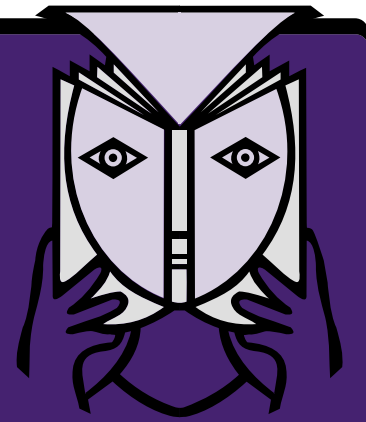




National Library News

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Guest Editor Mary Jane Starr,
Director General, Research and
Information Services.

INTRODUCTION

Farewell from Marianne Scott

Dr. Marianne Scott, National Librarian of Canada, has announced her retirement, to take effect September 30, 1999.

I am very pleased to have this opportunity to say thank you and *au revoir* to the readers of the National Library News. It has been a great pleasure and, in fact, an honour to have been National Librarian during the past 15 years. They have been years with many highs and some lows, but throughout them all I have been buoyed by the knowledge that I could count on the interest and support of the Canadian library community.

Canada has a great library network. Perhaps we are fortunate in this country that we are small in number and spread over such a large space, because we have learned the value of cooperation. We have learned the value of networking. It never ceases to amaze me how you can call someone in any part of this country and find a responsive voice, a helpful, constructive voice. I am sure most of you know that I have truly enjoyed the opportunity to be in charge of such an extraordinary institution as the National Library of



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Canada. I hope you'll forgive me if I take a moment here to recall some of the accomplishments of the past 15 years.

Over this time, the National Library has taken a leading role in applying new technologies to document, preserve and promote the Canadian experience, in collaboration with other organizations. The Library has implemented a new national bibliographic database, AMICUS, which includes a Web-based interface;



and the national bibliography, *Canadiana*, is now available on CD-ROM. (How easily these terms now trip off the tongue — the World Wide Web and CD-ROMs were unheard of in 1984 when I commenced this tremendous adventure.) The Library has also gained international respect for its work in developing standards. Because of the digital revolution and electronic communications, we can now truly see the possibility of equitable access to information from coast to coast to coast.

Nevertheless, libraries are still chiefly about books — regardless of the formats in which they appear — and about the traditional pursuits of developing, cataloguing and preserving collections. Therefore, while I am proud of our achievements in adapting and enriching new information technologies, I am equally proud of the less glamorous goals we have accomplished — for example, in eliminating cataloguing backlogs. There

is no question that all forms of library work will continue to be essential in balancing the National Library's heritage mandate with providing an effective gateway to information for present and future generations.

For me, there have been two overarching benefits to my years as National Librarian. One has been the opportunity to work with such an excellent and dedicated staff to reach important goals. The other has been the opportunity to promote the role libraries play in all our lives.

I cannot pretend it has been easy to leave, in particular because of the strength and warmth of the relationships I am leaving behind... the institutional ties between the National Library and the Canadian library community, and especially the professional and personal ties with all of you and with the staff here at the Library. I want to thank you for making it a pleasure to come to work every day. I can only hope my successor will enjoy the same warm support. ♦

Introducing the Fourth National Librarian...



© Yves Beaulieu-1995

Roch Carrier, Canada's new National Librarian, is an internationally renowned author and Officer of the Order of Canada. He has been active

in various cultural organizations, including the Théâtre du Nouveau Monde and the Canada Council for the Arts, where he served as president from 1979 to 1981 and as director from 1994 to 1997.

In a recent interview Mr. Carrier stated: "The key words will be, certainly preservation of the material - preservation of the memory, but mainly access and dissemination - a higher profile for the institution and to make it more accessible to the general public."

Mr. Carrier has a number of works to his credit, and has received many prizes and honours, among them the 1991 Stephen Leacock Prize for humour for *Prayers of a Very Wise Child*. Roch Carrier is also known for his books for children, most notably *The Hockey Sweater*.

Mr. Carrier's first article for the *National Library News* will appear in the November issue. ♦

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



In Memoriam

Dr. William Kaye Lamb, F.R.S.C., O.C.
May 11, 1904 - August 24, 1999



Courtesy of the National Archives of Canada

It is with deep regret that the staff at the National Library learned of the death of Dr. William Kaye Lamb on Tuesday, August 24, 1999 in Vancouver. Dr.

Lamb was responsible for the planning of a national library and became the first National Librarian in January 1953.

Before being appointed to the National Library, Dr. Lamb held the positions of Provincial Librarian and Archivist of British Columbia (1934-1940), Chief Librarian of the University of British Columbia (1940-1948), and was named Dominion Archivist in 1948 – a position he held until his retirement in 1969. During the period between 1953 and May of 1968, Dr. Lamb held the positions of both Dominion Archivist and National Librarian. Dr. Lamb left the National Library on May 31, 1968.

Dr. Lamb is survived by his daughter Elizabeth Hawkins, a former employee of the National Library and

the National Archives, his son-in-law Bert and by two grandsons.

A memorial service was held on September 22 in Ottawa at the National Library/National Archives building. An obituary detailing his life was published in the August 30 edition of the *Globe and Mail*¹. Dr. Tom Delsey's testimony to Dr. Lamb on August 31, 1999 will appear in the November issue of the *National Library News*.

¹Donn Downey. "W. Kaye Lamb: National Archivist Was Custodian of Canada's History", *Globe and Mail*, Monday, August 30, 1999, p. A21. ♦



Building Bridges: The Second Crossing

Mary Jane Starr,
Director General,
Research and Information Services

There is a short story for young people in which the protagonist, a fur trapper, learns at great personal cost, the value of building a solid bridge of not just one but two logs to cross the rivers of an untamed North American landscape. The National Library of Canada goes one better than our hapless hero, and constructs numerous bridges to its rich and diverse landscape of Canadian collections. In this issue of *National Library News*, as in the previous one, the focus is on the accessibility to the collections and services of the National Library which enables Canadians to avail themselves of their published heritage.

In the first section, "Bringing Literature and Music to the Public", the emphasis is on youth and popular culture. Céline Gendron describes the 1999 *Read Up On It*, the Library's annual, bilingual thematic guide to Canadian literature for young readers. Now in its 11th year, this *RUOI* celebrates humour and is aptly entitled, *Tickle your Funny Bone!*

For his part, Dr. S. Timothy Maloney is "Takin' Care of Business" when he details the efforts of the Music Division to strengthen the Library's collections of jazz, pop, and rock musicians. The title of the article is a reference, of course, to a 'classic' tune long associated with Randy Bachman. The Library acquired the Bachman archive

several years ago and aims to complement it with the collections of his contemporaries in popular music.

Since its inception, the Library has faced the challenge of distance in rendering its collections accessible to all Canadians. Resource sharing services such as the union catalogue, Canadian Book Exchange Centre, interlibrary loan, and document delivery continue to bridge the gap between collections and Canadians, through the intermediary of an extensive library network. Now, however, we have new media at our disposal which bring Canadians into immediate and direct contact with the Library's holdings.

The section, "New Media", highlights a number of key endeavours that connect Canadians with their published heritage. Louise Tousignant works directly with the electronic Canadian periodicals and she reports on the challenges of managing a collection of e-Canadiana. Stepping back from the Library's own collection, Nancy Brodie describes *Virtuoso*, a non-profit scholarly publishing group to which the Library belongs. Changes in



the publishing landscape are making new connections necessary and through Virtuoso, the Library and its partners will examine the electronic publishing process from creation through description and dissemination.

In "New Media", we are treating not only the questions of information which is 'born digital', but also information which has been transformed from a traditional format to an electronic one. It is increasingly recognized that not all existing print information will be digitized: the costs are prohibitive, and the pay back questionable. That stated, selective digitization of material with Canadian content has tremendous potential to enlighten, educate and inform. The next articles offer three different examples of new technology as a bridge between formats.

Alan Gillmor, a music professor at Carleton University, embarked on an innovative research project to transform information from manuscript to digital utilizing a voice recognition software program. His report on his project with the Istvan Anhalt fonds is both instructive and humorous. As noted in "Old Grooves, New Waves" Richard Green has transformed audio to digital. The Virtual Gramophone: Canadian Historical Sound Recordings brings the earliest 78 rpm recordings in the Library's recorded sound collection to the world through the multimedia capabilities of the Internet and is available on the Library Web site at <<http://www.nlc-bnc.ca>>. The National Library's first, and still among the most popular sites, is Canadian Confederation. What began as the digitization of a selection of print publications, woven together through narrative, has been enhanced by the addition of more primary material, as

well as additional interpretative text. Norma Gauld outlines the plans to further enhance this thematic, multimedia resource to render it even more valuable to students of Canada's history.

