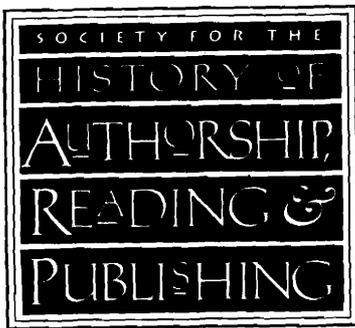




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SHARP News

Volume 7. Number 3

Summer 1998

Vancouver Hosts Over 200 SHARPists

The SHARP 98 Conference was held this year in Vancouver from 17–21 July in conjunction with four other affiliated groups, who took advantage of the opportunity to meet before and after SHARP 98. Over 258 participants from Canada, the US, Europe and Australasia flowed in and out of the Harbour Centre campus of Simon Fraser University during the course of the week. Of these, SHARP welcomed 220 people which included fifty three graduate students. Ten student bursaries were awarded courtesy of a \$10,000 Delmas Foundation Grant, and twenty nine Canadian graduate students were admitted free of charge through support from a grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. Prior to SHARP 98, the committees working on history of the book projects in Canada and Australia met to discuss matters of mutual interest, and there was an informal roundup of book history projects hosted by Ian Willison and John Cole the morning before the conference started. This was so well attended it was decided to make this a feature of future conferences, and to write up the results in an annual review of international book history projects for future *SHARP News* issues.

All in all it added up to a very successful experiment in doing things a bit differently. The opening afternoon was held at the world famous University of British Columbia campus set on a cliff overlooking the Pacific Ocean. At the opening session in the First Nations Longhouse delegates were welcomed by Salish elder Vince Stogan, following which Robert Bringhurst, Jan Walls, and Yosef Wosk respectively performed and elucidated the convergences of oral and print traditions in North America, China and the Middle East. A salmon barbecue prepared and served on the grounds of the Museum of Anthropology by Salishan caterers on a magnificent summer evening thoroughly initiated the delegates into west coast life and got the conference off to a good start. The rest of the conference, held at Simon Fraser's downtown campus, was marked by a steady attendance and lively participation at sessions despite the distractions of the city and the landscape. There were over 100 presentations at SHARP alone covering the whole spectrum of SHARP interests. At the suggestion of last year's delegates, three plenary sessions were held on The History of the Book and the End of Theory, Copyright and Censorship, and Future Directions for Publishing. There was also a mix of panel sessions and three paper sessions, all of which worked well.

The AGM was held in the middle of the conference in order to maximise delegate participation. Announcements included the annual Book History Prize, which this year was decided from a strong field of thirty-nine titles. The 1998 winners were Marianna

Shreve Simpson and Massumeh Farhad for their lavishly conceived and illustrated work *Sultan Ibrahim' Mirza's Haft Awrang: A Princely Manuscript from Sixteenth-Century Iran*, published jointly in 1997 by the Freer Gallery of Art at the Smithsonian and Yale University Press. Linda Connors, outgoing Membership Secretary, reported that the organisation's membership currently stands at 986. SHARP President Simon Eliot marked the occasion of her retirement from membership duties with a tribute to the unsung yet invaluable role she has played in the organisation over the past five years and, on behalf of SHARP, presented her with an inscribed antique writing box. Her successor will be Barbara Brannon from Wesleyan College.

President Simon Eliot mentioned in his opening comments that SHARP is noteworthy for the high level of congeniality among delegates and presenters: this conference has proven to have been no exception. Next year we move to University of Madison-Wisconsin, which will be hard pressed to equal the success of this year's gathering.

Nominations Sought for 1999 Election of SHARP Officers and Directors

In early 1999 there will be a new round of elections for the three governing bodies of SHARP. All seven officers of the Executive Council, five seats on the Board of Directors and one seat on the Nominating Committee are up for election. All SHARP members are invited to propose candidates.

The daily business of managing SHARP is conducted by the Executive Council, consisting of the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Recording Secretary, Publications Coordinator and Public Affairs Director. As a body, the Executive Council makes all major policy decisions, such as selecting a site for the annual conference. The officers meet face-to-face once a year at the annual conference, though they communicate and transact business throughout the year via Email.

All seven posts on the Executive Council involve a large commitment of time and labour. The Board of Directors and the Nominating Committee are considerably less demanding. As trustees of SHARP, the twenty-member Board of Directors is an advisory body that broadly oversees the governance of the society, and meets once a year at the conclusion of the annual conference. The Nominating Committee has only one responsibility: every two years its three members select candidates for election to the Executive Council, the Board of Directors and the Nominating Committee itself.

All SHARP members (and *only* SHARP members) may be nominated for any office, with one qualification: candidates for

President must have served at least one term on the Executive Council. Officers on the Executive Council may serve an unlimited number of two-year terms, except the President, who is limited to two terms.

Members of the Board of Directors serve a single eight-year term and may not be re-elected. Every two years, five of the twenty Directors retire and five new Directors are elected. In 1999 Bill Bell, Ann Cowan, Wallace Kirsop, Elisabeth Leedham-Green and Donald Oresman will complete their terms. The current members of the Nominating Committee are Ian Willison (chair), John Y Cole and Jonathan Rose. They each serve a six-year term and may not be re-elected. After chairing the committee this year, Ian Willison is due to retire and must be replaced.

SHARP members may propose themselves or other SHARP members as candidates by writing to Ian Willison, Flat 5, 19 Frawley Road, London NW6 1SJ by **1 November 1998**. Alternatively a candidate can be automatically placed on the ballot by a petition signed by 10% of SHARP members and sent to Ian Willison by **1 January 1999**. All nominations must be accompanied by the candidate's resumé.

The Nominating Committee will submit a complete roster of candidates by 15 January. A postal ballot will be mailed out to all SHARP members in February, unless there are no contested elections. The results will be announced in early May and the winners will take office at the conclusion of the seventh SHARP conference in July.

If you have any queries about the nomination process, write to Ian Willison. For questions concerning officers' duties, contact Simon Eliot, 2 Widcombe Terrace, Bath BA2 6AJ Britain. Email: sj_eliot@vax.acs.open.ac.uk

University of Wisconsin to Host SHARP 1999

The seventh annual conference of the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing will take place from 14–17 July 1999 in Madison, Wisconsin under the auspices of the Centre for the History of Print Culture in Modern America, a joint programme of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. In keeping with SHARP tradition, we welcome proposals from researchers interested in the creation, diffusion and/or reception of the written or printed word in any historical period and in any region of the world. Because of the multi-cultural, geographic and chronological focus of the Centre for the History of Print Culture in Modern America, however, we especially welcome proposals for papers and sessions that investigate: a) print culture history in the United States since 1876; b) the role print has played in and among groups historically outside dominant cultures; c) traditions of the written word in non-English languages in the Western hemisphere.

