

SHARP News

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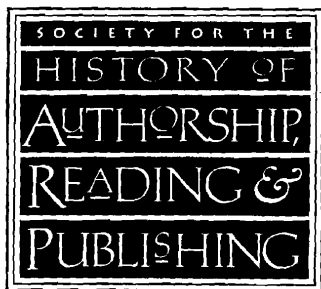
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SHARP NEWS

Volume 9, Number 4

Autumn 2000

NOTES & QUERIES

Bibliographical Society of America Archives and History

The Bibliographical Society of America (BSA) is engaged in organizing its archives, which are kept at the American Antiquarian Society in Worcester, Massachusetts. Anyone who has or knows of materials that should be added to the archives is requested to contact either of the following people:

Hope Mayo
President, BSA
114 Morningside Drive
New York, NY 10027 USA
Telephone/Fax: 212.865.9551
E-mail: hopemayo@aol.com

Thomas Knoles
Curator of Manuscripts
American Antiquarian Society
185 Salisbury Street
Worcester, MA 01609-1634 USA
Telephone: 508.363.1174
Fax: 508.753.3311
E-mail: TKnoles@mwa.org

Hope Mayo would also appreciate hearing of relevant material in other collections, which might be consulted for a history of the BSA now in preparation.

James Esdall, Irish Printer-Bookseller

For a first-ever profile in the forthcoming *New Dictionary of National Biography*, I should appreciate hearing from colleagues who may have information on the colorful and controversial 18th-century Dublin printer-bookseller, James Esdall.

Esdall (career dates 1743-1755) was apprenticed to George Faulkner, the most successful stationer of 18th-century Ireland. The Esdall firm of Smock Alley and later Copper

Alley, Cork Hill, printed Dublin editions of the novels of Henry Fielding, as well as two popular newspapers (*The Flying Post* and *The General Newsletter*, later *Esdall's News Letter*).

The firm also printed a series of incendiary political pamphlets written by the Irish patriot, Charles Lucas, M.D., for which Esdall was briefly imprisoned and thereafter a fugitive abroad. Esdall also wrote a few articles on Irish printing history.

As did many a capable wife of a capable bookman, Anne (Middleton) Esdall assumed the management of this family firm after her husband's death in 1755.

Though she printed an edition of Gibson's *Experimental Philosophy* for Oliver Nelson in 1755 and continued *Esdall's News Letter*, Mrs. Esdall and the firm soon found themselves in sorry straits.

Any additional information about Esdall, or about appropriate leads, will be welcome. Please contact:

Maureen E. Mulvihill
(Princeton Research Forum, Princeton NJ)
One Plaza St. West, Apt. 5D
Park Slope, Brooklyn, NY 11217 USA
Fax: 718.789.3681
E-mail: mulvihill@bway.net

RESOURCES ONLINE

RSAP Update

Submitted by Ellen Gruber Garvey

The Research Society for American Periodicals has set up a new web site this year and has also begun an e-mail discussion list, which you can join from the site (details following). The web site is an ever-expanding resource for periodical research, and includes links to 18th-21st century American periodicals that are available free online (see URL at end).

Teaching in Europe on a Fulbright fellowship last year made me aware of how difficult

it can be to find American periodicals, even on microfilm, outside the US, so we're especially interested in building this set of links. The major resources for historical research in this category are the Making of America Project collections at the University of Michigan and Cornell, which make scanned periodicals - mostly from the 19th century - available online. The recently added word search capability makes these sites particularly valuable. But other universities and even individuals have scanned in and put magazines and newspapers from their collections on the web. If you find others, please let me know.

Many present-day periodicals have web sites. Some online editions of publications are teasers to prompt browsers to become magazine buyers, while others are essentially another edition of the publication. The resource page has links to listings of both types of magazine and newspaper web sites.

The resource page also includes links to periodical-related organizations and associations, such as the Magazine Publishers of America web site, with its useful fact sheets, and more esoteric ones, like the Amateur

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COPY DEADLINES

March 1st
June 1st
September 1st
December 1st

Press Association. You can also find the complete tables of contents for past issues of RSAP's annual journal *American Periodicals*, along with subscription and submission information.

RSAP'S NEW DISCUSSION LIST

Finally, from the website you can sign on to the moderated discussion list, RSAP-L. So much innovative investigation of American periodicals is underway that the time seems ripe for scholars working in the area to have our own discussion list. In it, we can continue the conversations that go on in conference hallways, and use our virtual hallway to exchange information, notices, and calls for papers; we can also put together panels, post queries, and let one another know about new books in the field. The discussion list welcomes broad-ranging conversations about the divergent uses of periodicals in literary and historical studies, classroom use of periodicals, issues of canonicity and popularity in periodicals, periodicals' role in consumer culture, and whatever topics interest its members.

Joining the discussion list is free, and open to all interested in scholarly discussion of American periodicals. You can either visit the web site to join (from the main page, click on "join the RSAP-L discussion list"), or e-mail me, and I will set it up.

Ellen Gruber Garvey
E-mail: ellengarvey@earthlink.net
Web site: <http://home.earthlink.net/~ellengarvey/index1.html>

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Joint Appointment in the
University of Iowa
Center for the Book and
Department of English**

Deadline: 15 November 2000

Tenure-track assistant professor to be appointed jointly in the University of Iowa Center for the Book and the Department of English. Applicants must have expertise both in book studies and in an area of literature in English. The candidate will be expected to contribute to the teaching and research mission of both the English Department and the Center for the Book. We

are particularly interested in candidates who work in book studies, broadly defined, with expertise in the history of the book, the future of the book, or any specialization that employs the analysis of book design, production, distribution, and consumption. Allied specialties include, but are not limited to, the intersection of literature and reading communities, the relationship between shifts in communication technologies and the nature of literature, and questions of authorship and literary production in the electronic age. For further information, please consult the relevant web pages (see URLs at end).

Ph.D. by August 2001 and evidence of potential for outstanding teaching and research required. The University of Iowa is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. We encourage applications from women and minorities.

Send letter and cv, or any enquiries, to:

Professor Jonathan Wilcox
English/Center for the Book Search
Department of English, 308 EPB
University of Iowa
Iowa City, IA 52242 USA
Telephone: 319.335.1913
Fax: 319.335.2535
E-mail: jonathan-wilcox@uiowa.edu
Web site: <http://www.uiowa.edu/~ctrbook/>
Web site: <http://www.uiowa.edu/~english/>

SHARP NOMINATIONS

**SHARP Executive Council
Board of Directors
Nominating Committee**

Deadline: 1 January 2001

The SHARP Nominating Committee - consisting of John Y. Cole (chair), Jonathan Rose, and Paul Eggert - solicits candidates for the next round of SHARP elections, which will be held early in 2001. All seven members of the SHARP Executive Council - the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Membership Secretary, Publications Coordinator, and Public Affairs Director - will be up for election. In addition, five members of the Board of Directors (Robert Darnton, John Hench, Deanna

Marcum, David McKitterick, and Tim Rix) will retire and must be replaced.

There will also be a vacancy on the Nominating Committee itself, where John Y. Cole is coming to the end of his term. Nominations for all these positions are solicited from SHARP members at large.

The responsibilities of the Executive Council are, frankly, demanding. It manages the organization on a daily basis and makes important policy decisions, such as the site of our annual conference. Its members meet face-to-face at that conference; during the rest of the year they confer regularly by e-mail. For more information about the duties of individual officers, contact:

Simon Eliot [address on p. 15]
E-mail: s.j.eliot@rdg.ac.uk.

The work of the Board of Directors is considerably less onerous. They are an oversight body meeting once a year at the annual conference. They are advisors to the Executive Council, and can remove officers for malfeasance. The Nominating Committee has only one responsibility: to nominate candidates for all elective SHARP offices.

Any SHARP member may run for any office, with one restriction: candidates for President must have served at least two years on the Executive Council. The President can serve a maximum of two two-year terms; the other six officers on the Executive Council can serve an unlimited number of two-year terms. Members of the Board of Directors serve a single eight-year term, and members of the Nominating Committee serve a single six-year term; neither can stand for reelection.

