

## NOTES & NEWS

### SCOLMA NEWS

**Automation.** Rachel Monk completed a two month project in October 1994 as a research assistant for SCOLMA, investigating the problems of entering periodicals and serials as recorded in SCOLMA's *Periodicals from Africa*. As noted in *ARD* 63, 1993, 57, this pilot project is to provide data on which SCOLMA can base a possible appeal for funds to carry out a complete conversion project. The results of the pilot project will now be analysed by SCOLMA's Automation Sub-Committee whose convenor is Sheila Allcock of the International Development Centre, Oxford.

**Donations to African libraries.** SCOLMA has arranged to donate 25 complete sets of *ARD*, 1973-1991 to the International Campus Book Link (ICBL), operated by Book Aid International (formerly Ranfurly Library Service). Through this programme sets will be passed on by ICBL to those of their African "Partner Libraries" who would find them useful. Currently ICBL has 29 partner libraries in 13 African countries (Cameroon, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Namibia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe).

### INSTITUTIONS & ORGANISATIONS

**CASIS** (Consortium of African Schools of Information Science) was established in April 1994. Founding members were the African Regional Centre for Information Science, University of Ibadan, Nigeria; the School of Information Studies for Africa, University of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; the Department of Library and Information Studies, University of Botswana, Gaborone; and the Ecole des Sciences de l'Information, Rabat, Morocco. CASIS aims to facilitate regular co-operation among the schools in teaching, research, consultancy and advisory services. Principally aimed at schools with master's programmes and a research interest, it nevertheless hopes to involve all information science schools on the continent. For details or comment, contact Professor Havard-Williams, DLIS, University of Botswana, PB 0022 Gaborone, Botswana (Fax: +267-356591. E-mail: Havard@motswedi.ub.bw).

**Foreign & Commonwealth Office Library.** The FCO Library, recently reorganized around the Durbar Court Library in the Foreign Office Building, King Charles Street, is to move again early in the new year. This time it is to be re-located in the former Commonwealth Relations Office Library in the north-east corner of the Foreign Office building adjacent to Downing Street. This is the section known to many as the "anaconda library" after the serpent suspended from the ceiling. Lewis Foreman at the 1994 SCOLMA conference on "Images of Africa" told the audience that even the anaconda had recently been refurbished, and one hopes that it will once again oversee the bookstock. It is the intention of the FCO that the new accommodation should also house a small reading room, and that the collection should once again be open to outside readers.

**LinguaLinc** is a new U.K. network of co-operative organizations supporting the provision of library materials in languages other than English. Its first project is a publication to be called "Signposts" which is intended for use by public libraries, and will list significant collections in academic libraries and sources of expertise and support, including specialist booksellers. For more information, or offers of help, contact:

Geoff Warren,  
WMRLS,  
Central Library,  
Chamberlain Square,  
Birmingham B3 3HQ.

**Northwestern University** will soon be joining the National Co-ordinated Cataloguing Programme (NCCP) in the U.S., contributing monographic bibliographic records for Africana. It will join four other libraries contributing records through the OCLC PRISM service. The entries will reside on OCLC and as with all NCCP records will contain full authority work and will carry an 042 field authentication code with the legend "lcncpp". The records will be identified as "DLC" records in the truncated and brief display in OCLC and will be retrieved by searches using the DLC qualifier.

## AFRICA IN GENERAL

### Awards & prizes

**Noma award, 1994.** The 1994 Noma award has gone to Paul Tiyambe Zeleza of Malawi for his *A modern economic history of Africa; vol. 1: The nineteenth century* published in 1993 by the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA) in Dakar. The jury citation calls it "an ambitious ... and exhaustively researched synthesis" with a "bold and convincing challenge to hitherto accepted orthodoxies, terminologies and interpretations". The author, born in Harare, but brought up in Malawi, gained his first degree from the University of Malawi. He is currently on the staff of the History Department of Trent University, Peterborough, Ontario, Canada.

Over 140 titles from 55 African publishers in 17 countries were submitted for consideration for the 1994 award. In addition to the winner, the jury also awarded a "Special commendation" to *Gender profile of Tanzania*, published by the Tanzania Gender Networking Programme in 1993, and "Honourable mention" to:

Fourie, C. *Die wit vlinder*, Cape Town, Tafelberg, 1993 (a children's book in Afrikaans)

Jones, S. *Assaulting childhood: children's experiences of migrancy and hostel life in South Africa*. Johannesburg, Witwatersrand University Press, 1993

Jenkins, E. *Children of the sun: selected writers and themes in South African children's literature*. Johannesburg, Ravan Press, 1993

Kukah, M.H. *Religion, politics and power in Northern Nigeria*. Ibadan, Spectrum

Books Ltd., 1993

Tadjo, V. *Mamy Wata et le monstre*. Abidjan, Nouvelles Éditions Ivoiriennes, 1993 (a children's picture-story book).

