardware platform, operating system, software and version used.

Margaret Hedstrom (University of Michigan) spoke on digital archiving for preservation, summarizing her preliminary survey results of 54 RLG

member libraries’ current practices in digital preservation. Of these, 36 do not yet have written policies for managing digital materials. Eighteen already have at least some policies including policies on acquisitions (16) and migration (7). Many responding libraries indicated that in the next three years they plan to develop digital preservation policies (51 out of 54) and 52 plan digital conversion projects. In concluding, she spoke of the lag between the development and implementation of best practices, and the gap between current guidance on digital archiving and institutional capacities to follow through. She noted the following priorities:

- to implement the best practices which already exist;
- to provide training;
- to share successful policies, practices, and standards;
- to focus research efforts on emerging promising solutions.

The full report, co-written with Sheon Montgomery, is available on the RLG Web site at <www.rlg.org>.

The conference was summed up by an international reaction panel composed of Seamus Ross (National Library of Scotland), Karen Turko (University of Toronto), and Colin Webb (National Library of Australia). In his closing address, Peter Fox (Cambridge University) emphasized the urgency of preserving original digital material. He added that his Digital Archiving Working Group will produce a non-technical guide on digital archiving in the spring of 1999.

Apart from the presentations and group or plenary discussions, participants found many valuable and congenial opportunities for sharing news and views with colleagues at breaks and mealtimes. This part of the conference went especially well, helped, no doubt, by the conducive surroundings and excellent meals

served up by the University of Warwick's Scarman House.

In short, the NPO and RLG organizers did an excellent job with the planning, organization, content and logistics of the conference, something which shone through at every turn. There were substantial areas of

agreement on guidance for digital imaging, and each group identified important issues for further research and collaboration. The organizers and many of the participants are pursuing these outstanding issues and the agenda of establishing best practices for digital imaging. ♦

Note

¹For a brief explanation of the TIFF and PNG formats, see: Shapiro, Kivi. "Graphics and Sound File Formats", *Network Notes*, no. 24, Jan. 31, 1996. (www.nlc-bnc.ca/pubs/netnotes/notes24.htm).

ASTED 1998 CONFERENCE:

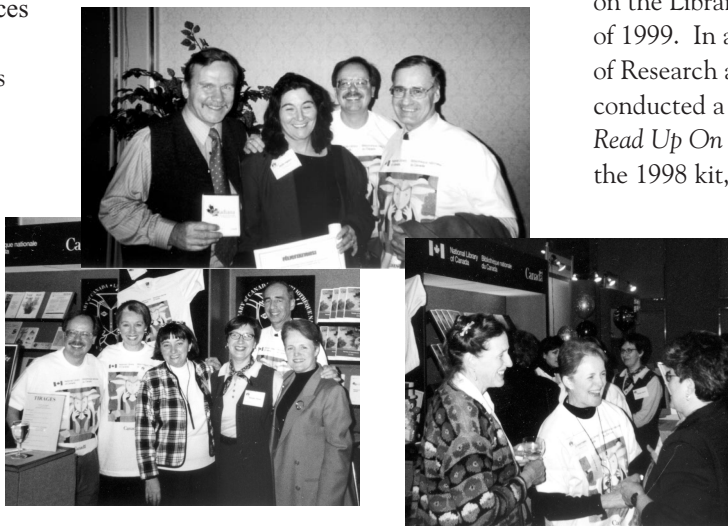
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by André Paul,
Acquisitions and Bibliographic Services

The Association pour l'avancement des sciences et des techniques de la documentation (ASTED), together with the Association du personnel des services documentaires scolaires, held its annual conference in Montreal from November 4 to 7, 1998. The theme of this year's conference was "Contact", the aim being to establish connections and share knowledge. Several National Library staff participated and operated one of the 67 booths at the conference.

Professional association conferences offer excellent opportunities for networking with our direct clients and the intermediaries who offer services to users and researchers throughout the country. Our representatives at this conference were kept very busy explaining our services and answering questions posed by information professionals.

