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From Your Editor

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Against the Grain

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Dear Editor,

Re: the debate in April’s issue of ATG between Barry Fast and Judy Webster over the Oxford UP recall controversy, I agree with Barry that we have a moral obligation not to disseminate the plagiarist’s work. However, the primary punishment for and disincentive to plagiarism is found in the law, not in the actions of booksellers and librarians to eliminate the market for the plagiarist’s work. Since Oxford was making a moral appeal for the return of the book, it had an obligation to provide librarians and booksellers with enough information to make a moral decision. The very recall of the book was a clear admission of a serious copyright problem and some culpability on Oxford’s part. I can scarcely see where being a bit more forthright in the recall could have added to Oxford’s liability. I agree with Judy’s assessment that Oxford should have supported its request for return of the book with more information.

Glen Secor
Yankee Book Peddler, Inc.

Dear Editor:

The February issue of ATG was an especially varied and useful one. Kudos to you and all contributors.

The one item, though that I could have done without was the recommendation to “look at” pictures of Maxwell’s autopsy, “in full color” no less (p. 18).

While there may be something of a voyeur in much of human-kind, clearly the pages of ATG shouldn’t have to feed such urges.

With best wishes,
Helmut Schwarzer
Yankee Book Peddler

From Your Editor

Notice of Error in the February Issue

There was an error in the February issue of ATG, v.4#1 (page 26). In the VCH Publisher Profile, it was INCORRECTLY stated that the Institution of Chemical Engineers, UK, was recently purchased by VCH. It was the Academy Group, London which was recently purchased by VCH. The Profile should have read as follows:

Other publishers and institutions, also recognizing the efficiency and success of VCH’s marketing and sales activities have turned to VCH to market their products. These companies include Gustav Fischer Verlag, Stuttgart, the Canadian Society of Chemistry, and the Institution of Chemical Engineers, UK, as well as two architecture companies, Ernst and Sohn, Berlin and the Academy Group, London which was recently purchased by VCH.

We apologize for this error.
Yr. Ed.

From Your Editor

Publishers will laugh and nod smugly when I say that putting together this newsletter, or whatever you call it, doesn’t get any easier. It’s a full time job! Anyway and in any case, it’s still fun. And it simply would not be possible without ALL of you, the subscribers, and the contributors, and the advertisers.

You might notice that this issue is missing some of the regular columns. Usually, this isn’t because I didn’t get a column, but because there was so much great stuff to print! But, not to worry, you will still see the columns — all of them in the next issue. Right now, I’m just trying to scrape together the bucks to continued on page 12
The following bestsellers are from the College of Charleston Libraries' list of most circulated titles for a six-year period. Titles were sent courtesy of Bob Neville, Associate Dean of Technical Services at the College of Charleston Libraries.


Hall, Robert E. Abortion in a Changing World.


"Recalling the Book" column in the last issue. Hey, y'all. That's what we want! It's great! Please keep the comments coming in! By the way, I'm surprised that no one has responded to Chuck's "Narcissism" piece in the last issue. Any takers?

Last, but not least, in the February issue I didn't give Judy Askew's address for M-News. So what am I, a librarian? Sorry. Here's the address loud and clear:

Judy Askew
Editor, M-News
2074 Union Street
San Francisco, CA 94123

increase the number of pages as (any good publisher will tell you, that takes more money).

This issue, especially, has lots of responses to earlier issues of ATG, particularly those appearing in Issues in Vendor/Library Relations. John Secor of Yankee Book sent a piece responding to the publisher/vendor/librarian partnership comments in the February issue, and Jeffry Larson of Yale, has responded with incredible lightening speed, to the