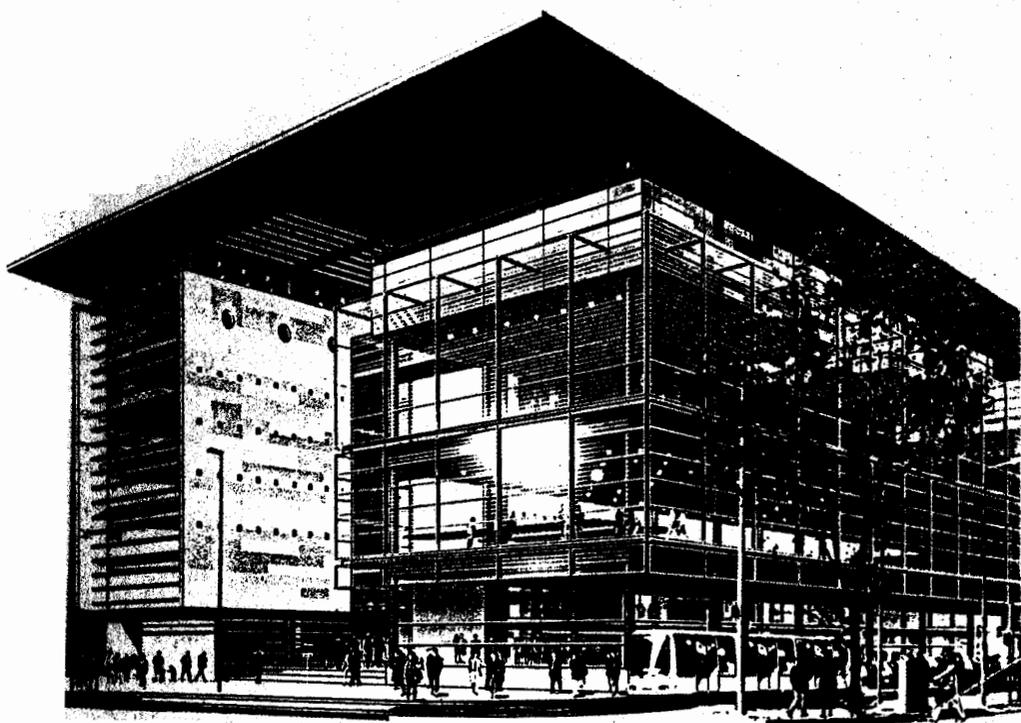


BULLETIN

of the

Association of British Theological

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Volume 7, Number 1

March 2000

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*Bulletin of the Association of British Theological and
Philosophical Libraries*

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The front cover features an artist’s impression of the Antigone Public Library and Archives, Montpellier, France.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

2000 Spring Day Conference

will be held on

Monday 17th April at 2.00 p.m.

at the

British Library, London

Please send items for inclusion in the agenda to the Honorary Secretary

* * * * *

2000 Autumn Residential Conference

**Theme: "Theological Libraries in the International Context"
and Annual General Meeting**

will be held at

**University College of Ripon and York St. John
York**

from Saturday 2nd September to Monday 4th September

This will be preceded by the

**Annual Assembly of
BETH/International Council of Theological Library Associations**

to be held from

Wednesday 30th August to Saturday 2nd September

Members of ABTAPL are welcome to participate in this meeting.

Details of both meetings will be sent to UK members. Members not resident in the UK who would like further information should contact the Honorary Secretary.

Advance notification of attendance will be required, as places are limited.

GUIDE TO THEOLOGICAL & RELIGIOUS STUDIES COLLECTIONS OF GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND

Compiled and edited by David A. Kerry & Evelyn Cornell
ABTAPL Publishing, April 1999, ISBN 094894501X

£15/\$25 for ABTAPL members; £17.50/\$30 for non-members (inc. p+p)

Copies available from

Dr. A. Lacey, Hon. Sec. ABTAPL, Trinity Hall, Trinity Lane, Cambridge CB2 1TJ

Amendments: E-Mail Address

Heythrop College Library's address is now library@heythrop.ac.uk

Telephone Numbers

From 22nd April 2000 there will be changes to telephone numbers in some parts of the UK, principally the introduction of new area codes and eight-figure local numbers for Cardiff, Coventry, London, Northern Ireland, Portsmouth and Southampton. London codes formerly 0171 become 0207 and 0181 become 0208.

ABTAPL UNION LIST OF PERIODICALS

The edition for 2000 is now available. New contributors for 2000 are the libraries of Heythrop College, Newman College, and Sarum College, and the United (SCOC) Library.

The Union List now includes the philosophy, theology and religious studies journal holdings of 41 different institutions in the UK and should prove a useful tool in tracing the locations of titles.

Publisher details are given for some titles and it is hoped that the coverage of bibliographical details will increase with future editions. Thank you to everyone who has helped to provide details.

£14.50 for non-contributors and £12 for contributors.

Copies available from

Mrs Judith Powles, Librarian, Spurgeon's College,
189 South Norwood Hill, London SE25 6DJ

Cheques should be made payable to **ABTAPL**

ANTIGONE PUBLIC LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES, MONTPELLIER, FRANCE

by Marion Smith

"A library is a reader who goes to choose a book from a shelf and then, to read it, moves across to the light." Louis Kahn

Last year I was given the opportunity to represent ABTAPL at the annual assembly of BETH (formerly the International Council of Theological Library Associations), which was held in Montpellier, France. The assembly was preceded by the annual conference of ABCF (l'Association des Bibliothèques Chrétiennes de France), which I also attended and which included a visit to the new public library in Montpellier, still under construction at the time and due to open to the public in Autumn this year. An artist's impression of the building appears on the front cover of this *Bulletin*. The following is based on a leaflet about the new library and on the report which appeared in the ABCF *Bulletin*.

Situated in the Antigone area of the city centre, a fine example of modern Montpellier by the famous Catalan architect Ricardo Bofill, the library was designed by Paul Chemetov and Borjo Huidrobo, in glass and concrete. The first thing we noticed was the immense size of the buildings, with their elegant and fine lines. Impressive in its size (area of 15,000 m²), the library cost 240 million francs and will succeed the one in the town centre, which has about 500,000 volumes to which will be added the 35,000 volumes of the diocesan library on deposit there.

