December 2000

Rumors

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Recommended Citation

Strauch, Katina (2000) "Rumors," *Against the Grain*: Vol. 12: Iss. 6, Article 3.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.7771/2380-176X.3089>

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MILLENNIUM ISSUE

VOLUME 12, NUMBER 6

DECEMBER 2000 - JANUARY 2001

Against the Grain

"Linking Publishers, Vendors and Librarians"

ISSN: 1043-2094

The Human Face of Robert Maxwell — His Contribution to the 20th Century

by **Judith Ennals** (Political Secretary to Robert Maxwell and General Sales Manager, Pergamon Press, Oxford, 1961-1992)

Robert Maxwell, Publisher and Press Baron, was throughout his life, a figure shrouded in mystery both as to his origins in the romantic-sounding Ruthenia and his strange demise, falling from his luxury yacht, unobserved by the crew, in spite of his weight which must have made a considerable splash - or was he pushed? There are even those who blame the mafia. It is, however, a fact that he was immense in stature as well as size and in personality as well as output and achievement.

I first met him in his splendid mansion in Oxford in 1961. An Australian by birth and nationality, I travelled to Europe in 1948 after the war on a brief tour and here I still am. I worked in Paris for the United Nations General Assembly and in Geneva at the Palais des Nations before settling in Oxford in 1956.

For a short time I worked as College Secretary of St. Hilda's but one evening, returning home to Kidlington on the bus, an article in the Oxford Mail caught my eye. It was about a dashing young man known as Captain Bob Maxwell M.C., who was seeking nomination as the Labour candidate for Buckingham. I did not catch up with him again until 1961. I opened the paper to find a full page advertisement offering jobs at London rates of pay for Pergamon Press, a publishing house, moving from London to Oxford. Seeking a part-time job as I had two small children, I called at Headington Hill Hall little realising that I was to commit myself to spending the rest of my working life, 32 years, on this site, 10 of which I worked personally for Robert Maxwell.

Maxwell has been much maligned both at home and abroad since his death as attempts have been made to unravel his intricate financial dealings and vast business empire. As one who worked for him, closely at times, I thought the moment had come, at the turn of the century, to pay tribute to this giant of a man, in spite of the fact that he has been branded a rogue and a tyrant. I am unlikely to convince many people otherwise but I wish to present another side to this colourful and controversial character, who might have been one of the outstanding personalities of this century, remembered for his achievements rather than his misdemeanours. I personally believe that he was one of the remarkable characters of last century, since he contributed much to the age of technology in which we live and provided a vehicle for the research and ideas which made this possible.

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If Rumors Were Horses

Congratulations are in order! I am pleased to announce that the **University of New Mexico General Library** titles of (Interim) Associate Dean and Director of Budget and Personnel are merging as of 01/01/01 to form **Deputy Dean of Library Services**. And guess who got the job! The incomparable **Fran Wilkinson** <fwilkins@unm.edu> (Associate Professor of Librarianship, and Interim Associate Dean of Library Services, UNM). Congratulations, Fran!

More congratulations! **Steve Moss** joined **Institute of Physics Publishing, Inc.** in 1998 and since then has consistently developed initiatives focused on the specific needs of North American Librarians. In recognition of Steve's dedication and the fabulous job he's done during his tenure at **IOPP**, they are pleased to announce **Steve Moss's** appointment as **Vice President, IOPP Inc.** Sounds great to us! <collins@ioppubusa.com>.

He's now at **UNC-Charlotte**, but as of February 1, **Mike Somers** <msomers@email.uncc.edu> will be the new **Assistant University Librarian** at **Indiana State University**. Mike will manage the library's day-to-day operations, personnel issues, building maintenance, and whatever falls from the

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sky. He will also be working with the Library's systems staff and working on consortial/state-wide issues on behalf of the library. Mike is also the newest Board member of *The Charleston Advisor* (www.charlestonco.com). Here's his new email address at Indiana State: libsom@isugw.indstate.edu.

The bam-zowie **Mary Page** (mepage@rci.rutgers.edu) got promoted in September and I forgot to tell y'all! After serving as head of collection services and serials management for the New Brunswick campus for two years, Mary is now Head of Acquisitions at RUL. She says she wasn't able to make it the Conference in 2000, but she has already put the conference on her calendar for 2001! Congratulations, Mary, and Hooray!

