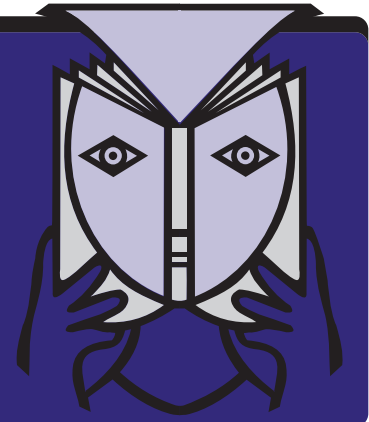




National Library News

March-April 1999
Vol. 31, no. 3-4
ISSN 0027-9633



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COLLECTIONS

From the Rare Book Collection...

by Michel Brisebois,

Rare Book Librarian, Research and Information Services

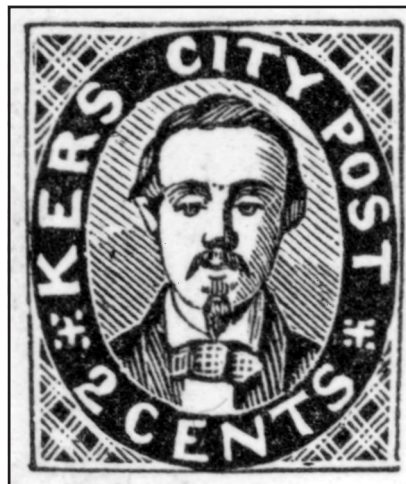
S. Allan Taylor (1838-1913) *The Stamp Collector's Record*. Montreal: S.A. Taylor. issue no.1 (February 15, 1864).

Ever since the first postage stamp was issued in Britain in 1840, philately has been one of the most popular hobbies in the world. In British North America, several provinces took over the post offices in their territories in 1851. The first postage stamps in the country were produced that year in the Province of Canada, in New Brunswick and in Nova Scotia. Newfoundland issued its first stamp in 1857, British Columbia and Vancouver Island in 1860, and Prince Edward Island in 1861.

From its beginning, stamp collecting was a mania; over 75 philatelic journals

and magazines were published in Canada during the 19th century, four of them before Confederation.

The very first of these publications, not only in Canada but also in North America, was *The Stamp Collector's Record* by Daniel Rose printed in Montreal in 1864 for S. Allan Taylor. This first issue printed in Canada — a reported second issue has never been found — contains only four pages, consisting primarily of advertisements. The publication is extremely rare. The National Library holds one copy and the only other copy in Canada is located at the Canadian Postal Museum. It contains two short notes dealing with a fictitious

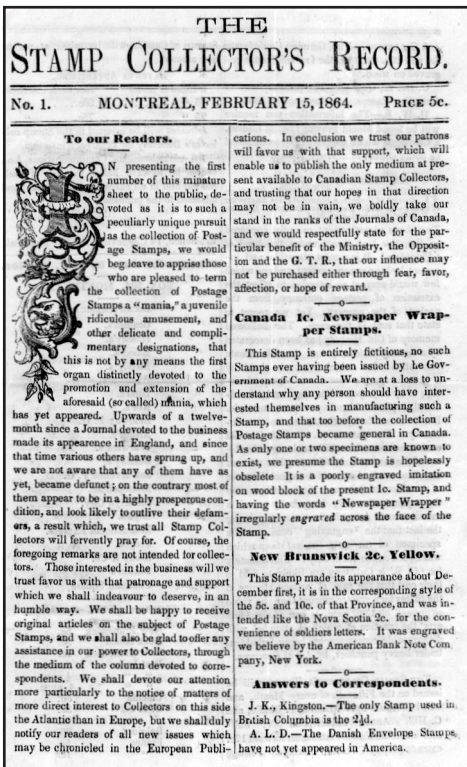


Forged Stamp Featuring Image of S. Allan Taylor.



newspaper wrapper stamp and a fraud that had occurred in the United States. It is ironic that these forgeries and frauds are found in Taylor's publication since he was to become one of the best known philatelic forgers of his time.

Born in Scotland in 1838, S. Allan Taylor was sent to New York by his foster parents in 1850. He came to Montreal in 1861, where he held a number of odd jobs and sold stamps, some of which were fantasy local stamps (stamps said to have been issued by organizations which had, in fact, never existed). Some of these even bore his portrait! In the summer of 1864, he moved to Albany (New York). That December, he began a new series of the *Stamp Collector's Record*, the first philatelic journal in the U.S. It was to appear irregularly until 1876.



In September 1865, another move sent him to Boston, where producing and selling philatelic forgeries became his main activity. He maintained a loose association with a group of scoundrels, known by some as "the Boston Gang". The gang

specialized in bogus stamps, such as fictitious first issues of South American countries, backed by official documents supposedly emanating from these countries, which, of course, were also fake.

Canadian collectors associate Taylor's name with the 1872 fictitious 10-cent issue of Prince Edward Island (no such denomination ever appeared). The lack of specialized information, slow international communications, and a very strong demand for unusual stamps from the ever-growing population of collectors, made stamp forgery a profitable, if somewhat hazardous, occupation. Throughout his life, Taylor played hide-and-seek with collectors and dealers, advertising his own forgeries in the *Stamp Collector's Record* while exposing those of competitors in the pages of his journal. Formal accusations of counterfeiting plagued Taylor's activities in the early 1890s and forced him to abandon his "career". He later took on a number of odd jobs in the Boston area and died in 1913.