The structure is divided into two buildings, one to house the collections in the best conditions for conservation (the city archives will also be housed here) and the other for use by the public. The architects' design is based around Mediterranean sunlight. The south-facing part of the building, where the sun's rays are most intense, is constructed of concrete and stone and will house the collections, while the north-facing area has a transparent facade to allow light into the public areas. The two buildings are linked by a light roof and share a central passage area. An automatic system transports material between the buildings. There are 13 stacks (3 metres high and covering a quarter of the surface area of the building) including some mobile shelving and with high standards of conservation. The building has four floors with the capacity for the installation of mezzanines for expansion.

The public area of the library is divided according to the variety of uses suggested by studies conducted before construction. Facing the street, the Forum provides up-to-date information - newspapers, material on current affairs and practical information

for work and daily life. This area has been equipped to respond to the needs of job-seekers, who, according to the most recent study, make up 30% of Montpellier's library users. There is also provision for access to all sorts of electronic materials and networked resources.

The library is divided into subject departments: sciences, community information, sports and leisure; history and social sciences; fiction, comic strip books, literature and arts. The top floor houses the "Roots and heritage" library, kept in controlled conditions and comprising early books, valuable documents and special collections; a library of contemporary illustrated books, based on a bequest and one of the most important in a French public institution; the local history collection; and the city archives, housed in an area of 900m² and with independent access. The music library, currently housed in the Fellini media centre, will be moved here and will provide collections of CDs, books, periodicals, scores, and CDRoms. There will be individual listening facilities, studios and a listening room. The Fellini media centre will be given over entirely to filmed works and will offer up-to-date facilities for watching videos and a library specialising in cinema. An exhibition/conference hall can seat 200 people and there are language laboratory facilities. A total of 1400 seats will be situated throughout the library, between shelving, periodical stands, racks of discs. Some will be equipped with head phones, others with viewing screens. For study and research, there are comfortable, light and spacious rooms available to the public throughout the building.

An innovation is the provision for children, which enables them to develop their level of reading without having to get used to a new area of the library. Materials for young people will be found in all subject departments, either near materials for adults or on the same shelves. Shared reading and reference spaces link the adult and children's areas. There is an area specially adapted for the very young and a story-hour room. The schools loans service is also to be housed here.

A library for the visually impaired will provide equipment for enlarging videos, adapted personal computers, keyboard, terminal and printer for braille, voice synthesizer, and will also offer large print books, talking books, collections in braille and cassettes of pre-recorded texts for loan. This will be a regional service.

A variety of co-operative schemes have been set up between libraries in the Languedoc-Roussillon region, with which Montpellier is involved. These include microfilming (and subsequently digitising) several regional newspapers and a collection of 19th century drawings tracing the area's history; conservation of 8000 vinyl records, of the archives of Télésoleil (a TV channel), and of local history

material, including the regional legal deposit collection; inter-library loans; training library students.

300 metres apart, the Antigone library and the Fellini media centre constitute a public library with regional responsibility. The two sites, linked by fibre optics, will operate as a network to provide the opportunity to use electronic resources, videos and CDROMs. This is part of the wider project of computerising the public library service which also includes the re-computerisation of the catalogue for all the city's libraries and media centres and the installation of the most advanced equipment in the Antigone library. As well as the central library five annexes are planned of which two are already built, one being 1000 m², the second 2000m².

The new library will bring together the collections from the Gutenberg and Sully Libraries, the schools loans service, and the music section of the Fellini media centre, as well as the city archives, offering users the chance to research the past from a 13th century manuscript or the travel the world via the internet.

During my stay in Montpellier, I was also able to visit Nîmes and see the new public library there. Much smaller than its counterpart in Montpellier, the building is again designed to take account of the Mediterranean sunlight. Most of the walls are of glass, the external ones being treated to filter the light, even the staircase is apparently built of frosted glass. It makes the building very light and apparently spacious but it feels like being inside a perspex cube!

During the conference visits were arranged to other libraries in Montpellier, some old and some new, and all providing an interesting contrast to each other.

Marion Smith
Birmingham Central Library

“WHAT SHALL WE DO WITH THE CONSEIL?”

by André Geuns

At the end of their annual conference, our ATLA colleagues have the pleasant tradition of concluding with an official banquet. For the 1999 conference this occasion was held in the impressive premises of the Mundelein seminary of the Archdiocese of Chicago. Evidently inspired by the effects of gastronomic and vinicular pleasures, the departing company transformed the return to Chicago into an improvised communal recital, where traditional folksongs took a prominent position. One of the titles sung by the joyful crowd of serious theological librarians brought me to another question that had come up during the more serious events of the conference. In fact, the title of the song, “What shall we do with the drunken sailor?”, reminded me of the question I had asked myself regularly during the past week of debates: “What shall we do with the Conseil?” Even if the song does not seem to offer the right answer, the fact remains that the question raised seems to me to be a good one, and worthy of a serious answer.

The Point of No Return

The annual assembly of our “Conseil International”, held at Krakow in September 1998, raised the question of an official change of name and proposed that henceforth “Conseil” should be modified to “BETH: Bibliothèques Européennes de Théologie”. It invited the assembly to reflect on this question, to present observations, questions and suggestions and to make a definite decision during the next annual assembly to be held at Montpellier in 1999. Indeed, some associations took the request seriously and expressed some doubts and suggestions. More specifically, our colleagues from ABTAPL clearly indicated their concern that the Conseil becoming an exclusively European association could limit or harm the privileged links they maintained in the past with ATLA. While it was not the intention of the assembly of Krakow to provoke this kind of loss, it must be admitted that over the years the Conseil has been unable to realize one of its primary and fundamental objectives: to serve the interests of libraries internationally, in particular libraries of the “Third World” (art. 3, 1 sub c of the Statutes of the Conseil). This intention should therefore be clearly expressed in the official title of the federation of European associations.