Keynote addresses will be delivered by Dr Nicholas Kanellos, Director of Recovering the US Hispanic Literary Heritage Project at the University of Houston, and Dr Janice Radway of the Literature Department at Duke University. Conference proceedings will be in English. We encourage submissions from graduate students (through the generosity of the Delmas Foundation, a limited number of travel grants will be awarded to graduate students whose proposals are accepted for presentation at the conference) and from

members of all scholarly communities interested in print culture studies. We welcome proposals for individual papers, or for complete sessions. While in Madison, conference attendees will have access to the superb collections of the University of Wisconsin-Madison General Library System and the State Historical Society of Wisconsin.

Proposals (one page maximum per paper) and inquiries about the conference should be sent to: SHARP 1999, c/o Maureen Hady, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 816 State Street, Madison WI 53706–6598 USA. Fax: (608) 264 6520; Email: printcul@macc.wisc.edu Although submissions by Email and fax will be accepted, original hard copy is **greatly preferred**. **Deadline for submission of proposals is 19 November 1998**. Proposals will be considered by an interdisciplinary subcommittee of the Advisory Board of the Centre for the Study of Print Culture in Modern America.

For information about the Centre, visit our web site at <http://slisweb.lis.wisc.edu/mddahl/bob/cult/html> or contact Wayne A. Wiegand, Co-Director, Centre for the History of Print Culture in Modern America, 4226 Helen C. White Hall, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison WI 53706

Researching the History of the Printed Book in the Netherlands

Although urgently needed, there is as yet no overview of the history of the printed book in the Netherlands. After the initial period in the fifteenth century, when books printed in the Netherlands were intended mainly for the domestic market, the book became a vehicle for the new ideas of the Renaissance and the Reformation during the sixteenth century. In the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries Dutch books, in keeping with the economic position of the Dutch Republic, played a seminal role in the history of ideas in Europe. After a period of focusing on the national market in the nineteenth century, the Dutch book trade has now recovered its international standing, not least because of the quality of its typography and publishing. Although the international prestige of Dutch book production is a reflection of its position in Europe, the most important function of books is one of education and cultural transfer within its own country: no matter whether it is a textbook for schools or a pamphlet, a travelogue or a novel, a

SHARP News is the quarterly newsletter of the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing, inc. Annual membership in SHARP, which includes a subscription to *SHARP News*, is \$35 in the United States and Canada, £25 in Britain, \$40 elsewhere. Address editorial correspondence to the Editor, David Finkelstein, PMPC Department, Napier University, Craighouse Road, Edinburgh EH10 5LG Scotland (Email: d.finkelstein@napier.ac.uk); address book review correspondence to the Book Review Editor, Fiona Black at Information Services, Regina Public Library, PO Box 2311, Regina, Saskatchewan S4P 3Z5 Canada (Email: fblack@rpl.regina.sk.ca); send bibliographic notices to the Associate Editor, Linda Connors, Drew University Library, Madison, NJ 07940 (Email: lconnors@drew.edu); send membership dues and changes of address to the Membership Secretary, Barbara Brannon, Director of Public Relations, Wesleyan College 4760 Forsyth Road, Macon, GA 31210–4462 (Email: barbara_brannon@post.wesleyan-college.edu)

scholarly publication or a religious tract, the ultimate object is to produce and distribute books to be read.

Since World War II the study of the history of the book in the Netherlands has evolved into a fully fledged academic study. The influence of various foreign schools of thought has crystallised into a clear approach focused on production, distribution and consumption of printed information. Bibliology is highly interdisciplinary by nature, with strong ties to the history of literature, economics, art, and – more generally – cultural history. In this mutually stimulating atmosphere the lack of an overview of the history of the book is widely deplored, especially since the other disciplines have had such overviews for many years and often in several different forms.

The Koninklijke Bibliotheek, the National Library of the Netherlands, has initiated a project to create a tool for the research on the history of the book. This tool, which will be called Bibliopolis, will be designed as an interactive academic information system. While using Bibliopolis, the researcher will encounter the state of the art of Dutch history of the book, together with extensive documentation in the form of bibliographical references, visual material, external bibliographical databases and full text copies of important articles. The tool is characterised by the use of innovative information and networking technology for the processing and dissemination of the results of research and documentation in the field of the history of the book. The system consists of five components, that are interlinked: an handbook-like information structure, an image database, a documentation system, retrospective bibliographic tools, and secondary references as full text.

Bibliopolis will be designed, managed, maintained and published by the Koninklijke Bibliotheek, with support from the Competence Center for Electronic Document Engineering of the University of Utrecht. It will be made accessible at the Internet server of the KB. The project started in March 1998 with financial support from the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO), and will run for four years. For more information about the project you are kindly referred to the project manager: Koninklijke Bibliotheek, National Library of the Netherlands, Drs. Marco de Niet, Library Research Department, PO Box 90407, 2509 LK The Hague. Tel: +31 70 3140 489; Fax: +31 70 3140 501; Email: marco.deniet@konbib.nl

Penn Library Acquires Major Collection

The University of Pennsylvania Library recently acquired a large collection of American salesman's sample books from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The collection, formed by Robert Seymour and Michael Zinman, is indisputably the largest such collection anywhere. It includes the 1,800 titles listed in Keith Arbour, *Canvassing Books, Sample Books, and Subscription Publishers' Ephemera, 1833–1951, in the Collection of Michael Zinman* (Ardsley, NY, 1996), as well as five hundred additional titles not in Arbour.

The publication of monographic titles by subscription was a staple of the American book scene throughout the nineteenth century and well into the present one. Travelling salesmen and -women went door-to-door with their collections of sample books, trying to sign up customers. Sample books offer a unique window onto

the business of the book in the nineteenth century. They document the views publishers took of their markets and of their strategies for appealing to them. They capture books in the process of evolution, even capturing some books that may never have evolved at all. They provide an abundance of production and marketing information that is otherwise unavailable. In short, they are invaluable, often unique, resources for the history of books and their audiences.

The collection includes books in all fields, from religion and literature to history, science, travel, music, and children's books. Most of the books are popular in nature and aimed at a large market niche. The two geographical centres of the collection are Chicago and Philadelphia, where subscription publishing seems to have been particularly widespread.

