Garrett Freightlines donations received

Over the past year the Special Collections Department has been privileged to receive the donation of several new collections documenting the history of our region. Two of the new additions happen to cover the same subject: Garrett Freightlines.

Garrett Freightlines was a Pocatello institution: their green and gold trucks were ubiquitous in town and eventually across the Western United States. Begun in 1913 by Clarence Garrett, his brother Oscar Garrett, and cousin Leonard Garrett, the freight line business grew from a single 1913 Reo truck serving Pocatello to 67 terminals scattered across 13 Western states.

At its height, Garrett Freightlines employed more than 3,000 people. The company headquarters was always located in Pocatello. The offices were originally in Old Town on South Main Street, with the garage located in the Warehouse District on South First Street. The headquarters building on Garrett Way (which was named after the company) was built in 1951. The merger with ANR Freight Systems in 1985, unfortunately, was the beginning of Garrett’s decline. Garrett was cut when ANR downsized in 1990.

One of the collections containing Garrett Freightlines materials is the Stedtfeld Family papers. The large collection was donated to ISU by Dr. Karen Stedtfeld Offen. Among the family members represented in the collection is Norman Stedtfeld who worked as secretary/treasurer of Garrett Freightlines from the mid-1940s through the 1960s.

The portion of the collection dealing with Garrett focuses on the financial and executive dealings of the company as well as the trucking industry as a whole. Norman Stedtfeld was also an active member of the Pocatello Rotary Club, and the collection contains material concerning that organization which complements the materials donated to Special Collections by the Rotary Club itself last year. Also included in the collection are materials related to another early Pocatello institution: Fred’s Café, owned by Fred Stedtfeld.

The second collection containing Garrett Freightlines materials was donated to ISU by Jack Wenske of Meridian, a donation facilitated by the Idaho State Historical Society. Consisting of photographs and memorabilia including coffee cups, jackets and note pads all displaying the Garrett Freightlines logo, the two box collection provides a fun material view of the activities of this longtime Pocatello business giant.

Karen Kearns
Head of Special Collections
Google Books

On March 22, 2011, a federal judge rejected the proposed settlement in the class action copyright infringement case brought by publishers and other copyright holders against Google for its Google Books search project. This development marks the latest in a series brought on by a landmark copyright infringement case originally filed in 2005 that stands to fundamentally change how we think about and utilize print books.

This polarizing case essentially pits those who believe that information should be free against the rights holders who created the information. It has brought technophiles, academics, authors, librarians, publishers, foreign governments, and intellectual property protectors to the table. The case and its subsequent proposed settlement have raised issues of copyright infringement, anti-trust issues, and have raised the possibility of new areas of research in print literature over time.

The case stems from Google’s effort, that began in 2004, to systematically digitize the collections of five major research libraries. Google struck deals with the University of Michigan Library, Stanford University Library, Oxford University Library, Harvard University and the New York Public Library to digitize their collections in return for a copy of the resulting file. Google had previously agreed with publishers to present “snippets,” or small portions, of the digital copies of their books among its search results. It appears to have intended to come to a similar arrangement with the digitized collections of these libraries.

The problem is that, while some items in these collective collections were in the public domain, the remainder—some estimate it to be 70 percent of all books—are either still under copyright protection, or those for whom the copyright holder cannot be determined/located, which are referred to as “orphan works.”

In 2005, a group of authors filed a class action suit against Google for copyright infringement, a violation of federal law. A group of publishers filed a similar suit a month later, although it was not a class action suit. A judge subsequently consolidated the two suits.

Google, on the other hand, held that its efforts were an exercise of fair use, also prescribed under copyright law, and justified because of the right of the public to access information, to learn and to think freely. A proposed settlement was presented to the court on October 28, 2008.

The settlement would have allowed for copyright holders who do not opt out of the deal to receive compensation for advertising revenue generated by the presence of their works in Google Books. It would have established a separate non-profit entity to manage the receipt of rights holders’ royalty payments and to track rights owners. Additionally, Google would have had the right to sell the books online, after agreed-upon compensation to rights holders.

Many objectors to the settlement argued that the Rights Registry falls short of achieving what it needs to in order to address copyright owner rights. For one thing, authors must opt out of—and not into—the Registry, giving Google an unfair default standing. They also hold that rights holders of orphan works, who are difficult, if not impossible to identify, have only a five-year window to identify themselves, or risk the loss of their royalties.

Other objections were that the settlement would result in Google’s establishment of a monopoly in a new market of large online books databases. Compounding this anti-trust concern is the fact that price fixing between Google and rights holders who opt in is a distinct possible outcome of the settlement. The court ultimately affirmed the concerns of the settlement’s objectors. It found that the “class plaintiffs have not adequately represented the interests of certain class members, including academic authors, foreign rights-holders, and the rights-holders of unclaimed works.” It additionally noted that the settlement would grant Google rights it is not entitled to have “even though Google engaged in wholesale, blatant copying, without first obtaining copyright permissions.”

