Books About Books

Including Bookselling, Collecting, Libraries, Bibliography, Writers, Societies, and More.

Bay Leaf eList 14
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For those of us involved in the world of books – whether printing, collecting, selling, or cataloging – our interests are as varied as the volumes that fill our shelves. However, most of us have one area of common interest, the history of the books we love so much. This list features books about books – the book as art, as object, as commodity. Ordering and contact information follow in the end-matter and, as always, please don't hesitate to ring with any questions.

1. Abbey, Ron, et al. *The Golden Age of Booksellers: Fifty Years in the Trade*. Sydney: Abbey Press, 1981, first edition. Orange cloth with gilt spine and cover titles, dust jacket, 18.5 by 24.6 cm, xvi 225 pp., illus. with black and white photos. Some light pitting of the cloth on the top and bottom edges of the covers and faint edge wear on the jacket. From the front flap: “This book is one of a limited edition. It consists of a series of interviews with some outstanding Australian booksellers. They have all been in their trade for fifty years, among them some men and women who have been booksellers for as long as seventy years. It is a document of absorbing social history describing a trade quite unlike any other.” $15.00

2. Adams, Frederick B., Jr. *The Uses of Provenance*. Los Angeles: University of California, 1969, first printing. Staple-bound card wraps, 16.2 by 24.3 cm, 26 pp. Very minor edge wear only. This copy is from the collection of Gavin D.R. Bridson (1936-2008), the librarian and prodigious bibliographer, with his lovely bookplate on the inside of the front cover and his signature in pencil on the first leaf. A lecture delivered at UCLA on three occasions in 1969 by Adams, director of the Pierpont Morgan Library from 1948-1969. It discusses the trails that books make though booksellers, collectors and institutions, including personalized copies, bookplates, sale records, association copies, etc. $20.00


wrote “to steal” between “The Man Who Loved” and “Books Too Much.” Also includes a bookmark from Mr. Sanders bookshop. The story of compulsive book thief John Charles Gilkey and the “bibliodick” who tracked him down. $50.00

7. Bason, Fred. **Fred Bason’s Diary, Fred Bason’s Second Diary, Fred Bason’s Third Diary, and The Last Bason: From the Diaries of Fred Bason.** Bason was a bookseller, autograph hound, and accomplished diarist. From the jacket of the first volume: “Englishmen have something of a genius for keeping diaries, but none has kept a diary quite like this one. Nor, for that matter, is there any other Englishman quite like Fred Bason. He is a cockney bookseller and author who lives in the slums of south-east London … The boy who became a ‘runner,’ dragging his sack-load of tattered volumes round the second-hand book shops, has remained profoundly attached to his trade.” $60.00 for 4 vols.

Included are:


Strong, L.A.G., ed., intro. **Fred Bason’s Second Diary.** London: Allan Wingate Publishers, 1952, first edition. Turquoise cloth with black spine titles, 12.5 by 18.5 cm, 159 pp. Inscribed and signed by Bason on the ffep: “My First Diary was such a success that I was requested for ‘another Basonful’. I hope this book gives pleasure to someone somewhere & with it goes my best wishes for your happiness / I am sincerely/ Fred Bason,” and below which is written “Diary 3 Edited by M. Sadleir / Diary 4 Edited by N. Coward.” This copy has had a run in with what looks to be a cup of coffee that faintly stained the endpapers, the boards have light wear and a few tiny nicks on the front cover. The jacket is poor with coffee rings and stains, edge wear, chips and tears. The verso of the jacket has peeling from probably being stuck to the boards at one time.

