
EX LIBRIS NEWS

Newsletter of the Ex Libris Association

Spring 1994 (Number 15)

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EDITOR'S NOTES

You will see in this issue an advertisement for an EDITOR for *Ex Libris News*. This is the 15th number that I have put together over the past 7½ years and the time has come for others to pick it up if the Association thinks it is worth doing. At the beginning I assumed the responsibility by default because I believed retired librarians had not lost all interest in their profession and their fellow librarians. (I'm having trouble with a non-sexist word for "fellow".) It is an honorable profession and yet our history is largely ignored even by ourselves. Our members retire/die with little in the record to show they ever existed. This Christmas one of our cards to an old Ohio friend was returned marked "deceased"; another whom we telephoned has disappeared forever since the person who answered had never heard of him. Neither had family.

Over the years some of you responded to the call for articles, news items, little notes that might interest others. First Clara Chu, a PhD student at SLIS, did much of the physical work, then John Macpherson and recently Betty McCamus have helped in the proof reading and editing. Janette White has searched out information about retirements, in memoriams and honours bestowed.

It would be great if two or three people would take on the task. With the technology now available they could live any place and communicate via computers and modems. The mechanics of inputting, labelling, stamping would have to be done centrally.

In this issue we have printed the talks given at our annual meeting by Sheila Wilson and Chris Raible. Dorothy Ryder's article on the history of the University of Calgary Library has not been printed before. The contributions by Len Wertheimer, Betty Spicer and Howard Overend accent our history.

I willingly accept all of the blame for the errors recorded in the past and the omissions of stuff that should have been reported. But now it is time for a change.

Stan Beacock, Editor

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS

It's just past eight years since Stan Beacock gathered a small group together and formed, as far as I'm aware, the first organization for retired library workers in Canada or the U.S. These have been formative years of considerable achievement for **EX LIBRIS**.

Stan, before retirement the Director of the London Public Library, with the assistance of a New Horizon Grant, established a headquarters, developed aims and objectives and since 1987 has edited (with the help of various members) and published 15 Newsletters, the *Ex Libris News*. He has had assistance from various sources. Members have written articles, researched awards, retirements and deaths, and helped in many ways; the Graduate School of Library and Information Science, UWO has provided space and use of equipment; the Board has guided policy and finances, planned and developed programmes for the Annual General Meetings and expanded membership; but the burden of producing the Newsletter has largely been his. Stan deserves our admiration and gratitude.

Recently Stan has asked to be relieved of his role in EX LIBRIS. We are now in the process of seeking a new editor and assistant editor, and office storage space. It is my view that in the solution to this problem lies the future of our organization. Board members, Les Fowlie and Connie Corkham,

will be seeking new space and someone to put together future Newsletters. If members have suggestions please get in touch as soon as possible.

Plans for the year

During my term as President I would like to see further progress on three fronts.

1. We need to expand and broaden the membership. Too few members are located outside Southern Ontario. We need more active people from B.C., the Prairies, Quebec and the Atlantic Provinces.
2. At the end of December, 1993 we had \$17,519.00 in our Elizabeth Morton Fund (members' contributions dedicated to the publication of a history of the Canadian Library Association). This is a major project. It is underway but we are going to need further contributions. (See Janette White's report later in this issue.
3. It is time to review the Aims and Objectives of EX LIBRIS and establish priorities for the future. The Board will devote time to a discussion of this topic at its next meeting. However we need the thoughts and suggestions of our members. Should we try to have regional meetings or regional chapters? Are there projects of interest and usefulness that we should consider? What do you think EX LIBRIS should do in the future?

Write to me at 137 Beaconsfield Ave., Toronto, ON M6J 3J5, call me personally at (416) 532-9762 or contact our Secretary-Treasurer, Elizabeth Lockett at the Association office.

Al Bowron, President

ELIZABETH HOMER MORTON FUND: APPEAL FOR ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

This Fund was initiated by the Ex Libris Association in 1988 on a specific proposal by Edith Jarvi, to honour this outstanding Canadian Librarian and first Executive Director of the Canadian Library Association. CLA joined with Ex Libris to coordinate fund raising under its mandate to further Canadian library education and research. Ex Libris members in particular have been very generous in their support of the Fund.

Members of our Association directed that the Fund be used to publish a history of the Canadian Library Association with emphasis on the role of Elizabeth Morton. The plan is that this history will be published in time to mark the 50th anniversary of CLA in 1996.

The Board of the Ex Libris Association is now in a position to commission the writing of the history. The money in the Fund is sufficient to support the initial stages of the work, in particular the research which will be required, but more contributions will be needed to fund the project to completion and publication.

Please support this worthwhile project.

Make your cheques payable to the Canadian Library Association with the notation "Morton Fund" on the face of the cheque and send to:

Canadian Library Association
200 Elgin St. Suite 602
Ottawa ON K2P 1L5

CLA will issue receipts for income tax purposes. A gift form is enclosed.

FYI: On March 1 postage for an issue of the *News* this size increased from \$1.44½ to \$1.50 (including GST)

Ex Libris Association
Eighth Annual General Meeting
Old Stone Inn, Niagara Falls, November 4, 1994

Minutes

1. The meeting convened at 11:05 a.m.
2. Approval of the minutes of the 7th Annual General Meeting was **moved** by C. Corkum and **seconded** by E. Schultz. **Carried**
3. President's Report

J. White announced that it had been a year of the status quo. There has been a campaign to increase awareness of the Association. There were displays at the OLA Conference in Toronto in 1992, at Ideashop in January 1993 and at the CLA Conference in June 1993. John Wilkinson has contacted Library schools for lists of retired librarians. G. Prodrick has resigned from the Membership Committee. J. White is grateful for his hard work. There have been negotiations with CLA and OLA about joint membership. The proposal for joint membership was published in the 1993 Spring Newsletter, p.6. J. White thanked Stan Beacock for his work in editing and producing the Newsletter and Betty McCamus for her assistance. Stan would like to retire from his position as editor of the Newsletter. A volunteer to undertake this work is needed. Betty Hardie wrote a document outlining Responsibilities of the Board and its officers. E. Lockett produced a budget.

Acceptance of the President's report was **moved** by J. White and **seconded** by J. Munro. **Carried**

Treasurer's Report

The report attempted to show the actual expenditures in 1993. The Newsletter costs at least \$8.00 for the two issues. The \$10.00 membership barely covers costs.

Acceptance of the Treasurer's report was **moved** by E. Lockett and **seconded** by R. Burford. **Carried**

Moved by S. Beacock and **seconded** by G. Prodrick that the Board be directed to invest up to \$5000.00 in a GIC or other investment instruments for a period of time to be determined by the Board. **Carried**

Newsletter

Stan Beacock brought news of various library retirees. J.J. Talman has moved into a nursing home. Margaret Banks was ill and unable to come to the meeting but she had been planning to come and talk about her article on Bourinot. Dan Sudar lives in British Columbia and is ill. He had saved material on the founding of the Library Technician Program at Lakehead University and Stan had arranged for this to be sent to GSLIS, UWO. Betty Spicer needs someone to complete the input of her index of the Ontario Library Review using *In Magic*. GSLIS has subsidized the Association by providing space. A desk, two filing cabinets and some supplies are located in an office there.

Stan reported on his interview with Florence Cummings which was published in the Fall 1993 issue of the Newsletter as an example of possible articles by others.

He needs someone to find materials for the Newsletter. J. White does retirements, awards and obituaries. Mailing is very expensive. Stan is trying to find better rates.

E. Ketchum proposed a vote of thanks to Stan.

Membership Report

G. Prodrick has resigned as chair of the Committee. He was not in agreement with the Board's position on joint membership with OLA and the proposed fee increase.

5. Elizabeth Homer Morton Project

J. White reported that there have been further efforts to find a researcher/writer. One person has expressed interest.

6. Ammendment of the Constitution

John Wilkinson had proposed a number of amendments to the Constitution. A Vice President is needed to provide a smoother succession to the office of President. (A copy of the proposed amendments was mailed to all members with the Fall 1993 *Ex Libris News*.)

Moved by B. Hardie, seconded by C. Corkum that the amendments to the Consitution be approved. Carried

7. Amendment of By-Laws - Increase in membership fees

Some people felt that increasing membership fees would reduce membership but it was pointed out that current fees do not cover the total costs of the Association.

Moved by G. Hughes, seconded by B. Hardie that, effective for the calendar year 1995, category b. subscriptions be raised from \$20.00 to \$25.00. Carried

Moved by G. Hughes, seconded by B. Spicer that, effective for the calendar year 1995, the By-Laws be amended to increase Membership fees by \$5.00: Regular members \$15.00, Sustaining members \$25.00. Carried (2 Naves)

8. Nominating Committee Report

Composition of the Board, 1994:

Retiring members: Lucille Galloway, Betty Hardie, Gerald Prodrick.

Continuing members: Constance Corkum, Heather McCallum, Clara Miller, Joyce Sowby, John Wilkinson.

New members: Arn Bailey, Leslie Fowlie, Erich Schultz.

President: Al Bowron.

Secretary-Treasurer: Elizabeth Lockett.

Past President: Janette White.

Acceptance of the report was moved by B. Hardie and seconded by J. Snell. Carried

J. White thanked the retiring members.

E. Schultz thanked the President.

9. Other business

E. Ketchum reported that the Canada House library in London, England, has been closed. If people have influence with the government they should use it to have the library re-opened. A history of the library should be written. G. Prodrick recommended that the Board should take action.

10. The business meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m. There was a lunch break from 12:15 to 1:30.

(Note: Mr. Raible very kindly donated to the Association \$5.00 from the sale of each copy of his book *Muddy York Mud: Scandal and Scurrility in Upper Canada* at our Annual Meeting. We gratefully acknowledge his donation of \$55.00 to Ex Libris.)

EX LIBRIS ASSOCIATION
Treasurer's Report 1993

	<u>Income. \$</u>	<u>Expenses. \$</u>
<u>Income</u>		
15 life members (Interest from GICs)	226.29	
83 Regular members at \$10.	830.00	
40 Sustaining members at \$20.	800.00	
5 Library subscriptions at \$20.	100.00	
Bank interest	<u>90.99</u>	
Total	2047.28	
<u>Expenditures</u>		
Newsletter: Printing & stationery		722.76
Newsletter: Postage		400.00
Office expenses		
Postage		86.65
Post box rental		187.80
Change of address		110.21
Word processing & stationery		46.50
Printing for CLA meeting		<u>243.80</u>
Total		1797.72
Balance for 1993	<u>249.56</u>	
<u>Annual General Meeting</u>		
Registration	575.00	
Honorarium to C. Raible		100.00
Donation from C. Raible	55.00	
Hotel expenses		463.59
Refund to M. Banks who was ill	<u> </u>	<u>25.00</u>
Totals	630.00	588.59
Profit	41.41	

23 members attended the meeting. There were two guests.

In 1993 net income was \$290.97

Bank balance December 31, 1993 \$7740.65

This includes renewals for 1994. Renewals for 1994: 61 Regular, 20 Sustaining, 1 Life, 4 Library subscriptions.

GIC April 11, 1994 @ 7.75% \$1003.70

GIC April 15, 1995 @ 8.25% \$1800.00

The two issues of the Newsletter cost \$8.00 per member. Expenses for the AGM vary from year to year. The Board tries to set the cost of registration to cover expenses. Expenses for speakers in 1993 were \$150.00 (honorarium and meals). Board members cover their own expenses.

This report attempts to show actual income and expenditures in 1993.

