

# ANNUAL REPORT





BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

*Annual Report*

For the Year Ending June 30, 1986



*Document 15-1986*



*Annual Report*  
*of the*

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

For the Year Ending June 30, 1986

TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
OF THE CITY OF BOSTON

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DIRECTOR AND LIBRARIAN

ARTHUR CURLEY

## Foreword

In the summer of 1984 the Trustees of the Public Library of the city of Boston began a nationwide search for a new Director and Librarian whose enormous task it would be to correct the problems of the late 70s and early 80s brought about by, among other things, woefully insufficient budgetary support for the Library system. The major goal for the new Director would be to revitalize and restore the buildings and services of the Library and to make it ready for the 21st century.

A 15-member screening committee appointed by the Trustees assisted in the review of more than 65 applications from candidates across the nation. Sixteen semifinalists were evaluated further and interviewed personally by the committee. Of the 16, seven finalists emerged, and the names were submitted to the Trustees for further consideration. The backgrounds, experience and accomplishments of the finalists were reviewed in greater depth, and each finalist was interviewed intensively by the five Trustees in sessions lasting from two to three hours.

The search ended at a meeting of the Trustees on February 21, 1985 with the election by the Board of Arthur Curley, then Deputy Director at the New York Public Library, as Director and Librarian. As I cast my vote for him that evening, I recall remarking that I believed that Mr. Curley would be as distinguished a Director and Librarian of the Library for the 20th century as Justin Winsor had been at the Boston Public Library in the 19th century.

As the events of FY86 unfolded, I was pleased to find that my belief was becoming reality. Mr. Curley's report makes clear that the program for restoration and revitalization of the entire Library system has begun. With the enthusiastic support and endorsement of Mr. Curley's recommended program on the part of each member of the Board, the Library's proposal for continuation of the program into FY87 has been endorsed once again and given dramatic financial support by the Mayor and City Council, such that the Library's operating

budget for FY87 is to be increased by approximately 30%, and commitments made for capital improvements to Library buildings to the extent of 40 million dollars. The state government has responded in kind by increasing the financial support of the Commonwealth with a corresponding increase in operational funding for the next fiscal year.

I wish to thank my colleagues, Senator Bulger, Mrs. Gaines, Mrs. Goodwin and Mrs. Luthin for their support and their many hours of thinking, debating and just plain hard work on behalf of this very special institution and the people whom we serve.

Kevin F. Moloney  
President, Board of Trustees



# Introduction

In the life of any great institution, there are years of progress and years of decline. In its one hundred thirty-four year history—the longest of any free municipal library in the world—the Boston Public Library has indeed experienced both. The contributions of many generations form a firm foundation for the resources and services of the Library, making possible the achievements of any particular administration, but sustaining as well an ability to rebound after periods of adversity. The past decade has been such a period. Recovery will require a commitment of several years; but if magnitude of endeavor be any measure, this past year will stand out in the history of the Library as a time when the efforts of many individuals converged to insure the start of a renaissance.

The effects on the Library of Proposition 2½ and other recent forces of fiscal retrenchment have been nothing less than devastating. A news headline in the early 1980's forecast the "Death of a Library." The impact of books not acquired (or preserved), of reference or readers' advisory assistance not rendered, of school visits not undertaken, is not easily measured, for the role of the library in society is in large measure an intangible one. On the other hand, a library is a most tangible symbol of the values and aspirations of a community. When staff reductions reached a point requiring the actual closing of the famous Copley Square entrance, its giant chained gates became a haunting symbol of the plight within.

Many factors have contributed to the greatness of the Boston Public Library. A newly appointed Director is particularly aware of the achievements of his predecessors: the pioneering public service philosophy developed in the previous century by Charles Coffin Jewett and Justin Winsor, the remarkable growth of the collections from one and a half to nearly six million volumes during the combined fifty-year tenure of Milton E. Lord and Philip J. McNiff. But these achievements were possible only because the citizens of Boston, in

each generation, have treasured and nurtured this special institution so linked to the historical significance of their city. And so, in the 1980's, an aroused citizenry refused to tolerate further deterioration. In 1984 a prominent supporter of the activist Save Our Library coalition and Neighborhood Friends of the Library organizations, Raymond L. Flynn, became mayor of the city of Boston and pledged to reverse a decade of decline at the Library. Active Library supporters were soon appointed to the Library's Board of Trustees and made clear in their national search for a Director that they sought not continued retrenchment but a profound revitalization.

The first few months of this inaugural year of a new administration were necessarily devoted to analysis; the results, which documented the impact of a decade of diminishing support, were distressing: a 30% reduction in book acquisition levels; more than half of the branch libraries without a children's librarian, a third without even a branch librarian; loss of staff through attrition exceeding recruitment by two to one; hours of service cut drastically; buildings in disrepair. In contrast, one most hopeful finding to which sincere tribute must be paid was the dedication of the staff. Frustrated in the extreme, overworked and underpaid, the staff remained committed to the great public mission of the Library and eager to help launch a new era.

Analysis led to recommendations, and in January of 1986 the Trustees enthusiastically adopted *A Program to Rebuild and Revitalize the Resources and Services of the Boston Public Library*. This plan for renewal sets forth goals in several major categories, chief among them: rebuilding the book collections; restoring children's services, with a full-time children's librarian in every branch library; renewal of community services, including restoration of several hundred lost hours of weekly services, visits to (and by) every school class, a major assault on illiteracy, and special services for the disabled; computerization of bibliographic records to link resources throughout the city and the state; extensive restoration of Charles Follen McKim's architectural marvel on Copley Square and rehabilitation of branch library buildings throughout the city.

At the end of the fiscal year, prospects for fulfillment of these ambitious plans were most favorable. Mayor Raymond L. Flynn has recommended for approval by the Boston City Council a \$28 million five-year capital program for library building improvements and the

Council has passed a 30% increase in the Library's operating budget for the coming year; Massachusetts Senate President William Bulger has pledged a 30% increase in state support to the Boston Public Library, which now serves all residents of the Commonwealth; and the Boston Globe Foundation has promised a grant of \$1 million to help initiate a major development campaign.

The enthusiastic support of the Trustees of the Library, the mayor and city council, the commonwealth legislature, the governor, the staff of the Library, and citizens of both the city and the state, represents a commitment to the revitalization of the Boston Public Library equal to the zealous efforts of the 1840's which inspired the creation of this extraordinary institution and launched an idealistic movement which spread across the country and throughout the world.

Arthur Curley  
Director and Librarian



## Community Services

Public programs have been a priority for the Boston Public Library since its founding in 1852. In their pioneering document of the public library movement, the Trustees of the Library stated their intention to foster the "self-culture" of all people. This concept is embodied and nurtured today through attention to the humanities, arts, and sciences in courses of instruction, seminars, lectures, discussions, conferences, exhibits, and publications. It is also fostered through literacy programs and a commitment to children, young adults, and the growing senior population.

In FY 1985-1986 the Central Library in Copley Square and the branch libraries offered 5,161 public programs, tours, and class presentations. Numerous exhibitions were presented throughout the Library system.

### Adult Services

Adult book discussion groups attracted 838 participants, with groups meeting regularly at the General Library and at the Adams Street, Brighton, Dudley, East Boston, Hyde Park, Jamaica Plain, Parker Hill, Roslindale, West End, and West Roxbury Branch Libraries. Participants shared in lively discussion regarding current literature and literary classics.

