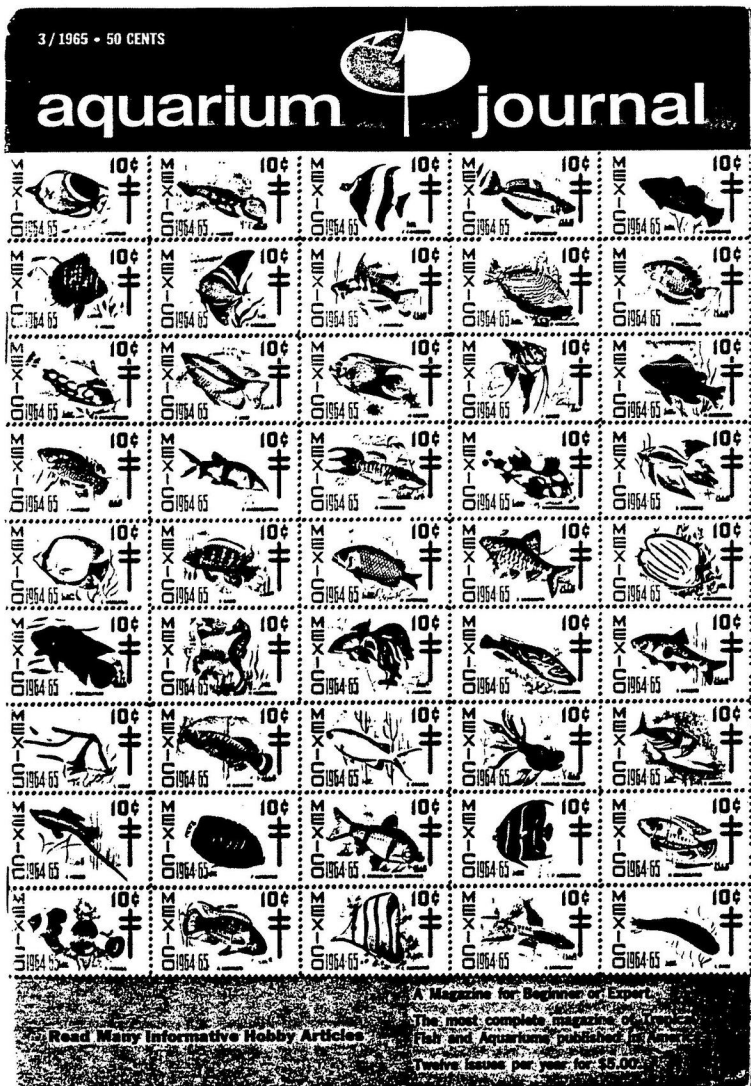


Collectors of Aquarium Literature

Number 14
August 1986

3/1965 - 50 CENTS



aquarium journal

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The most complete magazine of
Fish and Aquariums published in America
Twelve issues per year for \$5.00

1986 CAL CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

The preparation for the convention began with a long, hot drive to Modesto. The eighty mile trip was made so Dave Hopp and I could prepare the two presentations which also included taking slides of his bookcases and collection. Additional time was spent discussing what information to pass to CAL members including the news that the CAL bulletin would be published six times per year without a dues increase. The idea of an auction and trading session from Ross included his donation of two Home Aquarium Bulletins. Dave agreed to place three specially bound supplements to Aquatic Life done by Augie Roth in the auction. I donated fifty issues of the Aquarium Journal in mint condition.

The ACA Convention site was Milwaukee this year which was lucky for CAL as Mike Borson volunteered to find a meeting room, projector, and refreshments. Although CAL and Ross split the cost of the eats, I want to thank Mike as he was also the ACA Convention Chairman.

A visit by Kurt Zadnik and I to the Shedd Aquarium was the first order of business. It was a memorable visit for me as I took numerous shots which later turned out to be great for me. We both spent money on books in the gift shop. The rest of the day was spent perusing used bookstores and tropical fish stores. I found several aquarium books for my collection, including two from the eighteen nineties. The humidity and the rain combined to make the evening discussion with Ross, Jare, Gary, and Mike a liquid one. Three hours of sleep later found me at breakfast with Ross. I then wheeled Mike to the rental car and Kurt traveled with us to visit two Milwaukee tropical fish stores and one used bookstore. Three hours was spent touring the Mitchell Conservatory to see the geodesic domes housing cactus and succulents plus orchids and bromeliads. It was a great way to prepare for the formal convention activities.

The CAL meeting and auction found fifteen people eager to bid and talk about aquarium literature. The auction was a great success so look in future CAL issues for material



purchased with the auction proceeds. Several trades and purchases were made to make the meeting worthwhile to all who participated. I would like to thank both Dave Hopp and Ross Socolof for their donations to the auction. A talk by me seems to prove my methods work as Stu Wheeler bought fifty issues of Aquatic Life and Aquarium at a used bookstore for fifty dollars. He also found three volumes of Sterba's Freshwater Fishes at another used bookstore on the drive to Milwaukee! I suggest you plan to be there next year in Colorado Springs so you can do likewise. I wonder what I'll find!?

CAL AGENDA 1986 CONVENTION

IN MILWAUKEE JULY 24 TO JULY 27 AT RED CARPET INN

1. Tour of Chicago Bookstores on July 24th.
2. Tour of Milwaukee Bookstores on July 25th.
3. Visit the Shedd on July 24th with CAL -- it has a superb bookstore.

If you plan to participate in either tour, you must contact Paul Harvey before July 23, 1986! (Work tel. #415-933-5111)

Friday, July 25th at 9:00 p.m. will be a CAL meeting at the Red Carpet Inn. Paul Harvey will show slides on:

- A. Construction of Wall-to-Wall Bookcases as done by Dave Hopp.
- B. The Paul Harvey method of finding magazines and books.

Finally, there will be an auction including 2 Home Aquarium Bulletins donated by Ross Socolof. Thank you, Ross!