Elizabeth Lockett
Secretary-Treasurer

**"CONSULTING AUTHORITIES CONTINUALLY, SO MANY ARE MY IMPERFECTIONS"
WILLIAM LYON MACKENZIE AS EDITOR AND PUBLISHER, by Chris Raible**

(Paper given at the 8th Annual Meeting OF THE EX LIBRIS ASSOCIATION, NOVEMBER 4, 1993, Niagara Falls, Ontario)

"Papers," William Lyon Mackenzie once reflected, "are the depositories of our fortune—the trustees of our credit, character and reputation—our closest confidant."¹

The famous (or infamous) leader of the ill-fated 1837 Rebellion penned this comment during one of the darkest periods of his life. A refugee living in New York City in 1845, he was having difficulty earning enough to provide for his family—a wife and five daughters.² Despite such responsibility, he had resigned a properly paid position as clerk/librarian at the U.S. Customs House to embark on a new venture. While working at the Customs House, he had turned up an old box filled with private correspondence—its contents suggested corruption by former federal employees. Mackenzie decided to publish many of these letters—they would be politically damaging to former United States President Martin Van Buren.

Yet the editor felt some qualms about exposing private papers to public view:

Secrets that may cost a man his life, or which men would rather die than have discovered, secrets of trade, wills, settlements, things on which the peace of families, and the love and union of relatives may depend, are often to be found among a person's private papers, in his closet— and all attempts to invade the sanctity of a private dwelling, on any other ground than treason against the state . . . cannot be too severely condemned.³

Nonetheless, Mackenzie pushed ahead with his project. He had found the documents in a public office, not in a private home. He even suspected that they had intentionally been brought to his attention. He was doing his duty,

for one in his position invades no privacy—betrays no confidence—circulates no secret record—but refers to parts of a correspondence.... [They are] proof of a formidable conspiracy against the liberties and franchises of the American people. No honest man can or will conceal treason.⁴

Mackenzie's book, *The Lives and Opinions of Benjamin Franklin Butler, United States District Attorney for the Southern District of New-York; and Jesse Hoyt, Counsellor at Law, formerly Collector of Customs for the Port of New York*, created a minor sensation. It sold more than 50,000 copies, and has since been credited with preventing Van Buren's political come-back. Mackenzie himself, however, received only \$100 for his efforts—out of a stubborn pride he refused to take more. There were too many questions about his motives and his integrity. Nonetheless, for the rest of his life he was forced to defend himself against accusations of theft, greed, dishonesty, and violating personal privacy.⁵

This early "freedom of information" encounter was anything but Mackenzie's first experience of arousing public ire by publishing private information. Indeed, it was a far more notorious episode nearly twenty years earlier that had proved to be the making of Mackenzie. I refer, of course, to the so-called "Types Riot," the wholesale destruction of his printing establishment in 1826, when a gang of York Tory hooligans tried to silence the controversial editor. He collected £625 in damages from the rioters in a succeeding court case, not only solving his deep financial problems, but making him a popular hero. He had stood up to the ruling York elite and won.⁶

Whether in York or in New York, for Mackenzie to have stirred emotions with pen

and press is no surprise. His public political career and his work as an editor/publisher were essentially one and the same. From his beginning, as it were, were his words, —throughout his life, Mackenzie relied on the print medium to put forth his messages.

Mackenzie believed in books. In 1830, he published *A Catechism of Education*, a political tract with the purpose of promoting (and reforming) public education. In it he lauded libraries:

71. *Have not the most beneficial effects often resulted, to individuals as well as to society, from the establishment of public libraries for apprentices, mechanics, labourers, and others, who were not able out of their own means to acquire a select assortment of useful books...? The establishments of institutions of this sort have, in general, been attended with the happiest consequences; the minds of the people have been enlightened, and their manners improved, by study and reflection.*

73. *Have not the most profound scholars; the greatest philosophers; the most eminent statesmen and divines, been self-taught?*

Instances abound in the history of the latter ages, of individuals who, after receiving instruction, only in the elements of reading and writing, and without the aid of teachers, have overcome innumerable difficulties, and attained an enviable eminence in the walks of science and literature. These men studied books, studied nature, and studied the arts, without the help of a schoolmaster; and persevered in their labours, though often under the most unfavourable circumstances.⁷

Mackenzie's own life was a testimonial to

literacy.

The writer ... well remembers the many advantages he derived from the establishment of a literary and scientific institution in his native city [Dundee, Scotland], of which, at the early age of sixteen, he became a member. It was furnished with an extensive and well assorted library.... Many a long winter's evening has the writer spent in the hall of this institution, endeavouring to acquire the elements of useful knowledge out of the abundant materials thus placed within his reach, while, had no such society existed, he might have been induced oftener to exchange his labours at the desk of his master's counting-room, for the deceitful gratification offered in the tavern or gambling house.⁸

Such a sixteen-year-old lad's noble sentiments notwithstanding, he soon demonstrated little resistance to such "deceitful gratification." By age seventeen, he years later admitted:

I was reckless, wild, a confirmed gambler, and somewhat dissipated, (more so perhaps than I would like to own). But, even at that age, my thirst for knowledge was unquenchable.⁹

During this period before his emigration to Canada, Mackenzie kept track of all the books he had read. The list contains nearly a thousand volumes.¹⁰ A modern historian has summarized it:

His reading included histories of Scotland, England, Greece, Rome, modern Europe, and America; travels in Africa, Arabia, India, Europe, and America; Scottish and English poetry; popular and critical journals; books on agriculture, natural history, medicine, mathematics, mechanics, and chemistry; diaries, letters, and biographies of the leading men of the

eighteenth century; theology and sermons; novels and plays. In translation he had read something at least of Moliere, Cervantes, Le Sage, Mirabeau, Voltaire, Montesquieu, Homer, Virgil, Plutarch, and Josephus.¹¹

The controversial journalist often reflected on the influence of libraries in his life. In 1827, for example, he complained about the neglect of the parliamentary library, then located in York:

We fervently pray that it may be enlarged and kept open at all seasons of the year not only to the members, *but also to those whom they may introduce to the librarian....* For until our studious men can have access to proper books, we will never boast of profound scholars. Gibbon could not have written his "Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire," in Canada—no nor in any part of America. And why? Because he would not have been able to meet with the necessary authorities in any library; no, nor in all the libraries of this quarter of the world. And it must be obvious that the fewer the books are, the evil becomes the greater.

(The phrase ought to be carved over the entrance to every library in the land: "The fewer the books are, the evil becomes the greater!") With uncharacteristic modesty, Mackenzie went on to confess:

Were the editor of this paper a member of the provincial legislature, he would require to consult authorities continually, so many are his imperfections; although there are few who have passed a greater portion of a short life in reading.

But he quickly returned to his subject—and to his political purposes:

As the library is now managed, the books instead of being annually increased are scattered and lost, being

taken away and no account kept of them. Look at the advertisement in the Upper Canada Gazette of stray books... all from improper management. We heard some of the members (Goths and Vandals) talk of *selling the books* the other Day. God forbid.¹²

Not many months later, Mackenzie was in fact elected to the provincial parliament. He soon returned to the subject of its library to complain that it

has not had a volume added to it, except the journals, for nearly a dozen years. It is indeed a miserable apology.... I made repeated efforts to improve and enlarge the library. The Legislative Council successfully opposed [my] attempt.... They threw the motion under their table and refused to act upon it, and indeed manifested in all their proceedings the utmost unwillingness to put the country in possession of those British and Colonial publications for reference which the spirit of the age requires.¹³

We have, alas, no record of Mackenzie's own library, but his multitudinous literary references reveal that he was a lifelong reader. We have more than ample evidence of the extent of his interests in the vast number of letters and clippings which he left and which are happily preserved.

These papers provide fascinating insights into one man's mind. Mackenzie created his own unique information storage and retrieval system. He consecutively numbered the sheets of a series of blank books—eventually totalling nearly seven thousand pages. These volumes became his filing cabinet—he tucked between their pages "correspondence, accounts, maps, sketches, speeches, genealogical information, invitations, programmes, photographs, newspaper clippings, telegrams, minutes and reports of associations and committee, and

printed material."¹⁴ As his files grew, he created his own idiosyncratic index of topics and subjects. For example:

Dayton, Nathan, Circuit Judge	4318
Deaf & Dumb & Blind Institutions in Canada	6375
Deafness- See: Hearing	479\5
Dearborn, Genl. Henry (& his son)	3349
Death - ought the punishment of to be entirely abolished in all cases	569
See also "Murder"	520
Deaths - Funerals - Graveyards	2172
Debentures	6127
DeBlaguier, P.B., Chancellor Univ.	2983
Debt in rent—exemption of household furniture from seizure for	1144 ¹⁵

Fortunately (for those of us who are interested in such obscurities) these files were kept by his son-in-law biographer, Charles Lindsey. All 64 feet, 6 inches of them are now carefully preserved in the Archives of Ontario—the Mackenzie-Lindsey Papers. It also includes an almost complete run of all of Mackenzie's newspapers.

These files testify to a life of reading and of saving. During his York/Toronto years as an editor, he read a hundred newspapers a week, marking what he wished to copy immediately, clipping what he wanted for possible future reference. During his exile, he was for a time employed as actuary and librarian at the Manhattan Mechanics Institute. It had a large collection of domestic and foreign journals. When a decision was made to cull the entire collection, Mackenzie apparently read the lot, clipping and saving whatever caught his fancy.¹⁶ The Mackenzie-Lindsey Papers thus contain items from late 18th and early 19th century newspapers (thank goodness for rag paper),

although, alas, often without indication of their sources.

Mackenzie's own newspaper—his first and certainly his most famous, *The Colonial Advocate*—was begun in 1824.¹⁷ Its title suggested his clear intent—to be the advocate of the colonials. In his agrarian utopian dream for Upper Canada, he saw himself as the spokesman for the yeomen farmers (not that Mackenzie had ever turned a spadeful of dirt in his life.)

By its very format, the first issue of the *Colonial Advocate* suggested its editor's intentions, and revealed his ambivalence. It took the form of a long editorial essay printed in two columns, a sixteen page octavo booklet wrapped with a four-page blue cover—the cover was to be used for notices and advertisements. William Lyon Mackenzie thus initially presented himself to his prospective readers as a journalist, the publisher of a reflective journal.¹⁸

But at the last minute, the cover was changed. The editor killed the ads to make room for a lengthy report of an inquiry into the death Colonel Robert Nichol, a prominent Niagara citizen. The publisher thus sacrificed private income for public information. By the third issue, the format had changed entirely—into a cheaper, less substantial, five column, four-page folio. It had definitely become a *news* paper.

Most of that first issue was given over to an extended critical evaluation of the political situation in Upper Canada. Much of it dealt with Sir Peregrine Maitland, the Lieutenant-Governor of the province, a man whom Mackenzie described as "a knight of noble birth & noble connexions, who ... has gained enough renown in Europe to enable him to enjoy himself, like the country he governs, in inactivity.... We cannot remember any thing he has done of a public nature worth recording.... What road has he made? What Canal has been begun in his time? Of what agricultural society is he the patron, president or benefactor? What does the

domestic manufactures of the Province owe him?" Such a passive governor was, by Mackenzie's good Scot measure, not only worthless, but, in "his enjoyment of a princely salary," expensive.