National Endowment for the Humanities Learning Library Programs offer college-level educational sequences to the general public at no cost. Taught by distinguished subject specialists, such courses were held during the past year in sixteen branches. They included:

- *Classics of American Drama*  
Professor Frederick Danker, University of Massachusetts, Boston
- *The Flowering of New England: Arts of the Colonial Period*  
Gilian Wohlauer, Museum of Fine Arts

- *A Black Artist: His Life and Work*  
James R. Reed, Northeastern University
- *The Modern Political Novel*  
Professor Jerry Bernhard, Emmanuel College
- *The Architecture of Boston*  
Douglass Shand-Tucci, Architectural Historian
- *Beacon Hill Authors*  
Professor Shaun O'Connell, University of Massachusetts, Boston
- *The Persistence of Tragedy*  
Professor John Mahoney, Boston College
- *South Boston: Emergence of a Community*  
Professor Thomas O'Connor, Boston College
- *Faith, Culture and Leadership: A History of the Black Church in Boston*  
Robert Hayden, Northeastern University

Boston Public Library's services to adults include programs for parents which are held each week in conjunction with the pre-school story hours their children attend. Some programs feature speakers, others films or book talks. Other *Read Aloud Workshops*, held in cooperation with the *School Volunteers for Boston*, introduce parents to the joys of reading to their children.

Special lectures at the branches continued to draw large audiences during the past year. Among them were "Boston Sensations and Disasters," a series at the West End Branch Library, which featured Loretta McLaughlin of the *Boston Globe* speaking on "The Brinks Robbery" and Professor William Fowler of Northeastern University on "The Molasses Disaster." J. Anthony Lukas spoke at Charlestown and South End Branch Libraries shortly after the publication of his popular book, *Common Ground*. The Marjorie Gibbons Memorial Lecture has become an annual event at the South Boston Branch Library. Miss Gibbons was a well-respected former branch librarian at South Boston and a former supervisor of branches. The topic of this year's lecture presented in her memory was "Pleasure Bay: Olmsted's Marine Park in South Boston."

Opposite: The Library offered several dynamic courses this year in its roles as "people's university" and "learning library."

# A Black Artist: His Life and Work

**James Reuben Reed**

Master Artist in Residence  
Master Artist  
in Residence Program  
Northeastern University

A recognized Boston artist, Mr Reed shows parallels between

**Shaun O'Connell**

Professor of English,  
University of Massachusetts,  
Boston and book reviewer for  
the Boston Globe

April 10, 1996

**Imagining Beacon Hill—  
A Century of Reflection**  
Beacon Hill has been por-  
trayed in many ways by Boston  
authors from Vas  
Brooks, who w  
books wh  
ar—

West End Branch Library  
151 Cambridge Street  
Boston, MA 02114  
222-9057

April 17, 1996

**James's Beacon Hill**  
The James family, particularly  
Henry James, defined a per-  
sonal vision of Beacon Hill,  
Boston, and America  
Although an international ac-  
quaint, Henry James returned  
again and again to his imagina-  
tion to the Beacon Hill as here  
he once lived. Recommended  
readings, Henry James The  
Bostonians, The American  
Scene

Thursday evenings  
at 6:30 p.m.

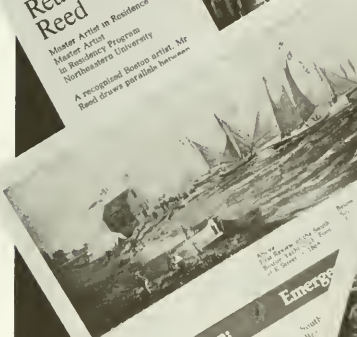
A National Endowment for the  
Humanities Learning  
Library Series

May 1, 1996

**Howells's Beacon Hill**  
William Dean Howells was, for  
a time, Boston's most distin-  
guished man of letters  
Howells was a novelist, a  
critic, and an editor of  
Atlantic Monthly, a man who  
brought the "familiar eye" of an  
outsider's view to Boston.  
Recommended readings:  
William Dean Howells The  
Rise of Silas Lapham

May 8, 1996

**The Brahmins's Beacon Hill**  
Oliver Wendell Holmes char-  
acterized the "Boston  
Brahmins" as those who had  
their "houses by Bulfinch,  
their mansions on Beacon  
Street, their ancestral  
portraits and Chinese porce-  
lain, humanitarians, Unitar-  
ian faith in the march of mind,  
Yankee shrewdness and New  
England exuberance." John  
P. Marquand's novel The Late  
George Apple and Samuel Eliot  
Morison's memoir One Boy  
Boston 1887-1901 portray the  
late flourish of the Beacon Hill  
urban world.



**South Boston**

**Thomas O'Connor**

Professor of English  
Boston College

May 17, 1996  
**Life and Death  
in the Old  
Lower End**

**Emergency**

Mary Cassatt,  
The Letter



Thomas Eakins  
John Biglow in a Single Scull



# Masterpieces of American Painting

**Carol Taynton**

Lecturer on Fine Arts at  
Boston Museum of Fine  
Arts, and the Isabella  
Stewart Gardner Museum

Orlino Square  
Branch Library,  
890 Washington Street  
Dorchester, MA 02124  
439-8214

May 1996  
Thursday evenings  
at 7:30 p.m.

May 1, 1996

**The Great Portraits**  
From early American  
portraits, portraiture  
became a popular, sophis-  
ticated art form. The work  
of John Singleton  
Copley and the white  
Lake

May 8, 1996

**Landscape Painting  
in America: Genre,  
and the American  
Landscape**

May 15, 1996

**Genre Painting at Home  
and Abroad**  
While native genre  
painting continued to  
flourish, the expatriate  
genre painter, Mary  
Cassatt, and John  
Singer Sargent, looked  
west for the scene, and  
looked east for inspira-  
tion with Europe

May 22, 1996

May 29, 1996

**The Arden Show  
and Beyond**  
The Arden Show was the  
first major exhibition of  
modern art in the United  
States. It had a major  
impact on a generation of  
artists which included  
Arthur Dove, John M.  
and Jackson



Critics gave rave reviews to several of the Library's film series.

In September the Brighton Branch Library presented a two-part panel discussion series entitled "Growing Pains: Allston/Brighton, A Neighborhood Develops." The first presentation, "Outside Forces," allowed representatives of governmental agencies and private real estate developers to express their points of view on the issue of development in the Brighton Community. The second, "Community Influences," examined ways in which the citizen could respond to development efforts within the neighborhood. Both evenings were delayed-cabelcast by Cabelvision.

Dudley Branch Library celebrated Black History Month with several programs—a talk on folk, jazz, and pop music by C. Vincent Haynes,



Vice-President of the Boston Jazz Society, and readings by poets Ted Thomas and Everett Goodwin.

“Readings by Writers” enjoyed its second successful year at the Brighton Branch Library. Co-sponsored by the Writer’s League of Boston, this program featured readings by published authors.

The Library continued to promote literacy through various activities. Adult education classes held in East Boston introduced participants to the organization of library materials and provided them with the opportunity to register for a library card. The Brighton Branch Library worked closely with *Collaborations for Literacy*, an adult literacy program at Boston University, providing space for tutors to hold private sessions. Over the next three years as staffing increases, the Library expects to become much more directly involved in the programming and administration of adult literacy activities.

The Library’s Audio-Visual Department presents well attended, consistently high quality programming, in addition to circulating 16mm films, long-playing records, and audio-cassette tapes. Among the film series presented this past year in the Rabb Lecture Hall at the Central Library were “Remembering Jean: A Tribute to Jean Arthur,” “Documentaries: Contemporary and Controversial,” “Dancer’s Holiday,” “Remembering: Six Movie Greats,” “Idols of the Silent Screen,” and “Lovely to Look At: A Tribute to Irene Dunn.”

### **Children’s Services**

Introducing local Hispanic and Cambodian children to the Library system and assisting in a program that brings community adults into the classrooms to read to children are just two of the activities that the Library provided to children this year.