The last two complete sets of CAL will also be auctioned!

See you at the second CAL Convention.



PHILATELIC MATERIAL RELATING TO FISH

by Dale Speirs

One source of aquarium literature that many might overlook is that of philately, or stamp collecting. The standard stamp catalogs, such as Scott, do not specifically identify fish but there are various publications that cater to topical collectors. The major topical organization is the American Topical Association, with about 12,000 members. The ATA has a bimonthly digest which lists all topics by subject. There is also a study unit known as Biology Unit of ATA, which goes into more detail. The ATA issues various topical handbooks, including one that shows fish-on-stamps. I find that this is one of the most useful books I own in my aquarium library, as it lists all the fish species by scientific name and by family. This is the major failing of TFH books, which do not tell you which family a particular fish belongs to. For most fish, there is little trouble in knowing the family, but the more obscure species are often quite hard to place.

The ATA can be reached at Box 630, Johnstown, Pa. 15907, USA. The Biology Unit of ATA publishes BIOPHILATELY, available for US\$12 from 4310 Indian Creek Road, Marion IA 52302, USA.

Most postal administrations issue brochures announcing their stamp issues, and often include detailed information about the fish shown on the stamps. These publications are quite hard to come by in many cases. Early stamp collectors seldom kept such literature (they do now). Any aquarium literature specialist will be competing with philatelic-literature collectors, who are more numerous and better organized. (These collectors have a professionally-printed digest published by a specialized library that owns its own buildings).

Examples of philatelic/aquarium literature are shown herewith. The cover and two sample pages are shown of the ATA handbook relating to fish. There is also an ATA handbook on plants, although aquatic plants are not specifically identified as such, being placed according to family in the same manner as the fish book.

Topical philatelic literature can be placed into two categories. The first is simply a listing of species according to various subject headings. The species can be listed in a phylogenetic sequence, that is, by family and order. From the philatelic point of view, a listing by country is often just as important; not the country that the fish is native to, but the country that issued the stamps. As an example, Hungary and Russia have issued stamps depicting guppies, which are obviously not native to those nations.

Canada and United States have issued fish stamps, but none for the aquarium hobby in particular. Other countries have done so, either because aquariums are big business or because the former want to milk enthusiasts of the latter for money.





LOWER VERTEBRATES:

fishes, amphibia and reptiles

**ON STAMPS
OF THE WORLD**



by **George A. Bourse**

Willard F. Stank



Order PERCIFORMES

Suborder PERCOIDEI

Family SERRANIDAE

YELLOW CRESCENT TAIL (or
ROCK HIND), *Variola louti*
Br. Indian Ocean Terr. 30,
1968, 2.25 (lower three
of four fishes) B*
Jordan. 768, 1974, 60f A*
Maldive Isls. 442, 1973,
1.50r A*
Mauritius. 356, 1969, 10r;
356a, 1972-73, 10r A*
Niue. 158, 1973, 15c A*

Family GRAMMIDAE

ROYAL GRAMMA (or FAIRY BASS-
LET), *Gramma loreto*
Cuba. SG 1660, 1959, 4c A*
Haiti. 673, 1973, 10c A*
BLACKCAP BASSLET, *Gramma*
melacara
Haiti. C399, 1973, 50c A*
SWISSGUARD BASSLET, *Liopropoma*
rubre
Haiti. C401, 1973, 1.50g A*

Family CENTRARCHIDAE

BLACKBANDED SUNFISH,
Enneacanthus chaetodon
Ajman. T1894E, 1972, 75dh A*
Hungary. 1443, 1962, 1.20fo A*
BLUEGILL SUNFISH, *Lepomis*
macrochirus
United States. 1412, 1970,
6c B*
LONGEAR SUNFISH, *Lepomis*
megalotis
Equatorial Guinea. M1151,
1974, 20c A*

SMALLMOUTH BASS, *Micropterus*
dolomieu
United States - Rattlesnake
Isl. locals. 1973, 10c A*
LARGEMOUTH BLACK BASS, *Micropterus*
salmoides
Cuba. SG 1880, 1972, 3c A*
Malawi. 217, 1974, 3t;
220a (sou. sht.) A*

Family PRIACANTHIDAE

CATALUFA (or BIGEYE),
Priacanthus arenatus
Barbuda. M30, 1969, \$2.50 A*
Burundi. 453a, 1974, 6fr;
C211a, 26fr A*
Ivory Coast. 347, 1973, 35fr A*
Umm Al Qiwain. Uncatalogued.
1973, 1r (31) A*
DEEP WATER BULLSEYE,
Priacanthus boops
St. Helena. 171, 1961, 10sh A*
Tristan Da Cunha. 67 (St.
Helena 171 ovpt.) A*
GLASSEY SNAPPER, *Priacanthus*
cruentatus
Virgin Isls. 296, 1975,
60c A*
DUSKYFINNED BIGEYE (or
CATALUFA), *Priacanthus hamrur*
Israel. 248, 1963, 8a A*
Somalia. 318, 1967, 1s A*
POPEYE CATALUFA, *Pristigynys*
serrula
Peru. 574, 1972, 1.20s A*

Family APOGONIDAE

BARRED CARDINALFISH,
Apogon binotatus
Cuba. SG 2131, 1974, 50c,
(sou. sht.) A* -19-

SPOTTED CARDINALFISH (or
FLAMEFISH), *Apogon maculatus*
Cuba. SG 1657, 1969, 1s A*
ORBICULATE CARDINALFISH,
Apogon nematopterus
Ajman. M1284, 1972, 50d A*
CARDINALFISH, *Apogon*
nigripes
Tanzania. 19, 1967, 5c;
09 (19 ovpt.); 09a,
1971 (19 ovpt.) A*