Notwithstanding all his caustic commentary, Mackenzie saw himself as an instructor, with ambitions practical as well as political. He wanted to share much of what he had read. Along with his reflections on the passing scene, he planned to offer useful information to improve the lot of his farmer readers. He announced his intent

"to copy.... articles on Roads and Bridges, Townships, Diseases, Scotch emigrants, Irish ditto, English ditto, American ditto, Sheep, Cattle, Agricultural Societies, Wheat, Barley, Oats, Corn, Buck Wheat, Potatoes, etc.... [also] articles of commerce: such as Flax, Hemp, Pot and Pearl Ashes, Bees' Wax, Honey, Lumber, Tobacco, Ginseng, etc.... [as well as] notices on Gypsum, Lime and manures, and.... upon the attendant science of horticulture."

It was an archival effort of sorts, an attempt to preserve something of the passing present for the enlightenment of the future, that first plunged the Queenston publisher into controversy.

[*Muddy York Mud...* page 18:]

On June 1, 1824, a full Masonic ceremony laid the foundation-stone of a memorial to Major-General Sir Isaac Brock, hero of the Battle of Queenston Heights, killed fighting off American invaders in 1812. At Mackenzie's suggestion, a sealed bottle—containing a patriotic inscription (authored by Mackenzie), some coins, a copy of the current *Upper Canada Gazette* and a copy of the first issue of the *Colonial Advocate*—was placed in the stone "to remain as a memorial until some future generation, long after we and our contemporaries are

forgotten, shall perhaps discover it hid amidst the wreck of ages."

It did not, however, remain there that long. A few days later Maitland learned of the event—he was upset. The Lieutenant-Governor was not about to allow a journal so critical of his administration to desecrate Brock's memorial, or, worse, to be preserved for posterity. Maitland immediately ordered the capsule's removal. Despite the fact that the monument had by then reached a considerable height, the masonry was taken down and the vessel disinterred. Col. Thomas Clark, the commissioner in charge of the removal, reportedly threw the bottle in the air and cried "so go all Mackenzie's enemies."

This "premature resurrection," as Mackenzie delightedly referred to the affair, served only to publicize his publication. It was the first of many incidents when the over-reaction of opponents worked out in his favour.

As an editor, Mackenzie read, swallowed, saved, and regurgitated. His primary purpose might have been educational, but he was almost totally preoccupied with the passing political scene and with what he perceived to be the inadequacies and injustices of those who held influence. Perhaps he envied those he would later call the "Family Compact."¹⁹ He would never be admitted into their circle of power. If he could not join them, he could kick them.

It was the publisher's penchant for digging up and dragging forward from the past which brought him much of his popularity—and of his unpopularity. Few people of prominence wanted to be reminded of what they had once promoted, propounded or promised. Mackenzie, damn him, remembered. Aided by his files, he could recall past incidents, cite old sources, quote formal documents, revive former controversies.

At times, when pressed, the editor might go even further. He was adept at stirring up old scandal, skilled at raking old muck. It was one of his efforts at slinging old mud which provided the Types Rioters with their public justification (whatever their private reasons) to try to silence him.

[*Muddy York Mud...* pages 24 to 27:]

Week after week for the next several months, Mackenzie took on every public issue, fanning the flames of controversy. His circulation surpassed the combined figure for the other three York newspapers, including the official *Upper Canada Gazette*. But again his costs escalated—again he was in deep financial trouble. Something had to be done.

"When I am reduced to personalities, I will bring *The Advocate* to a close," the editor had written in an early issue. On the second anniversary of his starting up his newspaper, he announced his intention to close it down. If so, it would end with a bang, not a whimper. Mackenzie apparently felt free to release some of his long-repressed hostility. He could indulge his most savage satirical talents in puncturing some puffed up pretensions.

The columns of the *Colonial Advocate* # 75, dated May 18, 1826, were quite unlike anything the Province had seen before. "The most infamous and wicked thing that has ever yet been published," Mary Jarvis informed her mother in New York. Robert Stanton, in a private letter to a Kingston friend, wondered, "Is it not disgraceful to think that such vile stuff as has been vomited forth in the columns of the Advocate, should find its way even into the meanest cottage in the land?" (Eighty years later one biographer called it "an orgy of slander and scurrility"—and a more modern historian, "journalism of

the gutter.")

What was it that so upset the good people of York, indeed of the province? Mackenzie had gone to some length to set up what he probably saw as a marvellous practical joke. Two weeks before, in issue # 73, he had published this note:

TO THE PUBLIC. The subscriber has determined to retire from the management of the *Colonial Advocate* at the conclusion of the next number, and respectfully informs its numerous patrons that its successor will pay their respects to them in No. 75.

Colonial Advocate, 1826 May 04

A week later, he had run a second notice:

To prevent a misunderstanding which has arisen out of a notice in the last paper; the subscriber respectfully informs the public, that he will continue to print and publish the *Advocate*, of which he remains the sole proprietor; but that from henceforth he will leave the editorial management in hands admirably fitted to inflict summary punishment on those drivellers to whom he has hitherto shewn an undue partiality.

W. L. MACKENZIE.

Then, on May 18, he sprung his trap—a fictitious report which, in the guise of humour, attacked the provincial aristocracy. It was a long article (a *very long* article—some seven thousand words, continued the following week with ten thousand more) entitled: "A faithful account of the proceedings at a general meeting of the contributors to the *Advocate*, held in Macdonell's Parlour on the evening of Monday, May 1st, 1826." It described a supposed gathering of friends and contributors to the *Advocate*, there to select a new editor since

Mackenzie had resigned his responsibilities. Among those assembled were several men bearing Mackenzie pseudonyms, including "Peter Russell, Esq., a native of Cumberland in England," "Capt. Humphrey Clod, of the 7th Regt. York Militia, (a Canadian)," and "Patrick Swift, Esq. of Belfast in Ireland." Swift was quickly selected for the *Advocate* post.

"Patrick Swift" was described as "a grand nephew of the famous Doctor Jonathan Swift, Dean of St. Patrick's in Dublin," the satirist be known as the author of *Gulliver's Travels*. Mackenzie adopted the pseudonym as his editorial alias for these commentaries to give his readers a clear message—he was writing political satire.

According to the report, the party of editorial advisors reassembled two weeks later for what quickly degenerated into a rather drunken binge. Much of the *Advocate* account was devoted to describing the revellers making punch, telling jocular tales, singing frivolous songs, or debating the relevance of political quotations from American sources. But also quoted at length were outrageous and often ribald comments about certain members of the York ruling elite.

A prime target of the account was James Buchanan Macaulay with whom Mackenzie had recently quarrelled. The newly appointed member of the Executive Council was ridiculed for "his nose being crooked upwards." The explanation for this deformity being that "his father intended him at first for his own trade of an apothecary and kept him pounding stinking gum for hysteric pills to old women, until the horrid smell of the drug

actually turned his nose into a peg, whereon his grandfather might safely hang up his fiddle."

Especially harsh also was a description of Attorney General John Beverley Robinson as descended from Virginia's long line of "thieves, rogues, prostitutes & incorrigible vagabonds," whose mothers "came there to try their luck and were purchased by their sires with tobacco at prices according to the quality and soundness of the article." "From such a source ... we may look for the tyranny engendered, nursed and practised by those whose blood has been vitiated and syphilized by the accursed slavery of centuries."

Advocate readers were reminded of the lowly origins of many of York's high and mighty. Court of King's Bench Justice D'Arcy Boulton was "formerly assistant steersman of a Lake Champlain lumber raft." Legislative Councillor and Bank of Upper Canada President William Allan was once a "menial servant, shoe black and knife scourer [when] he was respectable." Church of England cleric and Executive Councillor John Strachan came to Canada as "a poor itinerant schoolmaster" and obtained a tutoring position. In the same house where his later wife served as "chamber-maid or house-maid in the kitchen, the Rev. Doctor [was] in the garret as the scholar's guide to arithmetic, and the Honourable William Allan as boot-polisher inhabited the lower regions or scullery."

No one, thought Mackenzie, could claim immunity from derision. "It's the upstart pride of these people that I wish to humble by relating plain truths." The so-called "better classes" were but the "upstart barbers, shoe-blacks,

wheelwrights, stable grooms, beggars, barmaids, cake and beer dealers, old drunken soldiers, raftsmen, and such like who have by the fickle dam fortune got out of their orbit."

[Note: The complete texts of the "Patrick Swift" commentaries are included as an appendix to the book.]

Scandalous! Scurrilous! Patrick Swift's "faithful account" was obviously a work of fiction, but it was also rather nasty—and some of it was true. Which *Advocate* readers fumed and which found it funny in 1826 no doubt depended on whose balloon was being pricked.

The rest, as they say, is history. Mackenzie's *Advocate* not only recovered, it flourished—at least in its influence and even as a business enterprise. With the exception of the Methodist *Christian Guardian*, it was the most widely circulated paper in the province.²⁰

By 1834, his duties as new mayor of Toronto and his activities as a leading member of the Legislative Assembly prompted him to sell his paper. But a year and a half later—out of office and out of sorts—he started up another, the *Constitution*,²¹ which became his vehicle for agitation and ultimately for Rebellion. He lost it all—a printing establishment valued at \$15,000 and a bookstore with an inventory of more than 20 thousand volumes²²—in his abortive attempt at a *coup d'état*.

In the course of the next twelve years in exile in the United States, he started up three different newspapers—and closed each one down again. There was not enough interest by Americans in the Canadian cause, and not enough attachment by Mackenzie to American politics. He did, however, spend his latter New York years working for Horace Greeley and the *New York Tribune*, perhaps the era's most important newspaper. Mackenzie also ultimately became an American citizen and deeply involved

himself in New York politics—but he never settled down.

American politics were no better than Canadian politics, yet Mackenzie survived. When a general amnesty at last made possible a return to Canada, in 1850 he came home. Within a year he was elected to Parliament. Within two years he was putting out another newspaper.

The first number of *Mackenzie's Weekly Message* contained this teasing note: "The Editor ceased the series of his last newspaper, the *Constitution*, somewhat abruptly, in December, to recommence his present series, the *Message* in January, and hastens to return his most grateful acknowledgments to many friends who... have interested themselves in its early establishment."²³ There was no reference to the lost fifteen years or to his three American newspapers—they might never have existed.

The *Message* did fairly well for about two years, but Toronto had changed and journalism had changed with it. Mackenzie could not make the necessary adjustments, or could not afford to make them. There were three daily newspapers and any number of specialized weekly papers with which to compete. Nevertheless he struggled on.

On September 15, 1861, the *Message* was issued for the last time. Mackenzie's publishing ventures were over. In eight-and-a-half years, he had put out more than 300 numbers of the paper. He had driven himself 15 hours a day,²⁴ presenting his political and personal reflections to a shrinking but passionately loyal constituency. Less than a year after the *Message* expired, Mackenzie himself was dead.

The last political words Mackenzie wrote were published in another newspaper on July 2, 1861, only eight weeks before his death.²⁵ When he put down his pen, when he stopped his press, his life was effectively over.

