MELA Notes

Number 9

October, 1976

MIDDLE EAST LIBRARIANS ASSOCIATION

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Virginia Gibbons	(Princeton)	Vice President-Program Chairperson
Janet P. Heineck	(Chicago)	Secretary-Treasurer
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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, Room 560, University of Chicago, 1100 East 57th Street, Chicago IL 60637.

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Vantage Westward

If you live in the West but work in the East you will go forth to work each morning with the sun in your eyes and return home each evening with the sun in your eyes. Positively spoken and less crassly, yours is the sunrise and yours, too, is the sunset. Here are the mashriq and the maghrib in terms more descriptive of vantage point than our "east" and "west." Even "oriental" and "occidental" are a bit hazy and indeterminate of compass. Now MESA with MELA and other offspring, after trekking on down East and around the center, swings West across the Divide into "Boiling-Oven Land," if our host state California's name is looked at with an eye to an Arabic reverse transformation. It is an inviting trek indeed and much looked forward to. NOTES number 1 featured a write-up on UCLA's Middle East library collection.

Our Association is basically North American in foundation and service structure. The needs we joined to serve arise locally. Here it is that our people ask questions and do research on that distant "Middle East," a name written down in the strange terminology of vanished emperors. Why do its problems press us so sharply? What new flavors come to life in its civilization? As long as the continents meet and jostle each other there will be a want for communication and cooperative human effort in understanding.

A librarian who thinks to provide an omnibus Middle East collection and omniscient service for everyone with more materials and stouter budgets may one day be found standing at the desk, mind free-wheeling beyond control, planning the unnegotiable and unimaginable way ahead. "Yes," this person will be saying, "we have no 30,000 bananas!" But in the trip from where we are now to a bright but receding goal of adequacy in Middle East librarianship we can serve our communities. Boldness with caution, and imagination with analytical response are useful tools to carry along. We need to keep our bearings among local and wider priorities, avoid distorted maps freely sent out, and move with sureness through fields of broadcast static.

Practically, since we are a North American association of specialist interest librarians and our home region is large, and since also our identified patrons live in dispersed centers, perhaps we should think more in terms of smaller divisions of North America for cooperative service. What can be done along this line? Let us hope experience will be a friendly peer for us to learn from. And let us watch closely for serious motivation in our government and academic leaders from the recommendations in Library Resources for International Education, reviewed in this number of NOTES.

ASSOCIATION CHRONICLE,

by Janet Heineck

Executive Board. President Albin kept in touch with the other officers and it was found possible to plan a mid-year meeting at ALA. MELA's Board met at the Conrad Hilton hotel in Chicago on July 20, 1976, during the centennial meeting of the American Library Association. Present were the elected officers, Michael Albin, President, Fawzi Khoury, Vice-President and Program Chairman, James Pollock, Editor, Janet Heineck, Secretary-Treasurer, and also John Eilts, our Past President who continues to aid as liaison person to ALA groups.

The Treasurer reported that the current balance in the savings account was \$ 528.05.

Some ideas were talked over regarding our publication the NOTES. These included adding a cover, changing its format from the present 8 1/2" x 11" stapled sheets to a smaller size, and issuing it more frequently. John Eilts noted that the addition of a cover probably would raise the postage only slightly. Jim Pollock said that lack of sufficient material prevents the NOTES from being issued more often. The question of changes in the NOTES' format will be discussed at the November membership meeting. Meanwhile, our own libraries should be encouraged to subscribe to the NOTES. John Eilts asked the Executive Board to consider providing a postage meter at Ann Arbor to simplify mailing the NOTES. He suggested, in addition, printing postcard forms for subscription orders and dues reminders, for the Secretary-Treasurer's use. In an effort to extend MELA membership and NOTES subscriptions in the library world and among Middle East scholars, one hundred extra copies of the previous issue of MELA NOTES and a draft cover-letter describing the nature

of MELA have been produced. John Eilts contributed the membership list of the ALA/ACRL Asian and African Section as recipients of a possible mass mailing. Other groups proposed are the faculties of the Middle East-related departments at the universities, and library school libraries.

The format of the MELA/MESA questionnaire on collection strengths was touched on. Further experience in sensing the type of information needed will be helpful. It was clearly a consensus that the item on budget for each library was not useful in the reference-frame of a directory of study centers.

Possible changes to be made in the bylaws were briefly discussed. Among the proposals being gathered is to make the vice-president the president-elect, and to make all members eligible for office by abolishing the distinction between professional and associate members. The Executive Board will send suggestions for bylaws revision to the President who will work with the Bylaws Revision Committee (Frank Unlandherm, chair.) at the annual meeting. All the proposals need to be discussed pro and con, and it may be possible to vote needed changes in November.

Several persons were nominated for offices with terms ending in November. Further nominations may be made at the annual meeting. Please see the report of the Nominations Committee in this section following.

Fawzi Khoury as Program Chairman reported on preparations for the MELA sponsored panel to be part of the MESA program in November. Anthony Welch, Miroslav Krek, Mohammad Alwan, Pierre MacKay, and Richard Cooper as commentator will participate in this panel which has been approved by the MESA Program Committee. Our own MELA Program Committee plans a luncheon for these participants. James Pollock asked Fawzi Khoury to find out whether the participants would be willing to have their papers appear in the issue of MELA NOTES following the November meeting.