Family PERCIDAE

RUFFE *Gymnocephalus cernua*
See Staffa Isl. locals. SF.70
MARINE ZANDER (or PIKEPERCH),
Lucioperca marina
Mongolia. 312, 1962, 30m A*
EUROPPAN (or RIVER) PERCH,
Perca fluviatilis
Czechoslovakia. 1381, 1966,
60h A*
Finland. B129, 1955,
10m+2m A*
Mongolia. 308, 1962, 5m A*
196, 1965, 1t A*
822, 1974, 60m A*
Naqaland. label. 1971, 1ch A*
PIKEPERCH, *Stizostedion*
lucioperca
Hungary. 1843, 1967, 60f A*
Poland. 810, 1958, 40g A*
Romania. 1389, 1960, 20b A*
Russia. 2375, 1960, 20k A*
WALLEYE (WALLEYE PIKE),
Stizostedion vitreum vitreum
United States - Rattlesnake
Isl. locals. 1973, 25c A*

Family POMATOMIDAE

BLUEFISH, *Pomatomus saltatrix*
Morocco. 152, 1967, 1d A*

Family RACHYCENTRIDAE

COBIA (or SERGEANTFISH),
Rachycentron canadum
Virgin Isls. 187, 1968, 10c A*

Family ECHENEIDAE

REMORA (or SHARK SUCKER),
Echeneis naucrates
Cuba. SG 1300, 1965, 1c A*

Family CARANGIDAE

THREADFIN MACREREL,
Blepharis crinitus
Mali. 5, 1960, 20fr;
10, 1961 (5 ovpt.) A*
VADIGO (or LEERFISH),
Campogramma alaycos
Bulgaria. 1817, 1969, 20s A*
CARP FISH (or JACK), *Caranx*
adacensis
Ascension Isl. 131, 1970, 9p A*
JUAN FERNANDEZ JACK (or
SILVER TREVALLY), *Caranx*
georgianus
Chile. 254, 1948, 60c; 255,
2.60p; C124, 3p. (Same
design.) (2nd stamp in
3rd row from the top.) A*
Norfolk Isls. 60, 1963,
2sh3p A*
GREAT CARANGUE (or PAIU'U),
Caranx ignobilis
Somali Coast. 289, 1962, 6fr A*
HORSE-EYE JACK, *Caranx latus*
St. Kitts-Nevis. 197, 1969,
40c A*
St. Vincent. 409, 1975, 3c A*



Endangered Wildlife

The Atlantic whitefish and the greater prairie chicken are in danger of becoming extinct in Canada.

Atlantic Whitefish

Though Canada has one-quarter of the world's freshwater supply, it has comparatively few species of freshwater fish—a direct result of the last ice age. Factors such as acid rain and other forms of pollution, overfishing, and deforestation threaten at least 14 of these species, one of which is the Atlantic whitefish.

Science knows comparatively little about the Atlantic whitefish, as is the case with many Canadian fish. The only place in the world where it can be found is in southern Nova Scotia. Also known as Acadian whitefish, the whitefish, or the Sault whitefish, it inhabits the Tusket River System and Millipisigate Lake—Petite Rivière System.

The Atlantic whitefish belongs to the salmon family. Adults range from 150 to 400 mm in length, although a fisherman reported having caught one 431.8 mm long. Specimens found in Yarmouth harbour had eaten amphipods (small crustaceans), periwinkles, and marine worms.

The Tusket River whitefish spawn in fresh water, but spend their adult lives in the sea. The young descend to the sea from mid-February to late March, and the spawning run occurs from mid-September to early November. Movement up and down the river, however, is a problem because of a dam built in 1929. There is a fish ladder around the dam, but fish using it have been an easy prey for poachers. Those fish that ignore the ladder and attempt to ascend the sluices are killed by the blades of the dam's turbines.

Espèces menacées d'extinction

Le corégone atlantique et la poule des Prairies risquent de disparaître complètement au Canada.

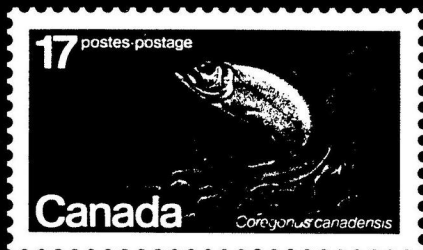
Le corégone atlantique

Bien que le quart des étendues d'eau douce du monde se trouvent au Canada, l'ère glaciaire ne nous a laissé, en proportion, que bien peu d'espèces de poissons d'eau douce. Or au moins quatorze de ces espèces, dont le corégone atlantique, sont menacées d'extinction par les pluies acides et d'autres agents pollués, ainsi que par la pêche excessive et la déforestation. Les savants ont encore beaucoup à apprendre sur le corégone atlantique, tout comme sur de nombreux autres poissons que l'on trouve au Canada. Les seuls corégonés atlantiques du monde vivent dans les eaux du sud de la Nouvelle-Écosse, c'est-à-dire dans le bassin de la rivière Tusket, et dans celui de la Petite Rivière et du lac Millipisigate.

Ce poisson appartient à la famille des salmonidés. Le corégone adulte mesure généralement entre 150 et 400 mm de long; un pêcheur en a même déjà pris un qui mesurait 431,8 mm de long. On a pu constater chez des corégonés trouvés à Yarmouth Harbour qu'ils se nourrissent d'amphipodes (petits crustacés), de bigorneaux et de vers marins. Le corégone de la rivière Tusket fraie en eau douce et passe sa vie adulte dans la mer. De la mi-février à la fin du mois de mars, les petits gagnent la mer, puis, de la mi-septembre jusqu'au début du mois de novembre, c'est l'époque du frai et les adultes remontent vers les eaux douces. Un barrage construit en 1929 sur la rivière Tusket rend difficile ce mouvement alternatif des poissons. Une échelle à poissons contourne le barrage, mais il arrive souvent que des braconniers capturent les poissons qui l'empruntent. En outre, les corégonés qui, au lieu de passer par l'échelle, tentent de remonter les écluses sont victimes des aubes des turbines.