Endnotes:

- 1 William L. Mackenzie, *The Lives and Opinions of Benjamin Francis Butler...and Jesse Hoyt...*, Boston: Cook & Co., 1845, p. 10.
- 2 For details of Mackenzie's family life, see Nancy Luno, *Domestic Life of William Lyon Mackenzie and his Family*. Toronto: Toronto Historical Board, 1990.
- 3 Mackenzie, *The Lives and Opinions ...*, p. 10.
- 4 Mackenzie, *The Lives and Opinions ...*, p. 11.
- 5 See Lillian F. Gates, *After the Rebellion: The Later Years of William Lyon Mackenzie*. Toronto: Dundurn Press, 1988, chapter 8.
- 6 See Chris Raible, *Muddy York Mud: Scandal and Scurrility in Upper Canada*. Creemore, Ontario: Curiosity House, 1992.
- 7 William Lyon Mackenzie, *Catechism of Education*. York: 1830, quoted in Margaret Fairley, *The Selected Writings of William Lyon Mackenzie: 1824-1837*, Toronto: Oxford University Press, 1960, p. 82.
- 8 *Colonial Advocate*, 1829 October 01.
- 9 *Constitution*, 1837 February 08.
- 10 Charles Lindsey, *The Life and Times of William Lyon Mackenzie....* Toronto: P.R. Randall, 1862, Appendix A.
- 11 Margaret Fairley, *The Selected Writings of William Lyon Mackenzie: 1824-1837*. Toronto: Oxford University Press, 1960, p. 67.
- 12 *Colonial Advocate*, 1827 January 11.
- 13 William Lyon Mackenzie, *Sketches of Canada and the United States*. London: Effingham Wilson, 1833, p. 183.
- 14 Archives of Ontario, *Inventory of the Mackenzie-Lindsey Papers*, F 37, p.9.
- 15 Archives of Ontario, *Inventory of the Mackenzie-Lindsey Papers*, F 37, p. 23.
- 16 See Lillian F. Gates, *After the Rebellion: The Later Years of William Lyon Mackenzie*. Toronto: Dundurn Press, 1988, Chapter 7.
- 17 *Colonial Advocate*, 1824 May 18.
- 18 There are two anthologies of Mackenzie's writings: Margaret Fairley (ed.), *The Selected Writings of William Lyon Mackenzie: 1824-1837*. Toronto: Oxford University Press, 1960; and Anthony W. Rasporich (ed.), *William Lyon Mackenzie*. Toronto: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1972.
- 19 *Colonial Advocate*, 1833 September 26.
- 20 Charles Lindsey, *The Life and Times of William Lyon Mackenzie....*, vol. 1, p. 280.
- 21 "Prospectus, The Constitution, a Weekly Journal," 1836 April 18, clipping #3645. Archives of Ontario, Mackenzie-Lindsey Papers.
- 22 As advertised in issues of the *Constitution*, 1837 September.
- 23 *Message*, 1853 Jan. 27.
- 24 *Message*, 1856 Feb. 01.
- 25 "A plea to the people of Oxford against Skeffington Connor by W. L. Mackenzie." 2 July 1861. Offprint of unidentified newspaper article. Archives of Ontario, Mackenzie-Lindsey Papers.

WRITING LIBRARY HISTORY, by Sheila Wilson

(Paper given at the 8th Annual General Meeting, November 4, 1993, Niagara Falls, Ontario)

In talking about writing library history, I have to use the example of course, of the St. Catharines Public Library, because I did a first attempt at some sort of history of that library.

First of all, here in brief is the story of the St. Catharines Public Library.

There were many attempts to form a library from 1827 on and finally a Mechanics' Institute was established in the 1850s. After the Libraries Act of 1882 and the Mechanics' Institute Act of 1886 which permitted the institutes to function as lending libraries, the city of St. Catharines passed a bylaw in 1888 to establish a Free Public Library. The library did not have a permanent home until the Carnegie library was built in 1905. This building with additions, served the community with a bookmobile and then branches until 1977 when it moved to a new building on a new site nearby—the present St. Catharines Centennial Library.

To find details of the development of the library, the only sources I could use locally were the library records, city hall records, newspaper files and library archives. I knew that it would add another dimension to the study if I could interview past associates and try to include biographical material, and I am sorry that I did not do so. Also I do not know whether there were documents relating to the library in the Provincial archives, for I did not pursue it.

Records for the library did not exist before 1895 because the premises where the library was located, the Masonic Temple, suffered a dreadful fire and it was disastrous for the library for all the records and the book collection were destroyed. The city hall records were complete but gave little insight into the workings of the library, except for finances, and of course the business of building the Carnegie Library. Newspapers were important for information about the early period, and luckily the present

library held all the newspapers on microfilm and had also indexed them for the period 1827 to 1871. There were however serious gaps in the newspaper runs from 1875 to 1895 because they had not been preserved. Newspapers continued in a full run after 1903.

Library memorabilia was very sparse and consisted of a catalogue of the Mechanics' Institute, a catalogue of the book collection in 1901, the architect's plans for the Carnegie library, a builder's contract for Roman stone used in the building and a letter of agreement from the Carnegie Foundation. There was also a mug with a picture of the Carnegie library on it. Some photographs and scrapbooks compiled after the late 1950s were the rest.

Here are some of the highlights of that research:-

The first entry referring to a library appeared in a notice in the St. Catharines Journal, Feb. 7, 1827 which said that subscriptions were being taken to form a circulating library. A hamlet of no more than three houses in the War of 1812 it had fast developed as a busy community due to the construction of the First Welland Canal which was completed in 1829. By 1827 its population was 400 and by 1829 had also established one of the first grammar schools in the Niagara Peninsula. The leading citizens had hopes of fostering libraries and reading rooms but none of their efforts lasted long. One newspaper stated that after the Second Welland Canal was built between 1842-1843, the engineers and contractors on the canal donated their scientific books to a reading and lecture group which later became the Athenaeum, the forerunner of the Mechanics' Institute. Even when a Mechanics' Institute was established on November 21, 1851, it soon languished for lack of support and the Journal admonished people for not paying their dues. It remarked "The

Institute does not get enough money from the boasting, flourishing and progressing community to pay current expenses of the year; and but for the £50 per annum granted by Government, could not exist."

It would appear that the Mechanics' Institute never had a building of its own and its rooms always seemed to be on the upper floor of a building. After it was saved by the Ontario Department of Education taking over the responsibility for these establishments, and after enabling legislation of 1882 and 1886 allowed it to become a Free Public Library, the bylaw passed by the city in 1888 still did not get it a permanent home. In 1888 the St. Catharines Free Public Library moved to rooms in the Masonic Temple. By 1892 it had 6,175 volumes and by 1895 it had none, for the whole book collection and all its records were lost when the Masonic Temple had a disastrous fire.

After the fire, the library's new abode was the upper floor of a building on Queen Street where the St. Catharines Standard Building is to-day, and it shared this upstairs with the Board of Trade and also shared some of the expenses. In some spirit of fair play, I suppose dictated by City Hall, lighting was supplied by the St. Catharines and Welland Gas Company from January to June and by the St. Catharines Light Company from July to December. In 1901 when the population of the city was 9,000 the library's book collection was also 9,000—not a bad effort after such a total loss in 1895. Membership was 2,000.

St. Catharines followed the idea prevalent at the time that it was sound economics to hire a woman in the library for she would cost less. Miss Sarah Waud, who was hired somewhere around 1875 was receiving a monthly salary of \$37.50 in 1890. When she was given two weeks' holiday her brother was hired "to keep her library open." From inferences, she was apparently a quiet, low voiced, unassuming

spinster, and not too robust—the outdated stereotype image. She had no responsibility for book selection, which was done by the Library Board. There was a complaint once about a board member who, it was suggested, was ordering books for the library which only he would be interested in. Once, the chairman of the Library Board filled in for Miss Waud when she was ill, and I found out that later he became the deputy librarian of the Legislative Assembly for the Province of Ontario—just an interesting piece of trivia.

Lending practices were also probably typical of this period. There was an annual fee of \$1.00 in advance, which entitled the borrower to one book at one time on one day. Those who were willing to pay a double fee could have a double borrowing privilege. The stacks were closed and had a three step procedure to order the book of one's choice.

It is difficult to understand why St. Catharines was so slow in providing the library with a building of its own, for it was by all standards a prosperous community. By 1901 the library rooms were very cramped and it was very inconvenient to have to climb the library stairs to the second floor every time one wished to borrow a book. This seemed to strike a chord in a local newspaper, the St. Catharines Daily Star which suggested that although St. Catharines was a prosperous city it did not project that image visually. The Star suggested that "A handsome public building would be a splendid and most appropriate addition to the city's institutions."

In 1901 some members of the Library Board and the mayor approached the Carnegie Foundation asking for financial assistance to help build a public library. After some negotiation, the Foundation agreed to grant the sum of \$20,000 provided the city would maintain the library from municipal revenues, and based the sum at \$2.00 per capita which

would be at that time \$2,500. The city agreed, and two civic minded citizens, the McSloy Brothers then offered to buy a suitable site. After the architect was chosen, he offered to donate his plans and services for old times sake. His name was Sydney Rose Badgley, and was a former St. Catharines boy who had gone to practice in Cleveland and was gaining a reputation for his church architecture. Just for interest, the latest issue of *Rotunda*, the magazine of the Royal Ontario Museum (Fall 1993), has an article which describes his association with the building of Massey Hall and the recent rediscovery of his stained glass windows.

One pocket of resistance for the new library was voiced by local trade unions who said "take back your gold" to the Carnegie Foundation, because they objected to Carnegie's labour practices. Plans for the new building did go ahead, however, although the city had to ask for an additional \$5,000, when it was found that the building could not be completed under the original grant. The request was granted.

The building of the library spanned the careers of three mayors. The first one took all the credit, but it was his successor who laid the cornerstone in August 26, 1903. He spoiled it a little by stating that the city had agreed to an annual grant of \$2,500 for the library (which was of course part of the agreement), then he announced that the city was going to give a like sum of \$2,500 to support "the development of muscle in the fine art of rowing." Certainly the Royal Canadian Henley was a worthy cause but his timing seemed to show where St. Catharines' heart really lay—in sports. The third mayor had the embarrassing task of petitioning the Carnegie Foundation for additional funds, this time because the city had not budgeted for the library furnishings. The Foundation declined, and the first mayor took pleasure in writing to the Foundation to applaud its decision, and to

reprove the City Council for its lack of foresight. There are two scrapbooks in the present library relating to this mayor's career, which are interesting because they include clippings from newspapers no longer available for this period. These scrapbooks were assembled by his wife and also have articles on the art of embalming, for he was also a noted undertaker.

The Carnegie Library opened in 1905 and from that time to 1950 all the head librarians were male. Sarah Waud did not get to serve in the new library (She died in 1903.) and her sister filled in for her until the new librarian could be appointed. These librarians did not seem to have any special training, and it is difficult to know who, Librarian or Board, might have suggested the purchase of the complete set of the translation of the Jesuit Relations or the order to subscribe to the Champlain Society publications from the beginning. There are several pleasant surprises in looking at some of the books which have survived to the present day.

It is not intended to be comparative, but one can say that the St. Catharines Public Library was not innovative, but it served its community by being primarily a lending library. It did develop a children's section in 1916. During World War I, it lent books to the troops guarding the Welland Canal and permitted a domestic science teacher the use of the basement to teach sewing, domestic science and millinery. By 1910 the concept of closed stacks disappeared and in 1921 it was permitted to borrow one book of nonfiction at the same time as one fiction title. The head librarian was finally made secretary to the Board, and another record of sorts, in 1926, one of the Board members celebrated fifty years of continuous service on the board.

In the 1930s we see that Jessie Warren joined the library staff at a salary of \$50.00 a month

and when later she decided to go to library school, she paid the salary of a substitute to take her place until her return. Reata Vansickle began to develop a children's story hour on radio. While once again supporting the war effort in World War II by providing space for patriotic organizations, the library lent books to soldiers in the local armoury. A film library was begun in 1945.