Technology, such as digitization, can bridge the physical space between the collection and Canadians, as has been demonstrated by the above articles. Intellectual access, however, closes the gap in another way. The finding aid to a manuscript collection is the bridge a researcher traverses to understand the contents of such collections. Catherine Hobbs created the finding aid to the second accession of prize-winning author Carol Shields's fonds. Her experience was one of discovery and delight.

Another form of intellectual access is that afforded by the cataloguers. Presenting a particular challenge are the publications in the more than 100 languages that comprise the multilingual mosaic that is Canada. Marjorie Malcolm and David Murrell-Wright explain the cataloguing practices which provide user access to foreign-language material in the Library's collection.

Library staff are joined by the research community in endeavours to describe and interpret the Library's collections, to mutual benefit. SAVOIR FAIRE, a seminar series, now in its fourth year, is a forum for the exchange of information on topics in Canadian studies. Mary Bond and Norma Gauld document the series and, in so doing, demonstrate the vibrancy and variety of scholarly activity at the National Library.

"You probably had it in mind that SAVOIR FAIRE would bring into focus the unusual range of researchers using the Library... I think the National Library

stands out (in a quiet and unassuming way) for having a meaningful open access policy. I suppose this is partly the nature of libraries – but bringing into view and recognizing the advanced use of research resources by non-academics as well as academics and professional researchers strikes me as a rare bridge between spheres of activity normally isolated by a line of 'professionalism' and disciplinarity."

Mark Kristmanson, SAVOIR FAIRE presenter - in a letter to Mary Jane Starr June 22, 1999

Frequently, the Library allows the creators whose works are represented in the collection to speak for themselves. Such was the case with first-time author M.P. Rogers, who, now in her ninth decade, gave a reading from her novel, *OONA ParaSelene*. In the International Year of Older Persons, M.P. Rogers connected with her listeners, and bridged more than one generation gap.

Accomplished women are in vogue in October as the Library marks Women's History Month with another edition to its Web site, Celebrating Women's Achievement. In her article, "Changing Canadian Women, Changing Canadian History", Mary Bond identifies the Canadian activists who will be added to this growing electronic biographical resource.

As our collections grow, so too do the ways and means of accessing them. Be they traditional or innovative, physical or intellectual, the methods of access the National Library provides to its collections and services allows Canadians, and those interested in Canada, to explore the country's published heritage. ♦



TICKLE YOUR FUNNY BONE!

Read Up On It, 1999 Edition

Céline Gendron,
Canadian Literature Research Service

Read Up On It is now in its eleventh edition. For over a decade, the National Library of Canada has used this publication to promote books and reading. The Library also relies on this tool to promote Canadian authors and illustrators of children's books. Over the years, the publication has evolved by responding to the comments of its users and, once again this year, we have broken new ground by including lists of books in alternative formats for readers who are visually impaired. Thanks to collaboration with the Canadian National Institute for the Blind and the Institut Nazareth et Louis-Braille, Read Up On It will reach a greater number of young Canadians.



Choosing Dayal Kaur Khalsa's illustration, from her book *I Want a Dog*, for the 1999 cover of *Read Up On It* occurred to us for two main reasons: on the one hand, we are commemorating the tenth anniversary of Dayal Kaur Khalsa's death this year; on the other, the National Library of Canada, holder of the Khalsa fonds, would like to pay a very special tribute to her. Also, we would especially like to emphasize this year's theme, humour, in all of its splendour: in this

instance, a classroom full of children sporting dog's heads, in our view, seemed to illustrate the theme perfectly.

Keeping this year's theme of humour in mind, our choice revolved around books that had a magical twist to them, such as *Au lit, princesse Émilie!*, *Gratelle au bois dormant*, *Pirate Pearl*, and *Princesse Pistache*. As you can see, princesses are still a favourite, but these princesses are determined, inventive and flout convention. In fact, the illustrations in these books present them as little people full of character, as opposed to the traditional: "One day, my Prince will come..."

Children are often very affectionate towards animals and it is not surprising to find a wealth of books with an animal as the main character with whom children can identify. Many works were chosen because they offered a note of fantasy; in fact, as in any self-respecting good story, the animals talk, act and think like human beings. Among those selected are *La Chèvre de Monsieur Potvin*, *The Chicken Doesn't Skate*, *Downtown Lost and Found*, *Edmund for Short: A Tale from*

China Plate Farm, *Erik the Viking Sheep*, *Pas de bébé pour Babette* and *Queen Nadine*. Family life is full of surprises and *Un Animal à la maison*, *Chouquette et son petit papa*, *Trois punaises contre deux géants* and *What's Tuesday* will plunge readers into incredible situations.

Several books include magical stories showing the lives of "ordinary" children turned upside down by the appearance of extraordinary beings or by talismans as in *À l'éco...l...e de Monsieur Bardin*, *Célestine Motamo*, *Diamondback Dog*, *La Gratouillette*, *The Ice Cream King*, *The Invisible Day*, *Zoé et les petits diables*. As for the realistic stories, they are riddled with the humorous situations of daily life, such as those in *Andrew's Loose Tooth*, or *Comment j'ai arrêté la sucette*, or even a situation comedy, such as in *À pas de souris*, *Hope Springs a Leak*, *Premier boulot pour Momo de Sinro*, or *Sophie prend les grands moyens*.

Rhymes (*Biscuits in the Cupboard*), mysteries (*Le Grand Voyage du Père Noël*, *Matthew and the Midnight Flood*) and funny stories (*Laughs: Funny Stories*) complete this year's vintage of works on the theme of humour. And *Read Up On It* would not be complete without its listings of the most recent award-winning Canadian children's books.

Copies can be obtained by contacting

Read Up On It
National Library of Canada
395 Wellington Street
Ottawa ON K1A 0N4
Telephone: (613) 995-7969
Fax: (613) 991-9871
TDD: (613) 992-6969
E-mail: publications@nlc-bnc.ca ◆



“Takin’ Care of Business”: Rock, Pop and Jazz at the NLC

by S. Timothy Maloney,
Director, Music Division

When I began my tenure at the National Library of Canada (NLC) in 1988, I was particularly interested in gauging the strengths and weaknesses of the music collections. Based on that assessment, the Music Division could set strategic objectives regarding acquisitions in order to address perceived weaknesses, while availing ourselves of opportunities to exploit the collections’ strengths. A weakness identified at that time, which I felt would require long-term attention, was the small number of archives from outside the realm of so-called “classical” music.

The imbalance between classical- and popular-music archives at the NLC was probably a reasonable indicator of the state of knowledge about the NLC’s music collections in the music industry across Canada: while people in the classical realm may have known about the Library to varying degrees, most in the non-classical sector probably knew nothing at all about it.

This struck me as an issue that required special attention for several reasons:

1. The Library’s collections of music monographs, sheet music and sound recordings were comprehensive in their coverage of musical genres, so there was no institutional requirement for, or predisposition towards, favouring one kind of music over another.
2. Whether or not popular music appealed to anyone at the National Library, it was not our place to make value judgments about it.
3. Popular culture in all its manifestations has become the object of scholarly research, and is now entrenched in mainstream degree programs of numerous Canadian and foreign universities.



Randy Bachman at the Cave Club, Vancouver, 1981.

Photo: Dee Lippingwell, New Westminster.

4. Since the NLC is the only federal institution in the country charged with comprehensively collecting and preserving the evidence of musical activity in Canada, our obligation was clear.
4. When measuring by such yardsticks as the number of Canadians who prefer popular music to classical, or by the cultural and economic impacts of the popular-music industry in modern-day Canadian life versus those of the classical “industry” (if we can even call it

that), it quickly became apparent that if an accurate history of musical activity in Canada in the second half of the 20th century were ever to be written, it would have to be based on documentation from multiple archives representing a broad cross-section of the music business.

