Centenary of the Day Missions Library

In the spring of 1891, Professor George Edward Day proposed to the "Friends of Christian Missions" the establishment of a new library at Yale, which he hoped would become "the most full and complete collection of works on Foreign Missions in the United States and perhaps in the world." Day's proposal came when the foreign missions enterprise was entering the second decade of its half-century heyday. Tens of thousands of Americans would sail abroad in the coming decades, seeking to spread Christian beliefs, bringing with them their devotion to Western civilization.

George Edward Day was Professor of Hebrew Language and Literature at Yale from 1866 to 1891. His avocation was the study of missions and from his retirement until his death in 1905, he devoted himself to the new "Historical Library of Foreign Missions," later known as the Day Missions Library. Day traveled widely to purchase books, and by 1905 the Library already contained more than 7,000 volumes. Generous bequests by Day and his wife, Olivia Hotchkiss Day, made it possible to erect a building for the Library in 1911 on the site where Calhoun College now stands. The Day Library was envisioned as a magnet for those preparing to be missionaries. The original building was designed to include a printing press, carpentry shop, map-making room, and photography room, thus providing opportunity for training in practical skills.

Day envisioned a Library of Foreign Missions containing six types of material: the history of missions in various countries, missionary biography, the annual reports of missionary societies, periodicals, works prepared by missionaries for the use of the peoples of mission fields, and literature relating to Jewish missions. Related literature in areas such as ethnology, geography, comparative religions and linguistics was included. Protestant missions were the primary focus of collecting for the Library but essential Roman Catholic books and periodicals were also acquired.

Because of its early origin, the Day Library contains many works which are available nowhere else in the United States. Its holdings document not only institutional histories, but also the role of women in the missions enterprise, the role of missionaries in portraying non-Western cultures to the home public and the impact of missions on distinctive ethnic groups abroad. By 1929, the Day Missions Library included nearly 30,000 volumes; 323 monthly serials were received; 500 letters were sent to mission agencies and institutions requesting the donation of their publications. Over the years, the holdings of the Day Missions Library have been rivaled only by the collection of the Missionary Research Library in New York City.

When the Divinity School moved to its new campus on Prospect Street in 1932, its three specialized libraries (the Trowbridge Reference Library, Sneath Library of Religious Education, and the Day Library) were consolidated. The Day Library was given a special wing in the new building, but the gradual process of its absorption into the Divinity Library as a whole had begun. Since 1950, missions-related material has not been classified according to the "Day" system, but rather has been integrated into the Library's general collection. The "Day Missions Library" now refers to the entire corpus of missions-related documentation available at the Divinity Library, both print and manuscript material.

From its inception, the Day Library was envisioned as a resource not only for Yale, but also for the wider scholarly community. It was to be for Yale students as
well as "for that expert outside constituency who will come here for special investigation and work." The vision of the Day Library as a "literary workshop" has become a reality over the years as rare holdings in the collection attract scholars from around the world.

Documentation of the missions enterprise and of Third World Christianity continues to be a primary collecting focus for the Divinity Library. It was estimated in 1987 that one-third of the Library’s holdings relate to these topics. In recent decades the Library has added an active manuscripts and archives department, acquiring personal papers of missionaries and archival records of numerous missions-related agencies. The Library currently participates in the International Christian Literature Documentation Project, an effort of the American Theological Library Association to index and promote access to sources for the study of missions and Third World Christianity.

As the centenary of the Day Library is celebrated, the heyday of foreign missions is long past; the United States and Europe no longer contain the majority of the world’s Christians. In this changed setting, the Day Library continues to draw scholars to its rich historical treasures even as it strives to fulfill its new role of documenting Christianity in the Third World. —MLS

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**Slavic and East European Collections at Yale**

Yale’s Slavic and East European Collection is among the five largest and oldest such collections in the United States and enjoys international recognition. It presently contains a half million volumes; some 92,000 concern Central and Southeast Europe and 400,000 are about the Soviet Union. The Library subscribes to over 500 periodicals and newspapers, and the reference collection in the Slavic Reading Room contains approximately 15,000 titles in all Slavic and East European languages.

