

library newsletter

April

BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

1983

IBM Terminal/New Linedex

Receipt of an IBM terminal in Serials has opened new vistas for enhancing the Library's services to the public. The terminal is hooked up to the Data Processing Center's IBM computer and gives the Library options it has not had available previously. While many departments were literally panting at the door to develop uses for the terminal, its primary function at this time is to enhance access to our periodical collection. Under the able direction of Jill Collins, a preliminary inputting format was developed. Working with printouts the Library faculty spent considerable time in refining this format and resolving numerous inconsistencies. It seems safe to say that all the participants received greater insight into the complexities of working with serial titles.

The present task of the Serials staff is to put the linedex on-line. Actually, the Serials staff will be working from the kardex which is a more complete record. In order to complete the effort in a reasonable length of time it was agreed that the input would be "dirty" and that efforts to clean up the records would be a second phase of the project. Even so it will take until January 1st to input all of the BSU holdings.

When completed, the resulting printout will replace the linedex and will be distributed to Idaho libraries. Also at that time the periodicals will be shifted so that they will be shelved by title rather than under the latest title as at present. This should be a great boon to users of the periodical collection.

Progress reports will be provided on these pages as significant events occur.

Canadian Studies

The new Canadian Studies program has already had a significant impact on the Library. Through the generosity of the Canadian government we received over 700 records last year and will continue to receive new issues as they are released. Arrangements have also been made by the Canadian government to purchase monographs from Canadian publishers, probably on an annual basis. Last year the Government sent works of Canadian publishers which they selected. This year over 150 titles were selected by librarians and faculty in the Canadian studies discipline and these are in the process of being sent to BSU. Also acquired was the 1982 subject index to Canadian Books in Print which is housed in Technical Services, portions of the Canadian Census, with more to come and a long run of the Canadian Journal of Economics and Political Science on film. A three year subscription to the Vancouver Sun was recently ordered and this will shortly be available in the Periodicals Room.

A travel exhibit titled Images of History and sponsored by the Canadian government will be on view in the Art Gallery, Liberal Arts building until April 16th.

Mending Workshops

February 10th Lonna Dodd conducted a day workshop at Jefferson Junior High, Caldwell for teachers, librarians and aids. The twenty five participates came from elementary, junior and high schools in the Caldwell area. Basic hands-on mending techniques were demonstrated with an overview of equipment and supplies necessary for mending projects. A simple binding project, the making of a booklet by the students concluded the workshop.

The following week a similar workshop was held in Pocatello for School District #25. Thirty three librarians representing all schools in the district attended the eight hour workshop. Discussions are now underway to extend the workshop to two days late spring or fall.

The sale table netted us \$67.54 during February. This brings the total receipts (since July) to \$598.17. The money is deposited into the library's gift account, to help purchase new books.

During 1982, the Library received \$8,527.41 in donations. Contributors are listed below.

James J. Glendinning
John & Ruthann Caylor
Betty Thierhause
Teri Powell
Lois N. Merritt
Ruth McBirney
First Security Foundation
Yasu Shimamura
Mr. & Mrs. William Minor
Earl E. Wheatley
Ms. Kristine E. Blanksma
Phillip J. Nuxoll

Donations in memory of Clyde M. Martin
Dr. & Mrs. William Bronson
Signe B. Baird
Joe Howard
Larry & Karen Monroe
Vardis Fisher Memorial Fund
Opal Fisher
Horace B. Pomeroy
Bernice Croft Wheatley
Ecumenical Association of Churches in Idaho
Mr. & Mrs. Lee R. Denton
Mr. & Mrs. Harry L. Clark

Three individuals have also donated money to the Anthropology Department and these funds have been used to purchase books for the Library.

Several corporations in Boise will match employee donations, and so several of our gifts have been doubled! Our thanks to all our generous friends.

Potpourri

Its probably known to all that the Ricoh Copier, replacing the Xerox 810 in Technical Services is in place and already well used. The machine's capacity to enlarge and reduce has caused it to be the center of attention for a wide variety of users...Leslie Pass attended the State Board of Education April meeting in Moscow as a representative of the Association of Classified Employees...On Saturday, April 23, Channel 4 will air an important program on the revised State health benefit plan. If you should miss that date it will be shown again on Saturday, April 30. The time for both dates will be 9:00 a.m....The Library has received a significant gift of a private library that numbers well over three thousand volumes. More on this when the transfer has been completed...Carole Clemens, Janet Strong and Ruthann Caylor attended the Canada Days high tea on March 16. It was an elegant affair. The menu included steak and kidney pie, several varieties of cakes, and hors d'oeuvres...Gloria Ostrander and Janet Strong attended a grants writing workshop in Caldwell on February 25.