Since passive collecting by the NLC prior to 1988 had not achieved such results, and since no other institution in the country was safeguarding popular-music archives at that time, I decided in 1989 to begin an outreach and solicitation campaign in the popular-music sector. I wrote to about three dozen well-known musicians covering the entire popular-music spectrum, including jazz, rock, pop, country and folk music. I hoped that if the NLC were able to make even a few high-profile archival acquisitions from that field, others might hear about it via word of mouth or the media, and take the initiative to contact the Library.

My solicitation effort resulted in two major acquisitions: the NLC began acquiring the archives of the jazz pianist Oscar Peterson in 1991, and those of the rock guitarist and song-writer Randy Bachman in 1992. As hoped, these donations led to others, including the archives of the Grammy-award-winning songwriter Jim Vallance, the internationally renowned record producer Bruce Fairbairn, and the expatriate jazz writer Gene Lees. Those acquisitions were followed by still others, including the archives of the Rosnick-Mackinnon agency in Toronto, an award-winning producer of advertising jingles, and those of A & F Music in Vancouver, a prestigious talent and booking agency representing Sarah McLachlan, Joni Mitchell, Anne Murray, Bryan Adams, and other major artists. The NLC is currently in contact with more musicians who are at various stages in the process of organizing their



materials for donation. So, the anticipated spin-off dividends of two high-profile archival acquisitions from the popular-music sector were realized.

Ten years later, certain sectors of the popular-music realm are not yet represented at the NLC. We have not acquired major archives from the folk- or country-music worlds yet, though we are hopeful that this situation will change before long. Jazz is still under-represented at the NLC, but we are trying to rectify that, too. We have just begun another solicitation of popular-music archives in collaboration with the Canadian Museum of Civilization (CMC). In 1995, the NLC entered into a cooperative arrangement with the CMC, whereby the Library will safeguard the paper documents and sound recordings in musicians' archives, while the Museum will preserve their artifacts (such as musical instruments and gold records). Both institutions are interested in acquiring sufficient archival materials in the next five years

or so to permit the creation of one or more major exhibitions devoted to Canadian popular music. Remembering the beginnings of rock 'n' roll in the 1950s, we feel there will be numerous 50th anniversaries in the first decade of the new century, at least one of which could provide us with a golden opportunity to celebrate Canadian achievements in this domain.

Currently, the NLC is preparing a major exhibition to celebrate Oscar Peterson's 75th birthday in the year 2000. It will be the first-ever exhibition produced by the NLC to focus on a non-classical musician. We hope to create an exhibition with sufficient audio-visual and interactive elements to attract broader and perhaps younger segments of the population than the NLC may have reached with previous exhibitions.

Meanwhile, there has been no weakening in our interest or resolve to continue acquiring archives from the classical-music domain. We continue to

receive up to 50 archival accessions per year, many from classical musicians. Without this special initiative to acquire and preserve popular-music archives, however, Canada would be in danger of losing the evidence of yet another generation's accomplishments in that field. Already the archives of musicians from the first half of the 20th century, including those of "La Bolduc", Hank Snow, "Ti-Jean Carignan, the Dumbells, and the Happy Gang, among others, have all been irretrievably lost or dispersed. In other countries, the archives of such figures would be well preserved. We hope this initiative by the NLC Music Division will safeguard the archives of many of Canada's most renowned popular musicians, thus ensuring that a body of primary documentation will be available for future broadcasters, film-makers, historians and researchers. ♦

NEW MEDIA

FROM THE ELECTRONIC COLLECTION:

Preparing On-line Periodicals and Access to Content

by Louise Tousignant,
Acquisitions and Bibliographic Services,
Electronic Publications Acquisitions Section

With some 2 071 titles, the National Library of Canada's electronic collection offers direct access to recent publications and is an interesting source for users and researchers who wish to consult new publications in a field. From the electronic collection Web page at <<http://collection.nlc-bnc.ca/e-coll-e/index-e.htm>>, the user can find the work in question by title, by subject, or by conducting a full-text search with keywords of most documents in the collection. The user may not be aware that to facilitate access to the publications, the National Library of Canada (NLC) uses techniques and procedures in the background that are specifically aimed at making this access easier and more transparent.

Hence, before a document available in the NLC archived network can be read on screen, several steps must be taken. The publication must, of course, be received, but its presentation also has to be organized, especially in the case of a periodical. Access to the various issues is organized differently depending on its frequency of publication. Take, for example, the case of the publication entitled *Daily Noon Rates (vis-à-vis the Canadian Dollar) = Taux de change quotidien (vis-à-vis le dollar canadien)*, published by the Bank of Canada. Formerly published in printed format under the title *Daily Memorandum of Exchange Rates = Bulletin quotidien des taux de change*, it is now available as an electronic version in HTML and PDF formats. After finding the electronic version (http://collection.nlc-bnc.ca/100/201/301/daily_noon-ef/index.html) on the



electronic collection Web page, the first page displayed on screen is the choice of consultation format. In fact, when a title is available in more than one format, the user has the choice of format before accessing the actual content of the electronic publication; the Library creates an initial HTML page that offers the various format options. The user can, therefore, select the format of the publication to be consulted. This offers certain advantages, especially when the publication is available in a standard format such as HTML and in a proprietary format such as PDF. If the user does not own the appropriate software for reading a proprietary format, he or she still has the option of reading the standard HTML format using a Web navigator.

The second page displays the years for which the publication is available, while the third page displays the description of the issues available, which is represented here by the choice of weeks. By clicking on the hypertext link for the required week, the user accesses the publication's content. Note also that the presentation page header always contains the title of the publication along with its format. Organizing the periodical files in this manner allows the user to avoid the need to consult very long Web pages, puts the title into context, and facilitates rapid access to the publication's content.

First screen:

Daily noon rates (vis-à-vis the Canadian dollar) = Taux de change quotidien (vis-à-vis le dollar canadien)
HTML
PDF

Second screen:

Daily noon rates (vis-à-vis the Canadian dollar) = Taux de change quotidien (vis-à-vis le dollar canadien) (HTML)

1998
1999

Third screen:

Daily noon rates (vis-à-vis the Canadian dollar) = Taux de change quotidien (vis-à-vis le dollar canadien) (HTML) - 1999
1999: Jan. 4-8 / 4-8 janv.
1999: Jan. 11-15 / 11-15 janv.
1999: Jan. 18-22 / 18-22 janv.
1999: Jan. 25-29 / 25-29 janv.
1999: Feb. 1-5 / 1-5 févr.
1999: Feb. 8-12 / 8-12 févr.

This is not the only way by which the NLC organizes and presents information in order to facilitate its access.

Electronic serials have not escaped title changes. Even though the electronic collection has been in existence for only a few years, the Library already has publications that have changed title. In such cases, the NLC establishes a title change relationship not only in its related cataloguing record but also on its Web pages. A note is written at the year level when the title change took place and at the description level of the last available issue. For the new title, a note is written in the first year it is available under this title. This is another way to help the users find what they are looking for.

To illustrate these cases, let's use the example of the title *Copyright and New Media Legal News*. This title ceased to appear in 1999 and was continued by *Copyright, New Media Law & E-Commerce News*. In this case, a note is added to the last year published under the original title, as well as to the description of the last issue which appeared. The note indicates the new title under which the subsequent issues will be published.

Old title at the year level
Copyright and new media legal news (ASCII)

1996
1997
1998
1999 — Final year published.
(Please note, continued by: Copyright, new media law & e-commerce news)

Old title at the issue description level
Copyright and new media legal news (ASCII) - 1999

v.3: no.3 (1999: Feb. 15) — Final issue published. (Please note, continued by: Copyright, new media law & e-commerce news)

Under the title *Copyright, New Media Law & E-Commerce News*, a note is also added at the year level indicating that this title is the continuation of another title:

Note for the new title:
Copyright, new media law & e-commerce news (ASCII)
1999 — (Please note, continues: Copyright and new media legal news)

These different examples illustrate the efforts the Library makes to create a bridge between its electronic publications and the Net surfers requiring access to them.

For more information concerning the electronic collection, please contact Louise Tousignant
Electronic Publications Acquisition Section
Acquisitions and Bibliographic Services
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0N4
Telephone: (819) 953-3997
Fax: (819) 953-8508
E-mail: e.publications.e@nlc-bnc.ca ◆



Virtuoso

by Nancy Brodie,
Information Resource Management

Virtuoso is a Canadian, non-profit on-line scholarly publishing group which is committed to improving access and dissemination of scholarly communication on the Internet. Members include several university presses, the NRC Research Press, the University of New Brunswick Electronic Text Centre, the Canadian Association of Learned Journals, Industry Canada/SchoolNet, as well as a scholarly society and a scholarly electronic journal association. The National Library joined the group in January 1999.

