

THIRTY-NINTH REPORT
OF THE
LIBRARIAN OF BENNINGTON COLLEGE

To the President of Bennington College:

I have the honor to present the report of the Bennington College Library for the year 1971-72.

Again it must be stated that the main business of the college library during the year was the routine, daily service and operation; and this is as it should be. The tasks of the library go on regularly: the selection, ordering, cataloging, circulation, and retrieval of books; and reference, guidance and other services to patrons. These daily operations continue with only those minor changes which increased efficiency or service warrant.

This year the pilfering of books, virtually endemic in American libraries - public, school, academic - arrived at Bennington. As a consequence of a summer inventory of the 700 class (Fine Arts) and the 800 class (Literature) substantial numbers of missing books - about 400 in Literature and 200 in Fine Arts - were noted. Not only was this a fantastic increase in the number of missing books, as compared with previous inventories, but there appeared to be a systematic pattern of theft, particularly among the French books, where 25 per cent of the losses occurred. Partial inventories of other sections of the library did not disclose similar losses, and it has been assumed that this was an isolated but purposeful raid on the library.

The first response of the library to this situation was consternation, chiefly because no effective course of action was immediately clear. Obviously security had to be increased, and this was possible in a series of steps. Locks were changed; the garden door was closed; had locks been available, it is likely that the night study and seminar would have been locked off from the library with access only from the outside. The in and out traffic pattern was altered so that the desk assistant could supervise the signing out of books. Consideration was given to the installation of an electronic surveillance system and to the employment of a guard for a door check. These two were rejected because of cost, doubts of their effectiveness, and fears of their counter-productivity. Fortunately the crisis subsided and the college was able to appropriate some funds for the replacement of the most important stolen titles.

This situation is frightening because of expense and because of deterioration of library service. This library assumes that one of the major reasons for its existence is the provision of books and periodicals

in an organized, retrievable and usable manner. When important segments of the collection vanish, this function is not filled. In the face of this irresponsible use of the library, the maintenance of this kind of library service is becoming increasingly difficult. It is frustrating that no reliable and practicable solution to the problem has appeared.

Two personnel changes should be mentioned. Ms. Marie B. Schenker, who had been on the library staff for 18 years, most recently as the reference-circulation librarian, resigned to accept a similar position at Goddard College. The search for a replacement took from December to April, resulting in the appointment of James A. Cogswell in June. Ms. Betta J. Turner, who had been with the library for ten years, received an appointment as Housekeeper of the college, a position she assumed in December.

The most notable matter relating to acquisitions was a grant from the Schurman Foundation for a Black Library, a collection devoted to the history, condition, accomplishments, aspirations, and writings for the Black people. A special committee was formed of Black students and faculty, the librarian, and one member of the Library Committee to establish the scope and purposes of the collection and to select titles. An extensive list, contemporary in orientation, was prepared during the non-resident term, and work on ordering and cataloging began during the spring term.

Mrs. George R. Rowland's remarkable gift of photographic portfolios and reproductions was appraised, mounted and cataloged during the year. One of the finest gifts received by the library, this includes portfolios of photographic prints by Ansel Adams, Brett Weston, and Edward Weston, and of volumes of reproductions of photographs by Alfred Steiglitz, Paul Strand and others.

The ordering and cataloging of books purchased from the bequest of Priscilla A. Karb was completed. Purchases from the Rosalie Gittings Drexel Memorial continued with emphasis on contemporary poetry. Another important and useful gift was the Encyclopedia Judaica, funds for which were given by Richard F. Plehn. On the debit side of acquisitions was failure of the college to qualify for U. S. Office of Education Title II funds.

In January 1968 the library decided to add Cutter numbers to all new books as they were cataloged and to add them to the whole library collection as rapidly as possible. The project was completed during the non-resident term and means that each book in the library now has a unique call number. The advantage of this is the greater ease with which books can be shelved and circulation records can be maintained. The work of listing books charged to faculty and students at the end of the spring term was less than half what it had been at the end of previous terms.