I suppose that there were real problems relating to the purchase of books during the war years, but it was not realized how the whole library services had suffered until the death of the incumbent librarian in 1950. He had become head librarian in 1932 and it was said that he had been chosen because his own business had failed and the city was sympathetic to his situation. There are dreadful hearsay stories about his method of book selection, but certainly the library must have reached a very low point during his tenure, for after his death in 1950, Angus Mowat, travelling inspector for the Ontario Public Library Service, came to inspect the library and to advise some course of action. He reported that in his opinion the library and its services were half a generation out of line with contemporary service. I can attest to the poor reputation that the St. Catharines Public Library had at this time, for when I graduated from Library School in 1950, I was warned to look elsewhere than St. Catharines, for it was not up to standard.

In the post war years 1945 to the 1960s, the city enjoyed a great deal of economic expansion. It had low unemployment and a prosperous future. The 1950s were renaissance years for library service in St. Catharines but also very difficult years for Jessie Warren who had just been appointed head librarian—the first woman to be appointed to that position in the city. For a long time the city fathers had maintained the status quo for the public library, and she had to be a sort of missionary to be able to get a larger

budget and more staff in order to promote better services. Her energy and enthusiasm enlisted women's groups, and people such as Laura Sabia championed the library cause. Ultimately the library was looked upon with new respect as the collection and services were expanded. Staff was added, bookmobile locations were set up and finally in 1961, three branches were established in the same year. The old Carnegie Library which had been added on several times, also took on the responsibility of being the centre for the Niagara Regional Co-operative Library System until it got its own headquarters, and for several years Miss Warren served as its director as well as chief librarian of the St. Catharines Library system. Miss Warren died in 1967.

Each succeeding chief librarian added another dimension to the city's library services, but it then became increasingly difficult to provide them within the strictures of the old Carnegie building. It fell to June Munro to see that the library got new quarters—which is the beautiful Centennial Library that is there to-day. She should be justly proud of her achievement for this building was not without controversy.

Many groups felt that moneys should have been given by the city for a concert hall or a civic centre, while the old library had its adherents too who wanted to save it from demolition.

When the first library was built, it was done with donations from Andrew Carnegie, the two McSloy Brothers and the free services of the architect, and the only burden on the taxpayer was the levy of taxes to maintain it. In 1975 it was a different situation, and the city would only go as far as the capital expenditure of the building itself with any monies needed for books, furnishings, decorations and special equipment to be found elsewhere. For the first time in its history, the library board headed by Bernard Cooperman formed a fund-raising

committee with a goal of \$300,000.00 to be raised which would be matched by a provincial government Wintario grant. The community response was enthusiastic and immensely gratifying as donations came in from all sectors of the city.

The Centennial library was opened in June 1977, a true community effort, and as a reminder of the old Carnegie building, portions of the classical facade have been incorporated

into the grounds. The metal owls, symbol of Minerva, which were victims of a daring kidnap plot when they were snatched away during the library demolition, were recovered and restored by students of one of the city's high schools and they now preside as mascots in the greenery of the first floor and preserve the continuity of library service in St. Catharines, There is every reason to hope for another hundred years of useful community service.

MARY FINCH 1903-1993 A TRIBUTE, by Leonard Wertheimer

(Often a simple note in the In Memoriam column is not sufficient to honour our colleagues and their contributions to our profession. Would that others would follow Leonard's example. The Editor)

Queen Street West at the corner of Lisgar Street. A government building housing the District Health Unit. You walk by and think "What an attractive building". But if you happen to be one of the vanishing species of former TPLers your heart may miss a beat, a memory clicks in: this building housed the Queen and Lisgar branch of the Toronto Public Library until the end of 1963. Here was born and developed in 1957 the Foreign Literature Collection, abbreviated FLC, later renamed Languages and Literature Centre. It began as a library service to the ethnic Canadians in Toronto's Westend, later catered for the whole TPL system and eventually served as a model to the rest of Canada and many other countries.

The ever watchful librarians observed the demographic change in the neighbourhood: an increasing number of citizens who were not seen in the library. This should not be!! As a result a few experienced and energetic staff members, the late Anne Wright and Mary Finch planned and organised the Foreign Literature Collection under the leadership of Harry Campbell, then Chief Librarian (C.E.O.s had not yet been invented). The immediate aim was the increased

purchase of books in the languages of New Canadians.

In 1957 Canadian Library Schools did not turn out book selectors for foreign languages, so that was the first problem. Mary looked at her clerical staff which had been specially selected for her task and which included two Hungarians, and one each German, Italian, Latvian, Pole, Serb, Ukrainian, occasionally augmented, as needed, by colleagues from other parts of the TPL system. No Greek was on the staff, so Mary crossed the street to the restaurant and got the Greek owner to read for her the book lists supplied by local and foreign booksellers. Further expertise was secured through the occasional hiring of interns from abroad, e.g. Signora Lattanzi from Italy, who left their stamp on the quality of the book stock. In 1960 Andrew Kapos got going and produced his report "Toronto speaks" an analysis and tabulation of the languages spoken in Toronto by **Canadian citizens, no less.**

Once staff and material were assembled, the potential users had to be informed and brought to the library. A series of pamphlets was produced in which the resources of Toronto's

libraries were explained in ten languages. But that was not enough. All staff members were alerted to identify new patrons who gave signs of feeling lost in terra incognita, to give them special help, which usually meant finding the special colleague who would match their needs. Mary was very successful in attracting persons with book knowledge and possibly also familiarity with particular ethnic groups in order to overcome initial shyness. In some countries public libraries were not as familiar as ours, moreover many newcomers were leery of official institutions.

Mary also influenced the acquisition program of Boys and Girls House to extend their purchase policy, realising that not all children in Toronto were English. She established relations with organisations catering to immigrants, with ethnic newspapers and prominent leaders in order to spread the information of the library's services.

Personally Mary was not only highly educated and cultured, but had considerable charm and compassion. She took much interest in the concern and welfare of her staff. This was a period when TPL along with the rest of Canada was emerging from its WASPish

tradition, and it can be said that Mary played a leadership role in the creation of what is now known as Multiculturalism. She retired in July 1963 and was succeeded by Leonard Wertheimer. In retirement she maintained her interest in cultural affairs and her photography. Her brother is the distinguished poet and French scholar, Professor Robert Finch.

Mary died on 15 August 1993 of cancer. R.I.P. But her work lives on: in Toronto through the Multilingual Services, in Canada through the National Library's Multilingual Biblioservice*, in Australia and other countries.

P.S. In 1968 the Languages and Literature Centre was transferred from the Toronto Public Library to the newly formed Metropolitan Toronto Library Board and operates at present under the Literature Department.

(This tribute to Mary is presented by her grateful successor Leonard Wertheimer.)

*(It is my understanding that the service has been terminated. Budget constraints and the fact that it is not part of the National Library's mandate are the reasons given. The roles of libraries continue to be diminished!! TheEditor.)

(I ran into Tom Overend when he was working on his PhD at UWO and I was doing stress tests as part of a study of older persons. Tom told me his dad was writing a book so I wrote to Howard and this is his reply. ESB)

2780 17th Street N.E.
Salmon Arm, B.C. V1E 3X6
September 27, 1993

Dear Stan,

In response to your note of September 23 asking me to send in an article on the book I am writing, I think a letter is all I can do. The work is an autobiography of sorts plus quite a bit of (B.C.) library history and some local history. Perhaps I should not say history because it sounds too formal, but rather just a plain old story. It covers from my days at library school at U. of T. in 1951 until about 1972: in between I was children's librarian at the Mecca of regional libraries (the Fraser Valley Regional Library in Abbotsford, B.C.) from 1951 to 1954, county librarian at Middlesex

County Library Co-operative in London, Ontario until 1956, branch librarian at the new East Kootenay Branch of the Public Library Commission at Cranbrook, B.C. until 1958 and then up north to be branch librarian at the Commission's Peace River Branch in Dawson Creek for 14 glorious years. It is wonderful country up there!

I came back to Abbotsford in 1972 to be director of the FVRL, lost my job in 1981 and became territorial librarian of the Yukon Regional Library in Whitehorse until retiring at age 65 in 1984. My book doesn't cover these last two positions at all.

I have thirteen chapters written in pencil on buff paper, have scads of letters from people to whom I have written for information, including, mainly, the B.C. Archives and Records Service in Victoria and the Glenbow Archives in Calgary. I have found some interesting stuff and since I have always believed that the subject of libraries can be written about or described so that members of the general public will relate to it —particularly when mixed with items of local historical interest—I am attempting to put together, in edible form, a salad that will make good reading or eating, as the case may be. That's the gamble: it's up to the author/chef.

But it takes a lot of work. I am revising all the time. Another chore is to get the citations straight. When the last word is written I will have to look at the whole thing to see if it hangs together but I know that is a long way off. Meanwhile, it is good to get *Ex Libris News* although I steer clear of any sort of library involvement at age 74 and wonder at times how people can bear to continue being active in the field after retirement comes. There are other things to do. We have been living in Salmon Arm for a year and like the North Okanagan ambience of quiet living, hard snow shovelling and lawnmowing and occasional 10K runs and Seniors Games participation. Lovely sunshine and fruit country, Stan.

That's all I can say. Good luck with the *News*. It's really worth doing. I hope this example will inspire others to write in and fill your pages to the brim.

Sincerely

Howard Overend

WANTED: NEWS LETTER EDITOR

Keep in touch with your friends and colleagues by editing *EX LIBRIS NEWS*—and continue a valuable contribution to your profession!! We are seeking AN EDITOR to take over, starting with the fall '94 issue. The editor should have a personal computer and printer to produce camera ready copy.

Any member who is interested in assuming the duties of editor of the *EX LIBRIS NEWS* is urged to get in touch with Al Bowron (416-486-9762), Connie Corkum (905-278-7587) or Les Fowlie (416-486-5747).

Suggestions and comments concerning the publication of the *NEWS* would be welcomed by any member of the committee named above.

A LIBRARY GROWS IN CALGARY, 1906 - 1966, by Dorothy E. Ryder

(I don't know Miss. Ryder but many of you, I am sure, do. She has been a strong supporter and life member of the Ex Libris Association since 1989. As she says in her note to me dated Oct. 16, 1993, "Your plea for material for *Ex Libris News* gave me courage to send you the enclosed. I wrote it in 1992 for the Archives of the University of Calgary." The old refrain—Would that others would respond in a similar way. The Editor)

The library of the University of Calgary can be traced back to that of the Alberta Normal School which was founded in 1906. In 1905 when, with the passing of the Alberta Act by the Federal Government, Alberta became a province, the provincial Department of Education continued the programme of studies which had been established by the Northwest Territories. This programme followed closely that in use in Ontario.

The North-West Mounted Police built Fort Calgary in 1875 and the records of the Calgary School Board go back to 1884. *The Calgary Herald* of February 13, 1884, announced the opening of a school, free to all the children in the town. The school was a log house, and seventeen pupils were enrolled in the first year.¹

A teacher training school had been established by the territorial government as early as 1894. When Alberta became a province the government leased rooms in the Central School from the Calgary School Board and the Alberta Normal School with George J. Bryan as Principal commenced classes on January 3, 1906, with twenty-six students.² The school was, however, operating on the short four-month sessions adopted by the Northwest Territories. The longer teaching session had to be postponed due first, to the astonishing rise in the population and the consequent need for teachers, and secondly to the outbreak of the First World War which caused a decline in the student teacher enrolment.

In 1905 the year that the province of Alberta was established there were 602 organized school districts with 24,254 pupils. The number of pupils increased during 1906 to 28,784 with 924 teachers employed at an average yearly salary of

\$614.13. During 1906 the amount expended on library books in the province was \$3,259.12 and even this was \$1,139.31 over the sum allotted by the School Grants Ordinance.³

By 1907 Calgary, with a population which had risen to over 21,000,⁴ had become the largest and most important city between Winnipeg and Vancouver. It was located in the centre of the wheat growing and cattle raising district. The area was experiencing a dramatic economic boom and a large influx of population. The Calgary Public School Board owned nine buildings devoted entirely to education with an enrolment of 7,500 pupils.

