ILLINOIS
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

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PRODUCTION NOTE

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Library Large-scale Digitization Project, 2007.
New Endowment Created for Reference Library

The Library has announced the receipt of a major gift from Gaylord and Dorothy R. Donnelley to create the Gaylord and Dorothy R. Donnelley Library Endowment Fund to benefit the Reference Library.

The gift was received in the spring of 1992 and qualified for a matching grant through the National Endowment for the Humanities Challenge Grant program. Mr. Donnelley died in the spring of 1992, causing the official announcement of the gift to be delayed until this spring.

"The importance of this gift is underlined by the fact that inflation in the cost of materials over the years and reduced state funding for the Library have taken their toll over the last decade," wrote U of I President Stanley O. Ikenberry to the Donnelley's in April 1992 to acknowledge the gift.

"Your support and that from others gives us the opportunity to maintain the excellence of our collections and services... Because the Reference Library is truly a state resource, your gift will benefit many individuals and businesses throughout the entire State of Illinois."

Mr. Donnelley was the former chairman and president of the R.R. Donnelley & Sons Co., the world's largest commercial printer.

In addition, he was well known for nearly six decades as an active conservationist, serving on the boards of national and international wildlife federations. He also served on the boards of many Chicago-area civic organizations, ranging from the Chicago Urban League to the YWCA Advisory Board, and was a longtime member of the University of Chicago Board of Trustees.

The grandson of the founder of R.R. Donnelley & Sons, Mr. Donnelley grew up in and around printers and the printing business, bragging once that he learned to set type when he was in third grade.

After receiving a bachelor's degree from Yale University in 1931 and spending a year at Cambridge University, he joined the family firm, learning the business from the bottom up. He became president of the company in 1952 and board chairman in 1964. Upon retirement in 1975, he was named chairman of the executive committee.

Although printing may have been in his blood, Mr. Donnelley also was deeply devoted to the outdoors, especially to preserving natural areas for recreation.

It was through his love of the outdoors, in fact, that Mr. Donnelley, while a student at Yale, met and became a fishing partner of a neighbor of his sister's in Wyoming—Ernest Hemingway, who was finishing his novel "A Farewell to Arms" at the time.

Hemingway later introduced Mr. Donnelley to Zelda and F. Scott Fitzgerald, who invited the young Mr. Donnelley to spend a weekend at their place in Long Island.

In 1935, he married Dorothy Ranney, daughter of a family friend who served with Mr. Donnelley's father on the University of Chicago board of trustees.

The two found they shared a passion for bird hunting, and Mrs. Donnelley became a breeder and trainer of hunting dogs at their home in Libertyville, Illinois.

Mr. Donnelley also had a strong interest in education and was associated with libraries at the University of Chicago, Yale University, and Cambridge University, as well as the Newberry Library. He was a charter member of the Illinois Center for the Book, serving on its board of directors and long-range planning committee.

The U of I Library, however, was not well known to him until he visited in 1991.

"Your library is most impressive and I learned a lot that I did not know," he wrote to then University Librarian David Bishop in May 1991, after the trip. "You have great resources, but like all libraries need more and are hard pressed to keep up with all the demands for your services."

The new Gaylord and Dorothy R. Donnelley Library Endowment Fund will be used for acquisitions and services in the Reference Library, a unit that answers more than 80,000 questions every year.

Gaylord Donnelly (right) with Engineering Librarian William Mischo during a visit to the library in 1991.
Penelope Niven
Noted Sandburg Biographer
Presents Spring Lecture

Nearly 100 Library Friends gathered in the Gregory Hall auditorium April 15 to hear biographer Penelope Niven speak about the subject that engaged her attention for fourteen years—Carl Sandburg.

Entitled "Blood, Breed, Bones. Background: Writing Carl Sandburg's Biography," the talk gave a glimpse of one writer's odyssey from skeptic to believer as she worked to produce the latest biography of one of the country's most popular authors.

Her book, Carl Sandburg: A Biography, was based on more than 50,000 letters, manuscripts, and other items in the Library's Carl Sandburg collection, as well as on items still at the Sandburg home in North Carolina.