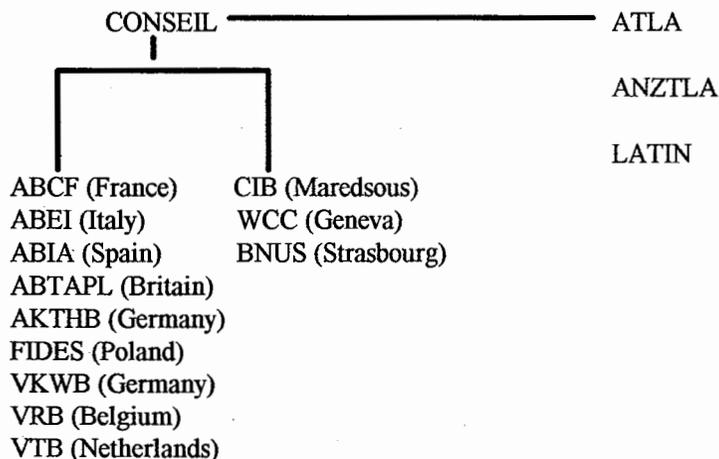
The present members of the Conseil are all well located within the European frontiers, even though contacts with theological libraries from other continents have been established occasionally and are actually functioning. It appeared therefore quite clear to the delegates that they could indeed opt for a new name highlighting their European identity. We should, however, not forget our British colleagues’ point of

allowing some space for an “international council”. One cannot deny that some of the objectives put forward by the founders and their successors unfortunately have not been realized for various reasons, although they still retain their validity. We should then not move too rapidly to eliminate the idea behind the Conseil. It might be more difficult to reconstruct later on - should the need arise - what has been a driving force for more than thirty years, and what now could be destroyed with a single penstroke.

Bearing all these considerations in mind, a new proposal was recently presented during the panel organised by ATLA on international theological librarianship, with the participation of Dennis Norlin, executive director of ATLA, Alvaro Perez, president of LATIN, and Penelope Hall, Thomas Riplinger and André Geuns, delegates of BETH.

A New Proposal

Until now the Conseil has been functioning as a union-link between all the national associations of theological libraries in Europe and a limited number of important individual libraries. Recently it has established some non-structural contacts with other non-European countries, especially with ATLA, but also - even if less closely - with ANZTLA (Australia and New Zealand) and LATIN (Latin and Central America), according to the following scheme:



Consequently, the practice of international theological librarianship on a global level under this free structure depends mostly upon the goodwill and private initiative of the Conseil, ATLA or other institutions yet to be organised. The means to realise the

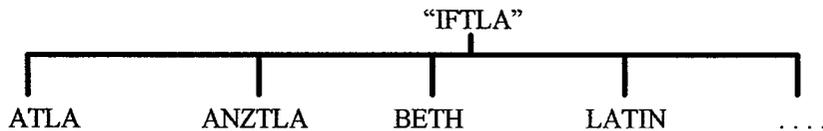
objectives of international librarianship were, and still are, very limited and merely occasional.

Meanwhile on nearly every continent, we find well-established associations, which we could easily call “continental federations”: ATLA for North-America (USA and Canada), LATIN (quite exclusively joined by non-Catholic Christian libraries from South and Central America), ANZTLA (for Australia and New Zealand) and finally our own BETH (all European theological libraries), while Africa, the greater part of eastern Europe, Asia and the Caribbean do not seem to have as yet a structured form of association.

Some years ago, these “continental” associations had no common activity, but since the first visit of an official delegation from the Conseil to the fiftieth annual conference of ATLA at Denver in 1996, regular contacts between ATLA and BETH have interrupted a period of fifty years of mutual silence. More recently, a delegation from LATIN has participated in the ATLA annual assembly, which in this way becomes a meeting point for at least three continental bodies of theological librarianship.

Therefore the time seems ripe for renewing, adapting, eventually replacing the Conseil with a new structure, that should respond more adequately to the realities and demands of today. In the near future the proposal is to be made to create an International Federation of Theological Libraries (IFTLA could be a possible logo but others are imaginable), linking the existing continental associations in a single structure, but leaving each association autonomous and allowing for future membership of yet-to-be constituted associations from other parts of the world where theological librarianship is still a matter of individual libraries.

The structure of this new body could possibly follow this type of scheme:



In this way, several elements of the Conseil’s role could be transferred to “IFTLA” but one should profit from this opportunity to rewrite the Conseil’s bye-laws to better reflect present circumstances. Each continental association should be invited to express its opinion on the question of whether a new instrument for international

librarianship should be created. This is evidently the primary question. Its forms and modalities should still remain open for the present.

Two conditions, however, would seem basic:

- a) Within "IFTLA" the member associations should all have the same rights and duties.
- b) Every continental association should keep its full autonomy concerning the activities that are set up for its own purposes and within its own region. "IFTLA" could and should play a role only in matters requiring co-operation between various associations.

The Decision to be Taken

Every continental association will be invited to discuss this proposal and present its observations and suggestions. The next annual conference of ATLA, to be held at Berkeley, California, will have as its central theme: "international theological librarianship" and this might be the right occasion to give a definitive answer to the initial question "What shall we do with the Conseil?"

Activities in Common

Even if the kind of structure one might adopt is still open, it should not be too difficult to establish essential guidelines and points of interest for an activity in common. For instance, ETHERELI is a project that might benefit by co-operation that goes beyond the European frontiers, and that could respond to certain needs of theological libraries all over the world. The publication of an international directory of theological libraries and librarians would be an interesting "visiting card" of theological librarianship. A list of possible projects and activities in common can certainly be extended further.

First of all we have to decide whether and how we want this international federation to exist, and what means should support its functions. The time for discussion and suggestion is now open. We count on your imagination and energy to make an interesting contribution to the question raised in the title of this article.

*André Geuns,
Chairman of BETH*

THE COPYRIGHT DETECTIVES

by David Sutton

Let us imagine two scenarios: you have money and a brilliant idea for a movie based on *The Devil Himself: The Mutiny of 1800* by the late Dudley Pope; you have no money but you are a keen amateur anthologist of poems of the sea and you want to include three John Masefield poems in your anthology.

In either case, what would you do next? Perhaps you would go down to your local reference library and ask for the address of the central registry of copyright holders; presumably it will be in London, possibly something to do with Stationers' Hall. Then, to your amazement, the librarian says sorry, there is no such thing as a central registry of copyright holders, you will just have to try to unearth the information about Dudley Pope or John Masefield yourself, and no, there are no starting-points.

Until the recent establishment of a database called WATCH (Writers, Artists and Their Copyright Holders), this was the dead-end position in which anthologists, biographers and other writers and editors were regularly finding themselves. The absence of any register of copyright holders in the UK (and in any other country in Europe) has been lamented by writers and publishers throughout the century and ever since the Berne Convention was signed.