More news! Five **Sage** employees have left the company to start **HostedSurvey.com**, an Internet software application provider. **Dennis Frayne** (former IT Director), **Geane Dvorak** (Marketing Director) (geane.dvorak@hostedware.com), **Rob Donahue** (Book Sales), and two other IT staff members will be launching the new company and its software applications at **American Evaluation Association's Annual Meeting** in Hawaii. **HostedSurvey** will give researchers and organizations the ability to create and administer surveys for the Web without installing software, or writing programs. They will also deliver applications for creating and administering tests (**HostedTest.com**), and **HostedConferencing** for live and prerecorded seminars and conferences. They will serve primarily universities and organizations.

Well, this broke during the **Charleston Conference** and you probably already know about it, but here goes. **Reed Elsevier** is set to acquire **Harcourt General's** Scientific, Technical and Medical business and US Schools Education and Testing businesses for a net cost of \$4.5 billion. The acquisition was announced of the whole of **Harcourt General Inc.** for \$4.45 billion and the assumption of \$1.20 billion in debt, and on-sale of Higher Education and certain Corporate and Professional Services businesses to **The Thomson Corporation** for \$2.06 billion. The latest word seems to be that **Reed Elsevier** has extended its offer for **Harcourt General** to January 8. This is to ac-

commodate review by regulators in the U.S.

Have you seen the news that, "beginning in January 2001, **Purdue University Press** will begin to accept monographs for publication in its new e-only monograph imprint, **Digital-I** books. Facing the ever-increasing need to produce titles for smaller market segments in Academia, the **Digital-I** imprint will provide an outlet for scholarly information that does not presently exist. Each project will undergo the same rigorous acceptance routine that regular scholarly monographs now face, including approval by the Press's editorial board. However, unlike traditionally published books, the **Digital-I** imprint will take full advantage of the new e-book software and programs now being developed by organizations like Microsoft®, Ebrary®, and other e-book vendors." (<http://www.thepress.purdue.edu/index.html>)

And, I don't know about you, but I sure am struggling to keep up with ejournals and databases. My life has turned into one big database! And now, to top it all off, there are the eBooks out the wazoo! If it's not one distributor, it's another. At the **2000 Charleston Conference**, we had several forays into e-Books. **Dennis Dillon's** site at www.lib.utexas.edu/Libs/PCL/Etext.html is an awesome place to start.

And, did you read **Judy Luther's** great interview with **Troy Williams** of **Questia** in the last issue of *ATG*? (v.12#5, p.50) Scheduled to launch in January 2001, **Questia** has generated lots of interest on the e-Book front. (www.questia.com/).

And now there's **ebrary™**, which calls itself "the authoritative source for online research," and which has announced a contract in which **Taylor & Francis**, the international academic publisher, will make available the vast majority of both its ongoing frontlist and its 17,000 backlist titles in the humanities, social sciences, sciences and engineering, to all users of **ebrary**. **ebrary** is creating a rich collection of authoritative and valuable content that includes books, journals, maps, periodicals, and digitally archived material. **ebrary** patrons will gain access to this content without having to pay membership or subscription fees. Using the photocopy analogy, patrons will pay to copy or print specific paragraphs, pages or chapters as needed. "Our link up with **ebrary** is consistent with our strategy to seek technology partners where appropriate in order to ensure that our scholarly material is disseminated to as wide

an audience as possible," said **Christoph Chesher**, director of sales and marketing services for **Taylor & Francis**. "This contract follows closely on our decision to make all our titles available as e-books in 2001 alongside their traditional print versions" For more information, visit www.ebrary.com or see **Judy Luther's** upcoming interview with **Christopher Warnock**, CEO, in *The Charleston Advisor*, v.2#3, January, 2001.