The National Library of Canada holds numerous 19th-century Canadian philatelic publications, including journals, magazines, and official publications. It is pleased to make them available to researchers interested in the history of our postal system.

Sources:

Kindler J. — "Caveat Emptor'. The Life and Works of S. Allan Taylor". — *Philatelic Literature Review*. — Vol.15, no. 2 (1966). — P. 59-77, 80-89.

Tyler Varro E. — *Philatelic Forgers. Their Lives and Works*. — Sidney (Ohio) : Linn's Stamp News, 1991. — 165 p. ♦

National Library
News



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National Library News, published ten times a year by the National Library of Canada, is available free upon request. To change your subscription address, please send your current address label, with all appropriate changes indicated, to: Marketing and Publishing, National Library of Canada, 395 Wellington Street, Ottawa, Canada K1A 0N4. Fax: (613) 991-9871. Internet: publications@nlc-bnc.ca

National Library News is also available on the National Library of Canada Web service at www.nlc-bnc.ca/nl-news/en/news.htm

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National Library News is indexed in the Canadian Magazine Index, the Canadian Periodical Index and Children's Literature Abstracts, and is available online in the Canadian Business and Current Affairs Database.

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LIBRARY COMMUNITY

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NATIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHIC SERVICES:

A Truly International Experience

by Ingrid Parent,
Director General, Acquisitions and Bibliographic Services

From November 25 to 27, 1998, representatives from over 70 countries met in Copenhagen, Denmark, to discuss and debate issues related to the content and distribution of national bibliographies. All continents, including 17 countries from Africa and 12 from Asia, were represented. The points of view expressed by the participants were diverse, interesting and enriching, and led to some stimulating discussions.

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the International Conference on National Bibliographic Services (ICNBS) was to review and, if necessary, update the recommendations of the International Congress on National Bibliographies held in Paris in 1977. While the recommendations of this first conference have greatly influenced the development of national bibliographies over the past 20 years, the bibliographic landscape is evolving rapidly due to the appearance of electronic publications and the ease of distribution of information through new communication technologies. These developments have raised serious questions about the content and distribution of national bibliographies, to the point of questioning the need for their continued existence.

The International Conference was held under the auspices of IFLA's Core Programme for Universal Bibliographic Control and International MARC (UBCIM), IFLA's Division of Bibliographic Control and IFLA's Section of National Libraries in cooperation with the Conference of Directors of National Libraries. The conference planning committee was chaired by Ross Bourne of the British

Library and included members from Canada, Denmark, France, the U.S. and UBCIM. The hosts for the conference were the Royal Library, the Royal School of Library Science and the Danish Library Centre. The local organizing committee, chaired by

*...the bibliographic landscape is evolving rapidly...
developments have raised serious questions about
the content and distribution of national
bibliographies...*

Erland Kolding Nielson, did an outstanding job in seeing to the professional, social and housekeeping needs of conference participants.

REPRESENTATION

To ensure broad geographic representation while keeping the numbers small enough to have meaningful discussion and interaction, only one official invitation was sent to each country, to the attention of the member of the Conference of Directors of National Libraries. In addition, several international organizations and programs, such as IFLA, UNESCO, Council of Europe, and the

international ISSN and ISBN centres, were invited.

Organizers recognized that several countries would have difficulty in obtaining the necessary funds to send a representative to the conference. Therefore, the planning committee made a major effort to obtain funding for those most in need. The generous financial support provided by the Banque internationale d'information sur les États francophones (BIEF), le Comité français IFLA, the Danish IFLA '97 Association, the Danish International Development Agency, the Danish National Library Authority, NCLIS, the Nordic Council for Scientific Information, OCLC and the Soros Foundation was very much appreciated and contributed to the international character of the conference. Some 40 of the 120 participants were funded in part or in whole.

David Balatti, Director of Bibliographic Services at the National Library, was the official representative for Canada. Also in attendance were National Librarian Marianne Scott, who participated in a panel discussion with other national librarians, and Acquisitions and Bibliographic Services Director General Ingrid Parent, who was a member of the conference planning committee.

RECOMMENDATIONS

After a keynote paper from Marcelle Beaudiquez of the Bibliothèque nationale de France, several thematic papers and a panel discussion,



conference participants broke into smaller groups focusing on specific issues raised during the conference. A small group then drafted recommendations based on these results. These recommendations formed the core of an animated discussion in a plenary session on the last afternoon of the conference. While participants expressed varied opinions on some key issues, they reached consensus on all the recommendations.

The recommendations developed to guide national libraries and national bibliographic agencies in the production of national bibliographies cover several major aspects of bibliographic activities. Some key points are:

- The conference participants endorsed the concept of Universal Bibliographic Control (UBC) as a long-term program for the development of a worldwide system for the organization and exchange of bibliographic information.
- It is the role and responsibility of a national library or national bibliographic agency to produce the national bibliography, either on its own or in partnership with other organizations. However, if production of the national bibliography is a shared responsibility, the national bibliographic agency must set the policies and the standards for creating its content and production schedule.
- The importance of legal deposit as a means of ensuring that the cultural and intellectual heritage and linguistic diversity of the state is preserved and made accessible for current and future users was reaffirmed.
- While comprehensive coverage for a national bibliography may be the ideal, conditions may exist in certain countries where such coverage is not feasible. Therefore, selection criteria must be developed and promoted.

