

BULLETIN
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***Bulletin of the Association of British Theological and
Philosophical Libraries***

Volume 8, Number 2
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CONTENTS

Publications	2
Notice of Meetings	3
Report of Annual General & Spring Meetings 2001	3
On Being the President	6
From Then to Now: a Brief Historical Survey of ATLA	9
Ecclesiastical Law Books at Trinity Hall, Cambridge	18
Position Vacant	20
The Library at Columbanus Community of Reconciliation, Belfast	21
Introducing the Mundus Project	22
Authority & Governance in the Roman Catholic Church	24
Resrelch III	26
News and Notes	27
Periodicals for Disposal	28
Theological Library Association Newsletters	28
Websites	29

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The sketch of Exeter Cathedral on the front cover appears with the kind permission of the Friends of the Cathedral.

PUBLICATIONS

GUIDE TO THEOLOGICAL & RELIGIOUS STUDIES COLLECTIONS OF GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND

Compiled and edited by David A. Kerry & Evelyn Cornell
ABTAPL Publishing, April 1999, ISBN 094894501X

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Copies available from
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ABTAPL UNION LIST OF PERIODICALS

The Union List now includes the philosophy, theology and religious studies journal holdings of 41 different institutions in the UK.

£14.50 for non-contributors and £12 for contributors.

Copies of the edition for 2000 are available from
Mrs Judith Powles, Librarian, Spurgeon's College, 189 South Norwood Hill, London SE25 6DJ

Sample pages of the online version can be seen at
<http://www.le.ac.uk/li/sources/subject1/abtapl/abindex.html>

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Cheques for both publications should be made payable to **ABTAPL**

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AMENDMENTS

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Direct lines Colin Rowe - 020 7803 3215; Elizabeth Williams - 020 7803 3216

WESLEY COLLEGE, BRISTOL
The Librarian's email address is librarian@wesley-college-bristol.ac.uk

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

2001 Autumn Day Conference

Date and Venue to be Announced

*** * * * ***

2002 Spring Residential Conference and Annual General Meeting

will be held at

Chester College, Chester

from

**Thursday 11th April to Saturday 13th April
(TO BE CONFIRMED)**

*** * * * ***

Please send items for inclusion in the agenda to the Honorary Secretary
Details will be sent to UK members. Members not resident in the UK who would like
further information should contact the Honorary Secretary.

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REPORT OF ANNUAL GENERAL AND SPRING MEETINGS, EXETER 5th - 7th APRIL 2001

On the evening of the 5th April some 24 delegates assembled for this year's annual conference which was held at St Luke's College, Exeter, and had the theme of "Cataloguing the specialist collections in today's theological libraries - theory and practice". We were joined by André Geuns, President of BETH. The after-dinner speaker was Professor Terence Copley of the University of Exeter who provided a lively welcome to the conference.

Two sessions on the practical aspects of our theme were led by Vanessa Lacey, Head of the Greensleeves retrospective conversion project at Cambridge University Library, who guided us through the intricacies of cataloguing items from specialist collections

of theological materials – something of a culture shock to those of us who have done no cataloguing since obtaining our librarianship qualifications!

A successful session was held during which issues of common interest and concern were raised and discussed. Nona Wright from Bishop Philpotts' Library, Truro, outlined the activities and aims of the South-Western Project and Alan Linfield, Librarian of the London Bible College, prompted discussion on the need for a publication on theological librarianship to be produced. Other topics discussed included the RSLP Revelation Project, the ATLA Serials database and its availability via the OCLC database, price increases of periodical subscriptions, disabled access to libraries, and methods of dealing with books and other items received as donations.

The closing session of the conference was a presentation by Evelyn Cornell on the ABTAPL *Union List of Periodicals* and its transfer to a website, hosted by Leicester University. Sample pages can be seen at <http://www.le.ac.uk/li/sources/subject1/abtapl/abindex.html>. There was a discussion on various aspects of this proposal. Additional or new entries for the List should be sent to Evelyn. Printed copies of the current edition are still available from Judith Powles.

Visits were made to Exeter Cathedral, as well as the Cathedral Library and the Devon and Exeter Institution, both of which are now administered by the University of Exeter. The Library of the Dean and Chapter of Exeter Cathedral was founded in the 11th century with books from Leofric, first Bishop of Exeter, and now contains some 25,000 items. The Devon and Exeter Institution is an independent subscription library and was founded in 1813 by some 200 gentlemen of the county and city "for promoting the general diffusion of Science, Literature and Art, and for illustrating the Natural and Civil History of the county of Devon and the city of Exeter". It is housed in a Grade II listed building in the Cathedral Close. The Library contains some 40,000 volumes, and is particularly strong in 19th century periodicals, south-west studies, biography, history and topography.

ABTAPL's Annual General Meeting was held on 8th April. The Treasurer presented his report, which was accepted. He then proposed that a subscription rate for Institutional Members should be set, rather than having the same rate for both Institutional and Personal Members. The proposal was accepted and it was agreed that the new Institutional subscription should be £25.00 (\$40) with effect from 1st January 2002. Subscription rates for Personal and Retired Members would remain the same as at present, i.e. £15.00 (Personal) and £6.00 (Retired). The Committee and Officers of ABTAPL were willing to stand for re-election and, as there were no other candidates proposed, they were re-elected.

The Spring General Meeting then followed. Marion Smith (Editor of the *Bulletin*) had been contacted by the Editor of the *Newsletter* of the Australian and New Zealand Theological Library Association about exchanging articles between the two publications; at present permission for reprinting articles was requested on each occasion. It was accepted that a reciprocal agreement should be made for reprinting articles without prior permission, provided that acknowledgement of source was given. In the case of articles which had already been reprinted from another publication, permission would obviously have to be requested from the original source. Andrew Lacey (Secretary) reported that about half of the copies of the *Guide to Theological and Religious Studies Collections of Great Britain and Ireland* had been sold and that reviews had appeared in various journals. The Librarians' Christian Fellowship *Newsletter* for Spring 2001 included an article about ABTAPL written by John Howard. Judith Powles reported that the Library Association *Record* had included a photograph and a short piece about the 2000 BETH/ABTAPL conference in York but would not accept an article about ABTAPL itself. Steve Dixon, Manager of the ABTAPL website, had received requests from publishers and suppliers to establish links to their websites; care would be needed to ensure that these were not seen as recommendations. The link to the ANZTLA website was now live. Topics for professional development were discussed, such as copyright issues; Blissetts had offered a workshop on binding which could be held on the same day as the Autumn Meeting if there were enough interest.

