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THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF THE THOMAS FISHER RARE BOOK LIBRARY

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They Say "A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words"...

"Can you help me find an image of ..." is a frequent question at the Fisher Library reference desk.

All of us have been struck over the past several years by a perceptible shift in the use of our collections. More and more, the reference requests that come in by phone and e-mail are concerned with getting at, and more particularly, with reproducing graphic materials from our collections for use in websites or other types of

audio-visual media such as video productions, films or CD-ROMs. Although print has dominated Western culture since Gutenberg, its authority is arguably diminishing with the rise of an image-based model driven by ever more sophisticated technologies. The most recent example is the new generation of cell phones which double as digital cameras. Everyone, it seems, is looking for images, and special collections libraries,

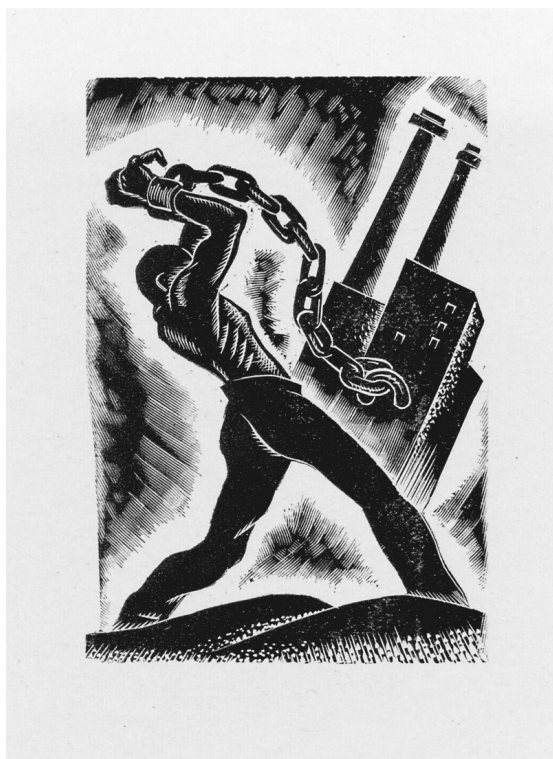
along with other cultural institutions, are viewed as one source of these images. In this brief and very subjective survey of recent uses of the collection, I will be highlighting some recent requests for images in order to provide an overview of the ways in which visuals of all kinds from our collections are making their way into the wider world.

This is not to say that the more 'conventional' type of text-based research is

not still being conducted. Some recent examples will illustrate the diverse use made of our collections. As part of the Lexicons of Early Modern English (LEME) project Ian Lancashire's research assistant has been working daily in the Fisher Library since August 2003, preparing a carefully edited scholarly text of Thomas Cooper's 1584 *Thesaurus*. Earlier this winter we had a request from the Director of the British Academy's

project to publish the surviving letters and charters of the Plantagenet kings Henry II and Richard I, for a copy of a document from our manuscript holdings which sheds light on scribal activity at Henry II's court. An unusual request to borrow a microfilm copy of the Friedberg Zohar came from Los Angeles in January, from a writer/director working on a documentary film on the Kabbalah to be produced by Madonna. However, it is not only the antiquarian material that is being consulted; Fisher collections of more recent vintage are also in demand. A U of T student is writing a book on the first Italian restaurant in Calgary, using the Library's complete run of *Canadian Grocer* magazine, part of the immensely important Maclean Hunter archive. Another researcher requests permission to quote from correspondence in the William Arthur Deacon collection for a biography of Ontario native Leslie McFarlane, who wrote the first twenty Hardy Boys mysteries under the pen name of Franklin W. Dixon.

Getting back to images, one of the most unusual requests for an image came from a member of a Danish rock band who wishes to use the Laurence Hyde woodcut reproduced on the cover of our Kenny exhibition catalogue for the group's webpage and for the cover of their new CD. He was delighted when we could offer him a high resolution copy, and supply him with copyright clearance information. Great North, an Alliance Atlantis company, has filmed material from our David Thompson collection for use in their educational video productions. A researcher preparing an online exhibit for the Archives Association of Ontario Archeion website is making use of reproductions of items in the Arts and Letters club scrapbook. A researcher



Wood engraving by Laurence Hyde from *Seven Ages of Man*, 1939.

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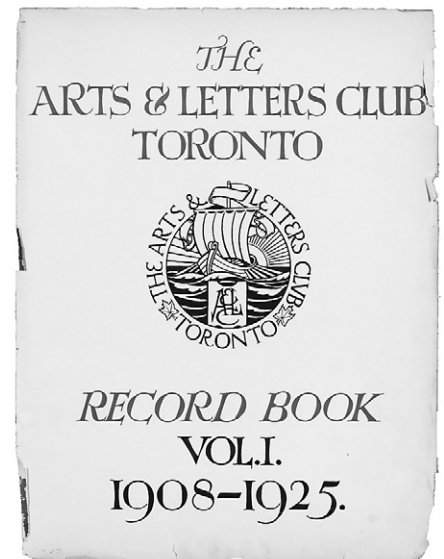
Members of the Friends of the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library 2003 – 2004

Events and Exhibitions

for Ron Mann recently photographed Rochdale calendars and other ephemera for inclusion in the DVD version of Mann's documentary on Rochdale College. An interesting request came from England for photographs and other images from the Suniti Namjoshi collection to be added to the South Asian Diaspora Literature and Arts Archive (SALIDAA), a digital archive of material relating to South Asian artists. A nineteenth-century map of Prince Edward Island was photographed for a CBC History project. A CBC crew filmed several copies of the Qur'an from our collections, and another CBC crew filmed our first edition copy of Susanna Moodie's *Roughing it in the Bush*, in order to make a facsimile to be used as a prop in a production on Susanna Moodie and Catherine Parr Traill.