- National bibliographies may be produced in one or several formats. However, at least one of the formats used to distribute the national bibliography should meet archiving and preservation needs and should be permanently accessible.
- National bibliographic agencies should be proactive in standards development, especially with regard to new standards for the creation and identification of digital documents.
- National bibliographic agencies should adopt the components of the Basic Level Record recommended in the final report of the IFLA Study Group on the Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records.
- Additional standards recommendations were made with respect to authority control, convertibility of MARC formats, and harmonization of international standards for various types of material, especially serial publications.
- The role of users of national bibliographies, including those with special needs, was strongly emphasized. For example, matters like format and frequency should be determined according to the reality of the local situation.
- Conference participants recognized multi-cultural diversity, including the

importance of both maintaining original scripts in national bibliographies and facilitating script conversion.

FUTURE ACTION

Work to refine the wording of the recommendations continued after the conference. The final recommendations of the International Conference will be added to the ICNBS Web site on IFLANET, together with the papers presented at the conference and the pre-conference booklet. These can be found at www.ifla.org/VI/3/icnbs/icnbs.htm.

The recommendations will be presented to the IFLA Professional Board and to UNESCO for endorsement and further action. With the support of these major international organizations, and the commitment of over 70 countries, it is hoped that these recommendations will effectively guide the development of national bibliographies for at least another 20 years.

For further information about the International Conference, please consult the IFLANET Web site or contact:

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 395 Wellington Street
 Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0N4
 Telephone: (819) 994-6887
 Fax: (819) 953-0291
 E-mail: ingrid.parent@nlc-bnc.ca ♦

Change of mailing address

The Canadian Literacy Thesaurus Coalition, developing body of the *Canadian Literacy Thesaurus*, has a new address. When ordering copies of the *Thesaurus*, contact:

Centre FORA
 432 Westmount Avenue, Unit H
 Sudbury, Ontario P3A 5Z8
 Phone: (705) 524-3672
 Fax: (705) 524-8535

Orders may also be placed by e-mail: ti-guy@centrefora.on.ca

Clarification

The Karsh photograph of Grey Owl (*National Library News*, vol. 31, no. 1, p. 17) is held by the National Archives of Canada (PA 164228).



Collaboration Among National Libraries in the Preservation of Digital Information

by Nancy Brodie,

Government Information Holdings Officer, Information Resources Management

Traditionally, a national library is the keeper of a nation's published heritage. Although networked electronic publications increase the complexity and challenges of this role, it remains fundamentally unchanged. National libraries recognize that collaboration can assist them in meeting the challenges posed by this new dimension of publishing and library collections.

COLLABORATIVE PROJECT

Nine major national libraries (representing Australia, Canada, Finland, Germany, Great Britain, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and the U.S.) have joined in a global collaboration to take practical steps towards overcoming some of the barriers to the preservation of their nations' digital documentary heritage.

Ralph Manning, Heritage Officer, National and International Programs, represents the National Library of Canada (NLC) in the project. In addition, three international experts, Donald Waters, Director, Digital Library Federation, Kelly Russell, CEDARS Project Manager, and Robin Dale, Program Officer, Member Programs and Initiatives, Research Libraries Group, have been invited to join the group's discussions.

The National Library of Australia (NLA) has taken the lead in establishing this initiative. Jan Fullerton of the NLA set a tentative agenda for the collaboration in a paper presented to the IFLA Section on National Libraries in August 1998.* The issues she raised include legal deposit, national bibliographies, permanent naming solutions, technical infrastructure for managing collections of electronic publications,

authentication, preservation pathways that address threats to digital archives, metadata for preservation and access, and increasing awareness of preservation issues in the Internet community.

The group is using the Preserving Access to Digital Information (PADI) Web site <www.nla.gov.au/padi/>, administered by the National Library of Australia, as the primary information source on digital archiving issues. Draft papers and informal positions will be shared among the national libraries on a discussion list established by the National Library of Sweden. The National Library of Canada is sharing its documents, *Positioning the National Library of Canada in the Digital Environment: Strategic Directions and Networked Electronic Publications Policy and Guidelines*, the work of its Digital Library Infrastructure Project, as well as the experience gained in building and managing an electronic collection of over 1500 networked electronic publications.

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

National libraries discussed common concerns in a number of forums during the past year. The Sixth DELOS Workshop on Preservation of Digital

Information at Tomar, Portugal, in June 1998 was an important conference <crack.inesc.pt/events/ercim/delos6/papers/agenda.html>. The IFLA Section on National Libraries held a workshop on Legal Deposit of Electronic Materials in Amsterdam in August 1998 at which Ms. Fullerton presented her paper. The Conference of Directors of National Libraries (CDNL) is also addressing legal deposit and persistent naming issues. The National Library of Canada participated in the Joint Research Libraries Group and National Preservation Office (U.K.) Preservation Conference on Guidelines for Digital Imaging in September 1998

<www.rlg.org/preserv/joint/> .

National libraries are collaborating on a number of projects. The National Library of Canada has participated in a CDNL study of legal deposit and electronic publications. NLC is a partner in Bibliotheca universalis, a G-7 global information society pilot project <www.konbib.nl/gabriel/bibliotheca-universalis/index.htm>. The NLC is also part of a study group examining digital object identifiers, such as DOI, URN and PURLS. European projects include the DELOS Working Group <www.iei.pi.cnr.it/DELOS/>, NEDLIB (Networked European Deposit Library) <www.konbib.nl/coop/nedlib/>, and the Nordic Digital Library Centre <www.nbr.no/ndlc/>.

