

MELA Notes

Number 7

February, 1976

MIDDLE EAST LIBRARIANS ASSOCIATION

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MELA NOTES is being published now three times a year, in January or February, May, and September or October. It is distributed to members of the Association and to non-member subscribers. Membership dues of \$ 5 bring the NOTES and other mailings. Subscriptions are still \$ 3 per calendar year, or \$ 1.50 per issue for most back numbers. Address dues, requests for membership information or subscriptions to Janet P. Heineck, Secretary-Treasurer MELA, Regenstein Library, Rm. 561, University of Chicago, 1100 E. 57th St., Chicago, IL 60637.

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Hamzat al-Waṣl

In Araby a generation past, a forgotten journal's editor leafed over the first issue nearly completed and wondered. Hopefully, he mused licking his pencil, this effort will be a hamzat al-waṣl, a smoothly connecting link between areas of mutual interest and also between alternative points of view. And therewith he wrote some such last words for an introduction.

The hamzat al-waṣl, that sound and sense-bearing coughless comma floating above the pro letter Alif, brings a sound from the past into the present. Ah, it is said, sound is both substance and satisfaction; let importance rest there. Again, some followers of reference, having vibrated, will rise and search their library for hints and clues to appropriate action following absorption of sound communication.

Somewhere they will find -- in a book, journal or letter file -- somewhere, a promising lead, a hamzat al-waṣl for them between sufficiency and cooperation, between instant response and persevering service, between bibliographic memory and the location of a scribe's treasure, between a sound and its answer, between -- , between -- MELA -- and Ultima Thule, an Ultimate Tool -- wherein will be displayed and well-tagged the Compleat Bibliographic Control.

REPORT TO THE MEMBERSHIP

By Michael Albin and Fawzi Khoury

President's Message. During the coming year I think we will all draw inspiration from the organizational skills and professional commitment of the past officers of MELA, Bruce Craig, John Eilts, George Atiyeh, Richard Cooper. Special thanks go to the indefatigable Martha Dukas and to Jim Pollock, who has sacrificed himself in the cause of "continuity" by remaining Editor of these NOTES.

The new year finds MELA on the threshold of opportunity. The crises in Middle Eastern librarianship adumbrated by Bruce Craig in the first issue of the NOTES are upon us in full measure. However, I feel MELA has come a long way in meeting these problems of funding and communication.

MELA has been recognized by the Social Science Research Council as having a valuable contribution to make to the scholarly community. Our last three meetings have been devoted to cooperation. The document generated from our Ann Arbor meeting stands by itself as a major contribution to our craft. Vigorous activity since Ann Arbor has culminated in approval of several projects in the areas of serials control and cataloging. Also, the Louisville meeting made concrete the need for accelerated activity by LC in the Middle East. Establishment of an NPAC office is a desideratum, to which end I have contacted the Middle East Studies Association secretariat to come to our aid. This project continues to be an uphill fight, with the outcome in doubt at the present time. Also discussed at Louisville was an exciting new activity for MELA's consideration: the field of publishing. This seems to be an area where we can make a significant contribution to the teaching process. Stimulation of bibliographies, study guides and tools such as corporate headings lists could be a major concern of MELA in the future. These publications would not only aid our constituencies, but would also serve to increase recognition of MELA as a vital element in the Middle East studies enterprise.

As regards programs, it seems that this will be a halcyon year for us. Vice President and Program Chairman Fawzi Khoury is arranging a panel on the Islamic book to be held during the MESA meeting in Los Angeles. Meanwhile, John Eilts is helping to design discussions of the foreign book trade planned for the ALA meeting this summer in Chicago. I plan to go to Mexico City for the Orientalists' Congress where I hope to make a presentation about MELA to the International Association of Orientalist Librarians. I think that these contacts cannot but reflect the dynamism of MELA and its potential for continuing growth.

Michael Albin

Program - 1976. The preliminary outline for MELA's 1976 Program at Los Angeles includes the annual business meeting to hear reports on committee work and to begin action on changes in our bylaws. Formal sponsorship of a panel in the MESA conference is planned. It will be on the topic THE ISLAMIC BOOK, with Richard Cooper introducing the speakers and moderating the discussion. General topics and speakers at present are: "Arabic calligraphy and manuscripts," Anthony Welch; "The history of Arabic printing," Miroslav Krek; "al-Jawa'ib Press," Mohammed Alwan; and "The Arabic book by computer," Pierre MacKay.

Fawzi Khoury

ASSOCIATION CHRONICLE

Minutes of the 1975 Business Meetings; Annual Meeting - 1975.

The Association held its fourth annual meeting on Thursday, 20 November 1975, in the Oak Room of the Galt House in Louisville, Kentucky, site of the concurrent ninth annual meeting of the Middle East Studies Association of North America.

On the previous evening the 1974/75 Executive Board had met to conclude outstanding business and discuss the agenda for the Business Session.

Thirty-two members and visitors were present for the Program "Workshop on Cooperation among Middle East Library Collections in North America III--Implementation" chaired by Vice President Richard S. Cooper. Details of the discussion and resolutions passed appear elsewhere in this issue.

President John A. Eilts convened the Business Session at 4:30 p.m. with 21 Professional Members, 7 Associate Members, and 4 visitors in attendance.