Among the collection’s many strengths is a rich group of Baltic materials, especially Estonian literature. Another collection is that of Russian émigré literature, one of the best in the world. Russian, Polish and Czech language monographs and serials are particularly well represented, and Czech and Slovak materials are strong in social sciences and humanities. South Slavic publications are currently being aggressively acquired to support the South Slavic studies conducted by Professor Ivo Banac. Complementary holdings are the Beinecke’s notable illuminated manuscripts, incunabula, and early portraits of Bohemia and Moravia, as well as the archives of Czeslaw Milosz and many first editions of distinguished Polish writers. A prize possession is a copy of Copernicus’ *De revolutionibus* (1543).

The past two years have seen unprecedented changes in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. The world continues to watch as this part of the world redefines its basic social, economic, and political posture. Meanwhile, a virtual explosion in publishing is taking place in these countries. Newly organized political parties publish their own newspapers and journals; rebellious republics and provinces distribute their platforms to the press; valuable statistical data is made available by national and provincial governments; and the writings of long suppressed and banned authors are being published for the first time. Strong, centrally-controlled publishing and strict censorship have shaped the "book trade" in the Eastern bloc into something quite different from publishing in the West, and new entrepreneurs are consequently inexperienced in the techniques of Western book trade.

Tatjana Lorkovic, Curator of Slavic and East European collections travelled in May 1990 to Eastern Europe to assess firsthand how these changes would affect Yale’s ability to obtain Slavic and East European materials. Focusing on Yale’s book exchange partners and on the possibility of establishing blanket orders with East European libraries and book dealers, she toured Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary, Bulgaria,
and Yugoslavia to visit national, university, and academy of sciences libraries. She also conferred with book import-export companies and publishers. Only one scheduled stop, a mid-June visit to Bucharest, was cancelled due to the violence that erupted during pro-democracy demonstrations there. She plans another acquisitions trip this summer.

Grants and gifts also contribute to the acquisitions program. Recently, the Slavic Collection received a grant from the United States Peace Institute for acquiring new materials to serve the scholars in the post Cold war era. A Department of Education grant also supports acquisition and processing of Slavic materials.

Donations are a treasured source of new material. A splendid example is the recent gift of Mr. Andrew Gagarin of Litchfield Connecticut, of a beautifully preserved copy of Coronation in Moscow, published in 1899. Even when first published, the two ornately bound volumes were rare and valuable. With ample photographs, illustrations and prose, they document the proceedings of the 1896 coronation of the last Tsar of Russia, Nicholas II.

The Yale Library has recently joined the International Documentation Center in the Netherlands and the Leningrad Central State Historical Archives in sponsoring a project of great significance for scholars. In December 1990 the curator and Paul Bushkovitch, Professor of Russian History went to Leningrad to launch the microfilming of a series of gubernatorial reports from 1804–1917. These reports from local governors were the tsars’ primary sources of information on their empire. On film this valuable resource for 19th century Russian history will be available for the first time to scholars in the West. —TL.
Electronic Access to Latin Americana

The Yale Library has joined ten major research libraries in a collaborative project to convert to machine-readable form their catalog records for library materials in Latin American studies, and to contribute these records to the national databases such as RLIN and OCLC.

Together these libraries hold major resources in Latin American studies; their combined holdings include a great number of items which are unique or held in only a few places in the world. Since these resources are very important to specialists in Latin American studies, effective access to them is essential to maintain the national capacity for advanced research on the Latin American countries.

To satisfy the need for expanded access to Latin American research materials, the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Department of Education awarded grants to the joint project which commemorates the 500th anniversary of the discovery of America. If a final phase is successfully funded, the project will be completed in 1992. Yale hopes to contribute about 17,000 records to this phase.

As one the leading centers in the United States for Latin American studies, Yale's Latin American Collection has made an important contribution to this project. The collection contains a wealth of research material in the humanities and social sciences and has contributed many records which will be original to the national databases. As the oldest among the major Latin American collections in the country, it offers a variety of research opportunities for Latin American studies that cannot be found in libraries with briefer collecting spans. Yale's library, for example, was over a hundred years old when Simon Bolivar began the revolutions that led to Latin American independence, and it has a rich collection of contemporary publications from that period. Due to its early collecting practices, the Latin American Collection at Yale is vital to national resources for the study of Latin America.

