The Expanding Electronic Environment
by G. Margaret Porter

In the fall of 1980 the University Libraries at Notre Dame began taking advantage of electronic information retrieval technology within its public service areas. With a subscription to the DIALOG information retrieval system, which at that time provided access to approximately 100 different bibliographic databases in various subject categories, reference service moved into the electronic age. Initially two librarians were trained to use the system, which basically consisted of journal articles. However, unlike printed indexes where access points are limited, online retrieval enabled the user to locate information by formulating a search strategy using Boolean logic and keywords. Variables such as language, publication year and type of publication could also be used in order to refine a search. And in 1981, information retrieval expanded to two “dumb” terminals operating at 300 baud, with external modems and telephone couplers.

Today Notre Dame subscribes to nine different information retrieval systems: DIALOG, BRS, Wilsonline, RLIN (Research Libraries Information Network), Dow Jones News/Retrieval, NAARS (National Automated Accounting Service), NLM (National Library of Medicine), CAS-Online, and BIOSIS Connection. Ten librarians and library associates are trained to do in-depth searching, and all public service staff have been trained to use online resources to answer reference questions. Online databases are used routinely to answer reference questions, both in Hesburgh and in the departmental libraries.

At first strictly bibliographical in nature, databases now provide statistical and financial information, directory information, as well as the complete texts of many newspapers and journals. Search results can be downloaded to the user’s disc and later re-formatted and manipulated. Access is gained through microcomputers with internal modems, operating at either 1200 or 2400 baud.

Of course, in the best of all possible worlds access to information ought to be completely free and unrestricted. Most of our databases are only accessible through a librarian/mediator, but a few, such as Dow Jones News/Retrieval, NAARS, and CAS-Online are directly available after library staff have provided the necessary training for these “end-user” systems. But online searching comes with an expensive price tag, which the Libraries cannot absorb in totality. The user is expected to share the charge for long and costly searches.

Although access to remote databases has expanded, a parallel development, the implementation of UNLOC in the fall of 1987, has provided electronic access to local information. While Notre Dame was not one of the first academic libraries to implement an online catalog, two features make it somewhat special. First, 90% of the Libraries’ monographic holdings were available through the online catalog right from the start. This unusually high rate was due to large retrospective conversion projects done through outside vendors as continued on page 4

Lamplights
by Charlotte Ames

Several weeks ago, we decided it might be interesting and useful to initiate a column designed to bring to light treasures which have been preserved on microfiche or microfilm. The University Libraries hold magnificent collections in microform, many of which are often unnoticed for a variety of reasons.

Pamphlets in American History Group IV: Catholicism and Anti-Catholicism is one such treasure trove. It contains 1,340 titles on 1,504 microfiche. This collection presents a rich array of documents on the theological, intellectual, social, economic, and political history of the Catholic Church in America, from the early missions of California and New France in colonial times to the administration of James Cardinal Gibbons in the 20th century. Diverse subjects include the work of early missionaries in the Southeast, Northeast, and Southwest, and their ministry to Indians and blacks; the founding of Maryland in 1634 by Roman Catholics; appointment of Reverend John Carroll as first bishop of the American hierarchy (1789-1808); the rise of the anti-Catholic Know-Nothings, the Ku Klux Klan, and the American Protection Association, and the ensuing riots precipitated by these organizations; Maria Monk’s anti-Catholic Awful Disclosures which first appeared in 1835 in serial form; the response of the Church to the dilemma of slavery and the Civil War; the enactments of three plenary Councils of Baltimore continued on page 6
Libraries Welcome Cashore
by Laura A. Jenney

Service to the library user and participation in the academic community motivate Tom Cashore, the recently appointed Business Librarian for the University Libraries. A 1970 graduate of Notre Dame, Cashore has been active in the field of librarianship for over ten years. After receiving both an M.L.S. in 1975 and an M.S. in Business in 1977 from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, he accepted a position as Assistant Social Studies Librarian at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. It was there that he began to form his philosophy that the librarian should aid in the teaching of undergraduates. This outlook was most clearly exemplified by his course “The Library as an Information Source,” which he taught for seven semesters.