Three Virtuoso members, the University of Toronto Press, Wilfrid Laurier University Press and Les Presses de l'Université de Montréal, have received funding from Industry Canada's SchoolNet program and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council to create a model electronic-publishing process based on the Standard Generalized Markup

Language (SGML). Six journals will go on-line as a result of the project: *University of Toronto Law Journal*, *University of Toronto Quarterly*, *Canadian Journal of Communication*, *Studies in Religion*, *Criminologie*, and *Circuit*. The National Library recognizes that the use of open non-proprietary standards and the creation of structured documents by publishers are

key to our ability to preserve the Canadian digital heritage. The Library strongly endorses this project.

The UNB Electronic Text Centre is doing research on metadata to support a search process for locating and retrieving electronic-journal articles across multiple publishers. UNB sees the Dublin Core metadata scheme and the Resource Description Framework (RDF) as key components of its metadata approach. UNB also organized the well-received workshop, A Canadian Travelling Roadshow: Metadata for Internet Resources, which was held in April 1999. The National Library sponsored a two-day metadata seminar in Ottawa during the same period. Building awareness and training are important aspects of the metadata agenda for both libraries and publishers.

For more information on Virtuoso see the group's Web site at <http://www.unb.ca/virtuoso>. ♦



Taming the Dragon: Using a Voice Recognition Program

by Alan Gillmor,
Professor, Music Department, Carleton University

A few years ago I acted as the external appraiser for the materials that now form the Istvan Anhalt Fonds in the Music Division of the National Library. While sifting through this mass of material, I came across the extended correspondence between Prof. Anhalt and the American composer George Rochberg: hundreds of handwritten letters written over a nearly 40-year period, and still being written.

Anyone who is acquainted with the published essays and books of both men, not to speak of their music – symphonies, operas, chamber music – will realize that we are dealing with two extraordinary minds whose intellectual

curiosity roams freely over an immense territory, both ancient and modern: music and literature, religion and philosophy, politics and society. Their letters provide a superb chronicle of our complex age and a primary source of

inestimable value to future interpreters of the achievement of two outstanding composers. With the permission of both men, I decided that this rich correspondence, worthy of publication, should gain a new life beyond the silent shelves of the National Library.

Computer technology, more than anything else, has defined the lifestyles of the late 20th century and, as we all know firsthand, it is one of the great love-hate relationships of all time, a seemingly bottomless topic that has infiltrated our every waking moment as we exchange endless stories of the joys and frustrations of cruising the information highway. Let me say straight off that without the Dragon Naturally Speaking voice recognition program kindly made available to me by the National Library, I would never have considered taking on the project



of transcribing this mountain of material into electronic form. Over a period of several months this past winter I sat in a small room at the National Library talking to my Dragon or, as it must have seemed to the occasional passerby, to myself.

After a brief “training exercise” whereby the program “learned” the idiosyncrasies of my speech, we were ready to roll. Considering the relative newness of this technology, it is a truly remarkable product which will undoubtedly greatly improve as its children and grandchildren reach the marketplace. Although the program will translate voice to editable text at the normal speaking speed of up to 150 words per minute, or at least twice the speed of a competent typist, the “Naturally Speaking” in the product name may be a slight exaggeration, for I found that the best results were obtained by over-articulating to a certain extent. This can prove rather tiring over a period of several hours. But the good news is that the program constantly improves its performance by updating the speech files based on a steady exposure to the speaker’s voice patterns. Moreover, it can be taught to correct its often-silly mistakes, so that by the end of the project, we were, after some frustrating weeks, once again on speaking terms with one another (at one point I gave it a piece of my mind using a few choice unprintable epithets, only to realize that the microphone was still on and that the program has no moral judgment whatsoever). Among its more elegant features: automatic capitalization of the first word after a period; voice commands that control all punctuation, paragraphing, spacing, bold, italics, underlining, corrections, editing, etc.; with fair accuracy it will choose correctly among, for example, “to”, “too”, and “two”, depending on how it “reads” the context; it can be “taught”

such things as proper names, British versus American spellings, or any technical term beyond its basic vocabulary.

Perhaps the next generations of Dragon Naturally Speaking will be available in discipline-specific editions already bundled with arcane technical vocabulary. As it is now, perhaps the biggest surprise was the relative paucity of the program dictionary beyond a rather basic vocabulary, as some of the following howlers will illustrate. Like everything else in the great mass consumer society, the program is designed, not for the scholar, but for the mythical “average” user. One can perhaps forgive the designers for not including relatively rarefied terms such as “Pythagorean”, which comes out “Tiger Reagan”; but the great Irish poet Yeats deserves better than “Gates”, and surely Socrates would have been mystified by “soccer keys”. The word “rejoice” would transmogrify (I can’t imagine what it would do with that word) into “read Joyce” – so it does know of a few Irish writers. But how does one explain certain dyslexic tendencies (I am not making this up) such as “gods” coming out “dogs”? Finally, and predictably, the world of Microsoft is never far away; just two examples: “rampaging”/ “RAM paging”, “pantomime”/ “Pentium time”. But never mind: after all, to err is non-human.

I would like to extend my deeply felt thanks to Dr. Timothy Maloney and the staff of the National Library for making this wonderful technology available to me in what I believe to be a pioneering project. Perhaps the days of handwritten correspondence are over (I can see it now: “The Collected E-mail of ...”), but as long as scholars will have need to investigate the significant part of our heritage that remains hidden away in yellowed copies of old letters and other similar

documents from the Age of Penmanship (Penpersonship?), technology such as Dragon Naturally Speaking will save more than one investigator from incipient insanity or, at the very least, heavy drinking. ♦

The Istvan Anhalt Fonds in the Music Division of the National Library of Canada contain records pertaining to the life and musical activities of the professor, conductor, pianist, and pioneer composer of electroacoustic music, Istvan Anhalt. They include, among other things, academic records, autograph manuscripts of musical works, press clippings, photographs, and the “hundreds of handwritten letters” referred to in Alan Gillmor’s “Taming the Dragon”.

Correction:

In the article entitled “William Carson: The Great Reformer” (*National Library News*, vol. 31, no. 5, May 1999, p.14), the following errors appeared: William Carson was noted as a member of the Lunar Society. He was not himself a member; however, he was influenced by the ideas of some of the Society’s members. Carson was also described as “crusading for responsible government”. This should read “representative” government.



Old Grooves, New Waves: 78s on the Web

by Richard Green,
Research and Information Services

The Virtual Gramophone: Canadian Historical Sound Recordings

<<http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/gramophone>>,
when completed, will provide researchers

and enthusiasts with a comprehensive overview of the 78-rpm era in Canada, which lasted from 1900 to 1957, when 78s finally succumbed to the newer 45-rpm and 33.3-rpm technologies. The initial two phases of this project, funded in part by Industry Canada's SchoolNet Digital Collections program, Bell Canada through its Stentor Alliance, and the Digital Library Infrastructure Program of the National Library (NLC), were launched in the fall of 1998 and the spring of 1999. They covered the earliest commercial recordings manufactured in Canada: seven-, eight- and ten-inch discs produced between 1900 and 1915 by the Berliner Gramophone Company of Montreal, the world pioneer in flat-disc recording technology.

The Virtual Gramophone Web site takes full advantage of the multimedia possibilities of the World Wide Web. Currently included on this Web site are 366 audio files of complete sound recordings; scanned images of the labels on 1 713 discs in the NLC's collection; 14 biographies of prominent Canadian artists of the 78-rpm era; tabular chronologies of the early development of sound-recording technology and of the recording industry, 1878-1924; narrative histories of the recording industry in general and the Berliner Company in particular; an overview of the record labels included in the site so far; links to related Internet sites; a bibliography of sources used in the preparation of this site; and technical details on the preparation of the audio files.

