Rumors

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Against the Grain

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In Praise of Bookshops

The Town of Books (Hay-on-Wye, England)
by Jack Walsdorf (Blackwell North America, Inc.)

(Note: This is the third of what will be a continuing series co-authored by Tom Leonhardt of the University of Oklahoma and Jack Walsdorf of Blackwell’s, detailing their experiences visiting little-known and well-known used, rare, and sometimes antiquarian bookshops throughout the world.)

A recent ten-day business trip to Oxford, England left me with one weekend free — what better time and place to be a bookhunter with free time on my hands. But it was not in Oxford that I chose to spend my time — my sights were set on a small border town some two and a half hours due west of Oxford. There, settled in the gently rolling hills and lush green valley along the river Wye, is what can be called the “Town of Books.”

Imagine, if you will, a little country town in decline. Paul Minet, himself a bookseller, in his work Late Booking (Frantic Press, 1989) describes it thus: “In the late fifties Hay-on-Wye, like many similar country towns, was in slow decline. Being geographically isolated, it had been quite prosperous in Victorian times, serving a wide farming area with a range of shops. Many of these shops had gone out of business after the war . . . The railway closed and buses became infrequent.”

The town itself, with its mostly Victorian buildings, sits on a hill above the river, with the small winding streets leading down to the bridge and across the river into Wales. The center of town is made up of very few streets, Oxford Road, High Street, Broad Street, Lion Street and Castle Street. Castle Street leads to the town Castle, which according to Minet, is “a semi-ruined building of mixed Norman and medieval origins . . . inserted into these ruins continued on page 6

If Rumors Were Horses

As we go to press, we have learned (October 7) that it’s official! Dawson Holdings PLC has acquired The Faxon Company, Inc. Dawson had previously acquired two Faxon subsidiary companies, the Turner Subscription Agency and Faxon Canada. This acquisition has been approved by the Federal Trade Commission and completes Dawson’s purchase of Faxon. “The Faxon Company will be a wholly-owned subsidiary and will continue to operate from its Westwood, MA location, under the Faxon name,” said Bryan Ingleby, Group Chief Executive of Dawson continued on page 5
Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

I have been intending for too long to tell you how much I have valued *Against the Grain* since it and the Charleston Conference were first called to my attention by Lyman Newlin and John Perry Smith circa 1989. I know of no other place to turn for such a stimulating sense of the dynamics of our (your readers) special niche in the place where publishing, libraries, intellect and technology meet.

Sincerely yours,
John F. Vance
Fraser-Vance Publishing Company (Peterborough, NH)

Dear Editor:

I have been meaning to mail you for quite some time to say thank you for sending the *ATG* I was missing and then this afternoon I received the April issue and I’m flicking through when I read the obituary you wrote on page 81. Of course I didn’t know Zelma [Palestrant], though I think I met her on the one time I came to Charleston but the article struck a chord. This week is the anniversary of the death of a dear librarian friend of mine who sounds so much like Zelma, always cheerful despite terrible illness (she had a chronic liver complaint compounded by cancer diagnosed in her 50th year). Thelma (name even sounds the same) worked in isolation in a college library here for peanuts wages and with no recognition of her professional status or expertise, yet she was always calm, comforting, smiling, supportive, methodical — all those things I’m not. She was always able to make the best of a bad situation. I would love to pick up the phone to talk to her. It’s odd, I’m missing her more not less as time goes on as I realize what a real support she was.

So I’m just writing to say how touching your article was and how Thelma is already running the library in heaven but will be pleased to work with Zelma. I’ve found it very helpful in the year since her death to work on setting up a small bursary in her name to cover training for librarians working on their own in the local branch of the Library Association to which she gave so much. I am pleased to say that my plans have just got the official seal of approval this week for 1995 and that at least once a year librarians will be honouring someone who gave the profession and her friends so much. So you see it was a good idea to publish your appreciation of Zelma and you have my thoughts with you.

