

Messenger

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Hatfield and Special Volumes Featured at Annual Luncheon

Senator Mark Hatfield and 19th-Century Naturalists David Douglas and John Muir became significant contributors to the history of the Kerr Library on April 13.

The occasion of the Senator's address was the presentation of volumes one million and one million one by the Friends of the OSU Library at their annual luncheon meeting. Chairman E. Anne Merryfield represented the Friends in donating the volumes which were received by Director of Libraries Dr. Melvin George, and in turn by Dr. John Byrne representing the University. "A Brief Memoir of the Life of Mr. David Douglas," delineates the most informative description of the Oregon Country written in the 1830's, and was appropriate as volume one million.

As part of the success of the campaign to raise much-needed money for the library, contributions sufficed for an additional volume—"Picturesque California and the Region West of the Rocky Mountains from Alaska to Mexico"—edited by John Muir with articles by Muir and Joaquim Miller and more than 700 illustrations by 19th-Century artists.

Hatfield noted that he is presently fighting a proposal in the current federal budget to excise the yearly \$25 million library allotment, especially as it contrasts with the \$28 million hourly expenditure by the Pentagon. The Senator agrees with former President Dwight Eisenhower that the defense of the nation rests more with the knowledge and creativity of its people than it does with the number of its guns.

Hatfield feels that since most of the corporations which have been awarded the biggest defense contracts pay no taxes, the way to pull the country from the brink of financial disaster is to restructure the tax system.

The stability of a democracy, in his opinion, lies in an informed electorate, for when autocracies of the left or right take over a country, they first take over the schools, the newspapers, and the libraries. The devotion of Hatfield to the cause of libraries was apparent when he said that if he ever wrote his autobiography it would



Senator Mark O. Hatfield; Melvin R. George, Director of Libraries; William Carlson, Director Emeritus; John Byrne, OSU President; and E. Anne Merryfield, Chairman of the Friends of the Library at the one-millionth volume ceremony.

probably be entitled, "Lust in the Library," because of his devotion to research.

He closed with a description of the valiant efforts he had observed that Tualatin, Drain, Clatskanie, and Sherwood have recently been making in behalf of their libraries. In his remarks to the over-100 Friends of the Library in attendance in the OSU Forum, Dr. George suggested that the library would be receptive to suggestions for future books which might build toward the next million volumes.

The Millionth Volume

The millionth volume added to the OSU Library, a gift of the Friends of the (OSU) Library, is THE HAWAIIAN SPECTATOR, containing "A Brief Memoir of the Life of Mr. David Douglas, with extracts from his letters." It is in two volumes, 1838-1839, published in Honolulu. During 1824-1827 David Douglas made his

first expedition to the Pacific Northwest, exploring the lower Columbia River area, Puget Sound and the valley of the Willamette. He was already a famous naturalist, and an accomplished botanist when he came to "explore the botanical riches of Northwest America." His journal was the most informative description of the Oregon country printed up to the late 1830's.

His memoirs are of scientific and historical importance because he was one of the earliest scientific travelers in this area. He sent more than two hundred, then unknown, plants and seeds to Europe. The Douglas fir, the king of western Oregon trees, is named for him.

THE HAWAIIAN SPECTATOR, with these memoirs of David Douglas, is surely a most worthy purchase and designation as the millionth volume. On your next visit to the library, ask to see these volumes in the McDonald Room, and browse in these early descriptions of exploration in the Oregon country.



"Willamette River, below Portland," from Picturesque California and the Region West of the Rocky Mountains from Alaska to Mexico, page 394.

The Millionth and one Volume

The book chosen for the millionth and one volume for the OSU Library is also in two volumes: PICTURESQUE CALIFORNIA AND THE REGION WEST OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS FROM ALASKA TO MEXICO; published in 1857-1858. One can identify with the engravings and paintings of familiar places: Portland with a view of Mt. Hood, Castle Rocks, View of 1st Street in Albany, The Dalles, Willamette Falls at Oregon City, Rooster Rock and Cape Blanco to name a few. The book describes "the heights back of Portland command one of the best general views of forests and the most famous of mountains (Hood). It is the pride of Oregonians. The forests were made up of Douglas spruce or Oregon pine..." How many of us know what to hand to the person who asks for a Columbia candle? It was a piece of rosin-wood that ignited very easily. These and many other descriptions such as the mile of purple rhododendrons along the slopes of the Cascades near the headwaters of the Willamette are what makes these volumes so special.

The early day climate seekers who were "too wet or too dry" met at Sisson Meadows at the base of Mt. Shasta. One camper said, "Yes, neighbor you're heading in the right direction for rain. Keep right on to Yamhill and you'll soon be damp enough. It rains there more than twelve months." Another traveler claimed, "No one need leave Oregon in search of fair weather. The wheat and cattle region of Eastern Oregon and Washington on the upper Columbia Plains is dry and dusty enough more than half the year."

