

JAMAICA LIBRARY

ASSOCIATION

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PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

By K. E. Ingram, B.A., F.L.A.
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Ladies & Gentlemen,

First of all I must thank you for the honour which you have done me this afternoon by electing me President. As you are all very well aware, however, there is no honour without its attendant responsibilities and duties, and as you therefore have conferred on me this honour I am going to ask you to help me support its responsibilities, by your ready and enthusiastic support for the Association and its activities during the present year. This Association was founded and to a great degree sustained by the devoted efforts of librarians who are no longer with us and those of you who have been associated with them in this work will certainly not wish to see any decline in the Association's vitality or activity, but rather, happy in the sound foundations which have been laid, will be anxious to see the association grow from strength to strength as a body representative of the profession of librarianship which is slowly emerging in our midst. If we regret the absence of old friends we are also happy to welcome those librarians who have recently joined us and we feel confident that we can look forward to their support in helping this Association to achieve the aims and objects which it has set before itself.

As I cast about me for a suitable theme to address a body of librarians and those interested in libraries I wondered whether I might find my cue in some current topic which might be relevant to libraries and I immediately thought of federation, but then my next thought was to shrink from the awful waffle I might fall into trying to establish a relationship between these two, especially as the latter is not yet a reality. I would like to say, however, in passing, that I think the future of this association or of any kindred association which might yet exist in the British Caribbean

area - might well lie, partially at least, in the formation of a wider West Indian Library Association. I recall that this idea was mooted by Mr. Hockey from as early as 1952 when he visited the Caribbean Seminar held in Jamaica and addressed us on his work in the Eastern Caribbean. No where in the British Caribbean have we more than a handful of trained librarians and it will be a long time indeed before any single island can support a large body of such persons. If therefore our association is to achieve that complete status of a professional body which should be its aim, it might well find that this is only feasible by joining forces with other librarians in the area. Such an association would seem to me to leave ample scope for vigorous local activity while enabling West Indian librarians and those interested in libraries to exert a wider and more coordinated influence over an area, which, whether it become a political unit or not, still remains a geographical and cultural one. I do not think that the time is quite ripe for this development - many serious problems pose themselves immediately, not the least of which would be the ability of members to get together even once a year for an annual general meeting. Perhaps there will be greater and cheaper opportunities for travel between the islands if federation becomes a reality, or perhaps some system of postal voting might be worked out whereby a representative West Indian executive might be elected to handle wider issues of West Indian librarianship, supported by their own local groups who would still have a great deal to do in purely local matters. Many of our wider library problems seem to need to be dealt with on a broader basis than is possible at present, not the least of these being the training of library staff and possibly the adaptation of examination papers to West Indian needs, analagous to the special relationship between the University College and the University of London, negotiations with the Publishers Association for better terms for West Indian libraries purchasing books, the enactment and enforcement of uniform copyright deposit legislation throughout the West Indies, and the compiling of a current

national bibliography. Some of these matters have been undertaken so far on an 'ad hoc' basis and with quite satisfactory results, but it would seem that a long term policy would more easily be arrived at and more sustained results achieved if they were the responsibility of a small elected executive rather than left to informal arrangements among the chief librarians, or among librarians and government and other bodies.

I did however say that I was adverting to this federal aspect only in passing and I intend to leave the matter of federal organization right there, having thrown out the idea of its possible future development as regards our association. I would like to say however a few words about a related topic and one that is applicable to any association representing bodies of kindred interest, and that is the topic of cooperation. It has been one of the foremost topics in the sphere of American and English librarianship during the last decade, largely because of the increasing difficulty found by libraries in acquiring and storing the enormous publishing output of the twentieth century and more particularly of the ten years preceding the last war and the post-war years. It is true that our libraries are small, and we are not faced with the same storage problems that a Harvard or a Bodleian or a New York Public Library is faced with, but, because our resources are small, we ought to endeavour to make the most of them by cooperative effort where this is feasible.

I mentioned a moment ago our responsibilities in the matter of a West Indian national bibliography. As you all know the Current Caribbean bibliography was started as a cooperative effort among certain West Indian libraries and has, despite many vicissitudes, continued to appear, a cumulative number for 1950-53 having been brought out in 1955. Our Association was partly responsible for the launching of this publication and the Editor has recently appealed to us to give him our continued cooperation and a number of our leading libraries have promised to help in submitting entries. It may be a drab looking publication but it is unique and fills a very

definite need which no one but ourselves is in a position to fill. It is much sought after by overseas libraries and I was very gratified to see it listed in a recent publication on Current National bibliographies by the Library of Congress. I feel sure that any support which our libraries can give to making this a comprehensive record of Caribbean publishing output will not be effort wasted.

The second aspect of library cooperation which I wish to touch on is one that is already familiar to Jamaican libraries but is probably not yet made sufficient use of - and that is inter-library loans. The University College Library has lent an increasing number of books to outside individuals on inter-library loan, and speaking personally, I believe this to be a very good sign. I am of course not committing our Librarian or Library in any way, but it seems to me that provided always that the interests of the student and teaching body are protected, this is quite a healthy development. It has certainly been the case in England that university libraries lend far more than they borrow. As the stock and range of the headquarters of our public library system grow we shall no doubt reap advantages too. It was a source of pleasure to me some months ago, that when a member of our teaching staff wanted about sixteen books on inter-library loan from overseas we were able to locate 4 of these in the Institute's West India Library, and although we were unable to borrow then we were able to arrange for him to consult them there. I think it would also be worthwhile giving a little thought to the possibility of our borrowing the occasional book from some other West Indian Library when the resources of the National Central Library and the Library of Congress fail us, as they can do, though infrequently. This may seem a rather far fetched idea but there are a couple old libraries in the West Indies, British and non-British, and air freight in the Caribbean should be cheaper or as cheap as that from the United States. We could do worse than have a shot at getting the book from the Caribbean area when richer sources fail us.

This brings me to two other aspects of the problem of inter-library loan which I think our larger libraries should perhaps pay some attention to, namely cooperatively compiled location records and photographic copying. Now I hasten to add that I am proposing nothing elaborate in respect of either of these for you may say that where a mere handful of libraries are concerned what is the point of these documentation aids. I can only say that even where a mere handful of libraries are concerned, librarians cannot trust entirely to their memories or to their typewriters. To cite a practical instance, many years ago a small union list of periodicals in the Institute of Jamaica and the Department of Agriculture Library was started by the U. C. W. I. Library but I do not think anything has been added to it for years. I believe that it has on occasion been useful to us in locating back numbers of scientific journals which were wanted, which we did not have and which were in the Institute's Science Library. I believe that if the three libraries concerned continued to exchange a card per periodical title in related fields of interest, the resulting union list would not only be valuable for inter-library loan purposes but might to a limited extent effect economies in purchases. The University College might well hesitate to buy an expensive and little used botanical journal which might be in the Department of Agriculture or Institute's Science Library and vice versa also.