National libraries agree that they must cooperate with other agencies studying these issues. Two seminal documents on digital preservation have come from research libraries in the United States and the academic community in the United Kingdom.

- *Preserving Digital Information: Report of the Task Force on Archiving of Digital Information*, commissioned by the Commission on Preservation and



Access and the Research Libraries Group, Inc. <www.rlg.org/ArchTF/>.

- *A Strategic Policy Framework for Creating and Preserving Digital Collections*, Neil Beagrie and Daniel Greenstein, Arts and Humanities Data Service (AHDS) <ahds.ac.uk/manage/framework.htm>.

National libraries are eager to learn from the work of the Digital Library Federation <www.clir.org/diglib/dlffhomepage.htm> in the U.S. and the CEDARS Project <www.leeds.ac.uk/cedars/> in the U.K. as they pursue many of the issues raised by the CPA/RLG Task Force and the AHDS report. There is also much to be learned from outside the library world, where sophisticated approaches

to preservation of digital data reflected in ISO archiving standards have been developed <ssdoo.gsfc.nasa.gov/nost/isoas/>. Archives and records management experts are also exploring electronic preservation issues. INTERPARES (International Research on Permanent Authentic Records in Electronic Systems) <www.interpares.org/> is a new Canada-based international initiative.

CONCLUSION

National libraries work together in many areas of common interest on the issues surrounding the management of electronic publications for long-term

access. National libraries are using a variety of means to share information and address challenges. The National Library of Canada is both contributing to and benefiting from this collaborative approach. More complete reports on these initiatives will be published in future issues of the *National Library News*.

Note

*Jan Fullerton, *Developing national collections of electronic publications: issues to be considered and recommendations for future collaborative actions*, National Library of Australia, 1998 <www.nla.gov.au/nla/staffpaper/int_issu.html>. ♦

Visiting the Biblioteka Narodowa (National Library) in Warsaw and the Biblioteka Jagiellonska (Jagiellonian Library) in Cracow

by *Maryna Nowosielski*,
Director of Acquisitions, Acquisitions and Bibliographic Services

In our continuous search for improvements, we gather information about best practices in other libraries, both in Canada and abroad. One of the ways to do this is to visit other libraries whenever possible.

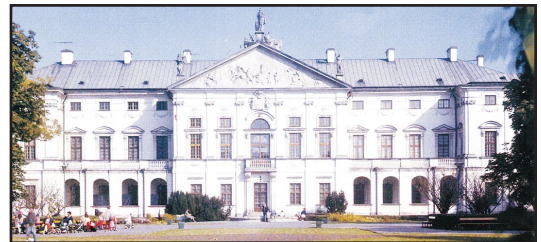
During my September vacation in Poland, I spent some time at the country's two major libraries: the Biblioteka Narodowa (National Library) in Warsaw and the so-called "Bibliotheca Patria", formally the Biblioteka Jagiellonska (Jagiellonian Library), in Cracow. Brief visits to each library allowed me to review our current exchanges with these libraries, and to have informal discussions on general issues pertaining to

management, organizational change, technology, legal deposit implementation, responsibilities for national collections and other issues of importance to national libraries. I met mostly senior librarians who could speak English, but my fluency in Polish helped me greatly in my discussions and in locating additional information on the Polish-language Web sites.

BIBLIOTEKA NARODOWA

ORIGIN AND COLLECTIONS

The Biblioteka Narodowa tradition is linked with the Zaluski Library, which opened to the public in 1747. In 1778, the Polish Parliament, or Sejm, granted the Library legal deposit status. However, in 1794, with the third partition of Poland, the book collections were taken to St. Petersburg to form the foundation of the Tsar's public library. After Poland regained its independence in 1918, a substantial amount of the national budget was assigned to purchase books. In addition,



Biblioteka Narodowa Special Collections.

three large library collections were returned to Poland: the Rapperswil, the Battignolles and the Zaluski collections.



The Biblioteka Narodowa was formally established in 1928, 10 years after Poland had regained its independence. The Bibliographic



Biblioteka Narodowa.

Institute (national bibliographic agency) was established as part of the Library at the same time. The Institute, with the financial support of publishers, issues bibliographies of all current copyrighted publications under the title *Urzędowy wykaz druków* (Official List of Publications).

Currently, as a depository library, the Biblioteka Narodowa is responsible for acquiring, processing, making available and preserving the entire Polish and Poland-related production of printed materials, cartographic



Biblioteka Narodowa Entrance Plaque.

materials and recorded sound materials. In addition, it acquires foreign publications oriented towards the universal collection of reference sources, humanities and social sciences, with special emphasis on history, library and information sciences, and reference sources.

According to the information I received, its collections include 4 163 658 volumes of printed monographs, 629 680 volumes of periodicals, 170 000 volumes of early printed books, 1060 incunabula, 14 486 manuscripts, 70 930 maps, 101 290 music scores, 35 266 sound recordings,

160 420 microforms, an outstanding collection of grey literature (over 1 630 000 units) and many other collections, including electronic publications.
<www.uidaho.edu/~majanko/ankieta/index.html>.

ACCESS

The Biblioteka Narodowa is open to the general public, for on-site research and reference, six days a week including Saturdays, except for national holidays. In 1996, it purchased its new "turn-key" integrated INNOPAC system and is gradually making all its databases available on the Web and via Telnet. It also maintains its own MAK system, mainly to produce various bibliographic products and to support some 600 small and medium-sized libraries throughout Poland.