These reproductions of paintings by famous western artists, and the articles will be a source of pride for the library.

Planning for the 1990's

Friends of Kerr Library in the 1990's will see many changes, thanks to ideas proposed by the library staff of the 1980's. For several months, staff members have been involved in the preliminary phase of a process to plan a "desired future" for Kerr Library.

The major goal of this current period has been to generate as many ideas as possible. For this reason, every member of the full-time staff has been encouraged to take part. The level of participation has been high despite the need to coordinate work schedules for the 75 people involved.

The formats chosen for idea generation were a questionnaire, brainstorming, and group discussion. At a final meeting of all the groups, ideas were shared and areas of focal interest sought.

Among the many areas of concern are effective collection development with more involvement by the faculty, better public relations, renovation of the present facility to allow more usable work space, funding for a new or enlarged building, and creating opportunities and incentives for staff development and recognition.

Many members of the staff found the brainstorming process exciting and informative and found support for their concerns throughout the library. Several members of the staff have donated their own time to this project in addition to the work time allotted. The several hundred suggestions have been compiled in a summary report submitted to Dr. George, the Library Director. These suggestions serve as the basis for task forces which have been created to investigate and implement feasible projects.

Notes from the Faculty

Because of the library's central importance, the Faculty Senate maintains a standing committee with the library as its sole concern. The Library Committee is charged with advising the Director of Libraries, Melvin George, in meeting the needs of students, faculty and staff, formulating library policies, and interpreting the needs and policies of the library to the University.

In this year of transition from President MacVicar's administration to President Byrne's administration, the advice and counsel of the faculty are especially important. It is probably not an exaggeration to say that the priorities established this year will shape the library for the next ten years.

The main goal of the Faculty Senate Library Committee in the next few months will be to encourage informed discussion of the role and needs of the library at OSU. As teachers, we recognize that the library provides an environment for learning. As researchers, we depend on the library to provide timely access to current periodicals and reports and to maintain a comprehensive collection of the classical literature and reference materials in a broad range of subjects that are important to our research. As employees of the State of Oregon, we recognize the importance of the library as a resource for the larger community.

Translating abstract beliefs in the importance of the library into a complete plan of action for improving library collections and services is, however, easier said than done. Unless additional money becomes available to the University as a whole, strengthening the library reduces the amount of money available to other academic units on campus.

We must recognize that the library is a resource and responsibility of the entire University. We invite the Friends of the Library to work with us to insure that the collection and services of the OSU library match the excellence of its teaching and research.

Some of the questions we may face are—Should the library's collection in the sciences be maintained at a higher level than the collection in the fine arts? Should the entire collection be housed in the main library or distributed around the campus in branch libraries? To what extent should the general public be granted access to the library's services?

New Acquisitions By the OSU Libraries

Our most exciting recent acquisition is the *Banksias*, which is the gift of Anne Merryfield, chairman of the Friends of the Library, in memory of her husband, Fred Merryfield, one of the founders of CH2M Hill. This is a most impressive work of watercolors of a group of wild flowers found only in Australia and Papua, New Guinea. Banksias are named after the 18th-century botanist, Joseph Banks, who discovered them during a voyage in the Endeavor in 1768-71. The book is quite large, measuring approximately 30" by 24", printed on 100 percent rag paper, bound in full half leather in dark green hide, with buckram sides and gold blocking on front and spine. It has 24 plates printed in up to 9 colors. This volume is volume one of a three-volume set. It will be housed in the McDonald Room with our other very special books.

Serials

Our new serial acquisitions have been primarily concerned with upgrading our science and technology collection. We have added titles in all subject areas, but emphasis this year has been on the addition of serial titles in business (21), history (20), computer science (17), engineering (16), pharmacy and neuroscience (15), and physics (8). Some of these selections have been the result of librarians working with the colleges and departments on accreditation studies which have helped us all identify weaknesses in the collection.

In addition, we have added six serial titles in the children's literature area of the curriculum library. These titles are standard titles that teachers and student teachers might expect to find in any elementary or middle school. The titles are: Cricket, Education Quarterly, Highlights for Children, Jack & Jill, National Geographic World, and Ranger Rick.

Newspapers

We have recently added three newspaper titles on microfilm of interest to historians. These include: American Weekly Mercury, 1719-1749; Boston Evening Post, 1735-1775; and Boston Post-Boy, 1734-1775.