The heart of the Virtual Gramophone site is a database which employs Oracle software as its search



engine, includes enhanced cataloguing information on 3 304 recordings to date, and is accessible by 25 indexing fields. Unlike most library catalogues, this database is designed specifically for 78-rpm recordings. In addition to having the usual fields such as name, title, record company, and issue number, the Virtual Gramophone database permits separate searches for performers and composers, and includes fields of specific interest to discographers (i.e., matrix number, recording date, recording location, record company label and sub-label). Search terms can be combined using the Boolean operators "and", "or", and "not". The "Comments" section of each cataloguing record provides a detailed physical description of the pertinent disc. If the recording is in the NLC's collection, there is a link to an image of the centre label of the disc, enabling researchers to examine the recording

virtually. Cataloguing records are also linked to the appropriate audio files and biographies, where these exist. A great deal of original research has been

undertaken to provide the most detailed and accurate information possible about these recordings. All sources are cited in the "Authorities" section of the cataloguing record. The Virtual Gramophone also provides details about the database structure, a description of each field and the type of

information it contains, definitions of the terms used, and searching instructions and guidelines.

The combination of an easy-to-navigate layout, a flexible search engine, and multimedia elements should make the Virtual Gramophone an interesting and useful site for both the serious researcher and the casual Internet surfer. The audio files and historical documentation provide a window into the past that is impossible to duplicate via print media. The audio files feature many of the most popular songs of their eras. Visitors interested in refreshing their musical memories, students undertaking school projects, instrumentalists and singers searching for period repertoire, and discographers researching the career of a particular musician or the history of a certain record company should all find something worthwhile on the Virtual Gramophone site.

While this Web site displays the high-tech possibilities of the Internet to considerable advantage, the Virtual Gramophone also helps to meet the NLC's historical goals. Traditional library pursuits are, as the National Librarian, Marianne Scott, has said, "developing, cataloguing and preserving collections". The Virtual Gramophone achieves this by:



- providing widespread access, for the first time, to detailed cataloguing information on Canadian 78-rpm discs;
- initiating a comprehensive digitization program for some of Canada's most historic sound recordings, thus reducing wear and tear on the fragile original discs and helping to preserve them for future generations;
- raising the profile of Canada's heritage of 78-rpm recordings, thus fostering greater interest in these discs and (it is hoped) encouraging more collectors to help the NLC fill in the many gaps in its national preservation collection of sound recordings.

The creation of this Web site also addresses a recommendation of the

1992 conference of the Bibliographic Society of Canada, that a discography of historical Canadian sound recordings be prepared.

In the past, information about, and access to, the NLC's collection of 40 000 78-rpm discs has been obtainable mainly by visiting the NLC in Ottawa. The 78-rpm holdings are not included in the Library's main catalogue, AMICUS, and the recordings themselves do not circulate. On-site visitors have been able to access non-circulating finding aids and catalogues, consult in-house reference sources for background information about the discs, obtain further details about the recordings from the Recorded Sound Collection staff, and listen to the recordings. Off-site researchers could

only consult the NLC staff. One of the aims of the Virtual Gramophone is to end the disparity between the levels of access available to on-site and off-site patrons. Now anyone with access to the Internet has 24-hour-a-day access to part of the national preservation collection of 78-rpm discs and to all the associated data and information about them mounted on the site. It will take additional time and resources to extend this access to the entire NLC collection of 78s, but, with the first two phases of the Virtual Gramophone available on the Internet, we have taken a significant first step in making the wealth of Canada's early recorded sound heritage accessible to all Canadians. ♦



Canadian Confederation Digital Project

by Norma Gauld,
Research and Information Services

Did you know that the Canadian Confederation electronic resource was one of the National Library of Canada's first digitization initiatives and the first thematic project in one of the National Library's areas of emphasis, Canadian history?

Sponsored by Bell Canada through Stentor Alliance, the Web site was created in 1995 as a demonstration project of the Jones Educational Network and involved students in two schools (one in Alexandria, Virginia, the other in Sutherland's River, Nova Scotia) who were studying "Canadian Confederation and the American Civil War" (see "The Confederation Project", *National Library News*, vol. 27, no. 10, October 1995).

Initially, material was selected to bring into focus the influence of the American Civil War on the achievement of Canadian

Confederation. Therefore, in addition to "The Path to Confederation",

"Confederation, 1867" and "Historical Documents", the site includes a "Timeline: Britain, Canada and the Civil War, 1861-65"; and segments on "Fear of Annexation by the United States", "Raids and Skirmishes", "Confederate Operations in Canada" and "The Blacks, Anti-Slavery and the Underground Railway".

Since 1995, the site has grown with the addition of more Canadian content about Confederation; for example, in 1996 the "Toward Confederation: Lower Canada 1791-1842" segment was added. The





project now includes a section on the "Territorial Evolution of Canada". As Canada evolves, so too does the site, which means that additional content on Nunavut is planned.

Material includes historical documents in full text, biographies of some Fathers of Confederation (and Mothers, too), and excerpts and illustrations from the National Library's unique collections of political speeches, brochures, etc. Rounding out material from official sources are little-known stories about the involvement of Canadians in the Civil War, and selections from the National Library's collection of Canadian newspapers. The appeal of the project lies in the

range of material which is brought together and made available in one place; it is also due to the written summaries of the various topics and subtopics that provide the context for the multimedia material on the site.

Judging by the number of comments received about it and by the number of reference questions it generates, this thematic, multimedia, electronic publication on Canadian Confederation has proven to be a popular, frequently consulted site.

The level of usage warrants increasing its content, and there are plans to add more material related to the role and contribution of the Maritimes and the western provinces in

Confederation, more biographies, and additional political speeches, newspaper articles, illustrations, and references to the Confederation Debates that took place in each of the colonies. Also, the "Canadian Confederation Bibliography" will be expanded and updated.

This digital initiative is one way in which the National Library is bringing its collections closer to Canadians.

You can visit the Canadian Confederation Web site at <<http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/confed/e-1867.htm>>. ♦

ACCESSING CANADA'S PUBLISHED HERITAGE

The Carol Shields Fonds: Second Accession

by Catherine Hobbs,
Research and Information Services

The *Literary Manuscripts Collection at the National Library* focuses on archival material generated by Canadian authors, illustrators, translators and small presses. This collection provides researchers with an opportunity to trace the production of Canadian literature from handwritten notes to galley proofs. Among the holdings are the manuscripts of many well-known and highly regarded Canadian poets, novelists and playwrights.



Front row: (Left-Right) Past President of the Friends of the National Library Grete Hale, National Librarian Marianne Scott, author Carol Shields, Canada Council Head Shirley Thomson
Back row: (Left-Right) Professor John English, Acting National Archivist Lee McDonald, author Lawrence Martin, Public Programs Head Randall Ware and Director General, Research and Information Services, Mary Jane Starr.

In the early months of 1999, I had the privilege of organizing the second accession of the Carol Shields fonds for Literary Manuscripts. This most recent installment of her papers covers predominantly the period between 1994 and 1998, making it an exciting group of papers to organize since the 1990s have been such a full and varied time in Carol Shields's career as an author.

Carol Shields is one of Canada's foremost writers. She is the author of popular novels, including *The Box Garden*, *Small Ceremonies*, *The Stone Diaries* and *Larry's Party*, as well as being a poet, playwright and reviewer. Carol Shields was elected to the Order of Canada this year for her remarkable contribution to Canadian culture. She has won many literary awards; during this recent period she was awarded the National Book Critics Circle Award (1994) and the Pulitzer Prize (1995) for her novel *The Stone Diaries*, and the Orange Prize (1998) for her novel *Larry's Party*. Readers are impressed by Shields's skilled evocation of the small details of life; her poetic sense of both the everyday and the momentary. While organizing the second accession



of her papers, I saw her smiling out from many photographs, witnessed how supportive she is of her friends, colleagues and students, and noticed that she always replies to her fan mail. I have seen evidence of the humble and giving nature noted by many of her interviewers; Shields is one who delights in storytelling as she delights in the minute details of life.

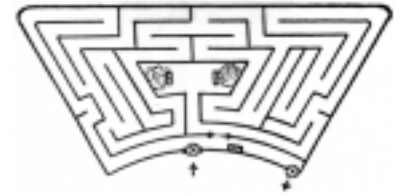
A group of papers is organized into broad categories, reflecting the spheres of life in which the owner of the papers was involved. The scope of Carol Shields's involvement is indeed impressive. During the period in which she has produced acclaimed novels and plays, she has also led a busy public life: as chancellor of the University of Winnipeg, as a teacher at the University of Manitoba and through the Humber School for Writers, and as a member of the Canada Council for the Arts. These areas of Shields's life are reflected in her papers, which include her teaching notes, her correspondence with developing writers through the Humber School, and her professional correspondence and memoranda from both universities and from the Canada Council.