While in England on acquisitions work Fawzi Khoury learned of a conference between members of MELCOM (the British counterpart of MELA) and book dealers and publishers of the UK. Khoury reported that he brought an invitation from the sponsors for MELA members to join in this conference. The Board members felt that such a meeting would be less useful to MELA than a joint conference of MELA, MELCOM, and librarians from the Middle East which was proposed to take place somewhere in that area, perhaps in Tunisia. Khoury agreed to investigate the possibility of obtaining outside funding for a conference of the latter type.

(Postscript.) Very shortly after the July 20 meeting Michael Albin learned that he had been appointed to the post of Field Director for 1976-77 of the Library of Congress office in Cairo. Upon accepting this appointment Michael resigned as MELA President, and this has necessitated the recomposition of the Executive Board. Fawzi Khoury is now President until the regular election time, and Virginia Gibbons has agreed to serve as Vice-President and Program Chairperson for the same interim period until the annual meeting. In neither case does this interim service count as part of the two one-year terms for which each may be regularly elected. So while Cairo has gained its first full-time Field Director since 1967, MELA has lost by contribution a President. All individuals concerned are working to make this interim arrangement go smoothly. Michael's resignation message to the membership is contained in a letter addressed to our secretary, Janet Heineck. The message follows:

Message from Michael W. Albin, President MELA, 1976.

Janet Heineck Regenstein Library University of Chicago July 24, 1976

Dear Janet,

It is a difficult thing to write a letter of resignation. I have enjoyed the months I have served as President of MELA more than I can tell you. They have been rewarding professionally and personally inasmuch as I have had the pleasure of dealing with you and Fawzi and Jim and many of the rest of the MELA membership. I thank you all for your generous help. I only regret that circumstances require my separation from you all.

Be assured that I will do my utmost while in the employ of LC to gain recognition of the necessity for the closest contact between the Cairo Field Director and MELA.

I am confident that MELA is in good hands. Thanks to the Ann Arbor workshop on cooperation we have guidelines for a program of activities. Certainly these, along with the exciting prospects of closer contact between us and our colleagues in England and the Middle East have enabled us to raise our sights and make valetudinarian laments a phenomenon of the past.

There is no doubt in my mind that the November meeting and book panel will be rewarding for all involved. I hope I can attend.

I herewith resign as President of MELA.

Gratefully, Michael W. Albin (signature)

Treasury. MELA's current (Sept. 2, 1976) savings account balance is \$535.55. Printing and miscellaneous costs associated with producing NOTES number 8 (May, 1976) amounted to \$67.89.

Members who have not yet paid their 1976 dues should do so

immediately to maintain their place on the roll.

Annual Business Meeting, 1976. From 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm, November 11, 1976, the Middle East Librarians Association will hold its annual business meeting at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Los Angeles, California. President Khoury announces the agenda to include reports from the President, Secretary-Treasurer, and conveners or spokesmen for committees, discussion and possible action on amendments to the Association's bylaws, and the election of our 1976-77 President and Vice-President/Program Chairperson.

Committee Reports. The following reports are for the information of the membership, and will be supplemented by further reports on committee activity

at the November meeting in Los Angeles.

Nominations. The Executive Board, which still constitutes the Nominations Committee, has proposed the following names for the offices with terms expiring in November:

President--Jalal Zuwiyya (SUNY-Binghamton), Fawzi Khoury (U. of Washington), and Abazar Sepehri (U. of Chicago) Withdrew name. Vice-President and Program Chairperson--Virginia Gibbons (Princeton Univ.), Shirley Lyon (U. of Chicago) Withdrew name., Fawzi Tadros (Library of Congress).

Nominations from the floor will be welcome at the meeting. Clearance should be made with prospective nominees before placing the names.

Program, 1976. Interim Vice-President and Program Committee Chair-person Virginia Gibbons (Princeton) and members Dunning Wilson and Gia Aivazian (both of UCLA) continue to prepare for the November meeting.

Activities will begin 9:30 am Thursday morning November 11 with a visit to the UCLA Research Library and the Near East Center of the University, with a luncheon following. Members who wish to go on this tour should copy the Reservation Form on the last page of this number of the NOTES and return it as soon as possible to Dunning Wilson at the Research Library. A bus will leave the Hyatt Regency Hotel at 9:30 am to bring tour members to UCLA. (We should meet with time to spare before 9:30 if possible.)

Back at the hotel later Thursday afternoon the annual business meeting

will be held as described on the previous page.

Thursday evening 8 o'clock at the hotel there will be an informal (but serious) round-table type discussion of the proposed Library of Congress romanization plan for Ottoman Turkish. John Eilts will chair this program.

On Friday, November 12, the Association's officers will host the panel speakers to a lunch at noon.

The MELA-sponsored panel on Islamic Printing and Publishing is scheduled to be held from 3:40 pm (sharp!) to 5:30 pm. The meeting rooms for all panels will be announced at the MESA registration desk. Richard Cooper (UC-Berkeley) is Chairman and Commentator and the other panelists are Anthony Welch (Victoria, B.C.), Mohammed Alwan (Georgetown), Miroslav Krek (Brandeis) and Pierre MacKay (Univ. of Washington).

Publications Committee. Members of this Committee are the officers of the Association along with Richard Cooper and Fawzi Tadros. As Chairperson the Editor went ahead with the preparation of a revised questionnaire on collection strengths and it was distributed to 39 known libraries with respectable Middle East collections. The first survey of two years ago gave a general idea of where the collections were, and identified the contact people with knowledge of the holdings. It is hoped that these surveys will chart better the resources on this continent for our field of study. Items in the questionnaire should be questioned as to usefulness for the purpose of the survey. Apparently there has not been a need to call upon regional committee members for assistance in rounding up tardy responses.