From Carbondale Cashore moved to Lincoln, Nebraska, and to the University of Nebraska, where for seven years he served as the Subject Specialist for Business and Economics. For one year he was Interim Head of Acquisitions, an experience which increased his understanding of technical services functions. During the last two years he also held the position of Coordinator of Computer Searching.

As a member of both the American Library Association and the Nebraska Library Association, Cashore’s recent publications and conference presentations reflect his interests in the areas of business, economics, agribusiness, and Third World studies. He believes it is necessary to critically evaluate methods and trends in the library profession, and to share with others the results of such evaluation. Professional development experienced through conferences and publication is a way to keep fresh, a way to highlight some of the special aspects of one’s work, and also to interact with colleagues.

As Notre Dame’s Business Librarian, Cashore must divide his time between his responsibilities at the Reference Desk and those as Bibliographer for the College of Business Administration and the Economics Department in the College of Arts and Letters. Cashore comments that the basis of his appointment here is to fill their needs. He is pleased to see the emphasis on the study of business ethics, and anxious to explore other areas of faculty interest. Cashore hopes to find a working environment that encourages and promotes creative thought and activity. “It is good in research to look beyond the ordinary dimensions of your job, and reflect on the interest of those who work and study here.”

Characterizing his current responsibilities as a balance between service and participation, Cashore points out that some faculty and students imagine services provided by the librarian to begin and end at the reference desk. He notes that this is a limited view of the librarian. “They expect the librarian or the session to be dull, and I find that it does not have to be that way at all. They also find out that we care, that we are conversant in their subject matter. I want to know the nature of their interests, and in what ways I can interact with them, and to the appropriate degree, in what ways I can participate in their efforts.”

Approval Plans Benefit Collections
by Maureen Gleason

Nearly half of the more than 27,000 books purchased by the University of Notre Dame Libraries in 1988-89 were acquired as the result of approval, or automatic shipment, plans. Understanding the nature of those plans and what they cover, therefore, is a matter of some interest to faculty members concerned about the Libraries’ collections.

An approval plan is an arrangement whereby a book dealer, guided by a profile of a library’s collecting interests, selects and automatically ships to that library books as they are published in a certain geographical area or by a given list of publishers. The profile specifies the types of books wanted in each subject area. Normally, the library may return those books it finds unsuitable. Most university libraries of medium size or larger use approval plans in order
to reduce delay in satisfying their clients’ needs, and because books go out of print quickly, and are both difficult and expensive to acquire once they are out of print. For the sort of book which is very likely to be requested either immediately or in the future, acquisition through automatic shipment is also a more economical and efficient method than individual selection, order preparation, and placement.

The Notre Dame Libraries have five approval plans. The oldest (1979) and by far the largest is with Ballen Book-sellers for books published in North America by any university press or by any of a list of several hundred trade presses. Like all our approval plans it covers only current publications, not reprints, and includes popular works, textbooks, or collections of previously printed articles only in unusual cases. For some of these, and for books costing more than $75, we receive form notifications from which selectors may pick particular titles to be ordered. Form notifications are also received for titles that are considered peripheral to the subjects in which we collect routinely. The subject profile is structured according to the Library of Congress classification, and directs Ballen to send to Notre Dame titles in all subjects represented by University programs. Serials, fiction and poetry are excluded.

Since 1983, the Libraries have also had a very much smaller plan for books in the humanities published in East or West Germany, Austria or Switzerland in English or German. This plan, with the German dealer Harrassowitz, emphasizes scholarly monographs; it does not include unchanged dissertations, but does include creative works from a selected list of authors. Many of the exclusions from the North American plan also apply here, and we also receive form notifications.

