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The Times They Are A-Changin': Looking Back and Looking Ahead at the O.P.

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Group Therapy

by **Rosann Bazirjian** (Assistant Dean for Technical & Access Services, University Libraries, The Pennsylvania State University; Ph: (814) 865-0404; Fax (814) 865-3665) <rvb9@psulias.psu.edu>

Gripe: Submitted by **Judy McConnell**, Pennsylvania College of Technology)

I would like to know if anyone has created a policy for maintaining current titles (both paper and/or microfilm) that are also in a full-text database?

We subscribe to **Proquest Direct** and have dropped a few of our current subscriptions for titles in full-text and have continued to purchase microfilm.

As our library is now experiencing space and budget constraints, we want to develop a policy for maintaining or discontinuing the purchase of duplicate (and sometimes triplicate) subscriptions for

titles in full-text. I think that we are not quite comfortable yet in relinquishing our control and yet it may be time to "just do it."

I would be interested in what others have done, and what problems or advantages or disadvantages they have experienced.

Response: (Submitted by **Robert Alan**, Pennsylvania State University)

Space and budgetary constraints are important factors in determining if the print version can be canceled when the same title is available in electronic format. Does the library really need multiple formats of the same title?

Collection development policies include useful guidelines for evaluation of print and electronic resources. Many of the guidelines used to evaluate print (e.g. relevancy of subject content to user needs) can also be applied to electronic resources. Additional guidelines (e.g. frequency of updates, intuitive user interface, etc.) need to be applied specifically to electronic resources.

The decision to either maintain or cancel print subscriptions when access is available in a full text database needs to be carefully considered. An important factor is the equivalency of the electronic full text version to the original print version. In the case of electronic journals, the original publisher may also produce both print and electronic formats, and the electronic journal can be considered a true equivalent. However, in the case of full text databases, the electronic version most often is not a true equivalent. The full text version may only deliver the text of articles and not include accompanying material, graphics, pictures, etc. The full text version may not include all issues or articles. Conversely, full text products offer expanded coverage and features not available in the original print version.

Decisions to maintain or cancel print subscriptions need to be made on a title-by-title basis. If the full text version meets the library's user needs, maintenance of multiple subscriptions may not be in your library's best interest as limited resources can be reallocated to purchase additional print titles or electronic resources.

The Times They are A-Changin': Looking Back and Looking Ahead at the O.P. Market

by **Jack Walsdorf** (Library Relations-Alibris) <jackjuno@teleport.com>

Just over 30 years ago I was invited to speak to the American Library Association pre-conference on Rare Books being held in Kansas City. I opened that talk by taking a page from *The World of Books* and quoting from the author, **Sir Basil Blackwell**, who said: "Let me be frank at the outset and tell you that I have never contemplated an audience with less pleasure. For here am I, a jack-of-all trades in the Book World, about to speak of these many trades before those who are their several masters: and I cannot hope to conceal my shortcomings from many of you at any time, nor from any of you for long."¹

For my part, I commented that "much the same feeling which came to Sir Basil as he contemplated his audience came to me" as I contemplated the task before me that day so long ago. There I was, at 27 years of age, coming before a representative group of American collectors, dealers and curators of rare books, talking on the topic of the antiquarian book trade.

Much has happened during the intervening 30 or more years since that talk was given, and I felt it would be interesting, educational and perhaps even enjoyable to take a look back to those bookselling days of 30 years ago, to see what was then the norm, and to see how the

world of technology and the Internet has changed the bookselling world of the rare, the used and the simply hard to find book.

My objective then, as it will be now, is to look at the background of the rare book trade, something of the current status as well as something of the future of the trade as I believe it will be practiced. To start off, I would like to quote from the English writer **Michael Sadleir**, who in his 1950 talk "Bookshop and Auction Room" listed different classes of rare bookshops, among them: (1) the top-level rare book dealers; (2) the large-scale general rare booksellers; (3) the specialist booksellers; and (4) the junk shops.²

Who were these people, and how did they operate some 50 years ago when Sadleir was writing, or some 30 years ago when I was first talking about them, and do they still operate today? The first group, the top-level rare books dealers, were then listed as **Maggs and Quaritch**. As I put it in my talk: "The top-level rare book dealers such as Maggs or Quaritch, have no nonsense about miscellaneous open shelves or two-shilling boxes. When they buy a library, they dispose of all the material which is either below their general standard of individual volumes or series value, or is irrelevant to their several subject specialties."