The book was published in 1991 and was hailed as "a fine achievement" by Publisher's Weekly and as "an excellent, comprehensive biography [that] holds the reader fascinated" by Library Journal.

"I originally thought Sandburg was too popular to last, so I came to him skeptically," recounted Ms. Niven during her talk.

But being a North Carolina native, she decided one day in 1977 to visit Sandburg's home, Connemara (now a national historic site), near Flat Rock, North Carolina.

"I saw in those twenty-two rooms books filled with markers," she remembered. "You could just reach out and touch letters from John F. Kennedy, Ezra Pound, and many others. This was truly a writer's home. I couldn't forget the spirit of the place."

Impulsively, she wrote a letter to the National Park Service volunteering to sort through the papers still at the house. "Had I not sent that impulsive letter, I wouldn't be standing here today," she continued. "I spent most of that summer on my hands and knees looking under beds, in files, in the safe, even in the ashes in the stove in the study."

What she found was more than 30,000 items—a treasure of evidence to document this thoroughly American poet, writer, and social critic.

She quickly arranged for these materials to be transferred to the U of I Library, which Sandburg himself had chosen in 1956 as the repository for his papers.

Then began the slow work of digesting the mountains of material available to her, which revealed many secrets of Sandburg's life and career.

"There was an urgent imperative for earning his living because he knew his two daughters, Margaret and Janet, who were disabled, would need to be supported all their lives," she told the audience, "so every decision after 1921 was based on this. He was frugal—people called him penurious—but they didn't know about this."

The result, said Ms. Niven, was that Sandburg kept his full-time newspaper job until he was fifty-four. He also spent significant amounts of time on the grueling lecture and concert circuit—all at the expense of his poetry—because these jobs paid more than his poetry ever would. "In fact," she added, "the first significant money he made from his writing wasn't until he published Abraham Lincoln: The Prairie Years, when he was forty-eight."

Although Sandburg moved to North Carolina in 1945, and had lived in Michigan before that, it was his Illinois roots that formed the basis of his beliefs and his work.

"Sandburg got his unwavering faith in the American people right here, in the heartland of Illinois.... and your library contains a record of not only that Sandburg experience, but through it, of the American experience," said Ms. Niven.

"He became a champion of people who didn't have the words or the power to speak for themselves. Other poets and many critics dismissed him as too pragramatic or too political or too bound to the events of his day to survive as a legitimate poet. Yet the people who were his subjects, his audience, validated his poetry everywhere he went, and today it's wonderful to see that he still holds the attention of the listening audience."

Ms. Niven's trip to the Library was a homecoming of sorts after the many hours she had spent in the Library working on the biography.

It was also the occasion to see an old friend and colleague—George Hendrick, professor of English at the U of I and a member of the Library Friends board of directors.

Said Ms. Niven at her talk, "So much of the work that was accomplished here at the Carl Sandburg collection is due to George, whose vision has guided and shaped this collection."

Ms. Niven again plans to spend many hours at the Library as she works on her latest project, a biography of photographer Edward Steichen.

Steichen's sister, Lilian, whom Ms. Niven called "an extraordinary woman," married Sandburg in 1908. "Early on in my Sandburg research, I became convinced that without Lilian Steichen, whose name you may not know, you would surely not know Carl Sandburg's name," she told the audience.

Because Edward Steichen and Sandburg became close friends, the Sandburg collection contains probably the largest cache anywhere of personal letters from Steichen.

"Mrs. Sandburg's life was so luminous and compelling," Ms. Niven added, "so Steichen's biography will be hers as well."
Library Receives Two Notable Additions of Sandburg Material

Late last summer, the Library received two notable gifts of Sandburg material—seven boxes of books and memorabilia from Helga Sandburg Crile, Sandburg's daughter; and the manuscript and drawings for Mr. d'Alessio's 1987 book, Old Troubadour: Carl Sandburg with His Guitar Friends, from Gregory and Terry d'Alessio.