The Berne Convention of 1886 marked a huge step forward in authors' rights. One of its central tenets is that copyright is an inalienable right which belongs automatically to creators of original works. In each country where the Berne Convention was adopted (and its adoption is now universal in the western world) the need to register copyright disappeared. It became recognised that copyright should come into existence automatically, as the pen moved across the page or, more recently, the cursor across the screen.

What is more, the definition of "original works" under copyright law is far more inclusive than anyone might reasonably expect. It covers not only published writings, but also unpublished and unpublisable material, including private correspondence. Among published works that have been deemed sufficiently original in content to warrant copyright protection are football pools coupons; an alphabetical list of British railway stations; lists of Stock Exchange prices; sheets of election results; and copies of advertisements.

Ever since 1886, then, there had been a huge range of copyright material potentially available for publication and republication, but with no reliable way of finding out who might own the copyright. The position had been the same in all the countries of western Europe, and, to a slightly lesser extent, in the US. (As a late signatory of the

Berne Convention, the US has retained its Copyright Office, although registration is now voluntary.)

The problem has been compounded by progressive increases in the period of duration of copyright over the years and the centuries. In Britain the Copyright Act of 1842 introduced the idea of post mortem copyright protection; it established a copyright period of 42 years from the date of first publication or seven years after the author's death, whichever was the longer. The Copyright Act of 1911 extended the period to 50 years after an author's death. The European Union Directive on Term of Copyright (adopted by the UK on 1st January 1996) further extended the standard period to 70 years after death. Thus, in 1999, works by authors who died in 1929 or any year thereafter remain "in copyright".

The duration of copyright in manuscripts and other unpublished papers used to be even longer. Until British law was changed, on 1st August 1989, such papers enjoyed "perpetual copyright". Perpetual copyright has now been abolished, but in order to protect the rights of surviving copyright holders, a transitional 50-year period was established until 31st December 2039. (For authors who are not dead or who died after 1st August 1989, the term of copyright—70 years from the date of death—will be the same for published and unpublished writings. The US law on duration is under review at the moment.)

Literary Dam Burst

The amount of unpublished British literary material that will come out of copyright for the first time on 1st January 2040 is quite remarkable. Theoretically, it could include unpublished papers of Swift, Pope and even Shakespeare or Chaucer. In practice, I am not aware of any literary estates that survive from before the age of Wordsworth, Coleridge and Byron. But if by some miracle someone did discover a new Shakespeare play, in theory the Shakespeare family could refuse publication rights until January 2040.

So for archivists and keepers of manuscripts the tracing of copyright holders is especially important. The estates of a number of long-dead authors are still a subject of lively debate and even litigation. John Clare (1793—1864) is one of the best known of these "handle with care" cases.

From the 1960s many important libraries - including the British Library, the Bodleian Library and the Huntington Library in California - began to keep their own informal, often hand-written, files of copyright holder information. The Society of Authors was

doing the same thing. And at numerous conferences in the 1970s and 1980s, the appeal for something to be done about copyright holders was heard. Only in 1993, however, did action begin to be taken, and in that year, curiously, two projects began to emerge, one based in the US and one in the UK.

In the US the lead was taken by archivists and librarians; in the UK by a very British literary charity called the Strachey Trust, which was, appropriately, financed by the royalties of the author Lytton Strachey. In 1993 the Strachey Trust funded a feasibility study for a directory of copyright holders, and in January 1994 asked the research team at the University of Reading Library, which was just completing its work on the Location Register of English Literary Manuscripts and Letters, to start work on such a directory. (The Archives in Reading University Library specialise in literary holdings, notably Samuel Beckett, and especially in publishing.) Meanwhile in December 1993 staff at the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center in Austin, Texas, started to make all their copyright information freely available through the Internet.

The teams at Reading and Austin already knew each other well from their research work on literary manuscripts, and by March 1994 a decision had been taken to merge the two projects. We did not know it at the time, but we had in fact created the first Anglo-American research project in the humanities collaborating through the Internet. One spring evening in Austin we realised that the name Writers and Their Copyright Holders would allow us to call ourselves WATCH-makers.

The information from Austin (which had sent out more than 1,000 letters to copyright holders in late 1993) gave the file an excellent start. The Reading team began by gaining permission to access the files at the British Library, the Bodleian Library and several other libraries. Most of the important literary agencies in London also proved very helpful, and the Society of Authors shared its information on non-members (information on members it has to keep confidential, of course, but if all else fails we try to contact them care of the Society).

Literary Private Eyes

A file of almost 2,000 writers, available on the World Wide Web, came into being fairly quickly. Then came the really testing task, as we began to try to track Other Authors. We soon came to realise that this work was not much like literary research or librarianship; it was more like being a private detective. We importuned people with distinctive surnames; we read through hundreds of wills in the Probate Office - until the recent phenomenal price increases; we followed up hints as vague as "the

Dobell copyright holder sells jazz records somewhere in London” or “the Shewring royalties are paid to a Catholic charity”; we wrote to biographers and others already in the field; and we drew heavily on the help of a few very co-operative publishers.

This is how we located the copyright holder for Hugh Kingsmill (1889—1949). First there was a brain-storming session with his biographer Michael Holroyd, which took us as far as “I’m sure the copyright holder is now a nun”. Then we discovered from other biographical sources that Kingsmill’s widow had married Sir Tom Hopkinson and died in 1993. Having located Lady Dorothy Hopkinson’s will, we found in it a reference to “Sister Edmée at the Convent of the Incarnation”. There is no guidebook to convents, but eventually we found this one and received in due course a most charming letter from Sister Edmée, who told us, among other things, that she had used to work on copyright matters for Oxford University Press.

Triumphs and Failures

The WATCH file has filled up with similar small triumphs of detective work, and there are now almost 4,000 entries there. To return to where we began, WATCH can quickly tell any searcher that the estate of Dudley Pope is managed by Messrs Campbell Thomson & McLaughlin, and the estate of John Masefield by the Society of Authors.

Of course, trails often run cold and copyright often disappears completely from view. Very few wills refer specifically to copyright or to royalties, and residual estates of the dead are often divided and re-divided. WATCH has started to include entries detailing our failure to locate a current copyright holder, and some of these tell quite a story too, as follows.