Sadleir, Michael, ed., intro. **Fred Bason’s Third Diary.** London: Andre Deutsch Limited, 1955, first edition. Red cloth with gilt spine titles, dust jacket, 12.5 by 19 cm., 184 pp. Inscribed and signed by Bason on the ffep: “In Diaries one and two I tried so very hard to please my readers – But no how can you seem to please everybody so this time I have pleased myself – But I do hope that you will enjoy it. / I am sincerely / Fred Bason.” On the title page Bason has inscribed “This copy is owned by D. Wilson / He has no wish to lose it / Fred Bason,” and on the final page he writes, “If this Diary pleased you do speak of it to your friends / Fred.” A charming series of inscriptions if there ever was one. Very good with light foxing on the edges and endpapers. The jacket is fair with light edge wear, some creases on the rear panel, and remnants of old tape repairs, and their corresponding tears, on the spine and rear flap crease.

edges of the textblock and a dent on the bottom edge of the front cover. The jacket is good with light edge wear and a few tiny edge tears, and foxing.

8. Beach, Sylvia. *Shakespeare and Company: The Story of an American Bookshop in Paris*. New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1959, first edition. Tan cloth with gilt spine titles and blindstamped book design along top edge of front cover and spine, dust jacket, 14 by 21 cm, xvi 230 pp. plus center section of black and white photos, illus. Very good with a few light spots of foxing here and there and a universal bookplate on the ffep. The jacket has light rubbing and edge wear, some light foxing, and a few small edge tears and creases. A history of one of the most famous bookshops in the world, written by the woman who founded it, first published Joyce’s *Ulysses*, and launched and supported the careers of countless writers. $30.00

9. Bonnet, Jacques; James Salter, introduction; Siân Reynolds, trans. *Phantoms on the Bookshelves*. London: MacLehose Press, 2010, first English-language printing. Red cloth with gilt spine titles and dust jacket, 14 by 20 cm, viii 133 pp. Fine, unread copy in fine jacket. From the front flap: “This enthralling study on the art of living with books considers how our personal libraries reveal our true natures: far more than merely crowded shelves, they are living labyrinths of our innermost feelings.” Translated from the French. $20.00

10. Booth, Richard; Lucia Stuart. *My Kingdom of Books*. Talybont, Wales: Y Lólfa, 1999, first printing. Hardcover with jacket, 15.5 by 21.5 cm, 318 pp. Fine in fine jacket. From the jacket: “Richard Booth, entrepreneur, scholar, bon viveur, and self-proclaimed King plots the highs and lows of a remarkable career in bookselling and an extraordinary life outside it. He recalls a lifetime searching the world for books while battling at home against bureaucracy and business enemies. This is also the story of Hay-on-Wye, a sleepy border town that became the second-hand book capital of the world and declared itself an independent Kingdom.” $20.00

11. [Luther A. Brewer, Leigh Hunt] Bay, J. Christian. *The Leigh Hunt Collection of Luther Albertus Brewer*. Cedar Rapids, Iowa: The Torch Press, 1933, limited edition of 375 copies “privately printed for friends of The Torch Press in memory of Luther Albertus and Elinore Taylor Brewer.” Sewn card wraps with paper title label, 12.5 by 19.5 cm, 38 [1] pp. Light wear to the wraps. “This is a bibliographical description of a man’s life work. The sum total shows a purposeful historical continuity of a mind essentially evangelical in its message, – evangelical in a literary sense. My story was originally told by way of an introduction to *My Leigh Hunt Library*. It will sustain repetition, and I welcome this opportunity because it permits me to air, between the lines, some cherished ideas and a few pet peeves.” $20.00

good. Brewer was a well-known collector who specialized in the eighteenth-century Romantic poet and critic Leigh Hunt. Each Christmas, Brewer would issue a keepsake volume, this being the 1923 edition. Dickinson, p. 50. $40.00


16. *Jonathan Cape, Publisher: Herbert Jonathan Cape, G. Wren Howard*. London: Jonathan Cape, 1971, first edition. Honey-brown cloth with gilt trim and gilt spine titles in a black panel, dust jacket, 16 by 24 cm, 351 pp. Includes a bookplate tipped in on the ffep that reads “Presented to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the House of Cape / January 1971.” Laid in is a Jonathan Cape Ltd. “With Compliments” card that is signed by Graham C. Greene, nephew of the novelist and Cape executive. Near fine with minor corner bumping. Jacket has light edge wear, a few small edge tears, and light yellowing on the spine panel. $20.00