The memorabilia from Mrs. Crile include such Sandburg trademarks as his eye shades and lap shawls, cigars, Civil War-era photographs, and even a championship ribbon and name tag from Mrs. Sandburg's prize-winning goats.

The books include many works on Lincoln and an early edition of Ibsen's Pillars of Society, bound by Helga Sandburg herself.

The Gregory and Terry d'Alessio collection includes most of the handwritten manuscript and several typescript versions of Old Troubadour, including the considerable material that was cut before publication.

The handwritten manuscript is especially notable for its colorful illustrations. Also included are photographs of Sandburg playing guitar with Andres Segovia, photographs of Sandburg with such luminaries as Frank Lloyd Wright and Marilyn Monroe, and many original drawings by Mr. d'Alessio, a professional cartoonist.

International Agriculture Professor Establishes New Library Fund

William N. Thompson, retired U of I professor of agricultural economics, and his wife Gerry have donated a major gift to the Library to create the new Bill and Gerry Thompson Library Fund.

The fund will be used to enhance the Agriculture Library's well-known collections on world food and agriculture.

"The Agriculture Library, and the Library in general, have always meant a lot to me..." says Professor Thompson about the gift. "We thought, in view of our experience, we would place some emphasis on things international because we realized that with resources so difficult to obtain, there is a tendency to withdraw from the world scene."

Says Interim University Librarian Robert Wedgeworth about the Thompsons' gift, "The University Library is at a point in its history where this kind of gift is critical for its future because the capabilities of the state are not as great as in the past. It's wonderful that those who have been the beneficiaries of the Library continue to remember us and make it possible to pass those benefits on to the next generations of students and faculty."

The experience Professor Thompson refers to is not your usual teaching experience. Of course, he taught hundreds of students about farm management, and agricultural policy and development for more than twenty years, served as the director of the International Soybean Program (INTSOY) from 1973 to 1981, and was director of the College of Agriculture's Office of International Agriculture from 1978 to 1984.

But how many people have the chance to help found a land-grant university?

"In a sense, it was just the same kinds of things I was doing here on campus," demurs Professor Thompson about his role in creating Njala University College in Sierra Leone in the early 1960s. "But of course, we were helping less developed countries create research and teaching programs."

Even John M. Gregory had a less daunting task than the Thompsons when he was given the job in 1867 of starting up what became the University of Illinois. Gregory had an entire year in which to arrange for buildings, students, and faculty. He also could call upon the resources of the bustling town of Urbana when he needed to purchase his living necessities.

Not so for Professor Thompson, who was chief of the U.S.-funded project in Sierra Leone, administered by the U of I. "We got there in March of 1964," remembers Professor Thompson. "And school was set to open in September, but there were no students, no staff, little housing. There was so much to be done, we didn't exactly work eight-hour days."

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"One of the better roads came within seven or eight miles of this university," he says, "so we had all kinds of visitors from the capital city, who were curious about this new development 'up country.'"

"I never had a lonely moment," adds Mrs. Thompson, who enjoyed the entertaining even though shopping for grocery staples meant driving 130 miles into town and visitors meant boiling more water than usual. "I boiled water all day, every day for cooking and drinking," she remembers.

Based on this experience, Professor and Mrs. Thompson began their globetrotting existence as Professor Thompson's expertise was put to use in Thailand, Nepal, India, Sri Lanka, Peru, Zambia, and Pakistan to set up or strengthen agricultural research and educational institutions.

"All of these were short jobs," he notes, "so I was usually teaching at least one semester at home every year."

His international experience also led to his appointment in 1973 as director of INTSOY, which again necessitated travel all over the tropical and subtropical world. In 1978 he was appointed associate dean and director of international agriculture for the College of Agriculture.

He officially retired in 1984, but came back to work half-time on a university-sponsored project in Pakistan. "I was just a kid when I retired the first time," he laughs. He retired fully in 1988, although he still consults from time to time on the Pakistan project.

"My experience in international universities in other countries, as well as what I've observed here, suggests that it's easier to get financial resources to build physical structures than it is to provide resources for the personnel, equipment, books, and journals that support strong programs," Professor Thompson says about creation of the new endowment fund bearing his name.