As the year progressed, the problems of space in the library became all too clear. There has been insufficient office space for several years. Now seating space is becoming more crowded than previously, al-

though not critical as yet. In many places the squeeze of books in the stack is to be noted. There remains space for 10,000 volumes, and it is hard to see how the net growth can be kept under 3000 volumes a year without serious limitation of library service. Consideration of library expansion, which began last year, must be continued and plans developed for raising the needed funds. Time has a way of moving very rapidly - at a rate far faster than we conceive - and therefore the preparation of plans, the securing of funds, and final construction require more time than is commonly imagined. For these reasons the library building should be considered an important and pressing problem for the college.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert M. Agard
Librarian

APPENDIX I-A

Book Collection - Circulation Count

	<u>1969-70</u>	<u>1970-71</u>	<u>1971-72</u>
Volumes lent to Students			
Regular loans	21,097	21,027	21,437
Three-day loans	896	206	987
Reserve Books for Over-night use	<u>3,488</u>	<u>3,683</u>	<u>3,143</u>
TOTAL STUDENT CIRCULATION	25,481	24,916	25,567
VOLUMES LENT TO FACULTY	3,269	3,571	3,103
Volumes lent to others			
Williams College Students	274	116	31
Other Off-Campus Borrowers#	1,742	2,257	2,302
TOTAL VOLUMES LENT TO OTHERS	2,016	2,373	2,333
TOTAL CIRCULATION	30,766	30,860	31,003
Per Capita Student Circulation	44.58	45.06	42.61
	(565 st.)	(533 st.)	(600 st.)
#Includes summer groups	(142)	(statistics not kept)	(363)
Slides borrowed	1620	1662	2351

APPENDIX I-B

Book Collection - Size, Acquisitions

	<u>1969-70</u>	<u>1970-71</u>	<u>1971-72</u>	<u>Total Collection June 30, 1972</u>
Book Stock				
Volumes				
Added	3,597	3,772	3,492	
Withdrawn	296	1,844	823	
Net Additions	<u>3,301</u>	<u>1,878</u>	<u>2,669</u>	
TOTAL BOOK STOCK	61,184	63,062	65,731	65,731
Microprint Stock				
Cards/Fiche				
Added	121		194	
Total	771	771	965	965
Film				
Added	166	158	92	
Total	2,025	2,183	2,275	2,275
Records				
Added	36	19	3	
Total	510	529	532	532
Tapes				
Total	159	159	159	159
Slides				
Added	866	762	355	
Total	10,051	10,813	11,168	11,168

APPENDIX I-C

Interlibrary Loan - Lending

	<u>1969-70</u>	<u>1970-71</u>	<u>1971-72</u>
Books	93	54	134
Requests Filled with Xerox Copy	7	17	10
TOTAL ILL LENDING	100	71	144

Interlibrary Loan - Borrowing

	<u>1969-70</u>	<u>1970-71</u>	<u>1971-72</u>
Books	71	112	152
Requests Filled with Xerox Copy	63	114	139
TOTAL ILL BORROWING	134	226	291

APPENDIX II

Library Expenditures

	<u>1969-70</u>	<u>1970-71</u>	<u>1971-72</u>
Salaries			
Staff	\$52,109.78	\$53,876.00	\$53,521.00
Student Assistants	<u>4,228.66</u>	<u>7,921.00</u>	<u>5,857.00</u>
TOTAL SALARIES	\$56,338.44	\$61,797.00	\$59,378.00
Books, Periodicals, Microfilm, Records, and Slides	30,945.45	33,348.00	36,899.00
Binding	<u>3,309.15</u>	<u>3,960.00</u>	<u>3,690.00</u>
#TOTAL books, periodicals, microfilm, records slides, and binding	\$34,254.60	\$37,308.00	\$40,589.00
Supplies, Equipment	2,729.78	3,205.00	3,317.00
Xerox	2,114.65	1,982.00	1,788.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$95,437.47	\$104,292.00	\$105,072.00
#Includes special funds	7,322.20	4,085.00	3,336.00
per cent of Total Educational and General Expenditures	4.1 per cent	4.7 per cent	4.6 per cent
Cost Per Student	\$168.90	\$188.46	\$175.12