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These two English dealers are still with us today, carrying large stocks of autographs, bibliography, early printed books, fine bindings, first editions, press books and literature. And they are joined by sometimes young and growing firms on both sides of the Atlantic like **Bromer** in Boston, **James Cummings** in N.Y. and **Heritage** in Los Angeles. In the U.K. such firms as **Peter Harrington** and **Simon Finch**, dealing in bindings, early printed book, medicine, science, children's and illustrated book, English literature and modern first editions are filling the needs of the most discriminating buyers.

The second type, the large-scale general bookseller, has seen perhaps the greatest change in the last 30 years. Then, when I was first talking in the late 1960's, I could say that "the large scale general rare booksellers, such as Blackwell, Heffer or Thin, are those people who have their rare books and first editions sections, but they have also many rooms of classified and some unclassified books on open shelves. These booksellers issue widely miscellaneous catalogues and their scope, whether it is expressed in thousands or tens of thousands of volumes, is much the same." I then added "that it is to these people Sadleir pays a fine tribute, calling them the salt of the earth."

Sadly, much has changed since these words were written. Thin's rare book department is now no more. **Heffers** of Cambridge, and their rare book department, **Deighton Bell & Co.** is now part of **Blackwell's** and generally speaking, with few exceptions such as **Powell's** in Portland, most large general new bookstores do not carry used and rare books as well. As to these booksellers issuing widely miscellaneous catalogues, they have also, for the most part, disappeared, replaced, in some cases, by Web sites and Internet listings.

The third type of rare bookseller was "the highly individualized class of specialist bookseller, to whom you will learn to apply when the needs of your collection chance to correspond with the scope of their specialty. Here we find such dealer as **George Sims** (modern first editions), **Zwemmer** (art) and **Wheldon and Wesley** (botany)." Again, sadly, a great deal of change has come to some of these names, with some happily replaced by new and equally agreeable specialists. Gone is **George Sims** (both a bookseller and mystery writer of bibliomysteries). Gone is the London dealer of rare art books, **Zwemmer**, although they still have six shops, including two on **Charing Cross Road**, dealing in new books. Fortunately, the natural history specialist, **Wheldon & Wesley Ltd.** is still with us, and again on both sides of the Atlantic, new firms of specialists have popped-up to fill the void left by retiring

firms. To name just a few, firms such as **Nigel William** of London (first editions); **Marchpane Ltd.**, also of London (children's and illustrated books); **William Duck** of East Sussex (technology); along with such American dealers as **Oak Knoll** in Delaware (bibliography and history of the book); **Ken Lopez** in Massachusetts (modern firsts); **Janus Books** in Arizona (detective) and **Four Rivers Books** in Colorado (press books). These firms, and many hundreds of others have opened shops, some rely on catalogues or a combination of catalogues and the Internet and others now rely entirely on the Internet to sell their specialist stock.

The last class in Sadleir's very generalized classification, was the junk shop. As he put it: "Here you would find tables of books greeting you from sidewalk stands and inside the shop, along with dirty tea-cups, pictures and pewter mugs, was to be found books piled high atop chests of drawers, on staircases and even on the floor. The front window would likewise be filled with a mixture of books and junks, all equally enjoying dust and disorder." Some of these shops still exist today, both in the U.K. and the U.S., but for the most part they have disappeared. Falling victim to high rents, redevelopment and time, they have been replaced by strip malls and office buildings.

In my Kansas City talk, I quoted the Scottish bookseller, **James A. Thin** on the old-days of U.K. selling in the United States and the Continent (remember he was writing in 1935, but many of his concerns are with booksellers today): "Before the war (World War I) there was a large catalogue trade with libraries, institutions, learned societies and private collectors on the Continent. This trade suffered a severe blow from the post-war collapse of currencies. . . . The troubles of America have likewise affected the second-hand bookseller; up to a few years ago one of the pleasantest features of the trade was the annual visit of American booksellers and the periodic visits of American librarians, who came armed with lists of 'wants' and who ransacked the second-hand bookshops of this country for stock. . . . A few still come, but not the old battalions, and not only their trade, but they themselves are missed."³

I wonder, and doubt, that the dealers in the U.K. are now seeing that battalion of U.S. librarians, with wants-lists in hand, ransack-

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ing their shops. More likely their inventory is being picked over via a Web site. But there is still a substantial amount of inter-country dealing; the world is a smaller place, and especially so between the U.K. and the U.S. Partly fueled by the large international bookfairs in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Boston, and New York, the stock, can often be viewed at these bookfairs. And I have been told by U.K. dealers that the American dealers still come to the U.K. to buy books, but less so than in the 1950's and 1960's, when annual buying trips were much more part of the U.S. dealers' life.

