

**Emergency Services
Centre - 3333**

University

Learning resources centre

Technical aids change libraries' image

I am what libraries and librarians have made me, with a little help from a professor of Greek and a few poets.

— B.K. Sandwell,
"The bibliothecary", 1928

Libraries are losing their image — sad as that may be to traditionalists — as cramped, stuffy buildings with an odd musty smell and a spectacled lady in front of a "No Talking" sign.

Instead, they are developing into learning resources centres where recordings (from Bach to Janis Joplin), video-tapes and microfilm are as important to the collection as the traditional bound book. Even smoking is allowed — in some areas.

The official dedication of the Scott Library this Saturday marks the midway point in the physical construction of York's decentralized network of libraries on the two campuses.

It was the fourth library to open, with one (Administrative Studies) under construction and three tentatively planned — for Faculties of Education, Fine Arts and Medicine.

Technological aids

And it is also the most advanced of the libraries completed to date. With study carols designed to accommodate video screens, and a computer program in the works that will allow librarians to analyse borrowing patterns for particular books and so develop a history of its use in the library, Scott was built with the changing nature of libraries in mind.

Director of Libraries Thomas O'Connell said in an interview this week he expects students to "spend more time in libraries in future" as they make increasing use of technological aids.

Concerned that libraries become more integrated with teaching,

O'Connell said the study carols (or "teaching stalls") will "eventually contain a screen... and a student will be able to get a page of a book, a lecture by professors of the present day or from the great teachers of 10 or 20 years ago.

Independent research

"There's been a tremendous buildup in independent student research recently (which this will further stimulate). And that is truly the best part of education."

Much of that research has little to do with formal course work, but much has also resulted from a general trend away from the lecture system and increased use of the essay as a teaching method.

Fully 10 percent of York's operating budget is now spent on the libraries — Steacie Science, Osgoode, Scott, and Frost at Glendon College.

But O'Connell feels this money is well spent. "When you're appraising a university... you can take the quality of its library as some indication of its stature — the books reflect the courses taught there.

"Great universities have three things in common — they all pay the faculty well; the faculty is good (There's not necessarily, but usually a correlation) and they all have a good library.

"York realized right from the beginning that a large library had to go with a large university — it's no coincidence."

York ranks fourth

In Ontario, York now ranks fourth in holdings with a total collection of 1,177,521 items. Less than half are bound volumes.

"If it's an audacious thing to start a university, it's triply audacious to start a library," O'Connell said. "In



The Scott Library will be formally dedicated Saturday at a special Dedication and Convocation ceremony in honor of William Pearson

Scott, former Chairman of York's Board of Governors. It cost \$6.2-million to build and can hold 900,000 volumes.

1963 we had a budget of \$200,000, a staff of 20, and holdings of 25,000; we now have a staff of 280, a budget of \$3,600,000 and holdings of more than a million."

But with the number of books pouring out it is almost impossible to keep up. With holdings increasing by 100,000 volumes a year O'Connell said simply: "We try and get a sampling from the world's presses.

"The United States is producing 50,000 titles a year, Britain 30,000 and the U.S.S.R. 60,000. And with every new country that starts up the first thing they do is set up a press."

Tely files

One coup York almost made and may yet complete is to acquire the library of the Toronto Telegram after it closes down. Publisher John Bassett donated it to York originally, but with the beginning of the Toronto Sun decided to give them the clipping file for as long as they need it. The bound volumes are already here.

O'Connell wants the clippings or "morgue" for historical reasons. The paper is almost 100 years old and the files are "sheer Toronto history."

So the buildings may go up, but the

job of creating the educational tools that make up a library's *raison d'être* is only beginning.

Basic policy decisions such as the one to develop a controlled decentralization of resources to better service individual faculties have been made. But only the groundwork has been done on developing collections.

O'Connell, who spent 13 years at Harvard's library where holdings number eight million, said he had "known glory in the Harvard library

— but if I'd had a little more sense I would have realized how difficult it would be to build a new library."