Children’s rooms at the Central and Branch Libraries serve children from infancy through age thirteen, as well as adults with an interest in children’s books—parents, teachers, authors, illustrators, and students of education, library science or literature. There is an increasing use by bilingual groups, by handicapped groups, and by adults with language or learning difficulties.

Throughout the system, children’s librarians held story hours and film programs for both pre-school and school-age children; story hours for pre-schoolers were attended by children and their mothers as well as by groups of children brought in by local day care centers. In



In this 1920 photo, children wait for story hour outside the Warren Street Branch Library.

response to the tremendous need for quality time alternatives for toddlers, several branches initiated story hours for this age group.

In an ongoing collaborative effort with Boston Public Schools, children's librarians visited classes to tell stories, give book talks, and inform students and teachers about Library services and programs. Classes were invited to the branch libraries where they attended film and story-telling programs, registered for library cards, browsed, and learned about the use of catalogs and reference materials. In all contact with school classes, Library staff members stress reading for the child's own needs and pleasure. This emphasis is intended to foster the idea that use of the Library need not be limited to schoolwork alone.

Children's librarians throughout the branch system have cooperated with *The School Volunteers for Boston* in their *Reading Aloud* program, which brings community adults into classrooms to read to the children. The experience is a meaningful one for adults and children alike.



Youngsters watch a puppet show at Parker Hill Branch (1978). Eager attendance at such programs continues today throughout twenty-five branches and the central library.

This year the Central Library Children's Room sponsored Children's Saturday Celebrations, presenting a range of programs that interpreted children's literature. They included African storyteller Harriet Masembe, puppeteer Jean Tibbils, author-illustrator Gerald McDermott, Boston College Children's Theatre, and poet John Ciardi. Among the new programs offered there this year were bilingual story hours utilizing volunteer readers, and a non-fiction film series.

Among special events for children in the branch libraries during the past year were a lecture by author-illustrator Marcia Sewall, a Kwanza Celebration at the Dudley Branch, and a Teddy Bear Picnic at Fields Corner Branch Library in honor of Winnie-the-Pooh Day, featuring teddy bear stories, games, and films.

In the spring of 1986 the Library introduced into the branches "Reading is Fundamental," a national movement which encourages reading and book ownership among children. Spearheaded by Fidelity Investments, the first RIF series was targeted for Fields Corner with other branches and corporate sponsorships anticipated.

This year marked the thirty-eighth Mary U. Nichols Book Award to two young people from the North End neighborhood for their competence in English in school work. This award honors a former branch librarian at the North End Branch Library who worked closely with immigrant children.

### **Young Adult Services**

The Young Adult Room in the Central Library is an important resource for high school students. Although most regular visitors are from the local private and public high schools, a four-day workshop on creative writing drew suburban students as well. In this workshop, William Sleator, author of *Interstellar Pig*, *Fingers*, and *Singularity*, led sixteen pre-registered young adults through writing two pieces of fiction and also gave them written critiques of their work. A program called *Tune In Tomorrow: A Forum on Soap Operas* drew more than two hundred people; four panelists addressed the subject of soap operas and young adult audiences.

At science project time in the spring, the Science Reference Department in the Research Library provided a core collection of books for the junior high and high school students who were using the Library for this purpose. Staff produced a handout for students on doing science projects, including how to formulate an idea and how to locate supporting material. The department also hosted a program for students in a summer program at the Museum of Science on how to find science materials in the Library.

Special services to young adults in the branches were unfortunately limited this year because of limited staffing. The two young adult librarians in the branches did visit area high schools to promote library services and materials, and to present book-talks and programs on job hunting techniques and college financing.

### **Services to the Institutionalized, the Disabled, & the Elderly**

The Library serves both mobile and physically impaired elderly through a variety of services. The Extension Branch Library Service lends books to more than 600 shut-ins and immobile people through a Homesmobile that travels to 80 locations, including nursing homes and apartment houses for the elderly. The Book Deposit Service places

large collections of books into 26 non-library locations such as nursing homes, youth centers, and hospitals on a three month rotating basis. Several branch libraries also deposit book collections in nursing homes and housing for the elderly in their communities.

Among the Library's most successful programs for the elderly are the Never Too Late Groups that meet at the Central Library, South Boston, and Roslindale branches. Films, lectures, and other informal educational programs are presented weekly to enthusiastic senior citizen audiences. The Dudley Branch Library hosts a program called "Living is for the Elderly" (LIFE), for nursing home residents; elderly participants meet once a month for brief library instruction, book exhibits and film programs.

Recent technology has created new opportunities for the Library to facilitate use of its vast resources for the disabled. The Library plans to open an Access Center for the Disabled during the summer of 1987. Over the past year, Access Center staff have worked under a grant from the federal Library Services and Construction Act, acquiring a Kurzweil Reading Machine which translates print into synthesized speech, an electronic magnifier which enlarges print to 40 times its original size, and a number of other tools designed to assist the blind and visually impaired. Materials for the deaf, hearing impaired, and physically disabled will be acquired under subsequent grants.

### **Exhibitions & Special Events**

Exhibitions and special events serve to heighten public awareness of the Library as a resource for art, science, and literature; they also stimulate interest in a variety of subjects. Annually the Central Library presents up to fifteen exhibits. Many more exhibits are presented in the 25 branch libraries.

During this year the branches maintained an active exhibit and special events schedule. Annual art festivals held at the Brighton and South Boston branches delighted large audiences with works by local artists, films, and theatrical pieces. A successful exhibit entitled "The Artist's Lens: A Focus on Relocation" was held at the Dudley Branch Library in May, staged by Urbanarts. It featured photographs of neighborhoods along the soon-to-be-replaced Orange Line from Chinatown to Forest Hills. The work of professional photographers and student photographers from the Hubert H. Humphrey Occupa-



## South American Portfolio

Photographs by Carol Ginandes

July 1 - July 31, 1985  
The Great Hall  
The Boston Public Library  
Copley Square

The public is cordially  
invited to view the exhibition  
during library hours

Monday - Thursday  
9 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Friday and Saturday,  
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

For further information  
please call 546-5400  
extension 371

Exhibitions like the South American Portfolio commanded much attention and comment.

tional Resource Center, these photographs are a unique historical record.

“Banned Book Week,” an exhibit featuring a display of banned books and mounted by the Young Adult Department in the Central Library generated considerable publicity, prompting local radio stations and print media to produce stories on censorship and book banning. The display and booklist also piqued young adult interest.

Special programs and exhibits at the Research Library during the past year included: a birthday reception for long-time Library friend Laning Humphrey; a reception for John Sanroma for his contributions to an exhibit on Koussevitzky; a day-long visit by John McKen-

na, donor of Joan of Arc materials; a program and exhibit on Pirandello in conjunction with the Pirandello Lyceum; an exhibit of New England Book Show prizewinning titles; a vocal program by Mary Sandoni singing works by women composers from BPL collections; and an exhibit of materials on Irish theatre.

Departments in the Research Library held events and exhibitions to highlight their collections. The Fine Arts Department organized the exhibition "Peabody and Stearns: Preserving the Records" and assisted with another, "Book Arts in Boston." Heirloom Discovery Day, held in May 1986, included oral appraisals of art, antiques and collectibles by members of the Appraisers' Registry, as well as tours of the McKim Building, lectures by art experts, and an on-going film schedule. The highlight of the day occurred when the owner of a painting learned that it was the work of American surrealist Peter Blume, worth \$50,000!