The Penn Library is now the repository of record for this type of material; so far as they are aware, no other institutional collection has anything comparable as a resource. The Library plans an exhibit and a web site illustrating selected pieces from the collection; information about both will be issued as soon as it becomes available. Meanwhile, for further information, contact Michael Ryan, Director of Special Collections, at 215 898 7552 or ryan@pobox.upenn.edu

SEASECS Perry Adams Annual Article Prize

The Southeastern American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies invites submissions for its annual article competition. The Society will give an award of \$500 for the best article on an eighteenth-century subject published in a scholarly journal, annual or collection, between 1 September 1997 and 31 August 1998. Authors must become members of the Southeastern American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies. Articles may be submitted either by authors or by others acting on their behalf. Submissions written in a language other than English must include an English translation. The interdisciplinary appeal of the article will be considered, but will not be the sole determinant of the award. Please submit articles in triplicate, postmarked by **15 November 1998** to Sheila Skemp, Department of History, University of Mississippi, University MS 38667. The winning article will be announced at the annual meeting of SEASACS which will be held in Knoxville, Tennessee from 4–6 March 1999.

Calls for Contributions

The first issue of the *Journal of the Early Book Society* (JEBS) will be available later this spring, featuring essays by William Marx, Myra Orth, Sue Powell, Constance Heatt, Norman Blake and Stan Hussey. JEBS, which is published annually, invites longer articles on manuscripts and printed books produced between 1300 and 1550. Special consideration is given to essays exploring the transition from manuscript to print. Articles should not exceed 30 pages and should follow the *Chicago Manual of Style*. Please send three copies of your manuscript, along with an abstract of up to 150 words, to Martha Driver, English Dept., Pace University, 41 Park Row, New York NY 10019.

The editors of *Makers of Western Culture, 1800–1914: A Bibliographic Dictionary of Literary Influences* (Greenwood Press,

forthcoming 1999) are seeking articles of from 500–850 words on a range of individuals. During the past two decades there has been growing interest in the process of cultural development and, more specifically, in the role of reading as a part of that process. As a result of recent studies it has become increasingly clear that the influence of ‘great’ ideas and canonical writers was less direct and more particular than traditional studies in intellectual history had imagined. *Makers of Western Culture* will be a practical tool to assist scholars in tracing the actual reading experience of several hundred of the most significant figures responsible for the general cultural development of Europe and the Anglo-American world between 1800 and 1914. If you would like a full prospectus with Notes for Contributors, please contact: Dr John Powell, Division of Humanities, Penn State, Erie Station Road, Erie PA 16563 (Tel: 814 898 6443; Email drjpowell@aol.com)

Calls for Papers

The Second English Culture Conference, organised in the Dept of English of the University of Lisbon by the English Culture Studies group, will be held from 3–4 December 1998 at the University of Lisbon. By proposing the theme of ‘**Culture, Education, Identity**’, the English Culture Studies group seeks to create both the opportunity and the intellectual environment to examine, review, and critically engage with positions and recent developments in cultural theory and history, cultural and culture studies, feminist and women’s studies, and other disciplines and fields which explore and re-shape the existing links, relations and articulations (as well as contradictions and conflicts) between culture, education and identity in modern and late modern (postmodern) times, with a special focus on the processes of ‘the cultural circuit’ (production, consumption, representation, identification, regulation) and the cultural politics of participatory, democratic citizenship. Interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary contributions are welcome. The papers here called for are position papers (7-min presentations) and full papers (15-min presentations). The Conference languages are English and Portuguese. The deadline for the submission of 200 to 300-word abstracts is **30 September, 1998**. The registration fee is PTE 3,500 (cheques only, payable to Teresa Malafaia). The organising committee is also considering the possibility of a conference dinner and taking the participants to a play by a British dramatist. Dinner and theatre are not included in the registration fee. Registration forms and abstracts to be mailed to Teresa Malafaia (tvmalafaia@mail.telepac.pt) and Alvaro Pina (ferpi@mail.telepac.pt) Depto Estudos Anglísticos, Faculdade de Letras, Universidade de Lisboa 1699 LISBOA CODEX, Portugal. Fax No: +351-(0)1-7960063.

An interdisciplinary graduate student conference entitled **Pressing Matters: The Politics of Print** will be held from 5–7 February 1999 in the Halpern Centre, Simon Fraser University. 20-minute papers welcome on topics including: writing as a professional activity; the politics of race, gender and class with regard to authorship; the dissemination of writing through cultural infrastructures; the ideological split between ‘high’ and ‘low’ culture; the impact of ‘little magazines’ and independent cultural production; the impact of desktop publishing (and/or other infor-

mation revolutions); independent intellectual property rights; historical patterns of anthologisation; discipline and publish: the formation of English studies; abuses of the press (real or imagined); the ‘author’ and the patron, bookseller, publisher, reviewer, or agent; the academy and/or the debate over the canon and the university syllabus; the print/oral interface: the search for the text’s ‘origin’; the politics of translation and its impact on English language writing; early modern manuscript production (illumination and graphic arts). Your abstract of 250–500 words should be sent **by 15 October 1998** to Stephen Collis at Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC Canada V5A 1S6 or Email: scollis@sfu.ca For questions, contact Stephen Collis at (604) 291 3127.

The annual conference of the **Popular Culture Association** will be held at the Marriott Hotel, San Diego, California, running from 31 March to 3 April 1999. This area of the Popular Culture Association concentrates on the reading and publication of popular literature of any period from any country or region. Papers are invited on reading audiences, reading experiences, history of publishers, history of books, periodicals, ephemera, marketing, advertising, distribution, and reception. Prospective speakers should send 1–2 page abstract (circa 250–500 words) on paper or via Email no later than **15 September 1998** to: Alison M. Scott, Head Librarian, Popular Culture Library, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH 43403; Email: ascott@bgnet.bgsu.edu

The annual conference of the Bibliographical Society of Australia and New Zealand, ‘Bibliography, Mystery, and Detection’ is to be held in Brisbane, Australia from 8–10 July 1999. Offers of papers (30 minutes’ duration) are invited on: investigative techniques in physical bibliography; attribution, authentication and textual criticism; unsolved bibliographical conundrums; anatomising the electronic text; books and bibliography in detective and crime fiction. The conference will be held at the Queensland State Library, South Bank, Brisbane, Australia. 300-word abstracts should be directed **by 31 January 1999** to: Dr Chris Tiffin, Department of English, University of Queensland, Australia 4072. Tel: +61 7 3365 2172; Fax: +61 7 3365 2799; Email: c.tiffin@mailbox.uq.edu.au Web Page: <http://www.uq.edu.au/~encitiffi/bsanz.htm>

‘Ut pictura poesis: Verbal and Visual Images in Manuscripts and Printed Books, 1350–1550’ is the working title of the **Early Book Society** sponsored conference to be held at the University of Glasgow from 8–12 July 1999, hosted by Jeremy Smith and Graham Caie. Papers may focus on all aspects of images in manuscripts and printed books; proposals focusing on regional or dialect issues or on the transition from manuscript to print are particularly encouraged. Proposals (1–2 pp), along with a-v requirements, should be sent to Martha Driver or Julia Boffey, English Dept., Pace University, 41 Park Row, New York NY 10019 **no later than 1 November 1998**. Visits to the National Library of Scotland and to collections in Glasgow are planned.

