

JAMAICA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION BULLETIN

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PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS
To the Jamaica Library Association Annual General
Meeting, January 1967
by Graham Binns

I wonder whether all librarians realise that they are a revolutionary force in society? That statement must be qualified or it will inevitably be misunderstood, but we must not take qualification to extremes, like the Far-Right Republican New Yorker who stopped putting tomato ketchup on his hamburgers for fear that he might be thought to be a communist. A hamburger so qualified, or disqualified, becomes merely a squashed meatball. Librarians are a revolutionary force. They are incendiaries, showering sparks about the place and setting fire to people, or at any rate, striking a light to the minds of men.

Librarianship is a discipline by which all the knowledge, all the imaginative experience and all the opinions that men have cared or dared to print are made accessible to the reader. It is of significant importance that the librarian provides, while the reader selects. The reader's choice is, or should be, at liberty.

Remember what happened in the industrialised societies when free libraries began to be established towards the end of the last century. Wherever you had an artisan class of men with skilled trades and ready minds, you built up through the library system a near-educated class who groped and grappled with the things that seemed most to concern them at the level not of subsistence, but of civilisation: religion, philosophy, politics, economics. The public libraries and institutes even stimulated publishers to an awareness of this new and desperately serious public, and the first cheap editions began to appear. They sold for pennies. You collected them part by part, stiff covered slim volumes with advertisements for gripe-water, sewing machines and cage-like corsets decorating the fly leaves of Hakluyt's Voyages, Thucydides, Plato and the Essays of Francis Bacon. Knowledge became a banquet to hungry intelligences and if they took the sweet before the soup, or mixed the fish and the meat, it was these people, all the same, who sent their children to the grammar schools, put them in for scholarships and scrimped and saved to send them to the universities. It is this kind of social movement, which libraries foster and encourage, that makes a revolution.

If Jamaica is not a fully industrialised country, the hungry intelligences are here all the same and have been since before Emancipation. We live in a shifting society in which

self-improvement and advancement are convictions bedded in history. There is more to self-advancement than a shift from slum to suburb. This is a society with curious sophistications and it would be impertinent and superficial to suppose that it is, today, more exclusively preoccupied with motor-scooters and bikini brassieres than the old artisans of the industrial countries were with the penny farthing cycles and whalebone corsets that decorated the fly leaves of their Thucydides. It may be true that the analysis of borrowings from some parish libraries does not indicate much 'hard' reading in proportion to 'soft' reading. The same is likely to be true of public library systems anywhere in the world. But it would be sad if the public librarian were to regard his business as being the provision of 'soft' romantic fiction to ladies with busy fingers and neglected but passionate imaginations. They may be the majority among borrowers. But we are not working only for majorities. We are working more especially for the very few. We are working for the man for whom access to a library means an opening of his mind so that a world of other minds is opened to him. There is space to travel in. Communication begins.

Of course, communication is difficult. Before H.M. Stanley discovered Dr. Livingstone he spent days turning over in his mind exactly what he should say. Believing Livingstone to be cantankerous, knowing him to be an eccentric and having, himself, an uneasy unfamiliarity with the curious formality of the British, he decided to say the most unlikely yet suitable thing in the circumstances: "Dr. Livingstone, I presume".

People make a joke of that, yet saying it was an agony for Stanley who was sharp minded, sensitive, and alive to its bathos.

Communication is tricky. Every twenty years or so a scholar will discover that when Hamlet said to Ophelia 'Get thee to a nunnery' he was using a double entendre, as "nunnery" could also be understood to mean "brothel". Saying what you mean, in fact, depends on how you mean what you say. Language does not exist only for the communication of ideas but for revealing how mysterious they are, showing us that life is a mystery and that we shall never get to the bottom of it. That is the job of poetry. The mystical must never, however, be confused with the obscurantical. On the second day of 1967 I heard a cattle expert talking most inelegantly in technogese about "nutrient material". He meant food. I am trying to give you a crumb of food for thought, that is, as the cattle expert might put it, nutrient material purposed for cerebration. Your job is to provide people with food for thought. Leave the nutrient material alone.

So I return to reading. Reading, even "soft" reading, puts flesh upon the skeletons and shadows upon the flesh. It is as if each person's mind is a patch of ground and you, as

librarians, are lending out rotary cultivators, issuing fertilisers and fungus sprays - anything asked for and not always certain, yourselves, that you would advise this method adopted for that particular patch. It is all very laissez-faire, because you do not have the authority of teachers. You are not, thank God, telling a man or woman what to enquire into; you are saying, more or less, "take your choice, but take it - don't leave it!" and your reward - or your disappointment - is to see what a miracle or what a muddle comes out of that. Perhaps you think I am making these possible results too dramatic, but the contrasts certainly become dramatic, revolutionary, if you consider the achievements of the Jamaica Library Service in the nineteen years of its operation.

I must not neglect a reference to the specialist librarian. All other men, nowadays, may be specialists too, but his specialism is omniscience. He (or possibly she) is the clue-driver, the direction-finder, putting Master D. Phil back on the road when he has wandered off on some vague, unbushed, tangential tract. He is able to discover sources by instinct and demonstrate them by reference. The scholar looks to him (or her) as the Caliph of the Catalogue without whom a man might, like Dr. Johnson, have to turn over half a library to make a book, or more likely grub through the shelves like those early scholars, (or were they themselves University librarians?) described by Wordsworth:

"And crowded o'er the ponderous
books they hung
Like caterpillars eating out their
way
In silence, or with keen devouring
noise"

Modern library systems make scholarship much easier than that, but library books are nevertheless, still quite frequently eaten.

I have spoken at random but I have a point to leave with you: You can try to build literacy. You must have libraries. You can try to build scholarship. You must have libraries. More fundamentally, you can try to carry on the business of building a society in which people consider before they believe what they are told to believe and enquire before they accept what is put before them. It is only by giving those who choose to use their intelligences free range to ruminate that you can expect informed consideration, informed enquiry and informed criticism. The librarian is the keeper of the key to that information. He would be better off, of course, were he keeper of the keys to something of more obviously immediate practical and political application, not the pantry of the mind, but the pantry of the belly.

"library furnished with a collection of the best authors."(3)
In his careful description of how to preserve books from damage by "bookworm" Long also states: "It will not appear unimportant on reflecting that very costly and valuable libraries have often been entirely destroyed by it in this island."(4)

Long was conscious that the new road-building programme had opened a "channel" by which "knowledge and art have made their way to the remotest and most uncivilized parts of the Kingdom."(5) He was writing as a contemporary who was in a position to know, but there seems to be no other evidence for great optimism over the amount of intellectual refinement that did find its way into many homes. But that there was interest in libraries and that this interest was not confined to Kingston, the Island's capital, there is proof.

A commercial library operated in Kingston before 1780 and the Medical Society had set up a special library for use of its members in 1798. There were libraries attached to both Houses of the Legislature before 1806, and in addition at least six library societies were formed in other areas of the Island during the nineteenth century. The Supplement to the Jamaica Mercury dated March 18, 1780, (6) carries a notice to the effect that William Aikman was informing his patrons that his commercial library would be closing down early in 1781 as the income from subscribers could not maintain a suitable collection. Members were being given one year's notice of closure and it seems reasonable to assume that this venture may have started in 1779 or possibly earlier.

John Stewart in his Account of Jamaica, published 1808,(7) mentions a commercial library in Kingston but additional information about this has not yet been located. The Jamaica Almanacks of the period do not make any reference to it, but this omission is not unusual, for neither did they record the circulation library operated by Messrs. Smith and Clarke which had been in existence some time before 1825. There is a notice in The Kingston Chronicle

(3) /Edward Long/ The History of Jamaica ... Vol. III (London: T. Lowndes, 1774), p.64.

(4) Ibid., pp. 889-90.

(5) Long, op.cit. III, p.465.

(6) Supplement to the Jamaica Mercury, Vol. II, No. 47, March 11-18, 1780, p. 173.

(7) /John Stewart/ An Account of Jamaica and its Inhabitants by a Gentleman Long Resident in the West Indies. (London: Longman Hurst, Rees and Orme ... (1808), p. 171.

of January 1, 1825,(8) that this library (which formed part of a bookshop, bindery and stationery shop) was prospering sufficiently to enable the firm to move into more spacious accommodation "higher up on King Street" (in Kingston) where a library and reading room had been fitted up for "their subscribers, as also gentlemen from the country, who may think proper to resort to it as a place of retirement and amusement." The impression given here is that reading was only one other means of diversion provided by this establishment. The advertisement specially mentions files of the "Island Papers" and other Scotch (sic) periodicals which would be provided regularly.

Messrs. Thome and Kimball in their volume Emancipation in the West Indies, 1837, also note that "one of the largest bookstores in the island is owned by two coloured men (Messrs. Jordon and Osborn'. Connected with it is an extensive printing office, from which a newspaper is issued twice a week."(9)

In the Account of Jamaica, Stewart also alludes to circulation libraries in "one or two (other) places"(10) but neither have these been traced. One might hazard a guess that one of these might have been in Spanish Town. The Supplement to the Royal Gazette of April 15-22, 1780(11) advertises two books which could be bought at W. Aikman's shop, Kingston, and at A. Aikman's printer, Spanish Town.

Nothing is known of the organisation of these early libraries except that they were supported mainly by subscriptions of members, and as this is not a very reliable source of income even at the best of times very few survived for any considerable length of time. The Medical Library folded within thirty-eight years(12) and many of the commercial libraries did not last as long. The libraries of the Houses of Assembly were more fortunate

(8) The Kingston Chronicle, Vol. II, No. 52, January 1, 1825, p.2.

(9) Jas. A. Thome and J. Horace Kimball, Emancipation in the West Indies: A six months tour in Antigua, Barbadoes and Jamaica, in the year 1837 (New York: The American Anti-Slavery Society, (1838), pp. 363-64.

(10) Stewart, op. cit., p. 171.

(11) Supplement to the Royal Gazette, Vol. II, Nos. 52, April 15-22, 1780, p. 255.

(12) Frank Cundall, "Library Work in Jamaica," Transactions and Proceedings of the Second International Conference held in London, July 13-15, 1897. (London: The Library Association, 1898), p. 174.

for they did not depend upon the support of individuals for survival. They were primarily for the use of the Governor and members of the Legislature, though privileges were extended to outsiders at the discretion of the librarian or on the recommendation of members of the House.

As early as 1806 the Jamaica Almanac (sic) lists the post of librarian for "the Honourable the Assembly" and on several occasions throughout succeeding years, reference is made to librarians for one or other of the libraries. The posts were not always held by librarians, but by persons appointed to other jobs in the Government such as the sergeant-at-arms, the assistant clerk, and the messenger.(13) The collections were made up mainly of books on law, history and travel, biography and science. The libraries were opened every day during recess of the House of Assembly except Saturday, Sunday and public holidays from 10.00 a.m. to 3.30 p.m.(14)

The St. George's Library Society was the earliest and the most active subscription library during this period. It was started in 1824 at Buff Bay on the north coast of the Island, through the instrumentality of William Dunbar, a native of Scotland and a graduate of St. Andrew's University. No doubt this library owed its success to his personal supervision. Buff Bay is only about seven miles from the Dunbar estate and he was within easy riding distance of the library. After the St. George's Library had been in existence for fifteen years the Jamaica Almanack of 1839 could record that the library

has since rapidly increased in prosperity and usefulness and has conferred great benefits on the community by diffusing into it a taste for mental accomplishments and acquirements, to an extent which previously did not exist. Its success has given rise to similar institutions in several other parishes of the island.(15)

Census figures for Jamaica during the seventeenth to the nineteenth centuries are not entirely reliable but Long gives the white population of what was the parish of St. George in 1673, as 118;(16) a figure less than one-twenty-third part of

(13) Cundall, op. cit., p. 174

(14) Ibid. This is the only record of hours of service in any of these early libraries which has yet come to light.

(15) The Jamaica Almanack, 1839. (Kingston: Cathcart and Sherlock), p. 170.