All of these requests for images are processed onsite, and here we rely on the expertise of the Collection Digitization department, and the skills of photographers Jim Ingram and Bogda Mickiewicz. Every image we capture, whether to fill a patron request or for internal purposes such as exhibition catalogues, is saved in

high resolution format. These archived digital images will in time, as the collection continues to grow, become a rich resource for future image seekers. Indeed, the images we already have available in electronic format, through our digital special collections websites, are another rich source of patron requests. In this case everyone benefits because users are able to order high resolution copies through the website, and the images can be readily supplied, without the need to go back and handle the original material. Parks Canada requested a copy of the portrait of the Rev. Lofthouse, from our Barren Lands collection, for use in an electronic presentation on York Factory for elementary and secondary level school groups in Manitoba. Another Tyrrell image, of rapids on the Lockhart River, is being used on the cover of a book recounting the story of the Rennie brothers, who met with tragedy on the Fraser River in 1862. The National Inventors Hall of Fame recently requested portraits of Banting, Best, and Collip, who are all being inducted this spring. These images, and others from the Insulin collections will be used in

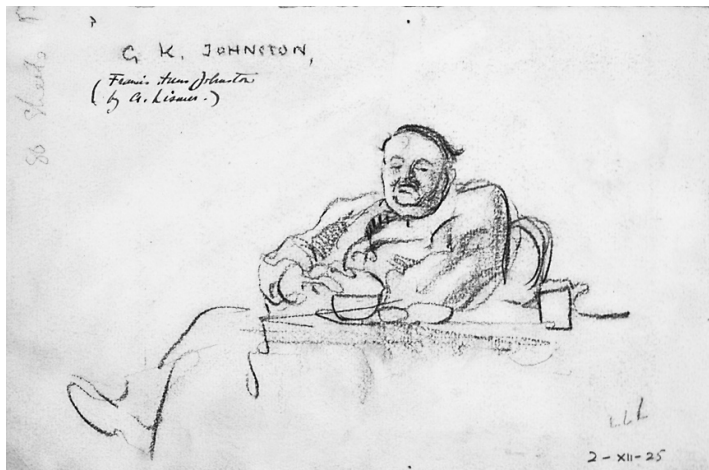


the video that is being produced for the induction ceremony. Images of the insulin co-discoverers are in high demand; they have recently been requested by German Television for a four-part documentary on the history of Medicine, by a Canadian documentary filmmaking company for use in Global Television's historical series called "Trailblazers", by an advertising firm for use in a video to be presented at the American Diabetes Convention, and for many other educational and commercial uses.

The Fisher collections are a rich resource for all types of research, and the current demand for visuals of all kinds is just the latest manifestation of the broad use of the collections by a diverse community of both scholars and casual users. The reference queries for images we have been receiving are often quite difficult to address. We are more accustomed to help users find information about subject X, than pictures of item X. We have not traditionally emphasized visual elements in the text-based cataloguing perfected by librarians over the past couple of centuries. Often, we have to draw on our own personal knowledge of the collections to respond to the request for images of women bookbinders, or alchemical symbols, or voyageur canoes. These new approaches to the material challenge us all to learn more about our collections and their sometimes hidden possibilities.

Anne Dondertman

Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library



Top right: Title page of *The Arts and Letters Club Record Book*, Volume 1, 1908 – 1925.

Left: Sketch of G.K. Johnston by Arthur Lismer, December 1925.

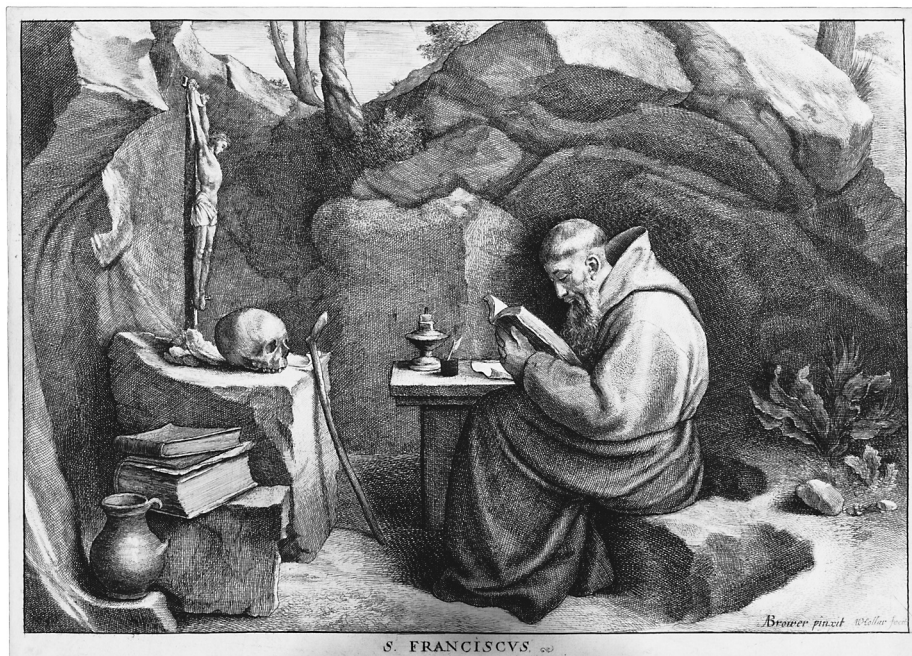
Bottom left: Illustration by Mary Meigs for Namjoshi's *The Conversations of Cow*, first published 1985.





Miscellany of Texts for the Order of Friars Minor: A New Manuscript for the Fisher Library

St. Francis (1181-1226) had hardly been buried in his tomb at Assisi before his religious sons, the members of the Order of Friars Minor (Franciscans), found themselves embroiled in a controversy with church authorities over their proper sphere of activities. The bishops of Germany, for example, objected to this new group of friars infringing on the perceived rights of the diocesan clergy – rights that included burying the bodies of the laity in their churches, the ringing of steeple bells to call the faithful to divine service, and the hearing of confessions. Worse yet, the friars were increasingly at odds with one another over the best way to continue in Francis' path. How were they to assume a greater role in the society they sought to change, while at the same time remain faithful to Francis' teachings and his summons to forsake the world and all of its attractions? Fissures began to appear in the unity of the brotherhood during Francis' lifetime and, after his death, the tensions increased. One group, which came to be known as the Conventuals, began to acquire property and build churches and convents. About 1368, Paul de' Trinci reacted to the growing wealth and comfort of the Friars, and initiated the Observant movement. He and his reforming brethren, stricter in their implementation of Francis' Rule, would in a very short space of time take possession of some of the most important centres of Franciscan life, including the revered Portiuncula Church at Assisi, where Francis himself had died. Encouraged by the support of no less a prelate than Pope Gregory XI



Etching of St. Francis of Assisi by Wenceslaus Hollar.