This leads naturally to facilities for making ones holdings available to other libraries where loans are not feasible. It is possible now to obtain cheap photocopying devices such as the Contoura which would enable libraries to supply copies of periodical articles and indeed of entire books, where it was desirable that the original should not be loaned outside the library in possession. These machines can be operated by library staff with a minimum of technical training. The demand for this type of service will naturally be small at the moment but the mere provision of such facilities will act as their own stimulus and the public will gradually become aware of the many services which they can expect from an integrated library

system. There is no reason why such services should not grow up, 'pari passu,' with our libraries, rather than wait for a fully grown library system before we attempt to introduce them.

Ladies and gentlemen I am sure that it was at least with kindly feelings that you elected me to this chair and I think it would be a sorry return for your kindness if I were to keep you here unduly long after what has been a rather long day and I propose to briefly summarize what I have been attempting to say. I have touched on a few forms of cooperation which are known to you all and which to a limited extent have been made use of in some of our libraries. I have chosen to speak on this theme because I believe that this lively sense of cooperation is something which we could all do well to be more aware of and to cultivate. I am also well aware that any form of cooperation will to a large extent have to be initiated by the chief executives of our libraries, but it nevertheless behoves all the members of our association to be aware of the value of cooperation. An enthusiastic and informed staff or governing body is the first hurdle surmounted in any library undertaking. The Association also provides a natural and common meeting ground for our chief librarians, and what is more natural than that they should discuss mutual interests and plan their solution through the agency of the Association and its Committee. Thank you ladies and gentlemen and I hope that our Association will be an object lesson in cooperation during the present year.

JAMAICA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Jamaica Library Association was held at the Junior Centre, Kingston, on Tuesday, 31st January, 1956. The attendance was very good and the meeting was one of the most successful since the inception of the Association.

The Institute of Jamaica was host to the Association and two very interesting exhibitions were on display, one in the Art Gallery of paintings and the other in the Junior Centre Hall showing finely printed and beautifully bound books. Tea was served at 4 p.m., after which the business of the meeting was taken.

Mr. Lewis, the retiring President, extended a welcome to everyone present. He then referred to the matter of a Training Scheme for librarians which he said had been carefully considered by a sub-committee. The Committee felt that at the present time it would be impossible to establish such a scheme in Jamaica and strongly recommended that Jamaica should support the Trinidad Scheme wholeheartedly.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:-

President :	Mr. K. E. Ingram, B.A., F.L.A.
1st Vice President :	Miss Joyce Lawson, A.L.A.
2nd Vice President :	Mr. C. Bernard Lewis, B.A.
Hon. Treasurer :	Miss Mercedes Josephs, B.A., A.L.A.
Hon. Secretary :	Miss Hazel Gray

other members elected to serve on the Committee were: Miss Mary Brebner, F.L.A., Miss Daphne Douglas, A.L.A., Miss Beryl Fletcher, Mr. Pat Jones and Mr. C. L. A. Stuart, B.A.

Mr. Harold Holdsworth was elected an Honorary Member in appreci-

ation of his outstanding contribution to librarianship in Jamaica, not only as Librarian of the University College of the West Indies, but also as a member of the Jamaica Library Association. Mr. Sidney Hockey was elected a Corresponding Member of the Association.

Mr. Ingram then delivered his presidential address the keynote of which was co-operation among libraries locally and on a wider scale among West Indian territories. Mr. Ingram's Address appears elsewhere.

PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS

A Professional Meeting of the Jamaica Library Association was held at the Junior Centre of the Institute of Jamaica at East Street on 16th August, 1955, at 8 p.m. At this meeting Mr. W. E. Gocking, Librarian of the University College of the West Indies gave a very interesting and informative talk on 'Library and Literacy.' This talk appears elsewhere in this Bulletin.

In view of the very full programme sponsored by the Jamaica Festival of Arts it was decided to postpone further meetings until 1956.

On 18th April, 1956, the first Professional Meeting of the year was held at the Junior Centre at Half-Way-Tree. The speaker was Miss Mary Brebner, Librarian of the Institute of Jamaica and her subject was 'Co-operation in Libraries.'

REGULAR MEETINGS

(1) Sav-la-mar

A regular meeting of the Jamaica Library Association was held at the Westmoreland Parish Library, Savanna-la-mar, on the 2nd June, 1955. There were present representatives from the Westmoreland Library Committee, Jamaica Library Service, Institute of Jamaica, St. Catherine, Manchester and Hanover.

Mrs. Hylton, Chairman of the Westmoreland Parish Library Committee, on behalf of her Committee extended a welcome to those present. She hoped that it would be possible to fit in another visit to Savanna-la-Mar in the future.

There was a very frank and enthusiastic discussion concerning a training scheme for students in the Caribbean and it was pointed out that in view of the very varied library services which exist in Jamaica and the need for training of staff, it seemed that Jamaica was a very suitable place for a training school. The question of training for those who had no professional qualifications was also raised and the general opinion was that some preliminary instruction should be available. Finally it was decided to appoint a Committee to take up the question of training in Jamaica.

Mr. Lashley moved a vote of thanks to Mrs. Hylton and her Committee for a very enjoyable programme which included a visit to Frome Sugar Factory and a welcome tea.

(2) Morant Bay

On the invitation of the Morant Bay Library Committee our next meeting was held at Morant Bay, on 15th September, 1955.

About five cars travelled from Kingston and at the meeting there were about twenty-one persons present. We arrived at the Parish Library and were met by Miss Stanley, the Librarian, and her staff. After inspecting the Library we were conducted to the Princess Margaret Hospital by the Rev. Cockburn and the Rev. Graham. There we met the Matron and with her permission were shown around the hospital which appears to be very modern, spacious and pleasantly situated. Next we visited the Lyssons Housing Estate and talked with some of the occupants who seemed very pleased with their new homes. After this we returned to the town, made a tour of the Churches and finally assembled in the Parochial Board's Room for tea which was very much enjoyed.

The business meeting began at 5.00 p.m. Mr. K. E. Ingram, Deputy Librarian of the University College of the West Indies, was guest speaker. He gave a most interesting and informative talk on "Some English University Libraries."*

Miss Gray, then Acting Deputy Director of the Jamaica Library Service, moved a vote of thanks to the Morant Bay Library Committee and to Mr. Ingram for his talk. In his closing remarks, the Chairman congratulated St. Thomas on the work they achieved and thanked Miss Stanley for the excellent arrangements made for the meeting.

Congratulations on your Library, Morant Bay. We all enjoyed the visit.

* This talk is published elsewhere in this Bulletin.

LIBRARY AND LITERACY

By W. E. Gocking, B.A., F.L.A., Librarian,
University College of the West Indies.

