



Eva Crane Trust

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THE BRA LIBRARY

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Introduction

Chapters 3–5 include many references to the BRA Library, its origin, and its growth and innovations during the twenty-five years. This chapter describes the different divisions of the Library as they are today, explaining what they can provide to users, and also how and by whose initiative they came into being.

Table 10.1 sets out the growth over the years; figures quoted are from annual reports except those for 1961, which are estimates inserted to bridge the gap between 1954 and 1968.

The Library was initiated in March 1949, as explained in Chapter 3, and the first Annual Report stated that by December just over 1000 publications had been received, stitched, bound, labelled and catalogued—certainly by voluntary workers, since the

small income would not have allowed payment (Appendix F). In 1951 a large part of the Library was taken to Wye College in Kent for a week, to be used by students attending a course on "Recent researches on the honeybee".

The circumstances of the accession of the Apis Club Library in December 1951 are described in Chapter 3. I still have a clear memory of the event itself: the arrival of the furniture van, and the unloading of a seemingly endless succession of cartons and bundles. According to the record 1½ tons were delivered, comprising 30 000 separate publications. Many of these were unbound issues of journals; these, with reprints and books, had been grouped—if at all—under labels such as: all English, mostly German, mixed, or unreadable. The sorting process, done mostly in the garage, was first by language, then by author or, for journals, by title, then volume and issue. Unrecorded loans accounted for some of the missing items, and a few of these have since been recovered; one drifted back as recently as 1973.

TABLE 10.1 Growth of the Bee Research Association Library, 1949–1974
Most figures quoted are approximate only.

<i>End of Year:</i>	1949	1954*	1961	1968*	1973
Reprints		6 000	9 000	13 400	18 500
Books		1 000	1 300	2 045	3 000
Journals					
Volumes		2 500	3 000	3 300	4 200
(titles)		(220)	(350)	(457)	(518)
Annual reports					
Volumes		included above		1 150	1 750
(titles)				(143)	(189)
Translations		220	482	1 072	1 334
Total publications	1 000	9 750	14 000	21 000	28 800
Microfiche					3 300
<i>Card indexes</i> (see pages 7–8)					
A. Author catalogue	1 000	7 000	10 500	16 000	22 000
B. Author <i>AA</i>	0	1 750	6 250	14 500	21 000
C. Author bibliography	15 000	16 000	20 000	26 500	30 000
D. Subject <i>AA</i>	0	3 750	13 500	31 250	46 000
E. Subject bibliography	0	0	0	8 000	12 000
<i>Pictures</i> (see pages 9–11)					
Loan prints etc. (1 + 3)	0	2 000	5 500	7 000	9 000
Colour transparencies (6)					1 200
Black/white transparencies (7)					600
Categories 2, 4, 5	not counted				

*Accessions from the Apis Club Library (1951) and the Morland Bequest (1964) are responsible for the large increases in these columns.

The largest part of the Apis Club Library consisted of journals. In 1964 the BRA Library was greatly enriched by the Morland Bequest of reprints of classical papers and entomological books. In 1972 the Essinger Bequest added many valuable early beekeeping books in different languages.

From the beginning, as well as collecting earlier material as opportunity offered, our aim has been to put into the Library a copy of each publication reported in *Apicultural Abstracts* (Chapter 7). Requests to an author for a reprint of a scientific paper (or to a publisher for a review copy of a relevant new book) have usually been successful when it is explained that the publication is wanted with a view to reporting it in *Apicultural Abstracts*. Instead of discarding the publication after it is abstracted, it is integrated into the Library, which is thereby kept continuously up to date. Also, in *Apicultural Abstracts* publications in it are marked "B" if they are in the BRA Library, so readers in any part of the world know that these are accessible to them. The fact that some 95% of the publications reported *are* in the Library shows how nearly complete this is, in material on bee research and beekeeping techniques published since 1949.

Reprints

Table 10.1 shows that reprints of scientific and technical papers constitute the largest number of separate items in the Library. In 1974 they are still bound and housed on the system started in 1949, after a study of methods used in other specialist libraries. Binding in manilla folders of three standard sizes, with a distinctive blue label, was an adaptation of the system used by the Commonwealth Institute of Entomology in London. Storage in steel filing cabinets, according to alphabetical order of author, makes any given reprint quickly accessible, especially since the catalogue-card drawers rest above the cabinets containing the sequence of reprints of the most common size, initial letters more or less matching in drawers and cabinets.