(1331-1378), Paul's radical interpretation of the Rule began to grow in popularity throughout the Franciscan world, much to the dismay of many veterans of the order.

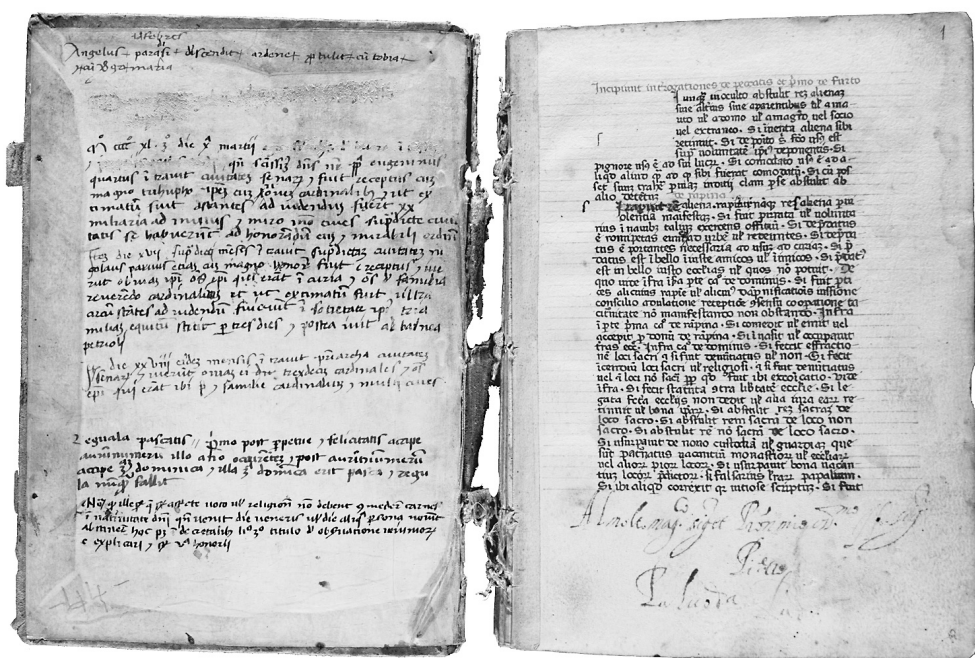
One of the problems with Francis' rule was that it was not written specifically with the priesthood in mind. Francis was not a priest, and neither were many of the first Friars. They were for the most part mendicant preachers, licensed for specific duties among the poor by individual bishops throughout Europe. Since the hearing of confessions was explicitly a sacerdotal duty, Francis had not even thought to touch upon the subject when he created his Rule. In their zeal to return to the purity of their founder's original idea for the community, the Observants ignored the fact that priests now constituted a significant population within the Order, but rather argued that there was no role for them as Franciscans in the hearing of confessions. The problem was complicated by a decree of the Lateran Council of 1215 which required all of the laity to confess all of their sins once a year to their parish

priest, so that he might have a better awareness of their spiritual needs. Confession to a friar would make it more difficult for the parish priest to properly carry out his pastoral duties. It was in this context that the manuscript, recently acquired by the Fisher Library and given the collective title "Miscellany of Texts for the Order of Friars Minor" was created.

This single volume actually contains three separate texts written in at least four different hands – an anonymous *Interrogationes de peccatis* ("Inquiries regarding sins"), excerpts from Godfrey

of Viterbo's *Liber memorialis* ("Book of remembrance"), and excerpts from Bernard of Clairvaux's *In laudibus virginis matris* ("In praise of the Virgin Mother"). Northern Italian in origin, it can be dated to about the year 1410. The first text in particular documents that critical moment in the struggle between the Conventuals and the Observants by bringing together diverse texts including an unrecorded penitential tract and supporting papal bulls, indulgences, and extracts from Canon Law – all of which make a case for the Conventuals against the Observants, especially favouring their right to hear confession. The controversy was not actually resolved in favour of the Conventuals until 1517, and so these texts must have been controversial when the manuscript was actually penned. Still in its original monastic binding, it may have been made for the Monastery of Monteripido in Perugia, which played an important role in this particular conflict.

The other two texts bound with this penitential are of interest for the scholar of



First leaf of the "Miscellany" and front pastedown with contemporary annotations detailing a visit by Pope Eugene IV to Siena.

medieval history in general. The second manuscript, excerpts from Godfrey of Viterbo's *Liber memorialis* (also known as the *Memoriae saeculorum* or "Memories of the ages"), is written in both verse and prose, and professes to record the history of the world from its creation until 1185. Godfrey (c. 1120-1196) was an Italian chronicler who spent his early years in Viterbo, but was actually educated in Germany. He served as secretary to the Emperor Frederick I for most of his life, and upon Frederick's death he enjoyed the patronage of Emperor Henry VI. Although a very popular work in the Middle Ages, *Liber memorialis* has not yet been edited in a modern scholarly edition.

The great reformer of the Cistercian Order, St. Bernard, was also a devotee of the Virgin Mary. His sermons and prayers in her honour were among the most popular devotional writings to emerge from the Middle Ages and certainly resonated with the Franciscans who promoted devo-

tion to her, especially under the title of her "Immaculate Conception" – a dogma which Bernard himself had great difficulty accepting. Perhaps more important for our understanding of church history are Bernard's letters, several of which are found in this collection, including his significant correspondence with the monk Adam and with Suger, abbot of St. Denis in Paris.

It has been quite some time since the Fisher has been able to add a "new" manuscript to its collection of medieval texts. This volume is certainly a welcome addition that will serve well the needs, not only of medievalists, but also of church historians, students of the Franciscan movement, and paleographers. Its purchase also affirms that the University of Toronto Libraries remain committed to the expansion of their humanities collections for the benefit of the serious scholar.