And one more eBook development. **Data Research Associates, Inc. (DRA)** (Nasdaq: DRAI) has announced an agreement with **netLibrary** to integrate **netLibrary eBooks** into **DRA's Classic** and **Taos** library automation systems. **DRA** and **netLibrary** are working together to integrate **netLibrary eBooks** into the acquisitions and OPAC modules of the two **DRA** systems through the use of communication protocols for the transfer of machine-readable catalog (MARC) records. The integrated systems will enable librarians using **DRA's Classic** and **Taos** systems, at their discretion, to quickly search, select, and acquire eBooks for their collections. Also through the integrated **DRA** systems, librarians will be able to purchase eBooks from **netLibrary** with the simplicity of transmitting an electronic purchase order. In addition, library patrons will be able to search for eBooks purchased by their library directly from the library's **DRA**-furnished OPAC. eBooks found by patrons in the OPAC can be previewed or borrowed at the click of a mouse. www.netLibrary.com

There's more. **netlibrary** and **Houghton Mifflin Company** have announced plans to launch a digital textbook initiative. **netLibrary's MetaText** division will create electronic versions of **Houghton Mifflin College Division texts** and, beginning in the fall 2001 semester, provide college students and instructors access to electronic textbooks through **MetaText's** interactive, Web-based learning platform. Once transferred into **MetaText** editions, select Houghton Mifflin college titles will be available for review and adoption by instructors at colleges and universities throughout the United States. Instructors may adopt **MetaText** editions directly through their existing Houghton Mifflin sales representatives in the spring of 2001 for use in classes beginning in the fall semester of 2001. **MetaText** editions contain all essential components of a textbook, including words, photographs, charts, and graphics. **MetaText** editions organize text into conceptual units rather than arbitrary page breaks. The **MetaText** platform features a variety of tools to benefit both instructors and students. For more information, go to www.MetaText.com.

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Against the Grain — Deadlines 2001 — Volume 13

Event	Issue	Ad Reservation	Camera-Ready
Annual Report, ACRL, ARLIS	Feb. 2001	12/06/00	12/20/00
SLA, MLA	April 2001	02/07/01	02/21/01
ALA Annual, AALL	June 2001	03/28/01	04/11/01
Reference Publishing	Sept. 2001	07/11/01	07/25/01
Charleston Conference	Nov. 2001	08/15/01	08/29/01
ALA Midwinter	Dec. 01/Jan. 02	10/24/01	11/14/01

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One last e-Book tidbit from **Edupage**, Dec. 15 and **Wired News**. From **BookTech West**, **Microsoft's** e-Book contributions over the past year were recognized when they received the inaugural **Alan Kay Award** for eBook Innovation.

Well, guess what? The wonderful **Richard Meyer**, once of Clemson University in Clemson, SC and Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas, (**Richard Werking's** old stomping ground), is now **Dean of Libraries** at **Georgia Tech**. Richard started his job in October, 2000. And, last month we told y'all about his report (**ATG** 12#5, p. 8), **Beating Publisher Price Discrimination**. Rich can be reached at 210-493-8967 or <rmeyer@express-news.net> or <rmeyer@library.gatech.edu>

Even more great news. We heard about this at the **Charleston Conference**, but I wanted to "put it in writing" right now. The incredible **Rebecca Seger** <ras@oup-usa.org>, once of McGraw-Hill has been doing more than just having babies! She has moved to **Oxford University Press** where she is **Marketing Director, Scholarly & Professional Reference**. We missed you in Charleston, Rebecca, but are looking forward to seeing you back next year!

And, from **Rebecca** (above) and the wonderful **Royalynn O'Connor**, also at OUP

<ROY@OUP-USA.ORG>, there is news of an **ALA Online Resource Session** on Friday, January 12, at the Madison hotel which will include demonstrations on future enhancements in function, presentation and editorial coverage by **Oxford University Press**, **Grove's Dictionaries**, and **McGraw-Hill**.

On November 21, **Oryx Press** of Phoenix, Arizona, which was founded by the awesome **Phyllis Steckler** (I like the way she speaks her mind!) in 1975, was purchased by the **Greenwood Publishing Group** for an undisclosed amount. **Oryx Press** was founded by publishing industry veteran **Steckler** in 1975, following a 15-year career at **R.R. Bowker**. According to Phyllis, the acquisition is a timely strategic move: "Oryx Press has published more than 650 essential reference titles over the last 25 years. With the Greenwood acquisition of Oryx, I'm delighted to say that our company now is assured of a successful future for the next 25 years and beyond. It is a combination of the two best reference publishers in the industry today." Known best for its reference books and databases in the library, education, and business markets, **Oryx** has developed numerous partnerships and licensing agreements throughout the library community. Key titles in the Oryx list include the **GrantSelect** database and the prestigious **American Council on Education Series on Higher Education**, published in cooperation with **ACE**. The addition of **Oryx** to the **Greenwood Pub-**