18. Cody, Pat and Fred. *Cody’s Books: The Life and Times of a Berkeley Bookstore, 1956-1977.* San Francisco: Chronicle Books, 1992, first printing. Oatmeal cloth with silver spine titles and silver cover decoration, dust jacket, 16.5 by 23.6 cm, xxvii 206 pp. Signed on the title page by Pat Cody (1923-2010). Near fine aside from some faint sun fading on the spine panel of the dust jacket and two small bumps on the top edge of the back cover. From the front flap: “Through letters and other writings, Fred and Pat Cody chronicled the joys, frustrations, and insights of their twenty-one years as booksellers, careers that ended when they sold the store in 1977 … From its opening in 1956, Cody’s was a pioneer in the book business, helping to establish such innovations as quality paperbacks, in-store author readings, and direct importing of books and calendars. They fought attempts at censorship and kept the store open even though it was filled with teargas from the People’s Park demonstrations.” $30.00

19. De Bury, Richard; E.C. Thomas, trans. *The Philobiblion of Richard de Bury.* McLean, Virginia: IndyPublish.com, nd. Hardcover with gilt spine titles, 15.6 by 23.5 cm, preface, prologue, 87 pp. Very good with a few small marks on the covers. A collection of essays concerning the acquisition, preservation, and organization of books written by de Bury shortly before his death in 1345. IndyPublish is a vanity press and reprint outfit and, while their products are better than print-on-demand efforts, an editor would have been of help here. $15.00


21. Dunning, John, contributing author; Linda M. Lebsack, intro. *Too Good to Be True: Tales from the Bookselling Trenches.* Denver: Rocky Mountain Antiquarian Booksellers Association, 2004, limited edition of 300, of which this is number 210. Staple-bound, card wraps, 13.7 by 21.5 cm, 28 pp. Fine. Signed by mystery writer and bookseller John Dunning after his single-page story on the last page. This booklet was sold at the 20th Rocky Mountain Antiquarian Book Fair in Denver in 2004 and features twenty-four short pieces on bookshop mishaps and deals gone wrong, with a happy ending by Dunning. $45.00

22. Dunning, John, contributing author; Linda M. Lebsack, intro. *Too Good to Be True: Tales from the Bookselling Trenches.* Denver: Rocky Mountain Antiquarian Booksellers Association, 2004, limited edition of 300, of which this is number 42. Staple-bound, card wraps, 13.7 by 21.5 cm, 28 pp. Light bumping to the upper corner and a couple small dents on the front cover. Same as described above, but unsigned. $30.00

24. [Grolier Club] Austin, Gabriel, ed. *The Grolier Club: Iter Italicum*. New York: The Grolier Club, 1963, limited printing of 750 copies. Light brown cloth with gilt spine titles and Grolier emblem blindstamped on front cover, dust jacket, 17 by 24.3 cm, xxi [2] 298 pp., illus. Near fine with the exception of the writing (read on). The jacket is very good with a few edge tears, a chip out of the font flap crease, and sun fading on the spine. A commemorative volume documenting a Grolier Club trip to Italy in 1962, this volume has a slip of paper tipped in on the ffep which is printed “Memo From Donald F. Hyde,” and typed “To Mr. David Fleeman / Date 5/26/63* / With our compliments / *The anniversary of our return from Italy.” Fleeman was, at one time, tasked with cataloguing the Hyde’s library, and Gabriel Austin also edited the Hyde’s *Four Oaks Farm* and *Four Oaks Library*. In addition, there are several pen and pencil notations within the text, correcting typos, questioning typos, adding information (i.e. where it states “Our bibliographer was...,” it is written “Herbert Calhoun I suppose”). It is unclear who made the notations, Hyde, Fleeman or Austin. See also item no. 5. $25.00


