1990

If Rumors Were Horses

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Against the Grain

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Recommended Citation

Strauch, Katina (1990) "If Rumors Were Horses," Against the Grain: Vol. 2: Iss. 3, Article 3.
DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.7771/2380-176X.2263

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If Rumors Were Horses

What a surprise! Effective May 14 Mike Markwith has been appointed Vice President, Sales and Marketing, Yankee Book Peddler, Contoocook, New Hampshire. His replacement at Faxon has not yet been named but the interim contact is Craig Flansburg.

According to a memorandum from the Association of Research Libraries dated May 30, 1990, “Richard Reserve of Covington & Burling, attorneys for the AIP/APS, has just telephoned to relate that today, in Frankfurt, West Germany, the Trial Court has entirely dismissed the Gordon & Breach lawsuit. The dismissal represents a very favourable development for the physical societies and Dr. Barschall, with positive implications for the American Mathematical Society. . . . The matter is still subject to appeal and we will be informed of future developments. Cases are still pending in Switzerland and France.”

And we were hoping to get Robert Maxwell to speak at the Acquisitions '90 Conference in St. Louis in May (report coming in our next issue) since he was to receive an honorary degree from Washington University at the same time. But no dice. Why? Because Mr. Maxwell was in East Berlin announcing his intention to buy a substantial stake in Berliner Verlag, a major publisher of newspapers and periodicals owned by the Former Communist Party of East Germany. Oh well . . .

And Sandy Paul (that’s Sandra K.) has been elected Chairman of ANSI Information Systems Standards Board. This is the Board which coordinates the activities of all organizations accredited by ANSI to develop standards in the area of information systems and sciences.

Word is that Jolanda von Hagen, President and CEO of Springer-Verlag New York will be moving back to Springer-Verlag Germany this summer.

According to PW (April 6, 1990), Commerce Clearing House is selling Facts on File. FOF revenues for last year were approximately $20 million and it has a backlist of 950 reference books that sell primarily to libraries.

From a press release dated April, 19, 1990: “Starting 1 January 1991,
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Martinus Nijhoff Eastern Europe, a subsidiary of Martinus Nijhoff International in The Hague, The Netherlands, will start the supply of scientific literature to the Soviet Union worth approximately 1.5 million Dutch guilders per year. The Dutch company will be supplying predominantly scientific journals to the library of the Academy of Sciences of the Soviet Union in Leningrad.

And, after a year at Stanford University, Pam Cenzer will be returning to the University of Florida (Gainesville) this summer. Pam will be a bibliographer.

Do you all remember Clara-Mae Chitum who way back when worked as Acquisitions Librarian at MIT? Well, for those of you who do, Clara recently was married to Ruud F. Van der Velden and is living in The Netherlands.

EBSCO Subscription Services will host a reception honoring ALA President Pat Berger following the President’s Forum on Sunday, June 24, 3:30-5 at ALA Annual. The Forum features Clifford Stoll, an authority on computer security who uncovered an international network of spies selling computer secrets to the KGB. Stoll will speak on preserving library materials in an electronic age.

According to Inforonics Info (v.III, no.1, Spring/Summer 1990) Harvard University Press “is upgrading their book catalog database to an on-line TitleBank system. TitleBank is a complete book marketing and catalog production service, which maintains book data in an easily accessible computer file for use throughout the marketing and sales process.”

Rosann Bazirjian has been named Head of Acquisitions at Syracuse University.

Sara Miller McCune’s husband George passed away unexpectedly in Wawona, Yosemite National Park on Saturday May 19, 1990. Mr. McCune, born October 18, 1924, “began a long and distinguished career in the publishing industry with Macmillan Publishing Company (New York). In 1966 he joined a fledgling publishing company Sage Publications, Inc., which was founded in New York by his wife Sara, in 1965.” He is succeeded as President of Sage Publications by his son, David.

According to a recent press release, Martindale Hubbell has been acquired by Reed Publishing (USA). Ira Siegel, president of Martindale Hubbell as well as R.R. Bowker (also owned by Reed Publishing), has stated that Bowker will be relocating to New Providence, NJ, the headquarters of Martindale Hubbell. “Both companies will be housed together in a new building set for completion in early 1991.”

And Baker & Taylor Books has announced the acquisition of a new IBM 3909 200J computer that will enable customers to send and receive electronic orders faster than ever. According to a recent press release, this system will reduce processing time, sending data at a rate of less than two seconds a line.