(16) Long, op. cit., II, p. 376

the total population for the parish at that time. Buff Bay was the chief town of this parish. It is assumed that this included women and children and white bond servants. Eisner(17) and Hall(18) both cite the 1844 census figures for this parish as 8,800 including coloured and negro. On the basis of this the potential users of the library in about 1844 could not have been more than 400 or approximately one-twenty-second part of the total. In the year 1838 the library's membership was 79 and even if all white servants used the library, and it is fairly safe to say they did not, the ratio of user to white population would have been one to five--a not insignificant proportion.

This St. George's Library Society set the pattern for similar organizations which started in the following parishes on the dates given or possibly earlier; St. Elizabeth, 1838,(19) St. James, 1839,(20) Trelawny, 1850,(21) St. Catherine, 1852,(22) and St. Ann, 1856.(23) All had small book stocks. St. George's at one time had 1,100 and in 1880 the remaining 900 volumes were handed over to the Institute of Jamaica.(24) The St. Ann Literary Society is recorded as having had between 2,000 and 3,000 books. Most of the others appear to have had only a few hundred.

Subscriptions which formed the sole source of income were too low to make a truly efficient service possible. The highest rates were charged by the most progressive society at the time--the St. George's Library Society. New members were required to pay five pounds, six shillings and eight pence (£5.6.8.) and an annual subscription of two pounds, six shillings and eight pence (£2.6.8.).(25)

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- (17) Gisela Eisner, Jamaica 1830-1930: A Study of Economic Growth (Manchester, England: The Manchester University Press, 1961), p.182.
 - (18) Douglas Hall, Free Jamaica 1838-1865: An Economic History (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1959), p.265.
 - (19) The Jamaica Almanack, 1838. (Kingston: Jordon & Osborn), p.113.
 - (20) The Jamaica Almanack, 1840. Volume badly deteriorated. Imprint and page number missing.
 - (21) Henderson's Jamaica Almanack Combined with Letts's Diary, 1859 (George Henderson, Savage & Co. /n.p./ p.125.
 - (22) Henderson's Jamaica Almanack Combined with Letts's Diary, for the year 1857. (Kingston: George Henderson & Co., London: Haddon Brothers & Co.), p.125.
 - (23) Henderson's Jamaica Almanack, op. cit., 1859, p.127.
 - (24) Institute of Jamaica. Report of the Public Library Year Ending, 1880 (Kingston: The Government Printer, 1881), p.5.
 - (25) The Jamaica Almanack, op. cit., 1838, p.110.

In Trelawny it was thirty-six shillings (36/-) per annum and five shillings (5/-) entrance fees.(26) St. Catherine also charged thirty-six shillings (36/-) a year,(27) and rates for other societies were still lower. The Colonial Literary and Reading Room, which was operating in Kingston at this time, at first charged four shillings (4/-) per month, but reduced this to two shillings and sixpence (2/6) and finally to twelve shillings (12/-) a year.(28) Life membership could also be obtained from this society for ten guineas (£10.10.).

It can be seen that the incomes of these societies would have been much too small to support an adequate collection or to make an expanding service possible; and the criticism of contemporaries that these libraries supplied little else beside popular material seems therefore valid.

None of the transactions of these societies has survived, and the Jamaica Almanack published annually during the period which gives information on such matters was neither comprehensive in coverage nor always up-to-date with its information. From time to time exact particulars of a society would be reprinted without change from one year to the next, and one cannot be certain whether the societies were still active or whether the compilers lacked initiative.

During the latter part of the nineteenth century, several Government departments began to take an interest in building up libraries of their own. Who's Who? and What's What in Jamaica for 1879-80(29) praises the Law librarian for the care taken of the library and notes that it was sustained by annual subscriptions collected from the profession. Government subsidy, if any, must have been very small.

Agriculturalists were among the first to band together into active working groups. The Jamaica Horticultural Society appears listed in the Jamaica Almanack of 1825.(30) In 1843

(26). The Jamaica Almanack, op.cit., 1857, p. 125.

(27) The Jamaica Almanack, op. cit., 1859, p.127.

(28) The Jamaica Almanack, op. cit., 1857, p.123.

(29) James Gall, Who's Who and What's What in Jamaica (Kingston: James Gall, 1879), p.96.

(30) The Jamaica Almanack, 1825. (Kingston: Alex Aikman Jnr.), p.44.

The Royal Agricultural Society was founded under the patronage of the Earl of Elgin, then Governor of the Island.(31) During the next thirty years this Society played an active part in encouraging research and in promoting agricultural shows and exhibitions. It sponsored the exhibition of local products which was sent to the Paris Exhibition of 1865,(32) and to the Universal Exhibition, London, 1861.(33)

In 1864, the Society was amalgamated with The Royal Society of Arts and Agriculture. From this date the new society, which also maintained a small geological museum, began to receive Government subsidy of £150 a year, but it soon realized that even this steady income was insufficient to carry out the aims of the Association, and in 1873, the sponsors requested Government to take over the whole concern including the library. This was eventually done in 1878 and the books and the museum were later incorporated into the Institute of Jamaica.

If libraries were organized in schools these would have been on a very limited scale and on purely local initiative. One record exists of a library of 150 volumes which was attached to a Baptist Missionary School run by "the Rev. Mr. Phillips" in Spanish Town, for the use of teachers and scholars.(34) In the Minutes of the Rusea's Trust for April 11, 1839, signed by George R. Johnson (Justice), another reference appears, "Ordered the following salaries and allowances for the present year--allowance for library £20."(35)

Ernest Savage, in his survey of libraries in the West Indies in 1934, mentions that at the beginning of the Nineteenth century, the Scottish Missionary Society, through the influence of one Samuel Brown of Haddington, tried to raise funds for supplying the population of Jamaica with itinerating libraries. According to the report his efforts received the commendation "not only of the Committee of the Scottish Missionary Society ... but of several highly respectable Jamaican proprietors who have contributed."(36)

(31) The Handbook of Jamaica 1881 (Kingston: The Government Printer, 1882), p. 264.

(32) The Handbook of Jamaica 1881, op. cit., p. 264.

(33) Ibid.

(34) Thome and Kimball, op. cit., p.435.

(35) Minute Book of the Rusea's Trust deposited in the Archives of Jamaica, Spanish Town.

(36) Ernest A. Savage, The Libraries of Bermuda, the Bahamas, the British West Indies, British Guiana, British Honduras, Puerto Rico, and the American Virgin Islands. A report of the Carnegie Corporation of New York. (London: The Library Association, 1934), p.v.

Nothing came of this ambitious project. Possibly Mr. Brown had run foul of other planters who were at that time highly suspicious of any missionary activity. The planters in those days felt that missionaries were the chief instigators of the anti-slavery movement.

From the foregoing account it is clear that during the eighteenth century and the nineteenth century Jamaica was not devoid of leaders willing and able to promote the cause of learning among the general populace. Their weakness lay not in lack of moral support but in the uncertain financial backing. Where yearly subscriptions formed the only source of income, long term operations were almost impossible; and where committees were self-appointing as in many cases they were, there was little feeling for public obligation, and it was difficult to ensure any continuity of policy.

In spite of these problems some nevertheless managed to survive for many years. The Jamaica Society folded after twenty-five years, but the Colonial Literary Reading Society immediately took its place and possibly its existing stock. Twelve years later in 1861, this society was still functioning with 167 members,(37) but later in the decade decline set in. In 1868, the Kingston Literary and Reading Society was formed "in the same quarters at the South Western corner of King and Bourden Streets" with many of the officers from the Colonial Literary Reading Society on its board of management.(38) Ten years later the book-stock was divided among the remaining members and operations closed down.(39) By that time it must have been common knowledge that the Institute of Jamaica would shortly be set up; and in any case the libraries of the House of Assembly and the Legislative Council had been opened to the public since 1874. Jamaica was about to enter upon a new phase of library development.

(37) Henderson's Jamaica Almanack Combined with Letts's Diary for the Year 1861 (Kingston: George Henderson, Savage and Company), p.125.

(38) Henderson's Jamaica Almanack Combined with Letts's Diary for the Year 1867 (London: Benjamin Pardon), p.145.

(39) Cundall, op. cit., p. 174.

(Extract from a thesis presented to the faculty of the Graduate School, Southern Connecticut State College, U.S.A., in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Science, June 1966).

ORKNEY COUNTY LIBRARY

by Barbara Chevannes

Some persons might have heard of the Orkney Islands, situated ten minutes by air and two and a half hours by boat from the extreme north of Scotland. They were owned by the Norsemen until about the fourteenth or fifteenth century, when they were given to Scotland as a wedding dowry (although the wedding never occurred). The result has been a mixed heritage with the Norse gaining the edge. Many Orcadians are very insulted if called Scots.

The population of Orkney live on twenty-nine of the hundred islands, many of the smaller islands being occupied entirely by sheep. It was very interesting to watch sheep playing around on an island with absolutely no sign of human habitation.

Going to Orkney is a unique experience, as very few people from "The Sooth", as Orcadians call the British mainland, know anything about Orkney. The little that is known is very frightening, especially to a West Indian. You are told over and over about the bleak, the wet, the cold and the wind, and it takes much courage to board the plane and fly up to the frozen north. I made it with nothing worse than a delay of two and a half hours at Wick Airport, due to fog over Kirkwall, Orkney's capital.

Orkney County Library is situated in Kirkwall and serves the dual purpose of being Kirkwall Public Library and Orkney County Library. It is not a very busy library as Orkney's population is 19,000 with Kirkwall's contribution 4,000. The Orkney library is interesting not because of its size but because of "The Family Book Service" started twelve years ago.

The Librarian, Mr. MacGillivray, convinced his Committee that the existing service of small Book Centres manned by volunteer librarians was totally inadequate. He proposed a service direct from Headquarters to individual families on the islands. A box of books service. The advent of this service was very successful as fifty-two out of the fifty-four families on North Ronaldsay, the pioneer island, accepted the service. Mr. MacGillivray was however marooned on this island for one week, due to bad weather.

The system used for the Family Book Service is very simple, the most important feature being co-operation between the library and the steamer, the steamers and the merchants, the merchant and the family.

Each family requesting the services has a card made and kept at the County headquarters. The data on this card are:-

- 1) The name and address of the family
- 2) The date of the loan
- 3) The number of books borrowed (on each occasion)
- 4) The merchant in charge of collecting the family's box.

No detailed records are kept of each title borrowed, so books can be interloaned between families. A family is responsible for the number of books they receive, usually between fourteen and eighteen, but not for particular titles. There is therefore an unofficial interloan system. Each box is sent off to the reader with a special request card on which the reader records what he would like in his next box. The boxes are packed after these cards are consulted, and the necessary records are made on the family card. The return label and a new request card are placed in the box and the name and address of the family and the name of the merchant are stamped on the outer label. The box is then tied and despatched to the pier for shipping, the steamer takes it to the island and the merchant collects it at the pier and delivers it to the family.

It should be mentioned here that merchants are all travelling grocers, butchers, shopkeepers, etc. The islanders being mostly farmers do not live in communities, but on isolated farms, so travelling salesmen are absolutely essential for bringing them their regular requisites. These gentlemen with their wide custom make the Family Book Service possible. They offered their services to the Orkney County Library free of cost but were finally persuaded to take six pence per box (round trip). The steamer also receives a token payment, very much less than the regular postal rates.

The annual book issue for rural Orkney, since the Family Book Service, has increased from 3,000 to 54,000.

THE NEW WEST INDIA REFERENCE LIBRARY

by R. Delattre, J. Richards and G. Robertson

At the end of May last year the new building on East Street opened, and with it Jamaica's national library entered into a new, self-consciously responsible era of its history.