Nominations should be submitted to:

John Y. Cole
Director, Center for the Book
Library of Congress
Washington, DC 20540-8200 USA

They should be accompanied by a short cv and a note from the candidate confirming his/her willingness to run. A postal ballot will be mailed to all SHARP members early in 2001. The successful candidates will assume office in July, at the conclusion of the next SHARP conference.

CALLS FOR PAPERS

SHARP Annual Conference

Location: Richmond and Williamsburg,
Virginia, USA
Dates: 19-22 July 2001
Deadline: 15 December 2000

Convening in the historic capital of the Virginia colony and the contemporary capital of the twenty-first century state, SHARP's ninth annual conference will span the centuries of book history. In the SHARP tradition, we welcome proposals for individual papers and entire sessions dealing with the creation, diffusion, or reception of the written or printed word in any historical period or place.

The conference is being sponsored by the Library of Virginia and the Virginia Center for the Book in Richmond and the American Studies Program and the Earl Gregg Swem Library of the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg. Taking advantage of these auspices, we invite proposals for papers and sessions on "Books and Libraries in the New Millennium". With every aspect of communications undergoing change in the electronic age, the SHARP meeting offers an occasion to reflect on the present and future condition of the print medium. Among the featured speakers will be David Baldacci, the best-selling author of suspense thrillers (*Absolute Power*), talking about writing for the mass market.

Sessions will take place both in the state-of-the-art Library of Virginia and at the College of William and Mary, adjacent to Colonial Williamsburg, the outdoor museum of eighteenth-century Virginia history and culture. Participants will have the opportunity to visit the historic sites, including the printing office and book bindery. The conference will also be highlighted by a special airing of "The Book Guys", a public radio show devoted to book collecting and history, which will be presented before the "live" and lively SHARP audience. We are also planning a "book collectors" tour of the region, beginning in Charlottesville before the conference and culminating in Washington, D.C. (and the Library of Congress) thereafter. SHARP offers a limited number of travel

grants to graduate students and independent scholars (that is, those with no institution to fund their travel). Those wishing to apply for a grant should so indicate on their submissions.

Proposals for individual papers should be one page maximum, giving the paper title, a short abstract, and brief biographical identification. Session proposals should include a cover sheet, explaining the theme and goals, and separate sheets for each paper. Proposals should be sent, if possible by email, to:

Robert A. Gross
SHARP 2001 Program Chair
American Studies Program
College of William and Mary
P.O. Box 8795
Williamsburg, VA 23187-8795 USA
Telephone: 757.221.1129
Fax: 757.221.1047
E-mail: ragros@facstaff.wm.edu

History of the Book in Canada Project Open Conference for Volume 2, 1840-1918

Location: McGill University (Department
of French Language and Literature)
and Bibliothèque nationale
du Québec, Canada
Dates: 18-19 May 2001
Deadline: 1 November 2000

We invite proposals for individual papers or entire sessions for a planning conference for Volume 2 of the project for an interdisciplinary History of the Book in Canada. Proposals may address any topic in the cycle of the book, especially those referred to in the conceptual framework available at the project web site (see URL at end).

Proposals dealing with gaps in existing research, innovative ideas, and comparative studies, will be especially welcome. Enquiries and submissions of one-page proposals, in English or French, should be submitted to either of the volume editors:

Fiona Black
Department of English
University of Regina
Regina SK S4S 0A2 Canada
Fax: 306.585.4827
E-mail: fblack@chuma1.cas.usf.edu

Yvan Lamonde
 Département de langue et littérature
 françaises
 Université McGill
 Peterson Hall, #222
 3460 McTavish
 Montréal QC H3A 1X9 Canada
 Fax: 514.398.8557
 E-mail: ylamon@po-box.mcgill.ca
 (from 1 September to 15 October: smontrl@
 po-box.mcgill.ca)

For registration and accommodation
 information, please refer to the project web
 site: <http://www.hbic.library.utoronto.ca>

Canadian Library Association, Library History Interest Group

Location: Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
Dates: 13-17 June 2001
Deadline: 1 December 2000 (proposals or
 abstracts)
Deadline: 15 May 2001 (papers)

The Library History Interest Group is
 soliciting papers for a program on library
 history at the Annual Conference of the
 Canadian Library Association (CLA).
 Particular attention will be placed on
 Canadian library history. Selected papers may
 be published by the Library History Interest
 Group in conjunction with CLA.

Papers are solicited which fit any one of the
 following categories of library history:

- Overviews and syntheses.
- Studies of particular individuals,
 institutions, or developments, that
 provide generalizable interpretations or
 else serve as case studies.
- Methodological studies that look at
 various aspects of research in library
 history.

It is anticipated that papers will be based
 upon personal, funded, institutional, or
 degree research projects. Papers should not
 have been previously published elsewhere.
 They should be fully documented and be
 accompanied by illustrations where appropri-
 ate. They may be presented in either English
 or French.

For further information, or submission of
 proposals, please contact:

Peter F. McNally
 Graduate School of Library and Information
 Studies
 McGill University
 3459 McTavish St.
 Montreal, QC H3A 1Y1 Canada
 Telephone: 514.398.4204, Extension 3367
 Fax: 514.398.7193
 E-mail: mcnally@gslis.lan.mcgill.ca

Research Society for Victorian Periodicals (RSVP) 2001 Conference Rethinking the 19th-Century Press in the 21st Century

Location: The Graduate Center of The City
 University of New York (CUNY)
 New York, NY, USA
Dates: 14-15 September 2001
Deadline: 10 January 2000 (postmark date)

All students, teachers, and scholars interested
 in publishing history and the Victorian press
 are invited to participate. Internationally re-
 nowned speakers will be featured.

Proposal abstracts should be a maximum of
 two double-spaced pages on any subject
 related to the conference topic and the
 Victorian periodical press. Conference
 presentations will be twenty minutes long.

Abstracts and a two-page cv may be mailed,
 faxed or e-mailed to:

Professor Julie F. Codell
 Director, School of Art
 Arizona State University
 Tempe, AZ 85287-1505 USA
 Fax: 480.965.8338
 E-mail: Julie.Codell@asu.edu

Conference fee is \$120 and includes reception,
 coffee breaks, and a lunch. Make checks out in
 American dollars to Anne Humpherys.
 Please write "RSVP registration 2001" on the
 check memo line. Please note: no credit cards
 can be accepted.

For questions about local arrangements, and
 to mail registration fee, please contact:

Professor Anne Humpherys
 Program in English Graduate Center
 City University of New York

365 Fifth Avenue
 New York, NY 10016
 Telephone: 212.817.8328
 Fax: 212.817.1518
 E-mail: AHumphreys@gc.cuny.edu
 Web site: <http://aztec.asu.edu/rsvp/>

Information about conference hotels will be
 available in fall 2000 on the RSVP web site.

American Historical Association

Location: San Francisco, CA, USA
Dates: 3-6 January 2002
SHARP deadline: 15 January 2001

Each year SHARP sponsors its own panel
 sessions at the American Historical Associa-
 tion (AHA) convention, open to all aspects
 of book history. For the 2002 AHA
 meeting, send abstracts (one-page maxi-
 mum) and a short cv to:

Jonathan Rose
 Department of History
 Drew University
 Madison, NJ 07940 USA

We also solicit volunteers to serve as panel
 chairs and commentators, who need only
 send a cv.

CONFERENCES

American Printing History Association 25th Annual Conference "On the Digital Brink"

Location: Rochester Institute of Technol-
 ogy, Rochester, NY, USA
Dates: 20-21 October 2000

The American Printing History Association
 (APHA) in this first year of the twenty-first
 century will devote its annual conference to a
 look forward. Hosted by the renowned Cary
 Graphic Arts Collection at Rochester Institute
 of Technology (RIT), the conference has a
 two-fold theme: a review of accomplish-
 ments in the field of book history over the
 last century and a look at how new technolo-
 gies are being used to study the history of
 printing and the graphic arts.

An exciting schedule of events is planned,
 beginning on Friday, 20 October with a

reception in the Cary Collection, featuring an exhibition of rare printers' manuals, and followed by a keynote address by Robert Bringhurst, author of *The Elements of Typographic Style*.