As the national bibliographic agency, the Biblioteka Narodowa compiles the current and retrospective

national bibliography of monographs and serials, Poland-related materials and other special bibliographies. It also prepares all Polish publishing statistics.

The Library moved into its new building (al. Niepodleglosci 213) over several years, starting in 1983 and ending in 1996. The new building should be sufficient for another five years, but discussions are already taking place to plan for additional storage space. The main concern is lack of funds.

The rare books and manuscripts are housed in a separate building, the *Palac Rzeczypospolitej* (Palace of the

Republic) some distance from the main building, where special exhibits and displays showcase the special collections.

ORGANIZATION

I visited the Biblioteka Narodowa shortly after the appointment of the new Director, the equivalent of our National Librarian. The present Director, Michal Jagiello, is the former Deputy Minister of Culture and Art, as well as a publicist and writer. He is assisted by three Deputy Directors: one for research, one for administrative and technical matters and one for library operations. The Biblioteka Narodowa has a complex structure of several institutes and departments, mainly reflecting various functions. They include the Bibliographic Institute, Collections and Access to Current Materials, Special Collections, Information and Circulation, Central Catalogues and Electronic Information, Preservation and Conservation, and the Institute of the Book and of Reading.

STAFF

The Biblioteka Narodowa employs close to 1000 staff members. It has its own printing office and publishing house, and houses the National Centre for Book Conservation.

BIBLIOTEKA JAGIELLONSKA

This library combines its three roles of national library, university library and public library effectively. It serves both the national and international communities and continues to expand its resources through gifts, exchanges, legal deposit and purchases.

ORIGIN AND COLLECTIONS

The library dates back to the founding of the Cracow Academy (now the Jagiellonian University) in 1364. The collection increased through the centuries, enlarged by numerous gifts,



Biblioteka Jagiellonska.

mainly from professors and alumni. In the 16th century, this library had the largest collection of books in Poland and was one of the most notable libraries in the world. In 1932, the Library was granted legal deposit status for all Polish publications, and now ranks as one of Poland's two most important libraries.

According to the information on the <uidaho.edu> Web site, the collection contains 1 503 178 volumes of monographs, 557 199 volumes of periodicals, 104 012 early printed books, 3586 incunabula, 24 258 manuscripts, 12 819 maps, 35 105 music scores, and 77 336 microforms <www.uidaho.edu/~majanko/ankieta/libraries.html>.

The library has invaluable historical source materials, books on history, culture, Polish literature and art. As a national library it collects and preserves, and as a university and public library it provides easy access to its collections, both on-site and through inter-library loans. Only the reference collection is directly accessible to the public.

The library collects and preserves all published Polish materials as well as Polonica, publications about Poland or by Poles but published abroad. It collects at least one copy of each title published between 1945 and 1968 and two copies of titles published after 1968. Together with 42 other smaller university libraries, it also supports the teaching and research activities of the Jagiellonian University.

Research activities at the library focus on the elaboration of its collections of medieval and modern manuscripts, old prints and "underground" literature.

The Library is on the point of doubling its space through the addition of a new building adjoining the existing building.

It has also been modernizing the original Gothic-Renaissance structure into which the Jagiellonian Library moved just before the Second World War, to accommodate the new technologies and telecommunications.

ACCESS

The library is open six days a week. An average of 600 000 people use the Library each year.

Since 1992, the Library has implemented an integrated "turn-key" VTLS library system. Currently, acquisitions, cataloguing and the online catalogue are on VTLS. Work is underway on retro-conversion and



Biblioteka Jagiellonska Reading Room and Reference Collection.

automation of circulation. The Biblioteka Jagiellonska creates bibliographic records for new acquisitions which are shared with other Polish libraries.

ORGANIZATION

During my visit, I spent some time with the current Director, Dr. Krzysztof Zamorski. The director of the Jagiellonian Library is selected by the

university Senate for a period of five years, with no restrictions on renewal. Since 1528, the director has been a faculty member, and may also be a professional librarian. Dr. Zamorski, an associate professor at the Institute of History, combines his demanding work of managing one of the largest and most complex libraries in Poland with his own research and teaching responsibilities at the university.

There are three Deputy Directors (one for administration and construction, one for 19th and 20th century materials, and one for special collections, conservation and publishing) to help manage the 14 departments of the Library and the 283 staff members.

SUMMARY

In many ways, the two Polish libraries are very similar to the National Library of Canada and some of our larger university libraries. The two Polish libraries are struggling with similar issues, such as reduced resources, new technologies, access to information and user fees. Some of their approaches and solutions may be of particular interest to Canadians.

LEGAL DEPOSIT

Several libraries in Poland receive one or two copies of Polish publications through legal deposit, and take on the responsibilities for access and conservation.

Poland's history has made everybody there well aware that it is prudent to assign legal deposit responsibilities to more than one library.

The staff of the two Polish libraries devote considerable time to discussions with publishers and writers on the importance of legal deposit legislation in building the national



collection. They participate in many book fairs and meetings with writers, and stress the importance of participation. On the other hand, less time is devoted to claiming missing items. Polish publishers do not have to pay postal charges when sending legal deposit titles to the various libraries. This approach shows that the government supports and recognizes the contribution of the Polish publishing industry to preserving the national published heritage.

RARE BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS

These are showcased at the Biblioteka Narodowa and also displayed in a special area at the Biblioteka Jagiellonska. They are also showcased through special exhibits, catalogues and digitization. Bibliographic access online is also provided through the Internet.