P.J. Carefoote

Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library

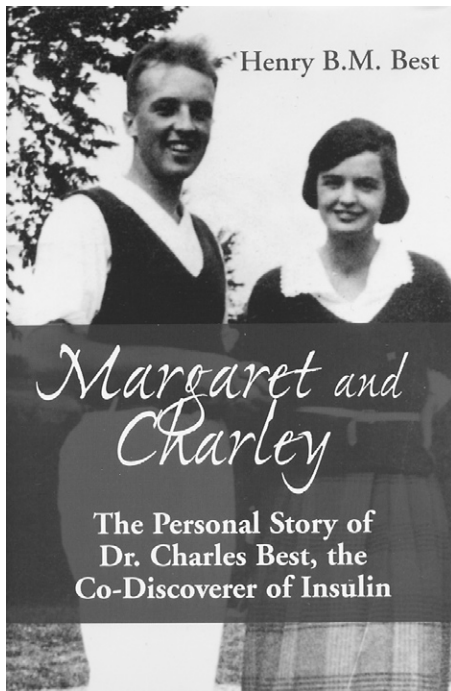
Manuscript Gifts for 2003

It has been another busy year, with gifts, both expected and unexpected, from donors across Canada and around the world.

Science and Medicine

Dr. Henry Best, youngest son of Dr. Charles Best, co-discoverer of insulin and his wife, Janna Ramsay Best, presented the Library with a portion of the personal papers of the elder Dr. Best, which had been lovingly organized and preserved at their home in Sudbury, Ontario. The most notable item in this gift is the holograph draft of "The Internal Secretion of the Pancreas," a paper read before the Physiological Society Journal Club on November 14, 1921. This is Banting and Best's first paper describing their research. It was published in the *Journal of Laboratory and Clinical Medicine* 7:5 (February 1922). This manuscript is written in four different hands, those of Best, Banting, Margaret Mahon (Best's fiancée), and an unidentified person who may have been Banting's assistant. The notes for revisions in pencil and pen are in Best's handwriting. One of our appraisers called this "the single most significant Canadian document" he had ever appraised. Other items of special interest in this collection include Margaret Mahon Best's personal journals for the years 1925-1984, containing detailed descriptions of the Best's glamorous life and the extensive worldwide travels they enjoyed following the discovery; correspondence labeled "Letters Scientific" containing many important letters exchanged by Best with his scientific contemporaries in Toronto and across the globe, including Sir H.H. Dale, Dr. J.G. Fitzgerald, Dr. J.J.R. Macleod, Elliott Joslin, Velyien Henderson, and Sir Norman Walker; research, drafts, and other material related to Henry Best's recently published, *Margaret and Charley: The Personal Story of Dr. Charles Best, The Co-Discoverer of Insulin* (Toronto, 2003), and other material related to the work of Dr. Charles Best.

We were deeply saddened to learn of the recent passing on Good Friday, April 9, 2004,



37
 He went into the
 Board Room after
 wards, and talked
 to Mr. Matthews
 and many others.
 Then Linda & Charley
 & I went on to lunch
 & Mrs. Campbell's
 house on Deserret
 Road. Mr. & Mrs. Por-
 spoor were there,
 Mr. & Mrs. Ben Ward-
 Price, Mrs. Clara
 Macrae, Mrs. Hapow
 and Mrs. Henderson.
 March 5, 1941
 A week ago last
 Sunday the word came
 via post that the
 plane in which
 Fred Banting was
 flying to England,
 was missing.
 He had a lot of
 strange news here on
 Sunday, September

38
 messages began
 to come in about
 and it was at
 the telephone most
 of the evening.
 At that time I
 & Cornelia hoped
 that they might
 be found, alive.
 Only once in
 the plane lived,
 the pilot when
 the plane was
 with the wreck of
 the big bomber
 plane, on the
 shore of Newfoundland.
 The pilot of the
 had left Newfoundland
 when the engine
 failed and then
 he found the other
 the wreckage of
 the plane.

Left: Cover of *Margaret and Charley: The Personal Story of Dr. Charles Best, The Co-Discoverer of Insulin* (Toronto, 2003). Right: Margaret Mahon Best's journal entry from March 5, 1941, noting that Sir Frederick Banting's plane had been reported missing.

of Dr. Henry Best. Our sincere condolences go out to the family of Dr. Best at this time.

Complementing the Best gift this past year was a piece of correspondence

presented to the Library by Colin James of Toronto. This letter was possibly the last letter written by Sir Frederick Banting before he was killed in an airplane crash in Newfoundland in 1941.

Authors/Poets

Poet and musician Leonard Cohen donated to the Library a collection of manuscripts and memorabilia related to his life and work. This gift included proofs and drafts for *Death of a Lady's Man*, *Stranger Music* material, reviews and articles, material from a Leonard Cohen fan event held in Montreal in May 2000, an evocative presentation copy of a book titled *The Language of Flowers* dedicated to Suzanne Elrod, and photographs, awards, and other material relating to his career. This gift forms a welcome addition to our existing holdings of Leonard Cohen, which includes material up to the publication of *Beautiful Losers*. This collection continues to be consulted by scholars, fans, and other researchers from around the world. Our most sincere thanks to Mr. Cohen for thinking of the Library this year.

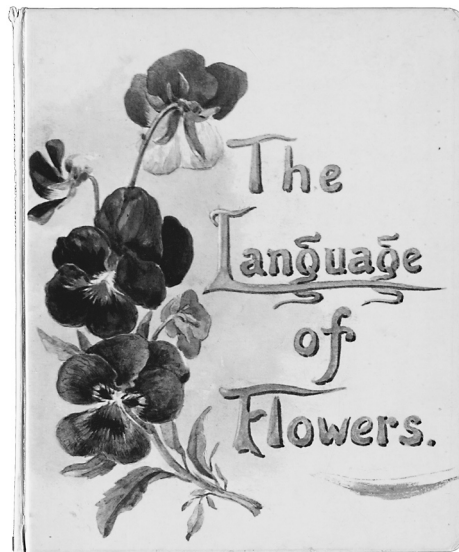
Nobel Prize-winning author and playwright Derek Walcott donated galleys and drafts for his *Walker*; and *The Ghost Dance*, two plays published in 2002 by

(1) This is the original manuscript on Insulin which was presented as an oral communication by Banting and Best on November 14, 1921 to the University of Toronto Physiological Society. The above written paper was the first and last as the first report on Insulin to the journal of Physiology and the Internal Secretion of the Pancreas.