Officers' reports were the first item on the agenda. Mr. Eilts offered to form a permanent Secretariat at the University of Michigan to eliminate the need for transferring files and funds every three years. After a brief discussion, it was decided that Mr. Eilts and the staff of the Middle East studies center at Michigan would handle photocopying, printing, and mailing of items for general distribution, but the archives and treasury would be transferred to the new Secretary-Treasurer pending amendment of the Bylaws. Mr. Eilts also reported on plans for the centennial convention of the American Library Association in Chicago next July, for which he is organizing a day-long program on the International Flow of Books. He urged that as many MELA members as possible participate.

Secretary-Treasurer Martha Dukas reported that membership had grown to 45 Professional and 75 Associate Members representing 70 institutions in 13 countries. Since the beginning of the current year, \$559.92 has been added to the treasury and \$411.00 expended, mainly for printing MELA NOTES no. 4-6 and the proceedings of the Ann Arbor workshop, leaving a balance in the treasury of \$320.34. Outstanding invoices total \$37.50 and unpaid 1975 dues \$105.00.

Editor James W. Pollock solicited contributions and suggestions for MELA NOTES, stressing the need for more communication among Members. Mr. Pollock also asked for assistance in compiling the second edition of the DIRECTORY OF LIBRARY COLLECTIONS ON THE MIDDLE EAST, which appeared in the MIDDLE EAST STUDIES ASSOCIATION BULLETIN, Vol. 8, No. 1 (February 15, 1974). This revised edition will appear in the next MESA directory of Middle East studies programs, scheduled for publication in the summer of 1976.

The second portion of the meeting was devoted to announcements. Thomas Martin of New York University, who has received a grant from the American Council of Learned Societies to study Arabic manuscript collections in the United States, spoke of his plans for surveying holdings with the aim of updating Pearson's ORIENTAL MANUSCRIPTS IN EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA (1971). Mr. Martin plans to visit major collections after conducting preliminary research by mail.

Ms. Dukas read a brief announcement concerning the Library Seminars to be held at the 30th International Congress of Human Sciences in Asia and North Africa (formerly the International Congress of Orientalists) in Mexico City, 3-8 August 1976. The seminars will cover such topics as publishing in Asia and North Africa and the application of computers to Asian librarianship and will include an address by J. D. Pearson, President of the International Association of Orientalist Librarians, which is organizing the program. A tentative schedule appeared in IAOL NEWSLETTER 8 (March 1975). MELA members interested in responding to the invitation to present papers may write directly to G. E. Marrison, Secretary-Treasurer, IAOL, c/o The Department of Oriental Manuscripts and Printed Books, The British Library, Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3DG, U.K.

P. Rashid Wu and J. Dennis Hyde announced vacancies for catalogers of Middle Eastern vernacular materials at the University of Utah and the University of Pennsylvania and invited potential candidates to write for more information.

The final portion of the Business Session was devoted to the election of new officers. Michael Albin (University of Texas at Austin) and Fawzi Khoury (University of Washington) were elected President and Vice President, respectively, for 1975/76. Janet Heineck (University of Chicago) will serve as Secretary-Treasurer for the next three years, and James Pollock (Indiana University) will continue as Editor for another three year term.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the Members approved a resolution proposed by Mr. Cooper thanking Ms. Dukas for her 3 years' service as Secretary-Treasurer, and she, in turn, thanked David Partington and her other colleagues at Harvard for their assistance and support. The session was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Martha Dukas

Executive Board Meetings - 1975 and 1976.

On November 20, 1975, the Executive Board of MELA met at the Galt House, Louisville, Kentucky, following the business meeting. Present were the outgoing officers--John Eilts, Richard Cooper and Martha Dukas, and the new Executive Board elected that afternoon--Michael Albin, President, Fawzi Khoury, Vice-President and Program Chairman, Janet Heineck, Secretary-Treasurer, and James Pollock, who succeeds himself as Editor.

John Eilts described the unfinished business of Bylaws revision to the new Executive Board. The first suggestion is that the Vice-President be President-Elect. This would insure continuity in MELA's leadership, as members would be electing only one new officer each year. Second, it has been suggested that the Nominating Committee not be identical with the Executive Board. The Executive Board will need to develop these and other suggestions into proposals to initiate the formal process of revision.

The outgoing President urged a decision on the form of MELA's recommendation to the Library of Congress that an NPAC office be opened in the Middle East.

Martha Dukas, outgoing Secretary-Treasurer, described to her successor details of the files and record-keeping for MELA. It was agreed that John Eilts do MELA's large printings and mailings from Ann Arbor, and that the available back-numbers of MELA NOTES and other publications be located there.

The next topic was the 1976 MESA-MELA meeting to be held in Los Angeles in November. Those present agreed that the "program" part of MELA's meeting should take the form of a regular MESA panel (sponsored by our organization) on a topic attractive to members of both groups. Proposed topics were Arabic paleography and the history of the Arabic book, and names of likely panel members were suggested. The President suggested that the MELA business meeting be held a day before MESA begins, to allow members to participate fully at the panels. Fawzi Khoury as Program Chairman will follow up on these suggestions.

