

LETTER

May 1990

GIFTS BY H.W. WILSON AND CASE

Through the help of American Library trustee Robert Wedgeworth and the generosity of the H.W. Wilson Company, the library has received a gift of a WilsonLine work station. It consists of an IBM PS/2 Model 30 286 microcomputer, a color monitor, a CD-ROM laser disk reader and a printer.

Wilson has also agreed to donate an annual subscription to the <u>Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature</u>, now published on CD-ROM. This reference work indexes the past six years on one small compact disk, including abstracts of the articles, which are not available in the printed edition. In a matter of seconds, the user will be able to search through a guide to more than 300 periodicals for the six-year period by means of key words, subjects, dates, authors or journal titles, or any combination of these.

Plans now call for the work station to be placed in the public area of the library by early summer. Please let us know if you have any questions.

The American Library is also fortunate to be receiving a display collection of materials published by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. The members of CASE, which is based in Washington, D.C., are colleges, universities, independent schools and other educational institutions. CASE provides resources for development and public affairs through conferences, workshops and publications.

Organizations interested in fund-raising, alumni programs, public relations and other aspects of development are encouraged to examine the CASE collection and other volumes in our growing collection in this area. A CASE bibliography will be available soon.

CASE is the most recent on the list of publishers

donating display collections to the American Library. Others include Meckler, the American Library Association and the Special Libraries Association.

Bob Grattan Head Librarian

Institutional Image: How to Define, Improve, Market It

Robert S. Topor



Council for Advancement and Support of Education

1989 ANNUAL REPORT RECOGNIZES DONORS

The latest Annual Report of the American Library in Paris, printed earlier this spring, is available on request at the library and is being distributed to donors. In this report, for the first time (in recent memory, at least), donors' names are listed. This practice is common for U.S. nonprofit groups but may surprise some of our French donors; it is simply a way for the library to say "Thank you!" to those who have supported it.

If your name is on the list and you sincerely wish to receive no public recognition in the future, be sure to notify us. But bear in mind that, even if you feel it is immodest to have your name appear in such a list, it can help the library by demonstrating the nature and extent of support we receive.

Also let us know if your name doesn't appear the way you prefer. For example, we may have credited a gift to a couple when it really came from only one spouse, or vice versa. And above all, if you gave money to the library for the 1989 Gala Dinner or in the autumn 1988-89 or 1989-90 campaigns and your name is not in the list, please tell us so we can correct the omission next year. We want the list to be as accurate as is humanly possible.

FOUR NEW TRUSTEES JOIN LIBRARY BOARD

At the Annual Meeting of the members of the American Library in Paris on March 26, four new names were approved for membership on the Board of Trustees: Jack B. Anderson, partner in the accounting firm of H.S.D./Ernst and Young; Alan F. Cariddi, resident partner in the law firm of Mudge Rose Guthrie Alexander & Ferndon; Robert Gogel, president of Groupe MAC, an international management consulting firm; and Marshall I. Wais of the Marwais construction company. We are very proud to welcome such outstanding members of the international business community to the library board.

They are all giving continuing support to the library and agreed to become trustees knowing that the future will be a very challenging time for all of us. Their expertise, enthusiasm and influence will be of great benefit to the board's immediate work of raising the funding for the periodicals section with its subsequent general renovations and the long-range reinforcement of the library's financial foundation.

A longtime trustee and past chairman of the library board, Stephen B. Pierce, regretfully resigned his trusteeship. It was with equal regret that his resignation was accepted but with understanding too as we know that Stephen prefers to be an energetic participant in his activities and the press of his professional life does not allow for this right now. The board heartily thanked him for his many years of outstanding service.

John H. Riggs, Jr., first vice chairman of the Board of Trustees, will direct the library's new Development Committee. This committee will set the guidelines for future fund-raising endeavors and determine the means for implementing a successful development program. With a 10 percent increase in membership this past year, the space needs in the library are becoming critical and efficient solutions must be found to permit the continuing advancement of the library's high-quality service to the community.

Michèle Gompel Chairman, Board of Trustees

CHILDREN'S ROOM

The always-busy Children's Room has seen even more activity than usual in the past several weeks, with visits by groups of children from private bilingual and anglophone schools in and around Paris.