Best wishes,
Liz Chapman
(University of Oxford)

Dear Editor:

I wondered what was missing in my life! Now I know what it is! *Against the Grain*! What a great publication! Please start sending my subscription to my home address!

Sincerely yours,
Mary Jo Godwin
(The Oryx Press)

Rumors
from page 1

Holdings. Ingleby further stated, “All orders and funds for 1995 subscriptions are secure, and clients will receive the same high-quality service as they have in the past. We are eager to build on Faxon’s leadership position in the library community and view this as a long-term investment that positions Dawson for solid future growth.” Included in the closing funds was the amount needed to retire Faxon’s small remaining 1994 publisher obligations, and publishers have agreed to return to normal trading terms with Faxon for the 1995 subscription year. Dawson has also secured a working capital line of credit to allow Faxon to resume normal business operations. Dawson Holdings PLC, established in 1807, is a publicly-traded, worldwide supplier of information services to the library and business communities.

Here are some of Mike Markwith’s (Faxon) personal comments: “There was loud and joyous cheering last Friday, October 7, at 3 pm when it was announced that the FTC had granted approval and Faxon was now owned by Dawson. This has been a tumultuous summer for everyone, but all the clients, service people, support people, and sales people (with a few visible departures) stayed with the company. The employees’ loyalty, integrity, and commitment to Faxon tradition and our clients is a real blessing. They remained and Faxon survived! We all appreciate the support of our clients and are really
In Praise of Bookshops
from page 1

was a most pleasant house of mixed Georgian and Victorian origins..." And it was to this Castle and this house that in the early 1960's came one of the most famous (some might say unusual) booksellers of all time — Richard Booth. It was Booth who started the tide which eventually would result in some thirty plus bookshops moving into town. And it is Booth who now runs various bookshops, warehouses and even the Hay Castle Bookshop, who is truly "King of the Hill." Estimates vary but it is safe to say that his stock is in excess of one million volumes.

The main shop, and the one I had the most luck at, is located at 44 Lion Street, called Richard Booth's Bookshop. Here one can find 400,000 books, along with a slightly messy organization. "Let's not bother with trying to keep it tidy," one can imagine the staff saying to themselves, "after all, those customers will just mess it up again." Books on the floor, books on tables, books piled high, dusty books, books falling off the shelves — all are to be found here. But, given the time, one can find long wanted items. I came to this shop with more than 1,000 titles already in my collection of books by Julian Symons. I had just finished writing a Symons bibliography (to be published in 1995 by Oak Knoll) but there were twenty titles that are still missing from the collection. Two hours at Booth's resulted in four finds. Normally a success rate of 20% wouldn't seem that great, but I had been looking for these particular books for more than ten years.

The various Booth shops will give the book hunter finds in almost any subject area, but most surprising is that a goodly percentage of the books in stock are of U.S. origin. For a number of years Richard Booth made a practice of acquiring truck loads of books from various American sources and the stock still shows that activity.

SHOP FACTS:

Richard Booth's Bookshop, 44 Lion Street, Hay-On-Wye, Hereford, HR3 5AA, Phone (0497) 820322, Fax (0497) 821314. Open every day 9:00 - 5:30.

Hay Cinema Bookshop, The Old Cinema, Castle Street, Hay-On-Wye, via Hereford HR3 5DF, Telephone (0497) 820071, Fax (0497) 821004. Open every day 9:00 - 7:00. Catalogues in all subjects issued regularly.

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from page 5

excited about our future together. Faxon now has the financial strength to resume normal business operations. Dawson Holdings PLC has retired all of Faxon's 1994 obligations to publishers, provided a return to normal business terms with all publishers for 95 subscriptions, established a working capital line of credit for the 1995 subscription year, and guaranteed that the office, operations and people will remain in Westwood. I think I speak for all Faxon employees in saying we happily anticipate continuing and strengthening our business relationships with the library community as part of the Dawson organization."