APPENDIX III

Staff of the Bennington College Library

1971-72

Librarian - Robert M. Agard

Assistant Librarian - Jane E. Rudd

Reference-Circulation Librarian - Marie B. Schomaker (thru Jan. 31, 1971)
James C. Cogswell (6/19 -)

Acquisition Assistant - Lois Stocking

Secretary - Hilda Pratt

Library Assistants -

Helen Breese (thru Sept. 12, 1971)	Ellen Peterman (8/23 -)
Hildegard Kincade	Lillian Sandquist
Beverly Morse (1/2 - 5/20)	Bette Turner (thru Nov. 18, 1971)
Anne Marie Ogert (6/12 -)	

Student-Assistants -

Asche, Steve (fall term)	Malamut, David (fall term)
Ayer, Elizabeth	Mason, Deborah
Andrews, Doris (spring term)	Michaud, Rachel
Bakan, Deborah	Miller, Robin (spring term)
Bell, Valerie (fall term)	Monks, Victoria
Billings, Kathleen	Murphy, Diana (spring term)
Black, Sandra	Oringer, Hal
Brian, Jennie (spring term)	Paddock, Ilka
Colburn, Crispin (fall term)	Pitts, George
Colvard, Karen (spring term)	Pozerycki, Christine
Conn, Victoria (fall term)	Putterman, Susan (fall term)
Darnel, Sandra	Rohr, Deborah
Dickstein, Diane (fall term)	Roland, Ashley (spring term)
Dietrich, Dinah	Scheer, Samuel
Dietz, Janet	Scheiner, Martha (fall term)
Downs, Pamela	Schiffer, Peggy (spring term)
Garber, Clifford (spring term)	Schwarzchild, Michael
Garvey, Ellen	Siege, Emily
Gibson, Johnie	Simms, Donna
Godfrey, Susan (spring term)	Skewes-Cox, Pam (fall term)
Goldman, Jill (fall term)	Taksa, Myra
Gottlieb, Michael (fall term)	Tkacz, Virlane
Hadley, Martha	Tosi, Lucinda
Halper, Deborah	Turley, Sharon (spring term)
Hart, Martha	Viner, Aron
Hoover, Lynda	Watson, Halle
Huckstep, Joan (fall term)	Weitz, Elissa
Irving, Deborah (fall term)	Wilensky, Rona
Kalin, Diane	Wilentz, Eileen
Lyman, Francesca (fall term)	Zucker, Ross (fall term)
MacKenzie, Brian	

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APPENDIX IV - A

Donors to the Bennington College Library

July 1971 - June 1972

Senator George D. Aiken

Mary Barringer
Max Bender
Dr. Michael F. Billig
Samuel Bloom
Katherine White Bondi

Roger Cartwright
Primo Castrillo
Mrs. Jordan Charney
Alan Cheuse
Jan Cook
Milton Crouch

Roslyn Fiedel

Mrs. Margaret Bonsall Gold
Barbara Goll
Susan Goody
Paul Gray
Clement Greenberg
G. H. Grossenbacher

Dorothy Hager
Sheela Harden
William B. Hixson
Stephanie Hollyman

Joanna Kirkpatrick

J. A. McKinley
Bernard Malamud
Mrs. Jose Montesinos

Richard A. Plehn
Mara Purl

Samuel Rosenblatt

Leonard Rowe
Sonya Rudikoff

Elizabeth Silvester

Myra Taksa

Leo J. Usdan

Rush Welter

Herman Zarin

APPENDIX IV - B

Gifts from Organizations and Associations

July 1971 - June 1972

Arabian American Oil Co.