Executive Board - 1976. On November 21 at the Galt House, the new officers reviewed various possibilities for the 1976 MELA meeting in Los Angeles. MELA's proposal to the MESA program committee to sponsor a panel, setting a room and a time for it, and the arrangements for our meeting at UCLA, become the charge of Fawzi Khoury, Program Chairman. Announcements will follow as the Program Chairman develops plans. He has already been in contact with the MESA Program Chairman for 1976.

A letter from Michael Albin as MELA President to the Library of Congress may be the best means of formally presenting MELA's consensus and recommendation that one of the new NPAC offices be established in the Middle East.

Treasury. On January 10, 1976, the MELA treasury was transferred to a savings account opened in MELA's name at Hyde Park Federal Savings, in the new secretary-treasurer's neighborhood, in Chicago. Our current balance is \$472.99. On January 14, a copy of MELA's mailing list was sold to Inter Documentation Company of Leiden, which added \$15.00 to the treasury. There are still a number of members who have not paid 1975 dues, and since 1976 dues are payable now, the secretary-treasurer urges members to send in a check or money order for current dues, and for any dues in arrears, as soon as possible.

Membership. There are now some 128 members of MELA. The following are members who have joined since the last issue of MELA NOTES:

Anderson, Betty E. University of Idaho Library, Moscow, ID 83843.

Tel.: 208-885-6344. Assoc.

Brewster, Beverly J. Dept. of Library Science, College of Arts and Sciences, Pahlavi University, Shiraz, Iran. Assoc.

Derrick, (Mrs.) Anya. W210 Pattee Library, Penn State University, University Park, PA 16802. Tel.: 814-863-0322. Assoc.

Deyab, Alice Chucri. Middle East Dept., Harvard College Library, Cambridge, MA 02138. Tel.: 617-495-2437. Assoc.

Gerber, Elizabeth. Chase World Information Corporation, One World Trade Center, Suite 4627, New York, NY 10048. Tel.: 212-552-8634/7. Assoc.

Hamdy, M. Nabil. Graduate School of Librarianship, University of Denver, Denver, CO 80210. Tel.: 303-753-2557. Assoc.

Jolly, Constance S. 3951 Oakmore Road, Oakland, CA 94602. Tel.: 514-531-6551. Assoc.

McClintock, Marsha Hamilton. The Ohio State University Main Library,
1858 Neil Avenue, Columbus, OH 43210. Tel.: 614-422-6314. Prof.

McDermott, Martin James, S. J. La Bibliothèque Orientale, Université
Saint-Joseph, B. P. 293, Beirut, Lebanon. Tel.: 230 583. Prof.

Madden, John M. 6032 Second Northwest, Seattle, WA 98107.
Tel.: 206-782-4494. Assoc.

Martin, Thomas J. Dept. of Near Eastern Languages, New York University,
50 Washington Square South, New York, NY 10003. Tel.: 212-598-2411. Assoc.

Patterson, Maureen L. P. Regenstein Library, University of Chicago,
1100 E. 57th Street, Chicago, IL 60637. Tel.: 312-753-3449. Assoc.

Pitcher, John B. The University of Arizona Library, Tucson, AR 85721.
Tel.: 602-884-3610/3619. Prof.

Pressman, Nancy. Bobst Library (Technical Services), New York University,
70 Washington Square South, New York, NY 10012. Tel.: 212-598-2280. Assoc.

Shannon, Michael O. Herbert H. Lehman College Library (City University of
New York), Bedford Park Blvd. West, Bronx, NY 10468.
Tel.: 212-960-8580. Assoc.

Wu, P. Rashid. Middle East Library, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT
84102. Tel.: 801-581-6311. Prof.

News of the Members. Mary H. F. ARNETT reports a new address and
position: Middle East Desk - International Division, American Friends
Service Committee, 160 North 15th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102.
Tel.: 215-241-7142. J. Dennis HYDE has just been appointed to the
position of Assistant Director for Collection Development at the University
of Pennsylvania Library. He reports: The scope of my new duties is not
entirely clear yet, but I expect to retain some control over acquisitions
in our field, while relinquishing the technical processing.

Members are urged to keep our Secretary informed of address and position
changes. She can relay to those interested information on position vacancies
or personnel seeking relocation.

COOPERATION AMONG MIDDLE EAST LIBRARIES OF NORTH AMERICA, a Workshop
held in Ann Arbor, Michigan, May 26-31, 1975 is for sale for \$5.00 per copy.
This publication is not included in a subscription to MELA NOTES, although
it is a part of the regular mailings sent to Members of the Association.
Please address requests for copies to MELA's Secretary-Treasurer, or to
John Elts, Near East Division, University of Michigan Library, Ann Arbor, MI
48104.

We hope to publish a full list of committee rosters in the May number
of the NOTES. Some groups are annually constituted, while the new Standing
Committees will be ongoing burden bearers and task forces with a continuing
membership according to interest. Chairpersons are asked to notify our
Secretary of the current rosters for this purpose of publication. A third
type of committee may also be identified, perhaps by a term such as "project."

Annual Committees

Nominations
Program
Publications
Executive Board

Standing Committees

Resources & Cooperation
Serials
Microforms
Processing

Project Committees

Handbook on M.E. Biblio-
graphy
Handbook on M.E.
Cataloging

MELA Program, November 20, 1975, Galt House Hotel, Louisville, KY.COOPERATION AMONG MIDDLE EAST LIBRARY COLLECTIONS IN NORTH AMERICA:
Workshop III -- Implementation of Task Force and Committee Reports.