More as we go to press. We have learned that Reed Elsevier has bought Mead Corp.'s Lexis/Nexis for $1.5 billion (see WSJ, 10/5/94, p. A3) outbidding companies like Times-Mirror and the Thomson Corporation. This certainly shows the power of Reed/Elsevier and makes us all the more pleased that we were able to visit with Jan Willem Dijkstra of Elsevier Science Publishing recently. See this issue, page 40.

The awesome Marian Reijnen of Martinus Nijhoff International recently gave birth to a 7 lb. 13 oz. baby boy. Julian Joffrey was born on the 17th of August at 3:35 a.m. Congratulations, Marian! Marian tells us she will be returning to work full time in December and will be attending the ALA Midwinter conference in 1995. Marian and her husband would like to express their gratitude for all the cards and messages!

Many of us have called Martinus Nijhoff recently and have been greeted by a new voice. The new voice is that of Ineke Middeldorp, who has been appointed to the position of Sales Manager for Martinus Nijhoff, North America. Her email address is 75027.500@compuserve.com. Ineke will be attending the Charleston Conference in November, and ALA Midwinter in February. She is looking forward to meeting us at these upcoming conferences and so are we! Welcome, Ineke!

The incredibly energetic Judy Luther (once of Faxon) has accepted the position of Senior Manager, North American Sales with ISI. All North American academic and corporate sales staff will report directly to her. Judy will be moving to Philadelphia from Atlanta. She asks us all to send grits! Judy has not abandoned ATG in all this movement! See innovations, which she edits with Norm Desmarais, this issue, page 70.

ISI has also announced the appointment of Keith R. MacGregor to the position of Vice President, New Product and Editorial Development. Keith will not only manage the team that creates new products and enhances existing products, but he is also responsible for the groups managing the editorial integrity and quality of all of ISI's products and services.

More from ISI. Two new CD-ROM products have been released — the Index to...
Scientific & Technical Proceedings® and the Index to Social Sciences & Humanities Proceedings®. These multidisciplinary products provide electronic access to complete bibliographic data from the world's most important science, social science, and arts and humanities conference literature. For more information contact ISI directly or through the Internet at isi@isinet.com.

Inforonics now offers cross-publisher searching as part of their Internet Catalog services. Internet users can search by keyword through a large number of titles and find a full description of every product listed. Search options allow users to find products by keyword in the title or in the descriptive text. Less than a year old, Inforonics' Internet Catalog Service now lists books, journals, electronic media, and software from more than twenty publishers, large and small. For more information, gopher Inforonics at gopher.infors.com or contact the Marketing Department at 508-486-8976 or via email at sales@infors.com. Remember that Judy Luther covered Inforonics Internet Catalog in an earlier Innovations column. See ATG, February, 1994, page 22.

The UKSG (United Kingdom Serials Group) has just issued Serial Publications: Guidelines for Good Practice in Publishing Printed Journals and Other Serial Publications. ISBN: 0906148103. Says Bob Campbell (Blackwell Scientific Publications), "There must be a copy on every journal editor's desk."

The AAP (Association of American Publishers, Inc.) has filed the publishing industry's formal response to the Administration's "Green Paper" on intellectual property rights and the National Information Infrastructure (NII). Praising the efforts of the NII Task Force Working Group on Intellectual Property Rights and its chairman Assistant Secretary of Commerce Bruce Lehman, the AAP welcomed the Green Paper’s basic conclusion that without effective copyright protection for its content, the NII’s potential will never be realized. Here are some key points in the AAP filing: Licensing and permission arrangements across the NII should be a natural outgrowth of multiple innovative marketplace solutions rather than government-imposed straitjackets; Public awareness of the importance of protecting intellectual property must be substantially increased; The "reproduction right" continues to be the most useful and reliable component of the package of exclusive rights within the control of the copyright holder; Most NII uses already involve this right; AAP cautioned against relying solely on "distribution right" to encompass future "transmissions" and will continue to explore various applications of the "distribution concept"; Unauthorized photocopying of complete college textbooks, newsletters, journals, and abstracts, abetted by the latest duplication technologies capable of turning out virtually perfect copies in large quantities, continues here and abroad; use of the NII as a conduit for unauthorized copies adds a new dimension to an already pervasive problem; A modest change in the copyright law might afford greater protection against unrestrained proliferation of what are inappropriately termed "interlibrary loans." For a complete copy of the filings or further information, contact the AAP Washington office, 1718 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20009. Phone: 202-232-3335. Fax: 202-745-0694.

