

America. A document called *The Report of the Investigating Commission*, issued by the imperial military authorities and dealing with the investigation following the Decembrist revolt of 1825, is considered extremely rare even in the Soviet Union.

Censorship of printed materials began at the end of the 18th century with the appearance of private printing presses under Catherine II. Earlier, official supervision was considered unnecessary because the government had assumed the role of publisher and owned all the presses.

Early banned books included the 1789 Russian translation of Thomas More's *Utopia*, which was destroyed; Radishchev's *Journey from St. Petersburg to Moscow*, which was burned in 1790; and Voltaire's books, which were confiscated. In the 19th and early 20th century, "cases of confiscation and destruction of books became so common that simply to list the thousands of titles that were victims of censorship would require a special publica-

tion," Durman said. After the 1917 October Revolution, a period of total regulation began that has not ceased.

Among the exhibit's censored books is a copy of Mikhail Shcherbatov's *On the Corruption of Morals in Russia*, published in 1876. Prince Shcherbatov was one of the first Russians to criticize Peter the Great for introducing corrupt Western mores into traditional Russian family values. "His pamphlet gives a lurid account of the misconduct of 18th-century Russian empresses and their favorites," Durman said.

Choldin said that microfilm copies would be made of any rare book of which the substance is not otherwise available. With some 500,000 volumes, the Illinois Slavic collection ranks third in the United States, behind those at the Library of Congress and Harvard. While more than half are written in the languages of the Soviet Union, the library holds strong Czech, Yugoslavian, Bulgarian, Polish, Romanian and Hungarian collections. ■■

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Simmona Simmons, Associate Reference Librarian, Kuhn Library, University of Maryland, Balti-

more County, 5401 Willans Ave., Baltimore, MD 21228.

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Mississippi Chapter (est. 1981)

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Nancy Hanks, Director of Libraries, Wells Library, Northwest Missouri State, Marysville, MO 64468.

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New York Chapter, Eastern (est. 1975)

Christine Root, Associate Professor, Hudson Valley Community College, Troy, NY 12180.

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North Carolina Chapter (est. 1978)

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North Dakota Chapter (est. 1984)

Jon A. Boone, Coordinator of Collection Development, Fritz Library, University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND 58202.

**150 years of Texas
independence**

Rare books, manuscripts, letters, maps, and prints from the Special Collections Department of the University of Houston Libraries will be highlighted in a year-long Texas Sesquicentennial project developed jointly by the staff of the University's Office of Media Relations and the Library's Special Collections.

To celebrate Texas' independence from Mexico in 1836, a special 52-week column, "Journey Through Texas," is being offered to select newspapers across the state. Each article, written as if the author were a part of the scene described, will feature an item from the Library's Special Collections. As of mid-August, 35 newspapers statewide have subscribed to the series, which is offered free of charge.

Concurrent with each week's newspaper coverage, KTRH Radio in Houston has agreed to run several 60-second weekend spots using the articles written by the University of Houston's Office of Media Relations Staff. These will be read by Ray Miller, a pioneer broadcast journalist whose television program, "The Eyes of Texas," is the oldest and best known travel and historical series to be aired on Texas television.

Ohio Chapter (est. 1981)

Paula N. Warnken, Director, McDonald Memorial Library, Xavier University, 3800 Victory Parkway, Cincinnati, OH 45207.

Oklahoma Chapter (est. 1981)

Robert H. Patterson, Director of Libraries, McFarlin Library, University of Tulsa, 600 S. College Ave., Tulsa, OK 74104.

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Rebecca Thompson, Acting Director, LRC, Central Oregon Community College, NW College Way, Bend, OR 97701.

South Dakota Chapter (est. 1981)

Leon Raney, Dean of Libraries, South Dakota State University, Box 2115, Brookings, SD 57007.

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Margaret Anderson, Head of Acquisitions, Todd Library, Middle Tennessee State University, Box 13, Murfreesboro, TN 37130.

Texas Chapter (est. 1977)

Maxine Johnston, Director, Gray Library, Lamar University, Box 10021, Lamar Station, Beaumont, TX 77710.

Virginia Chapter (est. 1977)

Catherine V. Bland, Director of Library Services, Johnson Memorial Library, Box JJ, Virginia State University, Petersburg, VA 23803.

Washington State Chapter (est. 1980)

John P. Backes, Reference Services, Howard Library/Media Center, Shoreline Community College, 16101 Greenwood Ave., N., Seattle, WA 98133.

Wisconsin Chapter (est. 1975)

Kathy M. Schneider, Director, Wisconsin Interlibrary Loan Service, 728 State St., Madison, WI 53706. ■■

**Food fight ends
Western Civilization**

This bit of Stanfordiana was recently discovered in a vertical file in the Reference Department at Stanford University Library:

"During the fall quarter of 1946, a student orange-throwing session so unnerved the librarian in charge of the Western Civilization Library that the Department of History requested that the Main Library take it over. The Circulation Division assumed responsibility for the library before the end of the quarter.

"In December 1950 the Western Civilization Library moved from the History Department to Temporary Building A, where it is nearing the end of the decade."—*Library Bulletin, Stanford University Libraries*, August 12, 1985.

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