During the past year, four more plans, even smaller in scope, have been initiated. Two of them cover books on Latin America in social science fields, particularly political and economic development, social history, reform, social groups, etc., and the social role of the Church. Unlike the first two plans described, these include materials published by governments as well as research institutes and commercial presses. The dealer Berenguer sends books from Chile, and Cambeiro those from Argentina. We have also begun a modest plan to acquire books published in the Soviet Union, through the French dealer Les Livres Étrangers. The selections, theoretical works and reports of research dealing with Soviet intellectual life, culture, literature, history, economics and politics, are based on titles listed in the Soviet national bibliography, Novye Knigi. Finally, we also acquire books in English on Irish literature, history, politics, sociology, and music published in the Republic, in Northern Ireland, and in England.

These particular approval plans were established because prior acquisitions methods did not satisfy collecting needs, because dedicated funds were available, and because a dealer capable of meeting our requirements could be utilized. The first condition is seen most clearly in the case of our North American plan. We realized in the mid-1970’s that our users were discouraged by not finding in the Libraries recent monographs that had been reviewed or cited. At that time we had no regular bibliographers and no systematic collection development program. A check of the list of “Outstanding Academic Books of 1977” published in the magazine Choice revealed that we lacked nearly half, and other evaluations proved no more reassuring. An approval plan seemed to be the most effective way open to us to ensure that we would quickly receive the books that faculty and students were likely to seek. On the whole, the improvement in our recent English language monograph collection, verified by formal assessment as well as word of mouth, has justified that decision.

Once the first plan was well established, we studied possible contributions other approval plans might make to collection development and concluded that a German language plan made sense. We had been buying a great many German language books in the humanities, especially in theology, philosophy and medieval studies, and Harrassowitz was an experienced dealer who could be relied upon to tailor a plan to the requirements of a particular university library. Moreover, a portion of the matching funds raised through a National Endowment for the Humanities grant could be used to support such an approval plan.

The Latin American plans were established because we are greatly expanding our collection of materials from Latin American countries, where the acquisition of books is fraught with difficulty. The same is even more true of the Soviet Union. Although we do not collect Russian materials extensively, it was difficult to meet even the modestly increasing demand. Notre Dame has often been expected to collect Irish materials to a far greater extent than we do, and when three new endowments for Irish studies, Irish literature and Irish music were established, the time seemed ripe for improving our performance. Indeed, the availability of restricted endowments was crucial to all of the foreign approval plans, even though individual academic departments have contributed to the support of some. Ordinary library funding could not have been stretched to accommodate these more specialized acquisitions.

Books received on all the approval plans are displayed for two weeks in the Acquisitions Department for review by bibliographers/ liaisons and faculty members. Books on the North American and German plans which are not selected are also inspected by the Assistant Director for Collection Development so that no titles appropriate for the collections are overlooked. Although the return rate varies by subject, the overall is usually under 12 percent, an acceptable number for a smoothly operating plan.

Approval plans are not a panacea for library collections. At best, they provide a foundation on which research collections can be built. The more challenging aspects of selection and acquisitions begin when approval plans end. Collection development librarians must measure the extent to which the plans meet expectations. We do this by analyzing requests for books not received as well as books returned, and take action when problems appear. Costs must be carefully monitored so that amounts spent on approval plans are consistent with library priorities and the resources available. Even with their inevitable limitations, however, approval plans have helped the Libraries make progress toward a prime collection goal, that of being able to supply an ever-increasing number of books at the time they are wanted by faculty and students.
EXPANDING continued from page 1

well as in-house. Second, UNLOC provided Boolean and keyword search capabilities from the outset, another uncommon feature at the time.

With UNLOC terminals available in all departmental libraries and throughout Hesburgh, access to material within the University Libraries improved greatly. Access to UNLOC from remote locations is also possible. Many students and faculty routinely use their own computers and modems to dial-in, as do other libraries in the area. During the past two years our database has expanded to include information to what currently received journal volumes are owned by Notre Dame. The Cataloging Department is now converting all remaining "dead" serials and journals. Eventually, monographs not currently in UNLOC will be added to the database. Among research libraries Notre Dame is unusual in that it has such a large number of its holdings available through an online catalog. It is becoming less and less necessary to consult the card catalog in addition to UNLOC.

At the same time that UNLOC became available, the Reference Department also made available to the public several compact disc products. At first two workstations and five databases provided access to bibliographic citations of journal articles and company information. With the financial assistance of some academic departments several databases and workstations have been added, expanding the total to six workstations and ten databases.