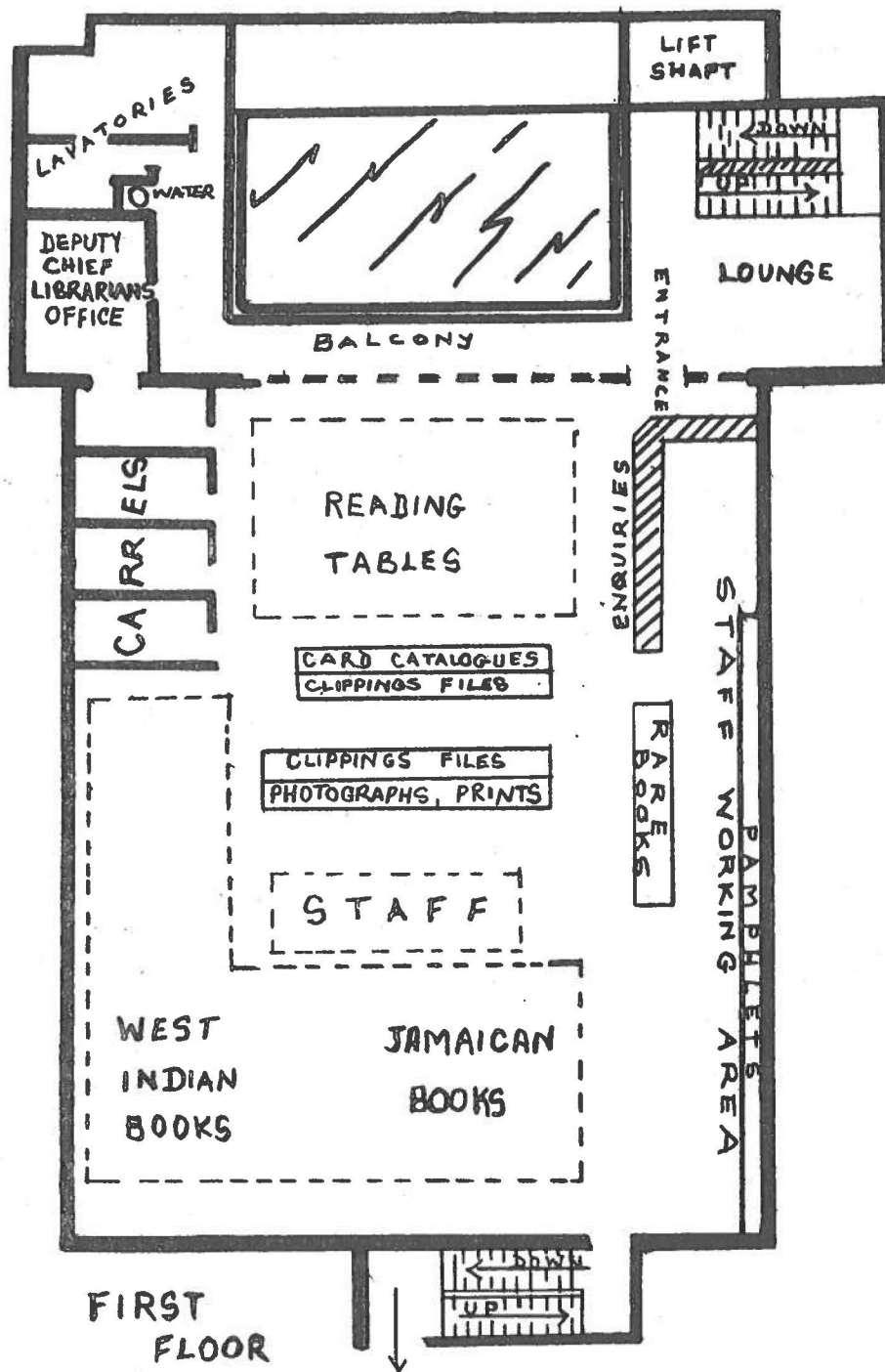
From its beginnings in 1894 the West India Reference Library of the Institute of Jamaica was committed to the collection of national and Caribbean literature, that is, the whole body of printed books, pamphlets, periodicals, maps, manuscripts, prints and photographs which trace the history of a country. The acquisitive powers of Frank Cundall, Secretary and Librarian of the Institute for almost fifty years, are well known and clearly evidenced by his legacy to us of this literary heritage--a heritage, which, if we had to try to acquire it on today's market, would be ridiculously beyond our means.

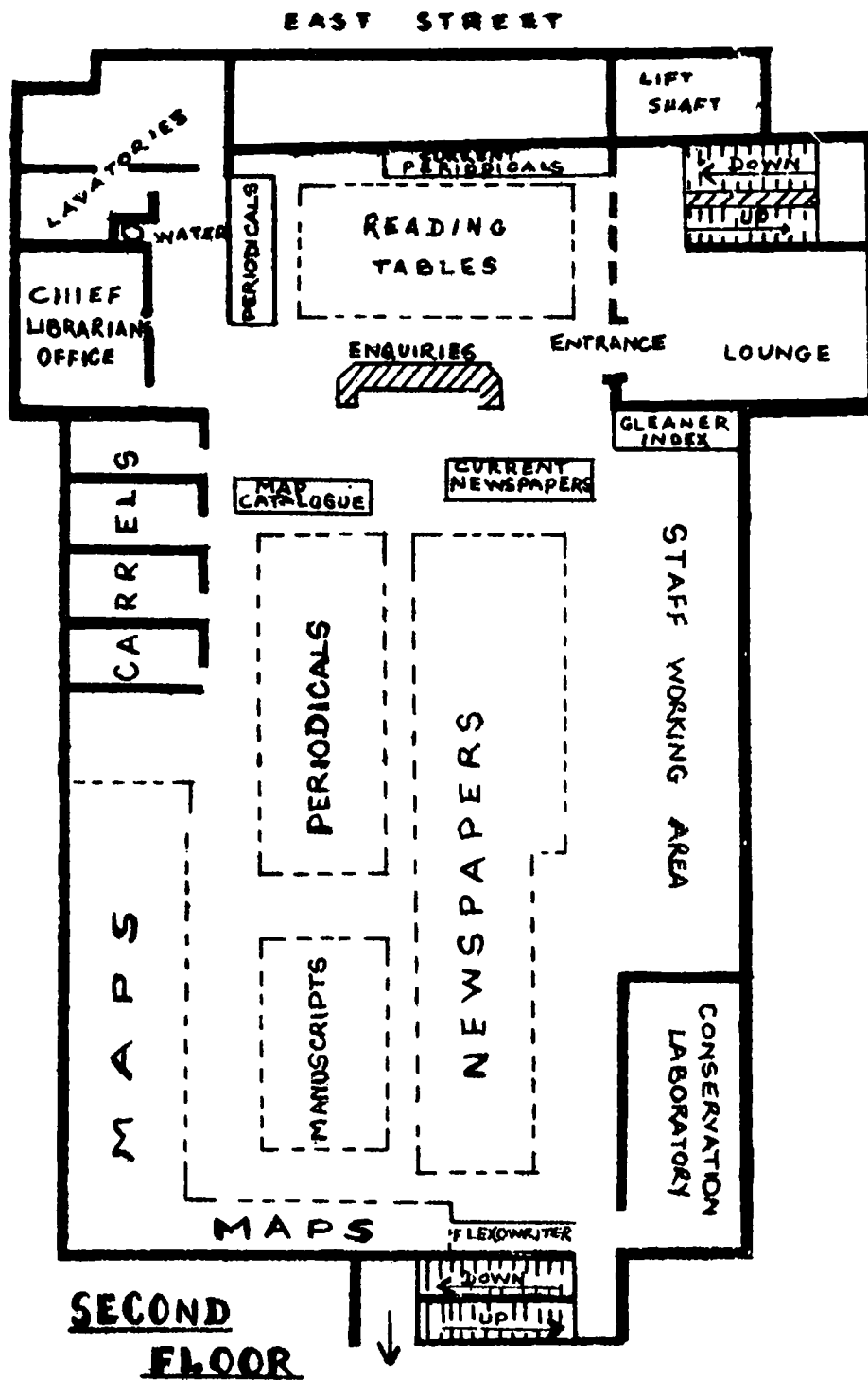
But the West India Reference Library, having hoarded its collections over the years in inadequate bookcases, in boxes, in barrels, in cupboards throughout the Institute buildings, at last reached the age of maturity and had built for it its own quarters next door to the administration centre of the Institute.

The new building is a marble fronted three-storey structure, designed to carry two additional floors in the future. Green pillars flanking the glass entrance doors rise to the top of the building. The curtains at the doors were designed and handblocked locally, the inspiration for the design coming from pre-1692 carved tortoise shell work in the Institute's collections. The date tree of the design symbolizes Date Tree Hall, the Institute's first home, which was destroyed in the 1907 earthquake. The large exhibition gallery on the ground floor is not yet finished; periodically there have been book exhibits on view in the two display cases of the lobby.

Floor plans for the first and second floors here reproduced show the placement of materials in the new building. (The visitor is warned that there is no lift in the lift shaft--it will not be installed until the extra floors are added.) Books, prints, photographs and clippings are on the first floor, and newspapers, periodicals, maps and manuscripts on the second. Each floor has an enquiries desk, where readers present their requests. The library has closed stacks. Research Assistants are on hand to help with questions posed by people coming in, telephoning, or writing. Depending on the nature of the question, the assistant may need several minutes or several days to

EAST STREET





provide the information or suitable material for the reader to use. Photocopying and photographic services are also available, at a charge covering costs.

Readers using library materials over a long period of time may apply for reservation of one of the study carrels. The carrels are also for the use of those who bring in their own typewriters, tape-recorders, etc. To all readers, the library now offers space, light, air-conditioning, and longer hours of opening. One reader, however, has complained about the new 'clinical' atmosphere; she preferred the old days of chaos and misery, when the library had 'character'.

The new building has a number of items in the way of library equipment and furniture which are, so far as we know, the first of their sort in any Jamaican library. Photographs and portraits are housed in Medafiles. Each of these units consists of four drawers vertically in separated compartments. The system works well for photographs and portraits, and the double-tiered block of grey Medafiles is an impressive sight. We also use one of these cabinets for our very small phonograph record collection.

Another feature which has drawn much favourable comment is the Planmobile for rolled maps. This is a movable metal stand fitted with heavy cardboard cylinders. Those maps which are too long for the containers look rather ludicrous with the lids dangling on the end of the map, but they add a rakish air to the cold steel of more conventional map cases.

Kik-steps amused the staff immensely when they first arrived. These are steps on wheels designed primarily for library use. When stepped on, the Kik-steps grip the floor by suction and will not move, so that the user is much less likely to over-balance trying to reach a book on the top shelf. Step off and the steps may then be kicked along to the next shelf.

Built to our own design, two tables are specially made for tired readers consulting newspapers. The top of the table is in two sections, adjustable to different heights. There is therefore no need for readers to lean their elbows on what very often are quite fragile newspapers.

The aim of the West India Reference Library has always been to collect everything we could on Jamaica and the British Islands of the West Indies, with less emphasis on the non-British islands and still less on the countries which surround the Caribbean sea. We possess the largest collection on the British West Indies anywhere in the West Indies and one of the largest in the world.

To describe briefly the smaller sections of the collection first, there are about six hundred prints. Very few of these are earlier than the second half of the eighteenth century. As far as Jamaica is concerned, there are a number of prints clustered around 1770-1780; for example, the well-known views of William Beckford's estates by George Robertson; and again a cluster for 1820 - circa 1844, with the work of Hakewill, Duperly and Kidd. Earlier or later than that, it appears that few artists visited Jamaica to make visual records of our life and there is a great dearth of illustrative material. Interesting items on the other territories include Bridgens' West India Scenery, published around 1829, with its views of work, play and punishment in Trinidad, and Bentley's Views of Guiana. A recent presentation is a set of twelve prints by Codallo, a contemporary Trinidadian artist, recording old customs and scenes in Port of Spain.

Photographs are an important part of our collection and a recent acquisition in this field is a group of forty-seven photographs of Jamaican caves presented by Mr. David Lee of the Jamaica Caving Club. The photograph collection though large is somewhat patchy in coverage because, whereas for other material we watch publishers' and second-hand booksellers' catalogues, for photographs we depend on gifts to supply the older ones. Current photographs are obtained from the Daily Gleaner and other sources.

The printed map collection numbers roughly three thousand and includes maps by all the well-known cartographers of the seventeenth to nineteenth centuries who worked on the West Indian area, such as Visscher, van Keulan, Bellin, Moll, Jefferys and Robertson. Also we have modern and up to date maps prepared by the Directorate of Overseas Surveys.

But the main collection naturally consists of books, newspapers and periodicals. Our earliest book is the Isolario of Benedetto Bordone published in Venice in 1547. This is an atlas with descriptive text and includes the newly discovered islands of the West Indies. Its handmade rag paper is still in excellent condition, and although somewhat less than fifty years too late to rank in the incunabula class, it is still an interesting example of early printing. Its woodcut maps of the West Indian islands are particularly quaint.