The conference continues on Saturday with a full day of presentations, including Kay Amert of the University of Iowa on the digital comparison of sixteenth-century types and Robert Johnston of RIT's Imaging Science Center on the optical enhancement of the Dead Sea Scrolls and the Archimedes Palimpsest. A representative from Octavo Corporation will discuss the company's CD-ROM facsimiles of rare books, while RIT's Frank Romano will talk about the effect digital printing technologies are having on book publishing. On Saturday evening conference participants are invited to a banquet at the famed Oak Hill Country Club, host of the 1995 Ryder Cup, with after-dinner activities including a book auction.

Conference attendees may take advantage of these special offers for lodging and travel:

Accommodations: A block of rooms has been reserved for APHA participants at the Radisson Hotel on the edge of the RIT campus and within easy walking distance of all conference activities (a hotel shuttle will also be available). Ask for the special APHA conference rate of \$86, single or double occupancy.

Radisson Hotel
175 Jefferson Road
Rochester, NY 14623 USA
Telephone: 716.475.1910

Airfare: US Airways will offer discounted airfare to Rochester. APHA's agreement offers 5% off the lowest applicable published fares plus an additional 10% discount for reservations made 60 days in advance of travel. To obtain this special discount, call US Airways Group and Meeting Reservation Office at 877.874.6787 (8:00 AM to 9:30 PM Eastern Time). Refer to Gold File Number 99631417.

Registration Fee: \$60 for APHA members and \$75 for nonmembers.

Inquiries may be directed to:

David Pankow, Curator
Cary Graphic Arts Collection
Rochester Institute of Technology

Rochester, NY USA
Telephone: 716.475.2408
E-mail: dppwml@rit.edu
Web site: <http://www.printinghistory.org>
Web site: <http://wally.rit.edu/cary/APHA2000/APHA.html>

History of the Book in Canada Open Conference for Volume 1 (Beginnings to 1840)

Location: Faculty of Information Studies,
University of Toronto, Canada
Dates: 24-25 November 2000

Developed by a cross-country team of historians, literary scholars, librarians, and information specialists, the project for a History of the Book in Canada/Histoire du livre et de l'imprimé au Canada defines Canada's place within an international network of book history studies.

To open discussion about the research infrastructure and the content of Volume 1, a open conference will be held in Toronto. The program includes papers on print culture in different regions, authorship, publishing and distribution, the material form of early Canadian imprints, genres of print, readers, book ownership, and libraries.

Accommodations: The conference has reserved a block of rooms for 23-26 November at the Quality Hotel Midtown, one block from the Faculty of Information Studies. The conference rate is \$115.00 (plus GST and PST) per night per room. Up to four persons may share a room. Please book early to get this rate: hotel rooms in Toronto are expensive and often hard to find. When reserving rooms, please quote ID# 15340. The hotel may be contacted at the following address:

Quality Hotel Midtown
280 Bloor St. W.
Toronto, ON M5S 1V8 Canada
Telephone: 416.968.0010
Fax: 416.968.7765.

Registration Fee: Regular, \$100; Sessional or Retired, \$50; Students, \$40. The registration fee includes lunches and a reception on Friday evening. Further information and the

registration form, is available from the addresses below:

HBiC/HLIC
Faculty of Information Studies
University of Toronto
140 St. George St.
Toronto, ON M5S 3G6 Canada
E-mail: hbc-hlic@fis.utoronto.ca
Web site: <http://www.hbic.library.utoronto.ca>

American Historical Association – SHARP Sessions

Location: Hyannis Room, Sheraton Hotel,
Boston, MA, USA
Dates: 5 January 2001

Session 1. 9:30-11:30 am: Interactive Literature in Pre-Electronic America. Chair: Priscilla Coit Murphy, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Comment: Patricia Crane, Princeton University

- "Ready Reckoner and Handy Record-Keeper: The Almanac as Daily Diary" Molly McCarthy, Brandeis University
- "Grassroots Readers and the Sex Radical Press in Gilded Age America" Joanne E. Passet, Dominican University
- "Defending the 'Responsive Glow of Self-Approval': Nationalism, Refined Taste, and the Cultural Politics of American Magazine Illustration" J. Arthur Bond, Valparaiso University

Session 2. 2:30-4:30 pm: Publishing, Propaganda, and Power: Intellectuals and the Twentieth-Century State. Comment: James Kloppenberg, Harvard University

- "What the Numbers Tell Us': Nationalists and Statistical Knowledge in Brazil's Vargas Era, 1930-1945" Jerry Davila, Gustavus Adolphus College
- "Big Media, State Power, and the Search for a Competent Public: The Hutchins Commission and Post-WWII Liberal Anxieties" Brett Gary, Drew University
- "Masaryk, Saint of the State: Political Hagiography in Czechoslovakia, 1928-1938" Andrea Orzoff, New Mexico State University

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

Bibliographical Society of America Fellowship Program 2001

Deadline: 1 December 2000

The Bibliographical Society of America (BSA) invites applications for its annual short-term fellowship program, which supports bibliographical inquiry as well as research in the history of the book trades and in publishing history. Topics may be concentrated on books and documents in any field, but should focus on the book or manuscript - the physical object - as historical evidence. Such topics may include establishing a text or studying the history of book production, publication, distribution, collecting, or reading. Enumerative listings do not fall within the scope of this program.

BSA Fellowships offer a stipend of up to \$1,500 for a month's support of travel, living, and research expenses. The program is open to applicants of any nationality. In 2000 the BSA awarded grants to ten scholars from a variety of disciplines.

Applications for this program, including three letters of reference, will be due on 1 December, 2000. Prospective applicants are invited to download an application form directly from our web site.

Or, contact the Secretary for application forms and additional information about the program:

BSA Executive Secretary
P.O. Box 1537
Lenox Hill Station
New York, NY 10021 USA
Telephone: 212.734.2500
Fax: 212.452.2710
E-mail: bsa@bibsocamer.org
Web site: <http://www.bibsocamer.org>

International League of Antiquarian Booksellers \$10,000 Prize for Best Bibliography/ Book about Books

Deadline: 31 December 2000

The International League of Antiquarian Booksellers (ILAB) is pleased to announce a

call for entries for its Thirteenth Prize for Bibliography. This prize, given every four years, awards \$10,000 to the author of the best published or unpublished scholarly bibliography or work pertaining to book history, typography or works of general interest relating to these subjects. This award has become the most important and recognized international prize for bibliography. Past winning entries and those obtaining special recognitions in the past include bibliographies relating to printing, book illustration, botanical and horticultural literature, travel and exploration, bookbinding, private libraries, American literature and architectural books. The Eleventh Prize was shared by Jacob Blanck's *Bibliography of American Literature* and Eugene Rouir's *Felicien Rops*; and the Twelfth Prize was awarded to L.H. Wuthrich, *Das druckgraphische Werk von Matthaeus Merian*. Entries are welcome from all countries subject to the following conditions:

- The work must be in a universally used language.
- If the work is already published, it is eligible only if published within the four years immediately preceding the closing date for submissions (1997, 1998, 1999, or 2000) or if it has an imprint date falling within these four years.
- Specialized catalogues of one or more books intended for sale, periodicals and public library catalogues are not allowed. However, catalogues of private libraries are permitted.
- Works published in electronic format or CD-ROMs are not eligible.

To submit entries from the United States, the author or publisher must send two copies of each work, published or unpublished to Roland Folter, the American member of the Prize Jury (address at end).

Special cases in which only one copy can be sent must be cleared with Mr. Folter. Publishers or authors submitting copies will receive confirmation of their entries.

Unpublished works not selected for the Prize will be returned to their authors within the two months following the Prize's announce-

ment. Published works not selected will remain the property of ILAB unless special arrangements are made between the competitor and Mr. Folter before 31 December 2000. The ILAB is not committed to publishing unpublished works winning the Prize. However, the ILAB does not dismiss the possibility of publishing such prizewinners. The prizewinner will, however, retain all rights of publication. The award will be given in 2002 at the ILAB Congress in Scandinavia.