lishing Group family of imprints – which include **Praeger Publishers**, **Bergin & Garvey**, **Quorum Books**, **Ablex Publishing**, **Auburn House**, **Greenwood Press**, and **GEM (Greenwood Electronic Media)** – further strengthens Greenwood's position as the premier provider of scholarly and reference products for today's academic, school, and professional audiences, and brings the total backlist for Greenwood to over 18,000 titles. "We are truly honored to add this prestigious list to the growing family of imprints that form the **Greenwood Publishing Group**," said **Wayne Smith**, President and CEO of **Greenwood**. Smith added that **Phyllis Steckler** and key acquisitions and editorial staff remain committed to growing the Oryx product lines and securing an effective transition into the Greenwood group. For more information contact: **Ron Maas**, VP Marketing (203)-226-3571 x3380 <rmaas@greenwood.com>.

The **Twentieth Charleston Conference** is over and went very well thanks to the hundreds of people who helped put it all together—most especially **Rosann Bazirjian**, the main conference **Director**. Other **Directors** were **Barbara Dean** (Arlington County Library), **Stuart Grinell** (Ambassador Book Service), **Heather Miller** (SUNY-Albany), **Jack Montgomery** (Western Kentucky University), and **Vicky Speck** (ABC-Clio). The **21st Charleston Conference** is already being planned! It will be October 31 (preconferences), November 1–November 3, 2001, (main conference) in Charleston, SC. We are sorry that we had too "back up" the conference for 2001 so as not to compete with the Citadel's Homecoming festivities which also make getting hotel rooms in Charleston problematic. Oh for the days when November was "off season." No more.

The splendiferous **Evelyn Fazio** <emfazio@earthlink.net> sends word that her job at **ME Sharpe** was eliminated in December so she has left the company. Evelyn is currently talking to people about getting investment money to start her own list. You can't keep a good woman down. We love you, Evelyn!

Talked to the fabulous **Susan Zappen** <szappen@skidmore.edu> over the net the other day. She told me that they just had a big snow storm up her way and that she feels like the holidays are coming. Finally.

Well, the **Federal Trade Commission** has just approved the proposed merger of **America Online** and **Time Warner**. Read just one of the many articles about it at <http://www.nytimes.com/2000/12/15/technology/15DEAL.html>.

Project Muse has recently received many inquiries asking whether **Portal: Libraries and the Academy**, the new library science journal from the **Johns Hopkins University Press**, would be offered online in the **Project**

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Muse database collection in 2001. Indeed, online access to *Portal* will be included in subscriptions to the Full Database collection, Arts & Humanities collection, Social Sciences collection, and Johns Hopkins University Press package. Institutional electronic and/or print subscriptions to the journal may also be ordered separately. *Portal: Libraries and the Academy*, a quarterly journal, will launch in January 2001. *Portal* is a bold new move by academic librarians to disseminate scholarship in all aspects of librarianship within higher education. This scholarly journal will also explore how technology is affecting librarianship and scholarship, as well as the role of libraries in meeting institutional missions. Sample contents from the first issue of *Portal: Libraries and the Academy* are now online at http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/portal/libraries_and_the_academy/toc/pla1.1.html.

And, you have always been careful of what you write on the Internet, right? In case you didn't know it, the Federal District Court in Richmond, Virginia, has just awarded \$675,000 in compensatory and punitive damages to **Dr. Sam D. Graham Jr.**, when erroneous and libelous messages were posted on an Internet bulletin board about him. Read all about it in the December 14, 2000, *New York Times* ("Aliases Subject of Internet Libel Case" by **Carl S. Kaplan**) <http://www.nytimes.com/2000/12/14/technology/15CYBERLAW.html>.

And more from the **December 13, 2000 New York Times**. ("E-Book Publisher Partners to Spread Words Online," by **Cecily Barnes**.) E-publisher **MightyWords** will distribute their titles on **Fatbrain.com**, **Barnes&Noble.com**, and **Adobe.com**. For more news visit www.mightywords.com or http://www.nytimes.com/cnet/CNET_0_4_4137243_00.html.