Only with this additional financial assistance from academic departments will the Libraries be able to continue the expansion of these products and necessary hardware. It was just this type of assistance that enabled the Mathematics Library to purchase a subscription to the compact disc version of the Math/Sci Database. The Department of Mathematics felt this was an important enough product to contribute a micro-computer as well as partial funding for the subscription. The Mathematics Library is currently the only departmental library offering access to a compact disc product. CAS-Online, available in the Chemistry/Physics Library, provides online searching of Chemical Abstracts, and is partially funded by the Chemistry Department.

Compact disc products and online searching through one shared password restrict usage to one person per database at any given time. Technology currently provides for an improvement on this limited access. Through the installation of a local area network (LAN), any compact disc product available in the Libraries could be used by several people at the same time. However, the funding to provide for the installation of a LAN and for licensing fees charged by vendors is currently not available. An even more desirable option would be to purchase or lease the computer tapes for databases accessed at Notre Dame, load them on the Libraries' mainframe, and provide access to them through UNLOC terminals. This would enable students and faculty to search both journal articles and Notre Dame's catalog through the same system. Again, the technology is available, but the funding is not.

The University of Notre Dame Libraries have made great strides in providing access to information during the last decade. However, in the area of electronic information retrieval the technology is developing and changing so rapidly that what is on the cutting edge today will be obsolete tomorrow. In order to keep its momentum the Notre Dame Libraries are dependent not only on good planning, but also on a great deal of additional funding.

Hesburgh Library Becomes Home for 12,000 Penguins
by Laura Fuderer

What does Notre Dame have that University of Southern California envies, besides a national championship? According to reliable sources, the special collections librarians at both USC and UCLA wish they had snared Notre Dame's recently acquired collection of Penguin publications. The collection includes all but 49 of some 5,000 titles published from 1935 to 1965, as well as foreign issues, piracies, ephemera, proofs, and other special materials, and thousands of books published after 1965.

The series include the avian names of Penguin, Puffin, Pelican, Peregrine, and Peacock, and others such as African Library, Buildings of England, and History of Art. An example of one of the few hardback sets published by Penguin, the Buildings of England series, includes over 30 books describing houses, churches, ancient monuments and continued on page 6
Reciprocal Faculty Borrowing Program: An Update
by Jean A. Pec

The Reciprocal Faculty Borrowing Program (RFBP) of the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) and its Research Libraries Advisory Committee (RLAC) has entered its third year of operation. Designed to facilitate scholarly research, this program gives faculty members at participating universities borrowing privileges as well as access to library collections at many research institutions in the United States and Canada. Also, it serves to increase communication between faculty engaged in similar research projects.

An evaluative survey of the RFBP has just been conducted by OCLC. The results were, predictably, that the Program is quite underutilized. Libraries were not overrun by visiting faculty as had been anticipated when the program was initiated. However, its value has been recognized by member university libraries and their faculties because those who have used the Program have been able to fulfill their specific research needs. Dr. George Sereiko, Associate Director of the University Libraries, reports that approximately a dozen Notre Dame faculty members, primarily from the College of Arts and Letters, utilized the Program last year with most satisfactory results.

Those university libraries which responded to this survey suggested that the program would be improved if the number of participating institutions were increased, and if the various libraries’ current circulation policies were centrally maintained and available to any participant through OCLC’s Name-Address Directory. [This online directory includes information on libraries, vendors, publishers, and other organizations in the information industry. It is accessible through the Interlibrary Loan Office.] Also addressed was the need for greater publicity of this helpful program. Therefore, in response to the survey, the participating libraries in the Reciprocal Faculty Borrowing Program have voted to expand to include all members of the Association of Research Libraries, whether or not those libraries are members of OCLC.

The University Libraries, an original RFBP participant, is now able to offer Notre Dame faculty the opportunity both to borrow materials and to visit the specialized collections of all ARL member libraries. In order to obtain further information please contact Dr. George Sereiko at 239-5252.