Penelope Hall reported that BETH Assembly for 2001 would be in Erfurt, Germany, from 4th to 9th September; it was agreed that she would attend as the ABTAPL delegate. The Tennessee Theological Library Association had proposed an exchange with a librarian in Europe; 4 people had applied, including Alan Linfield (London Bible College). On a first-come-first-served basis, Paul Stoller from Switzerland had been selected, with the remaining applicants being on a reserve list. BETH was hoping to set up a regular exchange programme with the American Theological Library Association. This year's ATLA conference would include a session on international relations; Penelope would be attending as the BETH delegate. BETH was keen to develop links with libraries in Africa and Marion Smith had been in contact with the Chief Librarian in Johannesburg who had offered to find information on theological libraries; it was agreed to accept this offer. Venues suggested for future ABTAPL Autumn Meetings were the Friends' Meeting House and the Karl Marx Memorial Library, both in London. Rosemary Pugh (Conference Secretary) would investigate venues for the 2002 Spring Conference. Our thanks are due to Rosemary for organising such an interesting conference, her first as Conference Secretary.

Marion Smith
Birmingham Central Library

ON BEING THE PRESIDENT

by Graham P. Cornish

It was a great honour and the pinnacle of my professional career to be elected President of the Library Association for the year 2000. But what did this mean for someone who was both a librarian and an ordained minister of a Christian Church?

What do Presidents do?

The President of a professional association such as the Library Association has essentially three roles to fulfil: ceremonial, political and professional. The ceremonial role is mostly to do with attending dinners and functions, making some after dinner speeches, presenting awards and prizes and generally attempting to be decorative in the right places! The political role is far more serious as it often involves leading delegations to meet senior civil servants and government ministers, attending Select Committee hearings at the House of Commons or becoming involved in discussions with senior administrators in local government, academia or even the private sector. The professional role is essentially one of encouraging members to develop their professionalism, improve standards, become involved in professional affairs and professional education and generally assure them that what they are doing is worthwhile and significant in both the local and national context. The President also visits all the geographical branches throughout the United Kingdom and attends a number of specialist conferences on different aspects of library and information science. All this involves an enormous amount of speech making, usually of a general philosophical nature rather than dealing with highly specialised technical issues. Woe betide presidents who try to talk about the intricacies of cataloguing mediaeval manuscripts or the difficulties of administering a prison library to those who know far more about it than they do!

The Theology of the Situation

There were many opportunities to reflect on the relationship between our profession and the concept of God as creator; the whole idea of revealing God's purpose and the dynamics of being a Christian professional when working alongside fellow professionals holding different beliefs. This was particularly challenging as the President should (and I certainly tried to) represent the whole profession. This has to be done without compromising personal integrity.

The Opportunities for Ministry

One important role of the President is to make speeches and public addresses which are generally consonant with the aims and objectives of the Association. As both a Christian and a librarian I would strongly hold the principle that it was essential to maximise access to human creativity in all its many formats. Therefore it was quite reasonable to say this in public without actually drawing some of the underlying theological conclusions from a specifically Christian point of view. This was not ducking the issue as some might say but rather using the combination of words and symbols to convey the combined message. Many people actually remarked that they accepted the concept but understood that I might be coming to it from a different perspective. I never felt the necessity to state that different perspective, as it was self-evident. One of the liveliest discussions on this topic came with a colleague of many years standing who is a classical Marxist. We have often found that we have many areas of agreement from a professional point of view. There were also a number of opportunities to explore the concept of the integration of society whilst retaining the individuality of both its separate members and ethnic, cultural and economic groups. This was a particularly useful platform when I spoke at the Conference on Black Librarianship where it was important to assure members of the different ethnic groups in the profession that their contribution was as valid as anybody else's and brought distinctive insights which are often overlooked because of their much smaller numbers. Again this did not have to be done from a specifically Christian standpoint but was understood as such by all those present.

Specifically Christian Events

I was very fortunate in being involved in three specifically Christian events for librarians during my year of office. The first was as the speaker at the Annual Meeting of the Librarians' Christian Fellowship. This was the first time that the President had spoken at this event and was much appreciated. This was followed by an invitation to speak to a similar group during the Annual Library Convention in Chicago. A 7:30am breakfast, followed by an 8:00am speech felt more like taking an early communion for the Anglican church in which I minister! Finally, and probably the pinnacle from my spiritual point of view was the opportunity to preach the sermon at the Christian service for the International Librarians' Conference in Jerusalem. To preach in Jerusalem at all is a great thrill and honour! To preach in Jerusalem in the year 2000 to your professional colleagues was an almost unimaginable honour and delight.

Conclusion

Being elected President of a professional association should indicate that colleagues regard you as highly competent and well-informed member of their own profession. This was a major opportunity for me to demonstrate that, if I was considered a competent and reasonable professional colleague then my Christianity should at least be taken seriously even if it was not believed by many of those who met me, heard me speak or read my papers. They could not ignore my Christian commitment neither could they ignore my professional status. I hope that the latter did something to move the former forward into the minds and thoughts of many of those with whom I came into contact in this very exciting year. This sort of opportunity comes once in a lifetime to someone and I very much appreciated the opportunity of having been able to exercise a Ministry in this unique context. Whilst I hope that my Ministry may have touched some people in a new and exciting way for them I also hope that I will have done something to show the Church that it cannot exist in splendid isolation but that it needs to be intimately and inextricably involved in the business of society as a whole.