The ILAB includes the National Associations of Antiquarian Booksellers from Australia and New Zealand, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, Korea, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States of America. The judges presiding over the competition are composed of the President of the ILAB, the Secretary of the Prize, a member nominated by the League Committee, and three persons recognized in the field of bibliography who are not ILAB members. These last three members of the jury are chosen from countries speaking different languages and will be helped by specialists, appointed as necessary. In the case of special circumstances, the judges will reserve the right to withhold the award if they decide that the submitted entries do not reach a sufficiently high standard. Their decision is final and in the case of a tie, an unpublished work will have the advantage over a published work.

For more information about the Thirteenth Prize for Bibliography, please contact:

Roland Folter
H.P. Kraus, Inc.
16 East 46th Street
New York, NY 10017 USA
Telephone: 212.687.4808
Fax: 212.983.4790
E-mail: hpkraus@worldnet.att.net

John Carter Brown Library Research Fellowships, 2001-2002

Deadline: 15 January 2001

The John Carter Brown Library in Providence, Rhode Island, will award approxi-

mately twenty-five short- and long-term Research Fellowships for the year 1 June, 2001-31 May, 2002. Short-term fellowships are available for periods of two to four months and carry a stipend of \$1,200 per month. These fellowships are open to foreign nationals as well as to US citizens who are engaged in pre- and post-doctoral, or independent, research. Graduate students must have passed their preliminary or general examinations at the time of application. Long-term fellowships, primarily funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, are typically for five to nine months and carry a stipend of \$3,000 per month. Recipients of long-term fellowships may not be engaged in graduate work and ordinarily must be US citizens or have resided in the US for the three years immediately preceding the application deadline.

It should be noted that the Library's holdings are concentrated on the history of the western hemisphere during the colonial period (ca. 1492 to ca. 1825), emphasizing the European discovery, exploration, settlement, and development of the Americas, the indigenous response to the European conquest, the African contribution to the development of the hemisphere, and all aspects of European relations with the New World, including the impact of the New World on the Old. Research proposed by fellowship applicants must be suited to the holdings of the Library. All fellows are expected to relocate to Providence and to be in continuous residence at the Library for the entire term of the fellowship.

Several short-term fellowships have thematic restrictions; the Jeannette D. Black Memorial Fellowship in the history of cartography; Center for New World Comparative Studies Fellowships for research in the comparative history of the colonial Americas; the Alexander O. Vietor Memorial Fellowship in early maritime history; the Ruth and Lincoln Ekstrom Fellowship in the history of women and the family in the Americas; the William Reese Company Fellowship in bibliography and the history of printing; and the Touro National Heritage Trust Fellowship for research on some aspect of the Jewish experience in the New World before 1825. Maria Elena Cassiet Fellowships are

restricted to scholars who are permanent residents of countries in Spanish America. The Lampadia-Adams Fellowship is restricted to senior scholars from Argentina, Brazil, or Chile. The JCB/Connecticut College Research Fellowship and Visiting Professorship is restricted to scholars from Spain or Spanish America.

For application forms and more detailed information, write to:

Director
John Carter Brown Library
Box 1894
Providence, RI 02912 USA
Telephone: 401.863.2725
Fax: 401.863.3477
E-mail: JCBFellowships@brown.edu
Web site: <http://www.JCBL.org>

History of Reading Thesis or Dissertation Award

Deadline: 15 January 2001

The History of Reading Special Interest Group (SIG) sponsors a competition each year for an outstanding master's or specialist's thesis/dissertation in reading. The winning thesis/dissertation is announced at the annual meeting of the History of Reading SIG business meeting. Winners of the award receive a special plaque as well as a two year membership in the SIG. Recipients of the award are invited to present a paper based on their thesis/dissertation as part of the next annual meeting. Deadline for submitting applications for the 2000 award is 15 January, 2001 for master's or specialist's degree theses/dissertations which have been completed and approved between January 2000 and December 2000.

Directions for applying:

1. Submit three copies of an abstract of no less than five typewritten pages double spaced, and not more than ten pages (2,500 words), in English, and with no identifying data as to the author nor the university affiliation. Include a reference list, which will not be counted as part of the ten pages. NOTE: Applicants should be prepared to submit one copy of the thesis/dissertation itself, if so requested.

2. In the same envelope, submit a title page giving the title of the thesis/dissertation, the degree and the date of its award, the name of the university, and the name and address of the faculty sponsor as well as the name, address and telephone number of the writer.
3. Abstracts should be typewritten according to the official style required at the sponsoring university. Photocopies are acceptable.
4. The total application must be accompanied by a signed letter from the faculty sponsor on official letterhead of the university, attesting to the degree and date of its award.
5. Only master's or specialist's degree theses/dissertations, which have been completed and approved between January 2000 and December 2000 will be considered for the 2000 award. More than one thesis/dissertation may be submitted from a single university.
6. The applicant's degree can be in any discipline; however the thesis/dissertation must clearly be an historical research project related to reading.
7. If the applicant does not follow the above rules, his/her thesis/dissertation will be eliminated from the competition. Final determination of adherence to rules will be made by the chairperson of the History of Reading, SIG committee.
8. All entries will be judged by no fewer than three judges who are members of the History of Reading Thesis/Dissertation Award Committee. The decision of the judges will be final.
9. The envelope containing the abstracts must be postmarked no later than 15 January, 2001, and sent to:

Dr. Arlene L. Barry
University of Kansas
447 Joseph R. Pearson Hall
1122 West Campus Road
Lawrence, KS 66045 USA
Telephone: 785.864.9661
Fax: 785.864.5207
E-mail: abarry@kuhub.cc.ukans.edu

The thesis/dissertation will be judged on the basis of the following criteria:

- Clear identification and relevance of the question researched to the history of reading and literacy
- Appropriate methodology used in relation to the topic investigated (archival research, oral history, etc.)
- Utilization of appropriate or sufficient primary sources
- Appropriate and effective use of secondary sources
- Appropriate conclusions given the design and results of the research

SHARP Book History Prize

Deadline: 1 March 2001

The Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing is pleased to announce the competition for its fifth annual SHARP Book History Prize. A prize of \$1,000 will be awarded to the author of the best book on the history of the book, broadly defined to include the history of the creation, dissemination, and uses of script or print. All submissions must be in English and must have been copyrighted in 2000. (Translations of works originally copyrighted earlier are eligible, but the translations themselves must have been copyrighted in 2000.) Because the purpose of the prize is to honor the work of an individual scholar, or of two scholars working closely together, collections of essays by more than two authors, reference works, and collaborative projects are not eligible and will not be considered. Submissions must be in the possession of all members of the jury by 1 March, 2001. Please submit three copies of each entry, one to each member of the jury.

The jury for this year's prize is:

Bill Bell, Chair
SHARP Book History Prize
Centre for the History of the Book
University of Edinburgh
22a Buccleuch Place
Edinburgh, EH10 9LN UK

Barbara Hochman
SHARP Book History Prize
Department of Foreign Literatures and
Linguistics
Ben Gurion University of the Negev
Beersheva 84105 Israel

T. H. Howard-Hill
SHARP Book History Prize
PBSA, Room 107
Thomas Cooper Library
University of South Carolina
Columbia, SC 29208 USA

Inquiries about the prize or submissions procedures should be addressed to:

Beth Luey
Department of History
Arizona State University
Tempe, AZ 85287-2501 USA
E-mail: Beth.luey@asu.edu

LECTURES & COURSES

Gutenberg 2000 at the British Library Guided Tours

Location: British Library, 96 Euston Road,
London, UK
Dates: Wednesdays, 27 September to 13
December 2000
Time: 12:00 noon

There will be informal guided tours of the British Library 'on the trail of Gutenberg'. Tours start in the main entrance hall of the new library at St. Pancras.