Our participation began in the conference's opening minutes. A concert given by the VocalPop Ensemble, ASTED launched the 21st edition of the Dewey Decimal Classification (French version). Gwynneth Evans, Director General of National and International Programs, thanked the main partners in the project and spoke of their close cooperation in bringing this important work to fruition. The Library provided considerable human resources required for the revision of the translation of a



work that is extremely useful to documentation information professionals.

During the conference, a three-part technical workshop gave participants a good look at three National Library products and services. The first presented the all-new *Canadiana: The National Bibliography* on

CD-ROM. Marie-Josée Tolszczuk of Reference and Information Services explained the content of the product, and the research and display methods available. The second part dealt with the harmonization of MARC formats between Canada and the United States. Nathalie Ebacher talked about the implementation of the new format (MARC 21) and the existence of a Web page dedicated to the MARC format. The last part dealt with the *Directory of Special Collections of Research Value*. Gwynneth Evans presented a general overview of this new directory, which will be accessible on the Library's Web site in the spring of 1999. In addition, Céline Gendron, of Research and Information Services, conducted a workshop on the popular *Read Up On It* program; she introduced the 1998 kit, *Experience the Adventure!*, and the program's Web site.

Numerous current clients and potential users visited our kiosk, gathering information on one or another of our services or seeking demonstrations of one of the following

services: *Canadiana* on CD-ROM, Access AMICUS, resAnet, our Web site and the *Répertoire de vedettes-matière*. The questions raised and the interest shown indicated that documentary as well as technical services are of continuing interest to library personnel. These meetings also give our clients the opportunity to



comment on our services. We then pass on their observations to the appropriate members of staff in the Library.

As usual, we conducted the ever-popular draws for products and product-related articles, including

T-shirts printed in honour of ASTED's 25th anniversary. They depict *La connaissance* by Alfred Pellan on the front and a tribute to ASTED's anniversary on the back. We also took the opportunity to present samples of these unique T-shirts to the permanent

staff of ASTED: Louis Cabral, Marie Touchette and Suzanne Lapierre; and to the ASTED conference coordinator, Colette Rivet, in recognition and appreciation of their ongoing efforts on behalf of ASTED. ♦

CANADIAN STUDIES

SAVOIR FAIRE:

Experience the Adventure!

by Mary Bond,
Research and Information Services

The National Library's Read Up On It program promotes Canadian books for children and young adults and a love of reading. As part of the celebrations of the program's 10th anniversary, Céline Gendron of the Library's Canadian Literature Research Service presented the *Savoir Faire* seminar on October 21, 1998.

She outlined the evolution of Read Up On It, explaining that it was originally created to exploit the relationship among media by encouraging interest in Canadian books among viewers of several Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) television programs including *Glory Enough for All* and *The Nature of Things: A Look at Bats*. In conjunction with these programs, reading lists of books about the topics were distributed through libraries and bookstores, and promoted on air.

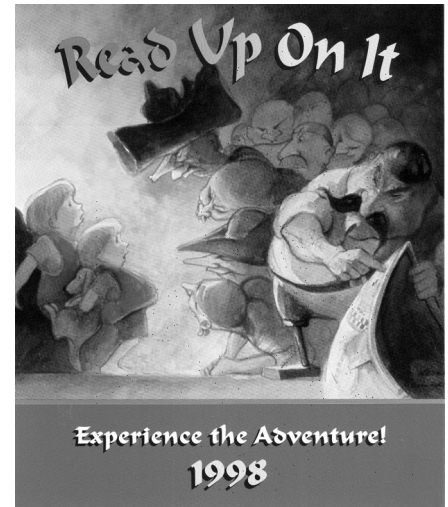
During its first decade, Read Up On It has developed from these simple beginnings into a beautifully illustrated and annotated kit which is used by librarians, teachers and parents across Canada to identify the best of Canadian children's literature.

With the assistance of Daniel St-Hilaire, of the Canadian Children's Literature Service, Céline Gendron illustrated her talk from the last six editions of the kit which are also available through the National Library's

Web site
<www.nlc-bnc.ca/ruoi/eruoi.htm>.