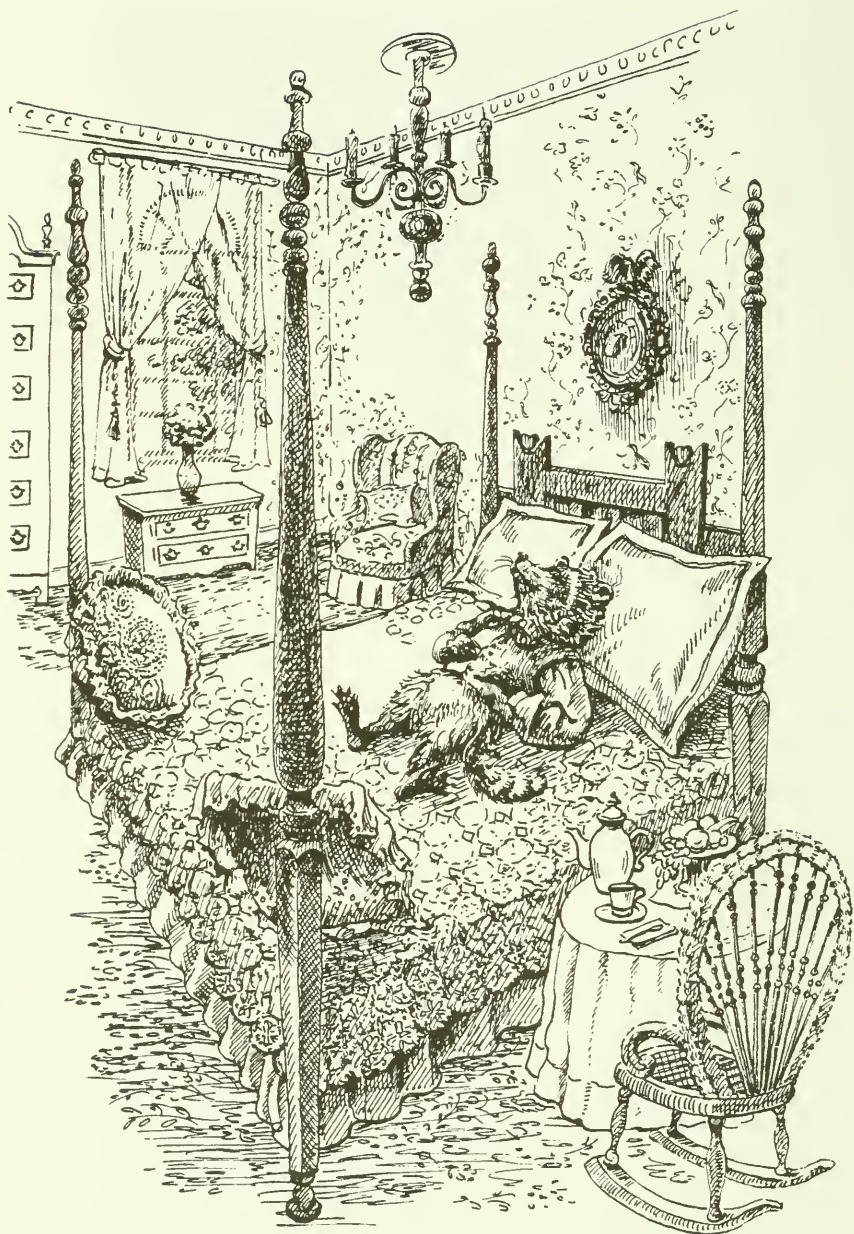
Exhibits organized by the Print Department in the Wiggin Gallery focused on six features of their collection:

- *American Master Prints, 1902-1943*
- *Contemporary Fantasy Drawings from the Collection of John D. Merriam*
- *To Picture the Story: the Illustrations of Judith Gwyn Brown*
- *George Lockwood and Impressions Workshop in Boston*
- *Sidney Hurwitz: Thirty-five Years of Printmaking*
- *Steven Trefonides: Many Inventions*

In addition, the Print Department loaned twenty-four prints to the Museum of Modern Art for their memorable Toulouse-Lautrec exhibition.

The Rare Book & Manuscripts Department mounted five exhibits this year:

- *Lope de Vega, his Friends and Enemies* (early Spanish books)
- *John Adams among his Friends* (books from the library of the second President)
- The traveling exhibit *Il Giardino Romantico* (photographs of private Italian gardens)
- *Witches: Myth or Reality*
- *Literary Dublin*





This department has also provided unique items for exhibition purposes to other institutions; during the past year objects were exhibited at the Museum of Our National Heritage, the Folger Shakespeare Library, the International Type Face Corporation, and the Graphic Institute of Rochester University. "Treasures of W.A. Dwiggins," held at the International Type Face Corporation, organized by Dorothy Abbe and coordinated by the department, drew particular interest.

The Humanities Reference staff assisted in presenting exhibits on "Women of Excellence," held in September, the Krisjanis Barons 150th anniversary exhibit in October, and "YOM TOV: Jewish Festivals and Holy Days."

Music Department staff mounted several well-received exhibitions, among them "A Tricentennial Salute to Bach, Handel and Schutz"; "Women Composers"; "The Stoughton Music Society" (a loan); "Musical Iconography"; "The Metropolitan Opera in Boston"; "Concert Halls Around the World"; and a major exhibit entitled "Koussevitzky and the Americans."

Exhibits in the Government Documents Department included "Vacation with Documents," "Self Health," and an exhibition commemorating the Jewish holidays, while the Science Department produced several small exhibits on subjects such as snowflakes, kites, paper airplanes, thunderstorms, plants, turkeys, and acupuncture. In addition, the department maintained bulletin boards for science-related activities and conferences, articles of interest from newspapers and magazines, and patent activities of local groups. In February 1986 the Social Science staff prepared the traditional Black History Month exhibit, which included a special section honoring the *Bay State Banner*.

Opposite: A major exhibition honored author/illustrator Judith Gwyn Brown for her gift to the Library of original illustrations for more than fifty children's books. Here a raccoon lounges on a four-poster bed in Brown's drawing for *Through Tempest Trails* by Denise Fox (Atheneum).

## Research Services

The Boston Public Library serves the educational and recreational needs of its citizens through its role as a community library; its research collections qualify it further as one of the most important research institutions in the United States. Continued building of collections is one of the most important tasks of Research Library staff, along with servicing collections, preserving them, providing reference assistance, interpreting the collections, and making them known to researchers and members of the general public.

The collections of the Boston Public Library now total more than 5 million books, 15,000 serials, 2 million government documents, 310,000 maps, 1 million prints, paintings and photographs, 12,000 films, 3 million microforms, and 400,000 architectural drawings. All of these materials must be housed, serviced, and preserved.

During the past year Research Library staff members continued to provide a high level of reference services to members of the public. They also conducted routine housekeeping tasks, rearranged storage, boxed collections for the purpose of moving in the future, and organized special collections, including those of James Michael Curley, Ford Hall Forum, League of Women Voters, and Massachusetts Reform Groups. Significant progress was also made on several other fronts such as automation, renovation plans for the McKim Building, collection development, preservation, special programs, and exhibitions.

Projects managed by the Research Library Office during the past year included arranging and listing several special collections, overseeing the U.S. Department of Education newspaper microfilming project, arranging for preservation microfilming and binding of materials, preparing a grant proposal to the National Endowment for the Humanities for the Massachusetts Newspaper Program, monitoring collection development activities, and working closely with all Research Library departments.

### Humanities Reference Department

One of the busiest areas of the Research Library is the Humanities Reference Department where on-site and telephone reference ques-



Today research proceeds apace in Bates Hall even as it flourished in this photo more than thirty years ago.

tions are directed. Staff members field questions in subject areas such as philosophy, psychology, religion, languages, literature, motion pictures, television, theater, bibliography, and library science. In FY 1985-1986 Humanities Reference staff answered 10,344 in-person inquiries, 130 mail inquiries, and 27,588 telephone inquiries—3,500 more telephone inquiries than last year.