Highlights will include:

- A new display focusing on George III's copy of the 42-line bible in the Treasures Gallery
- A special display about historic Gutenberg celebrations (October only)
- The Keio University/British Library Digital Gutenberg project, using state-of-the-art display technology

Please register at the information desk in the main hall if you would like to take part in a tour or e-mail: visitor-services@bl.uk

Toronto Centre for the Book Program 2000-2001

29 September [This item is included for general information only -- the date is past due as this issue is going to press, Ed.]: "Dancing Country Dances: Pattern, Expectation and Freedom in Eighteenth-Century Women Readers" Isobel Grundy (University of Alberta). Faculty of Information Studies Lecture Theatre, 4:15 p.m. In association with the Department of English and the Faculty of Information Studies.

1 November: "First Printings: Examining the Texts of the First African-Canadian Poets, Playwrights, and Novelists" George Elliott Clarke (University of Toronto). Alumni Hall, Victoria College, 4:15 p.m. In association with the Friends of the Victoria College Library.

22 November: "The Graphic Origins of the Genealogical Tree" Paul Saenger (Newberry Library, Chicago). Northrop Frye Hall #113, Victoria College, 4:15 p.m. In association with Victoria College.

19 January: "The Cartographic Impulse in Early Modern Lyric" Tom Conley (Harvard University). Faculty of Information Studies Lecture Theatre, 4:15 p.m. In association with the Faculty of Information Studies.

13 February: Graduate Student Colloquium Upper Library, Massey College, 4:15 p.m. In association with Massey College.

28 March: "England's First Widow Printer: The Life, Times, and Kin of Elizabeth Pickering Jackson Cholmeley" Peter Blayney (University of Toronto). Cholmeley University College #140, 4:15 p.m. In association with University College

TORONTO CENTRE FOR THE BOOK

The Toronto Centre for the Book was established at the University of Toronto in 1994 in order to bring together faculty, librarians, students, and members of the general public who are interested in the past, present, and future of the book and in all aspects of the creation, diffusion, and reception of the written word. Toronto possesses exceptional library resources and is home to a wide range of editorial, bibliographical, and book history projects in several different disciplines and periods, and the

Centre seeks to play a co-ordinating role by providing a forum for lectures and colloquia, fostering research and interdisciplinary co-operation, and developing the graduate training resources available within the University. A Collaborative Program in Book History and Print Culture has recently been established within the academic structure of the University's School of Graduate Studies.

The Edinburgh Book History Seminar Programme 2000-2001

Location: Edinburgh University Library
Time: 1:00-2:00 PM (Tea and coffee served from 12:45)

3 November: "Plots have I laid": Shakespeare and Baroque Mentalities" Richard Mackenney (University of Edinburgh).

17 November: "Pseudodoxia Bibliographica, or When is a Book not a Book?" Hugh Amory (Harvard University).

1 December: "Authenticating the Author: Contemporary Strategies of Author Representation" Juliet Gardiner (Oxford Brookes University).

15 December: "The Literati and the Circulation of Ideas after Culloden" Nicholas Phillipson (University of Edinburgh).

12 January 2001: "Collecting Books in Edinburgh, 1650-1690" Murray Simpson (National Library of Scotland).

26 January: "The London Book Trade in the 1640s and 1650s: Crisis and Innovation" John Barnard (University of Leeds).

9 February: "Fettered and free: the course of authority and commerce in the book trade of early modern Scotland" Alastair Mann (University of St Andrews).

23 February: "The Artisan Reader in the Early Modern Period" Maureen Bell (University of Birmingham).

9 March: "Readers and Users of Early Books" Lotte Hellinga (British Library).

This seminar series is organized by the Centre for the History of the Book (CHB) at The University of Edinburgh, in association with Edinburgh University Library. For

more information about the activities of the Centre, please write to:

The Secretary, CHB
 University of Edinburgh
 22a Buccleuch Place
 Edinburgh, EH8 9LN UK
 E-mail: chb@ed.ac.uk
 Web site: <http://www.ed.ac.uk/englit/research/chb>

EXHIBITIONS

Writing on Hands: Memory and Knowledge in Early Modern Europe

Location: The Trout Gallery, Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA USA
Dates: 8 September to 25 November 2000
Hours: Tuesday - Saturday 10:00AM - 4:00PM
Location: The Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, DC USA
Dates: 11 December 2000 to 4 March 2001

This exhibition explores the use and importance of images of the hand in codifying and extending knowledge from the mathematical and musical to the spiritual and astrological realms in 15th through 17th century Europe. Over eighty manuscripts, prints and books borrowed from The Folger Shakespeare Library, Library of Congress, The College of Physicians of Philadelphia, The Pierpont Morgan Library, The Metropolitan Museum, National Library of Medicine, National Gallery of Art, and the Walters Art Gallery will illustrate how, in conjunction with developing print technology, major currents of thought, such as humanism, the Reformation, and the scientific revolution, affected representations of the inscribed hand. While referring to relevant medieval traditions, the time frame of the exhibition runs from to 1466 through 1700.

Curator: Dr. Claire Richter Sherman, author of *Imaging Aristotle: Verbal and Visual Representation in Fourteenth-Century France*. Dr. Sherman is Project Head Emerita of Sponsored Research in the History of Art at the Center for Advanced Study in the Visual

Arts at the National Gallery of Art. She has published widely on medieval art and lectures throughout the United States and Europe.

Sponsor: This exhibition is made possible through the generosity of Ruth Trout and with help from Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the participation of the Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, DC.

Web site: <http://www.writingonhands.org>

Fritz Kredel Centennial Exhibition

Location: The Grolier Club, New York, NY USA
Dates: 20 September to 18 November 2000
Hours: Monday - Saturday, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

The Grolier Club opens its Fall 2000 season with a retrospective exhibition of the work of Fritz Kredel, on the occasion of the eminent illustrator's centennial. Unlike previous Kredel exhibitions, this one will display some works never shown before, drawn from the private collections of Kredel's daughter, Judith Kredel Brown, and his granddaughter, Mathilde Kredel Brown, who are the co-curators.

A member of the Grolier Club until his death in 1973, Fritz Kredel was a prolific and versatile artist of the book as well as works in a larger format. His rich legacy of pen and ink drawings, watercolors and woodcuts was produced on two continents and spanned a period of more than fifty years.

Active in Germany before coming to America, Kredel's career began in the 1920s, when the world-famous graphic artist and designer Rudolf Koch invited Kredel to join his studio. There Kredel perfected the art of making woodcuts that combined unusually high technical virtuosity and rich, minute detail, with a lyrical and expressive linear quality rarely achieved in hard pear wood. Early in his career, Kredel received the coveted Gold Medal for Book Illustration at the 1937 Paris World Exposition. Shortly after coming to America, he illustrated Eleanor Roosevelt's book, *Christmas*, written for children, and he was commissioned to create a woodcut of

the Presidential seal for the inauguration of President John F. Kennedy.

For publishers such as the Limited Editions Club, Germany's Insel Verlag, for numerous private presses, as well as for trade book publishers such as Hallmark, Grosset & Dunlap, Random House and The Reader's Digest, Kredel illustrated fairy tales, children's books, religious works, cookbooks, fiction and non-fiction, drama and poetry. Some books are still in print today. Always meticulously researched, his illustrations are easily identified by Kredel's very personal style and its inimitable verve and charm. The humor in many of his illustrations is contagious. Bursting with vitality, Kredel's work is a joy to behold and refreshingly accessible.

A catalog of the retrospective will be published and contains the first full bibliography of Kredel's work, a large number of reproductions and several essays, including one by the German type designer, Hermann Zap. The catalog will be available in paper or hard cover, and may be ordered through:

The Vodkas Arts of the Book
P.O. Box 328
Northampton, MA 01061 USA
Telephone: 413.584.1867
Fax: 413.584.2751
E-mail: Veatchs@veatchs.com.

The Grolier Club exhibition is part of a yearlong celebration of Fritz Kredel's birth. Exhibitions are also being held at Yale University, where the archive of Kredel's work is housed in the Sterling Library's Arts of the Book Collection, and at the Odenwald Museum in Michelstadt, Germany, Kredel's birthplace.

For further information, contact:

Nancy Houghton
The Grolier Club
47 East 60th Street
New York, NY 10022 USA
Telephone: 212.838.6690
Fax: 212.838.2445
E-mail: nsh@grolierclub.org
Web site: <http://www.grolierclub.org>

Upcoming Exhibitions at The Grolier Club

- 13 December - 10 February 2001.
Hermann Zap. Curated by Jerry Kelly.