The reprint covers give protection in use and during transport, and make it impossible for a borrower to be misled into thinking that a BRA reprint belongs to his own collection. All reprints received that are within our field are catalogued and filed, unless the article is discarded as unsuitable for *Apicultural Abstracts* and is already held in a journal. Any publication reported in *Apicultural Abstracts* is likely to be borrowed, and we prefer the reprint to the journal for loan or photocopying. Since 1966, when the Library was united under one roof at Hill House, many volumes of its journals have been bound (Chapter 5), and photocopying techniques have become a routine push-button procedure. Photographs do not, however, reproduce well in such copies, and the text may for various reasons also be less than perfect. Useful as photocopies and microfilms are, we still prefer an original reprint for reference in our Library.

Periodicals

Since the accession of the Apis Club material in 1951, the policy of the BRA Library has been to get together as complete a collection as possible of the scientific bee journals and beekeeping journals of the world, together with a few secondary and "documentation" journals that are especially useful to us. Some of the many libraries and individuals who have contributed volumes and issues of journals required are listed on page 13.

The Association will always be indebted to Mrs. M. B. Townley, who housed a large proportion of the journal holdings at Fulbourn Manor from 1961 until 1966 when Hill House was purchased. Another benefactor has been the Royal Society, which provided grants towards the cost of binding, from 1967 to 1973 (Chapter 5).

The number of beekeeping journals is phenomenal—forty different ones have been published in Hungary alone—and quite a few started as long ago as the middle of the last century. No definitive list has ever been prepared, and complete sets rarely appear on the market. In 1955 the BRA published a “World list of current beekeeping journals” giving subscription rates and addresses of 101 periodicals from 38 countries. For many journals such details vary frequently, and the 1968 successor, “World list of beekeeping journals and other serial publications received by the Library”, with 220 periodicals from 40 countries, included fuller indexes and a brief publication history instead. The BRA maintains a card index of titles known to have existed, with such details as have been found. But there are endless complications—changes of name, different journals with the same name, amalgamations, take-overs, changes in frequency, long intermissions (especially in times of war), resumption with or without allowance in volume numbering for the missing years, and so on.

Some might argue that many bee journals are too frail, and their contents too trivial, to be worth preserving. But they constitute a unique source of certain types of information: their text serves to date events and publications; their advertisements can establish when a certain piece of beekeeping equipment was first used; they may provide almost the only source of published information on beekeeping in a certain country or region; and they can give a vivid picture of what was preoccupying beekeepers' minds at a certain time or place.

Publications on bees and beekeeping have also appeared in several thousand different scientific and other learned periodicals, any one of which may, however, contain no other relevant contribution for 1, 10, 20 or 50 years (page 83). It would therefore be impractical to extend the journal holdings of the BRA Library outside those devoted to the field of apiculture. Individual reprints of papers from this wide range of journals provide what is needed in a much more compact and accessible form.

Books

New research work on bees is reported in journals (and reprints from them) rather than in books. Nevertheless, the 3000 books in the BRA Library are much used, and are an important part of it. Books on any aspect of bees or beekeeping are accepted, of any date and in any language; more than 50 languages are represented. Holdings since 1949 are fairly complete, and those back to 1919 not much less so. A number of earlier books (especially in languages other than English) are lacking. Our most likely chance of acquiring them is as gifts and bequests, and many of the important items already in the Library were obtained in this way. An index to books published in North America that are in the Library is provided by T. S. K. and M. P. Johansson's “Apicultural literature published in Canada and the US” (Appendix E). A similar index for British books exists in the manuscript of the long awaited “Bibliography of British bee books” (page 89).

Modern books on apiculture and on subjects related to it—especially entomology—are well represented, and basic reference books on other subjects are available for staff use. Books on the flora of different parts of the world are always valued, for use in identifying bee forage plants.