An international Word and Image Conference on **Self-Representation in Literature and the Arts** will be held from 24–26 June

1999 in the Institut d'Etudes Anglophones, Université Paris. The conference is organised jointly by the Institute, the College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, Mass., USA and the Université de Bourgogne, Dijon, France. The plenary speaker will be John Dixon Hunt, University of Pennsylvania. Papers are invited in English or French which specifically address subjects related to the word/image relationship. Send abstracts to Prof Maurice Geracht, Dept of English, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester MA 01610 USA or to Prof Frédéric Ogée, Université Paris 7 – Denis Diderot, 10 rue Charles V, 75004 Paris, France. Email: ogee@paris7.jussieu.fr

The 13th Annual **DeBartolo Conference on 18th-Century Studies** will be held from 18–20 February 1999 at the University of South Florida, Tampa. Plenary speakers will include Robert DeMaria (Vassar College), Jeremy Popkin (University of Kentucky) and Pat Rogers (University of South Florida). The meeting will focus on 'Revolutions in Print' and is soliciting papers that examine aspects of the changes in technology and forms of print in 18th-century studies. Topics might include history of the book, illustrations, print-making and typography, but they also might explore the effect such revolutions had on the reception of information and the transmission of literary, artistic, religious or political texts. Papers might pursue social questions or they might pursue specific revolutionaries who exploit print matter in a conspicuous way. Contact Regina Hewitt, Conference Director, Dept of English, University of South Florida 4202 E. Fowler Ave, CPR 107, Tampa FL 33620–5550. Fax: 813 974 2270; Email: rhewitt@chuma.cas.usf.edu Abstracts must be received by **10 September 1998**. Transmission by Email is encouraged.

Conference Announcement

The **Canadian Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies** (CSECS) will meet in Edmonton, Alberta from 17–20 September 1998. The provisional title for the conference is 'Material Productions and Cultural Construction'. Panels and discussion groups will be organised around such material products as clothes, housewares, medicines, buildings and transportation, and examine cultural inscriptions in materials, processes and objects, be they cotton or steel, surgery or dancing, musical instruments or books. Given the Enlightenment's impulse to draw analogies between material and intellectual culture, the Edmonton meeting challenges its participants to convey innovative ways of informing students and the general public about the vitality of the eighteenth-century. For further information, contact Professor Robert Merrett, Department of English, University of Alberta, Edmonton Alberta T6G 2E5, Canada. Email: Robert.Merrett@ualberta.ca

Courses

Drew University is inaugurating a new **MA programme in Book History** – the first such programme outside Europe. The instructors will be drawn from Drew's permanent faculty and from neighbouring universities, libraries and museums. Pending approval by the University's Board of Trustees, the first intake of students will be in September 1999. The programme is designed

for librarians, teachers, bibliophiles, booksellers, publishing professionals and students who plan to pursue doctoral degrees in history or literature. There will be opportunities for part-time as well as full-time study. For further information contact the Office of Graduate Admissions, Drew University, Madison NJ 07940–3110. Tel: 973 408 3110 Email: gsoroka@drew.edu

In connection with this programme Drew University will, beginning in autumn 1998, sponsor a two-year series of public lectures by working book historians, funded by a \$10,000 grant from the Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation. Speakers and topics will be announced in the near future.

The Centre for the History of Print Culture in Modern America, a joint project of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin and the University of Wisconsin-Madison (where it is housed in the School of Library and Information Studies) will begin an interdisciplinary **PhD minor in Print Culture History** in autumn 1998. Faculty members teaching courses in the minor represent a variety of departments and many geographic and chronological areas of historical interest. Details of the curriculum are available on the Centre's website (<http://slisweb.lis.wisc.edu/printcul/>).

Fellowship Announcements

The **American Antiquarian Society** (AAS), in order to encourage imaginative and productive research in its unparalleled library collections of American history and culture through 1876, will award to qualified scholars a number of short- and long-term visiting research fellowships during the year 1 June 1999 – 31 May 2000. Several categories of awards are offered. Funding is available from the National Endowment for the Humanities for four to twelve months' residence at the Society, while a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation funds other long-term fellowships. Other categories provide one to three months' support. Research Associate status (without stipend) will be available to qualified applicants. Through an arrangement with The Newberry Library AAS encourages applications for joint short-term fellowship tenure in both Chicago and Worcester.

For all AAS fellowships applications the deadline for receipt, including letters of recommendation, is **15 January 1999**. Announcement of the awards will be made by about 15 March, together with thirteen to sixteen short-term awards. A brochure containing full details about the AAS fellowship program and information about the Society's collections, along with application forms, may be obtained by writing to John B. Hench, Vice President for Academic and Public Programs, Room A, American Antiquarian Society, 185 Salisbury Street, Worcester, Massachusetts 01609–1634, or by telephoning (508) 752 5813 or Email cfs@mwa.org

The Boston Public Library is pleased to announce the availability of the **Alicia Monti Research Fellowship** for research in the collections of the Rare Books and Manuscripts Department. These holdings encompass a wide spectrum of materials including literary papers, manuscripts and rare books in the fields of literature, history and the natural sciences. The fellowship is intended to stimulate doctoral or postdoctoral research in these rare books

and manuscript collections and to provide new or additional access to original sources. Two separate fellowships are being offered for 1998 and 1999. Each carries a stipend of \$1000 and has a duration of one month. A brief report or informal talk related to the research completed is to be presented as part of the fellowship experience. Applicants are asked to submit a resumé, two confidential letters of recommendation and a brief research proposal not to exceed three pages, including the proposed dates of research. Submissions should be forwarded to: Office of the President, Boston Public Library, Copley Square, Boston MA 02117. The selection of candidates will be based on considerations involving the value of the project to the Library and to scholarship, the applicant's ability to complete the project based on the documentation submitted, and the project's timeline in relation to other proposals received. The deadline for 1998 applications is **30 June 1998**; for 1999 applications, **30 June 1999**. For further information contact Gunars Rutkovskis, Assistant Director for Resources and Research Library Services (617) 536 5400, ext 238.