This fascinating case has caught the attention of those in library and intellectual property rights circles. Find out more at http://www.arl.org/pp/ppcopyright/google/index.shtml


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Librarian to present paper at International Conference on Music

Kristi Austin, reference librarian and assistant professor, was awarded a masters degree from Idaho State University, Spring 2010, in Interdisciplinary Studies (English and Art).

This summer she will be presenting a paper at the Seventh International Conference on Music since 1900 at Lancaster University in England.

Teliha named to Eli M. Oboler Memorial Award Committee

Associate University Librarian for Public Services James Teliha has been appointed to chair the American Library Association’s Eli M. Oboler Memorial Award Committee for 2010–2012.

Oboler published extensively on intellectual freedom issues and was nationally known as a champion of intellectual freedom who demanded the dismantling of all barriers to freedom of expression.

Eli M. Oboler joined Idaho State College as library director in 1949, and worked for over 30 years until his retirement from Idaho State University in 1980. Oboler was a founding member of the Idaho Library Association, and served as its president from 1950-1953. He also served as president of the Pacific Northwest Library Association from 1955-1956, and served numerous terms as an ALA Councilor, two terms on the ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee, as well as other service on national committees within ALA and the Association of College and Research Libraries.

The award, first given in 1986, is presented for the best published work in the area of intellectual freedom. Works to be considered for the award may be single articles (including review pieces), a series of thematically connected articles, books, or manuals published on the local, state or national level in English or English translation.

The Oboler Library subscribes to (and generally pays a lot for) a great many quality print and electronic resources, but unfortunately, some of them just don’t get used much. We thought that by bringing a few of these “unsung heroes” to your attention, you might discover one of them to be just the resource you need. Locate these electronic resources via the library’s webpage, either by following the “Library Quick Links” on the left side of the page to “Databases - Alphabetic,” or through the “Resources by Subject” pages (in the “Find & Explore” box). Either way, most resources require you to login using your Bengal card number and last name, if you’re off campus; if you are not an ISU student, faculty, or staff, you may not be able to access these resources through ISU.

GreenFILE, a freely accessible research database from EBSCO, covers topics such as global climate change, green construction, pollution, sustainable agriculture, renewable energy, recycling, and more. The publisher describes GreenFILE as a resource designed to help individuals and organizations interested in reducing the negative impact and increasing the positive impact they have on the environment. The database includes information for individuals, such as how to install solar panels and all about recycling. It includes information for corporations needing information on green agriculture, hybrid cars or waste management; as well as environmental laws, regulations, and studies. The goal is for GreenFILE to be a practical tool for everyday information and a resource for academic study and classroom activities.

GreenFILE provides indexing and abstracts for more than 600,000 records, as well as open access full text for more than 3,600 records; and is available to everyone online at www.greeninfoonline.com. As with most EBSCOhost databases, you can limit your results to academic (scholarly) items, to just those available in full text, to those with images available, etc.

Regina Kouy
Electronic Resources and Reference

eHRAF World Cultures is another of the Library’s databases that fits into the “unsung hero” category. It is part of the Human Relations Area Files, founded in 1949 at Yale University. While it’s generally thought of as an anthropology/ethnography resource, it has wider appeal for the humanities and the social sciences. Those studying in the fields of history, sociology, art, or medicine, and those researching human behavior, society, customs, and culture may find this database useful.

The eHRAF World Cultures database is comprised of 230 full-text collections, each covering a different culture. The collections contain a summary of the culture as well as the full text of relevant books, articles, documents, and dissertations. A researcher can browse or search for a single culture, or search across all cultures or a specified group of cultures. These features, along with the ability to search by keyword and/or by concept codes down to the paragraph level, make this database ideal for cross-cultural studies.

The unusual search interface and the two concept code thesauri are unique to this database, making it a little difficult for the first time user. eHRAF provides a user guide, a tutorial, and webinars on its webpage at www.yale.edu/hraf/guides.htm to assist the researcher to make the best use of the database. Additional help is available at the Oboler Library’s reference desk.

Cheryl Sebold
Reference and Collection Development

Our “Unsung Hero” Resources: Need some information? Try one of these.
Compiled by Kristi Austin, Reference Department

Teliha Continued

Recent winners include 2010 winner Ernest Freeberg’s Democracy’s Prisoner: Eugene V. Debs, the Great War, and the Right to Disent, and 2008 winner Christopher M. Finan’s From the Palmer Raids to the Patriot Act: A History of the Fight for Free Speech in America.
Paying Library Fines

The way that library fine and fee payments are handled has changed for ISU faculty, staff and students. On the last day of every month, library fines and fees are now transmitted to the ISU Banner system and become part of a user’s BengalWeb account. Once that transfer has happened, users will need to pay online (through a BengalWeb login) or at the Cashier's Office in the Administration building.

Payment for any fine or fee that incurred during the same month can be paid at the Library, but once the month ends and the record is sent to Banner, payment must be made as described above.

Community users who incur fines and fees will continue to pay at the Circulation Desk at the Library.

For more information please call the Circulation Desk at (208) 282-3248.

Remember to read “Library News” on the library Web page (www.isu.edu/library) for weekly updates on library exhibits, databases, workshops, and other issues of interest.