



# Access

News from the *University Libraries*

Number 24

April 1985

## THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME PRESS: A PROFILE

The impetus to begin a university press at Notre Dame came from the faculty in the late 1940s. Initially, its main publications were a series of books in international studies and texts in theology. It was not until the early 1960s that the Press, under the direction of Emily Schossberger, began to increase its output and extend the fields represented on its list.

An evaluation of the Press made in 1973 in connection with the COUP report noted that the Press had made significant gains but that it needed to reach for a consistently high level of quality while improving its financial stability.

Soon thereafter, a new and more aggressive editorial program was developed and the Press was able to attract established authors from its home campus as well as from other major universities. The PACE report noted that "the Press today functions as an extension of the intellectual vitality and central mission of the University. In recent years, it has grown steadily in quality, productivity, size and cost effectiveness."

Let me cite a few examples of this growth. The Notre Dame Press is now widely regarded as one of the leading American publishers in philosophy, Mexican American studies, and ethics. It has a growing list in economics, American Catholic history, political theory and international studies.

The Press now publishes 35 to 40 titles annually and it considers more than 600 manuscripts and proposals in a year. Notre Dame books are used in the classrooms of more than 200 universities and colleges in the U.S. International sales are now handled for the Press by Harper & Row, Publishers.

On the average, Notre Dame Press books receive enough reviews in a year to fill a 300-page book. The Notre Dame Press is the largest Catholic university press in the world.

The imprint of the University Press is governed by the Press Editorial Board which consists of eleven tenured scholars from various disciplines and colleges of the University. The Press staff seeks the approval of the Board for projects which have passed a careful review process.

The Press relies on Notre Dame faculty as authors, Board members, scouts and advisors. This traditional cooperation has helped build the Press to its present position of prominence. This spring the Press will move from its present quarters on the fifth floor of the Memorial Library to the former Credit Union building which is currently being remodeled.

The Press welcomes inquiries from our faculty.

## IRISH DAY IN THE LIBRARIES

On Tuesday, March 19, the University Libraries opened a photographic exhibit entitled "The Irish Landscape" in the West Concourse of the Memorial Library. The lovely photographs are part of a larger collection taken by John J. Droegge, practicing artist and Professor of Art at Bridgewater State College in Massachusetts. In conjunction with this exhibit, the Friends of the Library at Notre Dame sponsored a program (planned by Joel Bullard) that included a lecture on Irish culture and a reception.

Reverend Ernan McMullin, John Cardinal O'Hara Professor of Philosophy, spoke briefly on "The Heritage of Patrick," the cultural legacy bequeathed by Irish monks between the years 500 and 620 A.D. During this period of early Irish monasticism, Colum Cille (Columba) and Columbanus were instrumental in the preservation and development of Western, Christian and Celtic learning at a time when Western Europe was largely under siege. The heritage of this age is reflected in the artifacts it left behind, particularly illuminated manuscripts. Although the Book of Kells was produced over a century later, it is in many ways typical of the work produced in this earlier age.

The reception that followed Professor McMullin's talk included refreshments and authentic Irish traditional music played by four talented musicians, David Jones, Johnny Burns, Dan Gellert and Pete Miller.

Patrick Max

James Langford

## LIBRARIES PLANNING DAY: A REPORT

In a rapidly changing environment, a library's success, particularly one with limited financial resources, depends to a significant extent on its ability to set reasonable, well accepted performance goals and thus marshal its resources toward those ends. In an effort to broaden and improve its internal planning process, on March 21, 1985 the University Libraries held their first Libraries Planning Day. An all day event involving more than 70 members of the library faculty and staff, the program included a report from the Director of Libraries covering the current state of the Libraries, a review of progress made on the 1983 Library Five Year Development Plan, and an update on the automation project. Maureen Gleason, Assistant Director for Collection Development, discussed the efforts made to date of reviewing the Libraries' "program budget." The bulk of the day was spent in small group discussions centered on four general models of library futures developed by the Office of Management Studies of the Association of Research Libraries, and on a free form review of library programs and activities and their strengths and weaknesses. These exchanges proved to be extremely candid and stimulating and revealed the real concern and dedication of the library faculty and staff to service to the University.

To a significant degree effective service depends on sound organization, and the day's deliberations revealed a number of organizational concerns. These are being reviewed by a working group of library faculty and staff. However, the main purpose of the gathering was to provide specific faculty and staff input for the next revision of the Libraries' Development Plan. The many pertinent program ideas which surfaced during the day will be considered by a newly established Development Plan Task Force charged with providing a draft revised development plan for review outside the Libraries. The chair of that group is Joanne Bessler, Assistant Director for Reference and Instructional Services, who would welcome programmatic comments and suggestions from members of

the University community.

All in all March 21 seemed to be a highly successful day for the University Libraries. The broadly based input should aid in making the next edition of the Development Plan a much better planning document. More importantly, perhaps, the spirit revealed can only bode well for the continued improvement of the University Libraries and their service programs.