At the annual meeting it is expected the topics of format and publication schedule for the NOTES will come up. The Editor is grateful for the support of interested contributors, both officers and general members. The officers will be busy tending to the Association's business and reporting it. The function of scout for suitable material for publication falls to other members of this committee and to the membership at large. And not only to be scouts, but authors! Readers appreciate a fellow-member's contribution.

COOPERATION AMONG MIDDLE EAST LIBRARIES OF NORTH AMERICA, a Workshop held in Ann Arbor, Michigan, May 26-31, 1975 is still available at \$5.00 per copy from John A. Filts, Near East Division, University of Michigan Library, Ann Arbor MI 48104.

Resources and Cooperation Committee. David Partington is chairman of this committee whose other members are Richard Cooper, Virginia Gibbons, Richard Michna, and John Pitcher. The committee had reported on Arabic language resources in the United States, based on data gathered through a questionnaire, at the Ann Arbor workshop of May 1975. It had then been asked to seek Association of Research Libraries funding for a similar study

of Turkish and Persian resources through a questionnaire sent to library directors and faculty members as well as to area librarians. Partington reports that although there is a small amount of money available, the ARL secretariat strongly questioned the advisability of another detailed questionnaire at this time, and no further action has been taken.

Serials Committee. The roster of this committee includes Margaret Anderson (Toronto), Martha Dukas (Harvard), Chairwoman, Virginia Gibbons (Princeton), Abazar Sepehri (Chicago), and Dunning Wilson (UCLA).

Work is continuing on the projects first proposed at the Ann Arbor workshop and endorsed at the last MELA meeting in Louisville.

Margaret Anderson is preparing for distribution this fall a list of journals pertinent to Middle Eastern studies covered by major European periodical indexes. This will complement her "List of Western Language Journals Pertaining to Near East & Islamic Studies Included in Eight American and British Periodical Indexes" (in Cooperation among Middle East Libraries of North America, pp. 93-103). Ms. Anderson is also formulating specific recommendations aimed at encouraging index publishers to reduce duplicate coverage and journal editors to require authors to submit abstracts with their articles. The Committee is still investigating the best means of encouraging the collection and publication of abstracts.

Martha Dukas reports that the dispute over ownership of the NST data base remains unsettled. The Committee has learned that two separate investigators have applied for grants from national funding agencies to execute projects that would provide alternative, but incomplete, union lists of serials. If neither of these projects is funded, the Committee will attempt to compile manually an interim Union List of Middle Eastern Serials from the dozen holdings lists extant. Ms. Dukas has prepared in a more legible format a "Preliminary Union List of PL-480 Serial Titles" from the last Annual List and the "List of Serials Distributed...by the American Libraries Book Procurement Center, Cairo" (in Cooperation..., pp. 105-124). At the next MELA meeting in Los Angeles, the Committee will present a scheme which might serve to encourage reduced holdings on a regional basis.

Virginia Gibbons has received listings for the new Serials Classified section of MELA NOTES and will monitor its usefulness in helping members rationalize their holdings. The Committee is considering expanding the "Preliminary List of Current Middle Eastern Daily Newspapers Received & Preserved by Workshop Participants" (in Cooperation..., pp. 129-140) to include retrospective titles, newspapers which appear less frequently, and the holdings of other libraries not represented at the Ann Arbor workshop. Ms. Gibbons, who compiled the original list, is working on an updated version with the same scope for distribution this fall.

Abazar Sepehri reports that he has been unable to pursue further discussions about extending CRL and ACRL-FNMP coverage of Middle Eastern titles with Ray Boylan because of the latter's absence from the Center. Mr. Sepehri has indicated his interest in editing the Persian section of a union list of serials the Committee may compile.

Dunning Wilson has agreed to supplement the "Bibliography" of Sources Useful in/Identifying Middle Eastern Serials. (in Cooperation..., pp. 141-151) by sending new citations to the Editor for publication in MELA NOTES.

Microforms Committee. Michael Albin, chairman, was not able to submit a report on the committee's activity in time for inclusion at this time.

Processing Committee. John Eilts, chairman, met with other committee members Janet Heineck, Dennis Hyde, Abazar Sepehri, and Fawzi Tadros in Chicago

during the July ALA convention to discuss the need for a Middle East cataloging handbook. J. Heineck and A. Sepehri volunteered to prepare statements on the choice of form of Turkish and Persian name headings respectively, but no further plans have been made. (Note by J. Heineck) Chairman of the project Committee on the Handbook on Middle East Cataloging is Louis Mitler. He reported to the Editor on another occasion that it was his impression that interest in this project is not yet wide enough to proceed. Problems regarding Ottoman Turkish romanization and the computerization of non-Western alphabets are facing our librarians at present.

Committee on Handbook on Middle East Bibliography. Richard Cooper, chairman, reports that although there is lack of agreement on the character of the proposed handbook "some kind of vade mecum in this area" is recognizably needed, and that he has received useful suggestions from other MELA members on what it could contain. The committee solicits further comments. R. Cooper suggests awaiting the publication of MELCOM's revision and reissue of Gabrieli's Manuale ... as Guide to Arabic and Islamic bibliography before anything definite is undertaken.

Membership. The Middle East Librarians Association now has 50 professional and 88 associate members, with some 25 subscribers to the NOTES. Please check your listing to see if it is correct as to spelling and address and notify our Secretary of any errors. The following three are recently new members: John Downey, Dariush Gitisetan, and Frances Morton.

Annual Membership List - 1976.

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Martinez, Pat. Technical Services Dept., Central Library and Documentation Center, Tehran University, Tehran, Iran. Tel: 6112842.