Serial Title Changes

Library Scene 1-11#1 1972-Aug 1982
continued by New Library
Scene v1- Oct 1982 -

Popular Electronics 1-20#10 1972-Oct 1982
continued by Computers
& Electronics 20#11- Nov 1982 -

Thanks?

The Honors program newsletter The Ivory Tower in a column titled "View from the Fourth Floor" recently gave the Reference Room a compliment - perhaps! Wrote the columnist:

Have you noticed how helpful and polite the staff of the library is? As much as I hate research papers, I almost look forward to going into the reference room because they seem so glad to see me. (I said almost). The next time you need some help and receive it with a smile, why not tell them you really appreciate it. They are used to people saying Thank You so you could think it is said in the same way as "have a good day."

Boy, could I write a column on that.....

Escape route

"Not too long ago the State Library of Idaho undertook to improve library services to prisoners in the state institution. When they asked about the policy for selecting materials, the librarians were told that the only item to be excluded from the collection would be road maps of the State of Idaho."

from Freedom of Access to Library Materials by John Robotham & Gerald Shields, Neal-Schuman Publishers, 1982.

Drink to me only with thine eyes - in the Library

Food and drink in libraries is a significant problem in America's colleges and universities. Short of having a monitor at the door there seems to be no successful way of dissuading users from bringing coffee, soft drinks, and candy into the building. One library, see below, hands out information leaflets to offenders. It seems to us that one important factor has been left out of their appeal, namely that the cost of custodial help to police large buildings such as libraries is prohibitive and that spills, in particular, will continue to degrade the quality of furnishings in the buildings.

THE STANFORD UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES DO NOT ALLOW FOOD AND
DRINK ON LIBRARY PREMISES EXCEPT IN DESIGNATED AREAS

Simply put, food and library materials don't mix. Our policy, therefore, is designed not to deprive you of the pleasures of eating and drinking but to protect the library materials Stanford assembles for use by its community. Books, films, microfilms, recordings, and journals can be damaged either by direct contact with food and drink or by having food transferred to them by their users' hands.

Leftover food attracts vermin; and since ants, cockroaches, and mice will just as happily eat your trash from a wastebasket as from a desk top or the floor, even those who clean up their work area contribute to the problem. Not only are these pests unpleasant in themselves but when they have finished your crumbs they will feed on book glues, leather bindings, and starch-filled cloth book covers.

Needless to say, carpets and furniture also suffer from carelessly handled food. One way or another, damage to library facilities and collections costs you money. Meyer Library asks, therefore, that you confine your eating and drinking to the first floor lobby and thereby help to protect our mutual investment in Stanford's libraries.

Contributors to this issue: Ralph W. Hansen, Beverly Miller,
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Book publishers in the United States: 12,000.
Americans considered regular book readers:
22 out of 100.
Books published yearly in the United States:
45,000 (new titles and new editions).
Books earning a pre-tax profit: 33 to 40 out
of 100.
Median pre-tax profit for the book-publishing
industry: \$4 per \$100 invested.
Annual book industry combined sales: \$8.2-billion
in 1980 (about one-third of IBM's sales for
that year).
Probable earnings from a book selling, say 4845
copies at \$9.95 from a first printing of 6000:
None. Net loss of \$3500.
Retail bookstores worthy of the name: 9000.
Average retail shelf life for a trade book:
6 months.
Books reviewed for the retail book consumer:
1 out of 10 published.
Unsold books retailer usually returns to the
publisher: 25 out of 100 hardcover, 35 out of
100 mass market paperbacks.
Mass market paperbacks usually returned unsold from
wholesaler: 50 out of 100.
Average orders resulting from direct-mail marketing:
1.5 to 2 out of 100 mailings.
Duration of editor's pep talk to traveling sales reps:
4 minutes per book.
Duration of sales rep's talk to traveling sales reps:
2 minutes per book.
Escalation of average book price, 1975-1980: 39%.
Loss in library/institutional buying power, 1975-1980:
6%.
Median price paid for mass market rights to trade
books: \$4000 to \$7500.
Going rate for movie/TV/drama options on a trade
book: \$500 to \$2500.
Movie/TV/drama options never exercised: 90 out of
100.

From an article by Arthur Plotnik. "Book Editors: A
Special Breed." Publishers Weekly, October 29, 1982, p. 22.