Howard University School of Business was ranked among the best 70 schools by *US News and World Report*. And now Howard is offering an MBA completely online. <http://howarduniversityonline.com/>

And, from **Edupage**, Dec. 15. **The University of Maryland, Baltimore County**, has joined with British distance-learning firm **Open University** to offer an online master's degree in information technology starting in January.

Random House, the book publishing division of **Bertelsmann** has named **Youngsuk Chi** to president of Random House Asia. Mr. Chi, 39, also assumes the title of execu-

tive vice president and chief operating officer of **Random House's North American division**. He is currently chairman of the **Lightning Source digital publishing services division** and president of the **Ingram Fulfillment Partners division of Ingram Distribution Holding**, the parent company of the book distribution giant **Ingram Book Group**.

Well, another great voice from the past has surfaced! **Peter Sproul** <psproul@stinso.com>, once of **ABC-CLIO**, has formed a new company called **Strategic Information Solutions, LLC (STINSO)**. **STINSO**, Peter tells me, is the new one-stop shop for publishers looking to increase their market penetration through the consortia sales channel. **STINSO** was formed by **Charles Batsford**, former Sales Manager of **ABC-CLIO**; **Peter Sproul**, former Consortia Sales Specialist of **ABC-CLIO**; and **Andy Katsev**, co-founder of **Sportstats** in April of 2000. The company was formed with the vision of providing cost effective solutions for publishers, as well as consortia that are having problems with existing pricing and licensing models. **STINSO** brings to publishers a clear understanding of consortia wants and needs that assist in streamlining licensing agreement negotiations. This knowledge was gained through the signing of close to forty licensing agreements over the past two-and-a-half years. **STINSO** founders Sproul and Batsford have worked with such consortia as **OHIOLINK**, **Michigan Library Consortium**, **California Digital Library**, **Network of Alabama Academic Libraries**, **VIVA**, **The California State System**, **FCLA**, **MERLIN** and many others across the country, as well as international groups such as **CHEST** in Europe. The newly formed company is truly a one-stop shop for consortia licensing, providing publishers with sales representation, consultation services, vendor fair/product exposition demos and presentations. (**STINSO**, Promotions Dept., 4292 Encore Drive, Santa Barbara, California, 93110. E-mail: info@stinso.com, Telephone: (805) 708-0488). (<http://www.stinso.com>)

More voices from the past (I guess it's the upcoming new year ... the real millennium.). Heard from **Benita Weber Vassallo** <BENITAV@iadb.org> who used to be AUL at **George Washington University** some ten years ago! Since 1990, Benita's been **Director of Libraries** for the **Inter-American Development Bank**, an international organization much like the World Bank which carries out economic and social development projects in Latin America and the Caribbean. She says it's been a dream job, allowing her to use her Spanish and to travel frequently in the region. Anyway, Benita is coming to

Charleston in January or February with a best friend of 40+ years and needs a suggestion of a good B&B or hotel, etc., in downtown Charleston. Since y'all know Charleston better than I do (really! I am always learning things from y'all), I thought I'd put this out here for you to send her suggestions! <http://www.iadb.org/lib>.

And... speaking of the past, let's talk about the future. The **Charleston Conference** in 2001 will be October 31 - November 3, so it's time to get your idea(s) for a panel, paper, or whatever, in! We like new and different. Don't put it off. What should we debate next year? And, what should the theme of the Conference be? See the "call for ideas" enclosure with this issue. Send it in now! Deadline: June 30, 2001

<strauchk@earthlink.net>

Thanks to the initial encouragement of **Tony Ferguson** at **Columbia University** and the efforts of **Nylink** to offer New York academic libraries a consortium agreement, **Nylink** member libraries now join **CREPUQ**, **AMIGOS**, **NELINET**, **SOLINET**, **PALINET**, **OCUL**, **OhioLink**, **CIC** and **CAPCON/CIRLA** as **Emeraldplus** consortium participants. **Nylink** institutions include **St Johns University**, **Nazareth College** in Rochester, **Rochester Institute of Technology**, **Cornell University**, **Baruch College**, **New York University**, **SUNY at Stony Brook**, **SUNY Institute of Technology**, **SUNY Binghamton**, **Brooklyn College**, **Queens College**, **Ithaca College** and **Columbia University**. These schools represent approximately 250,000 potential online users. For more information on consortia pricing, visit the MCB Website at <http://www.mcb.co.uk>.

