

about **AXMEISTER** the college



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L. R. C. NOTES

PRESS RELEASE

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We are pleased to announce the acquisition of the famous Axmeister collection of early Alberta erotica, which, under the terms of the will of the late Chief Justice, was recently presented to the Library by his executors.

The addition of this teeming treasure-trove of Alberta filth establishes us as one of the nation's richest storehouses for authentic Prairie pornography and is certain to add to the esteem in which this institution is held in academic circles here and abroad.

Among the highlights of the collection:

- The Ravinsky photographs. These are of such outstanding technical quality (despite dating from the 1860's in some cases) that they should become invaluable teaching aides in our Fine Arts and Gymnastics programs. In addition, they depict pioneer life in Alberta from a unique sociological perspective and will no doubt be closely studied by local history buffs.

- The great MacRae compilation of western Canadian graffiti, gathered so painstakingly by the Rev. Alastair MacRae and his nephew Charles. The two are believed to have visited every outhouse across the length and breadth of the Prairies in their tireless turn-of-the-century quest. It is hoped that the Department of Advanced Education will be able to provide the funding necessary to bring this extraordinary collection up to date.

- The seventh canto of the notorious Foothills epic, "The Fly in the Pemican." Feared lost for many years, the legendary seventh must be regarded as the diadem of the Axmeister collection.

- Excellent reproductions of the complete works of "La Trineau" the unknown artist who terrorized residents of the Stettler area for several years after World War I. His disgusting masterpieces, painted late at night on the sides of barns, are still a topic of excited debate in the region, while the artist himself has been the subject of numerous doctoral studies and a recent play in the C.B.C. "Performance" series.

- The Axmeister diaries themselves, which reveal the full range of their author's exuberant scholarship. How much we owe to the expertise and industry of this inexhaustible collector!

The Axmeister collection will be housed in special closed access shelving, where it will be available for research purposes to serious scholars. Anyone wishing to gain access should apply in writing to the Chief Librarian.

This is a proud day indeed for Red Deer College !