Rev. Graham P. Cornish
President of the Library Association, 2000
Copyright Adviser to the British Library
Boston Spa

FROM THEN TO NOW: A BRIEF HISTORICAL SURVEY OF THE AMERICAN THEOLOGICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

by David R. Stewart

I have been asked to provide a concise overview of the genesis, development, and prospects of the American Theological Library Association (ATLA). I unhesitatingly allow that this is a sketch; I am leaving out far more than I am "putting in." Let me also confess that I write about ATLA as an unabashed enthusiast; in my seven years of membership, I cannot think of a single aspect of my experience which has been anything but positive.

Remarkably, ATLA seems to be comprised exclusively of people who love the work to which they are called, and who wish to collaborate with likeminded people as much as possible. For a theological librarian, what could be better than that?

What ATLA is

ATLA defines itself in the following statement:

"The mission of the American Theological Library Association is to foster the study of theology and religion by enhancing the development of theological and religious libraries and librarianship. In pursuit of this mission, the association undertakes:

1. to foster the professional growth of its members, and to enhance their ability to serve their constituencies as administrators and librarians;
2. to advance the profession of theological librarianship, and to assist theological librarians in defining and interpreting the proper role and function of libraries in theological education;
3. to promote quality library and information services in support of teaching, learning, and research in theology, religion, and related disciplines, and to create such tools and aids (including publications) as may be helpful in accomplishing this; and
4. to stimulate purposeful collaboration among librarians of theological libraries and religious studies collections, and to develop programmatic solutions to information-related problems common to those librarians and collections."

A look at the energies and historical circumstances which brought the association into existence goes a long way toward helping to understand where these current priorities came from.

Origins: How ATLA Came into Being

Academic curricula designed specifically for the training of clergy were a relatively late development, and evolved somewhat differently in North America than in Europe. The oldest American colleges (Harvard, Yale, William and Mary, etc.) had from the beginning a strong theological orientation, and indeed many of their graduates went into the Christian ministry. Theology, and even more acutely the matter of “theological soundness” were anything but abstract concerns in the life of late 17th- and early 18th- Century America. Matters of doctrine, and more particularly the freedom to live according to one’s understanding of that doctrine, were at the heart of the original impetus for the first settlers leaving the Mother country and founding new colonies. That such issues continued to weigh heavily in the minds of Americans is demonstrated by phenomena such as the First Great Awakening (1738-1784) and the tension between “Old School” and “New School” Presbyterians. Such strongly held opinions gave rise to a period in which the colleges’ ability to train men for ministry became suspect; some ministers began independent, home-based mentoring relationships with students, known as “Schools of the Prophets.” One of the leading examples of this practice was the “Log College” founded by William Tennent (1703-1764) in Neshaminy, Pennsylvania, (just north of present-day Philadelphia). Tennent’s school was a precursor to The College of New Jersey, which eventually became Princeton University (of which the seminary where I work was a part until 1812.)

Only in the second half of the 19th Century did formally instituted theological schools (both as university-affiliated “divinity schools” or as free-standing “theological seminaries”) become commonplace. Even once this model became established, it was a long while before the need for broader standards – something which could reach across institutional, cultural and even theological traditions – came to be widely recognized. Not until 1918 (!) was a national organization for theological schools formed (“The Conference of Theological Seminaries and Colleges of the United States and Canada”), which in 1936 became the American Association of Theological Schools (known today simply as the “ATS” or Association of Theological Schools).

Not surprisingly, the coordination and standardization of theological libraries in North America was a corollary of these earlier efforts at the broader institutional level. The primary impetus for the founding of ATLA emerged from a 1934 report produced by Professor Mark May (and others) of Yale University, *The Education of American Ministers* (see bibliography below). This report included a section on theological libraries, contributed by Raymond Morris, who had recently moved to New Haven to take up the position of Assistant Librarian of the newly formed Yale Divinity Library. Morris based his assessment of the state of theological libraries in the United States on

a survey he had sent to 131 libraries. Morris' survey presented a rather dismal picture, and he offered six recommendations toward a remedy. Interestingly, three of the six addressed the need for higher standards for staff training. Two more recommendations confronted the inadequacy of budget resources ("the percentage of the total institution budget that is devoted to the library should not be less than 9%"). Morris concluded by recommending that institutions wean their libraries away from dependence on donated books: "All the institutions under consideration in this study need a substantial increase in the appropriation for books and periodicals, to carry on the minimum needs as indicated by their curricula. Until this money is supplied, these collections will remain inadequate and insufficient."

For several reasons, Morris' observations were noteworthy: first, it marks the earliest indication of the major leadership role Morris himself was to play within (what was to become) ATLA over a lengthy career; second, it frames its prescription in terms of overall institutional health (i.e. the impossibility of having a vibrant seminary without a healthy library); third, as constructively as possible, it draws attention to a need for library collaboration which would shortly be addressed by the formation of ATLA.

Though the ALA (American Library Association) had for some years included a "Religious Books Round Table", it was becoming clear that library concerns needed to be addressed which related directly to the health of the American Association of Theological Schools and its constituent members. Hence at its 1946 biennial meeting, AATS appointed a committee to plan a meeting of library representatives from its 110 member institutions. This gathering took place in June 1947 at the Louisville Presbyterian Seminary. More than fifty delegates were present, most of them librarians. In the space of two days a name, a constitution and a slate of officers were adopted, and the American Theological Library Association had come into existence.

Exploits: Major Developments, 1947 – Present

The tension between "grand ambitions" and limited financial resources is a familiar scenario to anyone who has worked in library administration; this was plainly a concern at the outset of ATLA. But it is just as clear that this challenge was more than equalled by some energetic and creative minds, and the benefits of tackling these challenges in a concerted manner was recognized from the outset.

The very best way to illustrate how the association has increased the effectiveness and influence of theological libraries in North America is to outline the principal projects and challenges which ATLA has taken on.