The **8th Conover-Porter Award** for the author of "the most outstanding achievement in Africana bibliography and reference works published in 1991-93" was made jointly to Thomas George Barton for his *Sexuality and health in Sub-Saharan Africa: an annotated bibliography* (Nairobi, AMREF, 1991) and to Hans Zell for his new 4th edition of *African books in print* (London, Zell, 1993). Honourable mentions were awarded to Bernice Kelly's *Nigerian artists: a who's who and bibliography* (London, Zell 1993) and to John McIlwaine's *Africa: a guide to source material* (London, Zell, 1993).

The title by Thomas Barton, a medical doctor and anthropologist currently working in Uganda, lists 2,065 items relating to AIDS drawn from the medical and social science literature. The work is not only for scholars but also for practical use in applied programmes in Africa. SCOLMA offers its particular congratulations to Hans Zell, our own publisher, for this further recognition of his skills as a bibliographer and researcher in addition to his tireless publishing activities. We hope to carry an article by him in a forthcoming issue of *ARD* reflecting on his life in Africa and Africana.

The **Besterman Medal**, awarded annually by the Library Association of the U.K. to "the outstanding bibliography or guide to the literature published during the preceding year" was made to John McIlwaine's *Africa: a guide to source material* (London, Zell, 1993). Numerous institutional members of SCOLMA and individual members of the SCOLMA Committee past and present are acknowledged in the introduction to this work for their assistance in its compilation.

### **Electronic sources**

**DEVLINE (DEVELOPMENT information service onLINE)** is now available free of charge over the Internet. It is provided by the British Library for Development Studies (BLDS) based at the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) at the University of Sussex, Brighton, U.K.

**DEVLINE** currently provides the following services:

**IDISDB**, the online catalogue and journal articles database of the British Library for Development Studies (over 80,000 records in August 1994). This includes all titles acquired by the Library since mid 1987, entries for selected articles from some 700 journals received since September 1990, and title entries for some 10,000 serials. Subject indexing follows the *UN Macrothesaurus for information processing in the field of economic and social development*

**EGUIDE**, an online database of electronic information sources on development studies

Information about all other services of the BLDS and of the IDS

**COURSES** and **PEOPLE**, databases of British courses and specialists in development studies

Information about academic development studies institutions in Britain

Services to be added to in the future will include access to the database of the *International Development Research Center (IDRC)* in Ottawa and other specialist databases.

To connect to **DEVLINE**:

telnet **LIB.IDS.SUSX.AC.UK** (soon to change to **LIB.IDS.AC.UK**)

login: **HELLO GUEST.MARC**

then follow the instructions provided online. It is recommended that first time users study the help information provided on the introductory menus, as very little help is available during searching

For more information on **DEVLINE** and the **ISISDB** database contact Debbie Beer, Systems Librarian, BLDS (d.beer@sussex.ac.uk),

**"Directory of African Experts"**. Kwaplah International are attempting to compile a directory of African and African-American experts in different fields of study. The intention is that the list should help international organizations and other bodies doing development work in Africa to identify appropriate specialists. Those with relevant expertise are invited to send their personal details (or suggestions for other persons who might be approached) to:

Kwaplah International Inc.,  
Office of Procurement and International Consultant Service  
Corvallis, Oregon 97330, USA.

### **Recent publications**

*FID news bulletin* 44(4) 1994 focusses on "Electronic networking in developing countries" and includes a specifically African contribution by L.O. Aina on agricultural information services and electronic networks.

*Library review*, 42(5) 1993 contains two articles by African librarians on the problems of implementing automated systems in African countries: R.M. Mwinymbegu, "Obstacles to information technology transfer in the Third World", pp. 28-37 and H.L. Mampo, "Managing automation in developing countries: a current view", pp. 38-43.

*African newspapers currently received by American libraries*, comp. Mette Shayne.

[Evanston, Melville J. Herskovits Library of African Studies, Northwestern University Library], 1994. 20pp. A union listing of some 220 current titles with locations in 15 U.S. libraries. It is a revision of the 1979 ed. compiled by Dan Britz and published by the African Studies Center at Boston University. Newspapers published in North Africa are this time excluded since they are covered by other U.S. lists covering Middle Eastern materials. Intended as a checklist, no details are included of the comprehensiveness of individual library holdings.

Akhtar, S. & Melesse, M. Africa, information and development: IDRC's experience, *Journal of information science*, 20(5) 1994, 314-322 (The International Development Research Council in Ottawa carried out a major re-think of its African strategy during 1987/88. The article discusses the new goals that emerged from this, and the developments in the five years since).