The Yale materials included in the Latin American Retrospective Conversion Project are the monographic titles found in the Latin American countries shelf file; the classes (Yale and LC) covering history, social sciences and literature; and the collection of Latin American pamphlets on microfiche housed in the Manuscripts and Archives Department. The countries selected for the project's early phases are: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico, Uruguay and Venezuela. By April 1991, nearly 57,000 titles had received electronic catalog records. If funded, the final phase will create such records for Yale's remaining Central American and Caribbean collections, thus completing the "retrospective conversion" of all monographs on Latin America at Yale.

The retrospective conversion of Latin Americana in North American libraries will have several significant results. It will aid scholars and researchers in locating needed materials, both at their home institutions through local online catalogs, and nationally through comprehensive databases. Equally important, the project will provide the basis from which can be constructed the national bibliographies of Latin American nations, and it will facilitate access to Latin American imprints in many cases not available in the country of origin. —CR
The Changing Face of Reference

The last year has seen a number of additions to the services and collections available through the Reference Department in Sterling Library. The renovation of the Newspaper Reading Room is surely the most dramatic of these improvements, but others of interest and importance to library users include augmented services, the extension of reference materials into new formats, and significant enhancements of both the reference collection and the periodical and newspaper holdings.

Both faculty and students have profited from an expansion of the Reference Department’s Bibliographic Instruction program beyond the usual schedule of seminars for individual graduate and undergraduate classes. The librarians now regularly also provide an introduction to research methods and materials to the members of English 114 classes as well as to all students writing senior essays in history. The decision to offer bibliographic instruction for writers of senior essays was made in close consultation with the History Department, which has now included the library research seminar as a requirement in its senior essay program.

As part of the Newspaper Reading Room renovation project, a CD-ROM Reference Center was constructed from an existing small workroom. The new room boasts five microcomputer workstations, allowing access to a number of different reference sources, many of which are old friends in new guise. Such standard bibliographic tools as Dissertation Abstracts International, the Modern Language Association International Bibliography, Humanities Index, Religion Index, and Psychological Abstracts are now all available for searching on compact disk, as are the Oxford English Dictionary, Infocue, ERIC, and the French Robert electronique. Readers have welcomed the new Center with its electronic reference works as a convenient and efficient approach to bibliographic research. As a further boon to researchers, two Orbis terminals in the Sterling Nave will soon be configured to access the online catalogs of many other institutions (Harvard, Columbia, the University of California system, to name but a few). This access is made possible through the Internet, a network of computer networks.

On a slightly more traditional note, the reference collection has grown to include many sources in microformat, some of which are unique and some of which serve to update earlier printed volumes. Scholars looking for biographical information will have already made use of the microfiche sets (American, British, French, German, Italian, Scandinavian, and Spanish biographical archives) which reproduce entries from biographical dictionaries and encyclopedias published over several centuries. These compendia are now housed in microfiche cabinets in the Main Reading Room. Other examples are catalogs from libraries (such as the Bibliothèque Nationale, the British Library, the Center for Research Libraries, the School of Oriental and African Studies, and the Deutsche Staatsbibliothek) and union lists (such as the Slavic-
Cyrillic Union Catalog), all of which can be found in cabinets in the Bibliography Room.

Finally, as many readers have discovered, two new sections of periodicals have been established in the Periodical Reading Room through the joint efforts of the bibliographers and the reference staff. Section 19, Judaic Studies, and Section 20, Arab/Islamic Studies, comprise between them some 100 journals in English, Arabic, Hebrew, Yiddish, French, Turkish, Persian, and Kurdish. In the Newspaper Reading Room, too, the number of current subscriptions has grown, in part in response to readers’ increasing demand for foreign news, particularly from Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, and in part a reflection of the recent shifts in the Eastern European press.

For more information about these or any other changes in the public service areas in Sterling Library, please see a reference librarian in the Sterling Nave, or call 432-1775 during business hours. —MKP

Photo History of Jazz

An exhibit presenting a photographic history of jazz in America—from the “pioneers” of the musical movement’s early years to legends from its heyday—is on display at the Sterling Memorial Library. Compiled by Harold Samuel, music librarian and professor adjunct at the School of Music from the collection of noted jazz critic Stanley Dance, the exhibit includes hundreds of photographs.

Titled “Black Jazz Musicians,” it offers rare views of the musicians and singers who helped shape the jazz movement, widely considered to be America’s chief contribution to the world of contemporary music.