Scholarly Liaisons

As an affiliate of the American Society of Eighteenth-Century Studies, SHARP will host a session entitled 'Economies of the Book: Business, Work, Technologies, Text' at the 1999 annual meeting at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 24–28 March 1999. The session will feature papers concerning the interface between textuality and the physical print commodity. Suggested topics include: labour and capital, the guild system and industrialization, language machines, working women, marketing books, print as product. Ideally, the panel will represent diverse approaches (eg historical, theoretical, feminist, cultural materialist) to the economies of eighteenth-century print culture as well as different disciplines' approaches to this inherently interdisciplinary topic. How did the financing of print production, for instance, affect labour practices? What roles did gender play in the making and marketing of print commodities? How did market forces, such as the availability of raw materials, shape the practices of print productions or the physical nature of the printed product? While one need not be an ASECS member to submit a proposal, all presenters must be members of ASECS as well as SHARP by the time of the conference. Please send one- to two-page abstracts or proposals to Lisa Maruca, Interdisciplinary Studies Program, 5700 Cass Avenue, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI 48202; (313) 577 8585; home: (248) 651 3619; lmaruca@cill.wayne.edu Deadline: **15 September, 1998**. In addition, SHARP members who are also members of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (ASECS) are urged to submit an entry describing their recent and current work on authorship, reading, and publishing projects for the 1999 list of ASECS/SHARP research projects. The 1999 edition of Recent and Current Research Projects by SHARP and ASECS Members will be distributed at the 1999 ASECS meeting. This list of projects will eventually be mounted on the SHARP website. (The 1998 handout is currently available for viewing on the SHARP website.) One-paragraph entries describing your projects and related publications should include a title and your name and affiliation. Please send entries, preferably by Email, by

10 March, 1999 to: Eleanor Shevlin, 2006 Columbia Road, NW, Apt. 42, Washington, DC 20009; e-mail: es65@umail.umd.edu

The University of Massachusetts Press is pleased to announce the development of a book specifically targeted at courses in the history of the book in America: *Perspectives on American Book History: Artifacts and Commentary*, edited by Professor Scott Casper of the University of Nevada, Reno, Librarian Joanne Chaison of the American Antiquarian Society, and Professor Jeffrey Groves of Harvey Mudd College. The book is projected to appear in the Press's series: "Studies in Print Culture and the History of the Book". This volume, a collection of primary source materials and original scholarly commentaries, will offer an introduction to the history of print technologies, publishing, authorship, and reading in America from the early colonial period to the present day. Publication is projected for the Fall 1999 season. For further information, contact: Paul M. Wright, Editor, University of Massachusetts Press Boston Office, c/o Graduate Studies, University of Massachusetts Boston, 100 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston MA 02125-3393 USA Tel: 617/287-5710; Fax: 617/287-5699; Email: paul.wright@umb.edu Website: <http://www.umass.edu/umpress>

Seminars and Lectures

The Centre for the History of Print Culture in Modern America announces its autumn 1998 colloquium schedule:

30 September, Dr Claire Badaracci (Marquette University's College of Communication) 'Poetry, Typography and Illustrated Books in the Modern Literary Economy'

14 October, Dr Rodger Streitmatter (American University's School of Journalism) 'Before Stonewall: A History of the Gay and Lesbian Press in America' (This will also constitute the Centre's annual lecture.)

28 October, Ms Faith Miracle (Director, the Wisconsin Academy's Center for the Book) 'Wisconsin Books and Authors: Print Culture in Wisconsin, 1848–1998' (part of the State and University's Sesquicentennial Celebration)

Further information is available from Wayne Wiegand, School of Library and Information Studies, University of Wisconsin, Madison WI 53704 USA

Book Reviews

Henri-Jean Martin. *The French Book: Religion, Absolutism, and Readership, 1585-1715*. Translated by Paul Saenger and Nadine Saenger. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1996. xii, 117 p. ill. ISBN 0-8018-5479-3 (cloth) \$35.00; ISBN 0-8018-5419-9 (paper) \$13.95

The acknowledged doyen of book historians, Henri-Jean Martin was invited in 1993 to deliver the Schouler Lectures at The Johns Hopkins University. The four chapters that comprise *The French Book: Religion, Absolutism, and Readership, 1585-1715*, represent the printed version of Martin's lectures. A six-page conclusion reflects upon the field which he has been so instrumental in constructing over the past generation.

For those familiar with Martin's contributions since his transformation of Lucien Febvre's notes into *L'Apparition du Livre*

back in 1958, *The French Book* recalls research strategies and subject interests that have preoccupied its author for forty years. First and foremost, Martin is an empiricist wedded to archives and documents, leaving the complexities of descriptive bibliography and abstractions of reader-reception theory to *l'école anglo-saxonne* and German philosophers. He also is a skeptical quantifier, carefully counting as many editions as he can locate while remaining aware that piracies and unauthorised production will always corrupt numbers. Applications of censorship and literary-property issues remain at the heart of Martin's concerns, and he always has been sensitive to the evolution of book-producing communities – publishers and authors alike – over generations.

The aforementioned research techniques and interests are delineated in *The French Book*. The opening chapter summarises the growth of publishing in the kingdom during the age of the Catholic Reformation (1585-1650). The first decades of the seventeenth century were a glorious period for works of didactic spirituality, saints' lives, catechisms, meditations, exercises, patristic editions, and Biblical commentaries. Lacking the patronage of the Church, Protestant printers opted for secular and classical topics. In the 1640s, however, as war economies affected most continental states and the Roman Index was in full stride, gross productivity declined. Though the number of titles published remained relatively constant, the books actually printed became shorter and formats became smaller. A temporary recovery would not take place until the 1660s.

In his second chapter, 'Absolutism and Classicism', Martin scrutinises the interconnections and tensions between the *Ancien Régime* and French bookseller-printers. Francis I (1515–1547) was the first king to formulate a coherent cultural policy, and Robert Estienne, humanist turned *Imprimeur du Roi*, implemented the royal program. Subsequently, the Crown issued *privileges* for best-selling titles to favoured printers; and under Cardinal Richelieu (1624–1642) it instituted a full-fledged administrative censorship apparatus. With the monarchy's authorisation, during most of the seventeenth century the Paris Community of Printers and Booksellers policed and dominated the French book trade, as long as guild officers dutifully reported infractions to the Chancellor. During the first half of Louis XIV's personal reign (1661-1715), Colbertine mercantilism assured that a few Parisian families would monopolise printing and selling, keeping production limited and prices high.