(A talk given at a Meeting of the Jamaica
Library Association on the 21st August 1955)

Ladies & Gentlemen,

I thank you for the courtesy you have done me in inviting me so soon after my arrival here to address you. I have been but little more than 3 months in Jamaica, and already I have much to be thankful for in the kindness of the welcome I have received on all sides, at the University College where I work, at the conferences of Librarians I have attended, and at all places where I have been - some indeed where I hardly expected to be, as, for example, presiding at one of the finals of the Speech Festival held as part of your Tercentenary Celebrations. I have begun to suspect something that would be a source of peculiar pride and satisfaction to me if it were true, and it is that part at least of the welcome I have received is due not only to the graciousness and good-nature of Jamaicans, but to the fact that you recognize in me a fellow West Indian, and are as pleased, as I am, that I should have been called from one part of the West Indies to serve in another.

You would think, would you not, that being so much under a sense of obligation as I am, I would take particular pains to discharge to the full extent of my ability the pleasant duty which your courtesy has laid upon me this evening. Yet such is the frailty of human nature - at least of my human nature - that I confess it was not until my Secretary (fortunately) reminded me on Monday last that I was to address you this evening that I began to cast about in my mind for what I should say. There is one advantage in my procrastination, and it is that I should hardly be able to do otherwise than say plainly what was uppermost in my

mind: there was no time to search for more; or to dress up what was there in fine apparel.

It has happened more than once when I was in Trinidad that my wife and I, in going about, should meet people who had known her and her family but had lost sight of them for years for one reason or another. And it used to surprise me to hear such people address my wife as if she were her next younger sister. To me, of course, my wife and her next younger sister are two entirely different looking and distinctly different persons; but so strong is the family resemblance, that people who did not know them as familiarly as I did, saw only their basic and strong likeness and mistook them for one another. I believe the West Indies are like my wife's family, and that their individual units possess and display an overwhelmingly strong family likeness. We who belong to this unit or that, out of the very necessity to establish our individual identity with each other, emphasize and indeed exaggerate our differences, and are piqued or proud, as the case may be, at our singularities. History is rapidly making this accent on singularity more and more futile. I speak this to your shame, if you are guilty, and to my shame who have been.

But what is the point of this excursion into comparisons and differences? It is to put into correct perspective what I have to say to you this evening. That may be put quite baldly thus: you in Jamaica are behind what has been accomplished in Trinidad - and indeed in the Eastern Caribbean - in providing a public library service. The difference is not great, but there it is, and it is to your disadvantage. Having said that, let me hasten to add that I see no valid reason why you should not shortly catch up with Trinidad in this respect and even pass it. For me to believe that you cannot would be unpardonable arrogance and stupidity: for you to believe that you cannot would be unforgivable.

It is unnecessary for me to describe to you the sort of public library service you have in Jamaica: you know it better than I do. But it should be interesting to you for me to outline the sort of service that has been and is being built up in Trinidad and the Eastern Caribbean, so that you may compare it with what you have, and take thought for how you may improve yours.

The story of how a modern public library service came to Trinidad and the Eastern Caribbean goes back to the early 1930's. The magnificent benefactor of the public library, the late Andrew Carnegie, left several trusts at his death to continue his good work. One of these, the Carnegie Corporation of New York, was given as part of its charge, the promotion and furtherance of educational and cultural facilities (including public libraries) in the British Dominions and Colonies. In looking about them, somewhere about 1930, their gaze fell upon the British West Indies and they selected an outstanding British Librarian, Mr. (now Dr.) E. A. Savage to visit and make a report on the state of public libraries in the British West Indies. In 1932 or 1933 Dr. Savage duly reported, and his report made such sad reading that the Corporation was moved to offer the sum of \$70,000 (U.S.) to set up a central public library service for the Eastern Caribbean, based on Trinidad. The offer was made in 1936 to the Trinidad Government, who accepted the role of trustee for the grant, but found itself unable to go any further because it could find no qualified person to undertake the task. The matter languished for years and then the war came as if to doom it utterly. But the Corporation refused to accept defeat and themselves set about finding someone for the task. By a stroke of great good fortune the Corporation found someone who had done similar work for them in a 'backward' community along the Fraser Valley in British Columbia, Canada. She was a Canadian woman of Scottish descent on the wrong side of sixty; but she was willing to come out of retirement and try what she could do in a climate far different from what she was used to.

Many years before she had taken her Doctorate in Sociology and Psychology at Columbia University and had gone into the public library service in the U. S. A. where she had had a distinguished career as a professional librarian and as a University lecturer in Librarianship. Her name was Dr. Margaret Gordon Stewart, and I ask you to remember it as the most significant name in public librarianship in the West Indies, and as the name of one to whom you in Jamaica, no less than we in Trinidad and the Eastern Caribbean, are perpetually indebted, even though you may have been entirely unaware of it until now. Her influence was seminal and revolutionary.

What she largely found in the West Indies was what I am sure you all know or remember: the more or less neglected building called a library, perhaps built with some grace many years before, more likely not, with an odd assortment of books, a few - very few - new, and the rest in varying stages of disintegration and decay; a few glossy periodicals of the Tatler and Bystander type and many many old and battered ones, and tattered newspapers; an old family retainer in charge with a spiritless young man or woman under her to do the more physical work and some poor broken-down old man or woman to do the errands and the cleaning in such manner as their bodily ailments allowed. And you had to pay to belong to the library! So much, indeed, that poor people only used the library to lounge or sleep in when they could find no work to do.

"Il faut changer tout ça," Dr. Stewart said at once - in Canadian. That was part of the difficulty: we couldn't understand her! We thought at first it was the language: these Canadians, these North Americans, didn't speak or write the King's English; that was it. But it wasn't. We didn't know what a public library was; though we thought we did. ~~Why~~ It was the thing in so-and-so street - we had known it (vaguely) all our lives. What on earth was she talking about, the cranky, incomprehensible woman! In fact, she was talking of the Public Library - as some of us came to realize. But slowly. The Public Library: the library for the

public. Hitherto it had been a very restricted public for which our libraries catered: first of all there was the means test, the subscription; then there was the book stock - light novels and biographies and travel books and glossy socialite magazines - for those who wanted no more than to while away their time between their household chores and the next party. Nothing wrong with that in itself, but as the sum total of what was offered - entirely inadequate. And then there was the whole shabby business, more than a little ashamed of itself - as it had good reason to be. Forgive me if I rub it in.

What Dr. Stewart brought to this part of the world was in fact the revolutionary principle that is inherent in the very idea of the modern public library; the idea of a social institution organized on purpose to place freely before all sorts and conditions of men, women, and children the entire resources of information, cultivation and entertainment that the miraculous invention of printing has brought within human means and reach. It is an astonishing thing: it is, indeed, as I have called it, revolutionary. But more of that anon. For the time being let us concentrate on the mere mechanics of the thing.