Michna, Richard S. Department of Books Selection for Research, Robarts Library, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario M5S lA5 Canada. Tel: 416-928-4820.

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McWilliams, Linda K. 728 South Royal Street, Alexandria VA 22314. Tel: 202-426-5437.

Madden, John Michael. Cataloging Dept., Princeton University Library, Princeton NJ 08540.

Makar, Ragai N. Adelphia University Library, Garden City NY 11530. Tel: 516-294-8700 ext. 7343.

Malarkey, Deirdre. University of Oregon Library, Eugene OR 97403. Tel: 503-686-3070.

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

Meghdessian, Ardag. American University of Beirut Library, P.O.B. 236, Beirut, Lebanon.

Meghdessian, Samira. Stolszfus Library, Beirut University College, P.O.B. 4080, Beirut, Lebanon. Tel: 252590 ext. 22.

Morris, Caroline S. Pennsylvania Hospital Medical Library, 8th & Spruce Sts., Philadelphia PA 19107. Tel:215-829-3998.

Morton, Frances C. Indiana University Library, Bloomington IN 47401. Tel: 812-337-7511.

Mossad, Faiez A. Regenstein Library, Room 560, University of Chicago,

1100 E. 57th St. Chicago IL 60637. Tel: 312-753-4370.

Nyquist, Corinne. Sojourner Truth Library, SUNY--New Paltz, New Paltz, NY 12561. Tel: 914-257-2202.

Pantelidis, Veronica. 2781 Kennedy Drive, Tallahassee FL 32304. Tel: 904-488-4295.

Patterson, Maureen L.P. South Asia Bibliographer, Regenstein Library, University of Chicago, 1100 E 57th St., Chicago IL 60637. Tel: 312-753-3449.

Pelletiere, Jean C. 3040 Smyth Road - No. 27, Berkeley, CA 24720. Perpustakaan - Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia. Serials Division; Library, P.O.Box 1124, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

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

Qureshi, Naimuddin. International Library Information Center, University of Pittsburgh, 135 North Bellefield Ave., Pittsburgh PA 15260. Tel: 412-624-3394.

Roberts, Priscilla H. 80 Devonshire Road, Waban MA 02168. Tel: 617-965-1937. Rosner, Heinz F. Fasanenstrasse 68f, 8025 Unterhaching/Munich, Germany.

Saperstein, Roberta S. 50 Follen Street - Apt. 311, Cambridge MA 02138. Tel: 617-547-3238.

Shannon, Michael O. Herbert H. Lehman College Library (CUNY), Bedford Park Boulevard West, Bronx NY 10468. Tel: 212-960-8580.

Sharkas, Ahmad. 18 Amory Street, Cambridge MA 02139.

Sheets, Marian L. 2148 Logan Ave., Salt Lake City, UT 84108.

Sherman, John. Library Science Department, Queens College (CUNY), Flushing NY 11367. Tel: 212-WA-9-7163.

Shulman, Frank J. c/o East Asia Collection, McKeldin Library, University of Maryland, College Park MD 20742.

Soroushian-Kermani, David K. c/o Ashbery, 463 West Street, No. H959, New York NY 10014. Tel: 212-989-5223.

Sulaiman, Mohammad H. Sulaiman's Bookshop, P.O.Box 8258, Beirut, Lebanon. Tel: 238652.

Thomas, Ritchie. American University of Beirut Library, P.O.B. 236, Beirut, Lebanon.

Tilghman, Levin H. University of South Florida Library, Tampa FL 33620. Tel: 813-974-2727.

Tress, Wilbert D. 2824 N. St. Paul Street, Baltimore MD 21218.

University of Illinois Library (Serials Dept. ST) Urbana IL 61801.

Vitale, Lilian. Science and Agriculture Library, American University of Beirut, P.O.B. 236. Beirut, Lebanon.

Wagner, Robert G. Skyline College Library, 3300 College Drive, San Bruno CA 94115. Tel: 415-355-7000.

Wallace, William M. 342 University Village, 1945 Sunnyside Ave., Salt Lake City UT 83843.

Weber, Donald J. The Florida Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, P.O.Box 2299, Daytona Beach FL 32015.

Willard, Charles. Speer Library, Princeton Theological Seminary, P.O.Box 111, Princeton NJ 08540. Tel: 609-921-8300.

Ziko, Atef O. Shell Oil Co., Information and Library Services, Box 587, Houston TX 77001. Tel: 713-220-5897.

News of the Members.

Michael Albin is on leave for 1976-77 from the University of Texas at Austin General Libraries while serving as Field Director for the Library of Congress Office in Cairo. The UT news release mentions Michael's previous experience in the Cleveland Public Library, the University of Chicago Library and at Baghdad College. The LC Information Bulletin (July 9, '76, p.390) said that the Department of State had given its approval to the reappointment of a full-time Field Director to this office. It also mentioned that the scope of the Middle East program was steadily expanding because more publications from other Arab countries are now available on the Egyptian market. This is undoubtedly a result of UNESCO and inter-Arabofficial effort to improve the book distribution system, as was described in the write-up that Michael Albin translated for the NOTES: "Arabic Book Problems: Publication, Distribution and Pirating; a Conference," (in NOTES 5, p.6 ff.)

Martha Dukas mentions that 1976 was a busy summer as their Harvard Middle Eastern Department moved to new quarters. Their cataloging and classification practices now follow AACR and LC's schedules.

John Eilts did the planning and organizational work for the Middle East-related meetings at the 1976 American Library Association convention in Chicago.