It was simply a question of time before disgruntled provincials and Huguenot refugees in Holland would challenge this restrictive book trade by specialising in counterfeit and illicit editions. During the 1690s the Colbertine system already was breaking down. Martin briefly alludes to the intellectual *crise de la conscience européenne* but never genuinely develops publishing's role in the origins of the French Enlightenment. Instead he offers a third chapter allegedly treating the seventeenth-century reader. In reality, however, the chapter is about the marketing strategies of booksellers, particularly Jean II Nicolas of Grenoble (1645-1668) and the publishers of Rouen, topics previously studied by Martin and his student Jean-Dominique Mellot. Martin does say a few words about Abbé Bignon's establishment of the *permission tacite* registry in 1709, which offered a dose of flexibility to the sclerotic *privilege*

and censorship systems.

In his fourth chapter, 'The French Classical Book: Text and Image', Martin describes the physical and visual innovations of the French book in the early-modern period. By and large these breakthroughs were achieved in the interests of reader accessibility. Italic and Roman fonts distinguished among a book's sections, lengthy texts were split into paragraphs, maps and illustrations were introduced, and allegorical puzzles evolved into the emblem book. In his concluding remarks Martin briefly treats the historiography of his field since the 1960s, tipping his hat to his preferred students and reminding the present generation of specialists: "A veritable history of the book will not be written if historians are influenced solely by the latest trends, and new paths of research will prove fruitful only when they take into account earlier achievements and employ a variety of research methods" (p.99). Sound advice from a pioneer of deeply conservative temperament.

Raymond Birn, University of Oregon

Margaret Beetham. *A Magazine of Her Own? Domesticity and Desire in the Woman's Magazine, 1800-1914*. London and New York: Routledge, 1996. xii, 242 p. ill. ISBN 0-415-14112-5 (paper) \$17.95

Larry E. Sullivan and Lydia Cushman Schurman, eds. *Pioneers, Passionate Ladies, and Private Eyes: Dime Novels, Series Books, and Paperbacks*. New York and London: Haworth Press, 1996. xiv, 306 p. ISBN 0-7890-0016-4 (boards). \$39.95

Both of these books concern cheap print, published in serialised fashion in the nineteenth or early twentieth century, and both signal in their titles a particular interest in a gendered reader and in women as subject. Beyond this they have little in common, but the simultaneity of their publication, the similarity of their subject matter and the shared difficulties for researchers of recovering it, nevertheless suggests that, in *SHARP News* at least, they should be reviewed together. The Sullivan-Schurman collection is an eclectic gathering of articles based on impeccable bibliographical research among poorly preserved sources in United States collections. It provides an unembarrassedly empirical, primarily compensatory account, whereas Beetham's book is a sophisticated theoretical reading of the multiple meanings of the woman's magazine, as text, as commercial entity, and as cultural form. Like her North American counterparts, Beetham has engaged in a formidable project of research, and has likewise been frustrated by disintegrating paper, rebound journals with the valuable advertisements removed, and other problems familiar to all whose encounter with the less exalted products of the Victorian press has been intimate and physical.

The contributors to the Sullivan-Schurman collection are seeking the sources that document American popular culture, and they have found a rich vein of useful material in the dime novels, series books and pulp magazines that preceded mass-market paperbacks in the United States market. The papers were originally presented at a symposium in the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress. The symposium was framed, in part at least, around collections in respectable institutions of publications that might otherwise have been abandoned – marginalised as 'trash' literature. Some of these survivals were fortuitous, and others the

result of heroic or (in the case of former curator of rare books in the Library of Congress, V. Valta Parma) eccentric foresight on the part of librarians.

Larry Sullivan's introduction sets up the dichotomy between the apparent immorality of sensational literature and its resulting disparagement by religious and social leaders, and the way in which it actually reinforced conventional morality, while delivering entertainment and escape along the way. There are nineteen articles, on a wide range of topics, not all of them as sensational as the title suggests. The 'pioneers' are presumably the early writers of dime novels: Edward T. Le Blanc identifies Irwin P. Beadle as their first publisher. There are surprisingly few 'passionate ladies' appearing as the subjects of pulp fiction – the masculine voice of the genre is apparent, although not analysed, in several essays, notably in John T. Dizer's study of five men whose books 'shaped juvenile attitudes for over a hundred years' (p. 84). The chapter by Nancy Tillman Romalov, on 'Unearthing the Historical Reader' or 'Reading Girls' Reading' is an unsensational, scholarly and insightful examination of how young women engaged with mass-market fiction. She uses marginal inscriptions in surviving books, as well as letters to authors, to address the difficult research problem of readership.

As for private eyes, they appear in two guises. As the subjects and heroes of cheap print, J. Randolph Cox looks at the Nick Carter series. However bibliographical detective-work is here celebrated too. Leona Rostenberg and Madeline B. Stern have been enticed to reproduce for a modern audience of book historians the tale of how Rostenberg, back in 1942, discovered Louisa May Alcott's pseudonym as a thriller-writer, followed by an analysis by Stern of the texts of the 'A. M. Barnard' corpus. *Pioneers, Passionate Ladies, and Private Eyes* is a useful introduction to material that is still difficult to find; its main objective seems to have been to reclaim, for the pleasure of aficionados and as a service to researchers, an awareness of the cheap print of the last century, hitherto neglected in relation to canonised literary works. However, next to *A Magazine of Her Own?* the modesty of its aspirations is obvious.

Margaret Beetham's ambition goes far beyond the recovery project of the Sullivan/Schurman authors. Although her book, like theirs, is 'rooted in historical and bibliographical research and uses that research to tell a story' it also 'addresses the theoretical questions about the place of popular print in the cultural politics of gender. It is interdisciplinary and draws on a range of debates within literary and cultural studies and contemporary feminism to read some important but neglected texts' (ix). Beetham's book can go on the shelf next to Janice Radway's *Reading the Romance* (1991) and *A Feeling for Books* (1997) and a very few others that embed their interest in recovering the texts and the processes of book production in their larger project of theorising cultural production.

Following an introduction that spells out Beetham's theoretical assumptions and methodological approach, her book is divided into four parts, organised chronologically. During 'The Making of the Magazine, 1800–1850', the early Ladies' Journals began to establish the appropriate boundaries for periodical literature addressed to women: (upper- and middle-class) ladies not (working-class) women; an authorial voice and an implied reader whose femininity was carefully circumscribed in terms of domes-

ticity and duty; whose attitude to fashion was presented more in terms of social class than of gender; and whose focus on spiritual salvation was assumed. The second period, 1850–80, is associated with the dual journalistic phenomenon she labels 'Beeton'. Samuel (the publisher) and Isabella (the author of *Household Management*) Beeton together edited and produced the Englishwoman's *Domestic Magazine* and later *The Queen*, both of which not only presented fiction and reported fashion, but also entered more deeply into the dailiness of women's lives by offering recipes and dressmaking patterns for replication, and by engaging in dialogue – conversaciones – with readers. Chapter six, on 'The Female Body and the Domestic Woman', discusses the well-known correspondence in the EDM on corsetry and tight-lacing, and here Beetham steps out of the text into the contemporary culture to show how the ambiguity of the correspondence not only objectifies women in the male gaze, but also presents them as desiring subjects.