Privately Printed at the Riverside Press, 1904. Thin, flexible paper-covered boards with paper spine label, lacks original slipcase, 15.7 by 23 cm, 96 pp., most leaves unopened. Light wear to edges and corners, uneven sun fading on the back cover. Inscribed and signed on the first blank leaf following the ffep: “To Mr. Howard Mansfield with the complements of the author / H.H. Harper / Boston June 16/04.” Both members of the Grolier Club, Mansfield was the organization’s fifth president and held several other high-positions as well. Harper, who joined the Grolier Club in 1905, was a founding member of the Bibliophile Society in Boston. $20.00


31. Hill, Anne and Heywood; Jonathan Gathorne-Hardy, ed. *A Bookseller’s War*. Norwich: Michael Russell Publishing, Ltd., 1997, first edition. Hardcover in dust jacket, 16 by 23.6 cm, 208 pp. plus center section of black and white photos. Near fine, unread copy with a small wrinkle on the ffep. Jacket has faint rubbing. From the front flap: “These wartime letters are between Heywood Hill, who had opened his bookshop in Curzon Street in 1936, and his wife Anne. He was suddenly called up in December 1942 during the worst of the Christmas rush; Anne, already four months pregnant, was left to cope, much helped by Nancy Mitford. The correspondence, punctuated by letters from friends like Osbert Sitwell and Frances Partridge, gives insight into the problems of running a bookshop under war conditions and the horrors of military training for someone of Heywood Hill’s temperament.” (An aside, there are several references to the bookshop and letters to Heywood in *Love from Nancy: The Letters of Nancy Mitford* (C. Mosley, ed.) $25.00

32. Höfer, Candida; Umberto Eco, intro. *Libraries*. London: Thames & Hudson, 2005, edition unknown, out of print. Hardcover with dust jacket, 25 by 30.5 cm, 272 pp. New, still sealed in the publisher’s shrinkwrap, but with light bumping to the upper corners. From the publisher: “Since nobody photographs libraries as beautifully as Höfer, it seemed only natural to dedicate one of her publications to the splendid and intimate cathedrals of knowledge across Europe and the US: the Escorial in Spain, the Whitney Museum in New York, Villa Medici in Rome, the Hamburg University Library, the Bibliothèque Nationale de France in Paris, the Museo Arqueológico in Madrid, and Pierpont Morgan Library in New York, to name just a few. Almost completely devoid of people, as is Candida Höfer’s trademark, these pictures radiate a comforting serenity that is exceptional in contemporary photography.” $75.00


35. Lang, Andrew. *Books and Bookmen*. New York: George J. Coombs, 1886, first edition, part of the “Books for the Bibliophile” series. Blue cloth with bright gilt spine and cover titles, 13.5 by 20.5 cm, 177 pp. Light wear to the corners with rubbing to the head and tail of the spine and bumping to the upper corners. Small splits to the front hinge (though the binding is still stable) and remnants of a removed bookplate on the front pastedown. Essays on the book world, including “Literary Forgeries,” “Bookmen at Rome,” “Bookbindings,” “Some Japanese Bogie-Books,” etc. $30.00

36. Manasek, Francis J. *Uncommon Value: A Rare Book Dealer’s World*. Ann Arbor: Arbor Libri Press, 1995, first edition. Red cloth with gilt spine titles and dust jacket, 15.5 by 23.5 cm, 146 pp. Fine, unread hardcover in a near fine jacket with only faint yellowing along the top edge. From the front flap: “*Uncommon Value* is an uncommonly interesting and informative book about the worlds of the antiquarian dealer and collector. Mr. Manasek’s travels in search of antiquarian books, maps and other items have taken him around the world and he shares with us his insights on finding, buying, pricing and selling fine antiquarian items.” $18.00