Indexes

The library has had the *Science Citation Index* available on the fifth floor for several years. This index is a comprehensive interdisciplinary index that provides access to materials through author and subject. We have now added the *Social Science Citation Index* which is an international-multidisciplinary index to the literature of the social, behavioral, and related sciences. SSCI covers approximately 4,400 journals plus monographs and symposia. Every discipline in the social sciences is

represented. We have the cumulative index 1975-79 and 1976-80, and the annual indexes from 1981-. This index is available for your use on the fifth floor.

The *Alternative Press Index* is an index to alternative and radical publications. This index uses a subject arrangement and approach to articles except for book reviews, film reviews, poems, and record reviews. The library has the index available (volume 1, 1969-) for use in the reference section on the second floor. This index may be of particular interest to those interested in feminist issues or controversial social issues.

Energy Index and *Robotics Index* are two new indexes to two new microfiche collections currently available in the Science and Technology Division of the library. The Energyfiche collection includes materials worldwide from 1982. The Robotics collection (1983-) includes patents and conferences. The utility of the indexes is increased many fold because the library has all of the conference papers on microfiche.

Index of American Design and the Consolidated Catalog to the Index of American Design, edited by Sandra Shaffer Tinkham, Chadwyck-Healey, 1980. Parts 1-10 in color microfiche collection. The Index of American Design was established on a nationwide scale with each state's organization concentrating on the items both publicly and privately owned within its own boundaries. Each object was recorded in an accurate watercolor drawing accompanied by a sheet of written information giving the object's date, source, location, and ownership. Its aim was to compile and publish a visual survey of the objects of decorative, folk, and popular arts made in America from the time of settlement to about 1900. This set is available on the first floor of the library.

Notables

The following titles are titles of relatively new sets or collections that are of special interest.

Western Americana: frontier history of the Trans-Mississippi west 1550-1900 (617-reel microfilm set). Edited by Archibald Hanna. This collection makes available on microfilm the basic printed sources for the exploration, settlement, and development of the Trans-Mississippi west. Among the major topics covered are: exploration, contracts between Indians and whites, the fur trade, Manifest Destiny; the role of the Hudson's Bay Company; the mining frontier, the Mormon experience, the coming of the Pacific railroads, etc. This set, including the index, is available on the first floor of the library under the call No. F591.W4.

Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea: Documents Vols. 1-6. Compiled and edited by Renate Platzoder, 1982. 3rd Ed: 1973-1978. This multi-volume publication of documents contains

the legislative history of the 3rd UN Conference of the Law of the Sea. This series begins with the five negotiating texts and the draft conventions on the Law of the Sea. The subsequent volumes contain proposals and amendments arranged according to the contents of the draft convention.

Chronicle of Occupational Briefs (four-volume set) is in the Social Sciences and Humanities Division reference area (second floor) of the library under the call No. Ref.HF5382.C47. The COB presents career information on occupations. Several authorities have reviewed and edited each brief to insure that the briefs are factual and accurate. Reading and comprehension levels are appropriate for junior and senior high school students. The materials are revised on a four-year cycle to insure currency. The briefs include: work performed, working conditions, hours and earnings, education and training needed, personal qualifications, unions and organizations, where employed, employment outlook, entry methods, advancement opportunities, related occupations, sources of additional information. Each brief is about four pages long.

Critical Survey of Long Fiction; foreign language series, edited by Frank N. Magill, 1984. Five volumes. The foreign language series of the Critical Survey of Long Fiction is a continuation of the eight-volume English language series on long fiction published in 1983. The format of this series conforms to that of the earlier works in the project. The first four volumes provide critical studies of 182 writers whose works have made important contributions to the development of the bodies of long fiction literature in their native languages.

More Notable Titles

Memorials of the Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, F. B. Rothman, 1981, five volumes.

Munsell Book of Color (glossy edition), Munsell Color Co; Inc., 1976, two volumes of color chips. This title is of especial interest to people involved in textiles, pottery, and art, as well as anyone else who needs to use a standardized color source.

Advances in Photosynthesis Research (Advances in Agricultural Biotechnology), 1984, four volumes.

The Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Chinese Language, Ch'eng Wen Publishing Co., 1982, 10 volumes.

Agricultural Research Centers: a world directory of organizations and programs, 7th ed., Longman/Essex, 1983, two volumes.

Atlas of Polymer and Plastics Analysis, 1984, four volumes. It is in German and English... "has to be seen to be appreciated."

Donation of Lots

Bill and Bette Fendall recently gave expression to their lifelong love of scholarship and libraries and their affection for Oregon State University by making a gift of two prime residential building lots in the country club area of southwest Corvallis for the benefit of the OSU Libraries.

"OSU is home," Bill said in a recent interview, when asked why he chose the OSU libraries as the recipient of his generosity. "I was born in Philomath and grew up in Corvallis, and spent much of my childhood in and around the College campus." In addition, Bill worked at the college library when he was a student at OSU.