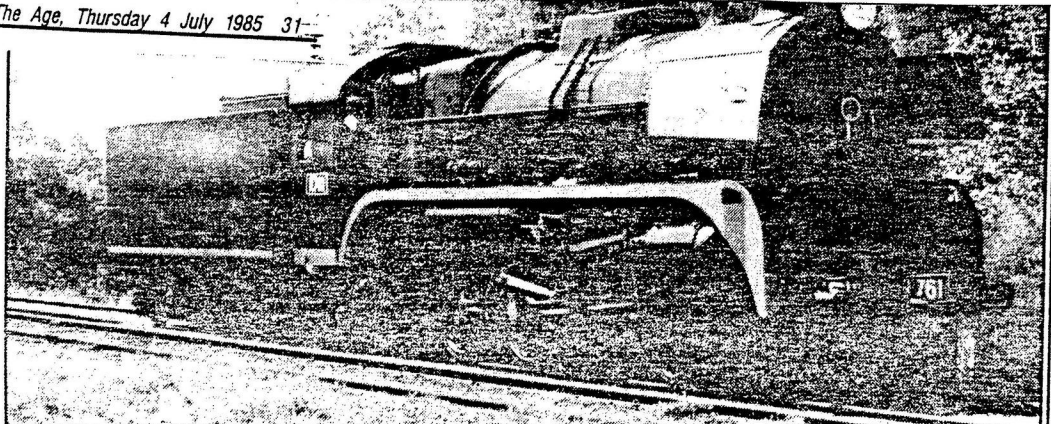
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INDOOR HOBBIES & GAMES

AN AGE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING FEATURE

The Age, Thursday 4 July 1985 31



Victoria's rail enthusiast fraternity have always held R class engines in the highest esteem due to their size, speed, power and good looks as well as their sound effects. In bringing R761 back into action, Steamrail Victoria intends that the general public will also be able to enjoy the sight and sound of this magnificent machine, pictured above.

Aquarium books a growing collector-hobby

GRAHAM ROWE has one of the more unusual hobbies — he collects aquarium books and magazines.

There are only a few other collectors in Australia but there is a larger number in America where there is a club for "Collectors of Aquarium Literature".

Why would anyone collect aquarium literature? Graham explains that he started because he grew up in an era when reading was important and he also had an interest in history.

When he started keeping fish just over 20 years ago he wanted to learn as much as he could about his new hobby. As he read he became more interested in more and more species which were not available here so he bought magazines to find out more.

He then decided to try to get older issues of the magazines to find out more about different species and he started to learn about the development of the hobby.

In his quest to get more mag-

azines and ultimately to complete sets of magazines, he started asking other hobbyists, both here and overseas and eventually this led to exchanging magazines with fellow collectors and buying collections when they gave up, so he had duplicates (to get a certain hard-to-get issue, it was possible to have to buy a collection of 100 or more issues).

His collection now consists of over 4000 different issues of a number of aquarium magazines including "slicks" (com-

mercially produced) and club magazines.

He also has over 300 different books relating to aquariums and the aquarium hobby. These include several titles over 50 years old and allows him a good insight into the development of the hobby.

He believes the majority of newcomers to fishkeeping would find it as fascinating as he has to read about the fishes that were available and the methods and theories about keeping them 20, 50, 100 and even more years ago.

The above article was sent to CAL by Graham Rowe in Melbourne.

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DUST JACKETS!?

Hemingway once said of *The Great Gatsby*: "The book jacket gave the look of a bad science fiction . . . I took it off to read the book." If you malign, despise, and discard jackets, pause a moment and consider its virtues.

From the publisher's or seller's point of view:

- ** It helps sell the book by its eye-catching layout or verbal puffery;
- ** It gives a clue to the contents of an obscure, off-beat, or interdisciplinary work (especially handy for us booksellers);
- ** It protects the book (i.e., usually by getting destroyed itself; this is preventable—see below).

A dust jacket is sometimes a unique carrier of information:

- ** Photos showing the author when young, or at various ages;
- ** Blurbs by the author, or by another famous author;
- ** Information relating to popularity or scarcity; for instance, "100,000 copies already sold" found on a second printing would make it unlikely that the first printing is scarce!
- ** Cover art (especially valuable with science fiction).

Further, because dust jackets have to appeal to their times, they reveal their times unintentionally.

A dust jacket can be worth ten times the value of the book it surrounds, but usually not if the book itself is valueless. The jacket's fragility makes it scarcer, too, as did the dullness of the dust jackets of the late nineteenth century, which were usually discarded.

There are two main ways of preserving a dust jacket:

- (1) Remove it and store it flat in a drawer;
- (2) Cover it with a plastic jacket cover (which we sell for 25-60¢ each); do not put tape directly on a jacket or glue it to the book.

One final caution—a "dust wrapper" is a dust jacket; the term "wrappers" or "wraps" by itself means, essentially, "paperback."

"The jacket—a vivid pictorial statement of the art and taste of the times—can carry the past forward and allow us to feel what it was like to live in the time of the book"—Gordon Hollis, AB Bookman's Weekly, December 5, 1983.



Thank you to Larry Dorman
for letting CAL reprint
the article above.

We buy books

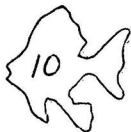
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Antiquarian Book Fairs: Tennyson, Anyone?

By PHILIP REVZIN

London

The hotel ballroom is dimly lit, slightly dusty, and buzzing with the noise of hordes of people pulling old books off makeshift wooden shelves, flipping open the front covers, flipping them back, and replacing the books, all seemingly in one motion.

Welcome to an antiquarian book fair, one of the few places ordinary shoppers can buy where the dealers do, occasionally cut out a middleman or two, and frequently come up with genuine bargains.

For many people, the best place to buy books in Britain isn't at a bookshop. The new-book industry still enforces tight retail agreements, nearly every shop charges the publishers' price for new issues, and there aren't any discount chains here yet. For books a little or a lot older, the place to go is a book fair.