37. Manasek, Francis J. *Under Cover: Death Stalks the Book Dealer*. Norwich, Vermont: Museum Street Press, 1997, first edition. Red buckram with gilt spine and cover titles and dust jacket, 14.5 by 22 cm, 142 pp. Fine in fine jacket. “Twelve tales of the intrigue, murder, and mayhem, that infect the rare book world ... The stories contain some imaginary elements; but purposely so. For it would not do well to get too close to reality in this business.” $15.00

is near fine with a light crease on the first 24 pages (more of a bend than a crease) and a faint dent near the bottom of the front cover (and a corresponding dent on the jacket). Jacket has faint edge wear. From the front flap: “The last resort of the English eccentric, the antiquarian book trade is rich in colourful and entertaining characters. Since 1991, Sheila Markham [herself a bookseller] has been interviewing some of its most influential figures. Fifty of these conversations, in which leading dealers speak frankly about their life and work, are here published for the first time in book form.” $85.00


41. McCutcheon, George Barr; William Dana Orcutt, intro. **Books Once Were Men: An Essay for Booklovers**. New York: Dodd, Mead & Company, 1931, “this volume is designed by William Dana Orcutt, and is produced in this limited edition of one thousand copies under his personal supervision by the Plimpton Press.” Decorative paper over black cloth spine with gilt spine titles, in original slipcase with paper spine label, 14.4 by 20.4 cm, x 61 pp., illus. by Doris Flather. Book is near fine with a 15 mm tear on the bottom edge of the title page. The slipcase has wear and chipping at the corners, especially the head and tail of the spine panel. A reverential, though whimsical, essay about the human companionship yielded us by our books. $25.00

42. Minet, Paul. **Late Booking: My First Twenty-Five Years in the Secondhand Book Trade**. East Sussex, England: Frantic Press, 1989, first printing. Hardcover with jacket, 16 by 22.5 cm, vii 192 pp. Fine in fine jacket. “Written on a sabbatical in Greece in 1983/4, Late Booking covers the career up to that point of one of the most assiduous secondhand booksellers since the last war. Paul Minet has struggled for 25 years, with very varied success, to re-create the browsing bookshops he loved as a boy…” $20.00

43. Morley, Christopher. **Ex Libris Carissimis**. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1932, first U.S. edition. Hardcover with dust jacket, decorative paper over black cloth spine and gilt spine titles, 14.5 by 25.8 cm, x 134 pp. Inscribed and signed on the ffep: “Ex Libris Robert Wilson – / Christopher Morley / 1936.” Very good with one small drip mark on the fore edge of the textblock. The jacket has sun darkening on the spine and chips and small tears on the edges (especially the head and tail of the spine panel). From the front flap: “The theme of these charming, informal
talks on book collecting is (to quote the author) the inextricable interweaving of life and literature. ‘The book is made up largely of symbolic anecdotes which cannot fail to inform and delight all who seek in literature ‘the lighter air of the mountain peaks of human life.’” $50.00

44. [Christopher Morley] Lee, Alfred P. *A Bibliography of Christopher Morley*. Garden City: Doubleday, Doran & Co., Inc., 1935, first edition. Burnt orange cloth with bright gilt spine titles, lacks jacket, 14 by 20.4 cm, viii 277 pp. Very good with only faint wear to the boards and a green stamp on the rear pastedown that reads “HD1405.” Included are “full collations of the author’s separate writings, short collations of the books to which he has made partial contribution, and of books by other writers giving comments on Morley’s work, also an appendix carrying material of less or humorous import; but all unprinted magazine articles, column material, reviews, and writings of like character are excluded.” $25.00


51. [Newton, Alfred Edward] Richardson, Frederick; E. Swift Newton. A Letter from England to A. Edward Newton. Daylesford, Pennsylvania: Oak Knoll, 5 October 1940. Blue card wraps, 12 by 18.3 cm, 12 pp. Near fine. An announcement of Newton’s death in the form of a touching letter from his friend Frederick Richardson that was read to Newton shortly before he died. Includes an engraved card (12 by 9.3 cm, fine) that reads: “The family of A. Edward Newton wish to take this way of acknowledging your expression of sympathy.” $15.00