Special collections in the Humanities Reference Department include telephone directories for all the New England States, directories covering populations of 50,000 or more outside New England, and directories for major foreign cities. This collection is supplemented by the

PHONETIC collection of current telephone directories, which comprised last year's largest addition of materials to the Humanities Department. Last year also witnessed the completion of microfilming the stack collection of Boston telephone books and reverse telephone directories. Other special holdings in this department include selective city directories; extensive backfiles of city directories are available in both original printed editions and in microform.

Humanities Reference holdings include major national and foreign bibliographies such as the *National Union Catalog*, *Canadiana*, the *Deutsche Bibliographie*, and the *Bibliographie de la France*. Also in Humanities Reference are the printed catalogs of the British Museum, the Bibliothèque Nationale, the Library of Congress, and other major research libraries.

Designated a regional collection repository by the Foundation Center in 1973, the Humanities Reference Department houses the Center's standard reference works, recent books and reports on foundations, and printed guides to collecting data on charitable grants. Internal Revenue Service Information Returns for all Massachusetts foundations are available in microform. Not-for-profit organizations in the Boston area seeking outside funding found these resources particularly useful during the past year.

### **Social Sciences Reference Department**

The Social Sciences Reference Department provides reference service on-site and by telephone on the subjects of anthropology, business, economics, education, finance, genealogy, geography, heraldry, history, maps, numismatics, philately, political science, social sciences, sports, and travel.

While biographical, business, education directories, and periodical indexes in the fields of the Social Sciences make up the department's basic collection, special collections include the major business services of Dun and Bradstreet, Moody's Investor Services, and Standard and Poors; nearly 4,000 college and university catalogs; the index to ERIC (Educational Resources Information Center) Documents; a card catalog of names representing coats of arms; a card catalog of family genealogies; U.S. Geological Survey topographical maps for the New England states; and street maps of major American cities.

Microfiche collections in the Department include United States and

foreign college catalogs; Dun's Business Identification Service; and the Disclosure collection of annual reports, 10K's, and Securities and Exchange Commission reports of companies on the New York and American Stock Exchanges.

During the past year the department supplied 4,991 items to researchers. The number of telephone and in-person reference questions rose considerably, a fact which is directly attributable to a deliberate increase in the size of the business reference collection. Staff responded to 21,135 telephone inquiries (compared with 20,648 last year), 14,560 in-person reference questions (compared with 12,159 last year) and 438 reference letters. This year users with Boston addresses constituted slightly less than one-half of the users of the department.

### **Science Reference Department**

Inventors' Weekend at the Museum of Science, where Science Reference staff met with more than 18,000 people, and the Patent Depository Library Open House were events of special importance for the Science Reference Department this year. These events served to promote the department as a U.S. Patent Depository and guided the public in conducting patent research.

The Science Reference Department provides both on-site and telephone reference service on the subjects of mathematics, astronomy, chemistry, geology, natural history, biology, medicine, agriculture, engineering, manufacturing technology, building trades, crafts, domestic science, military and naval science, marine navigation, ship building and marine engineering.

Special collections include complete United States and British patents; German patents, 1898-1938; European Patent Office and PTC patents; standards; and schematics for radio and television repair. Each day staff provides assistance to 15-20 independent inventors assessing the patents for the first time.

Computerized literature search service is provided for all subjects, not just limited to science. Data bases accessed are those available through BRS, Dialog, Infoline, and others.

Because two staff members attended MEDLARS training during the past year, the Library now has access to an additional 16 data bases, available only through the National Library of Medicine. They cover medical subjects, toxicology, and cancer information.

A major overhaul of the Science Reference collection took place this year. Staff reviewed areas of the collection, weeding outdated books and then pulling more current books from the Research Library stacks. This process has led to a newly refurbished and more relevant core collection.

## Government Documents

The Government Documents Department provides on-site reference service and limited telephone service to business, government and other research users. It is a regional depository for federal documents as well as a depository for United Nations, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and City of Boston documents. The department collects selected foreign, international, state, local, and regional publications; federal and Massachusetts laws and regulations; and court cases for federal and states including *Landmark Briefs*.

Departmental holdings also include all major indexes for federal publications; *Index to International Statistics: Statistical Reference Index*; British Parliamentary Papers; official publications of Massachusetts and Boston; U.S. Congressional documents; *Index to Current Urban Documents* and its fiche collections; *Declassified Documents Index* and its fiche collections. The Department maintains a subject index to City of Boston and Commonwealth of Massachusetts documents.

Recent subscriptions to the *U.S. Government Monthly Publications Catalog*, July 1976 to date, on both roll fiche and microfilm have greatly facilitated bibliographic access to these often-used publications. Subscription to the privately produced *Foreign Broadcast Information Service Indexes* has expanded public use of these once almost inaccessible reports.

Progress on the computerized "State and Local File" has been rewarding. The format of the finished product is being completed and a useful print-out is expected within the near future.

In the last year the department obtained photocopies of a document that was thought not to exist: a compilation of 1930 census tract data for Boston, which was not published by the U.S. Bureau of the Census for that year. This useful document was purchased from the United Community Planning Corporation.

The total number of items requested during FY 1985-1986 (61,817) increased by 32% over 1984-1985 and by 68% over the 1982-1983

period. Such increases reflect the rapid growth of the department and its services over the past several years.

### **Microtext Department/Newspaper Room**

A steady increase in holdings in recent years together with the inclusive nature of microform publishers' sets have required that Microtext staff members become thoroughly familiar with these resources in order to guide patrons in their use. While the department was originally set up as a form delivery service, it now provides reference service of a very advanced nature.

During the past year the department circulated 69,905 microforms, slightly up over last year. Boston residents used 24,734 items, non-Boston residents used 39,356 items, and out-of-state patrons used 5,816 items.

The Department's original emphasis on newspapers on microfilm continues and has been strengthened. Holdings of Massachusetts newspapers on microfilm have been increased by the ongoing program of filming these papers. The Library regularly films newspapers and during FY 1985-1986 increased that commitment with the help of a grant from the U.S. Department of Education. Fifty-seven Massachusetts newspapers were filmed under the grant. With few exceptions, all major Boston newspapers are available in complete files. Files of the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, and several important foreign newspapers are also available.

Government publications of many varieties can be found in the Microtext Department, among them ERIC Documents, Library of Congress Presidential Papers Program, National Historical Publications Commission's Microfilm Publications, U.S. House and Senate Bills, U.S. Congress Committee Prints, Records of the German Foreign Office, Declassified Documents, Port of Boston Passenger Lists, Suffolk and Essex Counties Probate Court Records, Boston and other city and town records.

The Department also maintains a card index to obituaries in Boston newspapers and an index to the genealogical columns of the *Boston Transcript*.

An important new development in service was introduced this year: the use of two coin-operated Fuji FMRP 30AU reader/printers. Self-service photocopying has relieved the staff from the constant pressure of making thousands of on-demand photocopies.

# Independent Chronicle:

UNIVERSAL ADVERTISER.

VOLUME XIX. NUMBER 97.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1877.

BOSTON: Published by ADAMS & NORRIS, Printers to the Honourable the GENERAL COURT of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, at their Printing-Office, opposite the New Court-House, Court Street.

## For the Independent Chronicle.

### Mrs. Anna's Views.

THE Constitution recommended by the Convention, is a subject of the greatest importance, to every individual in this State; and it ought to be generally considered. The responsibility of the character, who composed that Assembly, is almost, without doubt, the ablest of America, will do far less for the benefit of their constituents, than for their members, while any delays remain in their hands, respecting their salutary operations.