Book fairs bring together in one teeming place hundreds of scattered dealers who run small shops, usually in small towns, all over the country. Every few weeks they gather in a town hall, church basement or hotel ballroom and display both the best and the slowest-selling of their stock. Dickens first editions nestle near Dornford Yates and Bulwer-Lytton. Leather-bound sets of Jane Austen and George Elliot vie for the cramped shelf space with books on British birds, famous cricket matches, Stanley's voluminous accounts of the finding of Dr. Livingstone, and seemingly endless supplies of cheap editions of Kipling.

Prices range from 15 cents for a dusty paperback mystery novel to \$250 or so for an early edition of "Robinson Crusoe" to more than \$1,000 for a scarce Latin manuscript or an early Bible. Whether these are really bargains, of course, depends upon what the market, and the buyers, think.

"Used bookselling is one of the few remaining trades where prices are subjective, almost totally between the buyer and seller, particularly for books priced below \$75," says Barry Higgs, who operates four different fairs. "Above that there are dealers' lists and auction prices to go by, but generally, if the buyer is happy, it's a bargain."

Mr. Higgs and other fair organizers say the best proof they can offer that bargains can be had at the fairs is that 50% to 90% of the sales are between dealers. This is

because specialist sellers can pick up a book at a fair from a general dealer and resell it at a higher price to a collector.

"I have a book on the 1922 Rio de Janeiro International Fair, for which I paid \$1.75, that I'd never be able to sell in my shop," says Stanley Brett, of Chandos Books in New Barnet, near London. "But at a fair a specialist in exhibition books will grab it from me at three times that because he's got a client who'll gladly pay 10 times what I originally paid for it." The public has the same shot at the books on display as do the dealers, and can save one or more price markups, says Mr. Brett, who is secretary of the Provincial Booksellers Fairs Association, or PBFA.

And, say the organizers, there's still the real, if slim, chance of a true find. "People who say you can no longer ever find anything are wrong," says Mr. Brett. "A chap I know found an early-16th-century Bible for about \$20. The finds are still out there."

The highlight of the book fair year comes this week, when the PBFA, Mr. Higgs and the up-market Antiquarian Booksellers Association all put on giant fairs in London hotels. The ABA is offering 25,000 books from 112 dealers; Mr. Brett says the PBFA will attract 166 booksellers offering more than 50,000 books. He expects almost \$400,000 to change hands during the three-day event. The catalog lists such items as Dylan Thomas manuscripts, leather-bound sets of Shakespeare, and "A Book of Dogs for Little Boys" by William Darton (1828).

A few tips for getting the best buys: **Bargain.** Prices are penciled in on the first inside page. It's an unwritten rule that *bona fide* dealers get 10% off that price automatically, and can sometimes get more knocked off by asking "What's your best price?" or "What can you do on this for me?" Regular folks can often get similar discounts by asking the same questions, resulting in, say, a 13-volume, 1904 edition of Thackeray's novels bound in half-calf leather going for \$50 rather than \$55.

Check the book closely. If it doesn't have "1st edition" penciled in near the price, then it probably isn't. Even if it does, talk to the dealer about it. Often there have been several editions in various formats, bindings or series, some of which are far more valuable than others.

Dickens's novels, for instance, were published first in magazines and later issued in dozens of editions. Usually, but not always, a full set of the magazine parts or books that are "bound from the parts" (noted in pencil as b.f.t.p. on the first page) are worth the most. The dealers should also point out any faults in the books, such as missing pages or illustration plates, or ink blots. If they don't, or if any faults aren't noted on the front page, they are obliged to take the book back.

The condition of a book can greatly affect its price, as can the quality of the binding for old books and whether a modern first edition has its original dust jacket. "A good binding can add roughly \$75 to \$125 to the price of a \$6 book," says Mr. Higgs. "And a modern first can be worth \$10 without its dust jacket and \$100 with it. It's all scarcity."

Be patient. There may be 50,000 books at a fair, but you might not want any of them.

Come early—and late. Lots of the best deals are made in the first hour, but dealers often will come down in price at the end of a fair so they don't have to lug the books back to their shops.

Pick a specialty. Most dealers recommend that budding collectors pick a field and stick to it. Guessing what current author will be tomorrow's Dickens is just that, a guess. "Books by women writers are still pretty cheap," says Mr. Higgs. "F. Tennyson Jesse, Willa Cather, that sort of thing. And over here the first British editions of American authors, like the Beat poets, are very cheap."

Buy to read. For the new collector, booksellers recommend buying books you actually want to read or look at. Like any collectible, books aren't a liquid investment, and it's sometimes hard to resell them for what they're nominally worth. But "the nice thing about book collecting as a hobby is that no matter what happens to the market, you've got all that lovely reading," says Mr. Higgs. "I started by buying books I liked and wouldn't have minded keeping if I couldn't sell them. If you don't take that attitude as buyer or seller, you might as well be dealing in cabbages."

Mr. Revzin is the Journal's London bureau chief.



A Rare-Book Hunter Tracks Down Quarry Like a Hungry Wolf

* * *
Antiquarian Society's Director
Finds Supplies Dwindling,
Adding to the Challenge

By WILLIAM M. BULKELEY
Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL
WORCESTER, Mass.—Marcus McCorison still recalls his frustration several years ago on examining a large collection of rare children's books. He craved some 18th-century titles. But he says of the book dealer who handled the trove: "The skunk sold it to Central Michigan University."

Such are the travails of a rare-book collector.

Mr. McCorison, 60 years old, is the director and librarian of the American Antiquarian Society. The society, founded in 1812, seeks to collect originals of everything printed in America before 1821 and everything important printed before 1876. Mr. McCorison says the society is about two-thirds of the way toward meeting those goals.