52. Osler, Sir William. Bibliotheca Osleriana: A Catalogue of Books Illustrating the History of Medicine and Science Collected, Arranged, and Annotated by Sir William Osler, Bt., and Bequeathed to McGill University. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1929, first edition. Blue buckram with gilt spine titles, 22.5 by 29.4 cm, xxxv 785 pp. plus corrigenda page. Light wear to the extremities, some light spots and scuff marks on the covers, writing (see below). This important medical bibliography is from the collection of book collector and bibliographer Winslow L. Webber (author of Books About Books, see item no. 72) with his pen and pencil notes throughout. The ffep has a yellowed news clipping tipped in about the presentation of the Osler collection to the McGill University medical school library, as well as “Property of Winslow L. Webber” in pen, the quote “This with Cushing’s Life – My two ‘bibles,’” and eight additional pen and pencil notes dating Webber’s acquisition and use of the book from 1929 till 1962; the first reading “Seen first in Oxford at the Bodleian Library where I met Hill, one of the three editors, in May 1929,” and the last reading, “For 33 years this has been my companion” (see image on last page of this list). A wonderful and well-loved bibliography! $400.00

book has quickly become established as a standard work in a field of rapidly growing interest. At a time when more and more people are studying private book ownership, this handbook offers a compendium of information on the ways of recognizing and identifying marks of ownership, and on placing that knowledge in a wider context. Topics covered include inscriptions, mottoes, bookplates, book labels and book stamps, armorials, sales catalogues, catalogues and lists of private libraries, provenance indices, heraldry and paleography. $40.00

54. Powell, Lawrence Clark. *The Little Package: Pages on Literature and Landscape from a Traveling Bookman’s Life*. Cleveland, Ohio: The World Publishing Company, 1964, first edition. Red cloth with gilt spine and cover titles and blindstamped book design on front cover, faded green topstain, lacks dust jacket, 14.5 by 21.8 cm, 316 [3] pp. plus colophon. Signed by Powell on the ffep. Light wear to the boards and minor sun fading on the spine. There are two sticker ghosts on the upper corner of the front cover and two drip marks with light scratching (scraped off wax?). Powell (1906-2001) was a librarian, bibliographer and prolific writer. This volume includes essays on libraries, collectors, writers, and book travels. It opens with “What’s Wrong with Librarians?” (“The answer depends on whom you ask”). $20.00


57. Rosenbach, Abraham Simon Wolf. *A Book Hunter’s Holiday: Adventures with Books and Manuscripts*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1936, number 463 of a limited edition of 760 copies signed by the author. Black cloth over beveled boards with gilt titles on red leather spine and cover labels, 16.5 by 25 cm, xv 259 pp., illus. Signed by Rosenbach on the limitation page. Very good with only faint signs of cover wear and darkening of the leather spine label. Lacks original slipcase. A beautiful copy of one of the great *books on books*, many of the leaves remain unopened. $125.00

titles, lacks jacket, 13 by 19 cm, 151 pp. Light wear to corners and minor yellowing. Foxing on the top edge of the text-block. $40.00


60. [A.S.W. Rosenbach] Morris, Leslie A. *Rosenbach Abroad: In Pursuit of Books in Private Collections*. Philadelphia: Rosenbach Museum & Library, 1988, first printing. Staple-bound, card wraps, 16.5 by 23.7 cm, 64 pp. Near fine with minor rubbing to the upper corner of the front cover. From the foreword: “Rather than focus solely on little-known or previously-unpublished holdings, we here present many of our best-known volumes but reexamine oft-told tales of the Rosenbach brothers and their legendary buying and selling of remarkable books.” $20.00