WATCH record for:

Disher, M. Willson 1893—1969

The UK WATCH Office has not located a current copyright holder for M[aurice] Willson Disher. He was unmarried; his last address was in Campamento, Cadiz, Spain; and there is no will in his name in the London Probate Office. His principal publishers are all now part of Random House, but there is no information in their files beyond the date of his death.

WATCH record for:

Figgis, Darrell 1882—1925

After Darrell Figgis’s suicide, it appears that his estate passed to his father Arthur William Figgis. Darrell Figgis’s will left everything to his wife Emily but she had

already committed suicide in 1923. The estate then passed via the will of Arthur William Figgis (probate London, 18 January 1934) to Bryan Edward Figgis, via the will of Bryan Edward Figgis (probate London, 1 March 1966) to Ethel Mary Marshall Figgis, and via her will (probate London, 23 June 1966) to Margaret Hope Lallah Parker. It has not yet, however, proved possible to establish the current copyright holder.

WATCH record for:

Lawless, Emily 1845—1913

The UK WATCH Office has not yet discovered a current copyright holder for the Hon. Emily Lawless. By her will (probate Dublin, 3 February 1914) she left all her copyrights and royalties to her brother, the Hon. Frederick Lawless. Her first literary executor was Lord Cloncurry, of Lyons Castle, Hazelhatch, County Kildare, Ireland. The present owners of Emily Lawless's house in Surrey, also called "Hazelhatch", do not have any copyright information.

The project got away to a sudden start in 1994, launching as it did so soon after the first discussions with Austin between December 1993 and January 1994, and it was some time before definite terms of reference were agreed. WATCH now has very clear objectives, and six categories of persons whose copyright holders will be pursued:

- literary authors in the English language
- other English-language authors in the humanities
- British and American artists
- politicians and public figures
- literary authors in other European languages
- English language authors outside the humanities.

Of these six categories, the first is now very well covered, and some start has been made on the others - although the fifth ought really to form a partnership project with European Community funding. In 1997, it was decided to add artists to our terms of reference, and a splendid collaboration with the National Portrait Gallery has since enriched the file greatly.

Our funding is uncertain (although the Strachey Trust, the Arts and Humanities Research Board and the Arts Council have been stalwart in their support); our work is incomplete; and we are increasingly left trying to trace the untraceable. Nonetheless we have created the first real copyright register in Europe since the signing of the Berne Convention, and we know from the letters of thanks that come

in and from the number of visitors to our Website that we are providing a valued service.

Keeping a Watch

The need for WATCH in the future is ensured by the European Union Directive on Term of Copyright and by the Berne Convention. There is a powerful irony in this since at least one of WATCH's founders and directors (namely me) believes both legal texts to be seriously flawed and even nonsensical.

First, a standard copyright period of 70 years after an author's death is absurdly long and a particular impediment to biographical research. Is it sane, for example, that Bernard Shaw's novels, published in the 1870s and 1880s, should remain copyright protected until 1st January 2021 (he died in 1950)? And second, a system of copyright based on registration, as with patents, would be more sensible and easy to administer for all concerned - writers, publishers, literary agents, scholars and heirs. Sadly, however, there is no possibility of either the Berne Convention or the EU directive being overturned in any foreseeable future.

WATCH is happy to act as a voluntary register for any and all published writers, copyright holders and heirs, and we will endeavour to continue to supply up-to-date information to the reading, writing and publishing communities about those elusive folk, copyright holders.

The WATCH Website is at <http://www.lib.utexas.edu/Libs/HRC/WATCH>. Copyright information may be sent to Dr David Sutton, director of research projects in the University of Reading Library at d.c.sutton@reading.ac.uk, or the Library, University of Reading, P0 Box 223, Whiteknights, Reading RG6 6AE.

Dr. David Sutton
The Library
University of Reading

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HUMBUL HUMANITIES HUB: CALL FOR CONTRIBUTORS

Found any useful web sites recently? The new Humbul Humanities Hub is seeking to publish descriptions and reviews of Web resources suitable for teaching and research in theology, religion and philosophy.

The World Wide Web includes numerous sites claiming to deal with aspects of religion and theology. The nature of religion, with its many variations and its appeal to the popular imagination, results in a mass of sites which are determined by personal and organisational agendas. This is compounded by the frequent misunderstanding, even within higher education itself, of what it means to study religion and theology as an academic discipline. Religion as an academic subject most urgently requires a UK gateway to resources which have been evaluated and documented within the academic community.

The Humbul Humanities Hub aims to develop such a gateway as part of the service it offers the humanities. The Hub is founded on the long-established Humbul Gateway which has been based within Oxford's Humanities Computing Unit since the early 1990s. The Humanities Hub is now a service of the JISC-funded national Resource Discovery Network (RDN - see <http://www.rdn.ac.uk>). The RDN comprises a number of 'faculty' hubs providing coverage of a large proportion of the subjects taught within UK higher education. Hubs within the RDN, overseen by the RDN Centre (based at King's College, London and the University of Bath), work together, especially on ensuring compatibility between Hubs, developing the means to share and cross-search databases, and forming partnerships with like-minded organisations.

The Humanities Hub is building a database of detailed descriptions and reviews of useful Internet resources for research and teaching in religion, philosophy, history, archaeology, classics, English and other European literatures and languages. The Humanities Hub seeks subject librarians, academics, research students, curators, and others active within humanities higher education to:

- advise the Hub on its coverage of your subject area and to submit URLs for inclusion within the database;
- evaluate sites suggested by visitors to the Hub;
- describe Internet resources in accordance with the Hub's cataloguing guidelines;
- write short reviews of selected Internet resources for both print and electronic publication.

To register an interest in contributing to one or more of the above activities (or simply to be placed on the Hub's mailing lists) please visit <http://www.humbul.ac.uk/> and complete the online registration form.

We are well aware that there is a significant amount of gateway-building already taking place within libraries, departments, and other places (e.g. the PHILTAR at <http://www.philtar.ucsm.ac.uk/> or Mark Goodacre's Biblical gateway at <http://w3.bham.ac.uk/theology/goodacre/links.htm>). Therefore, we are especially keen to work with anyone who has a remit or a desire to build any sort of subject gateway within the subject areas supported by the Hub. For example, we are developing ways in which contributors to the Hub's database may retrieve resource descriptions for inclusion within their own local Web pages or library catalogue. We recognise that whilst many academics and librarians may wish to evaluate and describe Web resources to fulfil a local need, not everyone wishes to build separate Web pages and maintain links. The role of Humbul is to provide a portable gateway infrastructure, making it easier for subject specialists to apply their subject knowledge to the review and description of Internet resources, and so minimising needless duplication of effort.