Also from the AAP. On November 1, they will sponsor a full-day workshop, "The Basics of Marketing: Professional/Scholarly Publications." in Washington, DC. Cost: $105 (AAP members), $160 (nonmembers). Trouble is, it's too close to the Charleston Conference!

This from Marsha Baum (see page 13, this issue): "I just received the 9/29 issue of BNA's Patent, Trademark and Copyright Journal which includes a report on the fair use conference held 9/21. Below are the highlights:

"Not surprisingly, the two sides of the fair use issue, the copyright owners and the users of copyrighted information, did not agree on the use for digital information. According to the report on the conference in BNA's Patent, Trademark & Copyright Journal, librarians and educators at the conference favored fair use guidelines which are 'setting and format neutral' while copyright owners took the position that 'fair use privileges should not be expanded for electronic users of copyrighted information.' Both sides did seem to agree that new guidelines and copyright legislation should not be hurred. The Chair of the NII Working Group, Bruce Lehman, reported that a conference is planned where development of a fair use 'curriculum' for schools and libraries would be discussed." — abstracted from BNA's Patent, Trademark & Copyright Journal, v. 48, no. 1197, pp. 567-568 (9/29/94).

World Standards Day, cosponsored by NISO (National Information Standards Organization) is coming up — October 11, 1994, in Washington, DC, starting at 4:00 p.m. EDT. World Standards Day is an annual global event held in recognition of the importance of standardization in the design, manufacture, and successful marketing of products worldwide. In the U.S., it is a collaborative effort of the private sector and the federal government. The 90-minute CEO roundtable discussion on "Standards: The Path to Global Markets," will be satellite-uplinked for live viewing at registered U.S. Chamber downlink sites throughout the U.S. For further information, contact Patricia Harris, 301-975-2814.

After 15 years of work by more than 6700 experts, The Dictionary of Art will be published by Grove's Dictionaries, Inc. in the Spring of 1996. The Dictionary covers art of all the world, not just that of the western world, and recognizes new approaches in scholarship by examining works of art within the social, cultural, historical, and economic context in which they were created. To receive a 32-page brochure describing the Dictionary of Art or a complete list of the authors, contact Susan Keramedjian at 212-647-0182 or Fax 212-647-0290. Email: dctart@pipeline.com. Karen Agosta, who will be at the Charleston Conference, also knows all about it.

The always active John Vance, former McGraw-Hill education and professional publishing Exec. VP and Xerox V.P. for Bowker and UMI, is now in Peterborough NH where he is a consultant to publishers on electronic publishing. Research Books, special library distributors, which he bought in 1983, built and automated, was sold to the wonderful Brad Purcell in 1992. After eight years of publishing consulting to Phillips Electronic Publishing, he now focuses on small publisher opportunities in CD-ROM and interactive multimedia publishing and continues as a director of Research Books. If you want to reach him, call him at Fraser-Vance Publishing, 603-924-3030. Also, don't miss his letter to the editor, this issue, page 5.

The amazing Mary Jo Godwin, once editor of Wilson Library Bulletin, is recovering from a hurt leg. However, this did not keep her from ALA in Miami or traveling on her incredible schedule as acquisitions editor at Oryx Press. Though Mary Jo will not be coming to the Charleston Conference this year (too many other trips to take! why do they schedule meetings that conflict with the Charleston Conference?!) The nerval, she is sending someone in her stead. She also sent us a letter. See this issue, page 5.