Dr. Stewart arrived in Trinidad in November 1940. The war was then fully on, and travelling about the Caribbean was uncomfortable and uncommonly difficult; it was soon to become dangerous. The original scheme had been to set up a headquarters organization in Port-of-Spain and treat the rest of Trinidad and the British islands of the Eastern Caribbean as an integrated extension of the headquarters library. The few visits she was able to pay to the northern islands soon convinced her that it would require more time and opportunity and effort than she could spare to break down insular pride and prejudice and persuade all the units concerned to join whole-heartedly in prosecuting the original plan. She boldly resolved therefore to abandon this, and to concentrate on Trinidad and leave the rest to time and the event.

It would take too long to pursue the story in detail. So I hope it will be sufficient if I indicate, with the help of a map, what has grown up from the plans she so skilfully laid and what has now become the flourishing and expanding institution known as the Central Library of Trinidad and Tobago.

[Here Mr. Gocking briefly explained the administrative organization of the Trinidad Central Library. First of all, he said, there was no local government in Trinidad to speak of, as there was in Jamaica, or in Barbados for that matter. This had been both an advantage and a disadvantage: it had allowed the organization to develop spontaneously, wherever it met its best response, at its own pace, and with a uniformity of standard and service unaffected by local idiosyncracies. At the same time it had made it more difficult to tap resources of community.

The headquarters of the library was in the capital, Port-of-Spain, which, however had its own independent municipal library. There were two subordinate headquarters, one in San Fernando, the second city, and the other in Scarborough, the main town of the island-ward of Tobago. The whole area was thus divided into three regions - North Trinidad, South Trinidad, and Tobago - each with its own headquarters library. In San Fernando the headquarters were in the municipal library, which, though autonomous, was to all intents and purposes an integral part of the Central Library Service.

Besides these headquarters or regional libraries, there were about 10 branch libraries in the more important towns with book-stocks ranging from 2,000-3,500 volumes, substantial parts of which were interchangeable and inter-changed. The plan was to increase these to about 20 and their stocks to a minimum of 5,000 volumes each for adults and children.

In addition there were 3 book-vans, one based on each headquarters library and carrying to smaller towns and villages a travelling

library of about 1,000 perpetually changing volumes. For administrative purposes these book-vans were regarded as travelling branch libraries, and the plan was to provide each with its own stock of 5,000-10,000 volumes, and to increase the number of vans to 6 to enable them to visit schools on a regular schedule.

Circulation of books had risen from about 20,000 when the service began in 1942 to nearly 500,000 volumes per annum; expenditure from about £5,000 to over £30,000 per annum; staff from 2 or 3 untrained helpers to 40 of whom 7 were fully trained (some highly) and a dozen or more almost fully trained. The aim was to provide a professional institution of quality.

At the same time, Mr. Gocking added, the original Central Library scheme for the whole of the Eastern Caribbean was never quite abandoned. Dr. Stewart arranged a few demonstrations of (free) public library service in the northern islands and subsequently found in the British Council generous support for more concerted and comprehensive action over a period of eight years. The separate organization that emerged from this became known as the Eastern Caribbean Regional Library scheme. Under the direction of Mr. Sidney Hockey, F.L.A., this organization revolutionized public library services throughout the British islands of the Eastern Caribbean; founded and maintained a school of high repute for training librarians to man these libraries; and provided central cataloguing (and virtually central purchasing) and a union catalogue for the whole area. Efforts, which he hoped and expected would be successful, were being made to weld the Trinidad Central Library and the Eastern Caribbean Regional Library into a single cooperative unit. Mr. Gocking then continued:-]

And - what is it all for? What is the justification for so much effort, so much public expenditure? For even though public expenditure on the public library in the West Indies is negligible in compari-

son with expenditure on other public services, it is still tremendously more than it was ever before. For example, the Trinidad Government expended on public library services (such as they were) in 1940 less than £1,000: in 1955 it provided for an expenditure of more than £60,000! So I repeat, what is the justification? I have already hinted at it in describing the revolutionary principle on which the public library is based. To you it is hardly necessary to say more; but it is good for all of us who are devoted to the ideals and practice of the public library to examine our ground from time to time so that we may take our stand more firmly upon it.

In the West Indies particularly it is the powerful and simple truth that the public library is the most potent single factor in any organized effort to make our largely illiterate peoples literate. Literate not in the inadequate sense of being able to write their names and barely able after that to read them, but literate in the sense of having some living acquaintance with and appreciation of the world of knowledge and imagination. Politicians and economists tell us that we shall never be a people until we are politically and economically independent. That is true - so far as it goes. But is it really possible, I ask you, to be independent and self-respecting, while we remain illiterate?

I would not end upon a question - especially upon a question to which the answer is so obviously in the negative, as the jargon goes. From what I have seen with my own eyes of the eager, absorbing curiosity with which children in Trinidad and Tobago have explored and rifled the juvenile libraries we have provided for them here and there (and, thank goodness, with an ever accelerating frequency) I am confident that with goodwill on the part of our politicians and administrators, and with zealous and strenuous application on our own part, we could, within a

generation, work a mighty change upon the attitudes and minds of our entire population: we could make them better informed, more cultivated - even gentler and kindlier and better people. With our politicians and administrators we can but try our best: at least half the responsibility for the outcome is theirs, and they must stand the judgment. But with ourselves the responsibility is clearer and sharper. It may seem an easy thing to do what we would do if we could secure the resources to do it. We are apt to overlook the fact that we are, ourselves, a part, and a large part, of those resources. By the standards we set ourselves we also set the tone and quality of our achievement. It is fatally easy to produce articles of low quality, and the enervation of our climate, the poor traditions of devotion and workmanship we inherit are so many sirens singing us to the shores of indolence, incaution, and shipwreck. We must apply ourselves strenuously to learn what it is that we have to do and how best we are to do it. We must be continually learning, and doing, and learning again so that we may do better and better. And then we can but pray that we shall succeed: Orare est laborare. To work is to pray.

SOME ENGLISH UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

By K. E. Ingram, B.A., F.L.A.
Deputy Librarian, University College
of the West Indies.

(A talk given at the Jamaica Library Association
Meeting, held at Morant Bay 15th Sept., 1955)

What I propose to do this afternoon is not to attempt a detailed survey of English university librarianship but rather to give you a general picture of a few English university libraries - their collections, organization and how they fit into the national pattern. I shall base what I have to say on a few of the large representative libraries which I had an opportunity of visiting during the past year. These visits were, needless to say, always too short, sometimes for less than half a day, and while I have tried to verify everything which I shall have to say, I shall welcome correction of my opinion from those of you who from long acquaintance might know these libraries better than I. As a background to my impressions I think it might be useful to give you a few facts about the work of the English universities in general.