A very attractive and valuable work is the 1707-25 edition of Sir Hans Sloane's Voyage to...Jamaica with its hand-coloured illustrations of Jamaican plants and animals. Sloane came to Jamaica as physician to the Duke of Albemarle in the seventeenth century. (One of his patients was Sir Henry Morgan, who, however, would not take his advice and went off to a quack.) He was interested in natural history and not only wrote this and other books but also collected many specimens. His collections

became the nucleus of the British Museum and are still preserved there. This book has been of the greatest importance to botanists, as the plants discovered and illustrated by Sloane later became the chief or sole basis of many species named by Linnaeus, whose nomenclature is still the international standard. Another beautifully illustrated book on natural history is Gosse's Birds of Jamaica, published in 1847-49.

A book which is a delight to handle and look at is Father Breton's Dictionnaire Caraibe-Francois published in the seventeenth century, a beautiful example of fine binding with its dark blue leather covers and gold tooling, watered silk endpapers and gilt-edged leaves. It would also of course be very important to any scholar studying the Carib language; but as such scholars are not plentiful, we are more accustomed to the casual visitor's admiration.

Many other interesting individual items could be mentioned, but the value of this library to the student often lies not so much in isolated items as in the existence under one roof of a body of material on his subject. From the point of view of research, a very important aspect is the newspaper collection. The earliest newspaper we have is a photocopy of a single issue of the Weekly Jamaica Courant for 1718.* Up to 1779 there are only a few newspaper volumes and no long runs of any one title, but from 1779 to 1837 there is a run of the Royal Gazette (this was the name of a genuine newspaper of the time, not the official organ of government notices as the Gazette is now). The period 1850-1890 is well covered with long runs of several papers, e.g., the Falmouth Post, St. Jago de la Vega Gazette, Morning Journal, Jamaica Guardian, Colonial Standard and the Gleaner (under several variations of name). The Gleaner began in 1834 and the West India Reference Library has it continuously from October 1865-- the only place in Jamaica and, we think, in the whole world which can boast of such a run. Imagine the value of this material for the study of nineteenth-century Jamaica. As an example, recently our newspapers were used by a New Zealander writing a book on racial attitudes in Jamaica, and by an American preparing a Ph.D. thesis on the governorship of Sir John Peter Grant.

We are now collecting newspapers from all the other English-speaking islands and from Guyana and British Honduras. These papers could be useful right now to anyone interested in

* The original is in the British Museum. This is the earliest Jamaican newspaper known to have been published.

the climate of opinion in other parts of the Caribbean, but in fact they are very seldom requested. They will certainly be used by historians studying the twentieth century.

The existence of a whole body of material is of particular importance when it is in manuscript form. Besides a large number of single items such as letters, account books and deeds, the West India Reference Library has some collections of manuscripts which are both important and interesting. Among these are the Nugent papers--some hundreds of letters mostly dated 1801-1806 with some from the 1790's--which deal very largely with relations between Jamaica and Haiti at that time. The Sligo papers, a collection of letters, etc. of the Marquis of Sligo, Governor of Jamaica in 1834-36, were purchased some years ago. These are important for their content concerning affairs in Jamaica during the apprenticeship period.

We are currently receiving some nine hundred periodical titles. This includes every periodical now commercially published in Jamaica, so far as we can learn. We do not always have the non-commercial ones such as mimeographed school magazines or publications of societies. This is because it is so hard to get hold of them, not because we are not interested in obtaining them too. The figure of nine hundred includes serial reports of government departments and other bodies, not only in Jamaica but from the other English-speaking islands as well. Jamaican reports go back to 1869 in various forms, but the drive to acquire eastern Caribbean reports dates only from the 1950's. It has been greatly intensified in the last two or three years. However, to say that we are currently receiving an annual report does not necessarily mean that the date of the last one is 1966: government reports are, as librarians know, notoriously slow in appearing.

Now that the library is comfortable physically, we have begun shifting attention from the repository duties of a national library to the responsibility of providing bibliographic and indexing services. One of these services is the annual Jamaican Accessions list. The third issue, to cover materials published in or about Jamaica during 1966, will more nearly approach the ideal of current national bibliography in having the active cooperation of other libraries in the island: the University of the West Indies Library, the Headquarters of the Jamaica Library Service, the Scientific Research Council Library, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands Library.

Another step is the publication of a catalogue of Jamaican maps in the map collection. This long-awaited bibliography is in the process of editing; it lists maps which appeared in books as

well as those published separately. Another project now well under way is the cataloguing of the prints. In addition to a detailed description under artist or title, this index includes subject references which will make the task of providing illustrative material much quicker than in the past, when the answer to a request for, say, costumes of the 1820's depended on the Research Assistant's personal knowledge of the prints, or on an examination of the entire collection. A gigantic job, without end in sight, is the indexing of our estimated twenty thousand estate plans. A good start has been made on the St. Catherine and St. Elizabeth plans with the mechanized help of the flexowriter, which tapes duplicate cards from an original punched tape.

It would be desirable if we could in the foreseeable future publish the complete catalogue of the West India Reference Library. For national bibliography alone, this would serve to bring up to date Cundall's Bibliographia jamaicensis of 1902 (with supplement, 1908), and to widen the scope of the Jamaica Library Service's Jamaica: a Select Bibliography 1900-1963. And it would also, of course, present our holdings on the rest of the West Indies. We should also like, in that same foreseeable future, to publish in book form the index to the Daily Gleaner which we have been keeping on cards for about twelve years. These plans and dreams should keep us busy for some time to come.

BACKGROUND REPORT ON THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF A BIBLIOGRAPHIC CENTER IN THE
CARIBBEAN*

by Paulita C. Maldonado

This meeting was called with the purpose of enrolling the help of interested institutions in the establishment of a bibliographic center in Puerto Rico. As you already know, upon the dissolution of the Caribbean Organization, the Government of Puerto Rico took over the administration of the Caribbean Organization Library for the benefit of the region. This responsibility was delegated on CODECA.

Since 1950 the Caribbean Organization and the Caribbean Commission had been publishing the Current Caribbean Bibliography. It was published annually, even though sometimes late, until 1958. The Caribbean Organization started, and CODECA has continued, to publish a volume that would cover from 1959 to 1961. The first part was published and distributed by the Caribbean Organization, the second part is already at the printers.

This bibliography tries to fill the need for a publication that would list all items published in the Caribbean. It is presently being compiled with the help of regional collaborators who send entries for inclusion. The value of the Current Caribbean Bibliography is lessened by the way it is prepared and the frequency of publication. If it is compared to Fichero Bibliografico Hispano Americano its shortcomings are obvious.

A publication comparable to Fichero... is what is needed for the Caribbean region. So that this dream may some day be possible, it is essential that the publication be more inclusive and regular.

Following a study of the situation, a proposal for the establishment of a bibliographic center in Puerto Rico was drafted. This study was prepared by Mrs. Marietta Daniels Shepard from Pan American Union and Robert Kingery from the New York Public Library. The project did not develop further during 1962 and 1963. Thus, the 8th SALALM asked Enid Baa, Librarian of the Caribbean Organization Library at that time, to explore means that would make the establishment of the Center feasible. Her efforts were not successful.

*Reprinted with permission from "Report of the First Meeting on the Ad Hoc Committee for the Establishment of a Bibliographic Center in the Caribbean held at CODECA, August 12th, 1966 at 3:00 p.m." Appendix, pp.6-8.

Under the present administration, the Caribbean Regional Library has continued the endeavour toward the establishment of the bibliographic center. The reasons behind the interest of this library in the center lie in the fact that the Caribbean Regional Library is responsible for the continuation of the Current Caribbean Bibliography, it already has established working relations with most countries of the region and it receives most government documents from the Caribbean. Therefore, it was thought that the Caribbean Regional Library would be the logical place for the Center. Of course only a study could determine whether or not this would be desirable or possible. To this effect, CODECA has already spoken to a firm about the possibility of a contract to do this study. Final talks will take place on September 12th.

To have a clear picture of the steps taken regarding this project, a review of its history is in order.

The Caribbean Organization, and Enid Baa, its librarian specifically, tried to interest the Department of Education and the Institute of Caribbean Studies in the center. She requested an estimate from Kilden Associates, Inc., of Bayamon, regarding the cost involved in the establishment of the center. This document and the file left by the Organization of the project have been used by us in our work.

After a careful study and an interview with a library consultant for the Ford Foundation, it was decided that the Caribbean Regional Library would submit the Shepard-Kingery proposal to the Ford Foundation. Their reaction was favourable, but it was decided that a study of library facilities in the area should be undertaken so as to enable them to establish priorities. This study has already been started.

We have interested University Microfilms in the project and have taken steps to enlist their cooperation.

At the XIth SALALM meeting it was decided that another year would be given to Puerto Rico to establish the center. If this was not done, the project would be dropped from their program.

It is quite obvious that there is need for a stronger committee. I trust together we will be able to accomplish what has been sought for a long time: the establishment of a Bibliographical Center in Puerto Rico.

SHALOM MEANS PEACE

by Verna Stewart

It is now many weeks since I left the soil of Israel, land of the Bible, but the memories of that visit are ever fresh in my mind. To speak of Israel is to tell of the streamlined streets with modern apartment buildings, the large cooperative farms, the kibbutzim and at the same time the narrow cobbled streets of Nazareth, probably no different today than when Jesus walked there. A land of contrasts, the old and the new exist side by side in many quarters. In Jerusalem the traditions of the ancients reveal themselves in the old part of the city. Bearded patriarchs, locks unshorn, fully clothed in black, rub shoulders with visitors from the world's capitals as they all wander through the main street--the former probably to a religious observance or his daily work, the visitor to see the market place and shops as he passes another day in Israel's capital. The many-storied Hotel King David, named for the Jewish monarch, nestles below the hill of Zion atop which lie the remains of the king, the bier bedecked with a dozen crowns rich with precious stones. Daily the believers come, to pay homage and light candles, and Christians like myself, who came to view this sacred place of the Jewish people.

Israel's own air-service, El Al, approaches home base and as one looks out the window, the well laid out fields as seen from the air form interesting patterns in varying shades of green, for Israel is to a great extent an agricultural country.

Unlike Jamaica Israel has little problem in finding workers for the land, for the dignity of all work and the national awareness of the need to plough the land lead many trained in other skills to become members of a kibbutz (the large cooperative farm organized on a communal basis) or moshav. Numbered among the community of a kibbutz one may find doctors, lawyers or teachers, sometimes members of parliament (Knesset) who have freely chosen this way of life. To the Israelis no work is menial and the overpowering desire to be a white collar worker is automatically repressed. All Israeli male youths are drafted for the army and not only are they trained in the art of warfare but spend some time learning the science of agriculture.

I should perhaps make clear the nature of my visit to this Middle East land. Israel, a new and developing country, faces many of the problems of the newer nations, one of which

is making the population literate. For Israel the problem is even more complex for the national language Hebrew had to be taught to people from as many as one hundred and two countries, each group speaking the tongue of its former host country, a total of some eighty-one languages. In order to solidify these various nationalities all of Jewish descent it is imperative that they all speak the same language. To this end the programme for eradicating illiteracy is a priority, for not only must a new language be learnt but the entire history and culture of a people must be conveyed to the new immigrants. Without a common language this would be impossible. To facilitate migrants, various methods of instructions are organised.

Through the generosity of Israel's Foreign Ministry, Department of International Cooperation, many developing countries faced with the problem of illiteracy were invited to attend an international seminar, held under the auspices of the Mount Carmel International Training Centre for Community Services, Haifa. This Centre focuses on the problems facing developing nations with special reference to the role of women. Through conferences, seminars and training courses, the Centre trains not only their own women but those from countries facing similar problems. The Centre does not attempt to provide solutions to other people's problems but presents experts in the subjects, field trips and the possibility of exchange of ideas and thoughts between participants so that judging from the success or failure of others one can be guided in one's own endeavours.

As the fortunate recipient of the Una Marson Scholarship I represented Jamaica at the Seminar on the Eradication of Illiteracy among Women held in Haifa during June of 1966. Forty delegates from thirty-six countries were represented. From the Latin America's to the nearer continent of Africa, women of different professions, teachers, doctors, educators, government officials, gathered to discuss this vital problem. Each session closed with findings and suggestions of participants being presented to the entire group. (The Seminar was conducted in French and English).