The third and fourth sections, on 'New Woman, New Journalism' (1880s–90s) and on the twentieth-century 'Reinvention of the Domestic English Woman' consider the relationships between the 'Girl of the Period' and other 'new' manifestations of femininity, and *Tit Bits* and other novel manifestations of journalism and publishing for a mass market. Women as writers are considered in the context of the contemporary women's movement and other cultural changes, which in turn are embedded in the transformation of the press from privileged to democratic journalism. From the 1850s to 1914 and beyond, Beetham's magazines were defined in terms of both entertainment and instruction. Earlier the reader 'was defined simultaneously as the desirable woman of the fashion-plate and the domestic woman whose skills brought her fashionable self into being' (p. 199). Later in the period, the 'commodified and fashionable body' was instead 'brought into being through the distinctively feminine skills of shopping, making and making do, of sewing, re-dyeing and altering' (199). The women's magazines of the nineteenth century produced, as well as recorded, a cultural construction of femininity.

Leslie Howsam, University of Windsor

Ellen Gruber Garvey, *The Adman in the Parlor: Magazines and the Gendering of Consumer Culture 1880s to 1910s*. New York & Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1996. x, 230 p. ill. ISBN 0-19-509296-1 (cloth) \$45.00; ISBN 0-19-510822-1 (paper) \$17.95 In pronouncing Ellen Gruber Garvey's *Adman in the Parlor* an excellent work I merely confirm the judgment of the SHARP editorial board, which selected Garvey's study for the 1996 SHARP Book History Prize (*SHARP News* 6.2 (1997): 3). Garvey's point of departure is what it meant for middle-class culture when magazine advertisements targeted at domestic consumption (reading and shopping) were taken into homes, while gender norms still posited a split between feminised domestic and masculinised commercial spheres. To answer this question the author examines advertisers' trade cards as a crucial precedent of magazine advertisements; advertisers' strategies for mediating the relation of domesticity to commercial consumption; the gendering of consumption, reading and authorship in magazine advertising; and the interweaving of advertising and fiction in magazines themselves. Generously illustrated, the study addresses principally

American magazines, but Garvey often draws upon British advertising and periodicals for amplification and context. Her research is similarly wide-ranging, drawing not only upon women's magazines and advertising trade publications but also upon artifacts of domestic culture, including scrapbooks and diaries.

Trade cards of the 1880s easily penetrated the home, not only because they were free (distributed by merchants), but also because they were deliberately designed to look like religious scripture cards and cartes de visite already in the 'parlor'. Children, moreover, were encouraged to collect trade cards in scrapbooks, and although arrangements of the cards might diverge from their original function, the very act of integrating trade cards into home life naturalised advertising in this setting. Later, similarly, magazine advertisers turned advertising copy into the basis of parlor games and writing contests – once again naturalising advertising as an integral part of social development and domestic consumption, as well as insuring that subscribers learned how to read ads carefully.

In assessing the relation of magazine fiction to advertising copy, Garvey notes the deliberate use of brand names by novelists and short story writers. This practice extended literary realism by positing a plane of action common to the story and magazine readers and granted fiction an 'up to date' aura, but it also promoted the appeal of a consumer culture that transcended regional differences. In the magazine novel *The Quick and the Dead* (1888), for example, notorious in its own time for explicit sensuousness, a young widow is irresistibly attracted to the cousin who bears a striking resemblance to her dead husband. If this scenario suggests anxiety that human relationships might share the interchangeability of mass-produced goods, one amorous scene revolves around the enticing fragrance of the woman's hair, which is attributed to Pears' soap. Both fiction and advertisements intervened in public debates to promote the bicycle, which threatened conventional femininity by offering women unprecedented mobility and, it was feared, masturbatory pleasure. Advertisements thus emphasised the benefits of fresh air and exercise to women and their reproductive systems and always represented women in an upright riding position inconsistent with pressure on genitalia. Though not designed as covert advertisements, stories tended to write bicycles into women's lives as an element of courtship and romance, containing fears about new gender roles inspired by the bicycle and again naturalising this new commodity as part of women's lives.

The concluding chapters of Garvey's study emphasise gender and authorship. Cheap magazines targeted at rural women lauded small business ventures, including authorship, that enabled women to earn income and become consumers. But the middle-class *Ladies' Home Journal* typically denigrated female authorship for interfering with women's principal mission of emotional labour in the home. Featured stories by prominent novelists like Wells or Kipling, moreover, served to contrast women's amateurish writing and mystify the process of acquiring authorship. Advertising copy, similarly, was conceptualised as a product of masculine labour consumed by women reading for pleasure. Trade publications advised a sentimental, ornate style to engage women's emotions and taste, in contrast to the stripped-down, hard-edged style favoured for male readers – and literary Modernism. But advertisers'

condescension to women, Garvey suggests, also expressed the anxiety of male writers forced to court women consumers who might use the discriminating taste advertisements encouraged to choose another product.

Indeed, another strength of Garvey's study is her care to document resistance to as well as subjectivities appropriated by advertising. In discussing the bicycle, for example, she includes Kate Chopin's magazine story in which the heroine uses a bicycle to flee marriage to a formerly vigorous man turned invalid, a story that reinforced rather than mediated fears about women cyclists' ability to escape domestic duty. Every chapter includes a similarly qualifying example or two, and while Garvey draws no explicit conclusion about the degree to which advertising functions as hegemonic discourse, her thoroughness in assembling details enables readers to draw their own conclusions. She thus contributes to specific sectors of book history – domestic magazines and advertising – and to the larger, vexing issue of print culture's role in constructing and/or reflecting the subjectivities and desires of its consumers.

The study is at times unduly repetitive, and Garvey surprisingly omits all reference to Jennifer Wicke's 1988 *Advertising Fictions: Literature, Advertisement, & Social Reading*, which analyses the interpenetration of advertising and fiction in Dickens' novels and the importance of advertising copy to Modernist novelists like Joyce. Still, Garvey has produced an excellent study of relevance to all SHARP members interested in gendered reading and authorship and those with specific interests in nineteenth and twentieth century book history.

