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If Rumors Were Horses

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Against the Grain

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Against the Grain

"Linking Publishers, Vendors and Librarians"

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 5, NOVEMBER 1991

In This Issue:

- 2/ Letters to the Editor
- 3/ Bit By Bit
- 4/ And They Were There
- 7/ Library Profile
- 8/ Subscription Information
ATG Review
From Your Editor
- 10/ If You're Hot You're Hot
- 13/ Library School
- 15/ Games
- 17/ Guest Editorial
- 18/ Conspectus
- 22/ Acquisitions, Up, Up and Away
- 25/ Issues in Vendor-Library Relations
- 26/ The Timeless Nemesis
- 27/ The Meyers Connection
Controversy
- 29/ Will the Book Survive
- 31/ Call for Papers,
Library Acquisitions
Serials Pricing Update
- 32/ Bet You Missed It
- 35/ Publisher's Profile
- 38/ Call for Editors
- 39/ Advertisers' Index
Deadlines

1043-2094 (199111) 3: 5-V

If Rumors Were Horses

Clifford Lynch, the lead-off speaker at the 1991 Charleston Conference, received the LITA/Gaylord Award for Achievement in Library and Information Technology during the LITA President's Program in Atlanta.

Bowker has appointed 18 library professionals to serve as members of a new Bowker Library Advisory Board. The Board will meet twice a year and the first meeting was during the ALA Conference in Atlanta, GA.

Corrie Marsh (Head of Acquisitions at George Washington University's Gelman Library) has accepted the job of Product Manager at NOTIS, effective the end of November, 1991. Congratulations, Corrie. And speaking of NOTIS, the sale to Ameritech has gone through.

September 11, 1991, *Chronicle of Higher Education*, p. A19 quotes one of our old friends — Scott Bullard. He is now Director of the Copyright Permissions Service offered by the National Association of College Stores (a trade association). This information from the person who reads everything that comes into the LSU Library, Chuck Hamaker!

Publishers Weekly for 9/20/91 shows that title output dropped considerably in 1990. It was at a ten year low since 1980.

Annette John (Acquisitions Librarian at Washington and Lee Univer-

sity Library) is back at work, after a year's leave spent in London, Oxford, and Seattle. She writes that it was the fastest year in human memory and lots of fun. Welcome back to the real world, Annette!

And Chuck Hamaker just came back from a week-long (almost) stay in Provo, Utah where he was given the Brigham Young University Library School Outstanding Alumnus award. Congratulations, Chuck!

Elsevier Science Publishers, Elsevier Science Publishing Co., Inc. (ESPC, Inc.) has announced changes in its book publishing and distribution programs in North America. ESPC, Inc. in New York has decided to reallocate its resources and strengthen its efforts on the acquisition and development of journals for both the academic and professional markets. This will be carried out in two ways. First, ESPC, Inc., will divest itself of its New York book publishing program in both the biomedical and physical sciences areas, which includes the Medical Examination Publishing Company (MEPC) imprint. The program currently consists of 75 front-list titles annually. The second is that the North American distribution of book programs for Elsevier Science Publishers BV, Amsterdam, the Netherlands and Elsevier Science Publishers, Ltd., London, England, will be directly managed by those respective locations. Imprints for these pub-

continued on page 36

lishing companies include Elsevier, North-Holland, Excerpta Medica and Elsevier Applied Science. The transition is expected to be completed by December 15, 1991.

The Chronicle of Higher Education (September 18, 1991) reported that the Senate voted for "the new national computer network that would link hundreds of universities, laboratories, and libraries," called the NREN, the National Research and Education Network. (see this issue, page 32)

According to a press release dated October 7, 1991, Reed Publishing (USA) Inc has purchased by an asset transaction the directories business of Macmillan, Inc., a subsidiary of Maxwell Communication Corporation PLC for \$145 million (83.4 million pounds), payable in cash at closing. In the year to 31 March 1991, the Macmillan directories business earned an operating profit of \$13.5m (7.7m pounds). The acquired directories consist of four divisions, the two largest of which are Marquis Who's Who and National Register Publishing Company.

This comes from BP Report for July 22, 1991: "At [Springer-Verlag's] recent annual press conference it was announced that the revenues of its STM publishing worldwide increased by only 1.1% last year to DM367 million (about \$246 million)." Listed as reasons were library budget cuts, the exchange rate, and the situation in the Soviet Union.

And Against the Grain was recently called by the LA Times regarding the sales tax passed by the California State Legislature (reported in *ATG*, 3#4, p.1). Reportedly, the 8 1/4% tax will cost UCLA an estimated \$300,000.

And speaking of Against the Grain, we hope you noticed the review published in Library Journal for September 15, 1991, p.120. (see p. this issue)

The Faxon Company has announced that they have successfully received and uploaded the first transmission of live standard dispatch data in the serials community from Kluwer Academic Publishers in Dordrecht, The

Netherlands. In last month's *ATG*, Sandy Paul told you about the Serials Item and Contribution Identification (SICI), approved by ANSI in July, 1991, and the barcode symbol which is being used by more and more publishers (look at the front cover of *ATG*, for example). Other ICEDIS (International Committee for EDI in Serials) publishers include Elsevier, the Royal Society of Chemistry, Taylor and Francis, Pergamon and John Wiley.

CARL Systems, Inc., is actually doing document delivery for a fee. And it's pretty exciting. The CARL Board of Directors met recently (early October) and they seem to be "cooking with gas." (A familiar Becky Lenzini (Pres of CARL Systems, Inc.) saying.) We all know that CARL and the British Library Document Supply Centre (BLDSC) have announced their intention of working together to create an effective and comprehensive document delivery service for U.S. libraries.