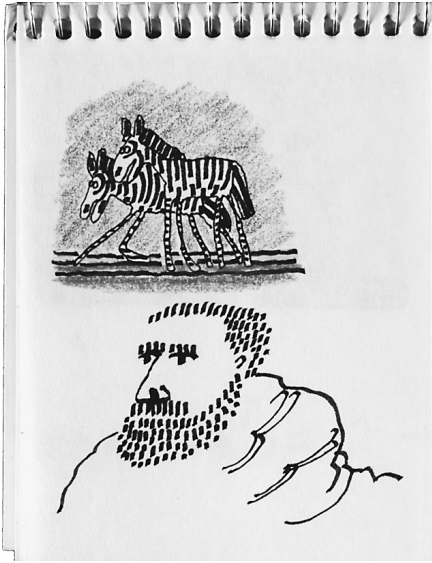
By F. G. Banting, M.B. and C. H. Best, B.A.

The hypothesis underlying this series of experiments was first formulated by one of us in November, 1920 (F.G.B.) while reading an article dealing with the relation of the islets of Langerhans to diabetes. From the passage in this article, which gives a summary of experimental changes in the islets of the pancreas following ligation of the ducts, the idea presented itself that since the islets, but not the rest of the pancreas, degenerate after this operation, advantage might be taken of this fact to prepare an active extract of islet tissue. The surprising hypothesis was that the pancreas or its ducts was antagonistic to the internal secretion of the islets. The failure of other workers in this much-worked field were thus accounted for.

The feasibility of the hypothesis having been ascertained by Professor J. J. R. Macleod, work was begun, under his direction, in May 1921, in the Physiological



Left: Page one of the holograph draft of "The Internal Secretion of the Pancreas," written in four different hands, those of Best, Banting, Margaret Mahon (Best's fiancée) and one other. Gift of Dr. Henry Best and Janna Ramsay Best. Right: "The Language of Flowers," manuscript flower book, dated August 8, 1913, inscribed by Leonard Cohen to Suzanne Elrod, 1970. Gift of Leonard Cohen.



Above: Sketches by Alberto Manguel, ink and colour pencil on paper. Gift of Alberto Manguel.

Farrar, Straus and Giroux, as well as print and other material about his life and work. Derek Walcott manuscript holdings are also available in the Special Collections Department at the St. Augustine Campus of the University of the West Indies, Trinidad and Tobago.

This year Alberto Manguel donated a large collection of manuscript material spanning nearly his entire career as a writer, essayist, editor, and anthologist. The material begins with typescript poems in Spanish from his youth in Argentina right up to his celebrated *A History of Reading* and *A Dictionary of Imaginary Places*. This gift contains a comprehensive array of correspondence with writers, editors, publishers, and friends from all over the world, including Yves Beauchemin, Adolfo Bioy Casares, Louise Denny, Anita Desai, Richard Ford, Mavis Gallant, Liliana Heker, Tomson Highway, Isabel Huggan, Rohinton Mistry, and Ruth Rendell to name just a few. A most delightful part of this gift, revealing a lesser known talent of Mr. Manguel, are the cartoons and colour sketches created by him on snippets of paper. This complete archive will certainly interest our many literary researchers. Alberto Manguel's latest book, *With Borges*, has recently been published by Thomas Allen Publishers. Mr. Manguel will be coming to the Fisher Library to give a special lecture in the fall of 2004.

The Library received this year from Christine Donald a collection of papers by the author Suniti Namjoshi to be added to its already existing holdings. SALIDAA, or, The South Asian Diaspora

Literature and Arts Archive, based in the United Kingdom, has begun a digital project using material from Namjoshi's papers to create an online archive of her life and work, to be available in 2004 at www.salidaa.org.uk.

Margaret Atwood's latest novel, *Oryx and Crake*, was published in 2003 by McClelland and Stewart. The 2003 Atwood gift includes drafts, revisions, editorial correspondence, notes, and alphabetical research files related to the creation of *Oryx and Crake*. This year's gift also included a number of translations of *The Blind Assassin*, *The Robber Bride* and other works by Atwood in Catalan, Chinese, Czech, Japanese, Latvian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, and Swedish. The Fisher Library's Reading Room was very busy this spring as an international group of Atwood scholars prepared their papers and research for the conference on Margaret Atwood, held in Ottawa this past April. The papers of Margaret Atwood continue to be one of our most heavily consulted manuscript collections.

Eric Ormsby donated several of his holograph poetry notebooks filled with drafts, notes, sketches, and observations. The gift by Ormsby, regarded by many as one of North America's finest poets, included material from his *Araby*, *Daybreak*, *Laurels for General Lee*, and *Time's Covenant*; general correspondence, dating from 1988-2003, including his richly detailed 'Letters from Prague' to various friends and associates; and manuscripts by other authors, including correspondence and edited drafts of P.K. Page's *Planet Earth*, for which he acted as editor.

David Solway has been stirring up Canada's literary scene with his *Director's Cut*, a collection of essays which take a critical look at the present state of Canadian literature. Pulling no punches, Solway levels his gaze at the hypocrisies, fallacies, and mediocrities he perceives in contemporary Canadian literature. This year's gift includes holograph, word processed and typescript drafts and notes for *Scattered Rhymes*; *Reading, Riting and Rhythmic*; *Peregrines: essays from various places* (final revisions); *Director's Cut* (final revisions); *The Herb Garden of Bartholomew the Englishman*; *Franklin's Passage*; Andreas Karavis' dossier (including photos and postcards); drafts of *Pallikari* by Nesmine Rifat; e-mail and regular correspondence from authors, editors, publishers, friends, and family; and other material. This donation will join the comprehensive Solway collection already held by the Library.

Author Jack Macleod donated drafts, notes, revisions, and updated chapter lists for his as yet unpublished satirical novel, *Uproar*, on the academic life at a fictional university, sequel to his earlier *Zinger and Me*. This gift will be added to the Library's existing collection of Macleod's papers.

Henry Fry was a nineteenth-century Quebec clipper ship builder, adviser and lobbyist to Lloyds of London, author, and President of the Dominion Board of Trade. Liz Avison presented to the Library his 1890 manuscript journal, written in cursive script, entitled 'Essays: written for, and affectionately dedicated to, my children.'

Poet and author Maureen Harris donated manuscripts and other material pertaining to her *The World Speaks*, and *A Possible Landscape*, as well as other material relating to her life and work. Harris writes that the natural world and what it means to be human are some of the concerns underpinning her poetry. Reaching for ecological consciousness, Harris endeavours "to find or learn a new way of living on the earth and of writing about it."

