Each year the Northwest collection has been blessed with gifts from alumni and friends of Whitman College. Each contribution, however large or small, has added strength to our growing collection of Northwest Americana. Books, periodicals, pamphlets, maps and photographs are examples of the materials we receive. As our friends help us develop these various areas, the research capabilities of the collection grow stronger. This common interest joins us together in building a valuable research facility.

The Northwest collection is divided in two major areas: First is the book and periodical collection. We are attempting to develop a good cross section of materials written about Pacific Northwest subjects (history, botany, archaeology, economics, geology, etc.). Growth depends upon donations, budgetary allotments, and a small endowment fund. The second area consists of the archives. We have a much more specialized collection, and one, for the most part, that cannot be replaced. Photographs, family papers, business records, letter files, newspapers and maps are a few of the items which we receive and preserve for research purposes. This collection is growing and is becoming recognized as a valuable research facility. To me, the most rewarding aspect of this collection is that it has been and is being drawn together from the donations of alumni and friends. This is certainly an accomplishment in which we can all take pride.

We would like to share with each of you the names of those people who have contributed directly to the Eells Northwest Collection during 1978. (This includes contributions of materials and services.)

Alkins, Jeanne
Anderson, H. Calvert
Arnquist, Warren H.
Babcock, Mrs. Chester D.
Beaulaurier, Larry A.
Bennett, Robert A.
Berney, William E.
Brattain, Mr. & Mrs. Walter
Brode, Mrs. J. Stanley
Church, Mrs. Carl C.
Copeland, Mary Penrose
Corley, Peggy
Dedania, Mrs. W.
Dolling, Bill
Dows, Carol
Duphyn, Winifred
Edwards, B. Thomas
Fee, Mrs. James Alger
Ferguson, Baker
Frye, Virginia C. Hawkins
Gaiser, Paul F.
Gibbons, Ralph J.
Goetter, Patricia
Gray, Mr. & Mrs. Claude
Grubbe, Mr. & Mrs. Roy
Guernsey, Mrs. Betty
Gullick, Mr. & Mrs. Bill
Hart, Mrs. Orville
Hawman, Art
Hodgson, Mr. & Mrs. Lester
Hunt, Lee C.
Jones, Gerwyn (Sr.)
Kaseburg, Howard
Kelly, William L.
Koger, Mr. & Mrs. John W.
Lee, Arthur T.
Mckay, Dick
McKeen, Mr. & Mrs. Bill
Maddux, Mr. & Mrs. Frank
Martin, Mr. & Mrs. Howard
Maxey, Dr. Chester C.
Mitchell, Frank
Moore, Mrs. Elsie P.
Orchard, Vance
Owen, Francis. Penrose
PNW Waterways Association
Park, Barry
Phillips, Mrs. Grace
Plattis, Kathie
Platz, Mrs. Harry W.
Prentiss, Warren V.
Reid, Robert. "Pete"
Reynolds, Charlotte
Reynolds, Ruth S.
Richardson, Phoebe K.
Robinson, Mrs. Lee
Savage, Sam
Schmidt, Mr. & Mrs. Theodore
Scoonock, Robert L.
Sparks, Marilyn
Stemmer, Joseph A.
Stewart, Richard
Stone, Mr. & Mrs. Frank P.
Strickland, Mr. & Mrs. George
Struck, Henry
Thomas, Richard S.
Thompson, Erwin
Thompson, S. Eugene
Torrey, Richard
Tugman, William M.
Turner, Nancy
Virgin, Robert G.
Walla Walla Valley
Genealogical Society
Westerkamp, Mr. & Mrs. H. P.
Woodbridge, Ross
Yancey, Ruth
Yates, Nita

We extend a sincere THANK YOU to each of you for your support.

We would like to share a few of our accomplishments during 1978. One of the major concerns in housing archival materials is being able to maintain controlled temperature and humidity. This is one area which we knew had a problem. A study of the temperature variations in the archives, combined with recommendations from professional journals on proper temperature control, formed the basis for a report presented to the college. The conclusion of this report recommended that we install independent temperature control systems for the archives. At the same time we were studying ways
to better utilize the space within the archives. The answer was to remove the library shelving we had been using and install shelving designed more to fulfill the needs of an archival collection.

Our final proposal demonstrated the need and pointed out that considerable time and effort would be saved if we could do both projects at the same time - one mess - one move. Well, our dream came true. The total package was approved in June, and in August we saw the installation of the new heat pumps, and while the contractor was getting ducts and equipment installed, we erected the new shelving. This is truly a major contribution to the physical improvement of the archives.

In the past few years we have seen an increasing interest in photographs. For example, with the increasing interest in historic preservation we have had an influx of patrons wishing to obtain pictures and documentation of local buildings. The demands generated by this type of program soon revealed weaknesses in our photographic collections. We decided that if we were to meet the present day plus future needs, we had better take a close look at our collection and attempt to fill in the gaps, if possible. Our success was 'way beyond our expectations. 1978 was the most successful year we have ever had in collecting photographs/negatives since my arrival in Whitman in 1969. We received collections of negatives and prints from three local studios: Vitart (still in operation), Arnold, and Armstrong. The Vitart collection consists of approximately 800 negatives relative to Whitman College sports; the Arnold collection of approximately 500 negatives and prints covers the 1930's with views of Walla Walla, local events (Whitman Centennial) and photographs around Eastern Washington and Oregon. The Armstrong group is a recent enough acquisition that we really have not grasped the total content of the collection. We estimate approximately 5,200 negatives along with a couple hundred prints, taken mostly during the 1940's and presenting a wide variety of views of local and Northwest subjects. All three collections are major contributions to the archival photograph/negative files.

We have a similar program directed at collecting materials relative to Whitman College. Both on and off campus sources are helping us put together a collection which will preserve the history of the college. Alumni have been strong contributors - yearbooks, dance programs, photographs, club minute books, etc. We were very pleased when the Whitman College President's Associates granted us sufficient funds to have the Whitman College student newspaper (The Pioneer) put on microfilm. With the exception of two issues we have a complete run from 1896 to the present date.

We have been very fortunate in having people volunteer their time and skills to the improvement of the archival collection. Kathie Platis and Marilyn Sparks have been working on developing a typescript of an important letter press book. Mrs. Harry Platz, granddaughter of Catherine Sager Pringle, took on the task of making a typescript of her grandmother's story (the original manuscript is at PML). Calvert Anderson worked with the Pacific Northwest Waterways Association materials for some time. This was a major contribution because Mr. Anderson had been Executive Vice President of the organization from 1969-1976 and was very familiar with the collection. Mr. Bill Kelly and Mrs. Warren Arnoquist both took the time to sit down and be interviewed, on tape, about their experiences and reminiscences of Professor Benjamin H. Brown.

Numerous times we have depended upon friends of the Northwest Collection to help acquire materials, identify photographs or assist in making our facility more usable. It is very rewarding to see the support and sharing we have experienced.

We have given you a brief narrative of what has taken place in the Cells Northwest Collection during 1978. We realize that we have not covered everything or mentioned everybody. We hope that all those who have helped us improve the facilities know that we truly appreciate and depend upon their continued support.

Take pride, for we are preserving our heritage, building a valuable library and helping students and patrons better understand the Pacific Northwest.

PLEASE BE SURE TO VISIT US WHEN YOU ARE ON CAMPUS.

Lawrence L. Dodd