

3. AN OUTLINE OF DEVELOPMENTS IN LIBRARIES AND RESOURCES FOR CANADIAN STUDIES IN BRITAIN SINCE THE SEMINAR IN OCTOBER 1980

Following the meeting on 22 October 1980, the Working party then set up requested statements from BACS and SCONUL on the reasons why they considered a Canadian Libraries Group might best operate under their respective auspices. Memoranda on these points were considered at a meeting in February 1981 at which representatives of SCONUL and BACS were present, and it was agreed that the new body should be a sub-Committee of BACS but that SCONUL should be invited to nominate an observer to attend its meetings.

At the BACS Annual Conference held at Lincoln College on 9-11 April 1981 a session on resources was held, under the Chairmanship of Dr. Kenneth Robinson, at which the speakers were Miss S. Lush, of the Bodleian Law Library and Mrs. Margaret Brooks of the Department of Sound Records of the Imperial War Museum. Donald Simpson gave a Progress Report on the formation of a Library Group and at the Annual General Meeting on 10 April formal approval was given to the establishment of such a group and stress was laid on the importance of its terms of reference being wide enough to include non-book materials related to Canada. The drawing up of terms of reference was delegated to the BACS Council.

The Council asked Donald Simpson, Librarian of the Royal Commonwealth Society, to act as first Chairman, and in this capacity he attended the Conference of the Association for Canadian Studies at Dalhousie University on the 1st and 2nd of June 1981 on the subject *Bibliography for Canadian Studies, Present Trends and Future Needs*³. He contributed a paper to the session on "Resource Collections Abroad and Access to them" and found considerable interest in the development of inter-library liaison and also made useful contacts among Librarians and others anxious to co-operate with such a British group.

Terms of reference for a Library and Resources Group as a sub-Committee of the BACS Council were agreed by that Council at its meeting on the 2nd October 1981. A provisional Committee was set up and the composition of this body and the terms of reference, which appear below, were approved at the BACS Conference at Weymouth on 5-7 April 1982.

In the budgeting for 1981/2 the Canadian Department of External Affairs allocated a sum of money for the work of the Library and Resources Group within its grant to BACS. This money is intended to cover the running expenses of the Group and the costs of the preparation by Valerie Bloomfield of a new edition of her *Guide to Resources for Canadian Studies in Britain*, and the Group has been asked to supervise this work. This publication will include both an updating of existing entries, the expansion of those somewhat briefly covered previously, the addition of newly discovered resource centres, greater attention to archival and computer-based resources, and an extension of geographical coverage of libraries to Europe and the USSR.

Included in the grant from the Canadian Government for 1982/3 is a sum to cover the administration of the Academic Book Donation Programme, which is operated in conjunction with the Academic Relations Division of the Canadian High Commission.

It is intended that the Committee should consider a number of suggestions which have already been put forward for areas of potential co-operation in the acquisition, use and recording of resources. Reports will be made at BACS Annual Conferences.

Discussions have taken place with the newly-appointed London representative of the Public Archives Canada, Dr. Bruce Wilson, concerning co-operation between the Group and the Survey of British Manuscript Resources on which he is currently engaged; and also with representatives of the Provincial Houses in London about ways in which libraries might acquire, co-ordinate and rationalise collections of official and unofficial publications from the Canadian Provinces.

Articles relating to bibliographical matters regularly appear in the BACS Newsletters¹⁹.

Rules for Canadian Library and Resources Group

1. The name of the group shall be *BACS Library and Resources Group*.
2. The group shall be a Sub-Committee of the British Association for Canadian Studies (BACS).
3. The aims of the group shall be:
 - (a) to encourage the acquisition and preservation of materials for Canadian studies.
 - (b) to assist in and advise on the provision, recording and use of such material in libraries, archives and other resource centres.
 - (c) to encourage the provision of guides to such resources.
4. The group shall be appointed by the Council of the BACS and its Chairman shall be ex-officio a member of the Council if not already an elected member.
5. The group shall consist of up to six members and will elect its own Secretary/Treasurer and Publications Officer.