Vice-President and Program Chairman Richard S. Cooper introduced the discussions with an explanation and an invitation. During the Ann Arbor Workshop and following it the Association has seen the need of continuing effort in what it has begun. Standing Committees for Serials and Microforms have been set up to continue the work of Task Forces III and IV. In a sense these standing committees are independent of MELA's structure in that they do not have to be reconstituted annually. Mr. Cooper said that ideally everyone in MELA who attends these meetings should serve with some standing committee. He pointed out that this arrangement should develop more participation and might help to increase the attendance also.

The invitation to serve was repeated later in the day when the Program Chairman urged all members to contact a committee chairperson and participate in some MELA activity before leaving Louisville.

The meeting proceeded to hear the reports of the Task Forces of Workshop II at Ann Arbor or the Standing Committees appointed to continue their interests.

Existing Resources and Cooperative Arrangements.

There was no additional material to be presented under the topic of Existing Resources (See TF I's report in the proceedings of the Ann Arbor Workshop) so the discussion moved to consider the report of TF II on Cooperative Arrangements. Mr. Cooper as chairman of this group proposed that MELA set up a Standing Committee on Resources and Cooperation, combining the topics of the first two Task Forces of the preceding summer's workshop. This committee would include within its purview abstracting, machine applications, and the like. It would collect profiles of the collections and the collection policies of all the North American research libraries with Middle East collections. It would need time to gather, assess and disseminate this information.

The next proposal was that MELA implement a policy of "regionalization" in which each group of Middle East libraries comparatively near to one another would have a representative librarian survey their resources and draw up a profile of each region's collections that would then become part of an overall picture. This informal effort of cooperative sharing and development already has a model being tried on the U.S. West Coast where Khoury at Washington, Nabti at Hoover, Cooper at Berkeley, and Wilson at UCLA are thinking so far in general terms of a North African materials emphasis at UCLA, the contemporary Middle East at Hoover, and belles lettres and medieval history at Berkeley.

Another proposal was to the effect that the Committee Chairperson write to journals regularly publishing articles on the Middle East to request that all authors include abstracts of their articles and that the Editor of the MESA Bulletin be urged to consider compiling and publishing these abstracts.

The last proposal was that MELA appoint or recruit an editor for a projected handbook on Middle East bibliography. This general editor would be aided by editors for regional studies or subject divisions. The handbook

is meant to be an introduction to the art of bibliography, and the need for it was documented in the report of Task Force II at Ann Arbor.

Discussion and voting followed on these proposals that Mr. Cooper presented as motions:

1. MELA to set up a Committee on Resources and Cooperation. Approved. Those interested in this topic were requested to gather to form the Committee. Membership on the Committee remains open.

2. MELA to implement regionalization. It appeared that the Serials Committee had come to a similar judgment and were thinking of the following probable groupings: North East, Central, South West, and West. If other factors prevent the Canadian libraries from easily participating they could form another group. The Research Libraries Group (Columbia, New York Public Library, Yale and Harvard) are already a formally organized consortium, but functionally it appears that the serials people in RIG are making the most headway. A consensus of MELA became evident that formal consortium arrangements would be too cumbersome for our present effort. Mr. Cooper then modified his motion as follows: That it be the intent of MELA that libraries form informal regional groupings to begin discussions on cooperation in collecting and sharing resources. Motion was approved. Thus the concept of voluntary regionalization was endorsed. Libraries are encouraged to seek their natural allies in this effort. It was felt that serials work could be the easiest place to begin such cooperation. As time goes on the Committee on Resources and Cooperation will monitor progress.

3. MELA to empower the Committee Chairperson to write all journals publishing articles relative to the Middle East encouraging them to publish abstracts with their articles. When the Serials Committee indicated a recommendation on this matter was in their report Mr. Cooper withdrew the motion.

4. MELA to project the task of publishing a handbook on Middle East bibliography and recruit a general editor for it. Approved. The effort was conceived as being part of the Publications Committee program, rather than that of Resources and Cooperation. During the discussion questions and ideas were advanced as to format, nature, content, funding and publishing of the handbook. As Richard Cooper had done much formative work on the proposal it was moved that he be recruited as the general editor. This selection was approved unanimously. Bruce Craig had urged that as many as possible be used in this compilation, so Mr. Cooper requested that those who would like to help in editing portions of the handbook contact him at any time. (Later in the day he stated further that he realized there were different notions forming among members as to the nature of the handbook on Middle Eastern bibliography, and he asked that members write to him their ideas about what it should be.) The experience and practice of the British Middle East librarians was cited by James Pollock as the support and model for the suggestion that MELA could reinvest any royalties from its cooperatively produced publications to support further projects.

Serials.

Martha Dukas led the discussion of her Committee's proposals. The recommendations made by the former Task Force III at the Ann Arbor workshop were introduced, discussed and voted on. They were considered in the reverse order of their publication in the summer "Proceedings."

I. MELA to have a Permanent Serials Committee. This has already been provided for in the appointment on May 30, 1975, of the Task Force members and chairperson to continue as the Standing Committee on Serials of the Association.