Bain, A. Cataloging of materials in African languages, *Cataloging & classification quarterly*, 17( 1/2) 1993, 97-114 (a substantial treatment of the problem by the Chair of Monographic Cataloguers, UCLA, and dedicated to the late Elizabeth Widenmann "who should have been the one to write it". Discusses problems of orthography and use of diacritics and forms of names. Includes bibliography of useful works for the cataloguer and a list of the main countries and cities of imprint for 18 African languages).

*Bibliography of Canadian master's theses and doctoral dissertations on Africa, 1905-1993*. Montreal, Canadian Association of African Studies, 1994. 320pp. (ISBN 0-920184-14-6. Can\$18.00) is another major contribution to recording such sources, taking its place with the U.S. and SCOLMA's U.K. listings. In addition to recording 3,112 theses, there is an account of the history of research on African topics in Canadian universities.

*Censuses in the Melville J. Herskovits Library of African Studies*, comp. Mette Shayne. Evanston, Ill, Northwestern University Library, June 1994. 100pp. A greatly expanded version of the 1982 catalogue. The Library attempts to collect all African censuses and accompanying materials such as enumerators' manuals and questionnaires. Listing is by country, then chronological by census. References are given to other bibliographies of census material.

DeLancey, M.W. & Mays, T.W. *Historical dictionary of international organizations in Sub-Saharan Africa*. Metuchen, NJ, Scarecrow Press, 1994. (International Organizations Series, 3). 579pp. (ISBN 0-8108-2751-4). A guide to the development, including changing names and objectives, of organizations from colonial times. Includes entries for prominent individuals serving with such organizations, a chronology, a comprehensive acronym list and a bibliography.

Gorman, R.F. *Historical dictionary of refugee and disaster relief organizations*. Metuchen, NJ, Scarecrow Press, 1994. (International Organizations Series, 7). 283pp. (ISBN 0-8108-2876-6)

*Guide to the Africana video collection* [in the Marjorie Iglow Mitchell Media Center]. Evanston, Northwestern University Library, Jan. 1994. 48pp. A straight listing, without any introductory matter, of 190 videos. Detailed summaries of contents are usually given, especially for compilations such as Basil Davidson's "Africa: a voyage of discovery", originally broadcast as eight TV programmes.

Ilesanmi, O. The right place, *West Africa*, 10-16 October 1994, 1751-1752 looks at the problems associated with attempts to ensure that the original manuscripts of major African writers are lodged in appropriate repositories for future consultation. "There cannot be any question that ... the ideal place for African manuscripts and papers is Africa. But the present circumstances in black Africa make the issue more complex ... the libraries and national archives in most African countries are badly managed and underfunded". He discusses actual cases, such as the text of Amos Tutuola's *Palmwine drunkard*, offered to an American university, brought back by the author to Nigeria after public outcry and offered to Nigerian institutions, then eventually, after years without acceptable arrangements, sold to the University of Texas. The announcement in July 1994 that Harvard's Houghton Rare Book and Manuscript Library is opening a Wole Soyinka archive leads on to a further condemnation of "indifference to cultural property by African leaders".

Raseroka, H. Kay. Changes in public libraries during the last twenty years: an African perspective, *Libri*, 44(2) 1994, 153-163 (paper given at a Seminar on Public Libraries held at Guimarães, Portugal in association with the 1993 IFLA General Conference in Barcelona. The author, Librarian of the University of Botswana, is Chairman of the African Section of the Regional Activities Division of IFLA).

## **NORTH AND NORTH-EAST AFRICA**

Gupta, P. The development of education, printing and publishing in Ethiopia, *International information and library review*, 26, 1994, 169-180 (concentrates principally on historical aspects).

Silverburg, S.R. & Reich, B. *U.S. foreign relations with the Middle East and North Africa : a bibliography*. Metuchen, NJ, Scarecrow Press, 1994. (Scarecrow Area Bibliographies, 3). 607pp. (ISBN 0-8108-2699-2). Covers a wide range of materials in western languages with particularly detailed coverage of the Gulf War.

Silverburg, S.R. & Reich, B. *Asian states' relations with the Middle East and North Africa: a bibliography, 1950-1993*. Metuchen, NJ, Scarecrow Press, 1994. (Scarecrow Area Bibliographies, 6). 173pp. (ISBN 0-8108-2872-3). Concentrates on listing published, and some unpublished theses and dissertations.

Vernon, E. Notes on an acquisitions trip to Tunisia, 1994, *MELA notes*, 60, 1994, 12-16.

## EAST AFRICA

Hino, S. Swahili studies in Japan, *African urban studies*, 2, 1992, 77-138 (a detailed account concentrating on the subject matter of actual publications and theses by Japanese researchers rather than on academic institutions and programmes).