There are today over 80,000 full-time students attending courses in the universities of Great Britain and in addition there are over 15,000 part-time students. More than half the number of students in England proper, that is excluding Scotland & Wales, are concentrated in the 3 universities of Oxford, Cambridge and London [33,000 out of 62,000], so if I seem to devote most of my time to these three it will not only be because I am most familiar with them but also because they serve a representative body of English students. Most of these universities started as privately endowed foundations and while they still value very much, private endowments they now depend on the State (i.e. parliamentary grant) for more than 70% of their income - the figure for 1953-54 was nearly £22 million - such is the cost of present day research. Despite this dependence on the State

their autonomy and academic freedom is jealously guarded and they are free from all State inspection. General policy and administration of property are entrusted to a Court or a Council on which outside interests and bodies (e.g. representatives of local government bodies, which make a financial contribution) are represented. Academic life and discipline however come strictly within the control of the Senate or Academic Council on which sit only members of the Academic body. The University library is governed by a committee representative of one or both of these bodies and its first duty is to fulfil, as far as possible, the teaching and studying requirements of the staff and student body. This is its paramount function. No less a body than the University Grants Committee - the dispenser of all parliamentary grants to universities - wrote in 1921: "The character and efficiency of a university may be gauged by its treatment of its central organ the library. We regard the fullest provision for library maintenance as the primary and most vital need in the equipment of a university. An adequate library is not only the basis of all teaching and study; it is the essential condition of research without which additions cannot be made to the sum of human knowledge." This report is one of the landmarks in the documentary history of modern English university librarianship and it marked a distinct turning point in university library provision.

Despite this paramount duty towards the institutions for which they exist we must not imagine that the university libraries stand selfishly aside from the wider picture of national library provision. With the exception of Oxford, Cambridge and Trinity College, Dublin, which are copyright libraries and in theory are not free to lend, most of the other universities and colleges participate in the national inter-lending scheme, lending far more books to non-university libraries than in fact they borrow. Others such as Nottingham and Durham even cooperate with other libraries in a regional cooperative programme of book purchase and subject specialization. Finally they will all give facilities to 'bona fide' scholars,

other than those of their own fold, who are suitably recommended.

Perhaps this is sufficient background for us to take a closer look at a few of these libraries individually. Foremost in importance both as to its privileges and its collections, as well as first in time, is the University Library of Oxford - known as the Bodleian Library. The original foundation was made and endowed by Humphrey Duke of Gloucester in the first half of the 15th Century. This building, known as Duke Humfrey's room, is still to be seen with its panelled walls and painted ceiling studded with brightly coloured bosses. It now is used as a reading room for the manuscripts and early printed books of the university but almost none of its original contents remain as these were dispersed and sold by the Commissioners of Edward VI in the troubled period of the Reformation. In 1600 the library was refounded by a retired but disillusioned scholar-diplomat - Sir Thomas Bodley, who set it on its path to become one of the world's great national libraries and from whom it takes its name. Perhaps the most important privilege which Sir Thomas Bodley won for it was the right to a free copy of every book published in England - a right which it exercises to this day and which helps to account for the extent and richness of its collections of early printed English books. It is regrettable however that Bodley regarded the contemporary Elizabethan and Jacobean plays as so much "riff-raff" and "baggage books" to use his own words and ordered his librarian to reject them, a policy pursued for many years after his death, with the result that in later years the Bodleian had to buy back for £3,000 the first folio of Shakespeare's plays which at an earlier date it had rejected as a "superfluous book." It grew steadily during the ensuing years and additions were made to the original building as well as other buildings were taken over. In 1931 a comprehensive scheme of extension was approved, the Rockefeller Foundation offering to contribute 3/5 the cost - a fine new building was erected across the road from the Old Bodleian, consisting of 11 floors and designed to accom-

5 million volumes. It is connected to the Old Bodleian by an underground passage along which runs a continuous conveyor belt for books. Nearly all of the old building is devoted to reading room accommodation while the new is mainly used as a book stack and for administration. Associated with the Bodleian are a group of other libraries which are so to speak extensions of the Bodleian - viz.; The Radcliffe Science Library which houses all its scientific book, Rhodes House Library which concerns itself with Commonwealth and United States history, the Indian Institute which concerns itself with books on the sub-continent of India. There are in addition in Oxford a number of large libraries independent of the Bodleian but which maintain a rather distant cooperation with it - viz.: the Tylor Institute which is the Modern Languages Library of Oxford, the Ashmolean Museum Library which is the Fine Arts and Egyptological collection of the University and the almost innumerable college and departmental libraries which look after the immediate needs of undergraduates and teaching staff. Many of the Colleges have, in addition to their working collections which loan books, unique and fine collections in special subjects which serve the whole University. Such for example is the Codrington Law Library at All Souls, founded by General Codrington who also founded Codrington College in Barbados. The Bodleian and its associated libraries are purely reference libraries and lend books to no one in or outside Oxford.

In this respect it differs markedly from Cambridge University which although a copyright library has always had a tradition of lending within Cambridge. The conservative and liberal-republican traditions respectively of these two old university foundations are reflected to this day even in the simple practice of their rules and regulations. The Bodleian is largely a closed access library whereas Cambridge gives access to the shelves throughout the greater part of the Library. The Library at Cambridge was also a late medieval foundation but unlike that of Oxford

it never found a Bodley to bring it prominence, although it is today, largely through copyright deposit, a library of no mean size and importance, numbering $1\frac{1}{2}$ million volumes. When expansion became necessary it was decided to abandon the old library site and build a completely new building on a charming site facing the backs of the Colleges, along the river - another conspicuous contrast with Oxford, which preferred to retain its old building and erect a nearby extension to it. Beautiful as the Cambridge site is, the exterior of the building has a somewhat unpleasantly heavy and dour appearance and the interior is already seriously overcrowded despite the extensive ground area covered by it.

The real interest of these libraries however lies in their collections, an attempt to describe which, in the limited time at our disposal would result in but a dull catalogue of names. In a talk on these libraries however it would be inexcusable to pass over their contents without mentioning a few interesting possessions. One of the earliest and most famous acquisitions of the Bodleian was a gift of Mss. from Archbishop Laud numbering some 1,300 items, among them the famous 7th cent. ms. of the Acts of the Apostles probably possessed by the Venerable Bede and the equally famous Anglo-Saxon chronicle. The Bodleian collection of Oriental manuscripts which is the finest in Europe contains the best and oldest (15th C.) ms. of the Rubáiyát of Omar Khayyám from which Fitzgerald made his famous translation. The ms. is written and illuminated in the finest style of Persian Art. A second or third century papyrus text containing an Egyptian boy's letter to his father shows up the persuasive methods of modern children in a favourable light: It runs thus in translation: "Theon to his father Theon, greeting. It was a fine thing of you not to take me with you to the city! If you wont take me with you to Alexandria I wont write you a letter or speak to you or say goodbye to you; and if you go to Alexandria I wont take your hand nor ever greet you again. That is what will happen if you wont take me."

He adds later "It was good of you to send me presents on the 12th, the day you sailed. Send me a lyre I implore you. If you dont I wont eat, I wont drink; there now."