Literary manuscript collections comprise not only drafts and manuscripts of writers' works, but also the correspondence, photographs and memorabilia which relate to the creation of these works. These additional materials provide context to the ideas developed in the works and set the creation of the works into a time frame. Carol Shields had kept a great variety of material to add to this collection at the National Library. Items, such as the Pulitzer Prize, which might garner attention because of their fame are found in the same collection as mementos of family life and the congratulatory notes from friends. If, in her fiction, readers find an acute sense of everyday detail, a subtle attention to the ephemeral and the personal is also

evident in this collection. Examples of personal items included among the papers are paintings made by her grandchildren, memorabilia from her school reunion at Hanover College and lists for her book club. These personal keepsakes take their place alongside the more expected professional memorabilia such as posters for readings or book launches and Shields's honorary degrees. Other personal items, such as a diary of a honeymoon trip to Great Britain written by her mother, Inez Warner, have clear relevance to Shields's work; a honeymoon diary is written by the character Dorrie, Larry's first wife, when these characters honeymoon in Great Britain in the novel *Larry's Party*. These articles provide clues to how writers enhance the process of creation by revisiting the details of their own and others' lives.

It appears that letter writing is a strong suit in Shields's family and among her friends. Both the first and second accessions contain a staggering number of letters. Some of the professional letters reflect the personal affection Shields has for her publishers, Christopher Potter of Fourth Estate and Mindy Werner of Viking Penguin. Childhood letters to friends show her early enthusiasm for storytelling. Found among the letters from family members are details from her collaborations with two of her daughters: with Catherine on the play *Fashion, Power, Guilt and the Charity of Families* (which premiered at the Prairie Theatre Exchange in March of 1995); and with Anne on a written dialogue "Are There Martians in Jane Austen?" (which considers the portrayal of men and women in Jane Austen's works and plays off the title of the popular self-help book by John Gray, *Men Are from Mars, Women Are from Venus*). Shields continues to write at length and frequently to her friend Blanche Howard, writer and collaborator with Shields on *A Celibate Season*. Shields's letters provide a

window on her collaborations, her connections within the writing community in Canada and her many professional relationships.



W.H. Matthews. *Mazes and Labyrinths: A General Account of Their History and Developments*. London: Longmans, Green and Co., 1922.

Carol Shields has received an impressive amount of worldwide exposure. She has travelled extensively, and her works have been translated into 22 languages, among them Dutch, Japanese and Spanish. Correspondence with the Norwegian translator Ingrid Haug, for example, reflects the keen attention Shields pays to the translations of her work and shows her appreciation for the effort invested by other contributors. She answers many detailed questions about the "foreign" details which come up in her work, such as: "What is an OXO block?" or "Who is Karen Kain?" It is interesting to see this process of translating Canadian literature for the rest of the world, especially since Carol Shields so often emphasizes the Canadianness of the settings of her novels: Winnipeg or Toronto for example. This regional Canadian consciousness is also reflected in the correspondence where she signed off "Greetings from snowy Winnipeg" or "With all good wishes from Manitoba".

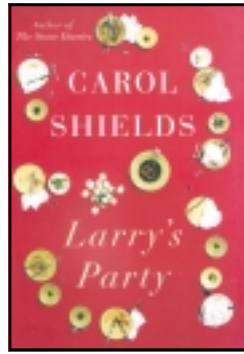
The main novel manuscripts found in this part of the collection are from *Larry's Party*, the novel for which Shields won the Orange Prize in England and was nominated for the Stephen Leacock Award for Humour here in Canada. This novel explores the life of the main character, Larry Weller, as he moves from a job as a florist to a career as a landscape gardener; from



nurturing a passion for hedge mazes to building maze gardens for prosperous clients. The novel begins with Larry as a formless young man in the 1970s, who reaches into his pockets expecting the usual pocket lint, only to find he has snatched someone else's jacket. The novel culminates with his 40th birthday party; the important people in Larry's life attend the party and he sees his feelings and experiences in a new perspective. Shields's manuscript drafts for *Larry's Party* are word processed and marked with handwritten dates. The earliest draft of the novel, dated July 10, 1995, is marked "Day 1 of new novel". With this hint of excitement, the process begins. The novel grows from Shields's first ideas about the party itself and the line "Unless your life is going well you don't think of giving a party" (though in later drafts, the word "think" is replaced by the word "dream"). It is intriguing to see the full concept of the novel working itself out through the subsequent drafts. The lines that Carol Shields wrote first for the novel eventually take their place at the culmination of the story in the later drafts. One of the benefits of having multiple drafts in the collection is that the researcher can see that the idea of the party lay in the mind of the novel's creator from the very beginning.

It may also interest readers of Shields's work to know that the personal touches which make the final novel so appealing were developed, in fact, by Shields herself. In the third completed draft of *Larry's Party*, one can see that Shields attached the pictures of mazes to the chapter heading pages which divide up the novel. In the initial stages, these pictures were set above captions. Shields also created the dinner menu, the seating plan and the map which directs the characters to the party. In particular, the map was written on paper from a Toronto hotel, indicating that some ideas for the final scene

might have come from a visit to Toronto. The menu, seating plan and map appear in the final novel, though they were rewritten in a different handwriting for the final printing. The idea of the maze, which acts in the novel as an extended metaphor of the process of living, is an idea which can also be traced through the papers. Researchers can follow the progression of the idea of the maze from some early research materials gathered by daughter Sarah Shields, through the chapter heading pages, to the tentative covers (produced by Shields's publishers) that focus on the image of the maze. The idea of the maze lives on beyond the final production of the book in the minds of Shields's readers, many of whom sent her clippings, pictures or anecdotes about mazes.



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We are indeed lucky to have received such a comprehensive and detailed fonds — a fonds that reflects many areas of her life — from Carol Shields. Shields is a stellar example of a writer who is not just a writer, but a public figure, teacher, commentator, mentor, cultural ambassador, emissary, family member and personal friend. It has been my privilege to provide access to this very rich research material.

For further information regarding the Literary Manuscript Collection, please contact

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Foreign-Language Collections at the National Library

by Marjorie Malcolm and David Murrell-Wright,
Acquisitions and Bibliographic Services

The National Library's collection of Canadiana is a reflection of the multilingual nature of the country. Publications in Canada's two official languages, English and French, may predominate, but publications in all the languages that make up the multilingual mosaic of our Canadian society can be found in the collection. A search of the National Library catalogues indicates that material can be found in over 100 languages.

The Library receives current publications on legal deposit in dozens of languages from individuals, cultural societies, associations, school boards,

and all levels of government across Canada. Older foreign-language materials are actively sought and acquired as purchases or gifts. The



National Library complements its collection of Canadian imprints by acquiring materials published abroad by Canadian authors, works about Canada, or translations of works by Canadian authors. Foreign publications may be bought through agents in various countries, received through the Canada Council for the Arts or the International Council for Canadian Studies network, or accepted through an exchange or as a gift.

Probably the most widely translated Canadian author in the National Library collection is Lucy Maud Montgomery, with over 200 translated editions in over a dozen languages. One can also find copies of James Houston's book *Akavak: An Eskimo Journey* in Afrikaans, nearly the complete works of Mazo de la Roche in Finnish, and the works of Michel Tremblay in Danish and German.

CATALOGUING PRACTICES

Unilingual English or French publications at the National Library are catalogued in the language of the publication, with subject headings

provided in both languages. Generally, the language of the catalogue entry for foreign-language material is English, with any subject headings provided in both English and French. The catalogue procedures for foreign-language materials are the same as for English or French publications, unless the alphabet or script is non-roman, in which case an extra step is required. In order to incorporate the bibliographic information into the National Library's catalogues and share the information with other libraries, cataloguers need to "transliterate" the non-roman script of names and titles into roman script. For entries in English, the National Library follows the 1997 edition of the *ALA-LC Romanization Tables*, published by the Library of Congress. This publication, commonly used in English libraries, includes transliteration schemes for 54 non-roman scripts including Cyrillic, Indian and Oriental languages, Greek, Hebrew, and many others. For entries in French, the National Library uses the transliteration tables published by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO).