George Fetherling added to his extensive holdings of papers at the Fisher Library this year by donating his correspondence with other writers, with the Federation of BC Writers, and other material, including cancelled passports. A Fetherling Festschrift, part of the Guernica Writers Series will be published in the near future by Guernica Editions.

Professor J. Edward Chamberlin donated papers of poet Lorna Goodison to be added to the Goodison papers already held by the Library. This year's gift included holograph, typescript, and word processed drafts and notes of *To Us*, *All Flowers Are Roses*, *Travelling Mercies*, the unpublished "Book of Amber," *Turn Thanks*, 'What a Crawse' (short story), as well as miscellaneous poetry manuscripts, correspondence, interview transcripts, and other material.

Professor Phyllis Grosskurth donated correspondence with her good friend Mavis Gallant, British playwright Francis King, and material related to the equity lawsuit between retired faculty and the University of Toronto. This gift constitutes an addition to Grosskurth's extensive archive which covers the many aspects of her career, from professor to biographer to correspondent to activist.

Performance poet and author Rudyard Fearon became a first-time donor to the Library with his gift of holograph and typescript drafts of his poems, including early works from the 1970s, prose and



Left: Rudyard Kurland with Lorna Goodison in the Fisher Library, October 1999. Right: Undated photograph of Rosemary Speirs.

children's stories, personal and professional correspondence, print appearances, and other material relating to his literary life and work. Kurland's latest collection of poetry, *Spin*, features an introduction by George Elliot Clarke and will be available in the spring of 2004. His spoken word CD, *Free Soil*, presents his work both aurally and as a CD-ROM.

Another new donor to the Library this year was broadcaster/humourist/playwright Erika Ritter. Her gift is comprised of holograph and typescript drafts and revisions of early work, essays, plays, and short stories; professional correspondence; and other material relating to her life and work.

Yet another first-time donor is Marshall Hryciuk, the self-proclaimed 'King of Canadian Haiku' who donated a large collection of his work, including material related to his work with Imago Press, numerous holograph and typescript Haiku and Renku, as well as other poetry and early works. A number of Hryciuk's manuscripts were destroyed in a recent apartment fire, making this gift all the more precious. Material in this gift is related to his activities with international Haiku and poetry societies, small press fairs, the publishing industry, his book distribution work, and correspondence from other authors, poets, and publishers.

Toronto literary agent Beverley Slopen gave a large gift of business correspondence, books by authors she represents, and other material related to her own work and the work of her agency. This material will be added to the Library's earlier accession of Slopen's papers.

Karen Mulhallen donated material

related to recent issues of the literary journal *Descant*, as well as her own personal writing, correspondence, and other material related to her life and work. This year's gift contains more of Mulhallen's personal writing than previous gifts.

Michael Millgate, Thomas Hardy scholar and former President of the Friends of the Fisher Library, donated a large gift of papers related to his book, *The Achievement of William Faulkner*, which includes a collection of notes, extensive correspondence between Professor Millgate and other Faulkner scholars, manuscripts, photographs, copies of articles and letters, and books pertaining to Faulkner. There are also working materials related to Browning, Tennyson, and Henry James. Also included are correspondence and other materials relating to the distinguished editor, Catharine Carver, who assisted Prof. Millgate on *Thomas Hardy: A Biography* and several volumes of *The Collected Letters of Thomas Hardy*. Prof. Millgate wrote Carver's obituary for the London *Independent* and the entry for her in the forthcoming *New Dictionary of National Biography*.

Personal Papers

Claude Stewart donated material related to his sister, Kathleen Crowe, whose correspondence with former secretary to Lenin, Angelica Balabanoff, forms the bulk of this year's gift.

History/Politics

Peter Potichnyj added to the Library's Potichnyj collection of Ukrainian

Insurgency/Counter-Insurgency material, including some rare documents which were found underground, where they had been kept in safekeeping for years. These items are currently undergoing conservation work.

Natural History/Birdwatching

The collection of papers of Doris Huestis Mills Speirs, donated by John and Carol Sabean and Rosemary Speirs, is a wonderful addition to the Library's already extensive holdings related to birdwatchers and naturalists. Doris Speirs was married to J. Murray Speirs, also an avid birdwatcher and naturalist. The papers of J. Murray Speirs have already been donated to the Library by Rosemary Speirs. Doris Speirs was also an artist who sometimes painted with members of the Group of Seven. The Doris Speirs and J. Murray Speirs papers also illustrate their lengthy and devoted marriage, and a lifelong devotion to their work.

We wish to express our gratitude and best wishes to all our donors for their thoughtfulness and generosity. Many thanks as well to those donors who heeded the call to 'do it now' and donated early in the year, thereby helping us to plan the workflow and process the gifts in a timely manner, to the benefit of all concerned. My sincere thanks to Noreen O'Rinn, our Graduate Student assistant, for her excellent work this year. Thanks also to Yann Le Huenen for his work during his FIS practicum this winter.

Jennifer Toews
Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library



Old Friends, and New

Philosophy

Many of the areas of study collected by the Fisher Library were well supported by donations last year, but none so outstandingly as Philosophy. The collection donated by Michael Walsh received a deservedly impressive amount of publicity and was the subject of an exhibition that ran from the end of January until April 30. As Richard Landon so aptly put it in his address at the opening reception: "Michael Walsh is the ideal donor; he bought the books, helped me pack them, selected the items for exhibition and wrote the exhibition catalogue." Another, perhaps lesser known but just as impressive, donor of books philosophical is Professor John Slater. Professor Slater's first major donation was the Bertrand Russell Collection, followed quickly by a collection of works by American philosophers and then one by British philosophers. Each of these collections numbered in the thousands of volumes. This year Professor Slater donated over six thousand items to enhance his previous donations. Consisting of items on western philosophy in general, the collection includes John Addington Symond's *A Problem in Modern Ethics* (London, 1896). This privately printed edition was issued in a print run of only 100 copies. An undated typescript of Sir Karl Popper's *Lecture 1 on Logic* was found to be among the more valuable items, as well as a copy of *Die Welt* containing an interview with Popper that the interviewee presented to Professor Slater. The listing of this donation occupied a graduate student for most of the summer and a large part of the fall, and now this generous donor has indicated that he has built up a similar quantity of material for his next donation. The future of philosophy is secure at the Fisher Library! Our thanks also to Mrs. Ruth Redelmeier who donated nine works by the important German philosopher Immanuel Kant, several of which were not previously held by this institution.