H. MELA to request the Middle East Journal to issue a cumulative index to its bibliographies of periodical articles, and to encourage commercial indexing services to reduce duplicate coverage and include more titles of use to students of the Middle East. The first part of the recommendation has already been cared for in the announcement of the following publication: Rossi, Peter M. Articles on the Middle East, 1947-1971: a cumulation of the bibliographies from the MIDDLE EAST JOURNAL. Ann Arbor, Pierian Press, 1975. 4 vols. (Cumulated bibliography series, no. 7) ISBN: 0-87650-030-0. \$99.50. (Citation from ARL's Foreign Acquisitions Newsletter no. 42, p. 43.)

Margaret Anderson will extend her survey of indexing services (see p. 95 of the Ann Arbor proceedings) to periodical indexes published in other European languages. The Serials Committee will contact editors on the matter of abstracting and indexing and the reduction of duplicate coverage. It seems logical to take up at the same time the effort to have abstracts included along with the articles in journals specializing in Middle East studies, and a compilation of these abstracts published as a regular feature in the MESA Bulletin (see preceding TF report). It was felt that the MESA Bulletin was the best instrument to reach the audience needing this service.

G. MELA NOTES to include a new "serials classified" section, so that duplicates or discards could be matched with needs and thus reduce gaps in sets. Virginia Gibbons agreed to collect the information and forward it to the editor of the NOTES. Approved. (See the announcement in this number.)

F. Union list of Middle Eastern serials holdings. Legal problems make the New Serials Titles data base publicly inaccessible at present. The Research Libraries Group will try to acquire it if it does become accessible, and Columbia University Library would reformat it to MARC and withdraw the Middle Eastern titles. If the data base does not revert to the public domain MELA will encourage the Bowker Co. (its owners) to publish the union list of Middle East serials. An alternative data base might be available in Harvard's Serials Project. Funds for future publication of the Union List need to be sought. MELA approved a proposal to go ahead and seek this funding from likely sources.

E. Individual librarians to be encouraged to publish bibliographic tools resulting from their daily work or outside research. Approved. Abazar Sepehri has received permission from the Library of Congress to publish a list of Persian corporate headings compiled from LC catalogs, and is seeking a publisher. Possibilities mentioned included St. Johns University library science series, the University of Texas at Austin, G. K. Hall of Boston's "Series Seventy" bibliographies, as well as our own Association. However, at present MELA's resources are not enough to support such an expanded role for our Publications Committee.

D. MELA to encourage the Library of Congress to publish --
1) its own catalog cards for Middle Eastern materials more rapidly, and
2) the vernacular National Union Catalog for this area, now only partially filed on cards in the Orientalia Division Near Eastern Section. This proposal was deferred until the Cataloging/Automation Task Force report.

C. Closer contacts with the Center for Research Libraries and the Foreign Newspaper Microfilming Project to be initiated. A start on this has been made with Dunning Wilson having conferred with Ray Boylan of CRL while at AIA last summer (1975). Mr. Boylan suggested that MELA consider the advisability of setting up with CRL a CAMP/SAMP type of project. Consideration was postponed until later as the Committee on Microforms was also involved in this topic.

B. The numbers of little used LC-Cairo (ex PL 480) serial titles to be reduced on a regional basis. A message had come from LC's Overseas Operations Division Chief Frank McGowan to MELA officers too late for use in the Ann Arbor meeting requesting MELA members to consider reducing the number of serials on their subscription lists from LC-Cairo. The general topic had previously been a Task Force concern.

In the discussion it was suggested that little used medical and science titles could be reduced and one set sent to CRL in Chicago. Also, multiple edition titles could be weeded. However, LC-Cairo's recent expansion of its serials offerings was puzzling in this connection. There were pros and cons on the question of list reduction in which the Resources and Cooperation Committee should also be involved. The recommendation was tabled. A new motion was made that MELA members return to their libraries and check with the science/medical bibliographers about the use of journals from LC-Cairo in their fields, and report back to the Serials Committee the results of the consultation. Motion approved.

A. A Middle Eastern Serials scheme to be instituted (See p. 78-79 of Ann Arbor proceedings). Discussion brought out the close relationship to monograph coverage and cooperation. The Committee prefers regionalization as outlined in the Resources and Cooperation report. It did not seem possible to institute the full plan at once, and so a substitute motion was formulated and approved that the concept of the general scheme be endorsed, and that the Committee coordinate its continuing study of this plan closely with the Committee on Resources and Cooperation.

Microforms.

The Committee on Microforms (ex TF IV) appointed at the Ann Arbor Workshop reported through its chairman Michael Albin.

The meeting heard a progress report from J. Dennis Hyde concerning his census of Ottoman Turkish salmes available in the United States. He hopes to be finished with this project shortly, and to include Iranian salmes later. Microfilming was considered the most practical means of making this body of source material generally available, but it was decided to defer consideration of microfilming for the present.

Tabled were plans to set up a CAMP-type apparatus to undertake microfilming of infrequently used materials from the Middle East. Serious objections to the proposal were listed by Martha Dukas, Chairperson of the Serials Committee: 1) Costs make it nearly impossible to undertake large schemes now, with a sample initiation fee at \$1000 and an annual fee of \$300; 2) there would probably be insufficient participation at an annual fee of \$300 because there is some disappointment in the CAMP/SAMP plans felt by participants; 3) regular channels such as the Foreign Newspaper Microfilm Project and CRL have not yet been explored, and until these have been tried it is too early to set up a whole separate organization and provide for the administration of it. In addition, the Research and Training Committee of MESA, a possible source of backing for our endeavor, was in the midst of a change in leadership, and there was no opportunity to discuss plans with them. It was agreed that the Chairman of the Committee continue the inquiry with the Research and Training Committee of MESA, the Center for Research Libraries and any other possible backer and report back next year.

