

and official reports produced in Canada which are not distributed by any centralized agency and are often not placed on sale. Personal contacts are often the only means of obtaining this sort of material, and I would stress the value of specialized librarians being enabled to visit Canada to make these contacts and to examine collections in their subject or area fields.

### Periodicals

It is difficult to assess the coverage of periodicals published in or relating to Canada because many libraries lack a country approach to their holdings, and one obtains a rather distorted view looking at titles which happen to begin with the words 'Canada' or 'Canadian'. I did some sampling of titles, however, and found that whereas the major scholarly journals were taken by many libraries, either for their subject or area interest or both, more specialized periodicals were often not available at all. For example, *BC Studies*, *Lakehead University Review* and *Canadian Ethnic Studies* were relatively unknown, although librarians proved very willing to acquire these and similar titles when they were drawn to their attention. Even fewer libraries stocked the general interest magazines and political reviews, such as *Atlantic Advocate*, *Commentator*, *Maclean's* and *Saturday Night*, although Canada House has *Saturday Night* going back to 1893 (partly on microfilm) and *Maclean's* from 1947, and the Agents General keep Provincial titles for a limited period.

There are some interesting collections of specialized titles, such as the Institute of Commonwealth Studies' political party newsletters, the National Library of Scotland's clan magazines, and University College London's little magazines, and probably a more detailed investigation would reveal others. The preparation of a union list of periodicals published in or about Canada would help identify holdings of all kinds and point gaps to be filled.

### Newspapers

Newspaper provision resembles that for periodicals. Major titles such as the *Toronto Globe and Mail* are in many libraries, but smaller circulation Provincial titles are less well covered.

The main historical collection is in the British Library Newspaper Library at Colindale, which holds some 350 Canadian titles dating chiefly from the 19th and 20th centuries. From 1895 to 1921 the library received newspapers from Canada on copyright deposit, but currently it takes only four national titles — *Toronto Globe and Mail*, *Montreal Star*, *Ottawa Citizen* and *Le Devoir* — plus half-a-dozen papers issued by ethnic groups. Rhodes House Library has also acquired some early runs of newspapers and gazettes on microfilm. Other holdings include the following: Canada House Reference Library has the *Financial Times of Canada* for eighteen months plus five titles on microfilm — *Le Devoir* (1954+), *Financial Post* (1907+), *Montreal Star* (1978+), *Globe and Mail* (1955+), and *Vancouver Sun* (1978+); Canada House Reception Services takes 20 current titles from all Provinces except Prince Edward Island; the City Business Library has the *Financial Post* (5 years), *Globe and Mail Report on Business* (2 years) and the *Northern Miner* (5 years). The Agents General keep current newspapers for their respective Provinces, usually for about one month. Chatham House Press Library does not currently cut any Canadian newspapers, but items on Canada in other papers are indexed.

Much of the material currently received is not preserved, but transfer to other libraries is not necessarily the answer, as newspapers on display are often mutilated or removed, and the originals require so much storage space. A listing of newspapers to complement the British Library's published catalogue would reveal major gaps in coverage, and possibly additional titles could be obtained on microfilm on a co-operative basis.

A recent development to be kept under review is the extension of computerized retrieval systems to the text of newspapers. The *Toronto Globe and Mail* is available on-line through QL Systems from November 1977 onwards<sup>12</sup>, and possibly other titles will become available in the future.

### (2) Maps

The pattern of map holdings is very similar to that of printed works: there are strong historical collections of printed and manuscript maps (for example, in the British Library and the Public Record Office), current Federal mapping is widely received on full or selective deposit, while Provincial mapping is acquired on a much more restricted basis. The main factors limiting the acquisition of Provincial mapping appear to be cost and difficulty in tracing relevant items, since few libraries receive Provincial material on deposit. This is another matter to be pursued when considering the overall provision of Provincial publications.

### (3) Manuscripts

There is a wealth of manuscript material in this country relating to Canada, ranging from substantial holdings in official archives to a few papers in private hands. It was impossible to list these sources in any detail in the *Guide*, so attention was focused on specific topics. It was decided to assess the relevance of existing guides to resources for American studies; to provide introductions to the major repositories such as the Public Record Office and the Scottish Office; to outline the work of the Public Archives of Canada in

[continued on p.14]