- **Conferences**

It is impossible to overstate the positive effects generated by the ATLA annual conferences, throughout every phase of ATLA's half-century of existence. These benefits range from the simple provision of an annual exchange of ideas with colleagues, to the opportunity to participate in Interest Groups and Denominational Fellowships, to being able to hear distinguished guest speakers, etc.

When one considers the cumulative effect of more than fifty years of conferences, it could safely be concluded that no single action on ATLA's part has had a more constructive effect on the professional development of theological librarianship than the convening of the annual conferences.

- **Personnel**

In perusing the contents of the Annual Conference Proceedings from the early years, the issue of upgrading personnel standards was clearly of sustained interest. Discussions on what the standards ought to be, and how they could be attained, were frequent. These efforts were assisted considerably in the late 1950s by ATLA's securing of grants from the Lilly Endowment for \$9,000. The program which received funding was intended for improving the educational qualifications of theological librarians. The same funding agency supplemented the initial grant a year later with a three-year extension, in the amount of \$27,000. (Eventually the money received for this program from Lilly exceeded \$100,000). In the mid-1960s, further funding for addressing personnel and training issues was received from the Sealantic Fund, for \$35,000.

ATLA's making professional development a top priority, and its securing these sizable grants to implement its ideals, went a long way toward raising the standard for leadership, both in individual libraries and in the association itself.

- **Grants**

As anyone who has ever been involved in the process of composing or evaluating grant applications is aware, it takes a tremendous amount of labour, and attention to detail, to prepare a grant application. It requires also a lot of "savvy" to draft applications with a recurring record of acceptance.

Mention has already been made in passing of ATLA's receiving grants for professional development programs in the late 1950s through the mid-1960s. Here are some other examples of ATLA's distinguished record in securing funds to further its activities:

1956 - Sealantic Fund: \$80,000 grant for Microtext
1987-92 – National Endowment for the Humanities: \$1.5 million for Microform and Preservation.

From a financial perspective, and even from the perspective of “institutional morale”, the grant received for the ALTA Library Development Program from the Sealantic Fund (beginning in 1961) can be seen almost as a “watershed” for the association. An initial grant of \$875,000 from Sealantic was issued with the proviso that each dollar from this amount directed to an ATLA member library had to be matched by a dollar from the parent institution. The result was monumental: an overall 25% increase of library expenditures at 85 participating schools during the three years of the program.

What is especially worth noting is that ATLA made strategic use of its ideas, its professional expertise, and its planning capabilities to put forward a strong case for funding. Success tends to breed success, and the association’s track-record in such initiatives continues to be strong right up to the present time.

- **Microform Projects**

ATLA commissioned a Committee on Microphotography as early as 1949, and (with the help of grant money from Sealantic once again) established itself as the leading producer of microforms in the fields of Religion and Theology. Under the chairmanship of Raymond Morris (beginning in 1957), the ATLA group worked closely with expert personnel at the University of Chicago, and by the time Morris was succeeded by Charles Willard in 1974, 250 periodicals and 400 monographs had been produced. In the early 1980s the Microtext and Preservation groups of ATLA were brought together to collaborate on preservation scanning of both serials and monographs, projects which continue to the present time.

Additionally, along with the Index products, the microform series have been a major source of revenue for ATLA over the years.

- **Indexes**

The need for reliable indexing, primarily of serials in religion, was recognized even before the formation of ATLA, and over the years the range of the years covered, of the titles covered, and of the media in which the indexes are available have all continued to broaden.

The first index (*IRPL – Index to Religious Periodical Literature*, later known as *Religion Index One*) was initiated in 1948. Once technology made it possible to

automate the compiling of records, supplementary indexes for Multi-Author Works (*Religion Index Two*) and *Festschriften* were initiated in the early 1980s.

Outside the professional horizons of theological librarianship, there is no question that the various ATLA Religion Indexes represent the association's greatest contribution to the broader world of scholarship.

Prospects: New Initiatives from ATLA

For a relatively small organization, within a comparatively little-known branch of librarianship, it is clear that ATLA has shown uncommon energy, resourcefulness and even the occasional touch of audacity during the course of its development.

Based on what is happening at present, what are the prospects for future initiatives of ATLA? Here are some examples:

- **ATLA Online Serials Exchange: (Summer 2000 -)**

ATLA member libraries have benefited from the mutual exchange of lists of surplus periodicals since 1948. This process is currently being moved to the World Wide Web (URL: <http://www.atla.com/Se/Serials-Exchange.html>). This stands to make it even easier for libraries which lack individual issues of a given serial (or even longer print-runs) to secure them from other member libraries. Especially for smaller libraries which are trying to augment their serials holdings, this ease-of-access will be a huge asset.

- **ATLAS (ATLA Serials Project): (Summer 1999 -)**

In the summer of 1999, ATLA initiated a project which will make available some fifty core periodicals in digital form. (<http://rosetta.atla-cetr.org/CERTR/AARSBL/ATLAS.html>)

The purpose of ATLAS is to digitize 50 years' worth of 50 journals related to the academic study of religion and make them accessible from the Web. In some cases, where a journal has been in existence for more than 50 years, ATLAS may include the entire run of the journal. In May 1999 ATLA announced that it had received a grant from the Lilly Foundation to develop and sustain the ATLAS project for three years. Access to ATLAS journals is offered to both institutions and individuals.

- **ATLA CDRI (Cooperative Digital Resources Initiative): (Spring 2001 -)**

With the support of the Luce Foundation, the ATLA Cooperative Digital Resources Initiative intends to establish a freely available, web-searchable, central repository of digital resources contributed by participating libraries, as well as links to related free-standing projects.