Cataloging/Automation.

The Task Force V on Cataloging and Automation report and discussion was led by its chairman John Eilts. He felt some disadvantage as the only structure for action available was the carryover membership of the past summer's workshop TF V. A review of the situation was given for these topics:

National Union Catalog of Middle East Materials. The difficulty with the Middle East portion of the NUC at the Library of Congress has been described in the Ann Arbor Workshop proceedings. Lessons from LC's efforts in cooperation with East Asian libraries (of North America) in the publication of the Chinese Cooperative Catalog were discussed. Not enough libraries have subscribed to make it a paying enterprise. Costs are \$150 a year for the monthly issues, or \$500 to include an annual cumulation. Therefore it did not seem desirable to undertake a similar project for the Middle East. The question was discussed how to encourage LC to get its Arabic script NUC published. (This need was emphasized in the Serials Committee report, item D, and deferred to this point.) No decision as to the best approach was reached, but it was agreed to be a high priority need.

Arabic Script Union List at Michigan. This list that was begun by some MELA members with contributions from their libraries is receiving current input from Berkeley, Chicago and Michigan as a pilot project. Some problems in absorption of the contributions temporarily limits expansion. However, the Persian holdings of Indiana and Utah are also represented. (The Union List began as a Persian project, later covering both Arabic and Ottoman Turkish as well.) This Union List is for sale in microfiche format. The 1974 cumulation is available now at \$15 (orders c/o John Eilts, N.E. Division, University of Michigan Library) and the 1975 set will be ready soon. There are hopes that quarterly cumulations can be made. (The cost at present comes to about 25¢ per positive fiche.)

Additional NPAC Centers. Libraries that are members of the Association of Research Libraries had been polled as to their preferences regarding the possible location of two more NPAC (National Program for Acquisitions and Cataloging) centers, with the Middle East as one possibility. Discussion arose at this point how to convey the judgment of MELA members to LC. Also there was debate as to the preferred locus of such a center within the broadly defined Middle East. The Turkish area was generally felt to be the most critical need. But no formal motions were proposed during this and the preceding topics.

Formation of a Standing Committee. In line with MELA's earlier actions the desirability of forming a standing committee to carry on the work of TF V was taken by common assent. Mr. Eilts invited volunteers to meet with him for this purpose. Later a group did meet and resolved itself into the Committee on Processing, with its first membership list including J. Eilts, chair, L. Mitler, J. Pitcher, J. Heineck, R. Cooper, M. Albin and F. Khoury. A report of its first meeting, held Friday, 11-21-75 at 2 p.m. in the Galt House, Louisville, is given here in summary:

1) An informal report on LC news by L. Mitler. 2) Discussion of the LC preliminary position paper on "Rules for the Romanization of Ottoman Turkish" (copy follows). Additional comments on this paper may be sent to John Eilts, Committee Chairman. 3) Continuation of the Michigan Arabic Script Union List. The filing arrangement was discussed. Those present preferred filing by title, rather than by main entry. It was agreed to take a vote of participants on this matter. 4) A projected handbook for

the application of the Anglo-American Cataloging Rules to cataloging Middle East materials. Louis Mitler will be general editor of this MELA project, and he invites fellow catalogers to join him in the planning and production effort. This is a follow-up to MELA's contact with the AACR Revision Committee at ALA, Summer 1975. (See MELA NOTES 6, p. 18.)

Following the conclusion of the Cataloging/Automation TF report Mr. Cooper declared the program portion of the 1975 meeting adjourned. The business session was held after a short recess.

Addendum to Cataloging/Automation TF Report:

"Rules for the Romanization of Ottoman Turkish" (Draft approved for circulation by the Orientalia Processing Committee, Library of Congress, 20 October, 1975)

1) "Ottoman Turkish" is here used to mean the Turkish language as found in written records of the area controlled by the Ottoman Empire (ca. 1300-1919) and in use in Turkey from 1919 until the adoption of the Roman alphabet (officially introduced in 1928). The term covers Turkish written in the Arabic alphabet and in other non-Roman alphabets as well (e.g. Greek, Cyrillic, Hebrew, Armenian). It does not include the Turkic languages.

2) In romanizing Ottoman Turkish the principle of "conversion" is applied as far as possible, i.e. the word, phrase, name or title being romanized is represented, if possible, by the form it has in modern Turkish orthography. Foreign words, or words of non-Turkish origin that have become loan-words in Turkish, are converted like Ottoman Turkish. Modern Turkish usage in capitalization is followed.

3) Some limitations to the applicability of conversion are recognized. When the orthography of the Ottoman Turkish original reveals a conflict with modern Turkish usage, whether in pronunciation, in syntax or in vocabulary, the letter, letters, word or expression is transliterated according to the table provided below. Conversion as a principle is not applied to word order, which is not changed to conform to modern syntax. Obsolete terms are not replaced by their modern equivalents in order to reflect current terminology. Paragraphs 5-7 below provide more detailed guidance.