The second Annual Report of the Department of Education, dated 1907, contained a description of the new Normal School which was opened on November 8, 1908, by the Premier and Minister of Education, the Honourable A. C. Rutherford:

The past year witnessed the completion of the magnificent Normal School in Calgary... One of the leading western dailies thus describes the new building: "One of the most creditable public buildings in the city, and in fact in the province. The entire building reflects honour on the government, the architect and the workmen... On the first floor are the offices of the Principal and Vice Principal, while the second has a large room that is to be used as the library."⁵

In the early years the position of librarian was combined with that of secretary to the principal. Miss Helen F. Mason was the first part-time librarian, and when she resigned in 1910 Miss Laura H. Jost was appointed to the position. Of the library, Principal E. W. Coffin

reported:

It is a great satisfaction to report that our library is steadily increasing and that the use thereof by the students is becoming more general. Special library periods have been set apart in the weekly programmes to enable the students to become more fully acquainted with the books and periodicals.⁶

The University Act of 1906 was the preliminary step towards the establishment of the University of Alberta. Although there were many citizens who thought that the new university was premature, Henry Marshall Tory, as President, and a faculty of four, commenced classes in 1908 with a student enrolment of forty-five. The University of Alberta was located in the town of Strathcona across the North Saskatchewan River from Edmonton, the provincial capital. The population of the province at that time was a scattered 300,000.

Alberta had passed the Public Libraries Act in 1907, and the Calgary Carnegie Public Library was opened in January, 1912. Bob Edwards was publishing his controversial *Calgary Eye-Opener* and Guy Wiedick in 1912 was instrumental in organizing the first Calgary Exhibition and Stampede which attracted people from all over the northwest. The short lived University of Calgary, with its offices and lecture rooms in the new Public Library, issued its *Preliminary Announcement* in 1912. The University had an auspicious beginning as Lord Strathcona (Donald D. Smith) donated \$25,000.00 and R. B. Bennett, a local lawyer who later became the Prime Minister of Canada, was a member of the Board of Governors. The time was not propitious, however, for a second provincial university. The early University of Calgary closed following the outbreak of the World War in 1914, and classes were transferred to the University of Alberta in Edmonton.

To alleviate the great scarcity of teachers in the province the University of Alberta held its first summer session for teachers in 1913, the year that the Camrose Normal School opened with an enrolment of 18.⁷ By 1915 the enrolment had grown to 275. In 1913 the Alberta Normal School became the Calgary Normal School and it had its largest enrolment to date in 1915 with 326⁸ students; but the adverse effects of the World War were obvious the following year. Enrolment was down, and the implementation of the longer eight-month session, so often requested, had to be postponed.

The Calgary Public Library proved to be an important adjunct to the city school system. In 1915 Dr. Coffin wrote in his Annual Report that he wished:

"... to express my appreciation for the assistance given our students by the Calgary Public Library. The library staff have gone out of their way to direct the students in their reading and have granted privileges that are really more than could be fairly expected... We have come to consider the Public Library and the [Natural History Society] Museum invaluable cooperating agencies in our teacher training."⁹

The establishment of the longer training period of eight months for prospective teachers was implemented in 1920, and from that year the student body was drawn increasingly from the high schools in the province. Dr. Coffin reported in 1920:

In a three-fold way the outlook for the profession is brightening. These three segments, so to speak—namely, longer training, better salaries, higher standards of service—make the complete circle, for as the standard of services rises, so will the need for more adequate training be recognized, and so also will the claim for

the higher wage be more justified.¹⁰

The Institute of Technology and Art had opened its doors in 1916 having been organized by the Department of Education and the Invalided Soldiers' Commission as the technical college of the province. With the advent of more settled economic conditions and the necessity of retraining the returning veterans, the number of night schools throughout the province increased and these functioned under local school boards in close cooperation with the Provincial Institute of Technology and Art.

In 1922 the Calgary Normal School, after nineteen years in its original building which it had now outgrown, moved from the centre of the city to the third floor of the west wing of the attractive, two-towered red brick building on the North Hill where it shared quarters with the Provincial Institute of Technology and Art. The report of the Principal for 1922 stated:

An increased attendance was expected, but the actual numbers enrolled surpassed all expectation, and more than doubled any previous record.¹¹

The government loans to students qualified to enter Normal School were one reason for the large enrolment; others were the increased population, and the fact that the province was experiencing a period of relative economic stability.

Miss Annie Shaw, who had been secretary-librarian since 1915, resigned in 1924 and Miss Isabella Currie joined the staff from the Camrose Normal School. Although the library was as yet small, its importance was not overlooked. The following item appears in Dr. Coffin's Annual Report for 1931:

During the year 270 volumes have been added to the library. A normal school library must be kept up-to-date, and not the least of its functions is to show students how books should be classified and cared for. A conference of librarians,

held during the spring, recommended a course of this nature at each normal school.¹²

During the early depression years the school population continued to grow, and the reduction of government loans in 1932 from \$400.00 to \$250.00¹³ had no immediate noticeable effect on the enrolment in the normal schools. However, the dry, bitter years of the depression saw an exodus from the province. It was a period of unemployment, drought and financial deficits. As little as possible was spent on schools, and buildings and equipment were neglected, and in many cases teachers' salaries went unpaid. A special committee was set up to study education in the rural areas and its recommendations in 1936 resulted in the establishment of larger units of administration.

In 1935 the year that Mr. William Aberhart, leader of the Social Credit Party, was sworn in as Premier and Minister of Education, there were 5,911 teachers employed at an average annual salary of \$970.86.¹⁴ That year there was a total of 608 students at the normal schools at Calgary, Camrose and Edmonton, but by 1937 the enrolment at Camrose was so low the school was closed and the staff and equipment, including the library, were transferred to Calgary and Edmonton.

Canada was again swept into a world war in 1939, and Alberta was one of several provinces which provided air bases for the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan. The Calgary Normal School was moved temporarily to King Edward School under the principalship of Dr. W. H. Swift while the "Tech" was occupied by a wireless training school.

Dr. Coffin had retired in 1940 after thirty-one years as principal, and the following year, after sixteen years as secretary-librarian, Miss Currie retired. Miss Isabel Mary Grant, a graduate of Columbia University, New York, was appointed in 1941, not only as librarian but

also "to participate in other work of the teacher training programme with some of the responsibilities of a regular instructor."¹⁵

Many classrooms in the province were vacant due to the number of teachers who had enlisted, and in 1942 the War Emergency Teacher Training Programme was introduced which permitted students to teach before becoming fully qualified with the proviso that they complete their training within a certain period. In accordance with the recommendation of a University Survey Committee that the teacher training schools be integrated under the Faculty of Education of the University of Alberta in Edmonton, the Calgary Normal School became, in 1945, the Calgary Branch of the Faculty of Education of the University of Alberta with Mr. Gerald F. Manning as Principal. The motto of the Normal School, "Juvare Optamus" passed into history to be replaced by that of the University, "Quaecumque Vera."¹⁶

The Chief Librarian of the University, Miss Marjorie Sherlock, became responsible for the administration of the branch library in Calgary. All ordering and cataloguing was done by the Edmonton Library. As the record of the books at the Calgary Branch was incorporated into the University of Alberta card catalogue, it was decided to reclassify the collection according to the Dewey Decimal Classification, the system then in use at the University Library. A team of two cataloguers from Edmonton spent the summers of 1947 and 1948 reclassifying the collection which numbered around 12,000 volumes.

Following the war in 1946, the Calgary Branch, as it was now called, was again housed on the third floor of the "Tech." The library grew steadily adding a few hundred volumes each year. The Calgary Branch was a dynamic centre of experimentation and publication. Dr. Olive M. Fisher and Dr. Donald Dickie, to name only two of the staff, were well known in

the field of Canadian elementary education. Dr. Dickie advocated a progressive approach to teaching the elementary curriculum which was called the "Enterprise" system. She was also the author of several text books and children's stories for which she received the Governor General's Award.

The teacher shortage was still so acute that in 1946 the school superintendents could report:

... about 1,500 rooms were either without services or were being supplied in some makeshift or inferior manner.¹⁷

Federal grants to the returning veterans encouraged them to complete their education, and over the next few years successive waves of veterans entered the University at Edmonton and the Calgary Branch straining the facilities to capacity, but the veterans brought with them a buoyancy, an eagerness and a maturity which was very energizing after the long war years. Quonset huts were moved onto the grounds of the "Tech" at Calgary as a temporary measure to provide much needed office and lecture room space.

Alberta entered the oil age in 1947 when Imperial Oil Well No. 1 blew in at Leduc. The transformation of the economy was even more dramatic than that which was brought about by the establishment of the wheat economy at the turn of the century. The income of the government more than doubled due to the sale of oil and gas leases. Outside capital was attracted to the province, and there was a steady growth in population. The provincial education budget reflected the increase in revenue.

With the addition of the Arts and Science Faculties in 1951-52 (Arts options had been offered as early as 1948), the Calgary Branch of the University of Alberta, came into being with Dr. Andrew L. Doucette as Principal. The Chief Librarian of the University, Miss Marjorie Sherlock, in her report for the year wrote:

The opening of the new teaching

departments and the entrance of new groups into the student body have changed the type of service required and the library will now cease to be a specialized one, and will reflect the fields of the faculties concerned—Arts, Science and Education.

That year the staff of the library, which operated on the open-shelf system, consisted of Miss Isabel Grant, one clerical and, during the term, two student assistants. The position of branch librarian had been made a full-time library appointment in 1947. Ten years later Miss Grant resigned to do post-graduate work in library science at the University of Michigan. She was succeeded by Dorothy E. Ryder, a graduate of the University of British Columbia and McGill Library School, who had previously been on the staff of the University Library in Edmonton and the library of the Department of Transport in Ottawa.

At the opening faculty meeting in 1957 a remark made by the Principal was indicative of the changing times. He said he was surprised to see so many women at the meeting since he was accustomed to the women being in the background, preparing the coffee.

The addition of engineering and commerce courses in 1957 brought about another change of name for the institution, this time to the University of Alberta in Calgary.

The library book budget in 1957 was \$3,000.00 and this came out of the library budget of the University in Edmonton. In March, 1958, in preparation for the planned expansion of which the new name was an indication, the library began its second reclassification. The 21,000 volumes were reclassified according to the Library of Congress system, the system which the library in Edmonton was using after its own four-year reclassification programme. The Calgary reclassification was a complicated procedure as

the Edmonton classifiers worked from their shelf list to reclassify books which were located in a library some one hundred and eighty miles to the south. The Calgary staff spent the summers of 1958 and 1959 erasing and retyping the class numbers on the catalogue cards and relettering the books in accordance with the revised shelf list cards which were mailed from Edmonton in lots of one hundred.

The economic and demographic expansion of the province had brought many changes to Calgary. The skyline of the city underwent a dramatic change as high-rise office buildings, hotels and apartments sprang up. The population had grown in a ten-year period from 129,000 in 1951 to 249,641 in 1961.¹⁸ The 300-acre multi-million dollar campus then in the planning stage would contribute the equivalent of several large industries to the city's economy.