Oryx Press is celebrating their twentieth birthday on February 1, 1995. Congratulations! See their Publisher's Profile, this issue, page 65.

Vicki Nicholson (James Bennett Library Services) squeezed in another report for our International Dateline for this issue (see page 18). She was going to mix some business (the Joint ALA/NZLIA Conference) with some pleasure (skiing).

Julia Gelfand (UC, Irvine) writes that she is receiving lots of announcements of the 1994 Charleston Conference. This, and the fact that a lot of her friends are attending, makes her sad that she is not able to come this year. Among other of the myriad things that Julia is always doing, she tells us that wedding plans are well underway. Best wishes, Julia!

Just out from Haworth Press is Volume 1, Number 1, the charter issue, of College & Undergraduate Libraries15, under the editorship of Alice Harrison Bahr, Director of the Library at Spring Hill College in Mobile, Alabama. On the editorial board are people like Joan M. Bechtel (Dickinson College), Evan Ira Farber (Earlham College), Thelma J. Hutchins (Emory & Henry College) and Lee Ketcham (University of Montevallo), and these are only a few. An individual subscription is $34, institutions and libraries subscriptions are $48.

Word on the street is that the incredible Gordon Graham, editor of LOGOS as well as As I Was Saying (see reviews, this issue, page 21-22), will be at the 1994 Charleston Conference. Let's see ...

See this month's Wired for "The Second Phase of the Revolution Has Begun," by Gary Well (page 117-121). The article's about Mosaic, "the celebrated graphic browser that allows users to travel through the world of electronic information using a point-and-click interface."

Thomson Shore puts out an excellent little newsletter called Printer's Ink. It's about printing and publishing. Helmut Schwarzer (YBP), who I understand I will FINALLY get to meet at the 1994 Charleston Conference, just sent us the issue for Summer 1993 (~9, issue 2), about book manufacturing by Mr. Ned Thomson. In these succinct four pages, Mr. Thomson "covers every single topic that [he] can think of that pertains to book manufacturing." Thomson Shore, Inc. is at 7300 W. Joy Rd., PO Box 305, Dexter, MI 48130-0305. Phone: 313-426-3939. Fax: 313-426-6219.

See The Wall Street Journal (9/12/94, p.B1) if you want to read about Axel Ganz, president of Gruen + Jahr which is 75% owned by Bertelsmann AG. In July, Gruen + Jahr bought a group of U.S. magazines (including McCall's and Family Circle) from New York Times Co. for $325 million.

And more from The WJS, Advertising on the net is the subject of "Purists Beware: Ads Have Invaded On-Line Services," by Jared Sanders, page B1, 8/23/94.

Evie Newlin was supposed to be in Germany and Switzerland, and even Wiesbaden this fall. But instead about mid September she underwent very serious cranial surgery twice. Now Lyman says she's in great shape, even giving him orders! Evie hopes to take her vacation during the cold months, maybe South American or Mexico, some warm climate!

We misspoke. Mary McLaren and Barbara Hale do not have a Doc Aquis for this issue, but they sent in some Rumors for inclusion here. We thank them very much and look forward to the next Doc Aquis in February? Ask Mary when you see her at the Charleston Conference!

An outstanding new academic book is this year's winner of the Noma Award for Publishing in Africa. Paul Tiyambe Zeleza's A Modern Economic History of Africa, Volume 1: The Nineteenth Century, published in 1993 by the Dakar-based Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA) has won the 1994 Noma Award. Over 140 titles, from 55 African publishers, in 17 countries were submitted for this year's competition. For more information including a list of other award-winners, contact Hans M. Zell or Mary Jay, The African Book Publishing Record, PO Box 56, Oxford OX1 2SJ England.

Heard from Azalee Sain (NC Community Colleges) who says she WILL be at the 1994 Charleston Conference. Look for her there (or is it here)!