Linda K. Hughes, Texas Christian University

Book Culture and Medicine, Special issue of Canadian Bulletin of Medical History/Bulletin canadien d'histoire de la médecine 12, no. 2 (1995). 258 p. ill. Published by Wilfrid Laurier, University Press for the Canadian Society for the History of Medicine. ISSN 0823-2105. \$Can 20.00 single issue

The Canadian Bulletin of Medical History/Bulletin canadien d'histoire de la médecine concerns itself with all aspects of medical history, health care and related disciplines. This issue has been devoted to exploration of the relationship between medicine and books, not merely seeing the latter as a means of transmitting knowledge but reflecting the development of studies concerned with book culture and the book trade. Six essays, followed by shorter case histories, articles on methods/issues and artifacts/archives, illustrate the diversity of book studies. The lucid introductory 'Book culture and medicine' by the editor Jennifer Connor should be most helpful to medical historians who are relatively unfamiliar with this expanding held. Thirteen authors from three countries and different backgrounds, with varying interests, cannot create a cohesive whole, but this is a journal rather than a book, and the range of approaches mirrors the breadth of topics, offering something for all readers. This issue of the bilingual journal is primarily in English with one article and one case history (both by Régnald Lessard) in French.

If not quite stretching from Gutenberg to the micro-chip, the chronological span encompassing late Tudor medical wills to the collaborative authorship of a late twentieth-century biomedical

textbook comes close, as do accounts of the various physical forms of medical publications and range of genres for medical writing. Collecting printed material in private and public libraries is a reflection of varied attitudes to books – a manifestation of wealth and status, within the trends of the English Renaissance (Christine Cerdeira's *Early Modern English Medical Wills, Books Ownership and Book Culture*), or the movement away from serving an intellectual or scholarly function to being a 'collection' (Paul Potter's *Taste Sets the Price: Mead, Askew and the Birth of Bibliomania in Eighteenth-Century England*), and finally the books' use simply as reference tools (J.K. Crellin's *Medical Books: For Information of Learning? Reflections on the Books of Three Newfoundland Physicians, c. 1860 to c. 1970*). Book collecting is also a reflection of the problems faced by practitioners in a developing country, away from centres of professional learning.

The clear-eyed analysis by Philip Teigan of the value of Garrison-Morton-Norman's *Medical Bibliography* (GMN), long celebrated but concentrating on origins and priority in the history of medicine, has a refreshing breath of iconoclasm in its portrayal of changing concepts of history; commemoration is giving way to disciplined analysis (the 'forensic' approach), and Teigan sees GMN as part of the reward system of modern science rather than historical scholarship (p. 411). With the book now seen increasingly as a cultural artifact, interest has focused on its manufacture and distribution, and the personnel involved: Thomas Horrock's study of the medical publications of Henry H. Porter of Philadelphia (1829-32) sets his activities and subsequent failure firmly within the context of the intensively competitive and financially unstable book trade; Connor's work on Thomsonian medical books reveals the links with Reform politics and dissenting beliefs such as Methodism. A thriving industry existed in early nineteenth-century North America for works on health and domestic medicine, though Stephen Otto's personal account reveals that a particular self-help book may lose its instructional value only to gain as a family heirloom. This publication brings together those working in isolation, and also helps to identify potential areas for further investigation – medical publishing in a wider context, medical author/publisher relations and the impact of external forces. Medical historians should now be able to look at books with more open eyes.

A. S. Hargreaves, Newcastle-upon-Tyne

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Sharpend

Vancouver, city of the X-Files, gateway to the Pacific Rim. To that, we can now add host of SHARP 98. Those of you who

had the good fortune to attend our annual jamboree I'm sure will join me in thanking the organisers, most particularly our graceful and extremely efficient hosts Ann Cowan and Deborah Kirby, for the splendid way they ran this year's conference. It was a real joy, with the added bonus of giving everyone a chance to experience warm Canadian hospitality in a beautiful city. Next year's conference organizers will need to work hard to match the standards set this year!

Among the outcomes of this year's gathering were decisions affecting the future of SHARP News. While the SHARP board must now make do without the talented Linda Connors, who steps down after five years as Membership Secretary, I am pleased to say she will remain on board as an Associate Editor of SHARP News, compiling the bibliographic listings that feature in each issue. SHARP News also welcomes Barbara Brannon, who steps in with equal talent to replace Linda as Membership Secretary. Matters dealing with SHARP membership should be sent to her care of the address noted in our masthead.

I am also pleased to report that, following the successful experiment in expansion last autumn, the SHARP board have agreed to allow SHARP News to grow to sixteen pages as and when needed. We are taking advantage of this with a sixteen page themed issue for Autumn centered on 'Women and Book History'. Under this rather vague title we hope to bring you editorials, commissioned pieces and book reviews exploring the intersections between gender studies, women's studies and book history. This, of course, in addition to our regular features. I need not add that with extra space now available, we welcome suggestions from our readers for future themed issues. And as noted in the front page conference report, Sharp News will also feature an annual review by John Cole and Ian Willison, starting in the winter issue, of the progress of international history of the book projects. Like SHARP itself, Sharp News is expanding. We hope you'll like the results..

Begin your membership in SHARP, and you will receive the annual *Book History*, *SHARP News* and the *SHARP Membership and Periodicals Directory*, which is published each summer. Students and unwaged can opt for a rate that does not include a subscription to *Book History*. We accept Visa, MasterCard or cheques in American or British currency, made out to SHARP. Send this form to Barbara Brannon, Wesleyan College, 4760 Forsyth Road, Macon, Georgia 31210-4462 USA.

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Annual Financial Report: Year Ended 31 December 1997

United States Account

<i>Expenses</i>		<i>Income</i>	
Newspaper & Directory	\$5,509.83	Membership dues	\$10,765.90
SHARP Book Prize	1,000.00	SHARP Endowment Fund	
Postage	711.59	contributions	607.00
Xeroxing	170.93	Sale of mailing labels	700.00
Office Supplies	312.41	Certificate of deposit interest	434.34
Student assistant wages	199.00	1997 conference deposit interest	6.77
Membership development	553.29	Bank account interest	2.74
Audio-visual services	200.26		
Book History Editorial expenses	25.00	Gross income	\$22,364.80
Total expenses	\$8,682.31		
Gross income	\$22,364.80	Drew Univ. account	\$17,833.78
Less expenses	- 8,862.31	Certificate of Deposit	11,495.12
Net income	13,682.49		
Cash on hand 1.1.97	15,646.41	Balance 12.31.97	\$29,328.90
Balance 12.31.97	\$29,328.90		

United Kingdom Account

<i>Expenses</i>		<i>Income</i>	
SHARP News editorial expenses	£102.36	Membership dues	£652.00
Student conference travel grants	624.00	Account interest	6.81
		Gross income	658.81
Gross income	658.81		
Total expenses	- 726.36	Cash on hand 1.1.97	1,037.722
Net deficit	- £67.55	Balance 12.31.97	£970.17

Respectfully submitted July 1998
Wayne A. Wiegand, Treasurer, SHARP

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