- 21 February - 28 April 2001. Bibliotheca/Bodmeriana B. Curated by Dr. Martin Bircher.

- 16 May - 28 July 2001. Smithsonian Institution Libraries. Curated by Nancy Gwinn.

The Grolier Club of New York is America's oldest and most distinguished society for book lovers. Founded in 1884 by nine of the city's business and cultural leaders - all collectors of books and prints - the Club is dedicated to promoting enthusiasm for books and the book arts. Four exhibitions are offered to the public each year, free of charge.

CONFERENCE REPORTS

The Research Society for Victorian Periodicals

Submitted by Patrick Leary

Dates: 20-22 July 2000

The Research Society for Victorian Periodicals met at Birkbeck College, London, with SHARPist Laurel Brake acting as local host of a conference whose chosen theme was "Publishers, Editors, and Readers". Michael Slater of Birkbeck, the distinguished Dickensian scholar whose eagerly anticipated biography of Douglas Jerrold is scheduled to appear early next year from Duckworth Press, opened the conference with a plenary lecture about Jerrold's enormously varied career as editor of such papers as *The Stage*, *The Illuminated Magazine*, *Douglas Jerrold's Shilling Magazine*, and *Lloyd's Weekly Newspaper*. Dr. Slater later joined longtime SHARP member Warwick Gould, director of the Institute for English Studies at the University of London, in welcoming attendees to a reception and exhibition at the University of London Library in Senate House that featured a display of many Victorian periodicals and rare books.

The newly established Michael Wolff Lecture was given by historian Aled Jones of the University of Wales at Aberystwyth, author of *Powers of the Press: Newspapers, Power and the Public in 19th-century England* (1996). Dr. Jones's talk traced the illuminating story of a small independent newspaper in late-

Victorian Birmingham and its quixotic battle against the improving schemes of the city's political establishment.

A plenary panel on electronic resources for periodicals research brought together representatives from Chadwyck-Healey, Gale Research, and Routledge with John North of the *Waterloo Directory of English Newspapers and Periodicals* and Gowan Dawson of the Science in the Nineteenth-Century Periodical project at the University of Sheffield. In the midst of talk about several large-scale digitization projects being planned or currently under way, John North reminded all of us just how enormous is the unexplored territory of 19th-century periodical publication: an estimated 125,000 titles, of which the Waterloo project has so far published data on 27,500. With virtually no topical indices available and access to most such newspapers and magazines, even on mind-numbing microfilm, possible only by making the trek to the BL's newspaper library at Colindale, this vast untouched wilderness of words and images is truly the terra incognita of nineteenth-century print culture studies.

Double-tracked sessions on Friday and Saturday made for a great many difficult choices, as topics ranged from Russian-language newspapers in London, to Harriet Martineau's coverage of the American Civil War, to Britain's vegetarian press. Like all the conferences of this lively and collegial group, this one featured a stimulating mix of subjects and approaches that led to innumerable discussions. Next year's conference, to be held in New York September 14-15, promises to be equally wide-ranging. For further information, visit the RSVP website.

Web site: <http://aztec.asu.edu/rsvp/>

Material Cultures: the Book, the Text, and the Archive

Submitted by Claire Squires

Dates: 28-30 July 2000

The Centre for the History of the Book (University of Edinburgh) hosted over 200 delegates from as far and near as the University of Buenos Aires and the Edinburgh College of Art. The Playfair Library in the

Old College of the University of Edinburgh provided the perfect setting for the plenary sessions and lunches. As Professor Stephen Greenblatt embarked upon the James Thin Lecture, which opened the conference on Friday, a raucous reminder of our location was provided by the strains of a piper outside the building.

Professor Greenblatt's disquisition on "Resisting Materialism: Cultures as Ghosts" outlined many of the themes and concerns of the conference that would be referred to repeatedly over the next two days, including the concepts of volatility and fixation, illustrated by the central example of Poggio Bracciolini's "discovery" in 1417 of a manuscript of Lucretius' *De Rerum Natura*. The whole was narrated in compelling style, with at one point the questing figure of the professor, intent on discovering the exact skin tone in a depiction of Lazarus, confronted by a British Library bureaucracy of keyholders, labyrinthine passageways, and a room that, at a certain hour of the night, has the oxygen extracted and inert gases pumped in.

After adjourning to a reception in the Talbot Rice Gallery, the conference reconvened the following morning in the Library for the second plenary, which was given with polyglot panache by Professor Roger Chartier. His lecture "Literature, History and the Book: Don Quixote's Enchantments" took as its focus the various strategies that Cervantes used to foreground the process of material production in his storytelling, and the complex relationship of narrative and printing shop thus created.

A varied and full program followed the plenaries; the only regret of many of the delegates was having to choose only one out of five or six of each of the parallel sessions. Papers ranged from Megan Benton's "Book Love, Book Lust: Culture and Desire in the Private Library 1880-1940", a gendered reading that produced the salutary quotation that (in this period) "book love is as male as growing a beard", to the delightful creative collaborations of artist Maureen O'Hara Ure and poet Katharine Coles, whose installations juxtapose artwork and words in "walk-through books". Historical coverage stretched from collecting cultures in the early Middle Ages to the most recent developments in contemporary publishing.

Incidents in the course of the weekend continually reminded us of the problematic nature of the material conditions under which we all work. Shaun Hides' fascinating "Discourses on the (Im)material" were interrupted by an overhead projector that turned itself on and off at will, whilst the conference organizer Bill Bell admitted that his simultaneous high and low of the conference had been a mercy scramble late on Saturday night over the fence to the George Heriot's School carpark. An unnamed delegate (requests for further details to BB) had left a paper due to be given the next morning in a car that had become locked in.

The final plenary session, conducted by Robert Essick and Joseph Viscomi, was a demonstration of their Internet-based William Blake Archive. Their intellectual vision, technical know-how, and - as Robert Essick emphasized - no small amount of drudgery, are a vital combination in the ongoing development of a versatile and impressive resource.

In summary, then, Material Cultures's blend of hospitality, academic engagement and collaborative spirit was a testament both to the abilities of its organizers and the vibrancy and diversity of the discipline.

18th British Book Trade Seminar

Submitted by Paul Morgan

Dates: 25-27 July 2000

The Seminar, held in Henderson Hall, University of Newcastle upon Tyne was organized by Peter Isaac and Barry McKay.

A wide range of topics was covered, spreading geographically from Scotland to Australia and chronologically from the Middle Ages to the present day. The earlier of these seminars used to concentrate on the British provinces, but this one, as had been demonstrated more recently, showed how the metropolitan and provincial book trades are intricately mixed.

Professor Isaac opened proceedings with an interesting account, based on materials in the Murray archives, of W. and E. Finden's engravings for *Landscape Illustrations of the Bible*, published by John Murray in 1836,

contrasting the original drawings by J.M.W. Turner and A.W. Callcott with the finished results. In keeping with his usual habit of revealing an unusual aspect of the book trade, Barry McKay dealt with nineteenth century children's lottery books, as well as some Newcastle chapbook blocks now in the British Museum Department of Prints and Drawings. The children's theme was also taken up by David Hounslow who described children's picture books of the street cries of traders before 1850. David also made an impassioned plea for careful attention to be paid when repairing older books, as so much information has been destroyed in the past through the loss of covers and endleaves and the close trimming of margins.

The more traditional type of paper concentrating on a locality was supplied by Diana Dixon on the development of the newspaper press in Middlesborough, and by John Hinks who extended his researches into Leicester and its books by examining its Abbey in medieval times. Wales and Scotland each had two papers: Lisa Peters outlined the troubled history of the North Wales Constitutional Newspaper Company 1869-1878, while Philip Henry Jones continued his expositions on Wales and its books with an account of the difficulties of Welsh-language publishing during the First World War. Scotland was again well represented by Iain Beavan who gave a dexterous history of the fraught relationships between Scottish booksellers' societies and publishers, as well as leading a discussion on nineteenth-century book trade economics. Richard Sher gave an interesting account of Andrew Millar, an eighteenth-century Scot who went south to do well out of the English as a London publisher.