Hino, S. A bibliography on Swahili studies in Japan, *African urban studies*, 2, 1992, 139-158 (a bibliography to accompany his survey noted above. Analyses articles in 13 Japanese journals. Entries are given in Japanese and then in translation).

### Kenya

Mbatia, E.W. et al. Library services at health facilities in Kenya, *Bulletin of the Medical Library Association*, 82(1) 1994, 67-69.

Pugliese, C. Kenyan publishers in vernacular languages: Gikuyu, Kibamba & Dholuo, *Africa* (Rome), 49(2) 1994, 250-259.

## CENTRAL AFRICA

*Zambezia*, the journal of the University of Zimbabwe has issued a cumulative index to its first 20 volumes in vol. 20(2) 1993.

## SOUTHERN AFRICA

**Southern African books in print, 1994.** Cape Town, Books in Print Information Services, 1994. (ISBN 0-6201828-1-4) lists over 28,000 items from over 700 publishers in South Africa and adjacent countries.

### Angola

Tali, M de C. Libraries in Luanda, Angola: problems and prospects, *Cadernos BAD*, 1993(3) 29-53 (based on a survey of the national library and 11 other collections).

### South Africa

Boon, J.A. et al. The information economy in South Africa – definition and measurement, *Journal of information science*, 20(5) 1994, 334-347,

Morris, M.L. & Stavrou, S.E. Telecommunication needs and provision to underdeveloped black areas in South Africa, *Telecommunications policy*, 17(7) 1993, 529-539.

## WEST AFRICA

### Ghana

Entsua-Mensah, C. *Strategies for library and information development in Ghana, Information development*, 10(3) 1994, 200-203.

### Nigeria

Nigeria held its first **National Book Week** from 25th to 30th April, 1994, organised by the Nigerian Book Foundation, a non-governmental, non-profit organization in association with the major professional associations in the book industry. It is planned that it should be an annual event. The welcome address at the opening ceremony by Professor Chukwuemeka Ike, President of the Foundation, emphasised three main reasons for initiating the Book Week. Firstly, "to sensitise the entire nation to the centrality of the book to national development and survival"; secondly "to reinforce the bonds between the various professional and other groups and agencies involved in indigenous book development"; thirdly to provide an appropriate forum for announcing the Annual National Awards for Book Development.

It is hoped that each Book Week will have an in-depth study of a particular theme. For the first Book Week, this took the form of a Conference on "Making books readily available and affordable", looking at aspects such as subsidy, local sourcing of key materials for book production, and improvement of book production technology and marketing and distribution strategies. The Conference appealed to the Nigerian Government to lift (if only for a limited period) import duty and other taxes on paper, litho plates and films so as to bring down the cost of books. It also appealed to the Nigerian Book Foundation to establish a regular training and research programme.

Among organizations actively participating with exhibitions and meetings were the National Library, the Nigerian Library Association, the Nigerian Publishers' Association and the Nigerian Copyright Council. The Second National Book Week will be on 24th-29th April 1995. For further details contact:

Nigerian Book Foundation,  
4 Ezi-Ajana Lane (Umumkwa Village)  
PO Box 1132,  
Awka, Nigeria.

Adeniran, O.R. et al. Availability and use of CD-ROM products in Nigerian libraries and information centres, *Electronic library*, 12, 1994, 155-168.

Afolabi, M.O. A bibliography of the Nigerian Government's Commissions of Enquiry Reports and accompanying White Papers from 1920 to 1986, *Government publications review*, 20, 1993, 297-358 is an important contribution to Nigerian

bibliographical control. It lists 790 documents, arranged under issuing bodies, the Federal Government and then individual states, with author and subject indexes. The listing is based upon the holdings of the Hezekiah Oluwasanmi Library, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, which has a special collection of such material, but includes entries for documents only held by other collections with an indication of their location, including the FCO Library in the U.K and Boston and Yale Universities, the Library of Congress and New York Public Library in the US.

Ifidon, S.E. Publishing of library journals in Nigeria, *Third world libraries*, 3, 1993, 45-49 (principally concerned with analysing the reasons for the high failure rate amongst these, but the list of 19 titles also provides a useful bibliographical checklist for an elusive category. Although the list was compiled from a visit to the National Serials Data Centre at the National Library of Nigeria, there are still gaps in dates of commencement and last issue (9 titles are claimed to be still current) and frequency.

Mohammed, Z. Towards bridging the information gap in developing countries: the case of Nigeria, *International information & library review*, 26, 1994, 91-106.

## **SENEGAL**

Samba Diop, *The oral history and literature of the Wolof people of Waalo, Northern Senegal*. New York, Lampeter, The Edwin Mellen Press, 1994. 301pp. ISBN 0-7734-9031-0. US\$99.95/£59.95.