Over the years, it has acquired the first book printed in English North America, the "Bay Psalm Book" (Cambridge, Mass., 1640); the first American cookbook, "American Cookery or the Art of Dressing Viands, Fish, Poultry and Vegetables," by Amelia Simmons (Hartford, Conn., 1796); the first novel, Samuel Richardson's "Pamela," published in Philadelphia by Benjamin Franklin in 1739, and an assortment of canal bonds, bank scrip, book-plates and pamphlets.

Continuing Search

But Mr. McCorison still covets such items as a 1774 pamphlet called "A Pretty Story," a political allegory that some regard as the first native-American fiction. The society also lacks 31 of the 131 American editions of Robinson Crusoe printed between 1774 and 1831.

Getting them won't be easy. Every year, fewer such books come on the market. "Stocks of early material have clearly dried up," Mr. McCorison says. More and more material is grabbed by institutions that, like the society itself, won't ever resell it.

Even when such books do turn up, they are ever more expensive. For example, a first-edition account of the Lewis and Clark expedition, published in Philadelphia in 1814, would cost \$7,500 to \$10,000 today, up from \$1,000 to \$1,500 some 20 years ago, according to William Reese, a New Haven, Conn., rare-book dealer and a member of the society.



Marcus McCorison

Mr. McCorison ruefully describes deciding 15 years ago not to buy a 1754 book on medical education in America because its \$500 price seemed too high. And he repeatedly turned down later opportunities at even higher prices. Last year, he says, "I finally bought it at \$2,500. That will teach you something."

Because of historians' rising interest in documenting the lives of ordinary people and in statistical research, Mr. McCorison seeks even minor works. He says his group isn't "a rare-book library. It's a research library. Breadth and depth are far more important than an isolated high spot." The breadth of the society's collection paid off for one researcher who was studying slaves' tastes in music by examining advertisements for runaways; the ads often referred to instruments that the slaves played.

In the genteel world of book-collecting, Mr. McCorison is a tiger. Says Mr. Reese: "Isaiah Thomas, the society founder, said the society's role was to pursue documents 'as wolves pursue sheep.' That's what Marcus does." Mr. McCorison's staffers cull 1,000 rare-book catalogs a year, and he orders from the catalogs the day they

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A Rare-Book Hunter Tracks Down Quarry Like a Hungry Wolf

Continued From First Page

come out. He also flatters dealers by making them society members and thus enabling them to rub shoulders with Pulitzer Prize-winning historians and big donors. Last year, he spent \$283,000 of the society's \$1.8 million budget on acquisitions.

Mr. Thomas was an aggressive collector himself. An uneducated printer's apprentice, he became a newspaper publisher and patriot who moved to Worcester, 40 miles west of Boston, to avoid pursuit by the British during the Revolution. Later, as he prospered, he assembled a large collection of newspapers, books and sheet music.

In 1812, he founded the Antiquarian Society to hold and expand his collection. Since then, the collection has grown to include 600,000 books, more than one million manuscripts and broadsides and three million issues of early-American newspapers from every state—by far the nation's biggest collection of early newspapers.

At first glance—even at second glance—Worcester seems an unlikely center for historical scholarship. Eclipsed by Boston and Cambridge, Worcester is best known as a city that makes abrasives and forgings. Society members occasionally suggest moving the collection to Boston or elsewhere to make it more accessible to scholars. (A British user complained last year in the Times of London of having to take a bus from Boston on "a rickety 80-minute journey through a wilderness of sleazy shacks and random trading centers interspersed with patches of forest.") But the society, a Worcester centerpiece that attracts active support and large donations from local industrialists, doesn't plan to move.

However, industrial Worcester does seem distant from the society's Georgian-style library. There, a few scholars sit in the octagonal reading room and pore over aged volumes. In the stacks, society researchers compile specialized bibliographies and try to determine when the books were printed by cross-referencing city directories with the printer's address on the title page. Mr. McCorison's office is furnished with antiques purchased by a predecessor from the estate of John Hancock, the Revolutionary War patriot.

Other Libraries

The Antiquarian Society, which has a \$13.7 million endowment, is one of the nation's biggest independent research libraries. Others include Washington's Folger Shakespeare Library, with the world's biggest collection of early editions of the Bard; the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, with 14 million manuscripts of early Pennsylvanians; the Huntington Library in San Marino, Calif., and Chicago's Newberry Library.

Collectors' specialties often overlap. For example, Central Michigan University, in Mount Pleasant, Mich., collects children's literature and competes with the society for antique children's books.

Although dealers estimate that there are fewer than 1,000 major collectors of rare U.S. books, their collections may keep desired pieces from the Antiquarian Society. For example, Ruth E. Adomeit, a 76-year-old Cleveland, has collected 5,000 miniature books over the past 65 years. "Marcus would like the pre-1876 books," she says, but "I won't break up" the collection—which she plans to give to Wellesley College.

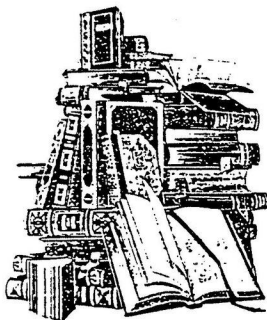
A Stroke of Luck

Sometimes, of course, Mr. McCorison has better luck. Stephen Weissman, the owner of Ximenes Rare Books Inc. in New York, was in a friend's store in England when he spotted a few books acquired in Paris for about \$25. Among them was a copy of a James Fenimore Cooper novel printed in Florence, Italy. Mr. Weissman knew that the Antiquarians were trying to collect a copy of every edition of Cooper. Splitting the profits with his friend, he sold the books to the Antiquarians for \$5,000. Mr. McCorison says he was grateful that Mr. Weissman "didn't soak us the way he could have."

Given the rarity of its collection, it isn't surprising that the library protects it by putting ultraviolet filters on fluorescent lights and keeping the humidity at a constant 50%. All staffers get emergency plans that include telephone numbers of freeze-drying facilities that might save water-damaged books.