Bette, too, has ties to OSU and to libraries. Bette was a student at OSU before her marriage to Bill and later she completed her master's degree in library science at the University of Hawaii, studying under Dr. Ralph Shaw.

Both of the Fendalls are at work on writing projects which involve extensive historical research. Bill has an interest in colonial and early federal history because he can trace his ancestry to Dr. James Craik, physician to George Washington, who made at least one set of teeth for Martha. Another of Bill's ancestors was Josiah Fendall, an early governor of Maryland who led one of the first American rebellions against British rule. Fendall's progenitors maintained their spirit of independence; a great grandfather was part of the immigration to Oregon in 1843.

Bill has manuscripts in progress dealing with both projects. He is an active user of libraries all across the country and maintains a large private library of his own to support his writing and research.

Bette shares Bill's interest in history; she is at work on a study on the Century Farms of Oregon. Bette and Bill compare notes and share their research with one another. They frequently find material for one another as they pursue their own research interests.

Bill is a retired Air Force Colonel who began his military career as a member of the ROTC unit at OSU. He was a journalism major at OSU and went on to complete a master's degree in journalism at the University of Oregon.

Bette was born in Walla Walla, Washington, and started her college career in home economics at OSU. When she married Bill, Bette transferred to duck country and completed her degree in psychology at the University of Oregon.

Bill's military career allowed the Fendalls to travel a great deal. Bette began her library degree at the Catholic University of America, but finished after a number of moves at the University of Hawaii. Recently Bette has been volunteering several hours a week in the library at

OSU's Mark O. Hatfield Marine Science Center in Newport. Marilyn Guin, the Center Librarian, says that Bette is a great person to have around and that her help has been invaluable.

Eventually the Fendalls returned to Corvallis where they lived across the street from the lots they have contributed to the University for the library's benefit. Two years ago they decided to migrate to the coast where they have a beautiful view of the Pacific just north of Newport. "We haven't seen a migrating whale yet," says Bill. "Those whales must be more visible to members of the Chamber of Commerce."

Computers Locate Data

Data on the location of a vast variety of information is now available to Kerr Library patrons.

The computerized retrieval of bibliographic information was initiated at the OSU Library in 1973 through a contract with Lockheed Information Systems on a 110 baud teletype terminal. By 1975, the Library Information Retrieval Service (LIRS) was established with a gift of necessary equipment from the Graduate Research Council. A search consultant was hired and additional contracts with information vendors were added including System Development Corporation Search Service.

During the following ten years, our Library Information Retrieval Service has grown to serve about 100 clients a month with access to cover 200 computerized information files. The service has been integrated into the reference divisions with ten librarians trained as search consultants.

Staff members use an in-house terminal to access computers in New York, Maryland, California, and Ohio which store numeric files, indexes, abstracting journals, full text databases and directories. (Many of these databases are also available in the Library in paper/print format.) The databases searched by LIRS include such subjects as agriculture, physical sciences, education, engineering, life sciences, humanities, social sciences, and current events. A more detailed list of the subject databases is available at both reference desks in the Library.

Anyone requesting a computerized review of the literature can take better advantage of this service if the topic is carefully defined, and if the requestor does some manual searching in appropriate indexes prior to scheduling an online search.

There are advantages and disadvantages to the use of online reference searching. Among the advantages of a computer search compared to a manual search is included the immediate retrieval of the information which may take less than ten minutes to complete. An equivalent manual search may take several hours or even several days. The possibility of combining

many aspects of a topic quickly through software capabilities often will be an advantage over using print indexes for complex research topics.

Due to the nature of computer technology, most indexes cover only the last 10 or 15 years of published or unpublished material. Furthermore, some indexes are unavailable for computer searching and must be searched manually.

To initiate a search requires an appointment to discuss the topic, and these appointments may be made with either the Science/Technology reference desk, the Social Science/Humanities reference desk, or the LIRS Coordinator.

A LIRS consultant assists in the preparation of a search profile which can be run on a one-time basis or each time the database is updated. Normally, this process lasts for one hour which permits sufficient time for discussion of the topic and running the search. It is preferable, and in many cases required, that the searcher be present while the search is run in order to make decisions which may either alter the results or increase the costs. The Library charges to cover the cost for computer searching. (Printed indexes may be used by anyone free of charge and, if necessary, with the assistance of the reference staff.) These costs vary depending upon the per-minute charges for the use of the database and citation charges, but on the average they run between \$15-\$60. The requester is responsible for the full cost of the search.

Mel George Honored

Mr. Melvin R. George has been notified that an article, "The Impact of Technology on Libraries" which he published in the *Catholic Library World*, has been honored with the John Brubaker Memorial Award for the most outstanding article to appear in the last year. The award ceremony was held during the 64th Annual Convention of the Catholic Library Association in St. Louis in April.

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