-CDRI will enable member libraries both to create digital resources and to benefit from the digital projects of other libraries. (For more information, visit: <http://www.atla.com/cdri/cdri.html#schedule>)

- **Task-Force on Training for Theological Librarianship (Spring 2001 -)**

In the Spring of 2000, a new Professional Development Committee was formed, and given general oversight for supporting existing related programs, as well as initiating new ventures in this line. As an outgrowth of PDC activity, this Spring a "Task Force on a Theological Librarianship Course" has been created, under the chairmanship of Father Kenneth O'Malley of Dominican University, Chicago. This group has been asked "to explore the feasibility of ATLA's developing a credit course in Theological Librarianship."

This assignment has been made in response to several obvious needs: though in the U.S.A. and Canada several graduate library schools have periodically offered courses in theological librarianship, none has done so with any regularity; there is some merit in the idea of ATLA itself providing the guidance and content for such a program; the presence of the WWW and of steadily-improving software for offering online courses opens up the potential of making such a course available more broadly than ever.

- **Special Committee of the Association to Promote International Collaboration (January 2000 -)**

Representatives from BETH have always been welcome guests at the annual ATLA conferences. Yet there has been a growing recognition of the need for more sustained liaison with the international community of theological libraries. This new Special Committee, chaired by Charles Willard of the Association of Theological Schools, has been formed to broaden awareness of activity outside North America, and to foster increased communication and collaboration between associations.

Summary

A great deal more could be said about ATLA's role in asserting the importance of theological libraries within the ATS accrediting process, of its activity in publishing reprints, monographs, and so on. But the idea here has been to provide a sketch, with an emphasis on ideas and activities, and the items listed in the bibliography will direct those who are interested to more detailed resources.

Speaking for myself, as one very active member of ATLA, I would hope to see more of the following in the days to come.

- We in ATLA could benefit from more contact and dialogue with members of ABTAPL and BETH (this is recognized in the recent formation of the Special Committee to Promote International Collaboration).
- As the Task Force on Training for Theological Librarianship (of which I am a member) begins its discussions this summer, perspectives from ABTAPL members, especially concerning the historical development of the practice of Theological Librarianship, and the training needs for theology librarians, will be invaluable. I would be very pleased to hear from ABTAPL members who have an interest in these subjects.
- It has been my experience that literature on the history and practice of Theological Librarianship is sparse and fragmented. Though it is not yet well-indexed, and though the best material is usually buried within a lot of stuff of less sustained interest, I would commend to those who share this interest the ATLA's Summary of Annual Conference Proceedings, 1947 - . It may well be one of the best (while least-known) resources available. Up to now it has been exceedingly difficult to get access to this series, but plans are underway to include this soon in the list of titles to be made available through the ATLAS project (see above.)

Working within the ATLA community, one feels a part of a tradition characterized by vision, collegiality, and resourcefulness. It is very encouraging to see that these qualities are still very much in evidence as the association looks toward the future.

Further Reading

BEACH, Robert F. "Once Over Lightly: Reminiscences of ATLA from its Founding to the Present." *Summary of Annual Conference Proceedings 1971* (25). American Theological Library Association, 1971. pp.141-151

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MAY, Mark G. et al. *The Education of American Ministers. Volume III: "The Institutions That Train Ministers."* New York: Institute of Religious and Social Research, 1934

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The ATLA website can be found at <http://www.atla.com>

David Stewart is interested in writing concerning the history of theological libraries and librarianship and has set up a list of links to scanned texts on at <http://www.ptsem.edu/grow/library/nyatla/historical-sources.htm>

*David R. Stewart,
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ECCLESIASTICAL LAW BOOKS AT TRINITY HALL, CAMBRIDGE

by Robert Ombres

Across the centuries, ecclesiastical legislators and lawyers have produced several kinds of texts, and an excellent introductory survey of this country's legal literature is provided by Professor John Baker in his *Monuments of Endlesse Labours: English Canonists and their Work 1300-1900* (London, 1998). Trinity Hall, Cambridge has made a significant contribution to the study and practice of canon law in England, and its library holdings still witness to this.

It was fitting therefore that the Ecclesiastical Law Society should hold its 2001 residential conference at Trinity Hall. This Cambridge college was founded by the canonist William Bateman in 1350, when he was Bishop of Norwich, to be a perpetual college of scholars in canon and civil law.

Beginning with Henry VIII'S abolition of the study of canon law in universities, ecclesiastical law slowly lost its former prominence and its distinctiveness. Yet its academic study survived under the broad heading of 'Civil Law', and in terms of the law of the Church of England its study is undergoing a renaissance today.

The Trinity Hall conference (March 30-April 1, 2001) was on the subject of religious liberty and human rights. With the kind permission of the college and the unstinting cooperation of Dr Andrew Lacey, the deputy librarian, an exhibition was arranged in the Old Library as part of the conference. This library is an architectural gem, built towards the end of the 16th century on a late medieval model as a chained library. Most of the bookcases are original, and they hold a collection of manuscripts and printed books dating back to the Middle Ages.¹

The two library tours for conference participants included viewing various of its more treasured holdings, but here only the items used for the exhibition as such will be referred to. One of the conference organisers and 'guides' to the library exhibition was Mr David Harte, an expert on aspects of ecclesiastical law and a member of Trinity Hall. Eighteen items were actually placed on display, although others were referred to. In terms of chronology, the items ranged from a medieval miscellany to Richard Burn's *Ecclesiastical Law*, first published in 1763 and something of a best-seller, written in more elegant English than often found in legal textbooks.

The miscellany (classmark 0.15), known as *The Master's Statute Book*, is a key document. It includes two lists of gifts by Bishop Bateman himself to the college he had founded. The first list is of works given by Bateman under the headings of books on civil law, canon law, theology and chapel books. Among them is what is described

as a 'very beautiful and perfect' Book of Decretals with glosses. The second list is of the books, including canon law books, which the founder was keeping for his own use but which would go to Trinity Hall after his death. These lists should be compared with those kept in the Cambridge University archives (Luard 39).