Apart from field trips linked with the topic of the Seminar, we were allotted time for visiting historical sites and places of interest, thus providing the opportunity to see much of Israel.

Israel has many faces but to me Israel land of the Bible is the most outstanding. One can well imagine the feeling of awe that came over me as I visited many of the places sacred to the Christian faith. To visit the grotto of the Holy family (over which stands the Church of San Joseph) or the place of the Annunciation, to stand on the hill, Mt. of the Beatitudes, and read the Sermon on the Mount is a memory I'll ever cherish. To

have visited the tomb of King David, the Upper Room after climbing Zion's hill, is to feel the Bible come alive. The thrill of washing one's feet in the river Jordan or collecting salt from the edge of the Dead Sea gives reality to what one could easily believe to be a dream. Here we were Moslems, Hindus, Jews and Gentiles travelling through the hills of Judea and the Valleys of Jezreel that were until then only a name in the Bible to most of us.

Bethlehem lies in the old Jerusalem at present under Jordan's control, so unable to visit there the guide pointed from the frontier the city nestled on a hill where Christianity had its beginnings. From this border position we viewed other landmarks in the old Jerusalem. Israel, the land and people, means for me the eleven hills of Mount Carmel on which Haifa is built at three levels. Tel Aviv, city of springs with its skyscraper Hotel Hilton, Israel of Nazareth and new Jerusalem but also Israel land of the desert, the great Negev stretching for miles, the scorching desert sand making dunes many feet high, and the town of Beersheva an oasis in the desert so it seems.

Haifa, the home of the Mt. Carmel International Training Centre and the Technion, Israel's Institute of Technology, has trained some of our own students in the science of agriculture. Israel's main sea port is the city with the most ornate of buildings, that of the Bahai shrine whose golden dome glistens amidst the Persian gardens so beautifully maintained by the followers of Bab. Haifa's three levels known as lower, middle and upper present a panoramic view looking out to the bay when viewed from the middle and upper levels. Here there is little in the way of history but a picture of modern Israel with her shopping centres, sidewalk cafes, suburbs, industrial plants and the electric subway. Here one met people who spoke English or French as easily as their native Hebrew, and one's lack of Hebrew presented no problem in using shops, banks or public transport. A cultural city with a municipal museum and theatre, performances were not limited to Israeli productions. Bernard Shaw's "Dear Liar" was being presented by two members of the Old Vic Company while I was in Haifa.

Dancing and singing is a popular pastime for both young and old. For a very nominal fee the youngsters on a Friday evening, eve of the Sabbath, can go along to the community park for lessons on the hora and other folk dances. A visit to the Rothschild Community Centre found the not so young enjoying this pastime also, a weekly activity that always attracted a full house, and it was by no means confined to the females. I recall seeing a number of young male soldiers, possibly home for the weekend, still in uniform and thoroughly enjoying themselves, whirling, clapping, stamping and singing.

One of the impressive things of this country is the strong national spirit that radiates from her people. So too is the work of the girl soldiers, who, trained in military warfare, can rise to the defense of their country in time of need but who are playing a tremendous role in the social services as part of their army service. These young girls, all of secondary education level, are called upon not only to aid in the literacy programme through lessons from home to home but at times teach their male counterparts. In this way young men serving in the army without benefit of high school education are given the opportunity to complete their education to this level or higher as they desire.

I climaxed my stay in Israel in the city of Tel Aviv driving from this metropolis to see the arid and majestic Negev. The heat pressed on you as you alighted from the air-conditioned bus to view better the grandeur of the scenery or take a photograph.

We saw Bedouin Arabs still content to live a wandering life, their tents pitched until the fodder in the area was exhausted. Their women, heavily clothed, automatically covered their faces not to be seen by strangers.

All this is but like small openings on to what is a vast panorama of history and sites. If I have but captured the imagination as to the wonders and beauty of Israel then I have achieved my goal. So let me bid you goodbye in the fashion of Israel: Shalom, which means Peace.

The omission of reference to libraries was not an oversight but intentional on my part. I visited several but their significance paled beside the things more interesting and indelible.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS
Given at the Annual General Meeting 28th January, 1966
by W. E. Gocking

Ladies and Gentlemen,

For a man who intends to address you in the terms of modesty, it may seem strange that I should begin by expressing a sanguine expectation of your immediate, and perhaps audible, approbation of the very first thing that I have to say to you: which is that I shan't keep you long ... well, not very long.

When I was a child - and let me hasten to assure you that I don't propose to run through my whole life's history - when I was a child I used to hear quite a lot about a certain "still, small voice" - the voice of conscience which ever and again recalled you with a start to virtue, through humility and penitence and the resolve that naturally issues from them. The whole picture my recollection conjures up - the mise en scene and the operation of that voice - seems now to belong to a bygone age of privacy when it was a special grace to practice virtue with modesty. In the comparatively short time since then, we have been rushed pell-mell into the age of publicity, the age of salesmanship and advertising, in which the negative Biblical injunction not to hide one's light under a bushel has been turned inside out into a positive creed of discovering virtues and superior qualities even where they may not exist, and ceaselessly proclaiming them on the roof-tops - or, with the greater efficiency that modern technology allows, on the television, the radio and the screen, not to mention the ubiquitous newspaper with its screaming head-lines and its news and photo-flashes. What chance, we may wonder, is there for stillnesses and small voices to reach our ears amid this turmoil and clamour in which we habitually live.

And what, if any, are the peculiar virtues, the superior qualities of libraries? What voice can librarians command to proclaim them effectively? Those are questions that immediately confront us since we are ourselves committed to a 'publicity campaign' during National Library Week in early March, a bare few weeks from now. In our libraries we still enjoin silence, and we leave our books to speak unvoiced what truths they may; we carefully compile our catalogues in rank upon serried rank of the most discreet advertisement of our wares; and we arrange those wares on our shelves in an order that tacitly explains their character and relationships by their mere location and collocation. And then we leave it to our readers' own sweet will to come or not to come, and share or not to share in the veritable treasury we assemble for their benefit. We are, in fact, essentially (or,

should I say, extravagantly) modest in our conduct and our nature. How then can we square it with our conscience, supposing that faculty still operates in us, to blazon forth our modesty, as the times in which we live would seem to require? Would this not involve us in a contradiction in more than terms?

The "still, small voice" of which I spoke has a specific Biblical context and connotation; and the story in which it occurs may have a relevance for us, if with an appropriate and characteristic modesty we apply it to our case. It is the story of Elijah and how by prosecuting what he conceived to be his duty, he seemed to succeed only in defeating his own ends; how he fell into dejection and fear, and so withdrew and hid himself from the consequences of his activities. In the solitude to which his despondency drove him, he questions himself. Poor man, even there calamity pursues him in the shape of natural disaster - storm, earthquake, fire. Then it is that he hears the still small voice; and it tells him in effect to return to the scene of his defeat and resume his efforts in the very terms of the conflict he had fled. It must have been a considerable shock to his modesty and self-esteem.

The word modesty derives from the Latin *modus*, a measure; and the exercise of modesty consists in knowing one's measure and conducting one's-self within its bounds. We tend however to emphasize the negative aspects of modesty and overlook the positive. For the man who knows his measure is not only freed from false assumptions that may lead him into disaster or disgrace, but he is challenged by his proved capacities to do his utmost to fulfill them. It is a nice distinction; for modesty (like every other virtue) keeps us on a razor's edge, and, paradoxical as it may seem, can with some justice be termed a proud virtue: it should assert itself no more than it should, but no less than it ought.

I hope my little homily may help us to place "National Library Week" in a proper context and enable us to command the kind and pitch of voice in which to proclaim it. And now perhaps we can give our attention to a rapid summary of what other tasks there are for us to attempt in the year before us. My brief list contains some familiar items. It is a great pleasure to welcome the publication, on time, of the second issue of the new J.L.A. Bulletin, printed once again at the University Library. That pleasure is enhanced by the quality and scope of the contents which more than maintain the high standard set by the first issue. Moreover it has been possible to introduce a theme - the theme of development - into this issue and in the process to revive the memory and example of the most distinguished librarian in the annals of Jamaica, the late Frank Cundall. I am sure you will wish me to congratulate the editor on her notable achievement. Let us hope we can repeat it this year.

Another success which belongs to the past year is the Seminar held in November last on the role of libraries in Government departments. It has left us, however, with a job to be accomplished in this year, the survey of such libraries which the Seminar recommended should be undertaken.

Then there are such matters as the much needed establishment of a library school; the cooperative scheme for subject-indexing of certain periodicals; the preparation of a union list of scientific periodicals in Jamaican libraries (a project of the Scientific Research Council rather than of our Association but one in which our Association is naturally interested); the collection of information on library posts, their duties, status and emoluments.

The first of these, the establishment of a Library School, is a matter of the first importance. Alas, there is no dramatic progress to report; but efforts are continuing, and will continue, to have the School established. The other matters all require a certain co-operation between libraries and perhaps the time has come for the Association, or its Executive Committee, to set up a standing committee of chief librarians to work out ways and means for closer, more active, and regular collaboration between libraries. The difficulty of co-operation lies more in lack of resources than of will. The daily round furnishes more than we need to ask in the way of our several duties and responsibilities for maintaining adequate standards in expanding services: that is to say we seem to have less than the necessary resources to fulfil our inescapable responsibilities, let alone take on others. Which is the reason why our co-operative ventures so often languish. But as we develop and grow nearer maturity in our respective areas the time comes when it is essential to join forces to achieve those common objectives that promote further growth. If we listen intently we may hear a still small voice telling us so. I think that I have heard it. Tell me if you do. If we all do, then we should all heed what it says.

NEW FORM OF ENGLISH HELPS COMPUTERS UNDERSTAND*

NEWS OF COMPUTER RESEARCH

A new form of English will eliminate computer confusion about the relation of words in a sentence. The language, which was developed at Bell Telephone Laboratories, is called FASE for "Fundamentally Analyzable Simplified English."

Sentences in FASE can be easily parsed (resolved into parts of speech) by a computer. For this reason, FASE may eventually be the basis for information retrieval by machines in libraries and institutions which handle large numbers of written documents. For readers, FASE is indistinguishable from ordinary English. For example, this story is written entirely in FASE.

FASE was devised by Dr. Lee E. McMahon, who is a psychologist studying ways of improving communications between computers and people. His work at Bell Labs is part of research in communications sciences--an area which includes the study of future communications networks which will handle messages between computers or between man and computer.

Dr. McMahon has reduced the English language to a strict form in which syntax (the orderly arrangement of a sentence) is clear and sentences are easily broken into component grammatical parts to avoid ambiguity. For example, "Time flies" would be ambiguous to a computer because the roles of the noun and verb are interchangeable. In addition to its popular interpretation, this expression could well be an imperative statement demanding that we clock the little insects.

However, a sentence in FASE strictly maintains the sequence of subject, verb and object; modifiers like adjectives and adverbs, and other parts of speech must fall into line. A complicated set of rules has been devised to ensure unambiguous syntax.

Consider "Time flies" again. A computer which reads FASE would interpret this correctly, since "time" would be taken as a noun. To demand that someone clock the insects, we would

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have to rewrite the sentence. For example, we might say "Determine the speed of flies."

While syntactic ambiguity has been eliminated in FASE, problems arising from semantic ambiguity still must be overcome. For example, in "John throws a ball every night," it is not clear whether John likes athletics or parties.

Dr. McMahon believes that FASE is an adequate tool for communicating a broad range of ideas and that FASE can say anything which needs saying. Since long passages of FASE may produce a somewhat flat prose, the language is most useful for applications in which clarity of expression is preferable to an elegant style. For this reason, its immediate application would lie in the mechanical indexing of scientific abstracts or documents.

In a FASIC operation, abstracts or documents would be written or rewritten in FASE. They would then be punched on cards, and stored in a computer. The computer might then be instructed at any time to index or to retrieve information by a special program based on FASE grammar. These documents can be indexed and retrieved on the basis of grammatical units and relations which are not useful in present systems because of the syntactic ambiguity of natural English.