"That's why we decided to use our pledge of support to help in assuring the collection of books and journals and all the modern kinds of software the Agriculture Library needs."
Archives Receives Major Theater History Collection

The University Archives has received a major collection related to the history of Shakespearean performance practice and theater practice in general. The collection contains the personal papers of Charles H. Shattuck, professor emeritus of English at the U of I, who died September 21, 1993.

Longtime readers of Friendscript may remember Professor Shattuck from his long association with the literary magazine Accent, through which he developed a longstanding professional and personal friendship with such writers as Eudora Welty, J.F. Powers, William Maxwell, and many others.

But Professor Shattuck was known to most of the world for his work in the theater, particularly as related to Shakespearean performance practice.

He was a pioneer in the use of Globe Theater staging for Shakespeare’s plays, using it as early as 1944. He also was the author of the two-volume Shakespeare on the American Stage for the Folger Shakespeare Library (it’s still considered the standard reference on the subject), and an eleven-volume bibliography of Shakespearean promptbooks, a subject on which he was the leading authority.

All of these activities are thoroughly documented in the new collection.

Perhaps most notable among the thousands of items in the new Archives collection are Professor Shattuck’s research materials, such as photocopies of old promptbooks—the marked-up scripts showing cuts, stage moves, and the like—from famous Shakespearean productions of the late 1700s and 1800s. Also heavily represented are Professor Shattuck’s own promptbooks for the more than sixty U of I productions he directed of plays by Shakespeare, George Bernard Shaw, Thornton Wilder, Berthold Brecht, and many others.

Professor Shattuck became one of the first directors in the country to produce Brecht’s works—so early, in fact, that in order to produce The Threepenny Opera in 1946, he had to keep up a running correspondence with Brecht's translator, writer and critic Eric Bentley, who had yet completed a good English edition. The correspondence, naturally, is in the Shattuck papers.

"If you find lines not making sense in the songs, do something about it," wrote Bentley to Professor Shattuck in September 1946. "Maja [Bentley's wife and co-translator] tells me that these typed copies are inaccurate—that little words like 'not' have occasionally been omitted."

The production finally took place in late 1946, the first non-professional staging of the work in the country. Wrote Professor Shattuck after the performances, "It is generally recognized that the production was a rare and unusual event in the American theatre, and that our theatre, and the audience was delighted to see it."

"This was despite the fact that, as he wrote in his notes, the second act contained "the first brothel scene ever to be staged in the theater at the University of Illinois.""

As early as 1942, Professor Shattuck decided to take up the challenge presented in a book to John Cranford Adams to stage Shakespeare’s plays in the environment for which Shakespeare himself had written—the multilevel and multi-sided Globe Playhouse. By 1944, the Globe set was in use.

In a 1954 speech at Hofstra University, Professor Shattuck noted, "...We can boast, I believe, that we were the first to take up the challenge implicit in Mr. Adams’ book and to try it, and that we have been at it the longest...[Globe staging] is a director’s paradise."

The Shattuck papers include not only a photograph of the U of I’s Globe Theater model (sporting a piece of Mrs. Shattuck’s petticoat as its flag, according to the papers), but also information on how the actual set was adapted for the physical limitations of the U of I’s Lincoln Hall stage.

After more than a decade of directing plays, however, Professor Shattuck suddenly changed direction. "All of a sudden, he gave it all up and turned to scholarship," remembers colleague Edward Davidson, professor emeritus of English. "He had not been known for particularly as a scholar, but now he turned into a very distinguished scholar. I emphasize this because he tended to be modest and would downplay his achievements."

Principal among these achievements was his authoritative bibliography of Shakespearean promptbooks, a project that grew out of his desire to reconstruct early productions based on the evidence found in a director’s working copy of a script. These he called "the well-springs of Victorian tradition in staging plays," as he wrote to the Folger Library in early 1959. It was, as he wrote then, "...a subject much generalized upon but little known."

