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Fall 1981

## A Note from the Director of Libraries

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*Syracuse University*

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## *A Note From the Director of Libraries*

Associates and other friends frequently inquire about the Libraries' needs. This issue of *The Courier* is one response to this question. Libraries are books and related materials, organized for use. Balanced growth of retrospective collections can successfully be enriched by gift volumes, but the need for current books demands necessary funding with which to purchase them as they are published. In periods of sustained inflation and limited budget growth the pressure to maintain a steady level of acquisition collides head-on with declining purchasing power. There is, these days, no need greater than more dollars to meet the difference between the cost of essential materials and the budget available.

When, therefore, the Board of Trustees of Library Associates last spring earmarked \$10,500 for library acquisitions we in the Libraries quickly recognized, and seized, an opportunity not only to acknowledge this generosity but also to explain directly the importance of the books it brought into the Libraries. An exhibition of these books was mounted by the staff of the George Arents Research Library for Special Collections on the sixth floor of Ernest Stevenson Bird Library during November, 1981. Captions for the exhibition were written by the Libraries' bibliographers and members of the faculty. These captions, edited to reflect the absence of the rich ambience the books themselves provided the exhibition, compose the major part of this issue of *The Courier*.

We are grateful for the support of so many — staff and faculty and Associates — who made the exhibition possible. It is a great pleasure to acknowledge that support and to introduce their combined work.

Donald C. Anthony  
Director of Libraries