Dr. McMahon estimates that a competent writer of English would need a few months to learn how to write FASE fluently. Instead of asking that writers and scientists learn the language, he suggests that specialists might be trained for writing or translating in libraries and centers for computer work, if the system is ever widely adopted.

FASE also may provide a more accurate computer translation of foreign languages. Automatic translation of foreign scientific papers is growing into a big business; but the results are not always reliable. Although present mechanical translation is based on grammar to an extent, it involves complicated series of computer decision-making. To some degree, these necessary complications compensate for inherent ambiguities in the language being used. FASE, which removes the syntactic ambiguities in English, would simplify the task of the computer and lessen the chance of error.

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

Report of the Promotions Working Party

National Library Week was first considered by the Promotions Working Party at its inaugural meeting in April 1964. Several dates were proposed and the Week was finally held on March 6 - 12, 1966.

A National Library Week Committee comprising the President of the Jamaica Library Association, members of the promotions working party, representatives of the larger libraries, representatives of foreign publishers, the Book Sellers Association, representatives of the British Council, U.S.I.S., J.I.S., radio stations, and other civic organizations such as the Kiwanis and Y's men's club--was formed. The organization of the Week in rural areas was the responsibility of chairmen of the Jamaica Library Service Parish Library Committees. The National Committee met on three occasions and decided on broad policies, but most of the work was done by individuals working on a basis of "direct contacts".

Most organizations who were contacted for assistance co-operated fully. The press, radio and television gave valuable publicity to the 'Week', and organizations such as U.S.I.S., which obtained Dr. Samuel Hazo, Professor of English at Duquesne University, as Guest Lecturer during the week, and Reynolds Jamaica Mines, which donated the cost of the posters, contributed much to the success of National Library Week.

Lectures and panels, quizzes and debates, exhibitions, film shows, carnivals, tours on Open days, radio and television appearances, as noted in "Highlights of Events" published daily in the press, show the wide range of activities which were held during the Week. Every section of the Community was included, and libraries were brought forcibly to the attention of Jamaicans at church, at school, at work, at home and at play.

The Promotions Working Party records its sincere appreciation of all who assisted with the organization of the "Week". It also has the following recommendations to make for future reference:

1. Date of the next Library Week should be set two years in advance to allow libraries to include expenditure for the project in their budgets.

2. Overall plans should be finalised at least one year in advance of the date in order that the various sub-committees may have sufficient time to execute their specific tasks.
3. Acquisition of material from abroad, such as books, films, exhibitions should begin at least six months in advance of the date.
4. Printing of posters, handouts, etc., should begin three to four months in advance of the date to allow time for proper proof reading and distribution.
5. Organizations with scheduled programmes of activities should be contacted early, so that Library Week activities may be included without disruption.
6. It is imperative that the planning committee should include representatives from the major libraries, as well as from the other working parties. Special Sub-committees required for publicity, co-ordination of events, and finance.
7. Much thought should be given to finance and fund raising operations begun well in advance. It should be noted that in the conduct of the 'Week' the cost of telephone calls, postage, stationery and typing was subsidised by the larger libraries and in particular by the Jamaica Library Service. The cost of the posters was borne by Reynolds Jamaica Ltd. Thought should also be given to paid secretarial help for a two to three months period.

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From a summary of reports and recommendations by participating librarians, further statements of results emerged.

The following results of National Library Week were reported by librarians throughout the island:

1. Children displayed greatest interest in National Library Week activities.
2. There was good response to National Library Week activities in rural areas.
3. Readership increased, especially among children, as a result of National Library Week.
4. Increased demand for West Indian titles was the consequence of a display of these books.

5. There was increased participation in library extension activities as a result of National Library Week.

These results suggest goals and methods for future National Library Week's. For example:

No. 1 suggests that children might be more directly aimed at in future. No. 4 suggests that reading tastes can be influenced by displays etc.

And from a panel discussion of the Week held at the Association's meeting in St. Ann in June, these objectives, with comments, were enumerated:

1. Objective: To publicize libraries

The consensus was that although National Library Week received a good deal of publicity there should have been more. The publicity tended to be too diffused and too general. It would be better to be more specific both as to topic and to audience. This would require longer planning and more publication. An earlier start, especially with outlying area committees, was needed. The job of the central committee should be liaison and coordination rather than initiation. Each library should be responsible for its own program. Although response was more obvious among children and in the country rather than in town, no group should be excluded.

2. Objective: Cooperation between different types of libraries

Although, except for public libraries and training colleges, there were very few libraries outside of the Kingston area, special libraries should be included in country programs, e.g. maps in the Public Works Department collection.

3. Objective: To display what is available

The displays put up for National Library Week were criticized as inartistic and unprofessional. Help should be sought from experts in public relations and advertising.

Specific recommendations taken from the reports of librarians and from the report of the Jamaica Library Association's Promotions Working Party can be summed up:

1. There was an almost unanimous suggestion that planning should begin earlier;
2. that publicity should begin earlier;
3. and that local citizens should plan their own programs.

NEWS OF THE LIBRARIES

UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES

Mr. W. E. Gocking, Librarian of the University of the West Indies, was elected President of the Jamaica Library Association for 1966.

Dr. Alma Jordan, Senior Assistant Librarian in charge of the Library at St. Augustine, Trinidad, obtained the degree of Doctor of Library Science from Columbia University. She is believed to be the first West Indian to have so distinguished herself.

There were several staff changes. Mrs. Shirley Barrow, B.A., A.L.A., Assistant Librarian of the library at Cave Hill, Barbados, was transferred to the library at Mona. Mr. C.A. Lashley, B.A., A.L.A., resigned from the library at Mona to take up a post with the library of the University of Western Ontario. Miss Gloria Yarde, B.A., has since filled the vacancy created by this resignation.

Two members of the staff of the University of Reading Library are now on secondment to the University of the West Indies Library. They are Miss Aleyne Riley, B.A., and Mr. Alan Moss, B.A.

The Bindery - Printery building was extended to facilitate printing and photographic work.

The library acquired the valuable collection of the Roger Mais manuscripts. It also received from the British Broadcasting Corporation photocopies of its scripts for the programme "Caribbean Voices". The photocopies are indexed and arranged in twenty-four box volumes.

The library has published 'Guide to the Mona Library'.

INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH

Miss Valerie Barclay is now the Acting Librarian in the post that has been vacated by Mrs. Verna Stewart, who has gone to reside in California. Mrs. Stewart was very active in the Association and her contributions will be missed.

The library, with 9,316 volumes, subscribes to 280 current periodicals and received 65 on exchange.

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH COUNCIL

Miss Flavia Orr received a scholarship to the University of the West Indies and so left the staff in October. She was succeeded by Miss Evelyn Elson, who had been with the St. Thomas branch of the Jamaica Library Service.

It is hoped that the stock of the library will be completely catalogued within the year.

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND LANDS

Despite a staff shortage the librarian, Miss Pottinger, was able to carry out a stock-taking of materials in the library. Many old books have been weeded out to make room for more current ones. These books have not been discarded but have been stored elsewhere in the library.

Emphasis is to be placed on building up a section on West Indian agriculture. These materials are to be used for reference.

ST. JOSEPH'S TEACHERS' COLLEGE

St. Joseph's Teachers' College now has a new library to house its 8,000 volume library. The building was officially opened on October 24th, 1966. There is space to accommodate eighty readers. This new library will relieve the congestion that had been experienced before when the collection was crammed into a room with space for only twenty-four readers. There was need then to use an adjoining classroom as a library annex.

The building of reinforced concrete is architecturally harmonious with the other buildings on the campus. The floor space, 36 feet by 54 feet, provides adequate room for its student readers. There is a small librarian's office and next to it a very convenient work room with built-in work bench, additional shelves and storage space. An alcove 20 feet by 10 feet is set aside for the reference section. Another area about the same size is used as the Children's section where books needed by the Children's Literature classes are kept.

At the official opening, the building was blessed by the Rt. Rev. Samuel E. Carter, S.J., Auxiliary Bishop of Kingston. Sir Cyril Henriques, the Chairman of the Board of Governors of St. Joseph's Teachers' College, was the chairman of the function.

The doors were opened by Mrs. Rosalind McLaughlin of the Jamaica Library Service and Mrs. W.B.C. Hawthorne, President of the St. Joseph's Old Students' Association.

Contributions of the old students have added considerably to the book fund.

INSTITUTE OF JAMAICA

WEST INDIA REFERENCE LIBRARY

Books, maps, periodicals, newspapers, prints and manuscripts were all moved into the new building of the West India Reference Library in April 1966. The moving and settling in was completed in three weeks. The library was closed during this period. Students from Excelsior, Calabar, Wolmers', Kingston College and Jamaica College were employed to help with the move.

The library was officially opened on May 31st, 1966. The Governor General Sir Clifford Campbell, G.C.M.G., declared the building open, saying that the opening of the new West India Reference Library was the "erection of a superstructure of learning and educational advancement for which generations to come would call those responsible for its being a reality, blessed".

Speeches were given by the Chairman of the Board of Governors, Mr. Frank Hill, and by the Honourable Edward Seaga, Minister of Development and Welfare. A bust of the Prime Minister was unveiled and Musgrave Medals were presented. There followed tours of the three-floor building conducted by the members of the staff.

New opening hours became effective from September 26th, 1966, when the library remained open from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday to Saturday.

STAFF

Miss Dorrett Walters, B.A. (U.W.I.) and Miss Jean Lopez, B.A., (Lond. U.C.W.I.) joined the staff as Research Assistants. Miss Walters had been a Library Assistant at the Institute before attending the University.

Mrs. Rosalie Williams returned in August after two years' study leave in Scotland. She attended the University of Strathclyde, where she was successful in the Professional Examinations Parts I and II. She is now eligible for election to the Library Association Register as an A.L.A.

Miss Patricia Dunn, Cataloguer in the West India Reference Library, has been named bibliographical consultant on Jamaica for Caribbean Studies, which is published by the Institute of Caribbean Studies, Puerto Rico. This involves sending entries for books, pamphlets and articles published in and about Jamaica.

PUBLICATIONS

The 1965 edition of Jamaican Accessions of the West India Reference Library came off the press early in December, 1966. It is hoped that the 1966 edition will include the acquisitions of a number of the other major libraries in Jamaica. This is an attempt at a current national bibliography.

GENERAL LIBRARY

The problem of insufficient space is no new one to librarians. For years the General Library of the Institute of Jamaica has suffered from lack of space for its ever increasing acquisitions. On the West India Reference Library's removal to new quarters, the General Library at last had a chance to "spread its wings". It will be some time before the full execution of the plan of reorganization takes place, but it is heartening to note that a start has been made. The upper floor of the old library building now houses the General Library's indexes and periodicals, foreign newspapers (both current and back numbers), United Nations documents, British Standards and the library's illustration file. Before the move these were scattered in various corners, wherever there was available space. Now they are well displayed and readily available to readers. There is a small but comfortable reading room, and though not air-conditioned, it is cooled by fans. A small area to the rear of this floor is used for the library's photocopying service. Photocopies may now be made from library books and documents at very reasonable rates.

For the future, it may be mentioned that the room which formerly stored the bulk of the periodicals and newspapers is now being converted into a sound-proof, air-conditioned Music Listening Room. This has been in the planning stage for some time and we hope that it will be reality by early 1967.

The entire ground floor of the library is being re-organized. The chief aim is to allow more floor area for reference books. For the past few years emphasis has been on acquiring reference material.

Other important collections located on this floor include French and Spanish books, university and college prospectuses, West Indian lending books, a pamphlet collection and the Alexander Hamilton Library, which is maintained by the United States Information Service.

The new opening hours are Monday - Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

STAFF

Mrs. Marlene Lettman, A.L.A., took over as Acting Librarian in February. She had previously been with the Jamaica Library Service. Mrs. Ruby Tyson returned to the Institute after being at St. Jago School Library in Spanish Town. In the interim, she acquired her A.L.A. and is now Cataloguer of the General Library. There were a number of changes among junior staff, as well: six of the seven Library Assistants II joined the staff this year. These newcomers, plus three new Library Assistants from the West India Reference Library, took part in an in-service training course in September-October.

Miss Sybil Fletcher resigned early in the year after thirty years' service with the Institute of Jamaica.