The database of Internet resource descriptions is a core service of the Hub but it is not the only service to be developed. The Hub aims to become a portal for accessing a wide range of humanities online resources including: the online edition of the new *CTI Textual Studies Guide to Digital Resources* (see <http://info.ox.ac.uk/citext/resguide2000/>); an online diary of humanities conferences and events; interactive tutorials on the evaluation of Web resources in history, English and other subjects; cross-searching of related databases and other centrally-funded electronic resources.

The Hub is overseen by an Advisory Committee which includes representatives from the Learning and Teaching Support Network subject centres, the Arts and Humanities Data Service, subject associations and the wider library community. The Hub's current collaborators include: Oxford University Library Services (including Faculty of Theology library), Oxford University Press, the Archaeology Data Service, Oxford Text Archive, University of Hull, University of Liverpool, and the University of Glasgow.

For further information please contact Dr Michael Fraser, Head of Humbul, Humanities Computing Unit, OUCS, 13 Banbury Road, Oxford OX2 6NN. Email: humbul@oucs.ox.ac.uk. Tel: 01865 283 343. Fax: 01865 273 275. URL: <http://www.humbul.ac.uk/>.

LISA RE-FOCUSED TO MEET THE NEEDS OF TODAY'S INFORMATION PROFESSIONALS

Library and Information Science Abstracts (LISA) the international abstracting and indexing database from Bowker-Saur has undergone a major review, and has been re-focused to ensure that it more closely meets the needs of librarians and information scientists on an international basis.

The changes that can now be seen in the database are as follows:

Fifteen relevant journals that are only available in electronic format will now be included, plus LISA has included selected archives of these titles.

Over 40 new titles have been included for selective abstracting.

Selected daily newspapers and business magazines will be covered, and appropriate articles added to the database.

And finally, there will be a number of new subject focuses, including:

- Life long learning
- Information literacy
- Knowledge management
- Information systems management
- Management issues

LISA is available as a monthly subscription hardcopy journal, a quarterly CD-ROM. In addition, in November 1999, LISA was launched as a fortnightly updated Internet service (www.LISAnet.co.uk). This fully searchable subscription web site includes the archive since 1969, and will provide users with the most up-to-date source of information on this subject. One month trials to this service are now available.

Library and Information Science Abstracts is published by Bowker-Saur. More information about Bowker-Saur's databases and publishing programme can be found on the web at www.bowker-saur.co.uk For more information about LISA, please contact Liz Rowan, Editor of LISA, tel: 01342 336159, email Elizabeth.Rowan@Bowker-Saur.co.uk; or Kate Ellison, Marketing Manager, tel: 01342 336141, email Kate.Ellison@Bowker-Saur.co.uk.

[The *Bulletin* is indexed in LISA - ed.]

REVIEW

CORNELL, Evelyn and KERRY, David A. (eds.) *Guide to Theological and Religious Collections of Great Britain and Ireland.* ABTAPL Publishing, 1999. 272p. ISBN 094894501X . £15/\$25 (ABTAPL members) £17.50/\$30 (non-members) Copies available from Dr. A. Lacey, Hon. Sec. ABTAPL, Trinity Hall, Trinity Lane, Cambridge CB2 1TJ

You may not readily identify 'Blair's College Library' with a special collection on Roman Catholicism deposited with the National Library of Scotland or the 'Prescott Library' with a Carlisle Diocesan Resource Centre but it's all here in a very special new *Guide to Theological and Religious Collections of Great Britain and Ireland.*

This directory is the result of the most comprehensive UK and Eire survey of its type undertaken in nearly 14 years. As with the previous 1986 guide, again published by ABTAPL (Association of British Theological and Philosophical Libraries in liaison with the Library Association), institutions of all kinds are included in the guide with holdings not only of printed and periodical material but archive and 'multimedia' collections. Although the vast majority of collections relate to Christian faiths and movements, every attempt has been made to cover collections of other faiths, comparative and world religions, particularly Buddhism, Judaism and Islam.

Some 389 holding organisations are arranged in alphabetical order by town/city from Aberdeen to York. The detail of entries is extremely useful. Entries include postal, email and web-site addresses, other contact details including any personal named staff contacts, terms of access, access for people with mobility problems, use and any use restraints, staffing levels, other facilities (e.g. photocopying), available catalogues and the month and year each entry was last updated (a nice touch). Each entry is assigned a running number.

Descriptions of the content and purposes of each collection are well thought out, as with the earlier guide. Frequently, the whole library of some specialist colleges and other types of organisation are treated as collections in themselves, with separate mention of any special collections therein. For example, the entry for Keble College Library, Oxford, includes general details of main library holdings, with separate information on their special collections such as their Port Royal Collection of Jansenist literature.

There are descriptors for numbers of printed volumes, periodicals, manuscripts and other media including photographs, CDRoms and whether there are any loan and

inter-library loan arrangements. Details of subjects covered, dates and the value of the collection as a research resource add a great deal of value, especially for researchers. The guide even includes entries for organisations where no reply was received to the ABTAPL's survey. These are often shorter entries but always include contact details for the would-be researcher who can always proceed to contact the organisation themselves!

The index at the back is a valuable mix of named collections, holding institutions, subjects, dates (e.g. 18th century) and towns/cities all listed in a straightforward A-Z order. Interestingly, index references are to entry numbers not to page numbers. There is also an appendix with details of the survey and a sample questionnaire.

ABTAPL are justified in asserting that most of the information contained in this new 'hard copy' guide is not readily available elsewhere, despite advances in Internet resources, network directories, 'subject gateways' and the rest! All in all this 1999 directory is an essential reference tool for general public and academic reference libraries, record offices, theological and other related specialist libraries, academic departments and institutions.

Chris Dodd

*Researcher, Futures Together Project,
West Midlands Regional Library System*

BACK TO BASICS

by Dave Parry

ABTAPL members will be used to my plea that we stock basic texts as well as commentaries. The combination of my 65th birthday (and hence a lump sum from Strathclyde Pension) on 22nd March 1999 with the ABTAPL visit in April to Cambridge meant that I was able to add to my personal stock. The following lists some of the books that I bought in Cambridge, together with a few others bought at this time.