Among the oldest books in the Library are Thomas Hill's "A profitable instruction of the perfect ordering of bees . . ." (1608) and M. C. Höfler's "Die rechte Bienen Kunst . . . von Nicolao Jacob" (1614). One book of special interest is the copy of L. L. Langstroth's "The hive and the honey-bee" that he presented in 1862 to T. W. Woodbury, who introduced Langstroth's movable-frame beekeeping to England. Among manuscripts of books is that of E. Tickner Edwardes' "The lore of the honey-bee" (1908), presented by his widow in 1952. We owe much to Mr. S. Andersz for his labour of love in rebinding many of the older books.

Translations

The BRA Library of Translations contained 1334 unpublished English translations at the end of 1973. Any of them can be borrowed by Members, and purchased as photocopies by Members or (at a higher charge) by non-members. Many are also available as microfiche. A few French and German translations, mostly from Russian, are also held, and more would be welcomed.

The idea of assembling a collection of translations, so that work done by a linguist for one particular user can be made accessible to others, came from Dr. C. R. Ribbands, who wanted to obtain certain English translations when preparing his book "The behaviour and social life of honeybees" (Chapter 9). Dr. Ribbands sought help from the BRA; the Council decided that this sort of service would be widely useful, and the BRA Library of Translations was started in March 1951. An appeal was made for existing translations, and also for offers to do translating work—on a voluntary basis. The scheme made sense to many people, and there was immediate support for it. Translations came in from many sources, including Rothamsted Experimental Station in the UK and, on a much larger scale, the United States Division of Bee Culture, which already had a fairly large collection of translations. Through J. I. Hambleton, Chief of the Division, photocopies of 3000 pages were dispatched to BRA. Since that time, BRA has received a copy of every translation acquired by the Division/Section/Branch (its name was changed several times over the years). The Association is permanently indebted to the successive Chiefs, and to A. D. Straughan whose name appears as translator more often than any other in the BRA Lists. The first List of Translations was issued before the end of 1951; the 15th list, in 1961, closed at 482. Thereafter, at the request of Members, new translations were recorded in *Bee World*. Table 10.1 shows the growth over the years.

Apart from USDA, special mention should be made of the following for their translations from the languages indicated: Miss M. D. Bindley (German); Dr. G. Kolisko (many western European languages); A. S. C. Deans, Mrs. K. M. Donaldson, Miss D. Galton and Mrs. M. Simpson (Russian). The first knowledge of Russian research on bees and beekeeping to be spread among apiculturists in western countries after the Second World War, was the result of Marie Simpson's interest, enthusiasm and initiative. A selection of her translations was published in 1954, under the title "Some recent Russian researches on bees and beekeeping" (Appendix E). Mrs. Simpson realized how important Russian terms would be for the "Dictionary of beekeeping terms" (Chapters 4, 9), but knew that final publication must wait until direct consultation with Russian scientists became possible. She herself was Polish, so she prepared a first draft of both Polish and Russian terms. When I was invited to the USSR in 1962 (Chapter 4) I took with me copies of these drafts, and it was not difficult to find individuals who shared our interest in working out the terms in their

own language. Volume III of the Dictionary, which includes Czech, Polish and Russian terms, was published in Poland in 1964 (Appendix E).

After the BRA bought its first photocopier in 1959, translations could be sold as well as lent; and in 1965 a subscription service was introduced, £35 or \$100 a year covering 300 pages of translations. A cumulative card index to the translations was also made available, and it has been updated annually ever since.

From 1951, entries in *Apicultural Abstracts* were marked "E" if an English translation of the publication was available. The entries on the computer tapes (Chapter 7) also give this information, and these are updated annually so that a paper translated after the abstract was published is marked accordingly.

Theses and dissertations

In some countries it is mandatory that a thesis should be published; in others only four typed copies are normally made. But in general it is difficult for a would-be reader to get hold of theses and dissertations, and latterly the BRA has made consistent efforts to acquire new doctorate theses relating to bees, either as hard copy or as microfilm. In 1969 a list "Theses and dissertations in the BRA Library" was published in *Bee World* and issued as a reprint (L8). This had the effect of encouraging many more authors to send their theses to the Library, and it will soon be time to issue a supplementary list.