Miss Audrey Leigh and Miss Merle Taylor are on study leave at the City of Liverpool College of Commerce. Miss Leigh returns in January 1967. Miss Taylor obtained a Bursary from the British Council; she will be away for another six months.

GIFTS

M. Jean-Paul Schricke, Charge d'Affaires of the French Embassy, presented one hundred French books to the General Library in May, 1966, on behalf of the Government of France. The United States Information Service presented a large number of Spanish-language books and books on American history and literature to the library.

VISITORS

Distinguished visitors to the Institute libraries included Mr. George A. Rylance, United States Information Service area director, and Mr. & Mrs. Ray Lee, jr., son and daughter-in-law of the former U.S.I.S. director in Jamaica; Dr. Samuel Hazo, the American poet whose visit for National Library Week was sponsored by the U.S.I.S., and Mrs. Hazo; Mr. B.C. Bloomfield, Deputy Librarian of the London University School of Oriental and African Studies, and his wife, Mrs. Valerie Bloomfield, Librarian of the London University Institute of Commonwealth Studies; Mrs. Jean Hutson, Curator of the Schomburg Collection of the New York Public Library; and Miss Paulita Maldonado, director of the Caribbean Regional Library, CODECA, Puerto Rico, whose library has been entrusted with the stock and function of the old Caribbean Organization library. Other distinguished visitors were Mr. Hugh Paget, former British Council Representative; Commander F. W. Collins, R.N., who headed the Queen's Message /to the VIIIth British Commonwealth Games/ Relay; Dr. Allen D. Bushong, noted University of South Carolina geographer; Miss Daphne Ottley of the Carnegie Free Library, Trinidad; and the contestants for the 1966 crown "Miss Jamaica". Another visitor expected to use the West India Reference Library during the month of January is Miss W. A. McDowell, Senior Librarian of the Central Library Service, Port of Spain, Trinidad, who has been awarded a year's UNESCO fellowship to compile a bibliography of Trinidad and Tobago, 1498-1963. The thousand American Camp Fire Girls on a Caribbean study cruise in July also visited the Institute libraries.

EXHIBITIONS

The Institute libraries mounted a joint exhibition for National Library Week in March. It was officially opened by the Hon. Victor Grant. The Junior Centre presented "Facts and Phantasy" and children's classics featuring the centennial celebrations of "Alice in Wonderland" and Beatrice Potter's small creatures. The General Library had "Impressionism in Art and Music". The Science Museum showed botanical developments in Jamaica, and the West India Reference Library offered representative panels of "A Nation's History in a Nation's Library". A daily quiz was held on the exhibitions, the winners being presented with book certificates by Mrs. Edward Seaga, wife of the Minister of Development and Welfare. "Uncle Jim" of RJR visited the exhibition and broadcast the taped interviews.

SHORTWOOD TRAINING COLLEGE

The new librarian, Mrs. Arlene Kent, joined the staff in January, 1966. She is a graduate of Radcliffe College, Cambridge, Massachusetts. Her library training was done at Simmonds College, Boston. Mrs. Kent has worked at M.I.T. in Massachusetts and also at the University of Ibadan in Nigeria.

Shortwood Training College has a library of 8,000 books and pamphlets. This includes a large children's collection for teacher-trainees to use when they are practice teaching.

Shortwood recently received a gift of books from U.S.I.S.

JAMAICA LIBRARY SERVICE

Mrs. Jean Jackson and Miss Gloria Clarke qualified as Associates of the Library Association in 1966, and Mrs. Ouida Benjamin qualified as a Fellow.

Mrs. Hazel Bennett, Deputy Director, after an absence of two years, returned with a Master's degree in Library Science.

Mrs. Joyce Robinson, the Director, was appointed to serve as a member of the United Nations Third Committee which deals with Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Affairs. She spent six weeks at the United Nations.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND INTERNSHIPS

This year the Jamaica Library Board Scholarships were awarded to Mrs. Yvonne Hamilton of the St. Mary Parish Library, Miss Gloria Clarke of the Manchester Parish Library and Mrs. Joan Chang of the Kingston & St. Andrew Parish Library. Mrs. Hamilton will attend Library School for one term to complete her professional examination after which she will be attached to various libraries in the United Kingdom to gain practical experience in British library techniques.

Mrs. Chang will attend full-time library school for two years and Miss Clarke will be attached to various libraries for the purpose of gaining practical experience and observing library techniques. She will be away for one year.

Mrs. Gloria James of Headquarters was awarded the British Council Scholarship.

Miss Joyce Wallen returned home after a year's internship at the Contra Costa County Library, California. Her internship was made possible by the United States Government.

SERVICE POINTS

The service points throughout the Island now total 242 (13 Parish Libraries, 25 Branches, 150 Book Centres and 54 Bookmobile points).

The extension to the Hanover Parish Library was completed, and this library is now capable of housing 30,000 books.

A Branch Library was erected at Santa Cruz mainly through the initiative of the Central St. Elizabeth Citizens' Association. They promoted many fund raising projects and also solicited help from firms, individuals and community groups.

Three special collections were added to the Kingston & St. Andrew Parish Library:

- (1) The Barrister Campbell Law Collection which consists of 300 items and includes legal texts, minutes and proceedings of legislatures, miscellaneous documents concerning the West Indies and articles written by the donor.
- (2) The French Collection which consists of 84 books donated by the French Embassy.
- (3) The Spanish Collection which consists of 217 books donated by the United States Information Service.

EXHIBITIONS

Two noteworthy exhibitions for the year included the British Council Exhibition of books on sports, and the Independence exhibition which this year concentrated on local sportsmen, sports writers and commentators.

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

Jamaica's first National Library Week promoted in conjunction with the Jamaica Library Association and other libraries took place in March. All service points in the Jamaica Library Service participated.

THE ASSOCIATION'S YEAR IN REVIEW

MEETINGS

The first Regular Meeting of the year was held in June at Altery Beach Club in St. Ann's Bay. A review and appraisal of National Library Week was the highlight of the meeting. Miss Daphne Douglas, Mr. Cliff Lashley, Mr. Victor Scott and Mrs. Cynthia Warmington appeared as panelists. Among points of agreement were that more professional activities should be held outside the library, including visits to schools and the use of Educational TV and films. The cost of preparing a commercial film, estimated at about £800, seemed to preclude that possibility. The consensus of the meeting was that National Library Week should be continued at three-year intervals.

The second Regular Meeting was held in November at the Moravian Training College, Bethlehem, Malvern, St. Elizabeth. The guest speaker, Mrs. Gloria Knight, of the Jamaica National Commission for UNESCO and at that time with the Ministry of Development and Welfare, spoke about UNESCO. She discussed its relationship to the United Nations, what it expects of its national commissions, and what the Jamaica National Commission hoped to do. The lecture was taped, and it may be possible to have mimeographed copies made available to members.

The American poet Dr. Samuel Hazo, brought to Jamaica by the United States Information Service in connection with National Library Week, addressed the first Professional Meeting of the year during the Week. His lecture was entitled "On Imagination" and included readings of some of his poems.

Mr. Seymour James, Librarian of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, Addis Ababa, and a Jamaican home on leave, addressed the second Professional Meeting in August. He spoke about his library in particular--its functions, difficulties and plans for the future, and about library centres developing in Africa in general. Mr. James also compared library development in Africa and Jamaica in certain respects.

ACTIVITIES

National Library Week, as reported elsewhere in this issue, took place in March.

A Follow-up to the Seminar on Government Libraries, which was held at the University of the West Indies in September, 1965, resulted from a number of Government officers having requested further help from the Association. Four members, Mrs. C. P. Fray, Miss L. G. Pottinger, Mrs. R. Delattre and Miss J. Richards, were selected to visit these departments or agencies and to make recommendations with respect to each. They reported that the departments could be divided into two categories: those with facilities that could be developed and those that it was impossible to help at the present time. The departments visited, with brief notes added, were as follows:-

Development and Welfare. Welfare Division. - No provision for staff or book budget; it was proposed to cooperate with Jamaica Information Service.

Communication and Works. - Maps and plans well organized, books and periodicals neglected. No satisfactory room to house library. Full-time untrained librarian with clerical and library attendants. Possibility of developing into technical library.

Central Planning Unit. - A trained librarian on secondment could set up library and train a Library Assistant I. Room available, Library of Congress printed cards already provided for books and pamphlet collection easily arranged in subject order.

Trade and Industry. - Great need for library, but no central library organization and unlikely that one will be formed now.

Ministry of Agriculture. Cooperative Department. - Under direction of Ministry of Agriculture and Lands Library; new books to be catalogued at Hope, and entries copied for old ones. Person in charge unable to do a great deal because of pressure of other work.

Forestry Department. - Specialized collection, catalogued. Qualified librarian should be employed to bring it up to date, and keep it in use.

Ministry of Finance. - Post for qualified librarian but no adequate space for library's collection. Books partially catalogued by UDC, pamphlets not organized. More efficient method of periodicals subscription for Government departments concerned is recommended.

Government Printing Office. - Space to be set aside in new building. Present book and pamphlet collection needs only simple checking system.

Meteorological Office. - Problem primarily of non-book material: weather maps and data cards. Suggested that UWI computer could be used. Funds are available.

Jamaica Information Service. - Plans to keep library well organized. Library Assistant I to be employed.

Registrar-General's Office. - Includes Record Office, (Trade Unions, companies, deeds, etc.) and Registrar-General (handles statistics). Small collections scattered about, should be brought together and one area allotted. When new shelving is ready, a librarian could institute simple check-in system.

A Competition for Design of the J.L.A. Crest was opened with an appeal to all members with imagination and artistic talent to enter. Members have been contacted through circulars and in the press to support this effort. A first prize of £5 cash is to be awarded to the winner, with a book token of fifty shillings to the runner-up. The closing date is January 21st, 1967.

The design 6 inches by 4 inches is to be in black and white. The motto will be decided at the Annual General Meeting. Final decision will rest with the Executive.

All members, with the exception of the Executive Committee, may submit designs. Judging is by the Chairman of the Promotions Working Party, the President of the Association and a graphic artist. Entries will be on display at the Annual General Meeting when the prizes will be awarded.

FOREIGN NEWS OF LOCAL INTEREST

The Canadian Library Association is tentatively planning to hold its 1969 Annual conference in Jamaica. It is hoped that these plans will materialize, since a meeting of this group in Jamaica would prove informative and interesting to all librarians here. The decision on whether to meet here will probably be taken at a council meeting in March of this year.

Recently it was announced that Dr. William Vernon Jackson, who has visited Jamaica several times, was appointed Director of the International Library Information Center and Professor of Library Science at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Jackson, who holds the B.A. from Northwestern University, M.A. and Ph.D. from Harvard University, and M.S. in Library Science from the Graduate School of Library Science, University of Illinois, is a specialist on libraries

in Latin America and has undertaken professional assignments to this area, including several for the Department of State and one as visiting professor at the Inter-American Library School, University of Antioquia, Medellin, Colombia. He continues to serve as advisor on university libraries for the Regional Office for Central America and Panama (ROCAP) of the Agency for International Development (AID) and as consultant to the Reference Department of the New York Public Library.

The Regional Librarian at Lahore, West Pakistan, has requested that the Jamaica Library Association publish the following notice:-

WORLD-LIBRARY PEN PALS: (Founded by the Kent Division of
the Association of Assistant
Librarians, U.K.)

If you would like to correspond with a fellow librarian overseas to exchange ideas and views, please write to IVOR J. GOODACRE, THE BRITISH COUNCIL, P.O. Box 416, KARACHI, WEST PAKISTAN, giving your name, address and age, the type of library in which you are employed, your hobbies and interests, together with any other relevant information. Please enclose THREE International Reply Coupons.

LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS

Graham Binns, M.A. General Manager, Radio Jamaica, Ltd.

Mrs. Hazel Bennett, M.S., F.L.A., Deputy Director, Jamaica Library Service.

Miss Barbara Chevannes, A.L.A., Librarian, St. James Parish Library.

Mrs. R. Delattre, B.A., M.S., Acting Chief Librarian; Miss J. Richards, F.L.A., Acting Deputy Chief Librarian; Miss G. Robertson, M.A., Acting Librarian (W.I.R.L.), Institute of Jamaica.