After completing this massive project in 1966, he went on to produce in 1976 the two-volume Shakespeare on the American Stage. For these works, he drew not only on promptbooks, but also on his extensive clipping file of newspaper reviews and copies of the correspondence of famous directors and actors, like Edwin Booth, dating from as early as the mid-1800s.

These research materials are all part of the new collection.

All the while engaged in these endeavors, Professor Shattuck also continued as an editor of Accent. Although the Archives has long held some of his Accent-related materials, the new Shattuck collection contains letters from several authors either not represented or barely represented before. Many attest to the care and concern Professor Shattuck showed to the writers he nursed along over the years.

For instance, here is longtime friend and former colleague William Maxwell writing about a visit from another Shattuck friend, Eudora Welty, in 1973:

"Eudora was here last week... and came home to supper afterward. She said that you added a great deal to her happiness by coming; that she had wanted all the important events in her life—like Accent—represented. I blushed, naturally. In my next incarnation I am going to be a monkey, and then after that an armadillo, and then a hedgehog, and gradually work my way back to being a human being, of the right kind."

Accent even invaded Professor Shattuck’s theatrical career—in the promptbook for his 1943 production of He Who Gets Slapped are notes written on the blank backsides of Accent flippers promoting a 1941 issue of the magazine.

"Charles Shattuck was a major factor here in theater, particularly in relating theater to literature, and in literature itself," says University Archivist Maynard Brichford. "This will be an important collection for researchers on the history of the theater."
Donors Respond to the Library is Looking For... Column

The Library's collections once again have been helped tremendously by the generosity of the readers of Friendscript.

Since Spring 1992, nine readers donated fourteen needed items in response to our Library is Looking For... column.


The Summer 1992 issue brought two donations, Fundamentals of Photography Conservation for the Library and Information Science Library; from William W. and Arline K. Lovett; and Cyclopolymerization and Cyclocopolymerization from James O. and Doris H. Corner, for the Chemistry Library.

A request in the Fall 1992 issue from the Music Library brought a flood of offers. The original request, for The Chicago Symphony Orchestra: The First 100 Years, was donated by Mrs. Camille C. Hatzenbuehler. Other donors agreed to alternate selections, including The Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the seven-videocassette set, from Michael L. and Beverly A. Friese; The Unanswered Question: Six Talks at Harvard, from William W. and Arline K. Lovett; and purchase of double-bass materials, from the U of I's former double-bass professor Edward J. Krollick and his wife Bettye.

Also from the Fall 1992 issue, the Lovetts donated the Guinness Encyclopedia of Popular Music for the Music Library; Kenneth and Dorothy Ebi donated funds for a printer and monitor for the Undergraduate Library; and Vernon E. and Trudy Lewis funded three more computer monitors for the Undergraduate Library.

From the Winter 1992-93 issue, John Gregg Jr. donated funds for both A Compilation of Rare Rhyme-Books and Tables for the Asian Library and two hand-held ultraviolet magnifiers for the Rare Book and Special Collections Library.

The Library sends its deepest thanks to these generous Friends.

New Database Eases Access to Massive Newspaper Collections

The Newspaper Library has created a new local database that makes it as easy as typing a word into the computer to find the one newspaper you need out of thousands of titles.

“Ninety percent of our collection is uncataloged, so it's virtually inaccessible through the online catalog,” says the unit's head, Jane Wiles.

Considering that the unit subscribes to 450 current dailies and weeklies from around the world, and possesses around 110,000 reels of microfilm backfiles, that's a big gap. What's worse, the unit's own card catalog lists only the titles and years for its holdings—there's no cross-index by subject, state, or language.

"A few years ago, we decided to create separate handouts for current newspapers in English, current U.S. newspapers, English-language foreign newspapers, black newspapers, etc.,” explains Ms. Wiles, “but that turned out to be very expensive. We had to continually update them, and that was very time-consuming. So now we're making the information available on the computer instead."

The Newspaper Library decided to use the database searching option of a software product called ILLINOIS SEARCH AID, developed by the U of I librarians William Mischo, Timothy Cole, and David Stern, to create the database. It took over a year of intensive work by student employee Christy Cramer, a senior from South Wilmington, Illinois, to input the thousands of titles that now appear in the database.