John Ryland (Oglethorpe University) has quit smoking. He says we might not be able to recognize him, but I'll bet we can. Look for him at the 1994 Charleston Conference.

ADONIS (Cambridge, MA) has issued a joint statement with The Endocrine Society and the New York Academy of Sciences announcing an agreement to include the serial publications of the two Societies in the ADONIS system. The titles to be added are — Annals of the NYAS, Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism, Endocrinology, Molecular Endocrinology, and Endocrine Reviews. All titles are being back-scanned to the beginning of the 1994 volume year and will appear on an ADONIS update disc within a month. ADONIS is a company owned and operated by a group of STM publishers to provide an image bank of more than 600 journal titles to be used for article reproduction and delivery on CD-ROM. US regional manager of ADONIS is Paul Ashton, who has been frequently seen at the Charleston Conferences.

We would really like to know if you like our Meeting Reports (And They Were There). They take up a lot of space and we want to make sure that you find them useful. How about telling us? Our thinking is that librarianship is changing so much that we need to know what the other hand (or worker) is doing. Anyway, like we said, let us hear what you think! And don't put it off. There's no time like the present!

I think George Bush made it famous or was it Dan Quayle? I don't think it's in the OED yet. It's the term "misspoke." I love it! Instead of saying you were mistaken or wrong, in today's politically correct word, we "misspeak." Read Eleanor Cook's column on "mistruths." I guess that's an old word. See this issue, page 58.

Look!!! Against the Grain is indexed by LISA as well as by UnCover. We are also indexed by InfoSources Publishing and BUBL, the British University Table of contents service. Still, we are trying to get indexed by Library Literature. We would greatly appreciate it if you would take the time to write the H.W. Wilson Company and tell them that ATG would be a wonderful library publication to index. How about it?


More from the eicopyright Listserv — On September 20, 1994, the National Writers Union (NWU) issued a call for writers' rights in the emerging field of online book publishing. "The distribution of book-length works via networks such as the Internet is
an exciting development for writers," said
NWU President Jonathan Tasini, "but we
want to be sure that authors are treated fairly
in this new medium." The NWU has re-
leased a position paper, "Recommended Prin-
ciples for Contracts Covering Online Book
Publishing," which complements a similar
document on CD-ROM and other disc-based
electronic books issued by the NWU last
April. To request the full text of the recom-
mended principles (about 20K) contact Philip
Matterat at slope@panix.com.

The Northeast Document Conserva-
tion Center (NEDCC) has announced the
publication of the second edition of Preser-
vation of Library and Archival Materi-
To obtain a copy, send a check for $40 to
NEDCC, 100 Brickstone Square, Andover,
MA 01810 or call 508-470-1010.

OCLC announced that Yankee Book
Peddler (YBP) is the first vendor to sign on
to their new PromptCat Service! PromptCat
is the new OCLC service designed to auto-
matically set a library's holding symbol and
provide cataloging data for titles that a book
vendor sends to the library as part of an
approval plan or firm order. OCLC will in-
roduce this service in spring, 1995. Accordin-
g to OCLC, Yankee is the first of many
vendors who will be offering the service.
PromptCat is the first step in what will
become the second generation of cataloging
services for OCLC's member libraries. Mar-
tin Dillon (OCLC) will be speaking at the
Charleston Conference on PromptCat (Thurs-
day, Lively Lunch!)

The Chicago Library System (CLS), a
consortium of 433 academic, public, school,
and special libraries, is making OCLC's
FirstSearch Catalog available to its mem-
ers as a pilot project. The project provides
access to FirstSearch databases, as well as
a link to Illinois holdings, OCLC's Prism In-
terlibrary Loan service, document suppliers,
and online full text, in two phases.

Also from OCLC is news that the latest
release of SiteSearch software allows a li-
brary user to go directly from an article
citation on the workstations to the jour-
als on the library shelf. The Copy fea-
ture, added with Release 1.2, provides a link
from the article citation to a locally mounted
database. Library users can ask for Copy
information from within databases mounted
locally on campus as well as from within the
44 databases available through the
FirstSearch service.