To prevent books from being misshelved, readers aren't allowed into the stacks, staffers retrieve requested books. "Once one book is misplaced among 600,000," explains Keith Arbour, the head of reader services, "it's pretty well lost."





Stu Wheeler, 2087 Sullivant Ave., Columbus, Ohio 43223 (614-279-1711)

WANTED: Any materials by or about William T. Innes, including magazine articles about WTI, and other items including the following:

GOLDFISH VARIETIES AND TROPICAL AQUARIUM FISHES; any edition dated 1917, also any copy with the original dust jacket.

EXOTIC AQUARIUM FISHES; most editions if in fine condition, esp. with dust jackets.

THE AQUARIUM magazine; most issues from 1939 through 1946 and 1952 through 1959, also some others; volumes bound by Innes; original magazine file boxes.

ALSO WANTED: Many pre-1945 aquarium books. What have you?

AVAILABLE FOR TRADE: Approximately 75 aquarium/fish related books;

Various magazines including AQUARIUM ILLUSTRATED (Klee), TROPICAL FISH WORLD, FTFI TRADER, AQUARIUM JOURNAL, ADI, AQUARIUM NEWS; TFH, THE AQUARIUM, and others. What do you need? Send for trading lists.

R. Clarke, Box 23 , Hilton Beach, Ont. Canada P0R 1G0
T.F.H. For Sale or Trade For Wants.

1969- jan, feb, april, june, july, oct, dec

1970- jan, mar, may, june, july, sept, oct, nov, dec

1971- jan, feb, mar, april, aug, sept, oct

1973- jan, mar, apr, may, june, sept, oct, nov, dec

Wants

1980- feb, 1966 all 1975 all 1967 march

1979- jan, march, april, may, aug, oct

1978- march, april, may, june, july, aug, sept

1977- april, june, aug, oct, dec

1976- jan, april, may, june, nov

1968- jan, feb, apr, june, july, sept, oct, nov, dec



THOMAS N. TILLES-14 Sand Hill Rd., Bethel, CT.06801

HAVE THE FOLLOWING: WILL TRADE FOR WHAT HAVE YOU: SEND LIST OF YOUR WANTS AND HAVES.

"SALT WATER AQUARIUM" - Vol. 3, #4 (July-August 1967)
"MARINE HOBBYIST NEWS" VOL. 4. #2,5,6,8,9,11,12 (1976)
VOL. 5, #1,8,10 (1977)
"MARINE AQUARIUM REVIEW" Vol. 1, #1,2,3,4,5,6,7 (1977-1978)
"PET FISH MONTHLY" June 1976
"THE AQUARIUM" Series II- Vol.1, #1,4,5,8,9,11,12 (1967-1968)
Vol.2, #4,8,9,10,11
Vol.3, #1,2,3,9
Vol.4, #1,2
"TFH" 7/68, 11/72, 5/73, 9/77

Ross Sociol.
P O Box 1987
Bracerton, FL 33506

Aquarist and Pondkeeper-

Inventory of volumes all unbound and mostly very good-NO major defects.
on hand volumes # 13 thru 41- those volumes that are not complete
are enumerated here.

vol. 13 misses #10,11.
14 misses #4
15 is complete, but April(#1) is a poor copy
20 is missing -(some loose issues on hand)
23 is missing (same as above)
24 is missing 1,3,12
25 is missing # 1
26 thru 41 are complete..

ALSO: ask for current inventory sheets on: Waterlife, Pet Fish Monthly,
Aq. Journal, Trader, Marine Aq. Aquarium Mag, FAMA, early TFH, and much more.

ROBERT HARRIS, P.O. BOX 257, STATION "D", SCARBOROUGH, ONTARIO. CANADA. M1R 5B7.

WANT LIST:

Phone (416) 447-2237.

Magazines and books about guppies. All titles wanted including those listed below;
I.F.G.A. Bulletin, Guppy Roundtable, The Guppy News, Guppy Nut News, The Fancy
Guppy Correspondence Club, Delta Tales, Guppy Tales, Ragged Tales, Cobra, GAM Gazette,
Guppy News, Guppy Gossip, Philadelphia Guppy Club, Portrait of a Guppy, The Guppy Pond,
Fancy Guppy Association Journal, Fancy Guppy Society of Edmonton, Journal of the
Modern Guppy Breeder and others not mentioned. Also wanted, All About Guppies, 1952.
Modern Aquarium, Nov., 1968, Dec., 1968 and February, 1969.

Tropical Fish Hobbyist, Nov./Dec., 1954. Mar./Apr., 1955, and Sept./Oct., 1956.

The Aquarium, by Innes, all Bound Volumes by the publisher.

F.T.F.I. Trader, the last twelve issues, complete.

The Marine Aquarist, all 6 issues of Volume One, Bi-monthly, 1970.

Aquariana, Vol. One, No. 3,5, and 7. Vol. Two, No. 1, and 2.

Today's Aquarist, Vol. One, No. 2, and 4. Vol. Two, No. 3.

Advanced Aquarist of Atlanta, Numbers 2, 8 and 9.

Marine Life, all seven issues.

Aquarium Hobby Newspapers wanted:

Marine Aquarium Review, Vol. One, No. One, July, 1977.

Aquarist Gazette, Volume One, No. 2, and 4.

Wanted,
All pre-1930
aquarium magazines.



John Lind
2064 Bragg ST.
BKLYN. N.Y. 11229
(718) 891-2218

Wants: Buy or Trade:

The Aquarium (1912-1914) Vol.II # 10, March 14, 1914

THE Aquarium (Innes) Vol. I, # 2, June, 1932

Vol. XIV # I, May 1945.

For Sale or Trade for my want's listed here.

Various issues of T.F.H., Marine Aquarist, Aquarium-
Journal, THE Aquarium (Innes)

Hard Bound Book " Aquarium Plants Their Identification
Cultivation & Ecology, 448 pages, many color photos
of plants. Excellent condition. For trade only.