From Australia, Wallace Kirsop told us about a Dubliner named Mullin who became known as the "Melbourne Mudie", while Sydney Shep from Wellington threw light on the problems of securing regular supplies of paper in the early days of New Zealand, and what happened when it ran out, such as using blotting paper instead.

Michael Powell and Terry Wyke's researches into James Weatherley, an obscure second-hand bookseller in Manchester in the 1830s, were presented in a lively and amusing talk. It was based on a surviving account book that

recorded sales of a few shillings daily with profit or loss symbols, such as "Aristotle to a very [sic] tall man" for two shillings, with one shilling profit.

Maureen Bell examined a list of books owned by Leonard Wheatcroft, a late seventeenth-century Derbyshire man who had been successively a schoolmaster, a gardener and a tuner of virginals. The number of such book lists being found grows steadily and it is perhaps time for a general survey to be undertaken, based on a union catalogue.

Scholars rely increasingly on CD-ROM technology for collected information and Gwen Averley, of Avero Publications, Newcastle, demonstrated both the *Biography Database*, developed from subscription lists and similar material, and *NSTC*, the electronic edition of the multi-volume *Nineteenth Century Short Title Catalogue of books in English*.

Janet Phipps gave a fascinating account of the current state of the book trade in Ipswich. Janet had systematically visited all bookshops and libraries mentioned in local telephone directories, including one where respectable ladies were not often seen. She vividly described what she found and her lively presentation brought down the house.

As is customary, it is hoped to publish these papers in due course. They will prove, as previous volumes have, a valuable source of information to book trade historians generally.

BOOK REVIEWS

Hugh Amory and David Hall, eds. *The Colonial Book in the Atlantic World*. [Worcester, MS]: American Antiquarian Society; Cambridge, UK and New York: Cambridge University Press, 2000. *A History of the Book in America*, Volume 1. xxiv, 638 p. ill. ISBN 0521482569 (cloth). \$125.00/£82.54

This long-awaited first installment of a five-volume series, "A History of the Book in America", offers at once a synthesis of scholarship in the field, and a wealth of fascinating and innovative research attuned to the materiality of the book and to the myriad cultures (regional, learned, literary, and

popular) in which it acquired its historical and social consequence. The collaborative work of fourteen scholars, this volume adroitly navigates many of the crucial themes in history of the book studies: the rise of mercantile capitalism, the consolidation of modern nation states, and religious reformation. Editors Hugh Amory and David Hall and the other contributors provide an historical, nuanced, and engaging portrayal of these themes not as triumphal anthems, but recurring motifs.

This volume clears a path through intellectual trends and ideologies that have littered history of the book studies over several generations. There have been the ambitious, sexy claims about technological determinism, as with Elizabeth Eisenstein's argument about printing as a revolutionary "agent of change". There has been the nationalist preoccupation with documenting the birth of "American" literature, as with Charles Evans *American Bibliography* (to the exclusion of both transatlantic and regional identities). Most insidious, there has been the liberal ideology of progress, and our faith in print as a higher form of culture. We have assumed the silent, individual reader to be more enlightened, and so more free, than "illiterate" persons bound, by their dependence on orality, to "traditional" forms of community and "premodern" ways of thinking. More recent, influential arguments about print culture, such as Benedict Anderson's claims about modern nationalism and "imagined community" or Michael Warner's linking of the public sphere and print anonymity, are qualified and challenged here in powerful ways by the volume's breadth of empirical research and subtlety of interpretation.

The Colonial Book in the Atlantic World dispenses with long-standing prejudices about print literacy with an expansive recognition that the "colonial book" - as cultural icon, material artifact, consumer product, and instrument of social and political power - takes historical form within a spectrum of cultural practices. Hugh Amory, for instance, defines the colonial book, suggestively, as "what was written, printed, or published by or for colonials; not a literature, but a scripture", (29) arguing how little the place where a book was published mattered in the

relationship between books and culture prior to the Revolution.

As David Hall suggests in his original and inventive analysis of the seventeenth-century Chesapeake, we learn a great deal about the meaning and uses of the book by looking at the provincial margins of print culture - from the absence or poverty of printed goods - rather than its cosmopolitan centers. What, after all, did the "print revolution" mean in a place that had no printer before 1700? By organizing the chapters along regional lines and emphasizing the local differences, Hall and Amory highlight what we might call the ecology of print culture, shaped by the particularities of social contexts, the variety of individual practices, the rhythms of credit and trade.

What makes the volume especially compelling are the case studies and examples of the cultural paradoxes that gave the colonial book its meaning and form. These range from recurrent discussions of Ben Franklin and William Bradford (the first Pennsylvania printer) in several chapters, James Raven's resourceful use of customs figures in demonstrating the uneven, fluctuating nature of the importation of British books, Richard Brown's meditation on the Zenger case, and David Shield's fascinating look at the ways in which Aquila Rose (sailor, printer, clerk, laureate) and others moved among literary coterie where, well into the eighteenth century, manuscript remained a preferred mode of "publication".

The Colonial Book in the Atlantic World leaves much work to be done, especially regarding the history of readers outside learned and literary cultures. We need as well to rethink our very definitions of "literacy" and "reading" in relation to media, and to develop more useful ways of conceptualizing how practices of literacy function as modes of social and cultural interaction across diverse media, whether that interchange takes place in the seventeenth or the twenty-first centuries. Finally, while several chapters take new steps in this direction by attending to the performative dimension of the colonial book, we might more fully recognize not merely the residual presence of orality, but the new authority with which speech came to

be invested as *a consequence* of the development of printed discourse.

Thomas Augst

University of Minnesota

Hannie van Goinga, 'Alom te bekomen'. *Veranderingen in de boekdistributie in de Republiek 1720-1800*. [To be obtained anywhere: Changes in the distribution of books in the Dutch Republic 1720-1800.] Amsterdam: De Buitenkant, 1999. 408 p. ill. ISBN 9076452326. Price: Hfl. 185,-. Includes summary in English.

Until recently, booksellers' advertisements in newspapers have been a rarely used source for reconstructing the history of the book in the Netherlands. However, in Hannie Van Goinga's doctoral thesis, these advertisements are the principal source for her unveiling of the misty world of Dutch book distribution during the eighteenth century.

Accordingly, her first chapter is devoted to the golden possibilities such advertisements offer the book historian. For instance, Van Goinga establishes that 'commission selling' (trading on sale or return) was already being practiced in Holland in the 1730s and had become widespread by the 1740s to the extent that publishers were forced to devise ways to limit this trade. The introduction and extension of this practice provides evidence for the existence of a public that had a growing interest in recently-published texts.

As a result of the Dutch book trade's rapid growth, important wholesale booksellers, especially in Amsterdam, began to serve as stockists for retail booksellers, and in her most striking conclusion, Van Goinga shows how the stocklists included in the advertisements of these retail booksellers can be very useful in reconstructing profiles of larger wholesalers and in demonstrating clearly the contribution that the new way of distributing books made to the separation of the business of publishing from the wholesale and retail trades.

Van Goinga explores a variety of aspects of the Dutch book trade during the period. She discusses the numerous public book auctions and her research into the auctions held in the city of Leiden shows that,

although the main reason for these auctions was to sell the books of deceased collectors, booksellers also used the auctions to sell their own antiquarian and secondhand books; they also offered an alternative way for booksellers to distribute their new books.

Another sign of an important change in the distribution of books that she highlights was the emergence of an independent antiquarian book trade over the course of the 1760s; she names Pieter van Damme as probably the first antiquarian bookseller in Holland.

All nine of Van Goinga's elaborate chapters make clear how such changes in book distribution were closely connected and interwoven with changes in reading habits. For example, the emergence of commercial lending libraries signaled a growing demand for more and, above all, varied reading matter, while for the booksellers, these libraries provided a new way of distributing books. Similarly, as booksellers' advertisements increased, changes in their style and content were clearly intended to puff works to draw in customers - but these can also be considered as evidence for shifts in reading habits.