From: "Title Output & Average Prices 1982 Preliminary Figures" by Chandler B. Grannis

TABLE A - Average Per-Volume Prices of Hardcover Books—1977, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982
(From *Weekly Record* listings of domestic and imported books)

Categories with Dewey Decimal Numbers	1977 vols. (final)		1979 volumes (final)		1980 volumes (final)		1981 volumes (final)		1982 volumes (preliminary)		
	Average prices	Total volumes	Average prices	Total volumes	Average prices	Total volumes	Average prices	Total volumes	Total prices	Average prices	
Agriculture (630-639; 712-719)	\$16.24	419	\$20.94	360	\$27.55	390	\$31.88	236	\$7,731.77	\$32.76	
Art (700-711; 720-779)	21.24	1,399	21.95	1,132	27.70	1,094	31.87	783	24,761.20	31.62	
Biography	15.34	1,675	17.52	1,508	19.77	1,348	21.85	992	21,022.95	21.19	
Business (650-659)	18.00	1,077	23.11	898	22.45	1,045	23.09	815	20,535.44	25.19	
Education (370-379)	12.95	706	15.10	626	17.01	697	18.77	524	11,005.70	21.00	
Fiction	10.09	2,027	11.99	2,100	12.46	1,855	15.49	1,658	22,759.53	13.72	
General Works (000-099)	30.99	989	28.56	1,190	29.84	1,295	35.02	948	34,467.68	36.35	
History (900-909; 930-999)	17.12	1,685	19.79	1,743	22.78	1,761	23.15	1,285	34,687.53	26.99	
Home Economics (640-649)	11.16	552	11.95	517	13.31	584	16.07	469	7,900.93	16.84	
Juveniles	6.65	3,002	7.14	2,742	8.16	2,660	8.31	1,922	17,055.48	8.87	
Language (400-499)	14.96	356	18.25	318	22.16	328	22.95	279	6,266.64	22.46	
Law (340-349)	25.04	891	29.44	759	33.25	1,175	36.30	829	29,539.97	35.63	
Literature (800-810; 813-820; 823-899)	15.78	1,290	17.64	1,266	18.70	1,190	19.79	987	20,833.33	21.10	
Medicine (610-619)	24.00	2,554	29.27	2,596	34.28	3,065	36.47	2,095	81,100.67	38.71	
Music (780-789)	20.13	289	18.93	273	21.79	284	25.82	190	5,098.02	26.83	
Philosophy, Psychology (100-199)	14.43	1,024	17.98	1,045	21.70	982	22.41	810	18,859.10	23.28	
Poetry, Drama (811; 812; 821; 822)	13.63	868	15.83	753	17.85	699	19.34	467	9,086.57	19.45	
Religion (200-299)	12.26	1,286	14.83	1,109	17.61	1,147	18.54	827	14,694.37	17.76	
Science (500-599)	24.88	2,525	30.59	2,481	37.45	2,778	40.63	1,971	85,516.97	43.38	
Sociology, Economics (300-339; 350-369; 380-399)	29.88	5,656	43.571	5,138	31.76	5,616	29.28	4,145	201,522.02	48.61	
Sports, Recreation (790-799)	12.28	750	13.88	644	15.92	738	18.82	468	9,159.99	19.57	
Technology (600-609; 620-629; 660-699)	23.61	1,838	27.82	1,742	33.64	1,864	36.76	1,264	51,171.87	40.48	
Travel (910-919)	18.44	342	15.02	253	16.83	234	19.55	181	3,947.25	21.80	
Total	\$19.22	33,200	\$23.96	31,234	\$24.64	32,829	26.63	24,145	\$738,724.98	\$30.59	

*Dewey Decimal Numbers omitted because biographies counted here come from many Dewey classifications.

TABLE A-1. Average Per-Volume Prices of Hardcover Books, Eliminating All Volumes Priced at \$81 or More 1977, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982

Compare indicated classifications with Table A

Dewey Classifications	1977 (final)	1979 (final)	1980 (final)	1981 (prelim. only)	1982 (preliminary)		
	Total volumes	Total volumes	Total volumes	Total volumes	Total volumes	Total prices	Average prices
Agriculture (630-639; 712-719)					224	\$ 6,490.12	\$28.97
Art (700-711; 720-779)					753	20,028.50	26.59
Biography					973	18,716.45	19.23
Business (650-659)					808	19,017.19	23.53
Education (370-379)					521	10,736.45	20.60
Fiction					1,654	22,343.58	13.50
General Works (000-099)	\$22.45	\$21.06	\$23.34	\$25.15	891	24,113.43	27.06
History (900-909; 930-999)					1,266	30,325.67	23.95
Home Economics (640-649)					466	7,496.43	16.08
Juveniles					1,921	16,968.48	8.83
Language (400-499)	\$14.55	\$18.07	\$20.14	\$20.65	276	5,936.14	21.50
Law (340-349)					789	22,829.52	28.93
Literature (800-810; 813-820; 823-899)					980	19,811.33	20.21
Medicine (610-619)					1,930	63,533.00	32.91
Music (780-789)					187	4,774.07	25.52
Philosophy, Psychology (100-199)	\$14.17	\$17.50	\$20.18	\$21.61	806	18,256.60	22.65
Poetry, Drama (811; 812; 821; 822)					461	8,172.57	17.72
Religion (200-299)	11.98	13.01	15.55	16.58	821	13,684.37	16.66
Science (500-599)	23.78	27.77	32.67	33.97	1,779	62,413.70	35.08
Sociology, Economics (300-339; 350-369; 380-399)					4,027	96,111.87	23.86
Sports, Recreation (790-799)					465	8,575.41	18.44
Technology (600-609; 620-629; 660-699)					1,165	36,335.87	31.18
Travel (910-999)					177	3,347.25	18.91
Total	\$17.32	\$19.63	\$22.48	\$24.33	\$23,340	\$540,018.00	\$23.13