61. [A.S.W. Rosenbach] Morris, Leslie A. *Rosenbach Redux: Further Book Adventures in England and Ireland*. Philadelphia: Rosenbach Museum & Library, 1989, first printing. Staple-bound, card wraps, 16.5 by 23.7 cm, 111 pp. Near fine. From the foreword: “The present catalogue is the second in a series documenting the private treaty purchases made by Dr. Rosenbach in Europe in the 1920s ... Morris here chronicles Dr. Rosenbach’s famous book-hunting in lively detail ... this catalogue goes beyond the anecdotal to document the specifics of these very private transactions.” A sequel, as it were, to *Rosenbach Abroad* (item no. 59). $30.00

foxing on the endpapers and one pencil note on the first page of the reface. The jacket has light edge wear, a few light scratches, and a small chip on the top edge of the front panel. A biography of this important bookseller, collector, author and “Napoleon of the auction room.” $50.00


65. [Rowfant Club] Lamb, Fredrick S., intro. *An Introduction to The Rowfant Club*. Cleveland: The Rowfant Club, number 366 of 2,000 copies. Staple-bound, card wraps, 12.7 by 17.9 cm, 16 pp. plus colophon. Near fine with faint fading on the spine. A short history, including rules, candlesticks and the clubhouse, of the Rowfant Club. “The Rowfant Club is a book club! It is a book club in the most inclusive sense of the term…” $15.00


67. Sims, George. *The Rare Book Game*. Philadelphia: Holmes Publishing Co., 1985, first, signed limited edition of 650 copies. Black cloth with gilt spine titles, black dust jacket with white printing, 15.5 by 23.5 cm, 161 pp. Signed by the author on the limitation page. The book is a near fine, unread copy with a light cock to the spine. The jacket has light rubbing and edge wear. Recollections of a bookseller after three decades in the rare book trade. $25.00

68. Smith, Harry Bache. *A Sentimental Library: Comprising Books Formerly Owned by Famous Writers, Presentation Copies, Manuscripts, and Drawings*. 
NP: Privately printed, 1914. Tan cloth over vellum spine with gilt spine titles, top edge gilt, 19 by 28.5 cm, color frontis, xxvi 332 pp., illus. Light spotting on the vellum, wear at the corners and head and tail of the spine, and a nick near the center of the edge of the back cover. Inscribed and signed by Smith to a New York sporting book collector: “For Mr. Owen Culbertson / with best wishes / Harry B. Smith / August, 1930.” Lyricist and composer, Smith was one of the most prolific of all American stage writers, said to have written over 300 librettos and more than 6000 lyrics, including the 1890 operetta Robin Hood. Smith was also a prominent book collector who competed with the likes of Henry Huntington and John Pierpont Morgan. When Smith sold his collection at the outbreak of World War I, it went to A.S.W. Rosenbach, a collection that, according to Dickinson, Rosenbach used to “launch his career.” This bibliography describes Smith’s varied collection. Dickinson, p. 289. $200.00


70. Sowerby, E. Millicent. *Rare People and Rare Books*. London: Constable and Company, Ltd., 1967, first edition. Burgundy cloth with gilt spine titles in a black panel, dust jacket, 14.5 by 22.2 cm, xiv 248 pp., illus. with two photographs. Light sunning on the top edges of the boards, foxing on the top edge of the textblock and on a few pages, and a universal bookplate on the ffep. The jacket is price-clipped and is sun-faded on the spine and the top inch of the front panel. From the front flap: “George V was on the throne when Miss Sowerby began her career in the rare book worlds of London and New York. In those days for a young lady to work in a shop was almost unknown and something to be resisted. However, with Yorkshire pertinacity and stubborn humour the author embraced her work both with Wilfrid Michael Voynich – whose flair for finding rare books is now almost legendary among bookmen – and with Sotheby’s, which sheltered a collection of personalities, all colourfully described here.” $20.00