Unpublished material

Over the years unpublished material of various sorts has been deposited in the Library; some donors are listed on page 13. Much is of permanent value as source material, and is stored in steel transfer-cases in the fire-resistant room at Hill House.

One of the earliest gifts was a letter written to T. W. Woodbury by Charles Darwin between 1860 and 1870, expressing his interest in the newly invented comb foundation; it also suggests that he was not perhaps a very sure correspondent:

I thought and still think that I wrote to thank you for the artificial comb, which interested me much; but if you did not get a letter, it must have been lost or I did not write it.

With apologies, Dear Sir, and my best thanks,

Yours very faithfully,

C. Darwin.

In 1949 Dr. P. E. Spielmann presented correspondence and other documents dating from 1912, accumulated in the course of his attempts to collect beekeeping statistics from different countries, and in connection with proposed legislation on bee diseases and the making and sale of mead. Later, unpublished source material from J. Pryce-Jones, E. B. Wedmore, I. G. Rankin, Dr. H. M. Fraser and H. M. Cooper was presented posthumously to the BRA. Obviously not everything is of equal value, but on many occasions results of research work have been enriched by recourse to such papers.

Unpublished material in the Library includes details of experimental results reported in the *Journal of Apicultural Research* and deposited by authors, the location being indicated in the *Journal*. Collections of data on beekeeping in different countries are preserved, as they are often called for. Some unpublished reports sent for our files are to some extent confidential, and necessary steps are taken to prevent casual

access to these. Weather and apiary records are provided regularly from careful observers such as P. Chandler in Berkshire and F. W. Judge in Kent (UK).

Microforms

Soon after Professor Townsend had initiated the storage on magnetic tape of data about publications reported in *Apicultural Abstracts* (Chapter 7), he began exploring the possibilities of storing copies of the publications themselves in microform. (The 1971 cumulative printouts of subject and author catalogues were available on microfilm as well as on paper; the paper printouts were by then very bulky.) Université Laval in Quebec was drawn into the Guelph programme. There, a microfilm was made of each publication (with an English translation if one was available); from the film a microfiche was prepared by a diazo process, each fiche 6×4 inches (15×10 cm) accommodating 60 pages—or 60 double pages if these were small. The fiches are filed, each in its paper pocket, like index cards, according to the serial number in *Apicultural Abstracts*.

By the end of 1971, 1550 publications were on fiche. In the same year the Association was successful in obtaining a special grant of £500 from the Development Commission towards the cost of a CAPS 2 Printer-Reader, which was purchased in 1972; it is a sophisticated piece of equipment which will accept either roll film or fiche, and make a print—at the enlargement selected—up to A2 size (59×42 cm). The variable enlargement is important with originals of indifferent quality.

By the end of 1973 there were 3300 publications, all reported in *Apicultural Abstracts*, on microfiche (Table 10.1). The outstanding need now is a microfilming camera unit; once this is available a complete microfilm/fiche service can be provided. Individuals and libraries will then be able to get full copies of what publications they need, at only a small fraction of the cost of hard copies.

Microfilming of the Association's own journals, to make a complete "package" with updated computer subject and author catalogues from *Apicultural Abstracts* and EASI 2, also on microfilm, is under active discussion.

Card indexes

Hand-sorted index cards are still a main working tool in the Library, although before the history of the next 25 years of the BRA comes to be written, they may well be replaced by systems that make use of mechanized sorting. Fortunately the cards, which are 5×3 inches (12.5×7.5 cm), carry information that is easily convertible to a machine-readable form.

A Author catalogue cards (22 000) for all separate publications in the Library are filed in alphabetical order of the first author. It may be desirable at some future date to incorporate cards referring to significant publications held in a journal, or not held at all, i.e. C below.

B Author AA cards (21 000) are filed for all authors of all publications reported in *Apicultural Abstracts*. The entry, including the abstract, is printed on each card.

C Author bibliography cards (30 000), for the first author only, are filed for other bee publications. Major contributions to this index have come from Major D. M. T. Morland (15 000 cards, to 1933), and I. G. Rankin and Miss Joan Harding.

D Subject AA cards (46 000) are filed for each UDC subject number, in UDC order, for all publications reported in *Apicultural Abstracts*. The cards are duplicates of those in B above, but filed in subject order.