In November 1958, following the fall convocation at the Southern Alberta Auditorium (a gift to the city from the provincial government to mark the province's fiftieth birthday), the staff went out to the site of the new campus located close to the northwest city limits on the Banff Trail. Standing in what seemed the middle of the prairie, with academic gowns blowing in the cool autumn wind, they watched while Mr. Fred Colbourne, Minister without Portfolio, turned the first sod for the new campus. It took only a few years for the fast-growing city to surround and to expand beyond the new university.

The first two buildings erected were the Arts and Education and the Science and Engineering buildings. In August, 1960, the library moved from 4,000 square feet on the third floor of the "Tech" to 12,000 square feet on the ground floor of the Arts and Education Building. That same year, after fifteen years, the library ceased to be a branch of the University Library in Edmonton, and assumed responsibility for its own budget with the estimates being submitted

to the newly appointed principal, Dr. Malcolm G. Taylor. The library remained, however, under the supervision of the Chief Librarian of the University until 1963. The staff increased from four to twelve, four of whom were professional librarians. In the summer of 1960 a Processing Department had been established under the direction of Miss M. Elizabeth Skeith, a graduate of Queen's University and McGill Library School. The first budget for books, periodicals and binding was \$51,000.00.

Many of the tools of the processing department were acquired—the catalogues of the Library of Congress, the British Museum and the *Bibliothèque Nationale* as well as the *Deutsche Bibliographie* and the *British National Bibliography*. Although the expenditure on books per student was high, it took several years to increase the number of books per student which was low for an institution which was branching into graduate studies. Air freight was now used to accelerate the acquisition of materials.

The library collection in 1960 numbered 24,000 volumes. Book acquisitions and the annual record of serial subscriptions were now reported to the National Library's union catalogues, and as the full-time student enrolment during 1959-60 was over 500, the library started reporting operation statistics to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics (now Statistics Canada) for inclusion in the annual *Survey of Libraries, Part 2, Academic Libraries*.

In the summer of 1961 the University of Alberta, Calgary, had its first summer school with an enrolment of 750. As the courses were given during the winter session the library managed to operate without any undue pressure. By 1963 the library had assumed responsibility for lending materials for the evening credit courses given in various centres in southern Alberta.

The *Preliminary Planning Statement* for a

separate library building was submitted to the Library Building Planning Committee by Miss Ryder in February 1961, and the first blueprints were received the following July showing a five-storey building with a total area of 133,000 square feet. A year later in July, 1962 tenders were called for the foundation. When the 1963-64 term opened in September the library was operating on three floors of the new building.

Between the years 1960 and 1963—that is, from the move to the new campus to the move to its own building—the library had evolved into an administrative unit composed of four departments—Administration (the head librarian and secretary), Processing (ordering and cataloguing), Reference and Circulation and finally, Periodicals. The creation of each department was dependent on the availability of staff. For instance, periodicals and bindery remained the responsibility of the head librarian for at least two years after the date that a separate department was provided for in the budget. The additional space in the new building made possible the development of such specialized collections as official publications, microform materials, maps, and rare books as well as a library archives. Expansion continued to be hampered, however, by the fact that it was necessary, due to lack of space on the campus, to share the new building. The top floor was taken over for academic offices and the ground floor for lecture rooms.

The building, designed and equipped by the Department of Public Works, was officially opened in November 1963. It is a modular type of building similar to the Cameron Library on the Edmonton Campus which was planned and constructed at the same time. The cost of the building was \$3,000,000.00.

In 1964 the University gained autonomy in academic matters and in the same year a Faculty of Graduate Studies was established. That year

for the first time since 1944 the library at Calgary was not included in the Annual Report of the Chief Librarian in Edmonton. Mr. Bruce Peel, who had been appointed Chief Librarian in 1955, in a report to the Canadian Association of College and University Libraries, dated December 1964, wrote:

The operation of the Calgary campus is now quite divorced from Edmonton. The new library building was occupied in September 1963, and officially opened in November. The collection contains 80,000 volumes and 17,000 government documents. The staff has grown from four persons in 1959-60 to forty-eight in the current year. The library is probably the only university library in Canada with all its thirteen professional positions filled.¹⁹

The number of periodicals subscribed to was 1,599, and other holdings included 6,066 maps, 27,561 microforms and 46 phonodiscs. The budget for the library in its first year of independent operation was \$343,000.00.

The library was facing a difficult and challenging period of expansion. It was necessary to advance within a few years from a small college library to a university library meeting the demands for service from an ever-increasing student body and providing materials for the more complex and specialized requirements of graduate students and academic staff. The University attracted faculty from around the world, from the United States and Britain, and from such countries as Singapore, Belgium and Norway. Many of the new staff members, coming from large long-established institutions, and being unaccustomed to the geographical distance from other research libraries and book publishers, and surprised at the lack of wellstocked book stores in the city, had little patience with the scarcity of library material in their specialized areas, and less with the problems of building a library. However,

some instructors enjoyed the challenge of helping to develop the collection in their subject. The representative of Les Presses de l'Universite Laval expressed pleased surprise at the holdings in French and English Canadian literature as did also the instructor in *Canadian Literature*.

In September, 1964 at the third of a series of conferences held to "consider the possible destiny of the University of Alberta, Calgary," the need for a foresighted policy with regard to the library was reiterated by all the speakers. "We owe it to our students to try to give them as fine an education as can be had anywhere else in Canada... not to be held to second class because of lack of library facilities," and "the basic need is... the provision of good library facilities." A representative of the English Department stated "I cannot emphasize our library needs too strongly. A good library will figure prominently in recruiting staff in the stiffly competitive years that lie ahead."

In April, 1964, following a period of hospitalization, Miss Ryder submitted her notice of resignation. Dr. Thomas MacCallum Walker, from the University of Glasgow, was appointed Chief Librarian in November, 1964, and Miss Ryder remained for two years as Deputy Librarian before leaving for the National Library in Ottawa.

The Library Committee, composed of faculty with the librarian as secretary had continued to function from the early forties throughout all the various administrative changes. During the forties and fifties it had been an elected committee gradually evolving as representative of the three faculties, but in the early sixties it became an appointed committee, the members serving for no definite period, and as the representative aspect diminished the committee moved into the field of administration. With Dr. Walker's appointment the committee was elected under revised terms of reference.

The library by 1966-67 had grown to 180,000 volumes and the periodical collection contained over 3,000 titles. There was a staff of 105, of which 14 were professional librarians. It gave service to a student enrolment of 7,546, full and part time. Work immediately started on planning the library extension which, with the anticipated expansion rate, would be required by 1970.

The vast implications of the computer age were beginning to be realized, and the staff prepared to meet the challenge of incorporating the new technologies which would revolutionize library science.

Over the years the library was fortunate to receive numerous gifts, although many of the early gifts have long since disappeared from the shelves. One of the earliest was a collection from the library of Bishop Cyprien Pinkham, first Anglican Bishop of Calgary, donated by his daughters. The bookplate of William Pearce, a Dominion Government surveyor in the Calgary area for many years, appears on documents dealing with the First World War. Other names on bookplates are: Dr. Ross W. Collins, historian, Dr. William Rowan, zoologist and Dr. G. M. Smith, historian, all of whom were associated with the University of Alberta. There is the Sharples Collection of Chinese material, the Ukrainian Collection and the Mormon Collection. The Human Relations Area Files on microfilm was a gift from the Junior League of Calgary. The family of Mr. Justice Charles A.

Stuart, first Chancellor of the University of Alberta made a large gift in 1965 and the bookplate of the Honourable A. C. Rutherford, first Premier and Minister of Education, and author of the University Act of 1906, may be seen on several volumes which the University of Alberta generously donated at the time of the move to the new campus in 1960. The largest gift was the 500-volume William Winfield Matheson Memorial Collection donated by the Calgary lawyer, Charles M. Matheson in memory of his son who died in 1956. Mr. Edwin Madill, the American consul, gave the library *Foreign Relations of the United States* from 1919 to 1942.

By the Alberta Universities Act of April 1, 1966, the university was constituted a provincial institution with full autonomy. It had its final change of name and became the University of Calgary with Dr. H. S. Armstrong, its first President. A grant of arms was received from the Lord Lyon King of Arms in Edinburgh with the gallic motto **MO SHULE TOGAM SUAS**—"I will lift up my eyes"—which is a constant reminder of the dramatic and beautiful location of the university with the majestic Rocky Mountains rising in the west. Both Mount Royal College which was founded in 1910 in Calgary and Medicine Hat College, established in 1965, became affiliated with the new university. A special convocation at which degrees were first conferred in the name of the University of Calgary was held on March 29, 1967.

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- 4 Henderson's Calgary city directory, V.3, 1908, p. 49.
- 5 Alberta. Department of Education, *Annual Report*, 1907, p. 15.
- 6 Ibid., 1911, p. 46.
- 7 Ibid., 1915, p. 32.
- 8 Ibid., 1915, p. 26.
- 9 Ibid., 1915, p. 29.
- 10 Ibid., 1920, p. 31.
- 11 Ibid., 1922, p. 37.
- 12 Ibid., 1931, p. 28.
- 13 Ibid., 1932, p. 13.
- 14 Ibid., 1935, p. 15.
- 15 Ibid., 1941, p. 38.
- 16 Fisher, O.M. New Trail, April 1948, p. 77.
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ELEANOR A.J. SHAW: A REMEMBRANCE, by Elizabeth Spicer

Eleanor Shaw died suddenly in London on January 16, 1994. When she retired on June 1, 1959 she had completed 40 years of service at the London Public Library. Her career began as a student helper in 1918 while attending school in London, Ont. Later she became a clerical worker. After attending the University of Toronto she graduated from the Toronto Library School. In 1923 "Miss Shaw" (as she was always known) joined the London Library staff as a qualified professional librarian in the Cataloguing Department. Later she became head of the Circulation Department. Then she found her true place (and her "first love") in the Reference Department along with Alice Martin. Miss Shaw's reputation for research and exceptional service became widely known and appreciated. Her knowledge of books and sources was outstanding and she was a wonderful and generous teacher. It was a privilege for me to work with Eleanor Shaw (and Alice Martin who had a great love of literature and children).

Londoners who relied on her invaluable assistance would agree with Frances Beatrice Taylor, Women's Editor of the *London Free Press*, who praised "the work she has so richly graced and served". To reference work who brought "a dedicated discipline of intellect, of imagination and patience". Her courtesy, perseverance and quiet competence were recognized by numerous citizens.

In 1952 Miss Shaw was appointed Head of the Adult Services Department for the library system. During her busy years of continuous service she found time to be involved with the Reference Workshop of the Ontario Library Association and with the reference projects of the Canadian Library Association. She had a deep sense of community which found expression in work for the Canadian National Institute for the Blind and a wide range of charities, local and abroad, which she consistently supported.

A lasting gift to Londoners was her meticulously researched history of the library, *A History of the London Public Library ...* written to commemorate the Centennial Anniversary (1841-1941)—Occasional Paper IV. London Public Library and Art Museum. 1941; re-printed 1968.

In addition to her detailed account of the Library's beginnings as a Mechanics' Institute she compiled an extensive Index to the *Canadian Illustrated News*, (text and illustrations). On her retirement she finished her 3-drawer file at home. This compilation of the vignettes of life in 19th century Canada is in the London Public Library. Perhaps Ex Libris Association could consider publishing it for the use of other libraries across Canada.

I personally remember Eleanor Shaw as a good friend, teacher and colleague with whom I shared a love of local history, books and the warmth and happy times at the challenging and visionary library of the 1940s-1960s. May her memory be an inspiration to the current staff who never had the opportunity to know and to enjoy her friendship.