4) Since modern Turkish orthography is not entirely uniform, some variations in usage are found among standard and reliable publications. The reference works listed below are recommended for guidance in romanization.

Dictionaries and spelling guides:

Büyük lûgat ve ansiklopedi ("Meydan-Larousse"). 1969-73.

Hony, H. C. A Turkish-English dictionary. 2d ed. 1957.

Redhouse yeni Türkçe-İngilizce sözlük. 1968.

Türk Dil Kurumu. Yeni imlâ kılavuzu. 3d ed. 1967 (and later eds.)

Turkey. Millî Eğitim Bakanlığı. Türk ilmi transkripsiyon kılavuzu. 1946.

Specialized works:

İslâm ansiklopedisi. 1940-

Istanbul. Üniversite. Kutüphane. İstanbul Üniversitesi Kutüphanesi Türkçe basmalar alfabe kataloğu (1729-1928). 1956.

Koray, Enver. Türkiye tarih yayınları bibliyografyası, 1729/1955--1959-

Türkiye bibliyografyası. 1934-

Chapman, Harry W. 1939-1948 Türkiye bibliyografyası özad indeksi.

A first-name index to the Türkiye bibliyografyası, 1939-1948. 1968.

When the Turkish sources do not agree, the usage which seems predominant is followed. For certain kinds of variation, a uniform treatment is adopted; see paragraphs 5-7 below.

Aşık Paşa zade or Aşık Paşazade or Aşıkpaşazade
LC entry: Aşıkpaşazade

When the word or expression being looked for is not found in Turkish sources, it is transliterated by analogy with similar words or expressions.

References are freely made when they will help guide a user of the catalog from forms found in published sources to the converted form that has been adopted.

5) Phonetic considerations contribute to variability and inconsistency in the spelling of certain words and classes of words. For cataloging purposes, the orthography specified below is adopted in the conversion of both words and names.

a) Final -p versus final -b: the spelling -p is adopted for all such cases:

tıp	not	tıb
harp	"	harb
Ratip	"	Ratib

b) Final -t versus final -d: the spelling -t is adopted for all such cases:

Ahmet	not	Ahmed
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c) Final -k versus final -g: the spelling -k is adopted for all such cases:

renk	not	reng
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d) Medial -tt- versus medial -dd-: the spelling -tt- is adopted for all such cases:

Bedrettin	not	Bedreddin
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e) Medial -iy- versus medial -iyy-: the spelling -iy- is adopted for all such cases:

harbiye	not	harbiyye
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6) Other variations require a standardized orthography for cataloging purposes.

a) Izafet: Final i or ı preceded by a hyphen, the combination functioning as the sign of izafet, may otherwise be found in the form i or ı (sometimes yi, yı) added directly to the word being modified. In converting from Ottoman Turkish, -i is added to the word being modified when it ends in a consonant; -yi when it ends in a vowel. Vowel harmony is disregarded.

Devlet-i Âliye-yi	Osmaniye
Bab-i Âli	

Izafet is not indicated between the elements of a proper name except when it is expressly indicated in the Ottoman Turkish orthography.

b) The Arabic article al, when romanized in modern Turkish, may take various forms, among them: al, el, ul, ıl, 'l, us, ed, en, et. When the article functions as the middle element of a personal name or epithet, it is converted in accordance with the predominating usage in modern Turkish orthography

as regards the particular name concerned. It will usually happen that the component elements of such a name are combined as a single word.

Abdüssettar; Abdurrahman; Ebülgazi

When the article functions as a grammatical element prefixed to a common noun or adjective (as, e.g., in a book title) it is always romanized el-. The elements preceding and following the article are written as separate words.

Sirat el-Nabi not Sirat en-Nabi nor SiratÜnnabi

Hadikat el-cevami " Hadikat ul-cevami " Hadikatülcevami

- c) Diacritics: A dieresis (umlaut) is retained if found to be used in Turkish in the particular word concerned, even if it is not used consistently. A circumflex is retained where found in modern Turkish usage; it is always placed over the final long i of the relative adjective (nisbe) and names derived from it.
- d) An apostrophe is inserted between a proper noun, or a number, and a suffixed inflection.

Mustafa'nın vakfı; 1975'te

- e) The conjunction **ve** "and", regularly romanized ve, is converted to the form -u- (-ü-) when it joins two closely associated members of a phrase.

sayf-u-şita; güft-ü-gu

7) General notes.

- a) Word division follows predominating usage in modern Turkish orthography. Exception is made for cases covered by 6 (b) above. Where word division in the original varies decidedly from modern style, and it is desirable to reflect the presentation in the publication being cataloged, the Ottoman Turkish word division may be retained.
- b) The Arabic word ibn, "son of," occurring in Islamic names, usually appears in modern Turkish orthography as İbn at the beginning of a name, and as bin (often abbreviated to b.) in the middle of a name. The Ottoman Turkish form is romanized so as to maintain this distinction uniformly, but the abbreviation b. is not used.

8) When conversion is impractical because the word or words to be romanized are not part of the lexicon of modern Turkish and cannot be documented in Turkish sources in Roman orthography, and analogous forms are not available for guidance, the original is romanized letter by letter, as prescribed by the rules for romanization of the alphabet concerned. It should be noted that letter-by-letter romanization is applied only to the word or expression which does not admit of conversion to modern Turkish orthography. It may only be necessary to indicate the strict transliteration of a single letter, or group of letters, within a word which is otherwise convertible to modern Turkish. The associated words in a context are, as far as possible, romanized according to the principles of conversion.