E *Subject bibliography cards* (12 000) are similarly filed (for each UDC subject number, in UDC order) for publications *not* reported in *Apicultural Abstracts*.

On the above Indexes, B and D together comprise CASCIAA (Chapter 7); copies can be purchased, annually and retroactively. They date from 1950, and the entries up to 1972 are stored on Tape 1. From 1973 (when *Apicultural Abstracts* entered the CAB system), the entries are stored on Tape 3.

By intention, Index E includes all publications (apart from those reported in *Apicultural Abstracts*) that are represented in Index A, plus those in Index C that are not duplications. In practice, lack of specialist time for subject classification has severely limited the contents of Index E. Means of obtaining the necessary funds for its extension are urgently being sought; bee libraries in other countries have allied problems, and a single co-operative effort could be advantageous to all. Only about 4000 publications out of the potential 30 000 are so far included in Index E, and these entries are stored on Tape 2. If this work could be completed, full author and subject catalogues could be produced as printouts or microfilm from Tape 2; they would amount to something like 40 000 and 90 000 entries respectively. They would constitute a relatively stable unit, requiring annual additions only of material considered useful to record but not necessary for *Apicultural Abstracts*, and would provide a permanent subject and author index to the whole of apicultural science.

Computer printouts

For some purposes—although by no means all—computer printouts have come to replace index cards, and as it becomes possible to produce more complete printouts, this trend will continue. Unlike catalogue cards, printouts are suitable for reproduction in a continually updated form, and can be sold or leased. They are dealt with in Chapter 7, and the part they play in the Library is explained there.

Trade catalogues

Catalogues issued by beekeeping appliance manufacturers are obtained from as many countries as possible, and in as many annual editions as possible. Although they are commonly discarded by individual beekeepers, in a library such as ours they have several important uses. They can assist in translation from one language to another, since an illustration serves to identify the objects named. They show what types of equipment are in use in any country, and early catalogues give valuable historical clues as to the development of beekeeping in a country, and dates at which a piece of equipment was first introduced commercially and finally ceased to be offered for sale. They may also be the only source of information about the foundation, rise and fall, and amalgamations, of supply houses whose histories have not been written.

A separate file is kept for general beekeeping catalogues from each country, which has subdivisions for the different firms. Trade leaflets describing a single item (honey extractor, bee escape, foundation mould) are housed according to subject in the Subsidiary File.

Subsidiary File

This File is used for miscellaneous material that comes to hand and is worth preserving, at any rate for a time, although not substantial enough to warrant cataloguing. It is housed in manilla folders filed in subject (UDC) order in steel cabinets, and contains such things as trade leaflets about specific beekeeping appliances, newspaper cuttings,

tear-sheets for publications otherwise discarded, minor advisory leaflets, photocopies of pages from books with reference to bees. No item likely to be sought for by author is housed in this File, and nothing irreplaceable; out-of-date items are discarded as and when they are superseded.

Use of the Library

Ways in which the main Library at Hill House may be used are set out in a free leaflet X25, and are summarized briefly here. Personal use and borrowing are normally restricted to BRA Members. The accessibility of Hill House from London and London airport has made it relatively easy for visitors from other countries to spend a day collecting information they need, for their own work, or to enable them to make the most of a tour to laboratories in countries they are visiting. Because of the integrated system for retrieval of information—with books, reprints, translations, journals, abstracts, card indexes and computer printouts all under one roof—Members can often find information in a day that might take them months to locate by other means.

Members were already using the Library in person when it was in Hull (1949–1955, see Chapter 3); for instance Dr. F. G. Smith, and Dr. M. Lindauer from Germany. But the present facilities have been available only since 1966 (Chapter 5). Staff help is of great benefit to those using the Library in person, and is usually available if advance notice is given. Straightforward loan or photocopying of specific publications or translations also presents few problems. Loan cards have been in use since the Library started; these are purchased in advance, providing a nominal contribution towards the cost of processing the loan (postage is charged extra), and encouraging the borrower to specify clearly the publication he wants.