PROVIDING USER ACCESS TO THE FOREIGN-LANGUAGE MATERIAL

Other than English and French, the languages received by the Library in the largest numbers are German, Ukrainian, Spanish, Italian and Japanese, with significant numbers of titles being collected in a variety of languages of the First Nations. Bibliographic access to this material can be obtained on-site through the National Library's suite of on-line catalogues including AMICUS and Dynix. For off-site users, the fee-based Access AMICUS or the freely available resAnet can be found on the Web. *Canadiana: The National Bibliography* is now in a CD-ROM format that provides the searcher a unique feature: the ability to search by language as a primary search. With this capability, the searcher is able to retrieve and view all Canadiana items in a particular language.

The National Library's mandate is furthered by ensuring that the Canadian published heritage, in all languages, is preserved and made accessible through the Library's databases and collections. ◆



SAVOIR FAIRE Seminars

by Norma Gauld and Mary Bond,
Research and Information Services

The *Petit Robert* provides a number of definitions for the term "savoir-faire": *competence or experience in the exercise of artistic or intellectual activities; the ability to succeed at an undertaking.*

SAVOIR FAIRE would seem then to be an excellent name for the very successful series of monthly seminars organized by the National Library of Canada, drawing, as the series does, on the knowledge and enthusiasm of

Library researchers and staff of the National Library and highlighting the richness of its collections.

Since September 1996, when the series began, there have been 33 seminars covering subjects as varied as

the Library's collections. Researchers have presented topics in Canadian social, military and diplomatic history, the origins of place names, immigration to Canada through Grosse-Île and the history of organizations such as the FLQ (Front de libération du Québec), the research for which required the use of a full range of official publications, newspapers, periodicals, monographs and reference sources. Often material from the Library's collections was on display at the seminars to be eagerly examined by members of the audience.

The challenges of writing literary and historical biography were described



by Wendy Scott, Allan Levine and Henny Nixon, biographers of Fred Cogswell, T.L. Harrison and William Carson, respectively. Antonio Lechasseur discussed the writing of biographical articles for the *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*.

Two longtime genealogical researchers at the National Library,



Front Row: Denis Robitaille, Henny Nixon, Soeur Rita Lacombe, s.c.o
Back Row: Cheryl Jaffee, Denise Leclerc, Daniel St-Hilaire, Paul Kitchen

Ken McLeod and Donald McKenzie, explored the wealth of information to be found in the Canadian newspapers in the National Library collection. Dr. McKenzie has devoted large amounts of research time to indexing birth, marriage and death notices and obituaries in Methodist newspapers such as the *Christian Guardian*, making him an expert on their contents, while Ken McLeod's research, both genealogical and archaeological, helped to demonstrate to the audience the unexpected and delightful treasures to be found in newspapers.

Illustrated lectures on art and architecture have been a highlight of each SAVOIR FAIRE season. Lectures on the picturesque in 18th-century British art, the treasures of Canada's parliamentary precinct, the *Refus Global*, the architecture of Canada's embassies, and the history and art of Japanese gardens and bonsai were variously illustrated with slides and works of art. The Japanese garden seminar was timed to coincide with a large exhibition on the history of

Canadian gardening mounted by the National Library. The May 1999 seminar was held at the Mother House of the Soeurs de la Charité d'Ottawa (the first off-site seminar since SAVOIR FAIRE's inception), affording the audience a richer understanding of the life and letters of Élisabeth Bruyère and a delightful opportunity to tour parts of the convent and the museum of the Soeurs.

Seven seminars to date have been given by National Library staff members. Several focused on Library publications which provide improved



Front Row: Mary Bond, Claire Bourassa, Rosalie Smith-McCrea
Back Row: Michael McLoughlin, Boris Stipernitz, Michel Brisebois, Robert MacMillan

access to or highlight important collections held by the Library: *Great Britain Official Publications: Collection Guide*; *UNESCO Publications: Collection Guide*; *Read Up On It*; and *Canadian Reference Sources: An Annotated Bibliography*. The *Read Up On It* seminar formed part of the celebration of the 10th anniversary of this successful publication which promotes children's literature and reading in Canada. The expertise of the National Library's staff, as well as the depth of its collections, have been evident in the seminars. Elaine Hoag, for example, spoke about rare and little-known examples of 19th-century Arctic shipboard printing, and Timothy Maloney and Gilles St. Laurent described the virtual Glenn Gould archive.

As the series has evolved and its promotion improved over the three years of its existence, the audience at the SAVOIR FAIRE seminars has grown from a regular batch of Library researchers and staff to a more varied group, including staff of the National Archives, and members of the general public interested in the topic of a particular seminar. On-site posters, information on the Library's Web site and in its Public Programs brochure as well as media coverage about several of the seminar presenters have helped to increase its visibility.

The series has also been successful in fostering increased interaction between researchers and staff. Certainly for staff of the Reference and Information Services Division, which coordinates the series, the seminars have provided an excellent opportunity to learn more about the fascinating research in which clients are involved and for which staff provide research assistance.

Last month, SAVOIR FAIRE began its fourth season, one which we are convinced will be as interesting and varied as in previous years. Please join us!

Most SAVOIR FAIRE seminars are held at the National Library of Canada, Room 156, 395 Wellington St., on the third Tuesday of each month between 3:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m., with coffee being served at 2:30 p.m. The 1999-2000 SAVOIR FAIRE schedule is now available on the National Library Web site at <<http://www.nlc-bnc.ca>>. ♦



SAVOIR FAIRE Seminar Series Chronology

(Titles noted in the language of presentation)

1996

September

Paul Radin and the Prehistory of the Kwakiutl
Robert MacMillan

October

Canadian Reference Sources: An Annotated Bibliography = Ouvrages de référence canadiens: Une bibliographie annotée
Mary Bond

November

The Crown and Aboriginal Health Care, 1756-1900
Peter Nayler

December

Canadian Agricultural Controversies - Land Use and Misuse: Organic Farming; The Use of Pesticides Versus Integrated Pest Management
J.G.H. Edwards

1997

January

Virtue and Commerce: The Picturesque in 18th-Century British Art
Rosalie Smith-McCrea

February

Descriptive Bibliographies and Literary Scholars: "Un mariage de raison"
Michel Brisebois

March

The Great Middle Power Swindle: Canada and the Foundation of the United Nations, 1939-1945
Boris Stipernitz

April

UNESCO Publications at the National Library = Les publications de l'UNESCO à la Bibliothèque nationale
Claire Bourassa

May

A Study of Fred Cogswell: Poet, Editor, Publisher
Wendy Scott

June

Problems Encountered Researching the History of the FLQ in Canada and France
Michael McLoughlin

July & August

no seminar

September

Glenn Gould: Digital Collections at the National Library = Le Glenn Gould numérique à la Bibliothèque nationale

S. Timothy Maloney
Gilles St. Laurent

October

A People on a Pilgrimage: Ontario's 19th-Century Methodists as Seen through Their Church Papers
Donald A. McKenzie

November

The Origins of Place Names: Writing Them Right, and Righting the Wrongs
Alan Rayburn
Missing in Action: Obscure Sources of Information within Newspapers
Ken McLeod

December

Alice Peck and May Phillips: The Women Who Founded the Canadian Handicrafts Guild, 1905
Ellen McLeod

December

The Irish Famine: Fact and Fiction
Jim Jackson

1998

January

Health Education Films in Canada, 1920s-1950
Helen Harrison

February

Documenting the Diplomats: The Origins and Evolution of *Documents on Canadian External Relations*
Greg Donaghy

March

Floating Vengeance: The Japanese Balloon Attack on North America, 1944-45
Michael E. Unsworth

April

no seminar

May

Great Britain Official Publications at the National Library
Betty Deavy

May

White Mischief: Grey Owl and the Department of the Interior, 1928-1938
Mark Kristmanson
Talking about Standards: Information Technology and Normative Discourse in the Public Sphere
Terry Kuny

June

Mid-19th-Century Arctic Shipboard Printing
Elaine Hoag

July

Les méandres de la recherche biographique

Antonio Lechasseur
Construction of a Life: Using National Library Collections in Writing the Biography of T.L. Harrison, MD
Allan Levine

August

The History of Japanese Gardens and Bonsai
David Boll

September

Refus Global
Denise Leclerc

October

Read Up On It = Lisez sur le sujet
Céline Gendron

November

The Parliamentary Precinct's National Heritage Treasures =
Les trésors du patrimoine national de la Cité parlementaire
Audrey Dubé

December

Ashkenaz: A Celebration of German Jewry
Cheryl Jaffee

1999

January

Despite Fire and Political Turbulence: The Study of William Carson, 18th-Century Surgeon in Early 19th-Century St. John's, Newfoundland
Henny Nixon

February

Beyond the Frontiers: The Architecture of Canadian Embassies, 1930-1990 =
Au-delà des frontières: L'architecture des ambassades canadiennes, 1930-1990
Marie-Josée Therrien

March

Grosse-Île et l'émigration irlandaise au Canada
André Charbonneau

April

La reconstitution des débats, ou comment bâtir une mémoire parlementaire grâce au patrimoine imprimé, 1867-1963
Gilles Gallichan

May

Les lettres d'Élisabeth Bruyère, fondatrice des Soeurs de la Charité d'Ottawa
Soeur Rita Lacombe, s.c.o.