But then, Harvard has had almost 200 years.

Ceremony schedule

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon — Symposium on "The Library - The University" — Thomas O'Connell, Director of Libraries will introduce the symposium speakers - Samuel Rothstein, Professor, School of Librarianship, University of British Columbia; Richard Blackwell, Chairman, B.H. Blackwell Limited, Booksellers, Oxford, England; and Archibald MacLeish, poet, playwright, and administrator, former Librarian of Congress — Burton Auditorium.

2:30 p.m. — Special Convocation — honorary Doctor of Letters degree will be conferred on Archibald MacLeish, Richard Blackwell, and Samuel Rothstein; William Pearson Scott, former chairman of York's Board of Governors, and The Hon. Gerard Pelletier, Secretary of State, will be recipients of the honorary Doctor of Laws degree — Scott Library Foyer.

Following an Address by Hon. Gerard Pelletier, a Ceremony of Dedication will be held and a plaque unveiled naming the Library in honour of Mr. Scott.



It may look cold on the outside but it's warm inside with places to rap, listen to music, browse or study. A combination of these is going on in the picture above.

Research hearings in Dec.

The Commission to Study the Rationalization of University Research set up last winter by the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada will hold hearings in Ontario between December 5 and 18.

Headed by J. Alexander Corry, former Principal of Queen's University, the Commission is designed to study and make recommendations on how research undertakings in Canadian universities can be planned to serve regional and national communities "without undue duplication".

Other Commission members include Louis-Phillippe Bonneau,

Vice-Rector of Laval University, with Lucien F. Michaud, Research Director of AUCC, acting as secretary.

Public hearings are being held in all regions of Canada, with the deadline for receipt of briefs from individuals or organizations February 1, 1972.

Notice of intention to submit a brief should be sent to the Secretary no later than 15 days before the date indicated for hearings in the region, if the brief is to be presented at that time.

More detailed information may be obtained from the AUCC, 151 Slater St., Ottawa, Ontario.

Odds & Sodds

Barnes to lecture

New York Times drama critic Clive Barnes will usher in "The Arts: Affluence and Exploitation", a series of lectures presenting the Canadian, British, and American viewpoints of the arts today. Barnes, who is also dance critic for the Times, will speak at Burton Auditorium at 8:30 p.m. this Friday evening.

Part of the 1971-72 Performing Arts Series, sponsored by York's Faculty of Fine Arts, the lecture program also includes Hugo MacPherson, former head of the National Film Board of Canada, on

January 14, and David Thompson, Director of the Institute of Contemporary Arts in London, on February 4.

Series subscriptions and individual tickets for the lecture series are available at Burton Auditorium Box Office, 635-2370. Students can attend all three lectures for \$2.50 or \$1.00 for each individual event and York staff can hear all three speakers for \$3.50 or individual lectures for \$1.50 each.

Human Relations Lab.

An intensive T-group experience where the participants seek to create a productive learning situation will be the focus of the Human Relations Laboratory sponsored by the Centre for Continuing Education November 14 - 20. The Lab is designed for people who want to improve their inter-personal skills and is not concerned with those people who are seeking therapy. Under the direction of Drs. Vello Sermat and Paul Vereshack, the Lab will be held at the Terra

Cotta Inn. Call the Centre at 635-2525 for details.

CUSO meetings

Students at York who are curious about the possibility of working in Asia, Africa and Latin America for two years under CUSO may attend one of the information meetings being held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at the International Student Centre, 33 St. George Street, (on the U of T campus). Phone 928-4022 for details.

Information can be obtained on the York campus from Dale Postgate, Department of Political Science and Richard Hamilton, Department of Economics.

Library hours

The Scott Library will be closed for Convocation, Saturday, October 30th from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and will reopen at 5:00 p.m. to midnight. Reserve Reading Room will open regular hours from 8:45 p.m. to midnight.

Quote of the week

Never exaggerate your faults; your friends will attend to that.

Robert C. (Bob) Edwards,
Calgary Eye Opener,
February 5, 1921