The effort has obviously been worthwhile. Starting just this spring semester, users can walk up to the computer, enter important words, such as a city name or a category like "black," and find out just what the Newspaper Library has to offer. The database will also tell whether the title is on microfilm.

The response to the database has been tremendous, especially from undergraduates. "We've found the use of our 'alternative' newspapers has gone up by about 50 percent since we let people use this database,” says Ms. Wiles.

"Undergraduates especially use these for class when they have to provide different points of view on a subject.

"And we've found that they don't even want to use the card catalog anymore, so we've sort of created a little monster!"

The 'little monster' needs to do some more growing, however. The unit still has more than 4,000 titles bound and wrapped in remote storage and an important portfolio collection of pre-1870 single issues and short runs, all of which have yet to be entered into the databases.

Also waiting to be done is entry of the unit's chronological catalog so that users can see what's available for a given year.

The database currently is available in the Reference Library and the shared research room of the Africana Reading Room and the Afro-American Bibliographic Unit, as well as in the Newspaper Library. Future plans call for more general access throughout the Library, with eventual hookup to the campus computer information network.
From the Obvious to the Obscure, the Reference Library Can Find the Answer

Enter the Library from its main entrance off the quadrangle, go up the wood-lined staircase, pass the display of the Abbeville facsimile of Audubon's *Birds of America*, and you will enter what is arguably the most beautiful room in the entire building—the Reference Library.

With its two-story-high ceilings, its tall windows inset with stained-glass reproductions of medieval printers' devices, and its walls of wood-framed bookcases, it's the kind of room that conjures up visions of intent scholars quietly delving into the mysteries of their research.

But there is a beauty to this room that goes beyond the obvious, for on those lovely bookshelves—and indeed on the many metal shelves and computer terminals that fill up the central space of the room—can be found the most comprehensive reference collection in the state and one of the best in the country.

In this room, the usual *Encyclopaedia Britannica* coexist with encyclopedias from Denmark, Sweden, Greece, Germany, and several other countries. The usual *Webster's Unabridged*-type dictionaries rub spines with the likes of Persian-English, Albanian-English, and even Assyrian-English dictionaries.

And then there are the reference sources for subjects only a specialized research clientele might think of: *American Tramp and Underworld Slang*, *Science Fiction Master Index of Names*, the *Bibliographie de France* going back to 1810, even an index to every film review in *The New York Times* since 1913.

That's all in addition to the massive catalogs of the Library of Congress and British Library; bibliographies from national libraries from all over the world, export guides, telephone and fax directories from all over the United States and the world, annual volumes of books in print for countries around the globe, and literally hundreds more.

So how does the professional staff of five full-time librarians, four part-time librarians, and ten graduate assistants manage to remember which of the unit's more than 30,000 volumes or numerous electronic databases is the right one to use?

"I guess you need a certain amount of common sense and intuition, but I think it's basically a matter of knowing how information is organized," muses unit head Josephine Kibbee.

"For instance, if someone's looking for an address of an association, we know there are published directories of organizations. Or if they're looking for a line in Shakespeare or the Bible, we know there is a kind of reference book called a concordance, which analyzes a work line by line, and full-text databases. So we don't need to know a title—we do need to know how reference books and databases have collected and organized the information. Sounds so simple, doesn't it? But take a question Professor Kibbee received a few years ago, and you quickly see reference work is for the most divergent of thinkers.

"Someone wanted to know the name of the band that played on the Titanic," she remembers, "so I checked in books and articles on the Titanic, but found nothing. I knew, however, that there was a genre of trivia books, so I looked for that, but there was no trivia book for the Titanic. So finally—because we hate to say no—I put the patron in touch with a Titanic interest group."

It's that kind of service that has prompted legions of U of I alums to call the Reference Library for help even though they might live in library-laden cities like New York or Washington, D.C.