Janet Heineck helped to staff ALA's International Relations Round Table Hospitality Desk during the Chicago convention in July. A number of Middle Easterners were among the international visitors to whom the desk provided information and directions during the conference.

Zuhair E. Jwaideh, Chief of the Near Eastern and African Law Division of LC, was the guest speaker at the monthly luncheon meeting of the Washington Foreign Law Society in April. In his talk on "Law in the Muslim Countries of the Middle East" he discussed the place of Islamic law, the development of secular law and the influence of European law on the legal systems. Later in the year he was honored at a Library of Congress luncheon when he was presented with a 20-year service pin.

Frank M. McGowan, Chief of the Overseas Operations Division from 1969 to 1976, was promoted to the position of Assistant Director (Acquisitions and Overseas Operations) of the Processing Department, Library of Congress. John Michael Madden has joined the Cataloging Department, Princeton University

Library.

Robert Singerman, Judaica Librarian at Hebrew Union College Library in Cincinnati, announces the publication of his INDEX OF WESTERN STATES JEWISH HISTORY IN THE AMERICAN ISRAELITE (Cincinnati), 1854 to 1900. The INDEX is published on microfiche and is available for \$25 from Mr. Singerman at his home address: 615 McAlpin Ave., Apt. 9C, Cincinnati OH 45220. He mentions that The American Israelite is available on microfilm from the American Jewish Periodical Center, 3101 Clifton Ave., Cincinnati 45220. Dunning Wilson represented MELA at the meetings of the International Association of Orientalist Librarians which were held along with the general gathering from 3 to 8 August in Mexico City for the 30th International Congress of Human Sciences in Asia and North Africa (ex Int'l Congr. of Orientalists). His note on the meetings is in the Collation section of this number.

ADDRESSES, ESSAYS, LECTURES

In Behalf of the Blind and Physically Handicapped, by Donald J. Weber

Within the past few years, blind and physically handicapped individuals in this country have actively asserted their fundamental right to have the printed word accessible to them in a format they can utilize (i.e., brailled or recorded). Because of the Library of Congress/Division for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (LC/DBPH), the Royal National Institute for the Blind (London) and many other government and private organizations, a solid mechanism to supply handicapped students, scholars and recreational readers with reading materials currently exists in the English-speaking world.

While working at LC/DBPH (1970-1975): first as Assistant Head, National Collections; later as Head, Network Services Section), a number of requests for brailled/recorded materials in Turkish, Arabic, Hebrew, and Ladino were received from handicapped citizens reverting to their native tongue, wishing to expand their scholarly interests. Except for the Hebrew and Ladino requests, because of the existence of the Jewish Braille Institute of America, these requests were not handled satisfactorily by our "National" library.

The problem is many faceted, but may be summarized as follows:

- l. Except for Israel, Middle Eastern countries have not developed book collections for their blind and physically handicapped.
 - 2. It would be unrealistic to expect LC/DBPH to develop collections

of brailled/recorded materials in every foreign language.

- 3. There has been no organized attempt by the Library of Congress or other agencies concerned with the reading needs of this country's foreign blind and physically handicapped to develop a working relationship with existing overseas organizations with similar interests, or to assist developing nations in programming for this important service.
- 4. Currently, there does not exist an international organization of libraries for the blind and physically handicapped to spearhead standard-ization of recording modes; develop international interlibrary loan codes; standardize cataloging for the development of an international catalog; etc.

While I do not foresee immediate resolution of the above mentioned problem, I submit that implementation of the following recommendations are prerequisite:

- 1. That the Library of Congress' Task Force on Goals, Organization and Planning recommend to the Librarian of Congress that he should request Congress to amend the Pratt-Smoot Act (the Public Law which established national library services for the blind and physically handicapped in this country) to dictate the establishment of a Foreign Language Section at LC/DBPH. This proposed new section would be concerned with:
- a. Developing a meaningful interlibrary loan relationship with foreign libraries and organizations producing/housing materials for the blind and physically handicapped.
 - b. Assisting developing countries to establish such facilities.
- c. Assuming leadership in assuring that materials, developed in brailled and recorded forms in cooperating nations, comply with internationally recognized braille codes and recorded formats which require standardized playback equipment.
- 2. That library associations in this country formally request the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) to establish within its structure a subsection of libraries for the blind and physically handicapped to permit an international meeting platform for international cooperation and development in this specialized service.

Donald John Weber is Director of The Florida Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Daytona Beach, Florida.

Library Resources for International Education: an assessment, by Ragai N. Makar

Library Resources for International Education, a report submitted by the Task Force on Library and Information Resources to the Government/Academic Interface Committee. Washington, D.C.: International Education Project, American Council on Education, 1975. 97 pages. (\$3.00)

This report is the first of a series of Occasional Papers being issued by this Project of the ACE. The Task Force on Library and Information Resources was sponsored by the Association of Research Libraries and the Government/Academic Interface Committee of the International Education Project to whom they presented their report aimed to study the possibilities of improving the interaction between the academic community and government agencies on a variety of issues in the international field.

The Association of Research Libraries Task Force, with the help of several committees and a team of linguists, librarians and information specialists,

studies the state of the library resources for international education or foreign languages and area studies in the U.S. To quote Stephen A. McCarthy, Executive Director of the ARL, "The report presents a comprehensive view of the past and present conditions of library resources for international education and it points the way toward a soundly-based program for the future."

The report is the result of the systematic efforts of about fifty scholars, librarians and information specialists. It covers eight world areas: Africa, East Asia, Latin America, the Middle East, South Asia, Southeast Asia, the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, and Western Europe. The report noted the increasing cultural, linguistic, and political importance of area studies programs to this country's citizens as the United States' leadership role in the world grows. The Task Force realized that there are similarities as well as differences in the problems facing individual language and area studies libraries.