June

Rebels in Name Only: Early Hockey and the Ottawa Elite
Paul Kitchen



International Year of Older Persons

On the occasion of the International Year of Older Persons, and as part of its public programming, the National Library of Canada recently welcomed first-time author M.P. Rogers, whose novel *OONA ParaSalene* has just been published.

Born in England at a time when Canada's prime minister was Sir Robert Borden, M.P. Rogers came to live in this country during the post-war years. After living in both Saskatchewan and the Maritimes, she moved with her family to Ottawa, her home for the last 36 years.



Her first novel, *OONA ParaSalene* is a fictional representation of the new millennium and is a work of science fiction and philosophy, a modern fable and a love story.

Ms. Rogers is a prime example of the creative spirit alive in Canada's community of older persons. Already at work on her second book, she has proven that age is no barrier to the creative process. We hope she will inspire other octogenarians to follow her path!



Changing Canadian Women, Changing Canadian History: Women's History Month

by Mary Bond,
Reference and Information Services

“There is nothing that I like better than to be standing on a street corner, passing out leaflets, because it is how you come to understand what people are about.” Lea Roback, labour activist

“What I wanted more than anything was to be able to look after myself and make sure that every other woman in the world could do the same.” Doris Anderson, journalist, women's rights activist

“They couldn't afford children if they couldn't afford to eat. So the families came to the clinic and we gave them information.” Elizabeth Bagshaw, medical director of Canada's first birth control clinic

Engaged, independent, pragmatic, these are the voices of Canadian women activists.

Each October, for Women's History Month, the National Library of Canada prepares a series of biographies to celebrate the lives and achievements of Canadian women who have contributed to the development of Canadian society in a wide range of spheres. These biographies are added to the Library's Web site at

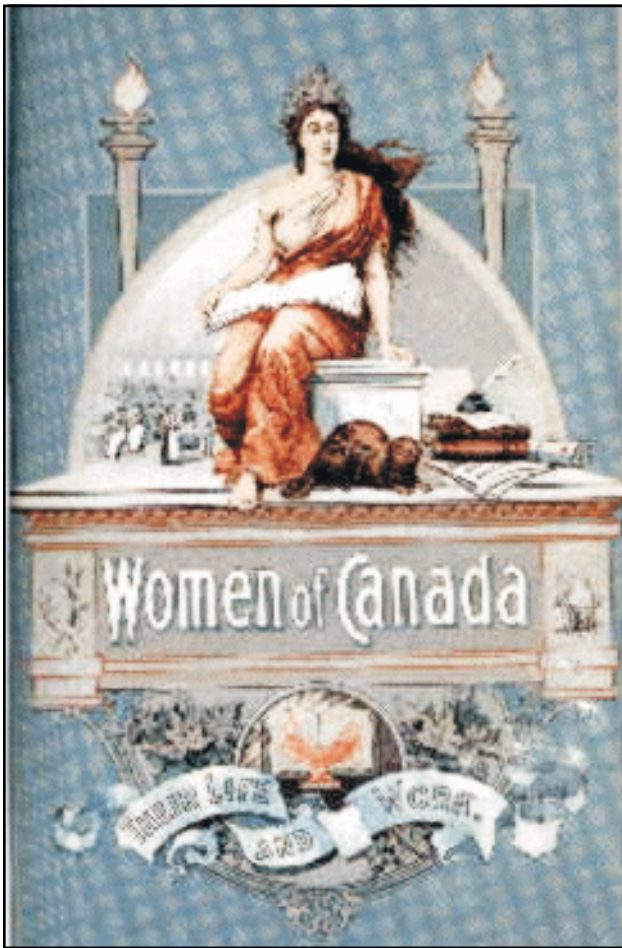
<http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/digiproj/women/ewomen.htm>.

October 1999 coincides with the 70th anniversary of the “Persons Case”, a very significant affair in the history of women's rights in Canada. In 1927, the “Famous Five”, Irene Parlby, Emily Murphy, Nellie McClung, Henrietta Muir Edwards and Louise McKinney, petitioned for a Supreme Court of Canada interpretation on whether the term “qualified persons” in section 24 of the British North America Act, 1867 included women as persons eligible for appointment to the Senate. After the Court ruled that the term did not include female persons, the petitioners requested that an appeal be sent to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in England. On October 18, 1929, the Committee overturned the decision of the Supreme Court and ruled that “qualified persons” in section 24 did include women and that women were “eligible to be summoned to and become members of the Senate of



Canada" (*Dominion Law Reports*, [1930] 1 DLR).

In honour of this anniversary and Women's History Month, the National Library of Canada has chosen to celebrate the "Famous Five", together with other women activists who have worked to improve various aspects of the lives of all Canadian women: working conditions, health care, child care, marital rights, political rights and representation, educational and professional opportunities, etc.



These women activists have tirelessly pursued social justice through a variety of means. Nellie McClung, Irene Parlby and Louise McKinney were members of the Alberta legislature who supported legislation to improve the welfare of women and children. Emily Murphy became the first woman magistrate in the British Empire when

she was appointed police magistrate for the City of Edmonton, a position which led her to write extensively on the need for changes to laws on the use of narcotics. In the face of strong opposition from medical colleagues and the local clergy, Elizabeth Bagshaw ran the first (and illegal) birth control clinic in Canada, from 1932 to 1966.

As founders and members of numerous organizations, they have brought together and given voice to communities of women who share concerns, problems, solutions and ideas for change. Henrietta Muir Edwards founded the Working Girl's Association, precursor of the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA). Together with Lady Aberdeen, she also founded the National Council of Women and the Victorian Order of Nurses. Muriel Duckworth was one of the founding members of both Voice of Women, an organization concerned with world peace, and the Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women (CRIA), a centre for community-based research and scholarship. Kay Livingstone was the

first president of the Canadian Negro Women's Association and an organizer of the first National Congress of Black Women in 1973, a meeting which brought together about 200 women from across Canada.

Poor working conditions and salaries for the female-dominated work

force of the textile and garment industries motivated both Lea Roback and Madeleine Parent to assume organizing roles in the Quebec labour movement. Also in Quebec, Laure Gaudreault saw a need to bring attention to the working conditions of rural teachers and founded the Association des institutrices rurales de la province de Québec.

The need to share new ideas and to challenge traditional thinking regarding the roles and rights of women in Canada found a natural outlet in journalism and broadcasting for women such as Doris Anderson, editor of *Chatelaine* magazine; June Callwood, writer of articles for magazines and newspapers such as *Maclean's*, *Chatelaine* and the *Globe and Mail*; and Florence Bird, journalist and Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) broadcaster, and chair of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women.

Personal experience of discriminatory laws for Native women led Jeannette Corbiere Lavell to an action of national significance. When her marriage to a non-Native man resulted in the loss of her Indian status, Jeannette Lavell challenged the Indian Act through various levels of the Canadian judicial system. Although she lost her case in the Supreme Court of Canada in 1973, she began the process which would lead eventually to the repeal, in 1985, of that section of the Indian Act.

Although on very diverse paths, these women share, throughout their long and active lives, a dedication to achieving equality and justice and a commitment to helping others, be they women, men or children, both inside and outside Canada. The Web site Celebrating Women's Achievements is designed to contribute to an awareness and understanding of the tangible contribution made to Canadian society by these remarkable persons. ♦