One problem which was with Mr. Thin in 1935, and which I picked up on in my 1969 talk, was what I called a nagging concern with the economic factors relating to bookselling, and especially the effect which these economic factors will have on our abilities to act as booksellers. Especially tied in with the then current economic factors was the drying up of sources of rare books. As Thin pointed out: "elephant folios, folios, and even that delightful book the small folio, are now resting too long upon the booksellers' shelves, and the same applies to fine sets and to the magnificently illustrated standard book on birds and natural history. 'Small houses' is

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the reason usually given for this change, but I do not think it is a sufficient one. The country gentleman, the professional and the business man still buy books perhaps, but, speaking generally, they do not consciously form libraries, they buy a few books which they put upon their shelves."⁴ As one of the major sources of rare books, the private collector has always been an all important link in the food chain, and then, as now, booksellers are concerned with the drying up of sources. I shared my 1968 paper with a U.K. dealer active today, and his comments were: "Amazing—they were worried then! We are all very worried now. Sources are drying up—that has happened with a vengeance and we are racing around like headless chickens searching, ever searching!!!"

In my talk I also made reference to book auctions and mentioned the book ring, quoting from **John Hampden's** description of the ring as: "a group of persons, usually dealers, who have agreed in advance that they will keep prices under the hammer as low as possible, by not bidding against each other. Afterwards they hold a private auction, and the differences between the public and private prices are then divided among the members of the ring."⁵

Today the ring, as one English dealer wrote to me, does still go on. As he wrote: "high prices and demand mitigate against the ring, but I dare say it still goes on here and there, mainly at country sales, but its importance should not be overstated." An interesting sidelight is that at least one novelist, **Michael Nelson**, wrote a book based entirely on the activities of the ring. His work, *Knock or Ring*, was published by **Jonathan Cape** of London in 1957. As the blurb of this book says: "The allusion in the title... is to the operations of the auction 'ring' as they affect owners of property and private bidders. Our immediate concern here is with **Michael Ransome**, bookseller, who hopes to secure a bibliographical rarity, of which he thinks he alone is aware, at the forthcoming sale." We here in the United States seem to have just the opposite story. Rather than holding prices down by forming rings, some sellers on the Internet auction sites have discovered a way of keeping prices artificially high, a practice currently being investigated by law enforcement organizations. *The New York Times* of June 2, 2000 ran a front page story under the headline "In Online Auction World, Hoaxes Aren't Easy to See" and told of one seller of an abstract painting ensuring that the price for an item he had for sale on eBay continued to raise by bidding on his own painting, a practice known as shill bidding.

In my talk I also sang the praises of the wonderful collection development which we in America have accomplished over the past

fifty or more years, based not just on the size of our pocket books, but on the wisdom of the librarians helping to build some of the finest libraries in the world. As I put it: "Speaking as an American, as a librarian and as a private collector, I must ever marvel at the wisdom, foresight and resourcefulness which have made possible collections, large and small, which well may make our country one of the most fortunate with regard to excellence of collections. All over the country we can see evidence of what good bookmen, be they librarians or private collectors, can accomplish." I then added: "One of the most eminent bibliophiles connected with the Yale library development was **Chauncey Brewster Tinker**, the Keeper of the Rare Books at Yale University Library. In an address to the Alumni entitled "The University Library," he began with these words: "There are three distinguishing marks of a University: a group of students, a corps of instructors, and a collection of books; and of these three the most important is the collection of books."⁶ In the more than 70 years that have passed since he made his remarks, we in America have learned well the importance of Mr. Tinker's words, and now others are also following his advice, in countries like Canada, Australia and Japan to build in their own countries, at their universities, the truly important makings of a good university, a good collection of books.