Since the middle of March, pupils between the ages of about 6 and 11 have learned how to use the library and its ever-popular computer catalog. The sessions have been conducted by volunteers Marlise Lande and Cathy Townsend and by Adele Witt, assistant to Head Librarian Bob Grattan.

Special displays in the Children's Room recently have included Black History Month and American Women of Achievement.

And the American Library's latest booklist is rooted in the children's and young adult collection: "Popular Novels of the 1980s for Young People," compiled and annotated by volunteer Barbara G. Schwarz. From A (Joan Aiken's spine-tingling A Whisper in the Night) to Z (Paul Zindel's bittersweet A Begonia for Miss Applebaum), it provides a valuable resource for children as well as their teachers and parents.

OUR THANKS TO . . .

- . . . Loida Lewis for acting as volunteer coordinator during Jeff Williams' absence in the States.
- ... Judith Kilpatrick, who is leaving Paris this summer after several months of very helpful volunteer work on



Loida Lewis, acting volunteer coordinator, in front of the Black History Month display she arranged for the Children's Room.

booklists, the corporate matching-gifts program and publicity for library events.

- ... George Clark for friendly and speedy service on the library's printing work.
- . . . The many other volunteers, businesses and staff members who help keep the American Library going.



FOCUS ON ANTARCTICA

The American Library in Paris has joined the growing number of organizations and individuals around the world who are supporting the movement to have the continent of Antarctica declared an "International Natural Reserve and Land of Science."

The movement is led by Captain Jacques-Yves Cousteau. The famed oceanographer took an international group of six schoolchildren -- one from each inhabited continent -- to Antarctica earlier this year on an expedition to dramatize the threat that development poses o the continent's ecology.

Two of the children were from the Ecole Active Bilingue Jeannine Manuel, many of whose students belong to the American Library. They were accompanied by Shirley Burchill, a science teacher at the EABJM. Early this month she gave a talk and slide show on the expedition. This "Free Trip to Antarctica" was sponsored by the library and held in a classroom of The American University of Paris.

The Children's Room, meanwhile, has featured a display of books about Antarctica and information on the Cousteau Society's petition drive to preserve the continent. If you would like more information about this effort, ask at the library Information Desk.

STAFF NOTES

Murielle Pouillaude began maternity leave in March and by the time you read this she and her husband, Eric, may already have welcomed the arrival of their daughter, Manon, who was due May 10. Murielle is being replaced by Jean-François Giraudeau, a former temporary worker at the American Library who recently completed his military service.

Adeline Morlon, who has been working part-time on the night Circulation Desk since January, will be leaving at the end of May when the American University Library starts its summer schedule, but we hope to see her back this fall. Also in circulation, Candice Gemski extended to mid-May as a temporary worker.

Gaëlle le Marechal, who is finishing her studies as a bilingual secretary, will be working as a stagière in the library office until the end of June.

HOURS TO CHANGE

Members of the American Library in Paris should be prepared for a brief interruption in the extended access they have enjoyed through the library of The American University of Paris: Because of renovation work, the University Library will be closed May 24 through June 17.

The University Library's hours from mid-June 18 to late July will be shorter than during the regular school year, and in August it closes again, reopening with regular hours on September 6. Details will be available soon at the Information Desk of the American Library.

LATEST ARRIVALS: MYSTERIES, HISTORIES, MEMOIRS

Among the more than 1,800 books catalogued at he main library from January through April, you will find these new titles:

Fiction: A Trap for Fools by Amanda Cross; Jack Higgins' Cold Harbour; Mystery by Peter Straub; Julian Barnes' A History of the World in 10 1/2 Chapters; Saul Bellows' The Bellarosa Connection; A Careless Widow and Other Stories by V.S. Pritchett; Ultimate Prizes by Susan Howatch; Charles Dickinson's The Widows' Adventures; The Bad Place by Dean R. Koontz; and Tales from Margaritaville: Fictional Facts and Factual Fictions by country singer Jimmy Buffett.