The display is arranged chronologically. One section, titled “Pioneers of jazz,” features images of eleven jazz figures born in the 19th century who were active performers before the 1920s. These include Louis Armstrong, Eubie Blake, W.C. Handy, Fletcher Henderson, Bessie Smith and Willie “the Lion” Smith. Also pictured in this section are entire orchestras, such as McKinney’s Cotton Pickers, the King Oliver Band and the Jimmie Lunceford Band. Other photographs depict ten bands from the 1920s and twenty bands from the 1930s through 1950s.

Separate cases are dedicated to Duke Ellington, Count Basie and Earl Hines. Some of the photographs have been arranged according to instrument—with cases devoted to “reed” players, trumpeters or pianists.

The photos in the exhibit were recently acquired by the University through the generosity of an anonymous donor. In addition to the photographs, the University has acquired a collection of jazz periodicals from Mr. Dance.

Mr. Dance amassed some 6,000 photographs of jazz musicians over the course of his career. A native of England he began writing about jazz in 1935. He moved to the United States in 1937, where he wrote for such publications as Downbeat, Metronome, the New York Herald Tribune, and Jazz Journal, to which he

Jazz at Yankee Stadium in 1940, with, from left, Cat Anderson, Junior Raglin, Al Sears, Rex Stewart, Johnny Hodges, Duke Ellington and Claude Jones. The photograph is from the Stanley Dance Collection recently acquired by the Music Library. Other “Black Jazz Photographs” are currently on view in Sterling Library.
contributed a monthly column. He has written several books consisting mainly of interviews with musicians, including The World of Swing, The World of Duke Ellington, The World of Count Basie, and The World of Earl Hines. Mr. Dance had a particularly close relationship with Duke Ellington, whom he accompanied on several international tours; he worked occasionally as “unofficial” manager for Earl Hines and other jazz greats. He won a Grammy Award in 1963 for his liner notes to “The Ellington Era” and received the ASCAP-Deems Taylor Award in 1979 for his book Duke Ellington in Person: An Intimate Memoir (1978).

In an interview from his California home, Mr. Dance said he began collecting photographs of the first figures on the jazz scene early in his career. Many of the photographs are “quite rare,” according to Mr. Dance, since their value was not always appreciated early on. For instance, a cache of photographs of bandleader Fletcher Henderson was rescued by trombone player Dickie Wells from the trash after Henderson's death. The photos were later given to Mr. Dance for his collection and are among the images acquired by the University.

The Stanley Dance Photographic Collection is available to researchers nationwide. Mr. Dance’s collection, combined with the archives of Benny Goodman, Ted Lewis and John Hammond, make Yale’s Music Library a significant repository for information on the history of jazz. —LAT

Boswell at the Beinecke

In 1949, headlines coast to coast proclaimed YALE GETS BOSWELL PAPERS, and with the best-selling publication of Boswell’s London Journal, the name of this 18th-century Scottish lawyer and biographer became a household word. To celebrate the 200th anniversary of James Boswell’s Life of Samuel Johnson, LL.D, the Beinecke Library offers two exhibitions.

“The Making of Boswell’s Life of Johnson” explores the making of the Life with drafts from the original manuscript, revisions, proofs, and other materials demonstrating how the work was crafted.

The second exhibit, “Treasures of Auchinleck: The Rest of the Boswells” traces the history of the Boswell family, Scottish landowners of over five hundred years. The oldest item in the exhibition is a parchment document of 1431, recording an inquest into the ownership of properties in Ayrshire in southwest Scotland. The founder of the family, the litigious David Boswell, is represented by an indenture of 1436, complete with its original seals. Early rental accounts, sale agreements, charters, and documents concerning religious controversy between Presbyterian dissenters and the Church of England are also on view. By the mid-17th century, the Boswell estate was heavily indebted; its return to relative prosperity is evident in the detailed 18th-century account books and in the successful legal career of James Boswell’s father, Alexander.

A complementary exhibition, “Johnson’s London,” is being shown at the Yale Center for British Art. —CAS

Unpacking Boswell at Yale; one of the seven trunks of documents some of which are on display in the Beinecke Library.
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<td><em>The Rest of the Boswells: Treasures of Auchinleck</em></td>
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**Bookplate**

Bookplate made by the Spanish artist Vincente Beltran for Irene D. Pace in 1905. An internationally known collector, she bequeathed her collection of 150,000 bookplates to Yale in the 1960s.

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