

to exceed the demands made upon them by existing courses (although, inevitably, there are requests for items that are not held). This picture will probably change considerably during the next session, following the appointment of a lecturer in Canadian Studies and the beginning of new courses both in his department (History) and interfaculty studies, which should draw heavily on library stock. The principal areas of interest are/will be literature, geography, history, politics, current affairs, and cultural studies. But there are many other areas of interest which make use of a limited number of Canadian publications — principally periodicals.

CONCLUSION

Birmingham University Library possesses a collection of Canadian printed material, which is not comprehensive but equally is by no means negligible. Interest in Canadian studies is growing and is being increasingly recognised in the University. The situation is one which is ripe for exploitation in several ways, not least of which is the planned augmentation and development of the Library's existing resources.

Michael Pegg

ii. UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

I would like to begin by drawing attention, very briefly, to Edinburgh University Library's early acquisitions in Canadiana. The first two were presented to the Library, with a large number of other volumes, in 1626, and we have been acquiring Canadiana, printed books and manuscripts, on and off ever since. The best guide to the range of our historical collections is the exhibition catalogue *Scotland and Canada*, with which the Library marked the inauguration of the Centre of Canadian Studies in 1975. Copies of this catalogue are still available from the Library.

Since the First World War the Library has acquired materials on Canada specifically to support teaching and research in the University. In about 1920 Arthur Berriedale Keith began a course on the Constitution of the British Empire, covering both its history and its law. In 1948 a course on Imperial and American History was begun by Mr. (now Professor) George Shepperson, who is the present Convener of the Centre of Canadian Studies. Since 1975 the Centre has been the focus of teaching and research on Canada in the University, but its Library is small and mostly of general interest. The University Library still maintains its role as the bibliographical focus of Canadiana. In this it received a tremendous fillip when, in 1968, it was presented by the Government of Ontario with the George Brown Collection of Canadiana, and an annual grant to help maintain it.

Edinburgh University Library's especial subject strengths are history, law, geography (including natural resources, their conservation and use), economics and literature. The first four represent the areas of concentrated teaching in the University hitherto. As for the last, although Edinburgh University currently offers no courses which include detailed study of Canadian literature, the Library took advantage of having Graeme Gibson as Canadian-Scottish Exchange Writer, and his wife Margaret Attwood, at the University a couple of years ago, to obtain better advice than we had on hand on which authors to collect. The Library would be delighted if its Canadian literature collection were to persuade the Departments of English Literature or French to offer courses in this field to their students, although they have been used by students at Dundee University studying for one particular option last year. We hope that this year the Visiting Professor S.D. Clark will be able to advise on extending the collections on sociology and politics, where our present coverage is patchy.

The Library does not acquire Canadian materials in science or medicine except incidentally, or on Gaelic-speaking Canada, or the Arctic; these last two are left to the special interests of the National Library of Scotland.

Two categories of special material by form which should be mentioned are government publications and maps. Edinburgh University Library has been a selective deposit library for Canadian Federal Government publications since 1975, but hitherto has acquired provincial government publications only *ad hoc* on the recommendation of individual users. The Library's Map Collection, which itself is unusual in a British university library, also obtains a great deal of Canadian material through the Library's deposit privilege, as well as by purchase. It has acquired more provincial material than the government publications collection, but both are areas of acquisition which we should like to see explored by British libraries on a co-operative basis. Having said that, however, we would not want to see, let alone to start, a bibliographical scramble for Canada!

Finally, as well as acknowledging gratefully the help that we have received, and continue to receive, from official sources in Canada, I should like to record our thanks to colleagues in Carleton University