In a press release Faxon Research Services, Inc. announces that Faxon Finder™ and Faxon Xpress™ will be made available to more than 11,000 libraries in the United States and Canada through OCLC's EPIC® and First Search™ services. These services include table of contents and document delivery services to be made available in early 1992.

The Newsletter of the Commission on Preservation and Access (October 1991) includes a special report on their October 1990 nationwide preservation survey effort. 452 libraries returned the questionnaires for a 44% return rate. Not all of the results are reported, but two are underscored: 1) "92% of the academic research libraries consider coordination of mass deacidification preservation microfilming and coordinated state or regional disaster preparedness activities to be very important"; 2) "... more than half the libraries do not provide constant climate control throughout the year for their general collections, and two-fifths do not do so for special collections."

And over the summer, Deana Astle and Chuck Hamaker were interviewed by John Tagler for Elsevier's in-house newsletter. They were talk-

ing about serials prices, among other things. As we understand it, the interview isn't out yet, but we are hoping to see it soon!

Chuck Hamaker tells us that ERIC has an interesting survey out regarding the "American 2000" program and the future of online information. The survey had to be returned to Cincinnati Bell by October 4. And should be filled out by a reference librarian, a computer technologist, and a person from the School of Education.

Word is that Ann Okerson is doing an ARL Survey about journal cancellations, including publisher specific information regarding cancellation data.

Ted Arnold is a new Regional Sales Manager in the south for Blackwell North America. His address is: 391 South Main St.; Madison, Georgia 30650. Phone: (404)342-0773.

Blackwell North America recently won the bid for the first stage of the British Council's 6.5m pound contract with the Public Authority of Applied Education and Training in Kuwait.

R.R. Bowker has announced the publication of Books in Print 1991-92, contains listings from over 40,000 publishers, including 135,000 new titles since the last edition.

SilverPlatter has moved its U.S. Headquarters, effective September 30, to: 100 River Ridge Drive; Norwood, MA 02062-5026. Phone: (617)769-2599; (800)343-0064. FAX (617)769-8763.

Quanta Press has moved. New address: 1313 Fifth Street SE, Suite 208C, Minneapolis, MN 55414. Phone: (612)379-3956; FAX (612)623-4570.

SOLINET (the Southeastern Library Network) has announced that Martha Richardson has joined the staff as Sales & Promotions Coordinator, a new position.

Ah, the power of the press ... At the recent American Association of University Presses annual meeting, "The Golden Fluke Award" reportedly went to The Johns Hopkins

University Press when they sold 20,000 copies of a bladder control book in three days because it was mentioned in an Ann Landers column.

Baker & Taylor Books has announced the publication of **Many Voices, Many Books . . . Strength Through Diversity: A Multicultural Catalog**, a bibliography of resources that showcases America's wealth of multicultural literature and encourages literacy through the pursuit of life long reading. Baker & Taylor Books is distributing the catalog to libraries and bookstores across the country.

Ann Okerson (President of NASIG among other things) tells us that Beth Holley's *Directory of Back Issue Dealers* (as presented in a NASIG Workshop at the 6th conference at Trinity University in June, 1991) will be published by NASIG shortly (it is being revised as we speak). The *Directory* will contain close to 100 entries and will be indexed. The cost is not yet set, but is expected to be under \$10. Sounds good to us!

Publishers Weekly (September 13, 1991) reports the death of Ronald G. Segel, chairman and chief executive of Reed Publishing (USA) Inc and Cahners Publishing Company.

And, did you know that this is the 100th anniversary year of the Chace International Copyright Act, passed July 1, 1891? The Library of Congress currently has an exhibition on this subject. ■

POSITION AVAILABLE

Library: Head, Acquisitions Department, Gelman Library, The George Washington University. Appointment salary minimum: \$35,000 (negotiable, based on qualifications and experience). Responsibilities: provides leadership for department responsible for acquisition of monographs, serials, non-print materials, government documents using NOTIS acquisitions system and for public periodicals room; manages acquisitions budget of \$1.7 million; selects and monitors vendors, including approval plan and subscriptions; provides accurate reports on acquisitions activity and status of acquisitions budget; represents acquisitions department on library-wide committees; participates in collegial decision-making process; represents Gelman Library at consortium meetings and participates in consortium committees; represents Gelman Library at professional meetings. Management duties: supervises department of 29 classified staff and one professional; develops policies and procedures; matches staffing to workflow requirements. Qualifications: required — ALA accredited MLS, acquisitions experience in academic or research library, supervisory experience, several years experience with automated acquisitions system, demonstrated ability to work effectively in non-hierarchical organization; demonstrated communication skills. Preferred — experience with NOTIS; reading knowledge of foreign language; course work in social sciences. Deadline: review of applications begins January 15, 1992 and continues until the position is filled. Please send current resume and names of three references to : Andrea Stewart, Executive Associate, Gelman Library, The George Washington University, Washington, D.C. 20052. GWU is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer. ■

tions budget; represents acquisitions department on library-wide committees; participates in collegial decision-making process; represents Gelman Library at consortium meetings and participates in consortium committees; represents Gelman Library at professional meetings. Management duties: supervises department of 29 classified staff and one professional; develops policies and procedures; matches staffing to workflow requirements. Qualifications: required — ALA accredited MLS, acquisitions experience in academic or research library, supervisory experience, several years experience with automated acquisitions system, demonstrated ability to work effectively in non-hierarchical organization; demonstrated communication skills. Preferred — experience with NOTIS; reading knowledge of foreign language; course work in social sciences. Deadline: review of applications begins January 15, 1992 and continues until the position is filled. Please send current resume and names of three references to : Andrea Stewart, Executive Associate, Gelman Library, The George Washington University, Washington, D.C. 20052. GWU is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer. ■

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