Biography: Sports memoirs by Larry Bird (<u>Drive: The Story of My Life</u>) and Jim Brown (<u>Out of Bounds</u>); <u>My Autobiography</u> by the late conductor Herbert von Karajan; Barry Paris' study of the film actress <u>Louise Brooks</u>; <u>Billy the Kid: A Short and Violent Life</u>, by Robert Marshall Utley; <u>Yul: The Man Who Would Be King</u> by actor Yul Brynner's son Rock; a life of the

writer <u>Henry Adams</u> by Ernest Samuels; and Richard Munson's <u>Cousteau</u>: The <u>Captain and His World</u>, about the oceanographer Jacques-Yves Cousteau.

Other Non-Fiction: The Thirsty Muse: Alcohol and the American Writer by Tom Dardis; Phil Berger's Blood Season: Tyson and the World of Boxing; Head First: The Biology of Hope by Norman Cousins; Marc Eliot's Rockonomics: The Money Behind the Music; True Greed: What Really Happened in the Battle for RJR Nabisco by Hope Lampert; Calvin Trillin's Travels With Alice; Forced Out: The Agony of the Refugee in Our Time by Carole Kismaric; Richard Hofstadter's The American Political Tradition and the Men Who Made It; and, in the reference section, the 1990 Writers Directory.

Poetry and Verse: Judith Viorst's Forever Fifty and Other Negotiations; Shadows in the Half-Light by Wendell Leilah; Adele Faber's Between Brothers and Sisters; and movie star James Stewart's Jimmy Stewart and His Poems.

EVENING EVENTS WITH MUSICAL, DRAMATIC THEMES

The next date to note in the American Library's series of special events is May 25, when in a brief departure from literary themes we host the Troubadours, a choral group from George Washington University in Washington, D.C. They will present a program of music old and new in the Reading Room at 8:30 p.m.

On June 15, also at 8:30, it's back to books when we welcome the London-based drama critic and biographer Sheridan Morley. Mr. Morley, who writes for the International Herald Tribune, The Times of London and other publications, is an authority on the American musical theater. His show "Noël and Gertie," a celebration of the careers of Noël Coward and Gertrude Lawrence, is enjoying a successful West End run. The son of actor Robert Morley, he is well-acquainted with Hollywood and has written biographies of David Niven, Marlene Dietrich, Katharine Hepburn, Elizabeth Taylor and James Mason.

65 Years Ago at ALP

From Ex Libris, literary journal of the American Library in Paris, May 1925 (Vol. 2, No. 8): "The report of the American Library for April shows gifts of books amounting to 370. Among the donors were the Vicomte du Peloux, Mr. Edward Kirstein of Boston, and Mr. de Roth. Mr. Kirstein's gift consisted of a carefully chosen collection of books on American business practice."

Notice: Staff member Michael Jasper wants to rent a quiet, sunny room (can be unfurnished) in which to write his thesis. Please contact the Circulation Desk if you can help.

AMERICAN
LIBRARY
10, rue du Général Camou
75007 Paris, Tél.; (1) 45.51.46.82

Another special event of a decidedly different character will be "An Evening of Dramatic Monologues" by Arthur Luce Klein on June 21 at 8 p.m. Dr. Klein, who has been an actor, director and drama teacher, is the founder of Spoken Arts, one of the earliest ventures devoted to literary and educational recordings. His oneman show is in two parts: a series of vignettes on the life of an Irish poet, and a study of Chekhov in which he gradually transforms himself into the Russian writer.

The appearances in January, March and April by, respectively, Patricia Wells, William Pfaff and Mavis Gallant were entertaining and well-attended.

BRITANNICA RESULTS

To date, at least nine sales of encyclopedias have resulted from Encyclopaedia Britannica's offer of a discount to members of the American Library in Paris. For each of these sales, the library itself will get a discount on Britannica publications. For example, the library might choose a set of Encyclopaedia Britannica, for the main library or one of the branches, at a much lower price than usual because of the purchases our members have made.

The offer is still open but will end very soon. To get one of the special white postage-free cards that <u>must</u> be mailed in if both you and the library are to benefit, ask at the Information Desk. Sending in the card does not obligate you to buy anything.

NEW FAX MACHINE

The American Library has installed a facsimile machine, allowing us to send or receive printed materials for the cost of a phone connection.

The fax number is 45 50 25 83. The machine was purchased with a gift from trustee Charlotte Cone.