Old TFH and FAMA Issues Available

I have most issues of TFH (lacking a few from the early 1950's)
and most issues of FAMA (lacking Feb, May, Nov 1978 & Apr, May, Aug 1979)

I will trade for the following issues of Aquarist's Notebook :

Vol.1 - 5,7

Vol. 3 - 1,2,4,5,7,8,10,12

Vol.2 - 1,10,11

Vol. 4 - 1,10,11

Vol.5 thru Vol.9 - all wanted

For 2 issues of Aq. Notebook I will trade any issue of TFH back to Jan. 59
or any issue of FAMA back to Jan. 79 except Apr, May & Aug 1979.

For 10 issues of Aq. Notebook I will trade any issue of TFH before
1959 except for a few that I don't have
or any issue of FAMA from 1978 except Feb, May & Nov

I am also looking for early British issues. Write first on all trade
offers to John Brown, Box 3337 Main P.O., Vancouver B.C., Canada V6B 3Y3

Bob Schmidt, Simon's Rock College, Alford Rd., Great
Barrington, Mass. 01230

FOR SALE: 1 copy, Christopher Coates, "Tropical Fishes as
Pets", first printing July 1942. Tower Books Edition: 226 p.
+ 28 plates. General discussion of aquarium techniques and
diseases. Detailed discussion of major groups of aquarium
fishes. 56 black and white photographs in appendix. Pages
slightly brown around edges otherwise internally fine. Cover
with some scuffing, hinges slightly ragged. Asking \$7.50.



FOR SALE: The following numbered items from my 1986-1 literature catalog are now reduced by 25% to all interested parties: Nos. 4,7,8,11,12,13,16,17,18, 19,20,21,24,25,27,28,33,34,36,37,39,40,42,43,45,47,50,55,57,58,59,60,64, 65,67,68,69,70,71,80,85,86,87,88,90,91,93,96,100,102,103,104,105,106,107, 109,110,114,118.

WANTED FOR FUTURE ARTICLE: any information on ACA special publications including convention booklets and handouts made by the speakers at the conventions.

WANTED: any original papers by Regan,Steindachner,Boulenger,Eigenmann or Fowler on freshwater fishes. These authors are just a few of the needed ones,so if you have any papers that you think might interest me,please write or call.

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I'm back from overseas and anxious to start trading again. If I have any unfinished business with anyone please let me know as my records are a mess after last years move. Send me your want lists as I have many good duplicates available for sale/trade.

WANTS: AQUARIUM May, June 1932; AQUATIC LIFE, SERIES II Sept 1956, Aug 1957, and Mar/Apr 1961; MARINE HOBBYIST NEWS Nov 1973, Jan Feb 1974, Feb, Apr 1974, Jul, Aug 1977; ICHTHYOPHILE V.1#'s 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11 V.2#'s 2, 6, V.3#'s 2, 3, 4; AQUARIST'S NOTEBOOK V.1#'s 8-12, V.2# 2, V.4# 1, V.5# 12, V.6# 11, V.7#'s 6, 8, 12, V.8#'s 2, 3, 5-9, 11, 12, V.9#'s 1, 2, 3, 5-10; MODERN AQUARIUM Dec 69; ADVANCED AQUARIST'S MAGAZINE #'s 2, 56, 57; AKA BUSINESS NEWSLETTER Aug 1978, Dec 1980, Jan thru Apr, Nov, Dec 1981; BUNTBARCHE BULLETIN #'s 1, 6, 7, 9, 10, 13, 14, 18, 63.





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- AQUARIEN MAGAZIN V13 #10, 11, 12; V14 a11; V15 #3, 8, 10; V17 #1, 3, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12; V18 a11
- DER AQUARIEN FREUND V2 #6 and subsequent
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- BUNTBARSCHÉ #1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15; BEST OF BB 1st edition
- AMERICAN KILLIFISH ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTERS 1963 a11; 1964 a11; 1966 Nov., Dec.; 1967 Feb., Sept.; 1968 May, July, Nov.; Business Newsletter Nov. 1977; Arnold & Ahl Translation; Pronunciation Record; Technical Papers #1 thru #22
- AQUARIST & PONDKEEPER Dec. 1983; July 1984 and subsequent; V1 thru V10 all issues; V11 #1, 3, 13; V13 #11, 12; V14 #4
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- AQUARIUM INDUSTRY V7 #9, 10, 11, 12; V8 #1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, 12



New address Tom Cavallaro, 692 Hartman Station rd.
Lancaster , Pa. 17601

- WANTED - Today's Aquarist Magazine (any)
- T.F.H. Magazine Jan.'70 (Vol.XVIII#5)-Sept.'70 (Vol.XIX#1)
(good condition only)
- Literature pertaining to Lake Malawi Cichlids (send have list)
-

Jim FORSHEY 3105 ROSEMONT DR, SAC. CA 95826

WANTED MARINE FISH MONTHLY VOL. 1 - NO. 3
TROPICAL FISH HOBBYIST JAN 1970,
SEPT 1975, OCT 1980
JAKA 1975 AND BEFORE, 1977, 1978
1980 VOL 13 NO 6 NOV/DEC
AKA INDEXES VI AND BEFORE
FAMA FEB 1978

DAVID HOPP
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Wants ; a copy of AQUARIUM DESIGN CRITERIA published by the National Fisheries Center as a special edition of DRUM AND CROAKER. If not a XEROX copy will do.

Modern Aquarium ; Vol. 1 #1, 2, 4, 8.

Advanced Aquarist of Atlanta ; any issues.

The Aquarist's Notebook ; any issues.

The Marine Aquarist ; Vol. 1 #1.

Anchor; any 1967 issues, april 1968.

The Ichthyophile Vol. 1 #9,12. Vol 2 #5. Vol. 3 any issues.

Buntbarsche Bulletin; #1 thru 18.

F.T.F.I. ; Vol.4 #1,3,4.



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4459 Shellflower court , Concord Ca. 94518

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