The current issue of the *Journal of Southern Academic and Special Librarianship (JSASL)* is now available on the World Wide Web at: <http://southernlibrarianship.icaap.org>. *The Journal of Southern Academic and Special Librarianship* is an independent, professional, refereed electronic journal dedicated to advancing knowledge and research in the areas of academic and special librarianship. *JSASL* is distributed by the **International Consortium for Alternative Academic Publication (ICAAP)** in Athabasca, Alberta, Canada <<http://www.icaap.org>>.

Heard from **Lorraine McKinney** <lmck@locust.conncoll.edu> (Acquisitions Supervisor, Connecticut College, New London, CT) who was at the **Charleston Conference** in November. She says she learned soooo much! Did you meet her?

Met another great person in Charleston. Did you? **Geoffrey Grove** of **21 North Main** <ggrove@21northmain.com>.

Richard Hunt, chair of the **Book In-**
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<<http://www.against-the-grain.com>>

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dustry Study Group, has announced that **BISG** will be hiring a new Executive Director since **Sandy Paul**, the first person to hold that job, will be relocating her company to Florida. BISG, which represents all segments of the book and serials industry, established the executive director position partly to enable the Study Group to assume American responsibility for **ONIX International** and for activities related to electronic books, XML and other areas of technology that hold huge potential for the industry. Hunt, Director of Sales & Marketing at **F&W Publications**, reports that the BISG Board has formed a Search Committee and a Transition team "to work through the next steps." The Board of the Book Industry Study Group wishes Sandy all the best in her new home and new position," Hunt said. "We have her to thank for the considerable progress we've made on ONIX and other initiatives in the recent past and we expect her to continue to help us move forward until new staff is in place." The Book Industry Study Group, Inc. is a New York City-based not-for-profit organization. It serves both as a forum for managing change and interaction among publishers, booksellers, librarians, wholesalers, book manufacturers, authors and suppliers, and as a focal point for market intelligence and technical standards designed to foster global and efficient partnerships and transactions.

This is from **FYI France**. Yes, the **Bibliothèque Nationale de France** is

back up and running, both virtually and really. The fire, system outage, faulty air conditioner, strike (latest), and other disasters all appear now to have been resolved, and the **BnF**—including **Gallica** (online digital images and texts) and the **CCFR** (the French national union catalog are open for business. Visit <http://www.bnf.fr-one>, <http://gallica.bnf.fr/>, <http://www.ccf.fr.bnf.fr/>.

FATHOM, the for-profit knowledge company started by **Columbia University**, has opened what officials are calling a beta version of the Fathom Web site, which offers 450 feature articles and 80,000 reference articles. See <http://chronicle.com/free/2000/11/2000111501u.htm>.

Blackwell's Book Services and **Alibris** have announced a partnership that "will make the acquisition of hard-to-find and out-of-print materials easier and more efficient for academic and research libraries." Through the partnership, **Blackwell's Collection Manager** will soon include access to the **Alibris** database of over 14 million hard-to-find books. In addition, **Alibris** will help supply books currently ordered through **Blackwell's** out-of-print service. **Alibris** will supply the books from its international network of booksellers or from its own inventory, and will deliver the requested books to **Blackwell's** which will then handle the purchase process.

First the good news. The fabulous **Dan Miller**, a twenty year veteran of **Blackwell's Book Services**, has been appointed the company's new **Electronic Services Consultant**. Most recently Dan was Approval Systems Manager in charge

of library profiling. Prior to that Dan was an Account Manager and Manager of Sales and Service, for Blackwell's Technical Services Division, representing the company's services for preparing libraries' MARC files for loading into libraries' local systems. As Electronic Services Consultant Dan will be acting as liaison between library system vendors and Blackwell's to establish and maintain EDI and bibliographic data interfaces. He will also be assisting customers in integrating their library systems with Blackwell's information systems. Dan will continue to work in Blackwell's Lake Oswego office. Now the bad news: Since Dan will no longer be focusing on book pricing and approval coverage issues, he is stepping back from writing and editing the **Book Pricing Update** column in *ATG*. Dan's successor as Approval Systems Manager at Blackwell's has not yet been appointed. So - are there volunteers to pick this column up??? We need you!