Some leading articles allude to the Convention, and the fact that it is, in fact, as regards its actual proceedings, as if it were a body of men, who are to be held responsible for its actions. It is, in fact, a body of men, who are to be held responsible for its actions. It is, in fact, a body of men, who are to be held responsible for its actions.

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Some persons are for adopting the Constitution, without any further consideration, as they feel it is expedient for us to be a world known nation at present. Such men are to be held responsible for their actions, and are to be held responsible for their actions.

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Sample preservation copy: NEH U.S. Newspaper Program.



The Department greatly increased its holdings through the purchase of major microform sets in the areas of Shaker history, American Revolutionary War history, Vietnam War, development of the American West, British biographies, music, fine arts, civil rights, genealogy, business, and economics.

The Newspaper Room makes current world press available to the general public for purposes of recreation, information, and research. Two hundred and seventy eight domestic and foreign newspapers are openly displayed on racks; available on request are thousands of bound volumes of newspapers of all kinds. The collection is greatly supplemented by the Library's rapidly growing collection of newspapers on microfilm, and by the Library's membership in the Center for Research Libraries which is systematically building an extensive worldwide collection of newspapers on microfilm.

Newspaper Room staff are responsible for collating and preparing files of newspapers for microfilming. They also rewrap hundreds of volumes of newspapers that have come back from the microfilmmers as a part of the ongoing Massachusetts newspaper microfilming program.

### **Fine Arts Department**

As a research collection within a public library, the Fine Arts Department follows broad objectives in acquisitions, collecting as comprehensively as possible the materials necessary for the study of all facets of art and art history, architecture and its history, the decorative arts and crafts of all countries and periods. Collections include works of biography, criticism, history and philosophy of art, art education, manuals on technique, journals and pattern-books, major studies of artists and periods, catalogs *raisonnés*, *oeuvres* catalogs, collectors' manuals and many valuable early imprints, as well as major art indexes and abstracts, encyclopedias, dictionaries, bibliographies, and auction records.

Special collections in the Fine Arts Department include *Art in the Boston Public Library* (a card index by artist, subject, and title, to the paintings, sculptures, and decorative art in the library's collection); *The Boston Architecture Reference* (a card index of references to written descriptions, critiques, histories, illustrations, renderings, and plans of Boston buildings and their architects); *The Boston Picture File* (photographs, clippings, and postcards of and about Boston

buildings, parks, monuments, streets, etc.); and *The Portrait/Biography File* (clippings, photographs, and old engravings of individuals of considerable importance in all fields and of all periods).

Reference services and collection development remained the priorities and comprised the chief activities of the department during the past year. During the past year 14,891 phone inquiries (up 9% from last year), 284 letters, 14,072 in-person reference questions and 20,614 call slip requests received attention from members of the department.

Several projects were initiated which aimed to improve record keeping. Other progress made in organizing special files and resources of the department was accomplished by dedicated volunteers and willing library science interns from Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science. Sixteen students in the library conservation course at Simmons College were provided with "hands-on training" in basic conservation techniques on the William Preston architectural drawings; fourteen of 55 volumes have been cleaned, flattened and mended. Other work on special collections during the past year included the organization of an uncataloged collection of sales catalogs and cataloging of a large collection of retrospective exhibition catalogs.

The Fine Arts Department devoted considerable time toward future, long-range planning. Two grant proposals were prepared: the first for the restoration of BPL furniture (a three-day survey of BPL furniture was conducted with a surveyor from the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities); and the second for a preservation survey and needs assessment of the Peabody and Stearns architectural drawings (a matching grant of \$1,000 was pledged by the Society of Architectural Historians/New England towards the conservation of this collection).

### **Music Department**

Collections in the Music Department include both music and works about music. The Allen A. Brown Collection, donated to the Library by Mr. Brown in 1895, represents the heart of the Music Department's holdings. The collection continues to be developed through the use of the Allen A. Brown Trust Fund and, with the addition of 231 items during the past year, now numbers 37,451 books, scores, and manuscripts.

Additional special collections in the Department are:

- *Baron Joseph von Koudelka Collections*: Rare musical works from the 15th through the 18th centuries as well as 19th century imprints and reference materials.
- *Handel and Haydn Society Collection*: The Society's archives dating back to 1815, early imprints of Handel's music, holographs of commissioned works, books and scores.
- *Serge Koussevitzky Collections*: The Koussevitzky Archives were donated to the Library in 1974 by Mrs. Olga Koussevitzky in memory of her late husband, conductor of the Boston Symphony Orchestra and founder of the Koussevitzky Music Foundation.
- *Walter Piston Collection*: The gift of the composer, the collection represents Piston's library as it was maintained in his home in Belmont, Massachusetts.
- *Victor Young Collection*: Film scores, orchestral arrangements, radio music and original compositions trace the career of this talented composer/conductor.
- *Karl Geiringer Collection*: More than 1,000 glass slides representing musical instruments, portraits and caricatures of musicians, and facsimiles of musical compositions, the basis of Professor Geiringer's books, *Musical Instruments*.

Special files and indexes include:

- *Clipping and Pamphlet Files*: Ephemera on the history of music, performing groups, festivals, contests, awards and scholarships and biographical information about people in the world of music.
- *Song Index*: A catalog of songs in the Department's collections, by title.
- *First Performance File*: Important world and New England premiers.
- *Obituary File*

The Munn Collection added six items during the past year for a total of 951; and the Koussevitzky Collection added four items for a total of 1,643. The number of items photocopied or microfilmed increased by 60% from FY 1984-1985.

The Music Department acquired several very important items

through purchases in the past year: several incunabula and two holographs by Mrs. H.H.H. Beach.

### **Sound Archives**

The Sound Archives Department houses a collection of recordings and tapes encompassing all aspects of music and speech. Holdings exceed 250,000 items, including 78rpm and LP recordings, compact discs, audio cassettes, open reel tapes, and some video tapes. A sampling of collections includes those from the New England Conservatory of Music, Ford Hall Forum, the Boston Public Library's lecture hall programs, and materials from the estates of Walter Piston and Serge Koussevitzky.

The department is still being organized and developed and is not yet open for public service. During the past year almost 6,000 recordings were added to the collection. The Rigler and Deutsch Index was purchased, which will greatly facilitate continued cataloging of 78rpm records. Eventually the department will be open for use by archivists, historians, researchers, and advanced students.

### **Rare Books & Manuscripts**

The Rare Books and Manuscripts Department serves a dual purpose: to provide scholars with primary sources for research and to give special care and handling to books and manuscripts which merit such attention because of their age, scarcity, aesthetic or financial worth, or association with notable persons or events.

In the field of printed books the Rare Books Department has outstanding collections of Elizabethan and Restoration literature including the First, Second, Third, and Fourth Folios of Shakespeare in the Barton library; Spanish literature of the 16th, 17th, and 18th centuries in George Ticknor's library; early astronomy, mathematics, and navigation in the Bowditch collection; early American printing from the libraries of John A. Lewis and Rev. Thomas Prince (including the Bay Psalm Book); the West Indies, especially Haiti, from the library formed by Benjamin Hunt; and the Defoe and Defoeana Collection assembled by W.P. Trent; the liturgy of the Church of England and its sources, collected and endowed by Josiah H. Benton; the library of President John Adams; and the Robert A. Feer Collection of World's Fairs of North America. In addition, the Department

possesses widely representative examples of the graphic arts. These examples range from medieval and Renaissance manuscripts to fine modern printing, illustration, and binding.