LEADERSHIP

The two leaders are selected through a slightly different process, but both are appointed for a specific period of time, four or five years, with the possibility of reappointment. The selection of a director from among the faculty allows for a greater understanding of the needs of the university.

PROFESSIONAL STAFF — LIBRARIANS

As in Canada, the professional staff is well educated and trained, generating many new ideas on acquisitions, access, cooperation and electronic information, and other aspects of library science. There is considerable involvement in providing information, research and cooperation with other national libraries in Europe, through the Conference of European National Librarians (CENL) and its Gabriel, the information server for Europe's national

libraries, <portico.bl.uk/gabriel/en/welcome.html>, as well as involvement with other international organizations such as IFLA.

BUILDINGS AND COLLECTIONS

There appears to be a good understanding that collections must be properly housed to extend their life and to make them accessible. When collections and library staff are housed in the same building, more efficient and better services are provided to the clients.

Both libraries collect and preserve the country's published heritage. They also collect and preserve Polonica, titles about Poland or written by Poles but published abroad. Special publications and databases provide access to the latter. The National Library of Canada's Gifts and Exchanges section helps to locate Canadian titles with Polish content, as well as providing Canadian titles of more general interest in exchange for Polish Canadiana.

AUTOMATION

The two libraries purchased two different American library systems and will link the two using Z39.50. Both libraries received financial support from abroad. They are still implementing some aspects of the new library systems and are trying to convert non-MARC records. The Biblioteka Narodowa is now converting its MARC to the US MARC. It also maintains its local MAK system to support about 600 small Polish libraries and is able to use the export/import features to link the two. Although CD-ROM databases are created and collected, online publications (networked publications) are not yet collected or covered by legal deposit.

ACCESS

Only the Biblioteka Narodowa is responsible for the creation and maintenance of the national bibliography. Several special CD-ROM products and databases are available.

My brief visits to the two Polish libraries allowed me to review and renew our exchange agreements for the national bibliographies, CD-ROM products and publications of national interest, and also helped me to learn more about international librarianship.

For further information on the two Polish libraries, see <www.bn.org.pl> for the Biblioteka Narodowa and <www.bj.uj.edu.pl> for the Biblioteka Jagiellonska. Both sites have information in Polish and in English. ♦

Did You Know...

- that on May 1, 2000, the National Library of Canada will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Canadian Bibliographic Centre?
- that the National Library of Canada now has more than 16 000 000 items in its collection? This represents a 4.5 percent increase during the 1998-1999 fiscal year.
- that in April 2000, the Library will celebrate the millennium by honouring one of our greatest artists?

This major exhibition devoted to the life and accomplishments of the legendary Canadian jazz pianist Oscar Peterson is to include parts of the collection that he has previously donated to the Library.

The National Library and the U.S. Program for Cooperative Cataloging

by Liz McKeen,
Director, Bibliographic Access, Acquisitions and Bibliographic Services

The National Library of Canada catalogues titles of Canadian origin or interest for Canadiana, The National Bibliography, and makes bibliographic and authority records available in MARC 21 format through a variety of distribution means. However, as many Canadian library collections are broad in scope and include publications from many nations, the National Library also plays a role in supporting Canadian libraries in obtaining bibliographic records for titles produced in other countries.

To help fulfill this need, the National Library has participated in the development of the U.S. Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC) since its inception in 1994. The National Library has also participated in the CONSER (Cooperative Online Serials Program) program for over a quarter of a century (since its founding in 1973), and, when CONSER joined the PCC in October 1997, the National Library's involvement with the PCC was further consolidated.

WHAT IS THE PCC?

The Program for Cooperative Cataloging is a U.S. program of cooperation among several hundred libraries, coordinated by the Library of Congress (LC), to create and update cataloguing records jointly. Its aim is "expanding access to library collections by providing useful, timely, and cost-effective cataloguing that meets mutually-accepted standards of libraries around the world." (PCC Web homepage: <lcweb.loc.gov/catdir/pcc/pcc.html>). Its goals are to:

- Cooperatively enhance the timely availability of bibliographic and authority records by cataloguing more items, producing cataloguing that is widely available for sharing and use by others, and performing cataloguing in a more cost-effective manner.
- Develop and maintain mutually acceptable standards for records.
- Promote the values of timely access and cost-effectiveness in cataloguing, and expand the pool of cataloguers who catalogue using the mutually accepted standards.
- Increase the sharing and use of foreign bibliographic and authority records.
- Provide for ongoing discussion, planning and operations among participants in order to further the program's mission.

Although the PCC began in 1994, some of its components date back more than 20 years under different names. It now comprises:

- NACO (Name Authority Cooperative program), which began in 1977.
- SACO (Subject Authority Cooperative program), which evolved

from the Cooperative Subject Cataloging Project begun in 1983.

- BIBCO (Bibliographic Cooperative program for the contribution of monograph records to a central database), which evolved in 1995 from the National Coordinated Cataloging Program begun in 1988.
- CONSER (Cooperative Online Serials Program, involving the contribution and updating of bibliographic records for serials to a central database), which began in 1973 and became a component of the PCC in 1997.

The PCC has become an important player in the field of bibliographic standards, originating and developing the concept of a "core" level record. Through CONSER, it contributes to the AACR revision process.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF CANADA'S INVOLVEMENT WITH THE PCC

The National Library serves as a permanent member of the PCC Policy Committee and participates in the following PCC programs:

CONSER

NLC became a contributing PCC library in 1997 when CONSER joined the PCC program. The Library's role in CONSER is to contribute bibliographic records for Canadian serials to the CONSER database on OCLC. Over the past 25 years, it has contributed about 60 000 records.