Many less specific requests for information, or for loan of publications, are received from Members. A loan can be processed quickly only if the subject is clearly defined, and also the level at which the information is needed, and the languages in which it can be understood. If a request is too vague to be fulfilled, a form is sent to the enquirer with questions that enable him to clarify his requirements. In common with other suppliers of specialist information, BRA has devised a number of different ways of utilizing work already done. A research worker who has access to *Apicultural Abstracts* is often best served if he is sent photocopies of printout sheets of the subject catalogue that relate to his enquiry; he can then consult the abstracts—knowing that these cover publications on the subject since 1949—and write to borrow what he wants. Those without access to a complete set of *Apicultural Abstracts* often find the service known as SIBBRA (Selective Information Bank of the BRA) most valuable. Cards relating to the subject of enquiry from Index D, and where suitable E as well (page 7), are photocopied, several to a page, and charged accordingly. They give the enquirer complete details of relevant publications, and a summary from *Apicultural Abstracts* of most of them. He can decide which he wants to consult in full, and borrow them or purchase photocopies. Photocopies of abstract cards on a specific subject can be used in many other ways; for instance they formed the basis for the book “Pollination of seed crops” (published in 1972, Chapter 9).

Picture Collection

Although various photographs and charts had been collected earlier and used in educational exhibits, the Picture Library proper was started in 1953, Mrs. R. M. Duruz

(Chapter 11) being one of the chief initiators. She and Dr. Crane visited existing loan and reference picture collections; many of the ideas in the system of organization finally adopted were derived from the Picture Post Library (later acquired by the BBC) and New York Public Library. No such large-scale collection relating to bees had previously been attempted.

Two outstanding bee photographers, Dom S. Vandeputte of Affligem Abbey in Belgium, and Dr. W. Wittekindt in Germany, were active in connection with the Picture Library during the period 1954 to 1963. A Bee Photography Group was formed, and an agency scheme enabled photographers to sell reproduction rights for their photographs through BRA. This same Group initiated the preparation of the "World list of films on bees and beekeeping" (page 167). Dom Vandeputte and Dr. Wittekindt moved on to other fields, and it was not possible to maintain the initial level of activity. Nevertheless, consistent efforts have been made to obtain useful collections of photographs and other illustrations that might otherwise be lost, and to work towards an organized and integrated system. We have been consistently indebted to Eric Greenwood, a BRA Member who is a professional photographer, for specialist advice and help.

Contents

In its broadest sense, the Picture Collection consists of the following:

1. photographic prints
2. photographic negatives on glass and film
3. drawings and paintings, mainly published copies, many in colour
4. original drawings and paintings
5. posters and charts
6. 35-mm colour transparencies (post-1950)
7. $3\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{1}{4}$ inch (82 mm) black-and-white transparencies (pre-1950).

The most valuable individual items are those in 4 and 2, and these are housed in the fire-resistant room for safety. The most appreciated material in 4 is the complete collection of Dorothy Hodges' drawings of bees, presented by her in 1970 and 1972. A special asset to Hill House is a set of large mural paintings executed and presented by Marjorie Townley in 1971.

In 1954 the complete collection of glass negatives made by the Rev. G. H. Hewison in England in the 1920s was presented to BRA by his daughter Mrs. Stella Swift. In 1970 Brother Adam gave the film negatives he had obtained in different countries during his journeys "in search of the best strains of bees". The black-and-white slides include many early positive prints that may not exist elsewhere. Among those made by G. W. Judge before 1925 are several showing effects of "Isle of Wight disease". Among the collection presented by S. W. Gadge is a mosaic-screen colour photograph, probably made before 1914. Other slides date from the turn of the century, and some of these are packed in Lloyd's Weekly Newspaper of 9th January 1898, giving news of the Klondike Gold Rush. There are many other treasures.

An attempt was made in 1955 to form a collection of colour transparencies, for reference and loan, and this was repeated in 1960. Progress was insignificant in comparison with the rapid growth of the collection of photographic prints and published illustrations, described below under "The loan Picture Library". One reason was the lack of effective storage and viewing facilities, and this was not overcome until early 1974, when a grant from the Development Commission enabled us to purchase an Optia vertical storage/viewing system for 5000 transparencies in standard mounts

5 × 5 cm. The greatest single contributor so far has been F. G. Vernon, who has provided a valuable collection showing bees' foraging behaviour in relation to pollination, as well as photographs of the BRA Museum collection (Chapter 11). One lecture set of slides by Dr. W. Wittekindt, with a commentary by A. V. Pavord, has been in use for many years. There is a consistent demand both for further sets to form the basis of lectures, and for individual reference transparencies. Now that convenient storage is available, it is likely that the collection will grow rapidly.