Calculating from these two lists, it looks as if Bateman gave or intended to give just over a hundred books to his college. None survives or at least none has been identified as surviving, with the probable exception of a biblical concordance and a table of canons (MS 8 and 15) now bound as one volume. Plundered and dispersed library holdings are a recurring fact of history. Another item in the exhibition was an inventory of Archbishop Matthew Parker (MS 29), who left most of his books to Corpus Christi College. However, if the books were not properly looked after they were to pass to Caius College and Trinity Hall. Alas, various legal volumes are marked 'deest', 'missing'.

From the medieval period there is John de Burgh's *Pupilla Oculi* (MS 18). This was a revision made in 1384 by Burgh, Chancellor of the university, of a celebrated work by William Paul, a learned English canonist who wrote in the 1320s. We see a helpful mix of law, theology and pastoral advice. The work was still being printed in the 16th century in England and France.

Canon law covered a far greater range of subjects in the Middle Ages than it does today, both in terms of law and of court practice. Trinity Hall MS 17, with its beautifully decorated opening folio including a portrait of the king, is likely to be the presentation copy made for Richard II of *Contra Duodecim Haereses Lollardorum* by Roger Dymmok OP, an English Dominican friar. Church courts and lawyers were much involved in identifying and punishing heretics, and the records of a number of trials survive. This manuscript once belonged to Anthony Roper, a descendant of Thomas More, who as Lord Chancellor was professionally involved in opposing heresy. Could this manuscript have once been owned by More himself?

The exhibition included items written by both English ecclesiastical lawyers and others from the rest of Europe, from Lyndwood to Innocent IV, because English canon law and its literature took a long time after the Reformation to become insular. Although the university study of canon law was suppressed, the category of 'Civil Law' was a flexible one from the 16th century onwards and included some ecclesiastical law and indeed some English law. Primarily it meant Roman Law. One exhibit (MS 27) contains lectures on the general maxims of Roman Law by Thomas Eden, Master of Trinity Hall between 1625 and 1654. Such lectures were a standard feature of legal education well into the 18th century. Items in the exhibition were chosen to illustrate

all these aspects, noting how various individual benefactors played a significant part in building up the Trinity Hall library.

Perhaps one exhibit embodied on its own most of the features so far mentioned. Trinity Hall K.3.17 is a copy of Hugo Grotius, *De Jure Belli et Pacis*. Grotius was a brilliant Dutch theologian and jurist who had to flee his native Holland for France where in 1625 he published his classic work. In it, he based international law on natural law, yet looked to the laws of civilised people for confirmation of what natural law required. His theory did not require belief in God. The road was thus opened towards our contemporary secular understanding of Human Rights, which was the theme of the Trinity Hall conference for ecclesiastical lawyers.

This copy of Grotius had belonged to Thomas Eden, who was also a member of Doctors' Commons, the London institution central to the practice and continuity of ecclesiastical law for centuries. Eden's ownership of Grotius's classic work points to some desire to keep up with continental developments.

¹ See Hinton, L *Trinity Hall: the Story of the Library* (2000).

Librarians interested in ecclesiastical law and its history may like to know that since 1987 the Ecclesiastical Law Society has published the *Ecclesiastical Law Journal*. Further details are available from the Society, c/o 1 The Sanctuary, Westminster, London SW1P 3JT.

Fr Robert Ombres OP
Blackfriars,
Cambridge

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**THE LIBRARY AT COLUMBANUS COMMUNITY OF RECONCILIATION,
BELFAST, NORTHERN IRELAND**

by Chris Beldan

My wife and I, both theological librarians, spent the last week of this year's vacation at Columbanus Community of Reconciliation (CCR). Their library of about 10,000 volumes had not been maintained in the last few years but now, as part of an all-round refurbishment project, has been given attractive new quarters, a small automation grant, and some staff time to maintain it. Ann Carr, our former immigration lawyer in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, having retired to Belfast where she affiliated with CCR, had sought my advice on library automation suitable to this library's needs. Offering advice grew into involvement and during our week in Belfast we were to install the selected automation on their new computer system, provide Ann with a week-long course in library science, and finalize classification and subject heading systems selection. In conversation with those most concerned about the library, it seemed best to retain CCR's in-house classification system. The schedules had been lost, so with the assistance of the shelf list and Father Michael Hurley, who had been involved with the founding of the library, we recompiled them as best we could. By the close of the week many boxes of books were shelved in their new room, and Ann had a good feel for her new responsibilities and was enthusiastically capturing cataloguing records online, downloading them to ResourceMate, a Canadian small-library software. There are many more months of work ahead and the library is but one of Ann's responsibilities.

Having had a part in the beginning of this project, I would like to recommend to other librarians who would care about the mission of this Community and its library, to consider a busman's holiday assisting with the recataloguing of the collection. Room and board are offered. It is necessary to arrange in advance with Ann Carr, so that a week or more of your assisting fits in with other activities at the Community. For more information on CCR or the nature of the task, email Ann at annoo@ireland.com, or myself at cbeldan@lts.org.

*Chris Beldan,
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INTRODUCING THE MUNDUS PROJECT

by Rosemary Seaton

Supported by the Research Support Libraries Programme, the Mundus Project is intended to facilitate and improve access to Missionary Collections in the United Kingdom.

From the 18th to the second half of the 20th centuries missionaries from the United Kingdom were sent in ever increasing numbers to all parts of the globe seeking converts to Christianity. At its height, between 1880 and 1920, some 60 societies were actively engaged in this work with many thousands of missionaries being sent out to the mission field. Very large amounts of missionary materials have in consequence been created, comprising archives, personal papers, books and pamphlets, published annual reports, missionary magazines, photographs, films, sound recordings and artefacts. These materials document from an early date, in both written and visual form, the encounter between Western missionaries and the peoples and terrain of Africa, Asia and the Pacific islands and are being increasingly used and appreciated by scholars from a wide range of disciplinary backgrounds.