TABLE B - Average Per-Volume Prices of Mass Market Paperbacks 1981, 1982
(From Paperbound Books in Print)

Categories	1981 volumes (final)	1982 volumes (preliminary)		
	Average prices	Total volumes	Total prices	Average prices
Agriculture	\$2.54	2	\$ 7.90	\$3.95
Art	5.49	9	76.10	8.45
Biography	3.82	66	244.75	3.70
Business	4.63	12	46.70	3.89
Education	3.96	10	44.85	4.48
Fiction	2.47	2,696	7,423.99	2.75
General Works	3.52	52	193.90	3.72
History	3.53	37	154.25	4.16
Home Economics	4.34	68	333.68	4.90
Juveniles	1.79	201	407.65	2.02
Language	3.41	10	30.35	3.03
Law	3.08	1	3.50	3.50
Literature	3.41	36	129.40	3.59
Medicine	3.66	26	132.35	5.09
Music	-	4	22.70	5.67
Philosophy, Psychology	2.83	54	205.55	3.80
Poetry, Drama	3.21	15	49.00	3.26
Religion	2.70	14	53.40	3.81
Science	4.45	13	67.80	5.21
Sociology, Economics	3.43	50	218.10	4.36
Sports, Recreation	3.04	187	549.25	2.93
Technology	4.20	12	43.75	3.64
Travel	3.22	21	166.80	7.94
Total	\$2.65	3,596	\$10,605.72	\$2.95

TABLE C - Average Per-Volume Prices of Trade Paperbacks—1977, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982
(From *Weekly Record* listings of domestic and imported books)

Categories	1977 volumes (final)	1979 volumes (final)		1980 volumes (final)		1981 volumes (final)		1982 volumes (preliminary)		
	Average prices	Total volumes	Average prices	Total volumes	Average prices	Total volumes	Average prices	Total volumes	Total prices	Average prices
Agriculture	\$ 5.01	117	\$ 6.80	104	\$ 8.54	96	\$ 9.74	95	\$ 1,064.69	\$11.20
Art	6.27	634	8.33	563	9.09	651	10.07	507	5,396.02	10.64
Biography	4.91	314	5.64	363	6.57	444	7.33	336	2,813.00	8.37
Business	7.09	277	8.94	285	9.90	309	10.10	246	3,156.83	12.75
Education	5.72	404	6.91	382	8.42	484	9.54	315	3,227.20	10.24
Fiction	4.20	388	4.42	432	5.71	479	5.81	388	2,564.64	6.60
General Works	6.18	480	6.47	544	8.00	578	10.90	879	7,711.95	8.77
History	5.81	474	6.67	478	7.57	634	9.10	426	4,419.20	10.37
Home Economics	4.77	337	5.48	360	6.33	465	7.01	326	2,585.33	7.93
Juveniles	2.68	413	3.23	460	3.50	504	3.35	402	1,579.10	3.92
Language	7.79	205	7.53	215	8.59	252	8.56	165	1,656.33	9.91
Law	10.66	361	11.68	317	11.33	307	12.34	273	3,261.19	11.94
Literature	5.18	447	6.50	424	7.26	477	8.14	410	3,673.83	8.96
Medicine	7.63	667	9.55	682	11.46	814	12.35	478	6,192.34	12.95
Music	6.36	97	9.17	83	9.36	126	10.12	83	837.19	10.08
Philosophy, Psychology	5.57	340	6.56	382	7.57	415	9.66	314	3,454.32	11.00
Poetry, Drama	4.71	504	4.21	442	5.09	525	6.00	341	2,308.29	6.76
Religion	3.68	1,038	4.59	937	6.15	1,142	6.81	822	6,235.25	7.58
Science	8.81	614	11.48	630	13.46	648	14.75	494	6,856.66	13.87
Sociology, Economics	6.03	2,036	8.07	2,016	9.75	2,275	11.56	1,659	34,320.86	20.68
Sports, Recreation	4.87	360	6.12	326	7.11	414	7.86	291	2,726.58	9.36
Technology	7.97	556	9.24	601	13.52	918	14.60	341	8,914.73	16.88
Travel	5.21	294	5.97	247	6.73	263	8.20	187	1,500.07	8.02
Total	\$ 5.93	11,357	\$ 7.21	11,279	\$ 8.60	13,220	\$ 9.76	9,965	\$116,415.60	\$11.68