The study of Africana in the libraries revealed that despite the many cooperative projects for acquiring and processing library materials such as the Cooperative Africana Microfilm Project (CAMP), and the South Asia Microfilm Project (SAMP), "no truly excellent research library of Africana exists

in this country, except for the Library of Congress."

The multiplicity of African languages as well as Indian and Latin American languages and the multiplicity of sources of acquisition and lack of specialized professional personnel with high competence in languages and area studies represent some of the common difficulties in the way of developing these collections and servicing them. The financial problem is now the fundamental problem common to all programs. For example, the rate of growth in the East Asian library collections was unequalled by those in any other area study in the 1960's. But now universities are not in a position to finance further expansion in this field.

The report also noted that almost all library collections for international education traditionally emphasize history, language and literature. This is rather than social sciences especially in the case of Chinese and Japanese collections. The use rates of these collections are relatively low by comparison with Western materials and unit costs are relatively higher.

Some programs are much less represented in the library holdings than others. The half a million volume collection on the Middle East in the major libraries of this country in Arabic, Turkish and Persian is not proportionate to the cultural, political and economic importance of this area nor to the size of collections in other areas. According to David Partington's excellent study, "Arabic Library Collections: a Study of the P.L. 480 Program" (in Foreign Acquisitions Newsletter, Fall 1974, p. 1-18; and in Middle East Studies Association Bulletin, v. 9, no. 1 (Feb. 1975), p. 12-29), the growth in the Arabic collections can be attributed almost entirely to P.L.480 accessions. It is clear that unnecessary duplication takes place through this program and the proportion of the Arabic collections acquired by normal means of acquisition outside the federally funded program is very small.

The report about Middle East collections relies on recently gathered statistics but in one case these statistics are not correct. The figures are those for New York University on page 144 of Library Resources. First, N.Y.U. has a substantial number of Arabic books acquired through other channels than P.L. 1480 which were not accounted for, and secondly, P.L. 1480 is said in Column A to provide 100 percent of Arabic acquisitions while in

Column B "none" of P.L. 480 receipts are retained by N.Y.U.

As it is no longer economically feasible to try to build a comprehensive library collection at every university engaged in area studies, libraries may specialize in developing in depth certain collections which may include all the languages of certain geographic areas.

The major recommendation the report makes is the establishing of a national agency or a permanent Secretariat that would coordinate the activities of a national network which encourages planned acquisitions, processing and diffusion of materials for area study programs throughout the country. In addition, presently existing cooperative projects must be further developed or expanded. Examples of such would CAMP, SAMP, the interlibrary loan systems, union lists of serials, computerized bibliographic control schemes and national agencies for the production and circulation of audio-video tapes and other such materials for language training. The report also presents a description of what NPAC (National Program for Acquisitions and Cataloging, of the Library of Congress) could contribute to the development of library resources for international education. Among other recommendations to develop those library resources the report stresses the principle of selectivity versus comprehensiveness of collections, closer cooperation between scholars and specialist librarians with competence in both languages and librarianship, close cooperation between government agencies and academic institutions and the coordination of all cooperative programs on the regional, national and international levels.

The report contains a list of selected references. The excellent compilation of Theodore Samore, Acquisition of Foreign Materials for U.S. Libraries, done for an Institute of the same name held in 1971 at the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee (Scarecrow Press, 1973), should be added to the titles appearing there. The entire report reviewed here is recommended as excellent reading for librarians and teaching faculty in languages and area studies.

Ragai N. Makar is Librarian for Social Work in the Adelphi University Library, Garden City, Long Island, New York.

Report on a Middle East Acquisitions Trip, April-May, 1976, by John Eilts

From the University of Michigan Librarian (v. 8, no. 4 (Aug.12, 1976) the NOTES borrows John's edited report entitled there "Libraries in the Middle East: a First-Hand Assessment." The first paragraph is the Librarian's preface...

John Eilts, who heads the "Michigan, Library's Near East Division, recently concluded a six-week tour which took him first to New York, then to Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco. The trip's purpose was two-fold: in New York, Mr. Eilts attended a meeting of the African Studies Association, Archives/Libraries Committee. In North Africa Mr. Eilts searched for specific antiquarian titles, surveyed the current book trade, searched for suitable dealers for the Michigan Library, and discussed possible exchanges with institutions in the Middle East. The following is Mr. Eilts' brief account of the results of his trip:

The Archives/Libraries Committee meeting, which took place April 2, devoted its morning session to a discussion of the Cooperative Africana Microfilming Project. The Project is planning to issue a cumulative catalog of its holdings

and hopes soon to microfilm a number of archives. I was interested in its operations as a possible model for similar projects that could be undertaken by the Middle East Studies Association and the Middle East Librarians Association.

The afternoon session, chaired by Corinne Nyquist of SUNY at New Paltz, New York, considered the possibility of a survey of Africana library resources in the U.S. At that meeting, I described a directory of Asian and African librarians and bibliographers prepared by the Asian and African Section of the Association of College and Research Libraries. The meeting also afforded opportunities to meet book dealers and librarians interested in North Africa, some of whom gave me the names of contacts in North Africa.

The foreign leg of my journey began with a flight from New York to Cairo, where it immediately became apparent that inflation had been even more devastating to the Middle Eastern book trade than it had been here in the U.S. The price of books has increased as much as 200 percent over the past few years, and has caused a slight reduction in the quantity of new publications.