Up to this point in my Kansas City talk I was mostly recounting history and the relationships of the trade to library sales, and especially library sales in the U.S. I then asked the question: "But what of the current status of the trade... where we get our stock of books, how we sell books and who buys them?" I wrote then, and still stand by my words today, that "speaking as a librarian and as a collector, I think it fair to say that our collections can never be good enough, that we always want to obtain more books, in the best of condition and at the most reasonable price possible." I also wrote that "librarians, when finding that their margin of success in obtaining titles is only 30%, feel that the bookseller may not be putting enough effort forth." This is, of course, still true today and a 30% success rate is still not good enough. (On want lists and searches for hard to find books, 30% is a good number. When libraries are searching on our Website for more common books, their hit rates should be higher. But still, it should be fill rate, not search success rate, that they should be most worried about. After all it costs a library to make out an order for every book whether the dealer still has it or not.)

I then spoke of the sources of stock for any bookseller, listing the following four primary sources: (1) the private collector, (2) sale of duplicate copies from public institutions, (3) other members of the trade, and (4) the auction rooms.

Then, as now, the best source for most booksellers, and some are more favorably placed than others, is still the private collector. Much as he or she is maligned and as rarely as they are given the credit due to them, we must keep in mind this fact: if it were not for the private collector of past generations, many of the books being used today by scholars, historians and researchers would simply not exist. The private collector is the preserver of our past heritage, and as one source of material becomes drained, most likely by academic libraries, they will turn their collecting attention to yet another unloved and uncollected subject.

The pecking order has now changed slightly, with the private collector still perhaps the main source of books. But sales of duplicate institutional copies has dropped down to last place, being replaced by that upstart source, the Internet. A recent call to a local rare bookseller in Portland, resulted in my being put off by a frantic remark: "Can't take your call right now, I'm online, trolling the Net." His return call almost a half-hour later resulted in an even more frantic story: "Can't talk long. Hot item I'm bidding on. Major stuff. Got to get it." Later, during our third, more leisurely call, this dealer told me that he routinely "trolls the Net", looking at sites like **Alibris** and **eBay**, looking for sleepers, those titles which for whatever reason, remain a good buy. One of my all time favorite book collecting quotes is from the English bookseller and author, **John Carter**, who wrote that "in book collecting it is not the early bird that gets the worm, it is the bird that knows the worm that gets it." And so it is with these "trollers" of the Internet, hoping that they know the prize and get it.

Joel Silver, Curator of Books, The Lilly Library at Indiana University, writing in the Fall, 2000 issue of "The Fellowship of American Bibliophilic Societies" makes these comments on using the Internet: "If you haven't searched for books on the Internet yet, you may find the results to be startling. In some cases, books that you've been trying to find for many years will show up in numerous copies, while other books that you thought would be relatively common can't be found at all. The competence and accuracy of the descriptions vary to an even greater extent than they do in booksellers' printed catalogues, and there are more people entering into the business or hobby of selling books on-line every day."⁷

Joel Silver's comments on Internet buying caused me to pose the following question, and to put the questions to various dealers in both the U.K. and U.S. What effect has the Internet and bookselling sites like **Alibris** had on the prices of books? Common books? Expensive books? On common books, the comments were very uniform: "Prices are down, or leveling out. Lot easier to see if there are many copies for

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sale of common books, and the price range, and the overall result is lower prices."

Much more varied were the different dealers' comments when it came to expensive books. "Good for selling, particularly if you have unusual books or high quality books in excellent condition. The Internet is also most useful for bibliographic reference and for comparing prices. On the down side, the Internet has depressed sales from rare books catalogues, for there is much more shopping around and price comparisons going on." One dealer summed up the effect of the Internet by saying "It is just starting, the sales through the Internet, but the end results will be increased sales for all booksellers because the marketplace is increasing."

Auction sales from the big houses in New York and London are still a source for the booksellers stock, but the introduction of such online Internet sites as eBay has offered new opportunities and new dangers. Joel Silver's remarks about the competence and accuracy of the descriptions on the Internet sites have been echoed before. In her article "The Internet Follies Hit the Road," **Robin H. Smiley** of *First* magazine comments: "With the increase in activity on eBay, more amateur booksellers have come online. They frequently offer improperly identified and described books."⁸

This is an area of great importance to the avid collector and to the librarian trying to fill titles on their wants list. Condition and bibliographic correctness are often key points, and this is why sites like Alibris, both with the offer of quality control on the condition of the book, ease of use and acceptance of purchase orders, and a guarantee of returnability, offer the buyer a certain peace of mind which allows for purchase with confidence.

Another shortcoming which may result from the greater access to book values through the Internet was one picked up by another dealer in the U.K. who commented: "Books are now in greater danger of theft because of the greater awareness of their value."