The loan Picture Library

This term is used to cover both photographic prints (whether or not BRA holds the negative and/or copyright), and illustrations from other sources which are not originals. Housed together, these constitute by far the largest section of the Picture Library. It is here that one is most likely to find an illustration of what is required, and the pictures are available for consultation and loan. An alphabetical subject classification was used at first, but this was abandoned in favour of UDC (Chapter 7), which proved satisfactory in the adaptation used; and the reclassification was completed by 1958. The same adaptation is used for objects in the Museum collection (Chapter 11) and, indeed, the Picture Library serves as an extension of this collection, providing illustrations of pieces of equipment of which no example has been obtained.

On the back of each picture the UDC number, subject, photographer, and copyright holder, are recorded. This last is important if a request is received for permission to reproduce a photograph, and from the outset care was taken to grant such permission only with the agreement of the copyright holder.

By 1959 there were nearly 5000 pictures in the collection; by 1968 this had grown to 7000, by 1971 to 8000 and by 1973 to 9000. By no means all the later additions are documented and classified, for lack of time by specialists or staff with the necessary knowledge; not all photographs are fully documented. This is all the more unfortunate, in that several important collections of early photographs have been received within the last few years. Moreover there is a rapidly growing market for photographs for reproduction: to be used in educational books, articles in the general press, and advertisements. Dr. L. J. Connor, from the Ohio State University, has suggested (*Bee World* 55(3) : 114 (1974)), that a beekeeping extension officer could profitably spend a sabbatical term examining the collection and recording its rarer items.

One final category remains to be mentioned: posters and instructional charts. The posters show what is done in different countries to provide publicity for honey, other bee products, the use of bees for pollination, or bee congresses; Sweden, Czechoslovakia and Rumania have so far provided the most striking designs. Charts are mostly on bee anatomy and diseases. All the unmounted material is housed together in a cantilever suspension system.

Branches of the BRA Library

The idea of setting up Branches of the BRA Library first arose out of the desire to put to good use the many duplicate journals and reprints that were inevitably acquired in the course of building up the main Library. The first Branch of the Library was established in 1959 at Guelph in Canada, in the Apiculture Department of Ontario Agricultural College; this is now absorbed into the Department of Environmental Biology of the University of Guelph. From early years there had been a very close liaison between BRA and the Department, whose Head, Professor G. F. Townsend,

was one of the first Members of Council to be appointed from outside Britain, in 1958; he has been Chairman since 1968.

In 1959 discussions were also held with Dr. F. G. Smith while he was on leave in England from Tanganyika, where he was in charge of the Beekeeping Division. Dr. Smith saw clearly the importance of general beekeeping information in Tanganyika, and indeed in other African countries, and also the special need for exchange of information between African countries. As one step towards improving the information flow, the second Branch of the BRA Library, for Africa as a whole, was set up at Arusha in Tanganyika. At present discussions are in progress with the East African Agriculture and Forestry Organization in Nairobi, Kenya, with regard to possible extensions of the scheme; for several years past an Information File for African Countries (IFAC) has been distributed to Regional Representatives in Africa.

Countries in Asia were similarly in need of information services. The idea of a Branch of the Library for Asia, to be set up at the Apicultural Laboratory in Poona, India, was first mentioned in 1961. It did not become fact until 1967, when I visited Delhi and was able to discuss the proposal with Dr. Sardar Singh, Head of the Plant Protection Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, and C. V. Thakar, Secretary of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission. The Poona Laboratory, now the Central Bee Research and Training Institute, operates within the framework of this Commission.

In general, the main Library has supplied the Branches with whatever duplicate material was available, according to their respective needs and wishes, on a continuing basis. Since 1959 all requests to authors for reprints have asked for additional copies for the Branch Libraries, as well as the copy for abstracting, which goes to the main Library. Reprints are dispatched to the Branches immediately after they have been reported in *Apicultural Abstracts*, each having been coded with its serial number in the journal, which gives the recipient full bibliographical details for cataloguing.

