and positive selection" – perhaps there is some cause for concern regarding censorship after all?

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A Checklist of the Herbert Read Archive in the McPherson Library of the University of Victoria, compiled by Howard Gerwing with the assistance of Michael W. Pidgeon. Victoria: University of Victoria, 1969. 71 p. O.O.P.

Sir Herbert Read, poet, novelist, playwright, and critic, was probably better known as an educator and an effective apologist for contemporary art. He encouraged, assisted, and inspired many writers and artists of our era and should therefore be considered as a major influence on our culture. Upon his death, 12 June 1968, the University of Victoria at the urging of Robin Skelton decided to produce a memorial issue of the *Malahat Review* (Number Nine/January 1969). Part of this issue included a checklist of Read's published works and a large collection of his papers and manuscripts that had happily been purchased by the University of Victoria.

The list of published works was compiled from library catalogues (those of the Library of Congress and the British Museum in the main). It is not – and was not meant to be – a definitive bibliography. The list of "Unique Materials" followed the basic organization that had already been completed by Sir Herbert or his son Benedict. The forty-seven bundles, containing such disparate items as letters, photographs, drawings, clippings, galley proofs, page proofs, typescripts, and holographs, were treated as units, as the papers in each had obvious connections with one another. The papers, therefore, do not follow an alphabetical or chronological arrangement. Most of the correspondence "from" and "to" Sir Herbert had been separated and was filed alphabetically by sender and receiver.

The *Checklist*, with addenda, was issued as a separate pamphlet in order to give notice to other libraries of the existence of the collection. The pamphlet must be used with caution because the list of the published material does not indicate the holdings of the McPherson Library. Further, the lack of an index to the list of "Unique Materials" means that a very careful search through the whole list must be made if any particular aspect of the collection is to be checked thoroughly.

The pamphlet was meant only as a temporary service until a full bibliography is completed and until many more important collections of letters and papers are added to the archive. Nevertheless, the *Checklist* does indicate that Canadian libraries are helping to preserve and promote important collections of the books and papers of significant people.

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