"Libraries like Yale don't do telephone reference except for their own clientele," she explains. "Then there are places like the New York Public Library or the Library of Congress. They are so big, you don't know how long it will take to get transferred to the right place. We're not small, but we have a less formidable bureaucracy and a very good collection." "We even get calls from alumni abroad who have returned to their home countries but still remember our services and collection, so they call us."

But don't expect the reference librarians to do all the work for you—they have a strong interest in teaching what they call "library literacy."

"Undergraduates, for example, may come in looking for biographical information, and they won't know there is a source that covers what they're looking for," explains Professor Kibbee. "So, instead of just handing them the biography, we show them how to use biographical indexes to identify which biographical dictionaries contain the material they need. This then becomes a learning experience because they now know that a particular kind of source exists."

Even seasoned researchers, like the U of I's Albert Carozzi, have benefited from this kind of learning experience. For the past year, this professor emeritus of geology has been trying to reconstruct the catalog of the 1,000-volume library of the noted eighteenth-century Genevan naturalist, Horace-Bénédict Saussure (1740-99).

Saussure's handwritten catalog, although meticulously kept even down to how much he paid for each item and from whom, contained only last names of authors and shortened versions of long titles. How was Professor Carozzi to find out the complete information?

"I used everything in the Reference Library," he smiles as he describes his detective work. With help from the reference librarians, his trail led from national bibliographies from all over Europe to the catalogs of the Library of Congress, Bibliothèque Nationale of Paris, and British Library catalog, even to dictionaries of anonymous authors.

Then it was time to check his information with online bibliographic databases like OCLC and RLIN.

"That's where the quality of these wonderful librarians comes in," he says. "It's not easy to interrogate a computer—it all depends on how you make the entry. Believe me, it's a knot, but with the right word, the information just pops out. These librarians are just fantastic," he enthuses.
Interim University Librarian Visits Cuba

Interim University Librarian Robert Wedgeworth spent several days in Havana, Cuba, during May in his capacity as president of the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA).

The purpose of the trip was to review arrangements for the 1994 IFLA General Conference, which is to be held in Havana.

The visit, he said, laid to rest any questions IFLA might have had about the quality of services available in Havana in light of the ongoing U.S. embargo on trade with Cuba and the withdrawal of financial support from the former Soviet Union.

What he found, says Mr. Wedgeworth, was two Cuban worlds—the world of the tourist and the world of the Cubans.

"Since the tourist industry is the major way for Cuba to earn its foreign exchange," explains Mr. Wedgeworth, "most of the resources go into attracting and serving tourists. That means food is rationed in Cuba, gasoline is rationed in Cuba, for these things go first to tourists, who are able to pay for them. The funds earned then go to assist the general Cuban economy."

For the average Cuban, he says, the ration means one roll per day because bread is scarce, and milk is available only to children under the age of seven. In fact, there appears to be an epidemic of an eye disease that doctors have attributed to vitamin deficiencies. "This is in a country that in general has enjoyed a very high standard of health care for the average person," he adds.

"So, it was with mixed feelings that we would meet all day with our Cuban colleagues reviewing arrangements for the meetings and social events, and then go back to our hotels in the evening for a large meal, when we knew our colleagues had little or no food to go home to."

Nevertheless, in his conversations on the street with people from all walks of life, Mr. Wedgeworth found few Cubans blaming their own government for the economic hardships. "They blame the United States for starving them and question whether the United States is willing to consider any resolution which will not involve the total surrender of their autonomy," he says.

During his visit, Mr. Wedgeworth also visited several libraries, including the Havana Public Library and the library at the University of Havana.

"The libraries are limited in the number of new books they have available, especially foreign books, but the librarians are well trained, well educated, and continue to perform very well," he reports. "The university library lacks research materials, but it continues to provide reference and other services as it can.

"There is, of course, limited access to new information technologies, but they are managing to get some microcomputers and supplies for technical services. And they have access to Internet via Canada."

The Library is Looking For...

$482 to purchase Judaism and the Cold War in America for the Jewish Studies collection. This 10-volume set of essays documents the period during which a fully native Judaism took shape in a free society.