Special collections administered by the Department include materials on the Brownings, the Civil War, the Franciscan Order, women's rights, history of the theatre, 19th century German literature, and rare autographs brought together in the Richard and Virginia Ehrlich Collection. The Library offers particular strength in Colonial American manuscripts and in the correspondence of New England Abolitionists. Included in its holdings are British and European manuscripts, both literary and political. Among the 20th century collections are the papers, cassettes and memorabilia of comedian Fred Allen; the Sacco-Vanzetti papers assembled by Aldino Felicani, treasurer of the Defense Committee for the accused men; and the Beaulieu papers related to "survivance" of the Franco-American.

During the past year departmental staff entered all manuscripts in the accession list, so there is better control of items in the collection.

The Department coordinated a program with the Harvard University Latin American and Iberian Studies Center and the Spanish General Consul to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the death of the Spanish poet Garcia Lorca. The program included a talk by Harvard professor F. Maurer, and an exhibition of the watercolors of the artist Denis, which interpret Lorca's work.

The book conservator and assistants have been working steadily on materials in the Adams Collection. More than half of the collection has now been treated with almost 1700 more items waiting to be restored. Conservation staff is often called upon to advise on other projects and to conduct tours of the conservation center.

August 1985 saw the completion of a 50-minute long videotape made by the paper conservator and other members of the Library staff. The videotape illustrates general conservation techniques for special collection materials.

### **The Alice M. Jordan Collection**

Named in honor of the founder of children's services in the Boston Public Library, the Alice M. Jordan Collection began in the late 1960's with gifts solicited from interested persons for a retrospective collection. The collection grew in the early 1970's with the withdrawal of historic material from the BPL circulating collection and the acquisi-

tion of material from other libraries. The collection's historic strength dates from 1870, but it contains earlier imprints as well. The scope of the collection was expanded in the mid-1970's to include contemporary and foreign language material. One copy of each juvenile title added to the Children's Room is also added to the Jordan Collection. The foreign language material has been exhibited during the annual Children's Books International conferences and represents acquisitions from sixty countries. Primarily monographic, the collection now totals more than 100,000 volumes of children's picture books, fiction, and nonfiction titles. Eighteen hundred domestic and 3,764 foreign volumes were added to the Alice M. Jordan Collection during the past year. The collection is further enhanced by secondary sources in children's literature and contemporary and historic periodicals.

Cataloging of juvenile foreign language material which began in November 1983, was completed for the Roman alphabet languages. The non-Roman languages which remain to be cataloged are African languages, Arabic, Chinese, Farsi, Greek, Hebrew, Hindi, Japanese, Korean, Russian, Thai, and Turkish.

### **Print Department**

Prints became a notable part of the Library in 1869 when Thomas Gold Appleton presented the Cardinal Tosti Collection to the City of Boston. Seven decades later, when Albert Wiggin gave his outstanding collection of modern master and old master prints and drawings, a Print Room was established. Today the Library owns one of the largest public collections of prints in the United States. Some of its outstanding holdings include:

- A small, but interesting collection of Old Master prints and drawings, including works by Rembrandt and Dürer.
- 18th and 19th century American historical prints, including a large collection of caricatures from the Revolutionary War to about 1870.
- A Boston pictorial archive of prints, drawings, and photographs comprising the largest public collection for study of the pictorial history of the community.
- One of the outstanding American collections of British print-making, including the largest American collection of the works

of Legros, Cameron, Charles Shannon, Bone, John Copley, McBey, Griggs, Augustus John, Austin, Brockhurst, Rushbury, Blampied, Briscoe, and Drury, and strong collections of prints by Haden, Eric Gill, and others.

- Major collections of the work of individual artists, including: Rowlandson, Goya, Daumier, Toulouse-Lautrec, Fantin-Latour, Forain, Bellows, Charlet, Gavarni, Meryon, Buhot, Jacques Villon, Stothard, Homer, Nast, Whistler, Pennell, Hassam, Wengenroth, Nason, Heintzelman, Benson, Chamberlain, Higgins, Woodbury, Grassby, Sloan, Marsh, Arms, Winkler, F.G. Hall, Asa Cheffetz.
- American posters of the nineties by Penfield, Reed, Bradley, and others.
- A collection of plates, blocks, and stones, including a Hogarth plate, a Meryon plate, a Picasso plate, a Bellows plate (his only attempt at etching), and blocks by Eric Gill.
- An exceptional collection of early French lithography and color lithography of the nineties.
- A large collection of American chromolithographs.
- The Holt Collection of prints, drawings, and watercolors depicting the works of Islam, 1550-1900.

Year to year collecting commitments of the Print Department include strengthening of the Library's remarkable holdings of nineteenth and early twentieth century French, British, and American prints and drawings; nineteenth century and early twentieth century photographs; and the Boston Pictorial Archive, the largest public collection of pictures relating to the history of Boston.

### **Service to Business Users**

One of the most heavily used of the Library departments, the Kirstein Business Branch, supplied 91% of all requests made during FY 1985-1986. The interest in real estate, investments, franchising, small business operations and marketing is great at the present time, producing requests for information from both members of the general public and the professional business community. During 1986, Kirstein staff has worked to build the directory collection, placing orders for new editions of directories already in the collections and for direc-

ories that were either newly published or new to the collections. The serials collection was also enhanced this year. Among the sources in greatest demand by business users at Kirstein are: the annual reports of companies on the New York and American stock exchanges; *Bank and Quotation Record*; *CCH Capital Changes Reporter*; *Commercial and Financial Chronicle*; Dunn and Bradstreet, Moody's, Standard and Poor's publications; *Trendline*; and *Value Line*.

Among the business services provided by the Research Library's Science Reference Department, computer searches have become the most popular. The staff conducts approximately 132 on-line searches per month for business users. With nine database vendors that provide access to some 350 databases, Science Reference can provide business users easy access to bibliographies, abstracts, or lists. The nine vendors include: BRS; MEDLARS; DIALOG; Pergamon Infoline; and Cassis. The most popular database to business users has been DIALOG, although biotechnical companies have found MEDLARS useful in their work.

The patent collections held by the Science Reference Department are another important source for business users. The department lists 200 patent clients some of which make patent inquiries on a daily basis. Science Reference holds patents for the United States (1790 to present), Canada (1969 to date), Great Britain (Old Law 1617-1981 and New Law 1979 to date), Germany (1898-1938), patent abstracts for Japan (1985 to present), European Patent Office applications (1978 to date), and World Patent Office applications (1979 to date).

Business users also find the Government Documents Department an important source with information ranging from statistics for marketing studies to publications of the latest state and federal contract bids. Additional sources used frequently by business users include: congressional documents, Environmental Protection Agency documents, requested often by consulting firms; documents from the State Department, United Nations and International Monetary Fund, used primarily by companies involved in foreign trade; and the listings of codes for buildings, plumbing, and electricity.

The Research Library's Government Documents department oversaw the compilation of that department's most popular pamphlet to date, *The BPL Business and Finance Location Guide*.