(Betty Spicer is a charter member of Ex Libris and former Board member. She was Head, General Reference Department, 1952-1968; Librarian London Room, 1968-1981. London Public Library and Art Museum.)

Betty also sent in suggestions for the Association and *Ex Libris News*: 1) Research Dan Sudar's papers (now at GSLIS) with particular reference to the "Ft. William Institute of Library Technicians"; 2) Publish a paper on development of Ont. County Libraries; 3) Index *Ex Libris News*; 4) Complete the index to the Ontario Library Review in machine readable form; 5) Interview and publish reminiscences of library pioneers—e.g. Dorothy Shoemaker, W.R. Castell; 6) Publish photographs, letters, papers etc. of early librarians; 7) Research and publish a paper on the Institute of Professional Librarians of Ontario.

RETIREMENTS

Carmen Catelli, Department Head of the Central Library of the City of Montreal Municipal Library, retired in the fall of 1993.

Carolyn Croke retired to her home in Bayfield in January, 1994 from her position as CEO of the Brantford Public Library.

Sylvia DuVernet, BLS '46, MLS '53 (Toronto) has left her position as a literature teacher for the School of Continuing Studies, U of T after many "very rewarding" years in order to concentrate on her writing. Her publications include *The Muskoka Assembly of the Canadian Chataqua Institution*, and *An Indian Odyssey: Tribulations, Trials and Triumphs of the Gibson Band of the Mohawk Tribe of the Iroquois Confederacy*.

Joe Giraud retired recently as Head of Esquimault (B.C.) Public Library after 30 years of service.

Bey Grieve, Chief Librarian and C.E.O. of East York (Ont.) Public Library retired on March 31, 1994. His career spanned 30 years including service with the Saskatoon and East York Public Libraries. He served as C.E.O. of East York for 9 years.

Pearl Hazen, Head of Sussex (N.B.) Public Library, retired in August 1993.

Jean Higginson retired in September 1993 after a 30 year career at the National Library of Canada. Her career encompassed service in many areas of the National Library activities: cataloguing, systems, administration and policy and planning.

David Isaak, Reference Librarian in the McPherson Library, University of Victoria,

B.C., took early retirement effective June 30, 1993. He had served the library for 28 years.

Jean Kerrigan, Library Consultant at the Toronto Board of Education, has retired. During her 26-year service with the Board she was active in school library research activities including the Ontario Library Association's School/Public Library Co-operation Project. She was the winner of the Margaret Scott Award of Merit in 1985.

Lynn Matthews, Chief Executive Officer of the Kitchener Public Library has retired.

D. Blake McDougall retired recently as Assistant Deputy Minister/Legislature Librarian of Alberta. He was appointed Legislative Librarian of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta in April 1974 after having served as Supervisor of Information Services and Head of Public Services at the Edmonton Public Library. He was awarded the Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal in 1977 and was appointed Honourary Clerk-at-the-Table in 1987.

Dr. Hans G. Schulte-Albert, Professor at the Graduate School of Library and Information Science, UWO, retired from the faculty in July, 1993. For 22 years he played a very active role as a teacher and scholar in the areas of multicultural and multilingual library service. He chaired a number of association committees concerned with these issues such as the CLA Task Force for CLA Policy on Multicultural Library Services. In addition he has been a regular participant in the meetings of the International Federation of Library Associations. After he graduated from Kent State University (Ohio) he obtained his postgraduate degrees including his PhD from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland.

Erik Spicer has been honoured with the title, Librarian Emeritus of Parliament on his recent retirement from the post of Librarian of Parliament. He and his wife were present in the House of Commons on March 22nd to receive the tributes paid to him by Members of the various political parties. He was saluted for his service and devotion to Parliament during his long years as Librarian. This tribute to Erik Spicer was carried on the Parliamentary TV Channel. (An additional note from June Munro who sent a clipping from the St. Catharines *Standard*: "The librarian and the bribe: The American dealer wanted to spirit away a rare, four-volume set of prints by wildlife artist John James Audubon. His offer: a \$2-million cheque, quietly deposited in any bank in the world... "the temptation was terrible", concedes Spicer...But integrity prevailed and the dealer's letter went unanswered. Besides the set ... is probably worth closer to \$4 million.")

Brian Thompson, Media Coordinator of audiovisual services for the Ontario School Library Association's Ideashop Conferences retired recently.

Pauline Weber, Halton (Ont.) Board of Education Library Coordinator, one of school libraries' outstanding leaders, has retired.

Jean Williams, Children's Librarian and Assistant Chief Librarian since 1966 of the Belleville (Ont.) Public Library, has retired. The children's department of the main library which she designed has been named the Jean Williams Children's Library in recognition of her service to the citizens of Belleville.

Bob Wylie, Media Consultant for many years with the Hasting Board of Education has retired. He was active in the Ontario School Library Association and served as its President in 1982.

AWARDS

John E. Dutton, Director of the Calgary Public Library from 1977 to 1991, was honoured by the Calgary Public Library Board at a special ceremony held on December 10, 1993, when the Board named the theatre in its W.R. Castell Central Library, "The John Dutton Theatre". Among those present at the dedication ceremony were William R. Castell, Director from 1945 to 1973 and Gerry Meek who succeeded Mr. Dutton on his retirement.

Sheila Egoff, Professor Emeritus of the School of Library, Archival and Information Studies of the University of British Columbia, was appointed Officer of the Order of Canada in the New Year's List 1994.

Sam Neill Best Information Science Book Award—a posthumous tribute. On October 27, 1993 the American Society for Information Science awarded Sam Neill its Best Information Science Book Award for his book *Dilemmas in the Study of Information: Exploring the Boundaries of Information Science*.

The award is made on the basis of the book's importance to information science and on its readability, validity, originality, research significance and scholarship. In his typically highly readable fashion he explores the philosophical basis of information science and "challenges us to think deeply about what we mean by information, by science and by information science. The book enlarges our perspective and strengthens our conviction of the importance of our discipline to an understanding of the modern world". (from the letter of nomination by Jean Tague-Sutcliffe, Dean, Graduate School of Library and Information Science, UWO).

(Sam was a member of the faculty of GSLIS from its founding in 1967 until his death in September, 1992.)

IN MEMORIAM

Lorna E. Brown, Librarian of the Ontario Provincial Police, Toronto, for many years, died suddenly on March 13, 1994, in Toronto.

Susan Denyer of Queen's University Library died suddenly on May 7, 1993. Her career at Queen's spanned more than 20 years as Cataloguer, Head of Cataloguing, Head of Technical Services and Acting Personnel and Organizational Development Librarian. She was active in the Ontario College and University Library Association and other professional associations.

James Feeley of Ottawa died unexpectedly on August 27, 1993. He had been Vice-President of business development at IDON Corporation since 1984. Before that he was Director General of Informatics Applications Management at the Federal Department of Communications.

Sheila Greenaway of the Saskatoon Public Library died on November 7, 1993.

Elizabeth Hart, 1936-1993, died on May 13, 1993. She had been Librarian of the Vancouver School of Theology since 1983 and had been instrumental in setting up the Congregational Libraries Association of British Columbia. She had also served as environmental research librarian at B.C. Hydro from 1974 to 1979.

George Johnston, former Chief Librarian at Osgoode Hall, died on July 5, 1993. He was mentioned in *Ex Libris News* #14, p.15.

Peter Le Roy died on August 27, 1993, in Ottawa. Mr. Le Roy served in a number of government libraries: Fisheries and Oceans Canada, CISTI, Labour Canada, and had also organized his own information company. His

final position was Chief Librarian at Parks Headquarters, Environment Canada.

Joyce Moore died on September 5, 1993. Ms. Moore, who earned the MLS at McGill University in 1951, worked at the Hamilton Public Library and in 1973 joined the Calgary Public Library where she was a reference librarian in the Social Sciences Department of the Main Library.

Dale Nelson died on September 1, 1993 at the age of 35. An MLS graduate of The University of Western Ontario, he held a spectrum of positions during his short career: at the Medical Library of the University of Manitoba, the Winnipeg Centennial Library and the Manitoba Legislative Library. His most recent post was as corporate librarian at Great West Life. He was active in the Manitoba Library Association and the Manitoba Chapter of CASLIS.

Dr. André Nitecki, Professor at the School of Library and Information Studies, University of Alberta, who retired at the end of 1992, died on September 1, 1993, after a series of strokes. (His retirement was noted in *Ex Libris News*, Spring 1993.)

Micheline Persaud, Assistant Head of the Children's Department of the Ottawa Public Library, has died. Her career spanned 27 years, including 14 years with the Eastern Ontario Regional Library System. She was Chair of the Ontario Library Association *Gilde des services en français* in 1988. She gave courses at Algonquin College, Ottawa, and at OLA Conferences on French literature for children and service to francophones.

Edouard Reitman, Professor Emeritus Edouard Reitman, Graduate School of Library and Information Science, UWO, died in Paris,

France, in November, 1993. He was one of the founding faculty members at GSLIS and served Western from 1967 to 1970. Prior to coming to Western he held professional library positions at the Bibliotheque Nationale and at the United Nations and UNESCO libraries.

Eleanor A.J. Shaw (see separate article in this issue)

Dorothy Eileen Simpson, life member of CLA and former Head of the Reference Department at the Hamilton Public Library died on October 20, 1993, at her home in Hamilton, Ont.

M. Elizabeth Sloan, 1910-1993, died on September 18th. Before her retirement Betty had been a branch librarian at the London Public Library and Art Museum for many years. She had been an active participant in the OLA, particularly as Librarian of the Tilbury Public Library in the 1940s and '50s. Her sparkling personality is remembered fondly by those who knew her.

Dr. James John Talman, noted Canadian University Librarian and Historian, died on November 21, 1993 at the age of 89. When he retired in 1970 after serving 23 years as the Chief Librarian of The University of Western Ontario Libraries, he continued to be very active in the History Department for more than 15 years teaching, supervising graduate students, researching and writing in the field of his major interests, early Canadian and regional history. His early career as Ontario Archivist and Provincial Librarian was reported in *Ex Libris News* in the fall 1992 issue. His connection with Western went back to the 1920s when he graduated with his BA in 1925, his MA in 1927. He received his PhD from the University of Toronto in 1930. Following his retirement UWO honored him with a Doctor of Laws

degree in October, 1972. He was widely honored throughout his career. Queen Elizabeth II bestowed on him the Order of the British Empire in 1970. He held Fellowship in the Royal Society of Canada, an honorary D. Litt degree from the University of Waterloo (1960), Honorary Fellowship from Huron College (1963) and the distinguished Cruikshank Medal of the Ontario Historical Society in 1968. He was very active in Historical and Library Associations in Ontario and across Canada. He was a life member of CLA. His strong support for libraries and for Canadian history coupled with his sense of humour will long be remembered by all who knew him.

(Note: a few weeks before he died, Jim telephoned me to say he wanted to change his membership to a life membership. He did it to support Ex Libris and its efforts in preserving our history. ESB)

THE OALT/ABO ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Ontario Association of Library Technicians/Association des Bibliotechniciens de l'Ontario (OALT/ABO) invites you to participate in their annual conference: Revolution Evolution, May 25-29, 1994 at Erindale College in Mississauga, Ontario.

Workshops include: Internet, stress management, career development and automated library systems. A Tex Mex barbecue with live entertainment and a banquet theme of "An Evening at the Mardi Gras" will be included in the social activities.

Conference inquiries should be addressed to Marsha Hunt, Conference Chairperson, OALT/ABO, Abbey Market Post Office, Box 76010, Upper Middle Road West, Oakville, ON L6M 3H5.