The list of institutions whose library collections are available for your research follows:

University of Alabama
University of Alberta
University of Arizona
Arizona State University
Boston Public Library
Boston University
Brigham Young University
University of British Columbia
Brown University
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Davis
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, Riverside
University of California, San Diego
University of California, Santa Barbara
Canada Institute for Scientific & Technical Information
Case Western Reserve University
Center for Research Libraries
University of Chicago
University of Cincinnati
University of Colorado at Boulder
Colorado State University
Columbia University
University of Connecticut
Cornell University
Dartmouth College
University of Delaware
Duke University
Emory University
University of Florida
Florida State University
Georgetown University
University of Georgia
Georgia Institute of Technology
University of Guelph
Harvard University
University of Hawaii at Honolulu
University of Hawaii at Manoa
University of Houston
Howard University
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Indiana University
University of Iowa
Iowa State University
Johns Hopkins University
University of Kansas
University of Kentucky
Kent State University
Laval University
Library of Congress
Linda Hall Library
Louisiana State University
McGill University
McMaster University
University of Manitoba
University of Maryland
University of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
University of Miami
University of Michigan
Michigan State University
University of Minnesota
University of Missouri, Columbia
National Agriculture Library
National Library of Canada
National Library of Medicine
University of Nebraska, Lincoln
The Newberry Library
University of New Mexico
New York Public Library
New York State Library
New York University
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
North Carolina State University
Northwestern University
University of Notre Dame
Ohio State University
University of Oklahoma
Oklahoma State University
University of Oregon
University of Pennsylvania
Pennsylvania State University
University of Pittsburgh
Princeton University
Purdue University
Queen’s University
Rice University
University of Rochester
Rutgers University
University of Saskatchewan
Smithsonian Institution Libraries
University of South Carolina
University of Southern California
Southern Illinois University at Carbondale
Stanford University
State University of New York at Albany
State University of New York at Buffalo
State University of New York at Stony Brook
Syracuse University
Temple University
University of Tennessee
University of Texas at Austin
Texas A&M University
University of Toronto
Tulane University
University of Utah
Vanderbilt University
University of Virginia
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
University of Washington
Washington State University
Washington University
University of Waterloo
Wayne State University
University of Western Ontario
University of Wisconsin
Yale University
York University
other structures by county. The thrust is entirely architectural. Almost a page describes the Manor House in Kelmscott, Oxfordshire, for example, while William Morris’ association with it is reserved for a footnote. Of the interior of Kelmscott House the art historian authors wrote:

Inside, the C16 screens passage divides the hall and kitchen. C17 staircase with turned balusters and newel posts with lantern finials. Some late C17 stone fireplaces are carved with garlands and the arms of the Turner family, who enlarged the house at this date. The grates have tiles by William de Morgan from designs by Morris. In a bedroom a small iron fireplace of the 1890s of an aggressively Art Nouveau design.

One of the lengthier books in the series, on Oxfordshire, is nearly 1,000 pages long. This set is a magnificent reference source for students of architecture and art history, the literary or social historian seeking a sense of place, or simply the serious traveler.

Penguin Books was a pioneer in publishing by becoming the first mass distributor of paperbacks of high quality. The company published major classic and modern authors, and also important historical and critical works that have become familiar to generations of college students. Penguin also published books that reflected current issues, such as The Battle of Bogside by Clive Limpkin, and popular culture, such as The Penguin Book of Comics and The Whole Earth Catalog. Altogether the collection captures a sizeable portion of the intellectual and social history of the twentieth century.

The 250 cartons containing the collection have been unpacked, and the contents are accessible in the Department of Special Collections. The titles have not yet been cataloged in UNLOC, but they are available by author or title in both print and computer files in the Department. If you do not find a Penguin title in the library’s catalog, be sure to check with the Department of Special Collections.

The University Libraries are indebted to Theodore S. Weber, Jr., for the gift which allowed the purchase of this unique collection from the English bookdealer, A. F. Wallis Ltd. Mr. Weber is a retired executive of McGraw-Hill, Inc., and a 1945 graduate of the University of Notre Dame.

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