NACO

While NLC is not a NACO member, a formal NLC/LC Names Agreement for Canadian names has operated since 1975. Under this agreement, Canadian corporate names, as established by NLC



BIBCO

and published in *Canadiana Authorities*, are used by LC and NACO libraries in the course of their cataloguing. This ensures a high degree of consistency in Canadian name headings used in North American libraries. It is hoped that this consistency can be enhanced through closer ties with the NACO program.

SACO

NLC has proposed new subject headings to the Library of Congress Subject Headings list under the SACO program since 1994, contributing 180 subject headings since that time.

NLC is not a formal BIBCO member. However, NLC's monographic records are sent to LC, which redistributes them to U.S. and other subscribers via its Cataloging Distribution Service.

Through its participation in the Program for Cooperative Cataloging, the National Library of Canada seeks to bring a Canadian and international perspective to the development of PCC programs for the sharing of standardized bibliographic data.

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CANADIAN STUDIES

SAVOIR FAIRE

The Parliamentary Precinct's National Heritage Treasures

by Mary Bond,
 Research and Information Services

As Denis Robitaille, coordinator of the current *Savoir Faire* series, noted in his introduction to the November seminar, most visitors to the Canadian Parliament Buildings see only familiar views while on tours of the Centre Block. Such was not the case for those National Library researchers and staff fortunate enough to attend Audrey Dubé's seminar, "The Parliamentary Precinct's National Heritage Treasures".

Ms. Dubé, a member of the staff of the Office of the Curator, House of Commons, provided a specialist's unique and detailed view of the architectural and artistic treasures of Parliament. The Office of the Curator, which has existed since 1989, has as its primary role the research and documentation of the architecture, decoration, furniture, works of art and artifacts of the buildings of the Parliamentary Precinct. It assists the architects and restorers involved in

projects such as the restoration of the Centre Block.

Using slides to illustrate her lecture, Ms. Dubé described the many styles, materials and artistic techniques used in the construction and decoration of the buildings. When the Centre Block was rebuilt after the fire of 1916, the Modern Gothic Revival style was used by its chief architect, John Andrew Pearson. He also designed every feature of the House of Commons and ensured the unity of its detail. With its half-bleached linen



Courtesy, Canadian Museum of Contemporary Photography.

canvas ceiling hangings, white oak panelling and Tyndall limestone, it is a fine example of the richness of design to be found in Parliament.

For her own meticulous research on specific artifacts, works of art or architectural details, Ms. Dubé has made extensive use of the National Library's collections. She has used historical Canadian newspapers and periodicals to locate early photographs or illustrations of the Parliament Buildings, while city directories have provided the detail required to flesh out the career of a particular artisan, artist or company. Monographs from the general collection are the source of



much historical background information.

Ms. Dubé highlighted the work of many artists and artisans such as Eleanor Milne, who was a sculptor in the buildings and a designer of stained glass for over 30 years. The Office of the Curator holds her fonds, including designs, reports and watercolours. Some of her beautiful designs for stained glass were on display during Ms. Dubé's seminar. The carving of sculptural elements in the Centre Block



Courtesy, Canadian Museum of Contemporary Photography.

continues to this day. The detail in such friezes as the "History of Canada" or the "Evolution of Life" are testaments not only to the creativity of the designers and artists but also to the painstaking labour involved.

Certainly the members of the audience for this seminar should delight in their next visit to the Parliament Buildings as they will be able to view them with a greater appreciation and understanding of their history and beauty. ♦

SAVOIR FAIRE

Ashkenaz: A Celebration of German Jewry

by Tom Tylor,
Research and Information Services

The December seminar of the *Savoir Faire* series featured a slide presentation of pages from various works portraying aspects of the Jewish experience in Europe. The material was based on an exhibition at the National Library of Canada from November 24, 1998 to January 20, 1999. The exhibition drew on the National Library's Jacob M. Lowy Collection of 4000 volumes of old and rare Hebraica and Judaica.

The collection curator, Cheryl Jaffee, presented 21 slides of illustrations from the exhibit, explaining the significance and historical background of each.

Ashkenaz is the name of a son of Gomer. By the sixth century, Gomer was identified in the Talmud with



Sefer Mesholim. 1926



Tractate Shabat of the Talmud. 1948

Germania, a land believed to be in southern Persia. The non-Jewish Germanic tribes of Europe were referred to as the people of Ashkenaz in the 10th century Jewish history, *Josippon*. Jews of German origin, traditions and culture were referred to as Ashkenazi after their migration into German-speaking lands and into Eastern Europe. There is little documentation of Jewish life in Ashkenaz before the 10th century.

The illustrations, presented in chronological order, encompassed seven centuries of literary accomplishments, from 1272 to 1983. Included among them were:

- A page from the *Worms Mahzor*, 1272, depicting the command "Zakhor" (Remember), emblematic of the exhibition. This *Mahzor* contains the earliest dated Yiddish sentence, and is one of the oldest surviving illuminated Ashkenazi manuscripts. (Ashkenaz is the source of the earliest surviving Jewish illuminated manuscripts.)
- The title page from *Tractate Temurah* of the Babylonian Talmud, printed in Frankfort an der Oder between 1697 and 1699. It was the first Talmud printed in its entirety in the German-speaking lands.