It is interesting to look back at my comments from my earlier talk and see what has happened to prices. I wrote then: "Private buyers, if they can pay the prices, realize the value of books as a form of investment, and I think it likely that we shall notice an increase in our trade with the moneyed individuals who wish to safeguard their capital. Pictures, jewelry, glass and silver have for many years been purchased not necessarily for their rarity or their beauty, but solely as investments. During the last decade it has been more fully realized that books can also be treated in the same way, and this is nowhere reflected more than in the auction room prices. Here are a few examples of the prices certain items fetched in 1958 and 1968." I then listed some very standard, and very sought after items, with the prices in pound sterling.

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Ackerman's Cambridge 1815	£92	£450	£4,500
Boydell's Thames 1794	£100	£240	£10,000
Repton's Theory of Land- Scape Gardening 1805	£38	£410	£6,000
Swift's Tale of a Tub 1704	£24	£130	£2,000
Pope's Essay on Man 1733-34	£8	£140	£800

As anyone can caution, and as some of you are cautioning me in your mind right now, prices depend on many things, the time of the year, governmental upheavals, conditions of books and many other factors, including the individual dealer's feeling about a particular book's value.

My point in showing these price changes is simply to show that books are being bought as investments, and therefore those of you who are collecting for institutions may find the bidding to be higher, the competition to be stronger and that your funds are not buying as much as you would like or expect them to buy for your library. I might now add that this last comment is given now, as it was given more than 30 years ago, with the agreement of all those I talked with recently. As one U.K. dealer wrote, "Our greatest buyers are private collectors."

In closing my Kansas City talk, I said: "The future must of necessity, therefore, be a period of sparsity in rare books, except for those booksellers who have good contacts with the collectors of the present generation. Nevertheless, books were always dear and the 'game' can never be what it was before, but there will continue to be some who will collect and some who will act as booksellers." I then closed with: "To sum it all up, the AB Bookman's Weekly for the 26th of February, 1968 carried the following telling banner on the front cover: 'The Rare Book is Still the World's Best-Buy,' to which we can hopefully add, looking over our shoulder at technology and computers, 'The Book is not Dead.'"

Little did I realize when I wrote these words in 1969, that in just five short years the word "INTERNET" would first be used, nor that in less than 15 years this government sponsored technology would become a popular and much used vehicle in the world of everyday commerce.

It is also interesting to ponder, for just a moment, on what has happened in the world of used and rare books during these past 30 years. As an experiment, and with no great scientific basis, I decided to do a little research using the 1970 and the 2000 Yellow Pages from various cities. I wanted to see just what has happened to the number of booksellers listed in various cities under the heading "Book Dealers-Used and Rare." **Here is what I found in five American cities.**

	1970	2000
Denver	11	40
Detroit	7	12
Kansas City	12	18
Milwaukee	3	17
Portland	7	34
Totals:	40	121

I tried hard to make an accurate count, leaving off out-of-town dealers with 800 numbers, and dealers not within the city limits. Had I not, then the case for Portland would have been even more lop-sided, with some 54 numbers now listed in the greater Portland area.

What does all this prove, especially when
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one takes into account the overall population growth of these areas? Perhaps very little. But I, a true lover of books and bookshops, happen to take great heart from these numbers as I have always judged the worth of a city by how many bookshops, used and rare, it has.

Speaking of the worth of a city as judged by the number of bookshops to be found there naturally brings one to the most modern of bookselling phenomenon, the book city or book town. In the U.S. we have **Larry McMurtry's** Archer City, Texas, where in his four "Booked Up" building you can find between 350,000 and 400,000 books. The latest entry into book town status is the village of Wigtown in South-West Scotland. Here you will find that at least 16 bookshops have started up or relocated in this area of great scenic beauty. The first, and still the best known book town is Hay-On-Wye, the Welsh-English border town made famous by its principle bookseller, **Richard Booth**. In his autobiography, *My Kingdom of Books*, (1999, Y Lolfa Publishers), Booth tells the whole story of his founding of his Hay Castle bookshop in the 1970's, and something of the other shops to follow. Now the number is greater than 30, and the town calls itself "Hay-On-Wye, The Town of Books."