Cambridge too has its treasures outstanding among which is the Royal Library over 30,000 volumes presented by George I.

The Library of Trinity College, Cambridge though independent of the main University Library should not be passed over in silence. Designed by Wren its main reading room is some 200 feet long and is a storehouse of literary and artistic treasures - original mss., by Milton, Thackeray, Tennyson, portrait busts by Roubiliac and a fine marble statue of Lord Byron by Thorwaldsen. Intended for Westminster Abbey it was refused by two successive deans who objected to the poet's opinions and finally it found a home in the poet's old College.

Let us pass now from these early medieval foundations to the later foundation of London which has much in common with the larger and later provincial universities. Although London had been a seat of learning from early times and for long possessed all the elements of a university in its Inns of Court, Medical schools, Divinity schools and libraries, the University dates only from the early 19th Century. University College was founded in 1828 and King's College in 1831 and five years later the University was formed. It now comprises some 65 colleges, schools and institutions forming the largest university in the country. It is distinguished by the number of part-time students as well as external students all of whom are served by the university's library and in some cases by the College libraries, as well. Some of these colleges such as University College are comparable in size to a provincial university and have large and important libraries in their own right. University College Library numbered ~~some~~ $\frac{1}{2}$ million volumes before the last war but it suffered extensive losses during the air-raids. It contains a fine

collection on political economy as well as the library and mss. of Jeremy Bentham, utilitarian philosopher who is also reported to have willed to the College his skeleton. I have never verified the story but I have been told that by the terms of his will his skeleton is brought out to certain meetings of the governing body.

There are also a host of special libraries such as those of the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine and the London School of Economics, the libraries of the Institutes of Historical Research, of Commonwealth Studies, of Advanced Legal Studies and many others too numerous to list.

The main university library must be one of the familiar sights to anyone who has visited London, situated as it is just behind the British Museum in a fine stone building erected in 1937/38 to house both library and administrative offices. It must be the nearest thing to a skyscraper in London. It contains some 600,000 volumes being stronger in the humanities than the sciences. Because the University comprises so many specialized institutions with their own libraries it would be wasteful for the main library to attempt to cover every field. I was particularly impressed with the very careful system of cooperative book purchase which exists between the various bodies which comprise the University - a policy which is in striking contrast to that of Oxford where only a very loose cooperation exists. Senate House Library can claim to be one of the best stocked English university libraries and has some outstanding special collections:- most notable being the Goldsmith's Library of Economic Literature - about 60,000 volumes on the early economic history of Great Britain - the Grote Library of classical literature and the Preedy Memorial Library on Art & Archaeology. Its music Library is equipped with sound-proof audition rooms for listening to gramophone records or for playing the piano. These are not designed however for people taking a rest cure from lectures and only accredited music students may use them.

Its several spacious and comfortable reading rooms are always filled with readers. The problem of accommodation of readers is a pressing one at present because of the very liberal policy of the University in admitting non-university students as readers. A particular favourite with the librarians and library students of London is the Middlesex North Reading Room which contains a comprehensive collection of books and periodicals on librarianship as well as a wide range of national and subject bibliographies. Reference and lending services are provided, the latter comprising an extensive system of postal lending to external students who live away from London.

Whatever other advantages the students of Oxford and Cambridge may have over students of other universities those of London are exceptionally well provided for with libraries. In addition to the several units which make up the university proper, London contains many other libraries to which the student may resort. The British Museum Library, greatest of all English libraries is next door to the University of London but it does not admit undergraduates or readers under 21 years of age. It is essentially a research library. No doubt many of you know that it has a very remote though interesting connection with Jamaica in that the nucleus of its collection was that of Sir Hans Sloane at one time resident in Jamaica as physician to its Governor the Duke of Albemarle. Students may resort for reference purposes to the Patent Office Library which has a fine collection of scientific and technical periodicals, to the Science Library with its extensive collection of abstracting journals, to the Victoria & Albert Museum Library which is the national collection on art or to the many well stocked public libraries such as those of Westminster or Holborn.

I also had an opportunity of visiting Reading and Bristol University libraries but it would be tedious to describe them as so much

of their general character and policy is to be found reflected in that of the London Colleges which as I have said are like universities in themselves. If we exclude the medieval foundations, London may truly be said to be a microcosm of the English university world.

I have tried to give you as briefly as the subject would allow a summary of the history, collections and organization of these three prominent university libraries. The developments mentioned are characteristic of most English university libraries, almost all of which have seen considerable expansion of finances, staff and buildings since 1920. The period has been a formative one of great importance to British university librarianship in which it has virtually established itself and in which there has been a substantial levelling up of standards.

SPECIAL LIBRARIES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

By Audrey K. Gunter, A.L.A.
Librarian, Department of Agriculture

The term special libraries covers a wide variety of libraries: libraries dealing with special subjects, libraries catering to special clientele, and libraries made up of special material.

The Science Museum Library although started for the use of the Science Museum Staff has now become the national scientific library and is widely used by the public. This library concentrates on the pure sciences while the Patent Office Library covers industrial sciences as well as patent literature. The British Library of Political and Economic Science attached to the London School of Economics possesses the largest collection of literature on political and economic science in the world. The library was started by Sydney and Beatrice Webb and possesses many special collections. The Library of the Victoria and Albert Museum is also another great treasure house possessing the largest collection of art literature in the world including photographs, prints, etc. These libraries although attached to institutions cater widely to the public and their book selection policy allows for public demands.

A library catering to a special clientele on the other hand buys only what is needed by its readers. However, sometimes books in subject fields other than the main subject interest of an organization may also be acquired. Examples of such libraries are those of: Learned Societies, such as the Royal Society which specializes in the sciences. This society receives publications of members and one of their proud possessions is a first edition of Newton's "Principia." The Royal Society of Medicine, the Royal Geographic Society, and others also contain comparable treasures.

Professional Associations. Most of these associations possess libraries. The Library of the Royal Institute of British Architects is housed in their modern headquarters building and as befits such an institution is very well designed. The libraries of the Inns of Court are of great antiquity being founded at the same times as the Inns.

Industrial and Commercial Firms. Large organizations, such as Imperial Chemical Industries, Kodak Ltd., General Electric Corporation, Boots Drug Houses, are well aware of the great advantages of well equipped libraries run on modern lines with trained librarians. These libraries are some of the most efficient special libraries in the U. K. Smaller firms are also becoming conscious of the usefulness of libraries and attempt to make some sort of provision. Those which cannot afford to undertake research on their own form themselves into cooperative Research Associations with the assistance of Government. There are over forty of these engaged in trades such as bakery, cutlery, furniture, etc. An important feature of these Associations is the library which disseminates the results of research and keeps the respective firms up to date in their sunjects. There are also commercial libraries like that of the Bank of England.