Robert C. Miller

## FATHER LEO R. WARD MEMORIAL PROGRAM

The first Father Leo R. Ward Memorial Program was held in the Memorial Library Auditorium on Wednesday, March 27th at 3:30 pm. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library at Notre Dame, the program was entitled "Carl Sandburg: Chicago Author in His Setting," and featured three lectures by Notre Dame professors Thomas J. Schlereth, Thomas A. Werge, and Ernest E. Sandeen.

The program was opened by Professor Schlereth. His presentation, "Sandburg *in situ*: Artifacts and Authorship in Midwest Letters," was a skillful blend of narrative and graphic illustration; with slide projector and historical analysis he gave his listeners a vivid picture of Carl Sandburg in his Midwest milieu. That milieu is defined by locus and people. Through the camera lens one became aware of the land, the prairie, and the city (especially Chicago) that were the strong backgrounds of Sandburg's art. People also strongly influenced Sandburg and again the visual experience of Chicago crowds and immigrant faces shed new light on the Sandburg often known only from his poetry. This was Sandburg's America.

Sandburg's vision of America was also strongly influenced by Abraham Lincoln. Professor Werge explored briefly the impact of Lincoln on Sandburg's prose and poetry. Sandburg's imagery of Lincoln, especially

in his Abraham Lincoln, the Prairie Years, is that of a native American, speaking in the authentic idiom of the New World ... a perception particularly acute for a son of Swedish immigrants. The mysterious qualities of Lincoln's life, the almost metaphysical dimensions of character and freedom, seem to have fascinated Sandburg. In their setting of mid-19th century America they seem to have established for him a central vision of American life. The publication of Sandburg's biography of Lincoln in 1939 can thus be seen as a restatement of true populist society against the brutal inroads of a growing fascism.

But Sandburg is remembered as a poet most of all, and in recalling this dimension of the artist, Professor Sandeen dwelt upon his use of language. Growing up in the same home town as Sandburg and sharing his immigrant Swedish heritage, Sandeen was able to suggest some sources of his poetic imagery: half-remembered Swedish words from childhood years, lost words, another older self different from his American self that colored and illuminated his poetic output. Language seems to have been the focal point of Sandburg's perception of the American people, the collective "every man." In The People, Yes! he is engaging in a language experiment, letting the people speak for themselves in the full richness of the American dialogue while he maintains the role of narrator. These insights were amplified and illustrated by Sandeen with aptly chosen readings from the poet's work.

Father Leo Ward was himself a poet and would have been greatly pleased by this first memorial program. It was, indeed, an honor to his memory.

David E. Sparks

## LOCAL ACADEMIC LIBRARIANS GATHER

On March 12th ALSA 2, our North-Central branch of the Indiana State Library's Area Library Services Authority, sponsored its first Round Table for Academic Librarians at Bethel College in Mishawaka. Several librarians

from Notre Dame attended, recognized colleagues from Saint Mary's College and Indiana University at South Bend (including Directors Sister Bernice and Dr. James Mullins), and made the acquaintance of representatives from Bethel, Brace, Goshen, and Ancilla Colleges, among others. In a simple, unstructured, yet effective fashion issues were raised from the floor and discussed briefly by the entire group.

They included coordination of newspaper subscriptions, sharing of serials lists, compact shelving, mutilation of books, etc. Members from Notre Dame shared our experiences with the Ballen approval program, foreign book selection and acquisition, bibliographic instruction in the classroom, and the very large program of shifting collections in the Memorial Library planned for this summer. Sister Bernice identified a major concern at Saint Mary's, the self-study presently being conducted in preparation for their North Central Association of Colleges and Schools accreditation evaluation.

James Mullins, Director of Library Services at IUSB, volunteered some of the most interesting news, including plans for the proposed new library building for the South Bend campus. Also of interest to our readers is the presence at IUSB of a ComCat microfiche catalog that provides access to the holdings of all Indiana University libraries. Even more pertinent is the news that the entire Indiana University Libraries system will acquire an online catalog system through Biblio-Techniques, Inc., making it compatible with that under consideration here at Notre Dame.

A tangible result of the meeting was a survey of academic libraries wishing to exchange newsletters and calendars of events. In addition, the Round Table facilitated moves toward possible future cooperation between the academic libraries in our area, and functioned excellently as a forum for communication of internal developments of interest to neighboring libraries.

Discussion was as yet exploratory, as the group was feeling out possible directions for the future, but the consensus of those present was that the meetings should continue and should study the Round Table's potential role. Another gathering was planned for June at Saint Mary's College.

Laura Fuderer

### INDIANA ARCHITECTURAL RECORDS AT NOTRE DAME

In recent years, there has been a surge of interest in architectural archive records on both national and state levels. Last year, for example, the Library of Congress received funding from the American Institute of Architects toward the preparation of the National Union Index to Architectural Records for nationwide dissemination. This index is the only informational tool exclusively devoted to the locations of architectural records in the nation. The data bank was initiated in 1973 by the Committee for the Preservation of Architectural Records in New York. It was turned over to the Library of Congress in 1980 and was automated in 1982.

