

Provincial library urged

The University's extension library should be expanded to provide a province-wide service, a senate task force has recommended.

The proposed library would act as a clearing house linking the 152 public libraries in the province through a referral and information service, a meeting of the Senate was told Friday.

This would give the public access to extensive media resources of the extension department and more than 82,000 books in its collection,

acting as a "backstop" for the service.

Funding would come from the provincial government, separate from government operating grants to the University, the report says. Also part of the University's extension activities, it would also receive money from the university budget.

The task force was established to examine the extension library's function in the context of the provincial library survey being made by the

government.

That survey, being to reverse a 1969 decision that the government take over the extension library.

That move would be required for implementation of the report's recommendations.

Betty Hughes, a community member, said a reason for location the service in Edmonton, rather than Calgary or some other place, was that it would have access to the provincial and various departmental libraries.

Oil sales questioned

(ENS) - The New York Regional Office of the Federal Energy Administration began investigating the suspicious sale of millions of gallons of heating oil by what the director called the "dirty dozen"—twelve major wholesale companies. According to Director Gerald Turetsky the suspect companies—all major

wholesalers and distributors—have been improperly selling domestically-produced fuel to new customers.

Under current allocation procedures all distributors were obliged to report stocks to the Government. If the distributors had any fuel left over after they had serviced their regular customers, they were to report the surplus as "exempt supplies" and the Government was to allocate these surpluses where they were most needed. But, Turetsky alleges, the distributors have been using the surpluses to lure customers away from the independent distributors who are forced to rely on the more expensive imported fuels.

"We are looking into the possible violation of a conspiracy to violate anti-trust laws," Turetsky said.

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The Alumni Association at The University of Alberta will shortly welcome you to automatic membership. Following Convocation, the Association's contact will be on a life-long basis, maintained through the Alumni Office on the campus, constantly reaffirming your identity with your Alma Mater at no fee.

Alumni represent the continuity of the institution and are its single, most permanent constituent. Their collective experience is shown in the University's present undertakings, their achievements among the criteria by which the institution is judged. So it's important that we keep in touch.

You can help greatly by keeping it posted with changes of address, etc. sent to the Alumni Office on the campus (6th floor, SUB) or to any of the following U of A branch executives across Canada.

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Astral projection - a total experience

Interest in outside-the-body experiences, commonly called astral projection or travel, is becoming increasingly popular as a conversation piece. It is an enigma which has puzzled people for centuries and today we are no nearer to an explanation of it than were our ancestors. Our main advantage is that we can talk about our out-of-body experiences without being whipped off to the local lunatic asylum. It has long been accepted by Eastern cults and religions while being a taboo subject in western society. Fortunately as we move into the Age of Aquarius, we are also moving into an age of enlightenment, and when man's curiosity is alerted, he will never rest until he begins to understand for himself what science has not been able to explain in its own terms.

The astral body can be detached from the physical and allowed to roam free from worldly restrictions. It is capable of observing what it comes across in its travels, and in time we may be able to prove that it has a like with the faculty of genius. The clever thing for anyone experiencing this freedom-seeking spirit breaking away from the body, is to remember what the spirit observes so that the knowledge can be put to use in everyday life. Many writers, artists and musicians can do this, and use the astral wisdom in their work. The poet Goethe and novelists Ernest Hemingway and William Gerhardt are three examples of rational people who suddenly found themselves "beside themselves". Ernest Hemingway thought he had died when he was hit in the legs by shrapnel in Italy in July of 1918. He described the experience in a letter to a journalist friend. "I felt my soul coming right out of my body, like you'd pulled a silk handkerchief out of a pocket by one corner. It flew around and then came back and went in again, and I was not dead anymore." Later he used this experience in his novel *A Farewell to Arms*.

The same state which Hemingway experienced can be achieved at will, but it is dangerous to do and not recommended to anyone simply out to get an occult kick. When the body becomes an empty lot, it can be occupied by a spirit looking for a quick and easy incarnation, and this probably accounts for some cases of possession.

A state of complete relaxation is necessary to achieve the out-of-body experience voluntarily, and a sensation of floating occurs. With it generally comes a feeling of fear. This is especially likely in those who are not well versed in occultism, and in itself fear creates a break in the liaison with the body. Many psychics are adept at achieving astral projection, but they are in good training for it by reason of regular meditation, a lack of fear of the unknown, and with the wisdom to ask a friendly guiding spirit to help them. Just think of it as any other type of travel and you will realize that there are many hazards and many other travellers. There is a sense of relief in returning home to the body and the temptation to say "guess where I've been?"

Astral travelling, however, is a serious business and should be treated with respect. The drifting, tingling sensation which starts you off on the journey is very different from that of dropping off to sleep. It is a state which can best be achieved by training under a sensible psychic or parapsychologist. Success relies on the power of the mind over the body, and never under any circumstances can this state be induced by alcohol or drugs.

Currently we know less about it than we do about travelling to the moon, but by dedication to the study of metaphysics and occult philosophies, more and more people will be able to take their own flight into space and return with data more valuable than moon rocks.

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