If the Ottoman Turkish original is written in the Arabic alphabet, the consonants are romanized as in the table below.

The vowels, and orthographic symbols other than vowel signs (hemze, şedde, medde, tenvin) are romanized according to the rules for Arabic or Persian, as appropriate. They are supplied if omitted from the Turkish original. (1) No attempt is made to represent the Ottoman Turkish pronunciation of the vowels beyond what is conveyed by the orthography of the original.

The Arabic article al is always romanized al-, regardless of whether it is followed by a "sun" letter or not.

Notes to the "Rules." (1) Systematic romanization in these cases promotes reversibility. For the rules of Arabic and Persian romanization see Cataloging service, bulletins 91 and 92 (Sept. 1970) respectively.

Letters of the Alphabet. Note: This table is based on the system for romanizing the Ottoman Turkish alphabet which was published by Eleazar Birnbaum in the Journal of the American Oriental Society, v. 87 (1967), p. 134-135. A few slight modifications have been introduced.
 Only the separate form of the letter is printed in the NOTES' table.

Letter	Value	Letter	Value	Letter	Value	Letter	Value
ا	omit (2)	خ	h	ص	s	ك	k
ب	b	د	d	ض	ẓ	گ	g (3)
پ	p	ذ	ẓ	ط	ṭ	ث	fi (4)
ت	t	ر	r	ظ	ẓ	ل	l
ث	ṣ	ز	z	ع	'	م	m
ج	c	ژ	j	غ	g̣	ن	n
چ	ç	س	s	ف	f	و	v (5)
ح	ḥ	ش	š	ق	ḳ	ه هة	h (6)
						ی	y (7)

Notes to the "Table." (2) For the orthographic uses of this letter see the Arabic romanization, p. 1-3, and the Persian romanization, p. 1-3.

(3) Frequently written without the distinguishing upper strokes.

(4) Frequently written without the distinguishing dots. (5) For the uses of this letter other than to represent the consonantal sound v see the Persian romanization, p. 1-2. (6) For the distinction between ه and هة see the Arabic romanization, p. 1, 3. (7) For the uses of this letter other than to represent the consonantal sound y see the Persian romanization, p. 1-3.

COLLATION FOR THE NOTES

ALA Midwinter 1976, Chicago: Asian and African Section, ACRL, Jan. 19.

Two major topics come out of the discussions. The Directory of Asian and African library specialists in the U.S. and Canada is nearing completion. All persons to be listed in the directory will be sent a copy of their entry for any corrections that might be necessary. Those not receiving notice by May 1, 1976, who are library specialists in Asian and African (including Middle Eastern) studies should contact the editor, Henry Scholberg, Ames Library, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55455. (See NOTES 4, p. 52.)

The ALA Summer 1976 Convention program will include two days of events likely to interest MELA members. On Sunday, July 18, a program on "The International Flow of Books" will begin at 10 a.m. with a representative of UNESCO speaking. At 2 p.m. individual groups will be formed to discuss book production and the book trade on a regional basis. There will be a discussion group on the Middle East. From 8 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. on Monday, July 19, there will be another regional discussion organized on the theories and practice of collection development with emphasis on the selection process.

Library of Congress Special Foreign Currency Programs (ex PL 480).

Frank McGowan, Chief of the Overseas Operations Division of LC, reported that the supervision of the Cairo office by a visiting Acting Field Director would be continued in effect for the foreseeable future. He also indicated that economies are necessary in this program, and these would be effected by not binding some materials previously bound. He pointed out this would speed receipt of these materials.

Notes by John Eilts.

International Congress of Human Sciences in Asia and North Africa.

The 30th International Congress, formerly of "Orientalists", now of Human Sciences in Asia and North Africa, will meet in Mexico City, August 3-8, 1976, at the host institution El Colegio de México. The program will be structured according to geocultural areas, as West Asia and North Africa, Central and Northern Asia, South Asia, Southeast Asia, and East Asia. History, sociology, economics, philosophy, art, literature, anthropology, and contemporary problems of Asia and North Africa will be among the main objects of analysis. Inquiries and registration should be sent to: The Secretary General, 30 International Congress of Human Sciences in Asia and North Africa, El Colegio de México, Guanajuato 125, México 7, D.F. Mexico.

International Association of Orientalist Librarians. Together with the above mentioned Congress, IAOL will meet. The draft program includes sessions on Latin American and Asian Collections: the Development of Asian Collections in Latin America and the Comparative Problems of Asian and Latin American Collections; The Application of Computers to Asian Librarianship; Publishing in Asia and North Africa; Regional and Inter-Library Cooperation; a Joint Session on Archives with the Colloquium on Asia and Colonial Latin America; and a Librarians' Forum. The business meeting of IAOL will follow.

SERIALS CLASSIFIED SECTION (See Approved Item G in the Serials Committee Report, p. 9 in this number.) Member librarians may now send their lists of serials duplicates or "want" items to V. Gibbons, Cataloging Div., Princeton University Library, Princeton NJ 08540. She has agreed to coordinate this information and forward it for publication in the NOTES.