The Birmingham Gallery
The Bross Foundation

California Redwood Association
The Church of Perfect Liberty

Dede-Wallace Center

Freeman Foundation

Karolinska Symposia

Library of Mt. Union College

Massachusetts Department of Commerce and Development

Permanent Mission of Thailand
Popular Library, Inc.

Texas Tech University

APPENDIX V - A (1971-72)

INTERLIBRARY LOAN - LENDINGJuly 1, 1971 - June 30, 1972

Barre Town Public Library	1
East Barre, Vt.	
Bennington Free Library	3
Bennington, Vt.	
Bixby Memorial Free Library	1
Vergennes, Vt.	
Brandon Free Public Library	1
Brandon, Vt.	
Brooks Memorial Library	15
Brattleboro, Vt.	
Castleton State College Library	12
Castleton, Vt.	
Dartmouth College Library	2
Hanover, N. H.	
Fletcher Free Library	1
Burlington, Vt.	
Goddard College Library	26
Plainfield, Vt.	
Hoosick Falls Central School Library	1
Hoosick Falls, N. Y.	
John Dewey Library	5
Johnson, Vt.	
Kellogg-Hubbard Library	4
Montpelier, Vt.	
McCullough Library	1
N. Bennington, Vt.	
Mark Skinner Library	1
Manchester, Vt.	
Marlboro College Library	2
Marlboro, Vt.	
Middlebury College Library	5
Middlebury, Vt.	
Montpelier Regional Library	3
Montpelier, Vt.	
Morristown Centennial Library	1
Morrisville, Vt.	
Mount Anthony Union High School	1
Bennington, Vt.	
National Life Insurance Co. Library	1
Montpelier, Vt.	
North Adams State College Library	1
North Adams, Mass.	
Orlando Public Library	1
Orlando, Fla.	
Proctor Free Library	2
Proctor, Vt.	
Regional Library	5
Brattleboro, Vt.	
Regional Library	3
St. Albans, Vt.	
Research Library	2
Waterbury, Vt.	

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APPENDIX V - A (1971-72)

INTERLIBRARY - LENDING

July 1, 1971 - June 30, 1972

Rutland Regional Library	1
Rutland, Vt.	
St. Johnsbury Athenaeum	3
St. Johnsbury, Vt.	
St. Joseph College Library	5
Bennington, Vt.	
St. Mary's Academy	4
Hoosick Falls, N. Y.	
St. Michael's College	1
Winooski, Vt.	
Sarah Lawrence College Library	1
Bronxville, N. Y.	
Southwest Regional Library	1
Rutland, Vt.	
Union College Library	1
Schenectady, N. Y.	
University of Vermont Library	2
Burlington, Vt.	
University of Massachusetts Library	1
Amherst, Mass.	
Vermont Department of Libraries	5
Montpelier, Vt.	
Vermont State Prison Library	2
Windsor, Vt.	
Vermont Technical College	2
Randolph Center, Vt.	
Waterbury Public Library	1
Waterbury, Vt.	
Windham College Library	3
Putney, Vt.	
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TOTAL	134

APPENDIX V - A (1971-72)

INTERLIBRARY LOAN - LENDING XEROX

July 1, 1971 - June 30, 1972

Bowdoin College Library Brunswick, Me.	1
Goddard College Library Plainfield, Vt.	1
Johns Hopkins University Library Silver Spring, Md.	1
University of Connecticut Library Storrs, Conn.	1
University of New Hampshire Library Durham, N. H.	1
University of Vermont Library Burlington, Vt.	3
Vermont Department of Libraries Montpelier, Vt.	1
Windham College Library Putney, Vt.	1
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TOTAL	10

APPENDIX V - B (1971-72)