71. Stern, Madeleine B. *Sherlock Holmes: Rare-Book Collector, A Study in Book Detection*. New York: Schulte Publishing Co., nd, an off-print from the *Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America*, Vol. 47, Second Quarter, 1953. Staple-bound, card wraps, 14.7 by 22.8 cm, 23 pp. Light wear to the covers, yellowed around the edges, and a small crease on the lower corner of the front cover. “Sherlock Holmes was as canny and secretive
in his book collecting practices as in his methods of detection. Hence, though much has been written about the Baker Street library, the real treasures of 221B have remained concealed until now…”  $12.00

72. Thompson, Lawrence S.  

73. Webber, Winslow L.  
Books About Books: A Bio-Bibliography for Collectors.  Boston: Hale, Cushman & Flint, 1937, first printing.  Hardcover with jacket, 18 by 25.3 cm, 168 pp.  Very good with light, even yellowing, jacket is good with edge wear and chips, sun darkening on spine, and a few scuff marks. There are a couple small spots of skinning on the ffep, including one spot that partially peeled off the first letter of “For” in the inscription. Inscribed and signed by Webber on the ffep: “For Morris Goldberg with the compliments of Winslow L. Webber.”  A bibliography of standard books on collecting and book history, including works by Dibdin, Hazlitt, Lang, Morley, Orcutt, Rosenbach, Sabin, etc.  $50.00

74. West, Herbert Faulkner.  
Notes from a Bookman.  NP: Westholm Publications, 1968, colophon states that this volume was printed “in a signed edition of three hundred ninety-nine copies,” though this copy is not signed.  Decorative paper over navy cloth spine and gilt spine titles and dust jacket, 16 by 23.5 cm, 95 [1] pp.  Book is fine, jacket has light wear and a 1 cm tear on the top edge of the front panel.  Printed by the author’s own press, since revived by Dartmouth, this volume includes an essay on West’s childhood and “Pages from a Bookman’s Diary.”  $15.00

75. Wilson, Bob; Kenneth Doubrava; John LeBow, eds.  

76. Zeitlin, Jake.  
ing along spine and top edge. First published in *Southwest Review* in 1962, this is the first separate publication of *Stalking* and the first in a series of DeGolyer keepsake booklets. $30.00

77. Zweig, Stefan; Theodore W. Koch, trans. *The Old-Book Peddler and Other Tales for Bibliophiles*. Evanston, Illinois: The Charles Deering Library/Northwestern University, 1937. Decorative paper over boards with paper cover and spine labels, 10.5 cm by 15.5 cm, vii 107 pp. Limitation page states “this copy of a limited edition was printed especially for Owen L. Coon” (name is handwritten). Minor cover wear. From the preface, “Stefan Zweig, one of Europe’s foremost men of letters, who is also well-known as a collector of books and autographs, has written several very charming pieces in which he has shown his keen appreciation of the psychology of the bibliophile.” Includes “Books are the Gateway to the World,” “The Old-Book Peddler: A Viennese Tale for Bibliophiles,” “The Invisible Collection: An Episode from the Post-War Inflation Period,” and “Thanks to Books.” $75.00

References:


The private library of the late Sir William Osler has been presented to McGill University to form part of the university's medical school library. Sir Arthur Currie, principal of McGill University, recently made a formal acceptance of the gift at ceremonies held in the presence of members of the Osler family and of distinguished representatives from England and the United States.

Next to its teachers, said Sir Arthur, the greatest essentials of a university's progress are its laboratories and its libraries. Without books, the working implements of the student and the teacher, there can be no adequate advancement. For they are the repositories of the thoughts of the ages, the treasure house of the golden dreams and beliefs and discoveries of all the past, and without them the present and the future would indeed be poor and empty. We realize well the practical value of this splendid gift. But perhaps greater than that realization is our appreciation of the honor that is ours, the honor of selection as the recipients of this great collection.

"It is pleasing and gratifying to us all to know that when the most famous of our medical graduates considered as the end of his days the disposal of his possessions, his thoughts turned home—home to the college in which his footsteps were first guided in the path of medical knowledge and medical work. And that home receives today with gratitude and pride and gladness this gift of its famous son."