Until the 1970s, British missionary society archives and libraries were still to be found in the offices of their parent organisations but since that time the majority have found their way to university and other repositories in various parts of the country. Many personal collections have also been deposited in libraries and record offices. Missionary training institutes have accumulated both printed and unpublished materials. Artefacts from former missionary society museum collections are to be found in a number of museums, together with associated documentation. Vast numbers of photographs, including glass plate negatives and lantern slides, taken of or by missionaries, exist in both private and public collections.

The aim of this three-year project which began in 1999 is to improve access to holdings of missionary archives, artefacts, manuscript collections, books, pamphlets and visual images held in a wide variety of institutions in the UK. Researchers have found that the materials, widely dispersed, frequently uncatalogued and, sometimes, badly preserved have been exceedingly difficult to locate and consult. During the course of this programme access to collections at five major centres (Birmingham, Cambridge, Edinburgh, London and Oxford)¹ will be greatly improved. Previously unlisted papers and photographs will be sorted and listed to ISAD (G) standard and catalogues to both printed and manuscript materials will be made available on-line. Measures will also be taken to improve the physical storage of the materials including conservation work.

Web Guide to Missionary Collections

The culmination of the project will be the creation of a web-based guide to missionary materials throughout the UK, giving collection-level details of holdings, location and access information and providing a search facility by name, place and subject. Links to RSLP and other related projects and resources will be created to maximise the usefulness of the web-resource to the academic community. Work on this phase of the project is due to begin in the late summer of 2001 when the surveying of collections will commence. Questionnaires will be sent to all institutions thought to contain missionary-related materials. Rosemary Seaton, the Project Director, will be most grateful for all assistance given and in particular for information about locations which should be covered in our survey. Her contact details are given below.

¹ Partner Institutions are:

- School of Oriental and African Studies (Lead Institute)
- University of Birmingham in strategic alliance with Westhill College
- Cambridge University Library
- Centre for the Study of Christianity in the Non-Western World, Edinburgh
- Edinburgh University Library
- Regent's Park College, Oxford
- Rhodes House Library, Oxford

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Fax. 0207 898 4189. Email: rs8@soas.ac.uk.
Mundus Project Web Site: <http://www.soas.ac.uk/Mundus/home.html>*

AUTHORITY AND GOVERNANCE IN THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

by Revd. Adam Hood

The Queen's Research Centre in Birmingham is concerned with the interface of theological enquiry and the social sciences. This major project has been a focus of the work of the Centre over the last four years. Preliminary work involving theologians, philosophers, social scientists and psychologists led to a Conference in Darwen in 1997 at which there were present, bishops, priests, religious, and lay people, as well as representatives of Catholic organisations.

The intention which lay behind the project was not merely academic; it was our purpose to draw into a conversation - in principle, the whole body of the baptised - with a view to bring about a greater sense of partnership and participation in the decision-making processes of the Church. This was of course an impossible task, but it is always good to be ambitious and by the time we had finished the formal part of the programme well over a thousand persons had been engaged in conversation.

The total focus was on the situation facing the Roman Catholic Church in the United Kingdom, but it was our view that while there may be particular features of Roman Catholicism of special interest, much of what we would be concerned with would have general application to Christian traditions as they faced the perplexities of living faithfully in the contemporary world. Hence the significance of the location of the project in an ecumenical context.

The upshot of the Darwen conference was that we were encouraged to continue the work, and to invite partner organisations to share the work with us. In the event these included ADVENT, The Catholic Association for Racial Justice, The Association of Interchurch Families, The Association of Separated and Divorced Catholics, and The Margaret Beaufort Institute of Theology. The partners worked at their own agendas in association with the Working Party which managed the whole programme under the Chairmanship of Professor Noel Timms.

The study included the collection of personal testimonies from some who had experienced the exercise of Church authority, the investigation of six dioceses and twelve parishes in respect of their use of human and financial resources, a survey of the attitudes to authority of Catholic priests conducted by National Opinion Polls, a conference (jointly with Sarum College, Salisbury) on Authority and Sexuality and the commissioning of many papers for discussion from theologians, social scientists and philosophers. The process culminated in a conference at Robinson College in June 2000.

The following are the publications that have so far come out of the project:

From Confrontation to Conversation. A brief booklet prepared after the Darwen Conference available from Queen's Research Centre at £1.00 including postage.

BEBB, Andrew and ROPER, Anna. *A Painful Process.* With a commentary by James O'Connell. Chelmsford: Matthew Joseph, 2001. ISBN 1 898366 71 3.

A study of the experiences of men and women who have undergone the painful experience of resigning their ministry within the Roman Catholic Church.

SELLING, Joseph A. *Embracing Sexuality.* Aldershot: Ashgate, 2001. ISBN 0 75461715 7

TIMMS, Noel (ed). *Diocesan Dispositions and Parish Voices in the Roman Catholic Church.* Chelmsford: Matthew Joseph, 2001. ISBN 1 898366 69 1.

This study of aspects of authority and governance at diocesan and parish level originated in the encouragement of those attending the first conference of the project in Darwen to pursue the experience of Catholics at parish grass-roots and the diocesan and parochial use of human and material resources. Who disposes of the latter and what cords and discords can be heard in the voices of parish priests and 'their' parishioners?

TIMMS, Noel. *"You Aren't One of the Boys": Authority in the Catholic Priesthood.* Chelmsford: Matthew Joseph, 2001. ISBN 1 898366 70 5.

Based upon the findings of a survey commissioned from NOP by the project, this volume surveys many of the issues which were highlighted in the responses.