$270 to purchase Schools of Thoughts in Politics: Marxism, a two-volume set that provides a basis for analysis of this influential political ideology of the 20th century, including theory, history, ethics, and race and gender issues.

$520 to purchase Joseph Conrad: Critical Assessments for the English Library. This four-volume work contains reviews, critical articles, letters, and documents pertaining to the work of this Polish-English novelist. Cost is $500.

$579 to purchase Pagemaker 5.0 for the Africana Reading Room. The program is needed to help publish course guides and bibliographies on sub-Saharan Africa.

Funds to purchase a Gateway 2000 computer for the Newspaper Library. The computer will be used to support the unit's new newspaper title database and for public service. Cost is $1295.

$230 to purchase the International Dictionary of Ballet for the Applied Life Studies Library. This is a unique and fascinating work that offers an historical perspective on ballet from the Renaissance to the present.

Also for the Applied Life Studies Library, $130 to purchase Professional Sports Team Histories, a unique four-volume set that includes lively essays on major-league baseball, football, hockey, and basketball.

To donate any of the items mentioned above, please contact Sharon Kitzmiller, the Library's annual funds development officer, at 227 Library, 1408 W. Gregory Drive, Urbana, IL 61801, or telephone (217) 333-5683.

From the Interim University Librarian

The controversy last spring surrounding the terms of the agreement under which the late Justice Thurgood Marshall gave his personal papers to the Library of Congress may have prompted some of you to speculate on what might have occurred with such a gift to the University of Illinois.

It can be a very difficult decision for people with papers of value to decide to place their private papers at the disposal of researchers by donating them to a library. There may be fears about confidentiality of individuals represented in the collection, or questions about who retains copyright, or whether access to the papers should be delayed until certain people have died. Because this is a decision most individuals make only once during their lifetime, it is hardly an area in which one acquires great experience.

That is why the Library's role should be one of counselor, reassuring the donor or seller of the research value of the papers while at the same time clearly outlining accepted policies governing the availability of the material to researchers. If the donor and the Library agree to certain restrictions or delayed availability, that should be clearly spelled out in the gift agreement. Likewise, if the donor wishes to be ambiguous about certain limitations, that should be made clear in the agreement as well.

The agreement between Justice Marshall and the Library of Congress is either ambiguous or leaves to the discretion of the Library these important matters, making the actual intent or even the competence of the late Justice the issue of contention. This is troubling because it may lead other potential donors to try to be even more explicit and restrictive in their donor agreements than may be acceptable. We must not forget, however, that much of what we know about how the public's business is conducted comes from research by scholars into the private papers of prominent officials after their death. That is why the Library undertakes its role as counselor with extreme care and precision. This is the best means of ensuring both the goodwill of the donor and the Library's obligation to the research community.

—Robert Wedgeworth

From the New Royal Horticultural Society Dictionary of Gardening.
Calendar
EXHIBITS
August
"Baseball: Ernie Westfield and the Negro League." Newspaper Library
"Music of Russia and the Newly Independent Nations of the Former Soviet Union." Music Library
"Rare Horticulture and Gardening Books." Rare Book and Special Collections Library
"Illustrations in Classroom Textbooks." Mueller Exhibit Case

September
"Baseball: Ernie Westfield and the Negro League." Newspaper Library
"The History of the Main Library Building." Main Corridor
"Resources for Medievalists." Rare Book and Special Collections Library

October
"More Than Greek Letters: Fraternities and Sororities in Higher Education." Main Corridor
"Undergraduate Teaching Awards, 1993." Mueller Exhibit Case
"Resources for Medievalists." Rare Book and Special Collections Library

SPECIAL EVENTS
September 30, 1993, 4 p.m. Third Annual Mortenson Lecture, presented by Robert Wedgeworth on "The Heart of the University: the Making of the Global Library." Levis Faculty Center, 3rd Floor, 919 W. Illinois St., Urbana.

September 29, 1993, 7 p.m.-9 p.m. University Archives Open House, Archives Research Center (Horticulture Field Laboratory Building), 1707 S. Orchard Ave., Urbana.

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