Very little is known about the ways in which the domestic book trade in the eighteenth-century Dutch Republic operated, but Van Goinga's book goes a long way to remedy this. In particular she concludes that, through comparison with research done into other European countries, the date and location of the start of the expansion of Western Europe's book trade (traditionally believed to be the 1760s in Germany) ought to be revised: as the increasing numbers of booksellers and booksellers' advertisements indicate, the book trade in the Dutch Republic was expanding as early as the 1720s.

Containing a wealth of new information and beautifully designed, her book is a treat to read.

Berry Dongelmans

University of Leiden

Shigeo Minowa. *Introduction to Publishing Studies*. Tokyo: Japan Scientific Societies Press, 2000. xii, 242 p. ISBN 4 7622 2943 1 (cloth) 6190 YEN

Shigeo Minowa, first President (1972-1976) of the International Association of Scholarly Publishers, is the doyen of oriental publishing scholars, acutely aware of the limits of Western knowledge of Asia. His book, *Publishing in a Societal Context: Japan and the West* (English edition 1990), examines the marked growth of publishing in a variety of countries and its reciprocal relationship with societal development. A strong point of that work is its effective use of international statistics. As the book and his other work demonstrates, Minowa's own interests center on "objective grasp and factual analysis", with a desire to move beyond "the lack of scientific re-search done on publishing as an industry". As a consequence, he employs "socio-scientific" approaches from economics and business administration, along with such social science tools as statistics, field observations and interviews.

His new book, *Introduction to Publishing Studies*, argues for more rigorous scholarly approaches to publishing studies, including more broadly-based geographical examinations of the topic. It is a pioneering and important work, which usefully reminds Westerners of the historic achievements of Asian print cultures. Minowa's book is not so much a student textbook on the subject of publishing, but a wide-ranging survey of scholarly approaches to the subject, which help locate key areas of research and evaluation in the field of publishing. He seeks to define "Publishing Studies", place these studies in the context of related subject areas, discuss support mechanisms for research, and then evaluate the nature and quality of work already done.

Minowa's first chapter discusses methodology, under broad headings: first, the process (production, distribution, utilization); second, the political, economic, social, and cultural environments; and third, the social functions of publishing as a whole. Minowa effectively argues that by comparison with established sciences, "Publishing Studies should be regarded . . . as a complex of immature disciplines based on many scientific paradigms instead of a single systematic

discipline formed of a single paradigm" (30-31). The second chapter relates Publishing Studies to "superior concepts" such as mass media theory with questions such as: why is publishing rarely referred to in the wider media literature? Minowa also links publishing studies to studies in the fields of broadcasting, library science and bibliography.

Chapter Three examines research and educational systems, particularly in Asia, whose research and professional bodies' output is little known in the West, mainly for reasons of language. Minowa has a rare ability to mediate between lamentably separate communities of scholars; he also has a stunning command of Western information as seen in his fourth chapter, which offers detailed commentaries on particular areas of study, regretting that the crucial topic of the economics of publishing has been "virtually ignored" so far, in favor of historical, juridical or technological discussions (176).

Minowa seeks to give what he clearly believes is our fragmentary knowledge of publishing greater social scientific scholarly value by placing the subject in relation to other kinds and methods, and advocating common grounds and aims for research. For the growing "disciplines" of book and publishing research, whether historical or contemporary, this is a challenging and serious attempt to bring order and demanding criteria of self-awareness into the field of study.

Ian McGowan
University of Stirling

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SHARP NEWS OF NOTE

As many SHARPists are aware, President Simon Eliot has recently accepted a new post at Reading. His new contact information is as follows:

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 E-mail: s.j.eliot@reading.ac.uk

SHARPEND

It is always a pleasure, as well as intellectually piquant, to come across references to SHARP in relatively unusual places. One of the graduate students in the School of Library and Information Science at the University of South Florida told me shyly that she had come across a reference to the Society, and especially to a discussion thread on its listserv SHARP-L, in an interesting article on popular literature.

The article by Anthony S. Brandt, "Pop stardom vs. deathless prose", was a feature in March of this year at Salon.com (<http://www.salonmag.com/books/feature/2000/03/21/litrep/print.html>). Mr. Brandt is the book columnist for *National Geographic Adventure* and his positive reference to SHARP-L offers an appropriate compliment to Patrick Leary who has, from its inception, been SHARP's listserv owner and web-master. These tasks are often time-consuming, tedious and thankless. Several SHARP members join me in hoping to reduce the last point by thanking Patrick here for being an impeccably tactful list manager by whose efforts much useful information exchange (including that referred to by Mr. Brandt) takes place.

SHARP News forms a bridge, in some regards, between book historians who subscribe to SHARP-L and book historians who are members of SHARP. While exact figures are unavailable, apparently there is relatively little overlap between these two groups (I received an estimated overlap figure of 20%).

Our policy is to pull Calls for Papers posted to SHARP-L (and other discussion groups) for insertion in the newsletter. If any of you post such Calls electronically, and would like to have a different version included in the newsletter, please get in touch. Please remember to send Calls as far in advance as possible so that we may ensure they are included in the newsletter ahead of your deadline.

Many thanks to those SHARP members who provided feedback on our first issue with the new layout. We hope that, by this present issue, we are back on track with issues appearing in a timely manner. Thank you for your forbearance while we made our editorial changes. I have learnt well how to appreciate patience in others! Further comments and suggestions, on the intellectual content and/or the presentation, will always be welcome!



Begin your membership in SHARP, and you will receive the annual *Book History*, *SHARP News* and the *SHARP Membership and Periodicals Directory*, which is published each summer. Students and unwaged can opt for a rate that does not include a subscription to *Book History*. We accept Visa, MasterCard or cheques in American or British currency, made out to SHARP. Send this form to Barbara A. Brannon, SHARP Membership Secretary, University of South Carolina, P.O. Box 5816, Columbia, SC 29250, USA.

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SHARP FINANCIAL REPORT

Submitted by Robert Patten, Treasurer

The SHARP membership ratified a recommendation by the Directors that annual dues be increased to \$45 in the US and CANADA, £30 in the UK, and \$50 elsewhere. Of this sum, \$20 purchases a copy of our prize-winning annual, *Book History*. The remaining \$25 covers the costs of (1) producing and mailing four copies of *SHARP News*, (2) publishing and distributing annually a thoroughly-updated membership directory, (3) processing the renewals of over 1,100 members, (4) providing the SHARP Book Prize of \$1,000, (5) funding of independent scholars' travel to SHARP's annual conference, (6) maintaining our bank accounts in the US and the UK, (7) generating publicity, (8) supporting SHARP-L, (9) establishing a SHARP web domain, and (10) joining affiliated organizations so that SHARP may participate in their annual conferences. The dues increase will help us to meet the rising costs of this remarkable range of useful activities. Library memberships have been set at \$25, and student memberships at \$15 in the US and Canada, £10 in the UK, and \$20 elsewhere. For these membership categories *Book History* must be purchased directly from Penn State University Press.

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	Cash
<i>Balance 31/12/98</i>	£2,464.89
INCOME	
Interest	81.53
Dues/subscription	1,385.00
SUBTOTAL	£ 1,466.53
EXPENSES	
Administration, Mainz conference	453.90
<i>SHARP News</i>	400.00
Delmas grants	1,050.00
SUBTOTAL	£ 1,903.90
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• SHARP 1999 United States Account •

	Restricted	Delmas	Cash
<i>Balance 31/12/98</i>	\$12,575.24	\$5,000.00	\$17,019.92
INCOME			
Dues and sales			27,383.50
Miscellaneous			21.35
Interest earned			1,060.04
Adjustment			704.98
SUBTOTAL			\$29,169.87
EXPENSES			
Printing & mailing			
Printing, <i>SHARP News</i> 7:4, 8:1-3			3,400.28
Postage, <i>SHARP News</i> 8:1-3			3,520.72
<i>Book History</i>			16,209.15
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Bank charges			574.14
Dues, AHA			250.00
Other			60.00
Travel grants			\$4,000.00
SUBTOTAL		<\$4000.00>	<\$31,488.91>
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