Miss Paulita C. Maldonado, Director, Caribbean Regional Library, CODECA, Hato Rey, P.R.

Mrs. Verna Stewart, A.L.A., formerly Librarian, Institute of Social and Economic Research, U.W.I., Mona; now San Diego, Calif., U.S.A.

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

This issue of the Bulletin was edited by Mrs. Rae Delattre with the assistance of members of the Research and Publications Working Party, and was printed for the Association at the University of the West Indies.

(U.K.) LIBRARY ASSOCIATION EXAMINATION RESULTS

ENTRANCE EXAMINATION

Mrs. P. Brown	- Moneague Training College Library
Miss J. Duncan	- St. James Parish Library
Miss Monica Ellis	- St. Catherine Parish Library
Miss Ira Gordon	- Trelawny Parish Library
Mrs. S. Mohammed	- Kingston & St. Andrew Parish Library
Miss Laura Small	- Santa Cruz Branch Library
Miss Fay Williams	- Jamaica Library Service - Headquarters.

PROFESSIONAL EXAMINATION, PART I

Mrs. Dede Welsh	- Manchester Parish Library
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PROFESSIONAL EXAMINATION, PART II

Public Libraries

Mrs. A. Gray	- Kingston & St. Andrew Parish Library
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Special Libraries & Information Bureaux

Miss A. A. Leigh	- Institute of Jamaica Library
Mrs. Rosalie Williams	- Institute of Jamaica Library

Theory of Classification

Mrs. Yvonne Hamilton	- St. Mary Parish Library
Mrs. Rosalie Williams	- Institute of Jamaica Library

Theory of Cataloguing

Mrs. Lorna Neita	- Manchester Parish Library
Mrs. Yvonne Hamilton	- St. Mary Parish Library
Miss M. E. Taylor	- Institute of Jamaica Library
Miss R. Robb	- Jamaica Library Service - Headquarters
Miss J. Y. M. Williams	- Manchester Parish Library
Mrs. Rosalie Williams	- Institute of Jamaica Library

Practical Classification and Cataloguing

Mrs. Rosalie Williams	- Institute of Jamaica Library
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Handling & Dissemination of Information

Miss Norma Orr	- Hanover Parish Library
Mrs. Rosalie Williams	- Institute of Jamaica Library
(With Merit)	

Library Service for Young People in Schools and Public Libraries

Miss Gloria Allen	- Portland Parish Library
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Bibliography of Literature in English 1750 to date

Miss Norma Orr	- Hanover Parish Library
Mrs. J.M. Ewbank	- University College of the West Indies Library

PROFESSIONAL EXAMINATION, PART II (cont'd.)

Bibliography and Librarianship of Literature for Children

Mrs. A. Gray - Kingston & St. Andrew Parish Library
Miss Gloria Allen - Portland Parish Library
Mrs. Sylvia Piggott - Ministry of Education Library

Bibliography of Chemistry and Chemical Technology

Miss A. A. Leigh - Institute of Jamaica Library

Bibliography and Librarianship of Geography

Mrs. Rosalie Williams - Institute of Jamaica Library
(Mrs. Williams has now completed the Professional
Examination, Part II and is eligible for election
as an Associate of the Library Association.)

(OLD) FINAL EXAMINATION

English, American and outstanding Foreign Literature available
in English 1780-1900

Mrs. Ouida Benjamin - Clarendon Parish Library
(Mrs. Benjamin has now completed the Final
Examination and has been elected as a Fellow
of the Library Association.)

JAMAICA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING 1966

Abrikian, Mrs. Helen S., P.O. Box 110, Brown's Town, St. Ann.

Bethlehem Training College, Malvern P.O., St. Elizabeth.
Black, Mr. Clinton, Archives, Spanish Town P.O., St. Catherine.
Bourke, Mrs. E. E., 32, Hope Road, Kingston 10.
British Council, 34, Trafalgar Road, Kingston 10.

Caribbean Book Centre Limited, 41, Old Hope Road, Kingston 5.
Chevannes, Miss Barbara, A.L.A., c/o Central Planning Unit,
Banana Building, Kingston Gardens, Kingston 4.
Clarendon Parish Library, May Pen P.O. Clarendon.
Cole, Mrs. L.V. Norman, Kingston Technical School, 82, Hanover
Street, Kingston.
Cuffley, H. A., S.P.C.K. Book Shop, 70b, King Street, Kingston.
Cumper, Mrs. Gloria, 1e, Braemar Avenue, Kingston 10.
Cunningham, Mrs. M., 18, Deanery Road, Kingston 3.
Cupidon, Mrs. D., A.L.A., Jamaica Library Service, Tom Redcam
Avenue, Kingston 5.

Davidson, Jean, Knox College, Spaldings, Clarendon.
Delattre, Mrs. Rae, B.A., M.S., Institute of Jamaica, 12-16, East
Street, Kingston.
Douglas, Miss Daphne, F.L.A., St. James Parish Library, Montego
Bay P.O., St. James.
Duncan, Miss J., St. Ann Parish Library, St. Ann's Bay, St. Ann.
Dunn, Miss Patricia, A.L.A., Institute of Jamaica, 12-16, East
Street, Kingston.
Dunphy, Mr. Hugh, 1, Grove Road, Kingston 10.

East, Miss Beverley, Clarendon Parish Library, May Pen P.O.,
Clarendon.
Ewbank, Mrs. Joyce M., University of the West Indies Library,
Mona, Kingston 7.

Ferguson, Miss Stephanie, A.L.A., 11 Dorado Drive, Harbour View,
Kingston 17.
Fletcher, Miss Beryl, Institute of Jamaica, Junior Centre, Half
Way Tree, Kingston 10.
Fletcher, Mr. Walter, C.B.E., J.P., c/o Fletcher & Co. Ltd.,
10-20 Harbour Street, Montego Bay, St. James.
Fray, Mrs. C.P., M.R.C.V.S., M.S., Scientific Research Council,
P.O. Box 502, Kingston.

Gocking, Mr. W.E., B.A., F.L.A., University of the West Indies
Library, Mona, Kingston 7.
Gocking, Mrs. W.E., University of the West Indies Library, Mona,
Kingston 7.
Gordon, Miss Ira M., Kingston & St. Andrew Parish Library,
2, Tom Redcam Avenue, Kingston 5.
Grahame, Mrs. M.E., Montego Bay High School, Montego Bay, St. James.

Hanover Parish Library, Lucea P.O.
Hanson, Mrs. D., St. James Parish Library, Montego Bay.
Hart, Mrs. K.L., Worcester Place, Golden Grove P.O., St. Thomas.
Henry, Miss Beryl, Caribbean Book Centre Limited, 41, Old Hope
Road, Kingston 5.

Ifil, Mr. Edwin, Barbados Public Library, Barbados.
Ingram, Mr. K., B.A., F.L.A., University of the West Indies Library,
Mona, Kingston 7.
Institute of Jamaica, 12-16, East Street, Kingston.

Jamaica Library Service Headquarters, Tom Redcam Avenue, Kingston 5.
Josephs, Miss Mercedes, B.A., A.L.A., University of the West Indies
Library, Mona, Kingston 7.

Kelly, Miss Norma, A.L.A., Jamaica Library Service, P.O. Box 58,
Kingston 5.
Kent, Mrs. Arlene, B.A., M.S., Shortwood Training College, Constant
Spring P.O., Kingston 8.
Kentish, Mrs. Nina, 2, Karachi Avenue, Mona, Kingston 6.
Kingston & St. Andrew Parish Library, 2, Tom Redcam Avenue, Kingston 5.

Lampart, Mrs. S., A.L.A., St. Thomas Parish Library, Morant Bay P.O.
Landale, Mrs. H. T., M.A., 52a, Paddington Terrace, Kingston 6.
Lettman, Mrs. Marlene, A.L.A., Institute of Jamaica, East Street,
Kingston.
Lewis, Mr. C.B., O.B.E., B.A., Institute of Jamaica, East Street,
Kingston.
Livingstone, Mr. C. T., 11, St. Michael's Terrace, Kingston 6.

McDowell, Dr. John E., B.D.S., P.O. Box 31, Ocho Rios, St. Ann.
MacLeavy, Mrs. V., Bethlehem Training College, Malvern P.O., St.
Elizabeth.

Manchester Parish Library, Mandeville P.O.
Marshall, K. Jackson, c/o Collins Publishers, 54 King Street,
Kingston.

Neita, Mrs. Rita, Jamaica Library Service, 2, Tom Redcam Avenue,
Kingston 5.
Nelson, Mrs. V., A.L.A., Jamaica Mission to United Nations,
Pfizer Bldg., 4th Floor, 235, East 42nd Street, New York 17,
New York, U.S.A.
Norman, Mr. Reginald, St. Ann Parish Library, St. Ann's Bay, St. Ann.

Parsons, Miss D., Westwood High School, Stewart Town P.O.
Picart, Miss Myrtle, A.L.A., c/o Ministry of External Affairs,
East Race Course, Kingston.
Portland Parish Library, Port Antonio P.O., Portland.

Ramsay, Mr. D., 6 Heathwood Place, Kingston 8.
Richards, Miss Judith, F.L.A., Institute of Jamaica, 12-16, East
Street, Kingston.
Ridout, L.T., S.P.C.K. Book Shop, 70b, King Street, Kingston.
Robertson, Mrs. Amy, F.L.A., Kingston & St. Andrew Parish Library,
2, Tom Redcam Avenue, Kingston 5.
Robertson, Miss Glory, M.A., A.L.A., Institute of Jamaica, East
Street, Kingston.
Robinson, Mrs. Joyce L., M.B.E., F.L.A., Jamaica Library Service,
2, Tom Redcam Avenue, Kingston 5.

St. Ann Parish Library, St. Ann's Bay P.O., St. Ann.
St. Catherine Parish Library, Spanish Town P.O., St. Catherine.
St. Elizabeth Parish Library, Black River P.O., St. Elizabeth.
St. James Parish Library, Montego Bay P.O., St. James.
St. Joseph's Training College, 16, Old Hope Road, Kingston 5.
St. Mary Parish Library, Port Maria, St. Mary.
St. Thomas Parish Library, Morant Bay P.O., St. Thomas.
St. Thomas - Y.W.C.A., Golden Grove, St. Thomas.
Sangster, Mr. F.L., 91, Harbour Street, Kingston.
Scientific Research Council, P.O. Box 502, Kingston.
Scott, Mr. V.L.S., 57, Main Street, St. Ann's Bay, St. Ann.
Segre, Miss Norma, F.L.A., University of the West Indies Library,
Mona, Kingston 7.
Sharp, Mrs. Stewart W., Huntley House, Brown's Town, St. Ann.
Stanley, Mr. C. Leo., Morant Bay P.O., St. Thomas.
Stewart, Miss Jean Pam, Ocho Rios Branch Library, St. Ann.
Stewart, Mrs. Verna, A.L.A., San Diego, California.
Stultz, Mrs. H., Jamaica Library Service, P.O. Box 58, Kingston 5.

Thomas, Miss Leila, F.L.A., Jamaica Library Service, P.O. Box 58,
Kingston 5.
Trelawny Parish Library, Falmouth P.O., Trelawny.
Tyson, Mrs. Ruby, A.L.A., Institute of Jamaica, East Street,
Kingston.

University College Hospital, School of Nursing Library, Mona,
Kingston 7.

University of the West Indies Library, Mona, Kingston 7.

Wakeland, Mrs. Leila, A.L.A., Trelawny Parish Library, Falmouth
P.O., Trelawny.

Wallen, Miss Joyce, F.L.A., St. Ann Parish Library, St. Ann's Bay,
St. Ann.

Warmington, Mrs. Cynthia, A.L.A., Jamaica Library Service, .
P.O. Box 58, Kingston 5.

Welsh, Mrs. Dede C., Manchester Parish Library, Mandeville P.O.,
Manchester.

Westmoreland Parish Library, Savanna-la-Mar P.O., Westmoreland.

Whiteman, Mr. Burchell, York Castle School, Brown's Town P.O.,
St. Ann.

Williams, Miss Fay, Jamaica Library Service Headquarters, Tom Redcam
Avenue, Kingston.

Wint, Mr. Jackson, c/o Scientific Research Council, P.O. Box 502,
Kingston.

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