BIBLIA SACRA HEBRAICA ET GRAECA. BHS Hebrew; 27th edition Nestlé -Aland Greek. Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft. ISBN 3-438-05250-4, £59.99 (+ £1 p/p) from the National Bible Society of Scotland, 7 Hampton Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 5XU (Order DBG 5250)

Small but clear print

Greek-English Lexicon of the Septuagint. Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft. Part 1, 1992, ISBN 3-438-05125-7, £17.50; Part 2, 1996, ISBN 3-438-05126-5, £30.00

KOHLBERGER, John R. *Interlinear Hebrew-NIV English Old Testament*. Hodder & Stoughton. ISBN 0-340-42588-1, £75.00

Very clear Hebrew typeface, with literal English translation underneath each word. NIV English text in right-hand column on each page.

KOHLBERGER, John R. *The Parallel Apocrypha*. Oxford University Press, 1997. ISBN 0-19-528444-5, £35.00

Includes Greek, King James, Douay, Ronald Knox, TEV, NRSV, NAB, and NJB versions. Each page is quartered so all eight versions can be compared at a glance. Eight introductory essays give very useful background from at least five stances: Catholic, Orthodox, Anglican, Protestant, and Evangelical.

LAMBRECHT, Jan. *Second Corinthians*. Sacra Pagina Commentaries, vol.8. Liturgical Press. ISBN 0-8146-5810-5, £23.99.

English translation of a section, verse by verse notes, interpretation, and bibliography.

MOULTON, J.H. & MILLIGAN, G. *Vocabulary of the Greek Testament*. Hendrickson, 1997. Reprint of 1930 edition published by Hodder & Stoughton. ISBN 1-56563-271-0, £26.99.

This is a supplement to ordinary New Testament Greek Lexicons, giving examples from papyri that were not available when many were published. Smaller (and lighter in weight) than the original edition.

MÜLLER, M. *The First Bible of the Church: a plea for the Septuagint*. (JSOT Supplement Series 206) Sheffield Academic Press, 1996. ISBN 1-850-75571-X

SEPTUAGINTA. Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft. ISBN 3-438-05120-6, £55.25 (+ £1 p/p) from the National Bible Society of Scotland, 7 Hampton Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 5XU (Order 163/5121)

Very clear Greek typeface, in one volume of Alfred Rahlf's edition.

SPICQ, Ceslas. *Theological Lexicon of the New Testament*. Translated from the French by J. D. Ernest. Hendrickson. ISBN 1-56563-035-1. £65 (volume 2 of 3)

"Spicq's quest is not for morphology, orthography, or even grammar or syntax; rather, he wants to uncover the religious meaning of the language used in the New Testament. ...[he] mines the vast resources of epigraphical texts, papyri, classical

writings, the Greek Old Testament, Hellenistic authors, and innumerable sources to inform his study of New Testament Koine.”

THAYER'S GREEK-ENGLISH LEXICON OF THE NEW TESTAMENT (Coded with Strong's Numbers). Hendrickson, 1997. Reprint of 4th edition published by T & T Clark, 1896. ISBN 1-56563-209-5, £16.99

Smaller (and lighter in weight) than the original edition.

Dave Parry
Aberdeen

OBITUARIES

JOYCE M. BARRIE (1933-1999)

Joyce was second-in-command in New College Library, the Divinity library of the University of Edinburgh, from 1969 to 1989. Before that, she had worked for two years in the Central Medical Library of the University, and I first met her at a Library Association Winter Conference of the University & Research Section in London (at the bar - what else are conferences for?).

The Library and I benefited enormously from her broad education (Mary Erskine School; Edinburgh University M.A.; Associateship of the Library Association) and wide interests. At that time New College Library, with over 200,000 volumes, the largest theology library in the U.K., was in process of reorganisation, to serve a growing number of B.D. and Religious Studies students and an expanding postgraduate school.

Joyce had previously had posts in Edinburgh City Libraries and the National Library of Scotland, and had been the first library assistant appointed under my predecessor, the Rev. Dr. John Lamb, from 1957 to 1960. In those days students were issued with a printed “sponsio” or receipt for their deposit of five shillings when they first joined the Library. One of the rules read “Ring once for the Librarian, twice for the Secretary, and three times for Miss Barrie”. The bell was subsequently disconnected, but those later researchers who went to her for advice found a wealth of knowledge of the collections and a reliable guide through the intricacies of the new and the old systems of classification.

Her work for the Library continued from her early retirement till her sudden death just after Christmas. On a voluntary part-time basis she became the principal indexer of the manuscript collections on Scottish church history, making hundreds of hitherto unknown items available for research.

She was a shy person, who had more than her fair share of ill-health, which had begun with rheumatoid arthritis in her schooldays. Theatre-going was her passion, and her knowledge of it encyclopaedic. She was fond of travel, and rarely went to the same place twice. When I revealed that our silver wedding was to be celebrated in Venice, she duly lent me a guidebook and an appropriate title by Jan Morris. Many of her trips included visits to famous cemeteries, where she collected some most interesting funerary inscriptions.

Joyce was a faithful member of the Scottish Episcopal Church - we both found it intriguing to work for a historic Presbyterian library desperately trying to become the tool of an ecumenical faculty. In St. John's Church, Princes Street, she was at home, and counted a circle of good friends who supported her in bad times and good. Her book reviews for *Cornerstone*, St John's Church magazine, were innumerable. Her brother Stuart and many colleagues and friends will miss her.

John V. Howard
Edinburgh
(New College Librarian, 1965-1986)

FATHER PAUL MECH, S.J. (1911-1999)

During the annual assemblies of ABCF and BETH, last September at Montpellier, France, the delegates were informed of the death of Father Mech, which occurred on 4th September. For those who have only recently become involved in associations of theological libraries, this name will probably mean little, but to those who have worked in that field for longer, the name will certainly carry some weight and importance. I think that we all owe him our genuine respect.

Father Paul Mech, born in Lyons on 12th January 1911, Jesuit, Librarian at the Faculty of Theology of Lyon-Fourvière (1946-54 and 1959-64), of the Biblical Institute in Rome (1966-73), of the Sèvres Centre in Paris (1974-82) and finally Archivist of the Society of Jesus at La Chauderaie (Francheville) to list only his principal activities.