In preparing the French section of the 1998 edition, *Read Up On It: Experience the Adventure!*, Ms. Gendron said that she immersed herself in the literature to select, cite and annotate titles for inclusion. She also stressed the importance of understanding the link between text and illustration in children's literature.

Ms. Gendron noted the numerous partners who have been involved in Read Up On It. Partners and sponsors for the 1998 edition included the National Literacy Secretariat, Human Resources Development Canada, Canada Post, the Canadian Library Association (CLA), the Association pour l'avancement des sciences et des techniques de la documentation (ASTED), the Canadian Federation of University Women, YTV and the Access network.



Read Up On It is a National Library corporate project, involving Research and Information Services and Marketing and Publishing. Research and Information Services selects the theme and the books. Marketing and Publishing has designed, edited, marketed and distributed the kits since 1988. The Library's development office organizes sponsorship for the program.

Other activities highlighting the 10th anniversary of the program included an exhibition of the works described in the 1998 Read Up On It and articles in the September 1998 issue of *National Library News* (vol. 30, no. 9, p. 1 and p. 5).

The next seminar in the *Savoir Faire* series is on February 16. Marie-Josée Therrien, a National Library researcher and project manager with the National Film Board, will present "Beyond the Frontiers: The Architecture of Canadian Embassies, 1930-1990". ♦

SAVOIR FAIRE:

Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Signing of the *Refus global*

by Denise Leclerc,
Assistant curator, *Later Canadian Art*,
National Gallery of Canada

(Adapted from *Le sens de mots, a "Savoir Faire" presentation given at the National Library of Canada on September 15, 1998.*)

The automatist movement in Montreal is probably the one that has most drawn on literary sources in Quebec and in Canada — not as a direct source of artistic inspiration, but rather as an adaptation of a creation technique in writing. The automatist technique was cultivated by the

surrealist French author André Breton. We have, therefore, tried, throughout this presentation, to forge a link between a very important movement in painting in the 1940s and the world of literature.

For example, the history of the new editions of the *Refus global*, the manifesto of the group, published in August 1948, as well as the places of publication, have significant impact on the milieu. The commemorative notes following each decade give specialized journals the opportunity to broaden the debate and circulate ideas to a larger audience. Such erudite works as the

writings of François-Marc Gagnon or the publication of Paul-Émile Borduas' texts, critically annotated by Gilles Lapointe, have contributed to its influence by adding the weight of academic authority. As Jacques Godbout said, they are all milestones in the making of a myth. This statement also allows us to explain how the concept of "breaking", or even the term "independent", painters has evolved since 1936, going beyond the artistic sphere.

In conclusion, the paradox of the automatist group, which is considered to be a driving force behind modern Quebec society, is the following: it contested modern rationalism by favouring freedom of the subconscious by automatist methods and by having "irresponsible" values. We can always be refreshed by automatism to draw on a new sense from it. That is the evolution of the "meaning of words". ♦

New Electronic Form to Register Canadian Library and Information Science Research Projects in 1999

by Doug Robinson,
Library and Information Science Specialist,
Research and Information Services

The National Library of Canada has collected information on Canadian research projects in the field of library and information science for many years. The research projects are added to the National Library's in-house database and listed in the *National Library News* approximately four times a year. The list of projects is also sent to

Current Research in Library and Information Science (CRLIS) in England, through which it is presented to the international community.

Research has been interpreted in its broadest sense to include all kinds of endeavours, initiatives, investigations, studies, surveys and evaluated

innovations in the field of library and information science. The research projects are classified as new, ongoing or recently completed investigations. As far as possible, the entries comprise: person(s) responsible for the research, project title, 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, and citations for reports on the project. We are now asking researchers to provide a short description of their projects (up to 50 words).

Researchers are now able to provide details of their research projects using an electronic form available on the National Library's Web site. This development facilitates the collection of information on research projects in Canada.