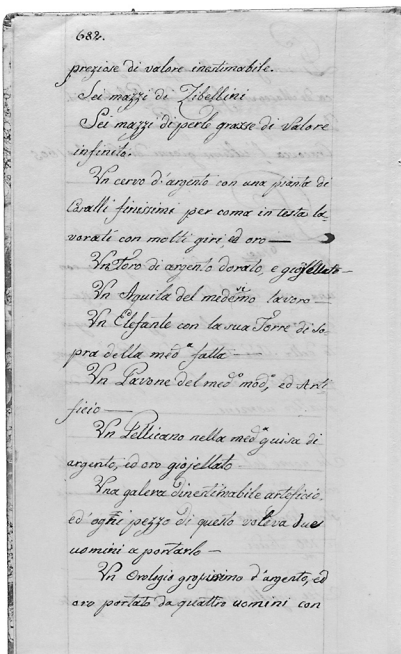
French Literature

The French literature holdings are also growing rapidly thanks to "old" Friends, Professors Simon Langlois, Ralph Stanton, and Mariel O'Neill-Karch. Professors O'Neill-Karch and Stanton together donated several dozen French plays in pamphlet form that were not held here. In addition, Professor Stanton donated impor-

tant editions of works by Molière, Alain René Le Sage, and Alexis Piron. Important sets like *Almanach des muses* (in original card bindings) and *Théâtre français, ou, Recueil des meilleurs pièces de théâtre* will shortly be catalogued. Professor Langlois' previous donations concentrated on our Rousseau and Voltaire collections, but this year he added works by other French authors such as François Eudes de Mezeray, Louis de Boissy and Madame de Maintenon. A new Friend in this area is Madame Micheline Cyr, who, inspired by her husband, Simon, gave us a complete *Histoire de France* and *Histoire de la révolution française* by Jules Michelet and an early edition of Guyot's *Répertoire universel et raisonné de jurisprudence civile, criminelle, canonique et bénéficiale* (Paris, 1784), as well as several other works.

European Languages

Other European language collections also grew. Karol Godlewski added several early printed volumes to the extensive Polonica collection he and his family donated several years ago. Included in this gift was a delightful manuscript describing the gifts received by the bride of Prince Dmitri, Grand Duke of Muscovy in 1605. It is a transcription made in 1824 from the manuscript that was found earlier that century in the Barbarini Library in Rome. Among the presents were six pieces of jewellery set



Every bride needs six strands of large pearls "of infinite value." From the list of presents given the future wife of Prince Dmitri. Gift of Karol Godlewski.

with diamonds and other precious stones "di valore inestimabile," six strands of large pearls "di valore infinito," an elephant and a peacock made of silver, and, what every bride needs, various musical instruments encrusted with jewels!

Mrs. Ruth Redelmeier also gave us a superb copy of *The History of the World* by Herodotus, printed in Geneva in 1566, with a beautiful binding dated 1573. The binding was commissioned by one Georg Emhard, as evidenced by the initials G.E. on the cover and his signature on the title page. Unfortunately we have been unable to find out anything about this owner but judging by the book, he must have been a man of considerable wealth and standing.

English Literature

Our English literature holdings were blessed as well (are we seeing a theme here?). Professor Peter Heyworth selected items from his collection (all with dust jackets) to be added to the Endicott, Bissell, and Horne Collections. Kenneth Dukeshire was responsible for exponentially increasing our Aldous Huxley holdings. His gift was described by one appraiser as being the finest collection of works by and about Huxley ever formed in Canada. This generous gift, which includes extensive manuscript materials, recordings, and images as well as books and pamphlets, will strengthen immensely the Fisher Library's already substantial holdings in English literature of the Transition Period (late nineteenth through mid-twentieth century). Mrs. Christine Bissell donated a set of books by Samuel Butler and some limited edition private press books issued by Ronald King, while Luba Frastacky added her British and American first editions of *A Dance to the Music of Time* by Anthony Powell to the Bissell Collection. This epic twelve-volume set has been called the most important piece of sustained British fiction of the twentieth century. To think it all started when Luba discovered a book with the title: *Books do Furnish a Room!*

The Sciences

Important additions in the sciences were made by Mrs. Florence Drake, who, again this year, donated several dozen volumes from her late husband's library and by Eric Gage, who donated a copy of the first edition of John Evelyn's *Silva* (York, 1776). This is an important book in the history of forestry as well as being an early English imprint, which the Fisher Library collects intensively. A related gift was the donation by Mrs. Patricia Williams of Ephraim

Chambers' *Cyclopedia, or, An Universal Dictionary of Arts and Sciences* (London, 1728), the first edition of one of the most significant works of British lexicography. According to *Printing and the Mind of Man*, it introduced a novel device that has proven to be invaluable to every subsequent lexicographer and encyclopedist — the use of cross-references so that a chain may be carried from one end of an art to another. It is a very rare item that considerably enhances our eighteenth-century English holdings.

An impressive collection on trains and train travel was bequeathed to the Library by Ernest J. Aplin. Friends of many years standing, Mr. and Mrs. Aplin moved to Wellesley, Ontario when Mr. Aplin retired. He had always been interested in trains and started to collect books on trains and train travel many years ago; upon retirement, he was able to concentrate on his hobby with the result that we now have several hundred volumes on the subject as well as complete runs of several periodicals, both Canadian and international.

British Illustrators

Thanks to donations by Alan Horne and Richard Landon, our collection of British book illustrators, named after the former, has now increased substantially. Mr. Horne donated several more books not yet held by the Fisher Library as well as original prints by Rigby Graham and



Engraving on boxwood by John O'Connor; printed directly from the blocks in a numbered and signed edition of 500 copies. Gift of Alan Horne.

others. Professor Landon managed to part with his collection of British illustrated works, including a large number by Eric Gill, Robert Gibbings and Noel Rooke. He also gave us smaller collections by other well-known British book illustrators, from (Edward) Ardizzone to (John Buckland) Wright.