Well, I don't know how many of you attended the Satellite Teleconference, **UCITA: A Guide to Understanding and Action** sponsored by the **American Association of Law Libraries**, the **American Library Association**, the **Association of Research Libraries**, the **Medical Library Association**, and the **Special Libraries Association**. **UCITA**, the **Uniform Computer Information Transactions Act**, is a proposed state law that seeks to create a unified approach to the licensing of software and information. Two states—Maryland and Virginia—have passed **UCITA**, and it will be under consideration in many other states in the near future. Several aspects of **UCITA** pose problems for higher education and libraries. Visit the ARL Website at <http://www.arl.org/info/frn/copy/ucitapg.html>.

Jane N. Ryland, membership consultant, Internet2, and a higher education technology consultant, was elected to the **OCLC Board of Trustees** at its November meeting. Ms. Ryland holds a bachelor's degree in English from **Westhampton College** of the **University of Richmond** and a master's of public administration from the University of Colorado.

ABC-CLIO has announced the sale of three databases to **Cambridge Scientific Abstracts (CSA)**. Beginning January 1, 2001, **CSA** will publish the *ABC POL SCI*, *ARTbibliographies Modern*, and *ARTbibliographies Current Titles* databases in print and make them available through the **CSA Internet Database Service (IDS)**. In another development, **ABC-CLIO** has also announced an agreement with **Versaware Inc.** (www.versaware.com), to make all new **ABC-CLIO** reference titles, along with a rich selection of backlist, available simultaneously in print and on the World Wide Web. The first collection of titles to appear will include both

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the much-praised *Encyclopedia of the Vietnam War* and the forthcoming *Encyclopedia of the American Civil War*.

COMPanion Corporation (Salt Lake City, UT) has announced that **Alexandria Library** automation was chosen by the **Buffalo Public Schools**.

Lane Medical Library and the **Jackson Business Library**, two coordinate libraries at **Stanford University**, have selected the **Voyager** integrated library management system. **Lane Medical Library** has over 800 electronic journals linked into the catalog and has been a trailblazer in integrating a considerable amount of content into bibliographic and authority files, having over 50,000 chapter/article records, extensive form/genre headings, and over 4,000 URLs to authority data. Lane's authority records include faculty research interests, as well as historical and biographical data. www.gsb.stanford.edu/library www.endinfosys.com

Can one country restrict what comes over the Internet from another country? From **Reuters**, November 20 and *The Wall Street Journal* of the same day (p.B1). French judge **Jean-Jacques Gomez** has ordered **Yahoo!** to prevent people in France from accessing English-language sites that auction Nazi memorabilia: books, daggers, SS badges, and uniforms. <http://www.wirednews.com/news/politics/0,1283,40285,00.html>

This is from *PW Daily for Booksellers* (12/19/00, "Ouch: Amazon Knocked by AAP, Authors Guild and Market." The **Association of American Publishers** and the **Authors Guild** have written **Jeff Bezos** of **Amazon.com**, protesting the sale of used books without adequate compensation for authors, publishers, and readers. The letter, signed by **Pat Schroeder** (AAP) and **Letty Cotin Pogrebin** (Authors Guild), specifically asked that Amazon "limit its 'used book' links to out-of-print and collectible books." The jury is still out on **Amazon** and, in fact, all the e-tailers. <http://www.publishersweekly.com>

CatchWord at Online Information 2000 has just announced that four more publishers have signed up for hosting and distribution services. These deals increase the number of publishers using **CatchWord** to 59. Publishers putting their material online with **CatchWord** in 2001 include: **Parthenon Press**, **LITC**, **Guilford Publications** and the **University of California Press**. www.catchword.com

This is from the *New York Times*, 12/10/00. One of the first institutions to have a fully wired campus, **Tulane University**

has unveiled its plan to install wireless access to the University's information network. Installation of the wireless equipment will begin in early 2001 and will be complete by September 2001. Additional information can be found at: <http://www.tulane.edu/~admiss/admission/>

This is from **Edupage** and *The Chronicle of Higher Education Online*, November 27, 2000. **Cliff Lynch**, the fabulous, director of the **Coalition for Networked Information** and a frequent speaker in **Charleston** (thank heavens!), says "public-key infrastructure (PKI) will help universities and other institutions verify identities and control access to online resources. PKI will play a major role in helping academic libraries manage access to online resources."