While in Cairo, I took the opportunity to visit the Library of Congress Office and to meet the staff. Because we have had trouble for a number of years in claiming missing issues of serials, I delivered to the Office a record of the serials we had received or expected to receive through the LC acquisitions program. We hope that the records will now be corrected. I extended my stay in Cairo by two days in order to meet Mr. Alvin Moore, Acting Field Director for LC in Cairo, who flies there once a month from Karachi, Pakistan.

In the meantime, I met with John Dorman, Director of the American Research Center in Egypt and discussed both the importance of the Special Foreign Currencies Program (ex PL 480) of the Library of Congress and the need for a full-time Cairo Field Director. This Program enables foreign countries to pay off debts owed the the U.S. government by sending publications to American libraries in lieu of dollars. I had raised concern over the vacant Field Directorship during discussions with U.S. Ambassador to Egypt, Hermann Eilts, but the Ambassador retains a strong reluctance to allow the appointment. There has not been a full-time Field Director in Cairo since the break in diplomatic relations which followed the six-day war in 1967. Fortunately, I have learned since my return that the persistence by the Librarian of Congress will result in appointment of a Field Director within the next six months.

From my position in Cairo, I was able to make some assessment of the book trade in Lebanon. Earlier, I had planned to study the situation directly in Beirut, but constant warfare there made a visit unwise. An assessment was made possible only by the fact that a number of book dealers had moved to Cairo from Beirut.

Simone Farazli, director of Librarie Byblos (one of our dealers) was in Cairo with her sister Yvette. She had locked her shop in November and had no plans to return. By contrast, the Dar al-Kitab al-Lubnani had moved all of its stock from Beirut to Egypt and had opened shop in Cairo. Muhammad Sulaiman (another of our dealers) was reported to be in the U.S., and indeed, this was confirmed when he visited me on my return. He reported that his stock is safe and that he needs only to return to begin business as usual.

Mohammed Hamdy, who directs the publishing division of al-Ahram, a Cairo publishing house, gave me a tour of al-Ahram's library and other

facilities. I was also given a tour of al-Ahram's computing facility, which contained an operating Arabic line printer and was generally very interesting. Al-Ahram Microfilming, another subsidiary, has microfilmed most of the backfiles of the al-Ahram newspaper, Egypt's semi-official news organ, and all of al-Ahram's periodicals.

I also met Dr. Saad M. el-Hagrassy, who chairs the Department of Library Science at Cairo University and is a consultant to the Library of Congress, the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization, and al-Ahram Microfilming Organization. He is very active in the field of bibliographic control for Arabic materials, and has translated into Arabic the revised Chapter 6 of the Anglo-American Cataloging Rules, which outlines new international standards for descriptive catalogers.

Dr. el-Hagrassy discussed with me a number of the problems associated with bibliographic control, and served the valuable function of bringing me up to date on library developments in the Arab world. He informed me that the Middle East Librarians Association will be invited to send an observer to the Conference on International Standard Bibliographic Description and its application in Arabic, which will be held in Baghdad in November of 1977. Dr. el-Hagrassy is an organizer of that conference.

The two of us also discussed the development of an International Journal of Middle East Librarianship. The idea in mind is a multilingual journal containing articles about both Middle East librarianship in the West and librarianship in the Middle East.

Finally, I discovered that the antiquarian booktrade in Cairo is very expensive and has very little to offer. The trade in current books is suffering from equally high costs and from the fact that less is being published now. Books and periodicals published in other Arab countries are readily available in all bookstores, however.

In Tunis I reconfirmed my previous knowledge that most Tunisian scholars write in French and publish in France. Yet, even though the bulk of Tunisian scholarship is available to us through normal acquisitions channels, there is still a significant amount published in Tunisia (in Arabic and French) that is important to our research needs. Most important among these items are government documents, which must be purchased by presenting oneself in person at each individual agency. I managed to make a short-term agreement with someone in Tunis who will act as our agent in obtaining and mailing those items needed in our collections.

I discussed the general business and political climate in Tunisia with Gary Miller and Samir Zoghby, both of the Peace Corps Office. Both agreed that a "PL 480"-type program in Tunisia is a real possibility, since surplus funds owned by the U.S. are already available in sufficient quantity, and the attitude of the Tunisian government seems favorable. I have initiated discussions in appropriate places to have a program covering all of North Africa considered.

My visit to Morocco took me to Casablanca, Rabat, and Fez, where the current book trade strongly resembles the trade in Tunisia. In other words, the majority of current scholarly publications by Moroccan scholars is published in France. Those things published in Morocco include works on local politics and history, popular works, Arabic literature, government documents, and books published by the University or various institutes.

Unfortunately, there seems to be no easy way to acquire any of these materials on a continuing basis. We already have exchanges for some, but expanding these exchanges with Morocco would require an investment of staff

resources which is not possible at this time. It may be possible for our agent in Tunisia to acquire some of the more important items for us, but the problem is really much broader than this. For, it is still very difficult to acquire materials from all of North Africa on a continuing basis.

On my return, I was at least able to discuss the possibility of cooperative acquisitions trips with other Middle East collectors in this country. In the long run, this may be our only hope for continuing coverage from some countries.

John Eilts is a Past President of MELA as well as heading up the Michigan Library's Near East Division.