And more about the Chicago Library
System: It recently contracted with Ameritech Library Services for membership in a full-service Dynix Automation
Center. This will provide member libraries
the opportunity to automate without investing
in on-site system hardware or administra-
tion.

From Utah we hear that the Utah State
Library Division has contracted with Vista
electronic database services. The Utah
Public Library Network Initiative ap-
proved funding to open Internet service for
20 Utah public libraries in 1994 and plans to
expand to approximately 70. The Internet
connection will allow access to Vista's data-
base services, as well as electronic mail,
Telnet, Mosaic, Gopher, and FTP.

Also from Dynix comes the announce-
ment that Jim Wilson, one of the original
founders of Dynix, has been appointed
Western Regional Sales Manager for Ameritech Library manyer.

Of interest to SIRSI users is the news
that SIRSI is releasing a graphical user in-
terface (GUI) for use in a Windows environ-
ment. Like its character client, the GUI client
is available for all staff and public functions.
And also like the character client, it allows
all user interaction to be handled within the
PC which reduces the load on the host com-
puter. Single unit and site licenses are avail-
able.

More from SIRSI: SIRSI's next major
release, Version 7.6, contains the following
changes — Call number browsing has been
added; search results can be printed on a
slave printer; the user records have been
enhanced; new buttons to the public access
screens have been added; access control has
been reorganized and enhanced; an Infor-
mation Gateway is being introduced; and
administrative utilities have been improved.

Data Trek and UMI have signed an agree-
ment whereby UMI will make AB/INFORM
available to Data Trek, Inc. software
users, and accessible via GoPAC
(Graphical Online Public Access Catalog)
software starting later this Winter.

Data Trek tells us its new release of
Manager Series, Version 7.0, contains over
200 enhancements! These enhancements are
provided for the Cataloging, Circulation, Se-
rials, Acquisitions, Databridge and Report
Generator modules.

And did you know that Chemical Ab-
stracts Service (CAS) has recorded the 13
millionth chemical substance in its com-
puter-based Chemical Registry System? The
CAS Registry contains information on
essentially all chemical substances reported
in the scientific literature since 1957.
(13,000,000 is quite a few!)

This summer Katina and her husband
visited Amsterdam and Weisbaden to talk to
some of the great people on their home turf.
Our Eurail pass made it easy enough to find
the connection to Dordrecht, the location of
Kluwer Academic Publishers. Kluwer is a
group of three publishing houses operating
in Dordrecht, Boston, and London (Gra-
ham & Trotman). It is a sector of the
Wolters Kluwer publishing concern. Dike de
van Wijnen is so international that she has
gone to high school in Texas, lives in The
Hague, and visits China in her spare time.
The Kluwer facilities stretch across several
buildings. Besides seeing the Kluwer gopher
and meeting with the soft-spoken, Ellen
ten Boef, the Market Manager to Libraries,
we had a fascinating talk with Robert
Barendregt, Manager of the Distribution
Center. Herman Pabruwe was on vaca-
tion, so we didn't get to badger him, but
there's always next time . . . And Dike is
our new International Dateline editor for
ATG beginning in 1995!

Peter Nijsen of Swets drove us the 45-
minute distance to Lisse, a town famous for
tulip horticulture which you can't get to by
train. He showed us the polder (the diked
fields) and Swets' exceedingly modern fa-
cilities set in a farmyard amidst cows and
sheep. Besides his work on learning Dutch
four hours every day, Albert Prior, the newest
managing director of Swets, talked to us
briefly about the Faxon boycott and how
Swets is working to make the transition
smooth. Judy Nederstigt-Weyers is one of
them.

In Germany, we did an extensive inter-
view with Knut Dorn, which will be printed
in an upcoming issue of ATG (February?). I
am sure that you will like it, so, our last word
to you is — renew your subscription!