## Notable Gifts & Donations

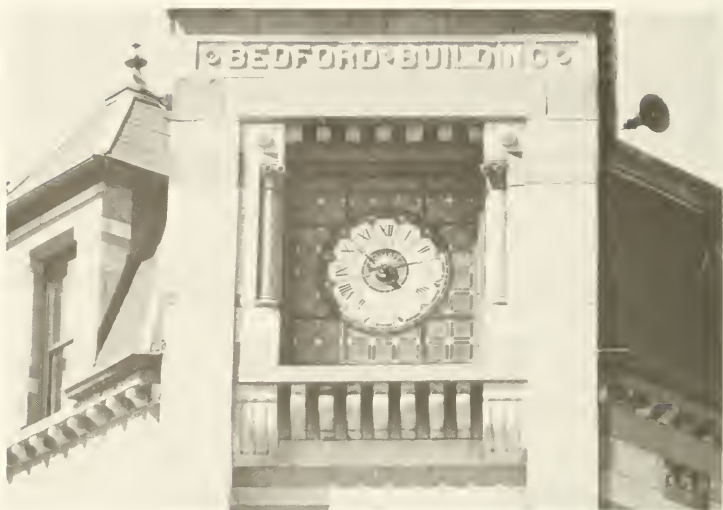
Throughout its history the resources of the Boston Public Library have been handsomely augmented by the gifts of many benefactors. Among the notable gifts and donations of this past year:

### PRINT DEPARTMENT

- The Fox Graphics Collection of 62 prints received from Herbert and Jeanne Fox. This gift which shows some of the work of an important Boston graphic arts workshop will serve as the basis of an exhibition, probably about two years from now.
- Mitchell Siporin's large watercolor, "Man and Nature," from the series, "Monet in his Garden." The watercolor, made in 1960, was the gift of Florence Gerstein and Edna Kalman, daughters of the late Helen Slosberg. It is a key work in the Library's collection of works by artists with ties to Boston.
- Twenty-four drawings of the 1970's by Jack Wolfe, including a series of twelve—The China Trade Drawings, the gift of Walter Grossman. An important addition to the Library's collection of works by artists with ties to Boston.
- The "Magnetic Image" series of eight lithographs, gift of the artist, Harold Tovish. These are the latest additions to a major collection of works on paper by Tovish, who lives and works in Boston.
- Sixteen prints and drawings by Daniel Lang, and a print by Alfred Leslie, the gift of John Arthur. Daniel Lang has strong ties to Boston and received a one-man show of drawings in the Wiggin Gallery of the Boston Public Library in 1970.
- M.C. Escher's lithograph, *Three Spheres II*, gift of John Merriam. This remarkable print is a self-portrait added to the fine Escher collection John Merriam has been building at the Library over a period of about fifteen years.

### FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT

The Society of Arts and Crafts of Boston placed approximately 58 boxes of its archives on permanent deposit. These materials include manuscripts and correspondence, photographs of early exhibitions and craftsmen, annual reports, exhibition catalogs, scrapbooks of clippings, financial statements, organizational records—all pertaining to



This year friend of the Library Robert Bayard Severy added to his major donation of photographs of Boston neighborhoods.

the Boston Society—as well as files from the Allied Craft Groups and American Handicraft Council, and articles and pamphlets on other arts and crafts organizations.

Robert Severy continued his photographic documentation of Boston architecture during the past year with subsequent gifts of more than five hundred photographs of Boston buildings.

Former *Boston Herald* photographer Calvin Hutchinson donated twenty professional ektachrome photographs of Boston.

#### MUSIC DEPARTMENT

- A large sheet music collection with approximately 1,700 items, featuring popular music from the early twentieth century. Gift of Mrs. Fay Spears.
- An extensive sheet music collection with approximately 1,700 items, featuring popular music from WW II to the 1970's. Gift of Mrs. Kenneth Wilson in memory of her husband.

#### RARE BOOK & MANUSCRIPTS DEPARTMENT

- *The Comic Almanack and Diary*, edited by Henry May Lew and illustrated by George Cruikshank, London (1851). Gift of Thomas McDonald of Williamsburg, VA.

- A collection of visiting cards, many with autographs of important people including artists, politicians, etc. Gift of Mr. F. C. Schang from Delray Beach, Florida.
- *Exposicao Commemorativa Iconografia de Recife—XIX Century*. Gift of Richard Raimer of New York City.
- Boston Fire Department documents, circa 1830. Gift of Mr. Kenneth W. Rendell from Dover, MA.
- Margaret Fuller, sixteen letters to various people and some clippings. Gift of Mrs. Lillian Haight of New York City, in memory of her husband George W. Haight.
- An original barrack box and copies of documents of a Civil War soldier Charles W. Hebard. Gift of Mrs. Charles K. Urllass of Duxbury, MA.

#### ALICE M. JORDAN CHILDREN'S LITERATURE RESEARCH COLLECTION

- Approximately 2,500 children's books. Gift of Cary Memorial Library, Lexington, MA.
- 144 children's books, primarily early to mid-20th century with some foreign language titles. Gift of Mrs. Bernadette Hunter, Hillsborough, NH.
- 32 children's books. Gift of Ann Hayden, Ventress Memorial Library, Marshfield, MA.
- 50 children's books with an international focus, including secondary sources and periodicals on Iranian children's films from the pre-revolutionary period. Gift of Priscilla Moulton.

#### GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS DEPARTMENT

- Approximately 35 cartons of material from the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security.
- Canadian documents dating from 1810 through the 1960's from the Massachusetts State Library.
- Much of the Library of the United Community Planning Corporation.

#### SCIENCE REFERENCE DEPARTMENT

A library benefactor has been replacing missing SAMS photofacts, a collection of schematic drawings for radios, televisions, videocassette recorders, and computers.

## THE BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT FY86

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### LIBRARY RESOURCES:

General Book Collections	
Volumes.....	5,567,590
Special Collections	
Rare Books and Manuscripts.....	1,214,037
Prints.....	1,099,277
Patents.....	8,100,014
Maps.....	318,010
Government Documents.....	2,400,513
Musical Scores.....	97,324
Periodicals	
Current Subscriptions.....	15,738
Non-Print Material	
Audio-Recordings.....	292,811
Films & Other Projected Visuals.....	72,025
Pictorial Works.....	512,000
Microforms.....	3,053,535
	<hr/>
	22,742,874

### LIBRARY USE:

Visitors.....	2,153,021
Programs.....	5,361
Program Attendance.....	180,877
Items Borrowed.....	1,736,353
Volumes Consulted.....	983,144
Reference Inquiries.....	1,014,027
Photocopies.....	1,200,000

THE BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT FY86

Library Expenditures	FY84	FY85	FY86
<b>A. Salaries and Wages:</b>			
City of Boston.....	\$8,100,318.00	\$7,605,112.00	\$8,279,133.03
Commonwealth of Massachusetts			
Eastern Regional Library System.....	694,126.00	685,111.53	823,011.61
Library of Last Recourse.....	0.00	932,734.00	1,253,028.00
	<u>\$8,794,444.00</u>	<u>\$9,222,957.53</u>	<u>\$10,355,172.64</u>
<b>B. Books and Other Library Materials:</b>			
City of Boston.....	\$1,442,032.00	\$1,164,654.00	\$1,107,012.32
Commonwealth of Massachusetts			
Eastern Regional Library System.....	822,134.00	1,755,824.72	1,707,743.19
Library of Last Recourse.....	2,073,616.00	1,137,724.00	1,318,035.00
Other State Aid.....	0.00	281,497.00	281,497.00
Trust Income.....	292,076.00	302,807.77	182,409.00
Federal Grants.....	11,054.00	139,081.00	0.00
	<u>\$4,640,912.00</u>	<u>\$4,781,588.49</u>	<u>\$4,596,696.51</u>
<b>C. All Other Expenses:</b>			
City of Boston.....	\$2,557,228.00	\$2,547,556.00	\$2,634,584.58
Commonwealth of Massachusetts			
Eastern Regional Library System.....	371,178.00	757,611.51	688,100.20
Trust Income.....	23,609.00	54,586.28	36,695.00
	<u>\$2,952,015.00</u>	<u>\$3,359,753.79</u>	<u>\$3,359,379.78</u>
<b>GRAND TOTAL.....</b>	<b>\$16,387,371.00</b>	<b>\$17,364,299.81</b>	<b>\$18,311,248.93</b>

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY



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