INTERLIBRARY LOAN - BORROWINGJuly 1, 1971 - June 30, 1972

Amherst College Library	7
Amherst, Mass.	
Boston Public Library	1
Boston, Mass.	
Boston University Library	1
Boston, Mass.	
Brooklyn Public Library	2
Brooklyn, N. Y.	
Brooks Memorial Library	2
Brattleboro, Vt.	
Brown University Library	6
Providence, R. I.	
Case Western Reserve Library	1
Cleveland, Ohio	
Castleton State College Library	1
Castleton, Vt.	
Clark University Library	3
Worcester, Mass.	
Columbia University Library	3
New York, N. Y.	
Connecticut College Library	1
New London, Conn.	
Cornell University Library	5
Ithaca, N. Y.	
Countway Library of Medicine	4
Boston, Mass.	
Dartmouth College Library	28
Hanover, N. H.	
Department of Natural Resources	1
Denver, Col.	
Fletcher Free Library	1
Burlington, Vt.	
Goddard College Library	2
Plainfield, Vt.	
Green Mountain College Library	2
Poultney, Vt.	
Harvard University Library	4
Cambridge, Mass.	
Jeudevine Memorial Library	1
Hardwick, Vt.	
Johnson College Library	2
Johnson, Vt.	
Marlboro College Library	1
Marlboro, Vt.	
Middlebury College Library	5
Middlebury, Vt.	
Montplier Regional Library	1
Berlin, Vt.	
New York State Library	7
Albany, N. Y.	
Newton-Wellesley Hospital Library	1
Newton Lower Falls, Mass.	

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APPENDIX V - B (1971-72)

INTERLIBRARY LOAN - BORROWINGJuly 1, 1971 - June 30, 1972

Norwich University Library Northfield, Vt.	2
Olin Library Middletown, Conn.	1
Providence Public Library Providence, R. I.	1
Radcliffe College Library Cambridge, Mass.	1
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Library Troy, N. Y.	2
Sarah Lawrence College Library Bronxville, N. Y.	1
Smith College Library Northampton, Mass.	9
St. Michaels College Library Winooski, Vt.	1
Swarthmore College Library Swarthmore, Pa.	1
Syracuse University Library Syracuse, N. Y.	1
University of Minnesota Library Minneapolis, Minn.	1
University of Rochester Library Rochester, N. Y.	1
University of Vermont Library Burlington, Vt.	20
University of Wisconsin Library Madison, Wis.	2
Vermont Department of Libraries Montpelier, Vt.	2
Williams College Library Williamstown, Mass.	5
Windham College Library Putney, Vt.	7
Yale University Drama Library New Haven, Conn.	1

TOTAL

152

APPENDIX V - B (1971-72)

INTERLIBRARY LOAN - BORROWING XEROXJuly 1, 1971 - June 30, 1972

Amherst College Library Amherst, Mass.	10
Brandeis University Library Waltham, Mass.	2
Brown University Library Providence, R. I.	3
Case Memorial Library Hartford, Conn.	1
Castleton State College Library Castleton, Vt.	1
Clark University Library Worcester, Mass.	1
Cleveland Public Library Cleveland, Ohio	2
Columbia University Library New York, N. Y.	1
Conn. College Library New London, Conn.	6
Dartmouth College Library Hanover, N. H.	18
Department of Natural Resources Denver, Col.	1
Harvard University Library Cambridge, Mass.	2
Middlebury College Library Middlebury, Vt.	1
Mount Holyoke College Library S. Hadley, Mass.	5
Museum Library Philadelphia, Pa.	1
New York State Library Albany, N. Y.	13
Office of Economic Research Washington, D. C.	1
Princeton University Library Princeton, N. J.	2
State University of New York at Albany Albany, New York	2
University of Arkansas Library Fayetteville, Ark.	1
University of Conn. Library Stors, Conn.	2
University of Iowa Library Iowa City, Iowa	2
University of Vermont Burlington, Vermont	51
Wellesley College Library Wellesley, Mass.	5
Williams College Library Williamstown, Mass.	5
TOTAL	139