BETH (and obviously also the International Council of Theological Library Associations) owes him above all great gratitude for his initiative on the occasion of the founding of the Association des Bibliothèques Ecclésiastiques de France (ABEF), whose origins can be traced to 1955, when Father Mech suggested organising a training course for French ecclesiastical librarians to the dean of the faculties of theology at Lyons. Having contacted some monasteries, he prepared the organisation of an association of French ecclesiastical libraries, whose statutes were adopted during the 1963 meeting. From this date he remained active in this association as long as his health allowed.

However his attainments were not limited only to France. In contact with colleagues who had founded similar institutions overseas in the meantime, Father Mech actively contributed to the suggestion of creating an international structure of theological libraries; he was one of the three participants at the first international meeting of those responsible for Catholic theological libraries which was held at Frankfurt in September 1957. This meeting with Father Luchsius Smits OFM.Cap of the Netherlands and Father Francis Courtney of Great Britain gave rise to the idea of an organisation which would allow regular meetings between delegates from the associations, in order to plan joint activities for the benefit of members of the associations and for all theological libraries. This idea finally led to the establishment in October 1961 of the international co-ordination committee of the associations of Catholic theological libraries (CIC), which included the setting up of an international exchange service (TEOL). From this time, Father Mech continued to be actively involved in the organisation of the activities of the International Council; from 1961 to 1986 he was one of the two delegates of ABEF to the International Council, regularly attending the annual meetings, and was Vice-President of the International Council from 1976 to 1986. In this role he collaborated closely with his fellow brother and colleague, Father Herman Morlion, President of the Council from 1977 to 1989.

His style guaranteed service which was discrete, sure and efficient. His willingness for dialogue and communication with his colleagues was and remains very much appreciated. BETH (International Council) as it is now owes him sincere gratitude. Let us hope that his example of collaboration will be followed today.

*André Geuns,
Chairman of BETH*

NEWS AND NOTES

BookNotes for Africa

This twice-yearly publication offers short reviews of Africa-related materials recently made available by publishers from around the world. It is sponsored by five theological schools in Africa and aims to support informed Christian reflection in Africa. More information is available from *BookNotes for Africa*, PO Box 250100, Ndola, Zambia.

Council of Church and Associated Colleges

Lord Dearing has become the new president of the Council while Arthur Naylor, Principal of St Mary's, Strawberry Hill, has been appointed chairman.

LATIN

The 3rd annual assembly of LATIN, the Latin American theological librarians association is to be held in Ecuador from 18th-21st July 2000. Visitors are invited but will require proficiency in Spanish. Information (in Spanish) from Noemi Zulini at <biblio@logos.com.ar

Librarians' Christian Fellowship

LCF's Annual Conference will be on 8th April 2000 at the Connaught Hall, London and has the theme "Beyond the Millennium". Speakers will be Rev. Graham Cornish (President of the Library Association and ABTAPL Committee member) and Rev. Dr. David Smith. Details from Graham Hedges, 34 Thurlstone Ave., Ilford IG3 9DU

Library & Information Show

This year's show will be held at the NEC, Birmingham from 6th to 8th June.

People

Colin Rowe, of Partnership House Mission Studies Library, London and Honorary Treasurer of ABTAPL, has recently been awarded a Master of Arts degree in Victorian Studies from Birkbeck College, University of London.

Barbara Frame, who came to Britain on an exchange with Jill Britton of LSU College (now New College, Southampton), has left Knox College, Dunedin, New Zealand, to become Collection Development Librarian at Dunedin Public Libraries.

Virtual Jewish University

Offering six courses with full university credit for internet study, the Virtual University is run by Bar-Ilan University, Israel at www.bar-ilan.edu

WEBSITES

AMERICAN RELIGION DATA ARCHIVE

www.TheARDA.com

BIBLICAL GATEWAY

<http://w3.bham.ac.uk/theology/goodacre/links.htm>

HUMBUL HUMANITIES HUB

<http://www.humbul.ac.uk/>.

JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN www.ort.org/jgsgb

LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE ABSTRACTS www.LISAnet.co.uk

LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SHOW www.lishow.co.uk

NIETZSCHE ON LINE www.uc.edu/~douglast/nietzsche

On-line references for contemporary study of Nietzsche

PHILTAR

<http://www.philtar.ucsm.ac.uk/>

Subject gateway for resources for the study and teaching of philosophy, theology and religion

RESOURCE DISCOVERY NETWORK (RDN) <http://www.rdn.ac.uk>

Comprises a number of 'faculty' hubs providing coverage of a large proportion of the subjects taught within UK higher education.

VIRTUAL JEWISH UNIVERSITY

www.bar-ilan.edu

Offers courses with full university credit for internet study.

WATCH

<http://www.lib.utexas.edu/Libs/HRC/WATCH>

Database of Writers, Artists and Their Copyright Holders

PAUL, N. & Williams, M. *Great Scouts! CyberGuides for Subject Searching on the Web*. US: Information Today, Inc, 2000. \$24.95. ISBN 0-910965-27-7.

Profiles the best of the internet's "scout sites" (which act as directories) including religion. The web page offers links to almost 550 sites

Web page: www.infoday.com/greatscouts!

BRIERLEY, P. (ed) *UK Christian Handbook 2000/2001*. London: Christian Research, 1999. £25.00 ISBN 0-551-03235-9.

Has about 20 pages listing websites.

THEOLOGICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTERS & OTHER PERIODICALS RECEIVED

Copies of the following have been sent to Marion Smith, Editor of the *Bulletin*.

American Theological Library Association *Newsletter* February 2000. Contains a piece on the American Religion Data Archive.

Association des Bibliothèques Chrétiennes de France *Bulletin de Liaison*, no. 114, March 2000. Includes the second part of the report on last year's conference at Montpellier, papers presented there, and articles on member libraries.

Associazione dei Bibliotecari Ecclesiastici Italiani *Bollettino di Informazione* Number 2, 1999.

Australian and New Zealand Theological Library Association *Newsletter* No. 39, December 1999. Includes the second part of the proceedings of the 14th annual conference on the theme "Oral, Print and Digital Cultures: bound together in Theological Libraries".

Centre Informatique et Bible (Maredsous, Belgium) *Interface* March 2000.

Librarians' Christian Fellowship *Newsletter* Spring 2000.