Also on a national basis, the Research Library Group (RLG) will, in the near future, be converting the large architectural records collection of the Avery Library of Columbia University to a computerized database in the Research Library Information Network (RLIN) system. (It might be noted that indexing to Avery's more than 500 periodicals in architecture and allied arts is accessible through the RLIN database.) In time, other large resources of architectural archival record holdings will, no doubt, become available in computerized formats.

In the State of Indiana, there is a similar concern for archives control of architectural holdings in institutions and firms which hold collections of importance. The Committee for Preservation of Indiana Architectural Records of the Indiana Historical Society Library (Indianapolis), is currently surveying resources in the state for data concerning locations,

types of records, existing reference tools and general accessibility. The impetus for the collection, preservation and accessibility of records at the University of Notre Dame School of Architecture Library came from this committee. Two of the committee's members, Brian Crumlish and Donald E. Sporleder, professors of architecture at Notre Dame, have been assisting in the development of our collection. They have been also actively creating awareness in the Northern Indiana community of the need to preserve architectural archive resources and to make them available for use.

In Indiana there are several other agencies which have an active interest in architectural records, namely, the Northern Indiana Historical Society (South Bend); the Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana (Indianapolis); the Historic Preservation Commission of South Bend and Saint Joseph County (South Bend); and Ball State University's College of Architecture and Planning (Muncie). Although much data exists in general throughout the State of Indiana, more collections need to be brought to light and publicized for eventual archives control to facilitate architectural research.

The architectural records collection at Notre Dame consists of about 200 items covering construction plans of commercial, educational, governmental, religious, recreational and cultural structures in the tri-state area of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and other localities. The collection includes construction plans, sketches, studies and proposals ranging in date from the 1890s to the 1970s. The major significance of the collection is that it is Indiana-oriented with special emphasis on the Michiana area. The collection contains work by South Bend architects such as Ennis A. Austin, George W. Freyermuth, R. Vernon Mauer, Everett A. Jewell, George W. Selby, N. Roy Shambleau, Wallace Teeple, Ivar O. Wandell, Maurice J. McErlain and Ernest W. Young. The collection also contains significant work done in South Bend by outside architects such as Alfred S. Alschuler; Cass Chapman; Shepley, Rutan and Coolidge;

Wheelock & Clay; all of Chicago; and Johnson-Burgee of New York.

Perhaps the most significant aspect of the collection is its focus on the South Bend architect, Ernest W. Young, whose original material numbers more than fifty items consisting of construction drawings, sketches, studies and proposals. This material, donated by Professor Donald E. Sporleder, covers many types of alterations, commercial structures, houses, fire stations, schools, cultural buildings, public libraries and other designs. Young made a remarkable architectural contribution in this area during the first half of this century. He is best known for his Prairie Style houses from 1907 to 1915. After coming to South Bend in 1904, he worked in various architectural positions and partnerships, with Teeple, Shambleau and Selby, and after 1912 worked alone up to his death in 1959.

Anton C. Masin

#### AMERICAN POPULAR READING

The fourth annual Friends of the Library Colloquium, held

April 15, addressed the topic of popular reading in America. Professor Ray Browne, chairperson of the Department of Popular Culture at Bowling Green State University, director of the Popular Press, and founding editor of several journals on popular culture, spoke on reading as a ritual. He was followed by Professor Michael Marsden (also of Bowling Green's Department of Popular Culture), editor of the Journal of Popular Film and Television and author of numerous books and articles in the area of American Studies, popular culture, film and television.

Professor Browne spoke of reading as "seeing," as a sort of cultural exploration, not limited to traditional reading. Quoting Emerson's "American Scholar," Browne spoke of the need to "embrace the common" and to "explore the familiar." He indicated that the genius of the great libraries was their ability to collect from common culture of their own era. Professor Browne then argued for "democratizing" learning on all levels. To this end he suggested initiating discussion on the humanities curricula with a view to including many of the areas currently within the purview of pop-

ular culture. The scholarship in these humanities would be supported by a library collecting virtually everything from dime novels to postcards.

In his paper, Professor Marsden discussed the American storytelling tradition in popular literature. Using the example of Louis L'Amour and Andrew Greeley, Marsden focused on the nature of bestselling fiction as an oral presentation sharing many of the same features and formulae as traditional oral tales. He indicated that the author/reader relationship is of critical significance in this tradition and that, for example, there is a continuous flow of information back and forth between these writers and their readers. The work of these authors stresses a strong narrative line that is often produced orally (through dictation) and goes into print unrevised. He concluded by saying that American literature is "alive and well" and hiding on the bestselling racks in bookstores.

Patrick Max

University Libraries  
University of Notre Dame  
Notre Dame, Indiana 46556

David E. Sparks, Editor