Government Bodies. Most government agencies have well established libraries. Some of the larger libraries attached to administrative bodies are those at the House of Commons, Board of Trade, and the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. Research libraries include those of the Institute of Medical Research, Atomic Energy Research Establishment, and the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. Many of the special libraries provided for the public such as that at the Patent Office and Victoria and Albert Museum are also run by government.

University Departments. These Departmental libraries form important special libraries and there are many of them. At London University there are the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, the Institute of Historical Research, the School of Oriental and African Studies, the

Institute of Commonwealth Research, and the Institute of Education to name but a few.

Libraries dealing with special material are varied. The National Film Library tries to get copies of all worthwhile films. The Central Music Library has a large collection of music and gramophone records as well as books. The "Picture Post" Library is a vast collection of photographs. Other newspaper libraries are made up mostly of press cuttings and there are also map libraries such as that of the Ordnance Survey.

Organization is varied to suit subject, clientele, and material. Much research has been done to find the most efficient methods of dealing with the various materials and scientific libraries especially are responsible for new techniques in abstracting, indexing, classification, and other documentation methods. Sometimes special classification schemes have to be made to suit the needs of libraries; e.g. the scheme used in the Patent Office for its patents and the Barnard classification of medicine worked out at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Photocopying methods have also improved and many types of photocopies are in use including the microfilm, microcard, microprint, miniprint, photostat. Punched cards and other mechanical "information retrieval" devices are used in a few libraries but they are still in the experimental stage. An interesting device being developed in America is Ultrafax which is a combination of microfilm and television and can transmit reading matter over long distances. The Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaux is the chief body in the U. K. which looks after the interests of special libraries. Under its aegis libraries in various subject fields are grouped together and are carrying out work of mutual benefit to them e.g. the Agriculture Group have compiled a directory of sources of information on agriculture as well

as a union list of periodicals to facilitate interlibrary lending. Other subject groups include engineering, chemistry, and aeronautics. The Science Museum also fosters a Supplementary Interlibrary Loan Scheme. The Department of Scientific and Industrial Research provides help for industrial libraries and the Organization for European Economic Cooperation provides the machinery by which scientific information is shared by member states. In addition, Public Libraries in some areas have undertaken to organize interlibrary lending among special libraries. The most famous of these schemes is that operating in Sheffield. Special libraries also cooperate with the Regional Bureaux and the National Central Library.

From this brief survey it will be seen that special libraries form an important part of the library resources of the U. K., particularly in London where most of them are located.

NEWS FROM JAMAICA LIBRARY SERVICE

PARISH LIBRARIES

The Kingston & St. Andrew Parish Library at Cross Roads was formally opened by His Excellency Sir Hugh Foot on 15th July, 1955, and has since had an enthusiastic reception from the Public. Indeed, the demand for books has been so overwhelming that one month after opening we were forced to limit the membership. On the 1st March membership was re-opened and there has been a daily increase in the number of members.

The opening of this library was the highlight of the development of the Jamaica Library Service. At long last we have overcome one handicap of inadequate funds and legal problems and have accomplished our aim to have a library operating in each Parish.

The Parishes of St. Elizabeth and Clarendon are to be congratulated on now attaining the status of full time libraries.

Manchester Parish Library has been temporarily transferred to the more spacious and attractive building formerly used by Manchester Secondary School.

BOOK CENTRES

Nine new Book Centres have been opened at the following places: Above Rocks, Annotto Bay, Bamboo, Bunyan, Clonmel, Lowe River, Mocho, Point Hill, Troy. The Parish Librarians are now in charge of Book Centres and they are tackling the job with interest and vigour.

STAFF

In May last year Mr. Hockey went on leave and Miss Hazel Gray, Acting Deputy Director was left in charge of the service.

In July three members of staff, Miss Cynthia Powell, Miss Hyacinth Gregory and Mrs. Amy Robertson returned from a four months scholarship period in Trinidad.

In September Miss Joyce Lawson, newly appointed Deputy Director, returned from England where she had been on a one-year British Council Scholarship.

In October Mr. S. W. Hockey resigned as Director of Libraries in Jamaica in order to take a new appointment as Director, Eastern Caribbean Regional Library, Trinidad. We regret very much indeed that Mr. Hockey's stay has been curtailed. Headquarters Staff, Parish Librarians, Parish Library Committees as well as many individual members of libraries have expressed their appreciation of Mr. Hockey's work whilst here as Director. He was instrumental in organising an official training scheme which has been an inspiration to our local staff; he succeeded in the long fight to get increased Government subsidy and made valuable contributions to our library service. We are glad to know, however, that he is still in the West Indies and we look forward to closer relations with him with the advent of Federation. At present the post of Director is vacant and the Deputy Director is in charge of the Service.

In December Miss Norma Segre, Librarian of the Kingston & St. Andrew Parish Library and Miss Leila Thomas, Librarian of the Manchester Parish Library left for England on one-year JAMAICA LIBRARY SERVICE SCHOLARSHIPS. We are particularly very pleased with these awards as they mark the first overseas scholarships to be awarded by the Island Library Board. Both Miss Segre and Miss Thomas are attending Library School at North-Western Polytechnic and during their year should gain valuable practical experience in British Libraries. Miss Hazel Gray and Miss Hyacinth Gregory have been seconded to act as Librarians for Kingston & St. Andrew Parish Library and Manchester Parish Library respectively.

In the same month Miss Sybil Jones, Librarian of St. Catherine Parish Library returned from a four months scholarship.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

The Library Service continued to co-operate with the Education Authority in the provision of books for primary schools. In May a new scheme started whereby 700 elementary schools will be supplied with a circulating library. A newly acquired school library van now deposits sets of books with each school. We hope to change these sets twice per year.

A book display was arranged by the Library Service at the Denbigh Agricultural Show in June and in December we took part in the Tercentary Float Parade. The Library Service combined with the Adult Education Group in entering a float. The Staff worked with much enthusiasm and produced a float publicising the work of the services. Miss Norma Stanley, Librarian of St. Thomas Parish Library rode on the float and her grace and charm contributed greatly to its success.

VISITORS

Among our distinguished visitors were Sir Stanley Unwin, LL.D., distinguished Publisher and member of the Executive Board of the British Council, London; Miss Alice Gibson, Children's Librarian from Jubilee Public Library, British Honduras, who spent three weeks observing libraries here; and Miss Annette Liles, Library Assistant at the University of Florida.

COMING EVENTS

The new Library building for the Portland Parish Library is now completed and will be officially opened by His Excellency the Governor on the 12th July. Please make that a date !

NEWS FROM THE INSTITUTE OF JAMAICA

With the departure to England of Miss Ursula Raymond in August last, the West India Reference Library was bereft of its Assistant Librarian, but we are very pleased that towards the end of October Government kindly assigned Miss Millicent Wells of the Medical Department to take Miss Raymond's place temporarily. Miss Wells holds the Master's Degree in Library Science of Syracuse University Library School, New York, and she had a year's practical experience at New York Public Library after completing her studies.