So much for looking backwards, and something of the present world of actual and Internet bookselling. What of the future? My guess, and one borne out during my talks with various booksellers on both sides of the Atlantic, is that the Internet will open new markets, bring more people (both buyers and sellers) to the table and continue to have a dual effect on book prices, driving down the prices of common books and increasing the market (and the price) for the truly rare books.

I have said little about dealer catalogues, a subject dear to my heart, for nothing stops all other activity within my own household like the arrival of a truly well produced and interesting catalogue. For a while, some felt the Internet would spell the demise of the catalogues, just as the Internet was the doom of the valued, old search tool, AB Antiquarian Bookman. As one dealer said to me: "Catalogues, and especially best books in catalogues sell very quickly, orders are usually either phoned or e-mailed. Hard copy catalogues are still very important. The Internet is becoming more so, but it will not supercede the catalogues. You can't scan a site, but you can scan a catalogue."

Another dealer told me that just in the past two to three months he has seen a resurgence of interest in hard copy catalogues. His feeling is that a certain amount of trust is automatically given to the entry in a published catalogue. As he put it: "The buyer knows that someone really sat down and handled the book—that

they are sure of the books correctness."

Finally, and as I mentioned in passing before, the Internet and on-line sites like **Alibris**, will allow far greater knowledge of and markets for all books, be they rare, out-of-print or just hard to find. My colleague at Alibris, **Steve Sutton**, brought to my attention an article in the October, 2000 issue of "*Against the Grain*" in which the staff of YBP listed the 50 bestselling books in Environmental Technology for the years 1999-2000. Steve ran these fifty titles against our database and found 28% of the books available. So, while it is true that more books are "hard to find" in the ensuing 30 years as publishers shorten print runs and decide not to bring titles back into print, it is also true that because of sites like our own, books which are reported as OP, OS and OSI are now far easier to buy than they would have been 30 years ago.

This fact, indeed, has not been lost on either acquisitions librarians or new book vendors, many of whom now regularly use our site to help fill the orders which just a few years ago would have been left unfilled. As **Richard Weatherford**, Alibris founder has said, ours "is an entirely new way to find what you need—online, easy, reliable service through the best single source in the world today." 🐾

Endnotes

1. Basil Blackwell. *The World of Books*, (London: J.M. Dent and Sons, Ltd., 1932), pp. 8-10.
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3. Ainslie Thin, "Second-Hand Bookselling," *The Book World: A New Survey*, ed. John Hampden. (London, Thomas Nelson & Sons, Ltd., 1935), pp. 152-53.
4. Ibid, p. 157.
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6. Robert F. Metzdorf, Comp., *The Tinker Library: A Bibliographical Catalogue of the Books and Manuscripts Collected by Chauncey Brewster Tinker*, (New Haven, Conn., The Yale University Library, 1959), p. vii.
7. Joel Silver, "The High-Tech Bibliophile: On-Line Options for Book Buyers," *The Fellowship of American Bibliophilic Societies*, IV, no.2, (Fall 2000), p. 11.
8. Robin H. Smiley, "The Internet Follies Hit the Road," *Firsts*, 9, no. 10, (October 1999), p. 34.

Bet You Missed It

Press Clippings — In the News — Carefully Selected by Your Crack Staff of News Sleuths

Column Editor: **Pamela M. Rose** (Web Services and Library Promotion Coordinator, Health Sciences Library, University of Buffalo)
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READY REFERENCES

by **Pamela M. Rose** (Univ. at Buffalo, State Univ. of NY)

Reference Manager 9.5 version is a substantial update to the previous version 9, providing the ability to search, import and edit citations from the Web while simultaneously working on a manuscript. It also offers "pay-

per-view" access to **Search ISI**, a spell checker and a customizable dictionary.

See — **Brian R. Shmaefsky**, "Micromanaging References" in *Science*, p. 2097, Dec. 15, 2000.

FRAUGHT WITH FRAUD

by **Pamela M. Rose** (Univ. at Buffalo, State Univ. of NY)

The prevalence of research misconduct is difficult to ascertain, but researcher Charles Turner uncovered a high incidence in his research study on the sexual behavior of 1800 Baltimore residents. A data collection manager's alert uncovered an "epidemic of

falsification" that took months to weed out. Other studies estimate 1 fraud per 100,000 scientists per year. Some institutions are attempting to remedy the problem with special education programs.

See — **Eliot Marshall**, "How Prevalent is Fraud? That's a Million-Dollar Question" in *Science*, p.1662-63, Dec. 1, 2000.