TIMMS, Noel and WILSON, Kenneth (ed). *Governance and Authority in the Roman Catholic Church: Beginning a Conversation.* London: SPCK, 2000. ISBN 0 281 05251 4

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RESRELCH III

Staff of the Queen's Research Centre, Birmingham, have completed up-dating the Database of Research Projects in the UK & Ireland in theology, religious studies and other areas of interest to those studying theology and religious studies. The database contains over 5000 entries relating to staff and students at Universities and Colleges throughout the UK & Ireland. The database comes on easily searchable bibliographical software and gives brief details of each research project. The database retails at £80 and can be acquired from Adam Hood, The Queens Ecumenical Foundation for Theological Education, Somerset Rd, Birmingham, B15 2QH. email: ah@queens.ac.uk

RESRELCH DATABASE - A USER'S VIEW

Just before Easter I received an updated version (III) of the Resrelch Database of Theological, Religious and Related Research Projects in the UK and Ireland. The database covers current staff and postgraduate research, and postgraduate research completed in or after 1994 in a variety of academic departments, specialist research institutes and it also includes individual researchers. One drawback is that it is DOS based, which can be rather tedious when one is used to a Windows environment. However its cost (at £80) is very reasonable. As I work in an institution which cannot afford to subscribe to databases such as Dissertation Abstracts and Humanities Index, I thought that the Resrelch database might be particularly useful, as I am constantly being asked for information about research in progress or recently completed. I have tried out the database and from my point of view it seems to work well, given the major limitation of its DOS format. I tested it out on all our members of staff who are engaged in major research projects and it brought up the correct information. It seemed to be quite easy to install and we did not have any problems with it. Apparently the hope is that the database can be put on the internet before too long (although it will still be available on disk). This will both improve the quality of the database, as it can be kept up-to-date more easily, and also make it more accessible.

*Judy Powles
Spurgeon's College Library,
London*

NEWS AND NOTES

Booksale

An annual booksale is held at Mow Cop during the August Bank Holiday, the proceeds of which help to support the Museum of Primitive Methodism at Englesea Brook Methodist Chapel, near Crewe. Donations of theology books are particularly welcome and can be collected. Contact Rev. Stephen Hatcher, 25 Queens Avenue, Tunstall, Stoke-on-Trent ST6 6EE, tel: 01782 810109 or 01270 820836.

British Library

The British Library is seeking comments on their strategic ideas for future developments. Their website at www.bl.uk includes *New Strategic Directions*, the full strategy report, setting out detailed proposals for change, as well as an outline of the strategy and an online survey form available from 4th June to 3rd August 2001.

Conference

The 68th IFLA Conference and Council is to be held in Glasgow from 18th to 24th August 2002 with the theme "Libraries for Life: Democracy, Diversity, Delivery".

Hagadah

The first *Nuremberg Hagadah of Ashkenazi Rite*, illustrated and written by Joel Ben Simeon before 1449, has been sold at auction for more than \$1 million.

Hindu Oral History Project

The Oxford Centre for Vaishnava and Hindu Studies has received a grant to record the memories and opinions of first generation Hindus living in Britain.

People

Mary-Jo Clogg is retiring as Librarian of Woodbrooke College, Birmingham in September.

Dr. Clive Field, Librarian and Director of Information Services at Birmingham University, is to become Director of Scholarship and Collections at the British Library from August.

Periodicals

Modern Jewish Studies is to be launched in 2002 by Taylor & Francis Ltd. Information at www.tandf.co.uk/journals

The Catholic periodical *The Month* ceased publication in April 2001, after 137 years.

Publications

Graham Cornish, Copyright Officer for the British Library, has written *Understanding Copyright in a Week*. Hodder & Stoughton, £6.99 ISBN 034078241 2

Ministering Asian Faith and Wisdom: a Manual for Theological Librarians in Asia by Rita M. England, with John C. England, is to be published in July by New Day Publishers, Quezon City, The Philippines and ISPCCK, Delhi, India at US\$25.00 (P.335/Rs.175). Arising from a series of training courses for theological librarians in Asia, the book places today's theological libraries in the long tradition of Asia's Christian libraries and within the context of the theology and mission of Asian churches. Practical issues are discussed and extensive bibliographies and address lists are included.

PERIODICALS FOR DISPOSAL

Common Ground (CCJ) 1989 – 1993

Concilium June 1965 – February 1968

Expository Times 1970 – 1975

The Tablet December 1996 - December 2000

Theology 1965 to the present

For the above contact Revd. Sr. Teresa, CSA, Distinctive Diaconate, St Andrew's House, 2 Tavistock Road, Westbourne Park, London W11 1BA; email: sister.teresa@london.anglican.org

Expository Times from 1968 to the present. For the cost of postage from Revd. A. Swain, Bournemouth, tel: 01202 546400.

THEOLOGICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTERS RECEIVED

Copies of the following have been sent to Marion Smith, Editor of the *Bulletin*.

American Theological Library Association Newsletter May 2001. Includes a comparison of three services offering digital library features on a commercial basis.

Association des Bibliothèques Chrétiennes de France Bulletin de Liaison, no. 117, March 2001. Includes articles on the Diocesan Libraries at Dijon and Aix-en-Provence. (French text)

Associazione dei Bibliotecari Ecclesiastici Italiani Bollettino di Informazione Number 3, 2000.

Australian and New Zealand Theological Library Association *Newsletter* No. 43,
April 2001. Includes statistics about ANZTLA member libraries for 1999.

Centre Informatique et Bible (Maredsous, Belgium) *Interface* March and June 2001.
The latter contains pieces on the internet and the digital society. (French text)

WEBSITES

ABTAPL UNION LIST OF PERIODICALS SAMPLE PAGES

<http://www.le.ac.uk/li/sources/subject1/abtapl/abindex.html>

DEVON AND EXETER INSTITUTION LIBRARY

<http://www.ex.ac.uk/library/devonex.html>

EXETER CATHEDRAL LIBRARY

<http://www.ex.ac.uk/library/cathedral.html>

KESTON INSTITUTE

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www.resource.gov.uk

SAMOVAR BOOKS

<http://aoife.indigo.ie/~lhemm>

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THEOLOGICAL LIBRARIES: HISTORICAL SOURCES

<http://www.ptsem.edu/grow/library/nyatla/historical-sources.htm>

Publications on history of theological libraries and librarianship

UK CHRISTIAN BOOKSHOPS DIRECTORY

<http://www.groomsville.co.uk/ukchristianbookshops>

VATICAN II DOCUMENTS

<http://www.stjosef.at/council/>