Miss Raymond is enjoying a busy life at Leeds School of Librarianship, and when requested to wear her "native" costume indulged in a little bit of leg-pulling by appearing in her latest example of the H Line!

Another of our staff, Miss Doris Chong Yen, spent two months last summer at the National University of Mexico where she took a course in Spanish and Mexican language and dancing. Off-campus activities included attendance at a bull-fight and visits to a number of places with such attractive names as Acapulco and Tequesquitengo.

Among overseas visitors to the Institute in the past few months have been the Principals of five University Colleges in the Commonwealth, and the British Parliamentary delegation which toured the island in July. During the visit of the latter an official arrived to conduct the delegates to their next place of call, and approaching the Librarian he asked if

she were Lady Tweedsmuir. The Librarian feels that this really must be recorded, as there are so few occasions in this life when one is taken for a lady!

We have also had visits from Miss Silva, a Librarian at the University of Puerto Rico; Professor A. J. Hanna of Rollins College, Florida; Miss Mary Hiltz of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization who spent some weeks in Jamaica gathering material for a Home Economics textbook relating to the Caribbean, and Mr. Peter Abrahams, a South African author, who is engaged in writing a book on Jamaica under the auspices of the Colonial Office.

One of the staff of the Science Museum has compiled a List of Place Names of Jamaica, and this is at present being duplicated for the West India Reference Library, additions being made from time to time.

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LIBRARY

The Library of the University College of the West Indies is to be extended on all three floors. This will provide accommodation for the proposed increase of holdings from 50,000 to 200,000 volumes. Work on the extension will commence shortly.

A one-week 'Freshman's Course' was held in the Library at the beginning of the Holiday term to introduce 'Freshmen' to the Library and to instruct them how to use it. It is hoped to continue this course in future.

Mr. K. E. Ingram returned from England in August last year and is now Deputy Librarian of the University College of the West Indies. He has successfully completed the final examinations of the Library Association.

Mr. W. E. Gocking, Librarian of the U. C. W. I. was away on holiday from August to December last year. He attended the Annual Conference of Librarians at Southport and visited various libraries in England. He also paid an interesting visit to the Touraine in France.

Miss Mercedes Josephs, Senior Assistant Librarian, U. C. W. I., also visited England and Germany last summer. She took the opportunity to attend the Library Association Summer School at Birmingham and visited a number of libraries.

NOTES

We learn that Mr. H. Holdsworth who resigned the post of Librarian of the University College of the West Indies at the end of January 1955 to take up the position of Librarian of the University of Melbourne, Australia, has now gone to the University College of East Africa (Makerere College) in a similar capacity.

The Association regrets the resignation of Mr. S. W. Hockey, 1st Vice President and a past President. Mr. Hockey has returned to Trinidad where he now holds the joint post of Director of the East Caribbean Regional Library and Librarian of the Central Library, Trinidad and Tobago.

Mr. K. E. Ingram, President of the Jamaica Library Association gave a pleasant party at his home on Wednesday, February 8th, for librarians to meet Miss Annette Liles, Library Assistant of the University of Florida. Miss Liles was on a tour of the West Indies to get firsthand information on libraries in the area.

FROM OUR MAIL BAG

42 Anstey Road,
Bassendean,
Western Australia,
August 19th, 1955.

Dear Miss Fletcher,

Your welcome letter with news of the activities of the Jamaica Library Association has caught up with me, and I write, in what must seem rather tardy fashion, in reply.

My election to Honorary Membership of the Association is an honour which I most deeply appreciate and I have been proud to inform my fellow colleagues of it. My duties here bear some similarity with those I enjoyed in Jamaica; I have assisted in opening two new libraries involving road journeys totalling over 1,100 miles and a third library is to be opened in two weeks time in a small township some 260 miles away. This will bring our total of libraries to twelve, all established since August, 1954, and if all local authorities adopt the scheme the total will reach about 130 probably in 10 to 15 years time. At this stage no permanent buildings are yet being considered and I hope when the time is ripe to introduce Western Australians to libraries built on the Jamaican plan. Your news of intended visits to Savanna-la-Mar and Morant Bay bring those two libraries vividly and so a little nostalgically to my mind.

Perth is indeed a beautiful city with its river and its high proportion of parks and open spaces, and we have received a warm welcome from Australians including two fairly new ones called Mr. & Mrs. Harold Holdsworth (this welcome by post). This does not mean that Western Australia has replaced Jamaica in our affections, nor that it ever will; just that we are contriving to be fairly happy

here and hoping for as much pleasure in the years to come as we had in those years recently passed.

With sincere good wishes for the continued success of the Association and to you all.

Yours very sincerely,

(Signed) Wm. F. Chape.

Whitehall,
29 Maraval Road,
Port-of-Spain,
Trinidad, B. W. I.,
15th November, 1955.

Dear Miss Fletcher,

As I have now taken up a post in Trinidad I must regretfully tender my resignation from the Committee of the Jamaica Library Association. I hope however that I shall still keep in touch with my colleagues in Jamaica, both official and non-official, and if the regulations permit of 'oversea' membership I shall be glad to enroll on that basis, and to continue to receive the publications of the Association.

Wishing you all success in the struggle that lies ahead in Jamaica.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) S. W. Hockey.

The Secretary,
Jamaica Library Association,
o/o Junior Centre,
Half Way Tree.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION EXAMINATIONS

JUNE 1955

REGISTRATION

Mrs. A. Robertson (St. James Parish Library)	Group B.	Bibliography & Documentary Reproduction & Assistance to Readers.
	Group C.	Organisation & Administration.
Miss H. Gregory (J. L. S. Headquarters)	Group A.	Classification & Cataloguing.
	Group C.	Organisation & Administration.
Miss C. Powell (J. L. S. Headquarters)	Group C.	Organisation & Administration.
Miss N. Woo-Ming (U. C. W. I.)	Group C	Organisation & Administration.

FINALS

Miss J. Lawson (J. L. S. Headquarters)	Part I.	Bibliography & Book Selection.
Mr. K. E. Ingram (U. C. W. I.)	*Part II.	Library Organisation & Administration.
	*Part III.: (a) (v).	Literature & Librarianship of 20th Century English Literature.

*Mr. Ingram has now completed the Final Examination of the Library Association and has been elected a Fellow.

DECEMBER 1955

ENTRANCE

Miss H. Rodney
(J. L. S.
Headquarters)

REGISTRATION

Miss H. Gregory
(J. L. S.
Headquarters)

Group D. Literature (with merit)

Miss C. Powell
(J. L. S.
Headquarters)

Group A. Classification & Cataloguing.

Miss S. Jones
(St. Catherine
Parish Library)

Group C. Literature.

FINALS

Miss J. Lawson
(J. L. S.
Headquarters)

Part II. Library Organisation &
Administration.