

Library, Ottawa, for their help in obtaining a great deal of out-of-print material, which is even less readily available in the UK than in Canada. Their assistance has added a dimension which our collections would otherwise have lacked for some time to come.

Peter B. Freshwater

iii. UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

Leeds is, in British terms, a big university of more than 10,000 students. Consequently, assembled in it is a large teaching and research staff with a wide spread of academic interests. Geographically, the University is situated in an easily accessible central position in the North of England surrounded by large clusters of population.

Rather than now attempt to describe in detail the Canadian Collections at Leeds, which would be virtually impossible in the three minutes allotted to me, I have circulated a brief description¹⁷ of them and propose to spend the short time at my disposal in making some general comments.

The Canadian collections were first developed in response to academic needs. For example, and I can but give examples, Leeds has had a long standing interest in literature written in English overseas and was the first University to appoint a Professor of Commonwealth Literature, while the *Journal of Commonwealth Literature* was started in Leeds and edited there for many years. Canadian literature has thus long been a field for library development. Similarly, the School of History, quite apart from its traditional interest in the history of the British people overseas, has since the arrival of Professor David Dilks to take up the Chair of International Relations expected to find in the Library a wide range of publications providing evidence of the Canadian view of world affairs. The senior Professor of Law has just spent an exchange year in a Canadian University, which is indicative of the links in that area with Canada while the interests of social scientists are diverse. For them the selective deposit of Canadian publications is a great boon. The unique linguistic situation of Canada, with its political undertones, interests the linguists as well as the social scientists, while our developing collection of Canadian literature in French forms an instructive counterpart to the strong collection of English Canadian literature. In the pure and applied sciences the results of Canadian research are made available through wide holdings of scientific periodicals and other publications.

The acquisition of library materials on Canada, on Canadian topics, or by Canadian authors thus has had its origins in immediate teaching and research needs. The initial impetus once provided, the collections begin to develop themselves, to establish their own framework, to provoke enquiry, and to attract readers.

The Canadian collections have benefited from the advice of visiting scholars and Fellows, and of course from the generosity of the Canadian High Commission and other donors. Leeds would be happy to collaborate with appropriate partners to improve access in the United Kingdom to Canadian materials.

Dennis Cox

iv. UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

As the University of London's library system contains more than 60 libraries and as 10 of these collect materials for Canadian studies it is possible only to give a brief indication of the strengths of these collections.

At the undergraduate level materials are held at University College (history and geography), Birkbeck College (history) and Queen Mary College (history).

However, the University's greatest strength is in its research collections. Of these the largest is the British Library of Political and Economic Science at the London School of Economics which contains in its official holdings more than 3,000 non-serial items and 650 current and non-current serials. The *Debates* of the House of Commons and Senate go back to 1875 and 1876 respectively and the *Journals* of the House of Commons are held from 1883 to date. Among the statistical series are *Trade of Canada*, 1851- , *Canadian statistical review*, 1926- , and *Census reports*, 1860-1971. The Library collects the publications of provincial governments and its monograph holdings cover politics and government, history, economic conditions, migration and travel.

At the Institute of Commonwealth Studies emphasis is entirely on materials for post-graduate research in the fields of politics, economic development, history from 1850 and bibliography. The Library contains much primary material in the form of federal government documents, research reports and a special collec-