The awesome **Anthony Watkinson** (whose dog just delivered a passel of pups) gives us a look at the just ended **Frankfurt Book Fair** in October. See this issue p.82. More news from **Frankfurt: Amazon** spoke of the importance of **ONIX** to both publishers and online booksellers for increasing sales. This is certainly reminiscent of the **ONIX** panel which we had in **Charleston** at the **20th Charleston Conference**. Visit: <http://www.netread.com/onix>

Just had a conference call today (12/19/00) with **Vicky Speck** <vspeck@abc-clio.com> (**ABC-CLIO**) and **Rosann Bazirjian** <rvb9@psulias.psu.edu> (**Penn State**) who are compiling the papers from the **20th Charleston Conference**! They have already collected over 50 papers. If you haven't sent yours in yet, contact one of them. NOW! Okay? Thanks. And watch this space for more information!

Got a fantastic Christmas letter from the fantabulous **Bill Hannay** and family (there are five of them!) <whannay@schiffhardin.com> this year! Missed him in **Charleston** this year. Maybe next year?

Did you know that the wonderful **Marjorie Bloss** is the Manager of Training Services at **Endeavor Information Systems**. As you will remember, **Marjorie** was at the **Center for Research Libraries** for over 11 years.

Gaylord Information Systems (GIS) has named **Marty Keeley** Vice President, Marketing and Sales, effective November 15. Mr. Keeley has worked in management positions at **Ingram Book Group** and **Baker & Taylor Books**.

This was just posted on **Serialist** as we go to press by **Rick Johnson** (SPARC): "As you know, **Harcourt General** recently announced that it has accepted **Reed Elsevier's** bid to purchase **Harcourt**. This

has given rise to concerns about the potential anti-competitive impact of **Reed Elsevier's** takeover of journals published by the **Worldwide Scientific, Technical, and Medical Group of Harcourt**, which includes **Academic Press**, **W.B. Saunders**, **Mosby**, and **Churchill Livingstone**. I urge you to make your views on the impact of this acquisition known to the **US Department of Justice**. Thank you for your support." And this is a brief part of a posting on December 11 from **Mary Case**: "I would like to encourage you to call, write, or e-mail the Antitrust Division of the **Department of Justice** to express your concerns with the **Reed Elsevier** acquisition of **Harcourt General**. It is critical that the **DoJ** hear from as many customers of these companies as possible about the likely impact this transaction will have on libraries' ability to serve the needs of their students, faculty, and the public. Send your letters to any or all of the following: **A. Douglas Melamed**, Acting Assistant Attorney General, Antitrust Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Room 3109, 10th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001 <antitrust@usdoj.gov>; Fax: 202-616-2645; **Susan Edelhelt** [Manager in charge of the case], Assistant Chief, Civil Task Force, Antitrust Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Suite 300, 325 Seventh Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20004; Fax: 202-514-7308 <susan.edelhelt@usdoj.gov>; **James Villa** [Attorney in charge of the case], Civil Task Force, Antitrust Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Suite 300, 325 Seventh Street, NW, Washington, DC 20004; 202-514-8361; Fax: 202-514-7308; <james.villa@usdoj.gov>.

According to the *Scholarly Communications Report* (October 2000), **Joel Baron** (HealthGate) has been elected the new chair of the **International DOI Foundation (IDF)**, succeeding **Charles Ellis**. Do you remember **Joel** from back in the **Faxon** days?

And speaking of old times, an article in the *Wall Street Journal* (November 8, p.1) reminded me of **Mike Markwith** (Swets). The article's about **Albert Edward Clarke III** and **Margaret Wise Brown**, his benefactor. Brown wrote many children's books, the most famous among them, *Goodnight Moon*. ("Runaway Money: A Children's Classic, A 9-Year-Old Boy, And a Fateful Bequest" by **Joshua Harris Prager**). I remember way back when my daughter **Ileana** was just barely out of the cradle that **Mike** gave her that book, saying it was one of his favorites to read to his children. Old times. Should old acquaintance be forgot ...

Happy New Year!