Whatever is sent to a Branch is put into the Library of the institute or department there; in return, this Library provides such help as is possible to BRA Members in the continent (North and South America, Africa, Asia), by lending material they ask for, and so on. There are obvious limitations to this system, and it is feasible only so long as there are relatively few calls on the Branches for help. One merit of the system is that the material from BRA headquarters is not dissipated, but channelled into single centres in different parts of the world; another is that other institutions with publications to spare are encouraged to send them to the same centres, which will we hope provide a basis for future development.

Gifts and bequests

Reprints sent by some thousands of authors have been deposited in the BRA Library after being processed for *Apicultural Abstracts*, and likewise new books sent for review by publishing houses. The apicultural journals of the world have been received regularly since 1950, either free of charge or, more usually, in exchange for the Association's own journals. Accessions from these continuing sources, and a comparatively small number of purchases, have been augmented by many gifts and bequests, some of which are listed below.

There have been innumerable smaller donations, and all have been appreciated, and all put to good use. The largest single additions were from the Apis Club and the Morland Bequest.

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Material</i>	<i>Date</i>
Brother Adam, UK	photographs and negatives	1970
Apis Club, UK	much material (see text)	1950
Prof. L. Armbruster, Germany	journals	1950
Mlle Nora Baldensperger, France	journals, books	1968, 1970
Miss A. D. Betts	books, reprints	1951
Bienenabteilung, Liebenfeld, Switzerland	journals, reprints	1949
Miss M. D. Bindley	books	1973
E. G. and M. G. Burt, UK	journals, books	1957
Central Agricultural Library, USSR	books, reports, journals	1960–1965
H. M. Cooper, UK	unpublished papers (IOW disease)	1973
Cornell University, USA	journals	1953
Dr. Eva Crane, UK	much material	1949–1974
H. A. Dade, Australia	drawings and photographs	1972
A. G. Eames, UK	books	1970
W. Essinger, UK	early books (bequest, see text)	1972
Mrs. Edith Fraser, UK	Dr. H. M. Fraser's papers	1970
Dr. H. M. Fraser, UK	journals	1949
Miss Dorothy Galton, UK	books	1970–1974
Pan D. Georgantas, Greece	photographs	1957
W. H. P. Gould, UK	journals	1972
Guelph University, Canada	much material	1953–1974
Mrs. Dorothy Hodges, UK	books, original drawings	1970, 1972
I. A. Khalifman, USSR	books	1955–1974
Miss Flora McIntyre, USA	journals	1952
Dr. O. Morgenthaler, Switzerland	journals	1950
Dr. G. D. Morison, UK	journals	1968
Major D. M. T. Morland, UK	bequest (see text)	1964
Mrs. Stella Morland, UK	transparencies	1970
E. W. T. Morris, UK	journals	1949
National Agricultural Library, USA	journals	1964
H. Pager, South Africa	drawings	1973
G. P. Piana, Italy	trade catalogues	1974
Mrs. Pryce-Jones, UK	J. Pryce-Jones' library and papers	1956
I. G. Rankin, UK	reprints, journals	1964
Rev. R. Reiter, USA	reprints	1949
Smithsonian Institution, USA	journals	1964
Dr. P. E. Spielmann, UK	unpublished papers	1949
Station de Recherches sur l'Abeille, France	reprints, journals	1966–1974
Mrs. Stella Swift, UK	photographs and negatives by Rev. G. H. Hewison	1954
C. C. Tonsley, UK	photographs, journals	1970
Mrs. Marjorie Townley, UK	paintings	1971
Dr. K. W. Tucker, USA	translations	1957
G. Turner, USA	transparencies	1959
Mrs. D. E. Tweedie, UK	journals, photographs	1968, 1970
United States Department of Agriculture	much material	1949–1974
R. Verhagen, France	display photographs	1974
Brother Vincentius, Netherlands	publications, photographs	1964
Dr. Nevin Weaver, USA	journals	1964
Mrs. W. Wedmore, UK	E. B. Wedmore's library and papers	1956
Dr. W. Wittekindt, Germany	display photographs	1963