Canadiana

A wonderful poster for the Ross Rifle Company drawn by the Canadian artist E.C. Caswell was donated by former Roberts Library staff member, Christine Duff Stewart. It had hung in her cottage probably since 1915, the year it was issued. The Ross Rifle was a Canadian invention used by our troops in the First World War, and was found to be less than satisfactory: the gun kept jamming. Many soldiers threw theirs away and used those of the enemy or the Allies. The company did not survive long after the war. Auction records call this poster "extremely hard to find" and we were delighted to give it a new home.

An important collection of works by Thoreau MacDonald came from Mrs. Johanna Katz and will soon join the Fisher's MacDonald Collection. Many books are signed or annotated by the artist, are in mint or near mint condition and came from the library of her late husband, Leon.

Our Canadiana specialist, Sandra Alston, selected several dozen posters as well as books and pamphlets from the last half of the twentieth century from the library of noted ephemera collector,

Morris Norman. Several items came from The Silver Dollar Nightclub on Spadina Ave., documenting jazz, soul and rock trends at that venue.

History of the Book

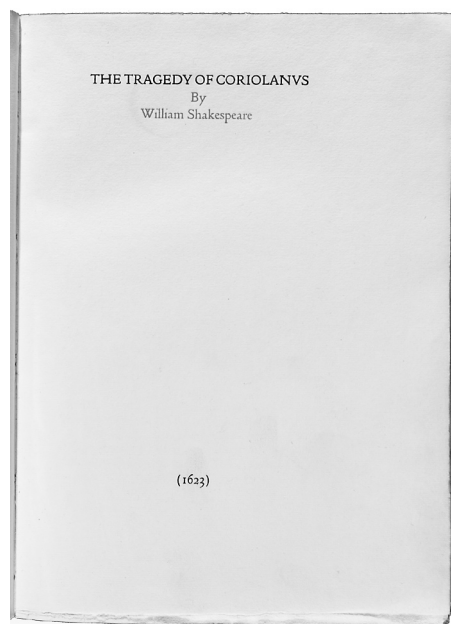
As the History of the Book program at the University of Toronto gains strength, our collections in this field also must be strengthened and we are fortunate that several of our Friends are enabling us to do so. Ronald Peters has once again given us a collection that emphasizes the output of small presses, book history, and book arts. Outstanding items include Isaiah Thomas's *The History of Printing in America* (Worcester, 1810), presented and signed by the author to William Lincoln, the historian of Worcester; and Andrew Tuer's limited large paper edition of *Bartolozzi and his Works* (London, 1881-1882). We cannot fail to mention John Johnson's *Typographia or the Printer's Instructor* (London, 1824) which was presented to the fifty members of the Roxburghe Club. Also interesting is a collection of eight volumes privately published in the 1920s and 1930s by Alexander Park Lyle, a member of the British Lyle sugar family. These books were printed in editions of thirty or less for distribution as Christmas presents to family members and friends. Mr. Lyle was an avid reader and art collector and most of the volumes are filled with his views on contemporary literature and artists. They are a whimsical read and very interesting examples of privately printed books. They are well printed on hand-made paper and bound in morocco or calf. Most of these items were presented to his sister-in-law, Lady Agnes Lyle. Mr. Peters' gifts and those of his wife, Luanna, over the past several years, have substantially extended the range and depth of what we consider to be the most extensive collection of its kind in Canada and they will undoubtedly help students in the program and researchers in the book arts.

In closing this report, which features only some highlights of the donations we were fortunate enough to receive, I must thank all who contributed to our collections. We continue to be amazed by the variety and quality of what comes through our doors.

My heartfelt thanks also to graduate student assistants, Dugald MacLean and Richard Carter, for their hard work, patience, and forbearance.

Luba Frastacky

Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library



The Doves Press edition of Shakespeare's *The Tragedy of Coriolanus*, printed in 1914 in an edition of 200 copies. Gift of Ronald Peters.



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We thank all members who wish to remain anonymous.

Mark your calendar for upcoming events...



Exhibitions 2004~2005

Exhibition hours: 9 ~ 5 Monday to Friday
All exhibition openings begin at 5:00 p.m.

25 May – 3 September 2004

Commentary : An Exhibition of Artwork by Sylvia Ptak

4 October – 21 December 2004

The 80s and NOW : The Photographs of NOW Magazine
Exhibition opening Thursday 7 October 2004

24 January – 29 April 2005

Nilil Obstat: An Exhibition of Banned, Censored & Challenged Works in the West
Exhibition opening Wednesday 26 January 2005

Summer Exhibition 2005

Recent Acquisitions of Canadian Literary Papers



Planned Events 2004~2005

All lectures begin at 8:00 p.m.

Wednesday 29 September 2004

The John Seltzer and Mark Seltzer Memorial Lecture

One Man's Collecting

Michael Walsh, Chair of the Friends Steering Committee

Monday 8 November 2004

Special Lecture

The Library at Night

Alberto Manguel, internationally renowned novelist,
essayist, literary critic and editor

Monday 22 November 2004

The Alexander C. Pathy Lecture on the Book Arts

The Art of the Architectural Book

Gerald Beasley, Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library, Columbia University

Wednesday 23 February 2005

The David Nicholls Memorial Lecture

Popularizing French Culture in America, 1870-1900:

The Role of the Seaside Library Series

Carol Armbruster, Library of Congress

Tuesday 22 March 2005

The Gryphon Lecture on the History of the Book

Chapbooks and Popular Culture in Britain

Barry McKay, Barry McKay Rare Books, Cumbria, England

Editor's Note

This issue was edited by Barry Walfish and Maureen Morin, and designed by Maureen Morin. Comments and/or suggestions should be sent to Barry Walfish, Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1A5 (416) 946-3176.

The Halcyon: The Newsletter of the Friends of The Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library is published twice a year in June and November. *The Halcyon* includes short articles on recent noteworthy gifts to and acquisitions of the Fisher Rare Book Library, recent exhibitions in the Library, activities of the Friends and other short articles of interest to the Friends.

Members of the editorial board of *The Halcyon* are Barry Walfish, Fisher Library, and Maureen Morin, Information Commons.

For more information about the Fisher Library, please visit the web site at www.library.utoronto.ca/fisher/



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