If you are working on a research project in the field of library and information science or have recently completed your research, we would appreciate receiving details regarding your project. Please contact the Research and Information Services Division at reference@nlc-bnc.ca with details of your project. ♦

The Governor General's Literary Awards Gala Reading

by *Randall Ware,*
Research and Information Services

On Wednesday, November 18, for the seventh consecutive year, the National Library hosted a reading by the winners of the Governor General's Literary Awards. As usual, the event took place on the day after the prizes were awarded. However, this year, because of ongoing renovations to the Library's auditorium, it was held in the



elegant surroundings of the ballroom of the Château Laurier Hotel in downtown Ottawa, where more than

The Masters of Ceremonies, CBC Radio's Ken Rockburn and Radio Canada's Odette Gough, noted in their

*As a writer and award winner,
I found this reading a very emotional time that
brought me close to the other readers.*

*Christiane Frenette
(translation)*

400 people gathered for the evening. Thanks to the Canada Council, the evening was broadcast live on the Internet.

opening remarks that the event had become known for its warm and relaxed feeling. This is the first opportunity for the winners to meet the reading public after the winners have been named and

the audience is clearly delighted to meet them — as shown by the lineups for autographs.

"These are great years to be a reader in Canada," said National Librarian Marianne Scott. "The richness and diversity of our recently published heritage are a testament to the dedication of our writers and publishers."

She introduced Canada Council Chairman Jean-Louis Roux, who expressed his delight at being able to participate in an event that was widely known and admired in Montreal.

Each of the 14 winners gave a short reading from his or her winning book. They then signed mounted copies of their book jackets, which had been enlarged for the occasion. These book jackets will be displayed in the Library.

For the third time, the evening's presenting sponsor was CGI, while the associate sponsor was the Friends of the National Library. We appreciate their continued support for this annual celebration.

The Governor General's Literary Awards Gala Reading has become the highlight of the Library's fall literary program and one of the hottest tickets in Ottawa. As it should be — we have great writers in Canada who deserve to be honoured. ♦



Governor General's Literary Awards 1998

Fiction

Diane Schoemperlen for *Forms of Devotion* (A Phyllis Bruce Book/Harper Collins)

Christiane Frenette for *La Terre ferme* (Éditions du Boréal)



Diane Schoemperlen

Poetry

Stephanie Bolster for *White Stone: The Alice Poems* (Signal Editions/Véhicule Press)

Suzanne Jacob for *La Part de feu* preceded by *Le Deuil de la rancune* (Éditions du Boréal)



Suzanne Jacob

Drama

Djanet Sears for *Harlem Duet* (Scirocco Drama/J. Gordon Shillingford Publishing)

François Archambault for *15 secondes* (Leméac Éditeur)



Djanet Sears

Non-fiction

David Adams Richards for *Lines on the Water — A Fisherman's Life on the Miramichi* (Doubleday Canada)

Pierre Nepveu for *Intérieurs du Nouveau Monde: Essais sur les littératures du Québec et des Amériques* (Éditions du Boreal)

Children's literature — text

Janet Lunn for *The Hollow Tree* (Alfred A. Knopf Canada)

Angèle Delaunoy for *Variations sur un même "t'aime"* (Éditions Héritage)

Children's literature — illustration

Kady MacDonald Denton for *A Child's Treasury of Nursery Rhymes* (Kids Can Press)



Pierre Pratt

Pierre Pratt for *Monsieur Ilétaitunefois*, text by Rémy Simard (Annick Press)

Translation

Sheila Fischman for *Bambi and Me* (Talonbooks)

English version of *Les vues animées* by Michel Tremblay

Charlotte Melançon for *Les Sources du moi — La Formation de l'identité moderne* (Éditions du Boréal)

French version of *Sources of the Self: The Making of the Modern Identity* by Charles Taylor ♦

Bibliographic Style Manual Section 3: Electronic documents by Danielle Thibault

In October 1998, the National Library of Canada published a supplement to the 1989 *Bibliographic Style Manual*. This section presents the rules on writing bibliographic records for electronic documents. It updates Section 3, "Machine-Readable Records", of Part Two of the *Bibliographic Style Manual*.

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