- A presentation of two pages from the *Tishbi*, 1541, that contains added glosses in Italian and German transliterated into Hebrew characters. They serve as valuable documentation on the spoken languages of the 16th-century Italian and German Jewish communities. Secular Yiddish literature emerged in 16th-century northern Italy.
- A facsimile of a 1697 edition of *Sefer Mesholim*, a collection of Yiddish fables that offers glimpses of Ashkenazi customs of the 16th century.
- The Yiddish Bible, 1676-1678, was the first Yiddish translation of the complete Hebrew Bible. It was destined primarily for the Yiddish-speaking communities in Poland.
- The illuminated Passover *Haggadah*, Altona 1763, is a unique manuscript and one of the most valuable items in the Lowy Collection, exemplifying the 18th-century renaissance of Hebrew manuscript production.
- *Die Geschichten des Rabbi Nachman*, a 1906 publication (first edition) of Martin Buber's translation of the folklore of the Yiddish-speaking Eastern European Hasidim.
- A tractate from the complete Talmud, published in Germany in 1948 for the first time since the end of World War II. Some 250 years had passed since the complete Talmud was first produced in Germany.
- The concluding slide, from the 1983 *Haggadah* by contemporary scribe and artist David Moss, is presented as a metaphor commemorating the

beginning and end of the civilization of Ashkenaz. It shows the bird-headed figures of medieval Askenazi manuscript illumination caged behind doors modelled after the gates of Auschwitz.

The next seminar in the Savoir Faire series will take place on April 20. Gilles Gallichan, a librarian at the Bibliothèque de l'Assemblée nationale du Québec, will speak on the "Reconstitution des débats, ou comment bâtir une mémoire parlementaire grâce au patrimoine imprimé, 1867-1963".

For more information about the Jacob M. Lowy Collection, visit the Web site at: <www.nlc-bnc.ca/services/elowy.htm> ♦

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

DESTINATION 395 WELLINGTON

Tour the National Library and the National Archives

by Iris Winston,
Marketing and Publishing

Close to 2000 visitors have been given new views of the National Library of Canada and the National Archives of Canada during the last few months as part of the "Destination 395 Wellington campaign" pilot project. In May 1998, the two institutions launched a cooperative campaign to develop the building that the two institutions share as a tourist destination point. Visitors are offered a variety of customized, guided tours that may take them into the depths of the stacks in Ottawa or off to the Archives' new building in Gatineau, Quebec.

The tours are organized for various publics: tourists interested in a general overview of the buildings and artwork; special-interest groups who want to view the latest exhibition; or professionals who seek to learn more about specific collections.

"People seem to enjoy the tours and find them very instructive," says National Library Tour Coordinator Lucien Goulet. "For first-time visitors, it is an ideal opportunity to learn that we house much more than books at the Library."



National Archives Preservation Centre in Gatineau.

Most tours run for about 90 minutes. As visitors pass through the main public areas of the 13-storey building, they hear some of its history. Opened on June 20, 1967, by then Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson, the huge granite structure overlooks the Ottawa River. As the centre of the nation's published heritage and collective memory, it houses many of the National Library's collections on some 160 kilometres of steel shelving and is also the home of some impressive artwork.

The Archives' media records and some textual records are now stored in



the Preservation Centre which also hosts regular tours.

“Tours of the Preservation Centre have been very popular since it opened in June 1997,” says National Archives Tour Coordinator Suzanne Pagé-Dazé. “We are often booked up to three months in advance.”

Back at 395 Wellington, visitors see a series of impressive glass panels celebrating writers who have contributed to the world’s literary heritage, the work of New Zealand-born artist John Hutton. They view Henry Moore’s *Three Way*



Hutton etching of Samuel de Champlain.



Glenn Gould’s piano chair.

Piece-Points. The bronze sculpture was a gift from the British government. They see *Dante Alighieri*, a three-quarter length bronze of the Italian poet by Angelo Biancini, a gift to the National Library from the Dante Society.

Before they climb the central staircase, they pause in front of Glenn Gould’s piano — a reminder that the Library houses the world’s most comprehensive collection of his recordings and papers. They may also visit the current National Library and National Archives exhibitions before heading to the Library’s reference and reading areas on the second floor — possibly also visiting the Jacob M. Lowy Collection of Incunabula, Hebraica and Judaica — and the equivalent Archives’ facilities on the third floor, where, at the touch of a button, visitors

are likely to find an ancestor. The Canadian Expeditionary Force index is very popular. The “collective memory of the nation and of the Canadian government” is here in “millions of documents that give life to the past.” After visiting this section, visitors move up to the fourth floor, which houses such special National Library collections as Rare Books, Literary Manuscripts and the Music Division. Tours geared to professional visitors are conducted by area specialists.

“We do our best to provide visitors with all the information they need,” says Mr. Goulet, who estimates that more than 30 tours visit 395 Wellington each week during the summer months.

At the Preservation Centre, Ms. Pagé-Dazé says that the average is one tour per week. “Many people come because they are very interested in the building itself,” she says.

All tour groups are offered details of the National Library’s and National Archives’ services and collections, hours of operation and current exhibitions and provided with print material for future reference. Virtual tours are also available on the Web at <www.nlc-bnc.ca>.

For further information or to book tours, contact:

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Everyone was impressed with the organization and preparation that had been arranged for us...Our only regret was that there was not enough time left to do much research after the tours. As a result, many of our members are already planning another trip for research purposes.

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