SERIALS CLASSIFIED SECTION

Harvard's Middle Eastern Department presents its first list of duplicates representing titles in Language and Literature. Further lists will appear in later numbers of the NOTES. Orders for any of the following should be sent to: Alice Deyab, Serials Assistant, Middle Eastern Department, Harvard College Library, Cambridge MA 02138 USA.

```
al-ASALAH (Algiers) $0.75
1:1 (Mar. 1971)
al-ADAB (Beirut) $1.50/no.
v.10, no.6,7,9-12 (Jun,Jul,Sept-Dec.1962)
11:1-12 (Jan-Dec 1963)
                                               al-KATIB (Cairo) $1.50/no.
                                               no.31,32 (Oct., Nov. 1963)
12:4, 6-12 (Apr, Jun-Dec. 1964)
13:3,4,6-12(Mr,Ap,Jun-Dec.1965)
                                               no.34,36,41-45 (Ja,Mr,Ag-D,1964)
14:1-6,10-12(Ja-Jun,0ct-Dec.1966)
                                               al-KATIB AL-MISRI (Cairo)$2.00/no.
15:1-5,12(Ja-My, Dec.1967)
                                               1:4,12 (Ja,Sept.1946)
16:1-5,7-12 (Ja-My, J1-Dec.1968)
                                               al-LISAN AL-'ARABI (Rabat)$1.00/no.
17:4 (Apr.1969)
                                               no.2 (Jan.1965)
18:5,9-12 (My,Sept.-Dec.1970)
                                               no.8:1-3 (Jan.1971)
19:1-12 (Ja-Dec. 1971)
                                               no.9:1,2(Jan.1972)
al-ADAB WA AL-FANN (Cairo) $1.00/no.
                                               LUGHAT AL-'ARAB (Baghdad)$1.50/no.
v.3, no.2,3,4 (Jl, Oct, Jan. 1945/46)
                                               8:5,8,9 (My, Aug, Sept. 1930)
al-ADIB (Beirut) $1.50/no.
                                               al-MAJALLAH (Cairo) $2/no.
                                               7:73,74,76,81-84 (Ja,F,Ap,S-D,1963)
15:7 (Jl. 1956)
16:1,4-12(Ja,Ap-Dec.1957)
                                              8:87-89,91-94 (Mr-My,J1-0,1964)
19:12 (Dec.1960)
                                         MAJALLAT KULLIYAT AL-ADAB, JAMI'AT
20:1-9,11-12(Ja-Sept.,No-Dec.1961)
                                         AL-QAHIRAH (Cairo)$1.50/no.
21:1-12 (Jan-Dec.1962
                                         21:1,2 (May, Dec. 1959)
22:1-12 (Jan-Dec.1963)
                                         22:1 (May 1960)
23:1-12 (Jan-Dec.1964)
                                          _32_:2 (Dec.1970)
                                         MAJALLAT KULLIYAT AL-ADAB, JAMI'AT BAGHDAD (Baghdad) $1.50/no.
24:7,11,12 (Jl, Nov,Dec.1965)
25:1-4 (Ja-Ap.1966)
26:6,9-12 (Jun,Sept-Dec. 1967)
                                         no.'s 6, 7, 9 (1963, 1964, 1966)
                                         MAJALLAT MAJMA AL-LUGHAH AL- ARABIYAH
27:1-12 (Jan-Dec.1968)
28:1-5 (Jan-My 1969)
                                         (Cairo) $2/no.
                                         no.'s 8, 27 (1955, Feb. 1971)
29:5,8,10,11 (My, Aug, Oct,Nov.1970)
                                         MAJALLAT MAJMA' AL-LUGHAH AL-'ARABIYAH
30:1-12 (Jan-Dec.1971)
31:1-5,7-12 (Jan-My, Jul-Dec. 1972)
                                         BI-DIMASHQ (Damascus) $2/no.
                                         42:1,3 (Jan., Jul. 1961)
32:1-4,7,9 (Jan-Apr.,Jul,Sept.1973)
                                         43:1,2 (Jan., Apr.1962)
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MAJALIAT MA'HAD AL-MAKHTUTAT AL-'ARABIYAH
(Cairo) \$2/no.
7:1,2 (May, Nov. 1961)
6:1,2 (May, Nov. 1962)
al-MAKTABAH (Baghdad) \$1/no.
1:10 (Apr. 1961)
2:12 (Apr.1962)
7:56 (Jan. 1967)
10:68, 73 (Jan., Oct. 1970)
11:88, 95 (Mar., Oct. 1972)

al-MASRAH (Cairo) \$0.75/no. 1:4-6 (Apr.Jun. 1964) SHI'R (Beirut) \$1.50/no. 7:25,26 (Winter,Spring, 1963) 9:36 (Autumn 1967) 10:37 (Winter 1968)

University of California--Los Angeles lists these bound volumes for sale at \$4.00 each bound volume. Contact: Near East Bibliographer, Research Library, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA 90024.

Persian titles:

JALLAH-'I		IX-AI	TARIKHI	VAHID	
7 no.1-3	bound			10:1-6	bound
7 no.4-6	11			10:7-12	33
8 no.1-3	11			11	11
8 no.4-6	11			12	11

TEHRAN. DANISHGAH. DANISHKADAH-'I ADABIYAT VA 'ULUM-I INSANI. MAJALLAH. v. 21 (1974-75) bound

COLLATION FOR THE NOTES

Association for Asian Studies. From the LC Information Bulletin of May 28, 1976, p. 313, the last paragraph of A.Y. Kuroda's report of the Toronto meeting of the Association for Asian Studies:

"Varied views on priority on library needs were expressed. Some considered book acquisitions support to be very high in priority, while others preferred cooperative projects such as a Union List of Japanese Serials, and MARC development for Chinese, Japanese and Korean vernacular scripts. The discussions slowly but definitely shifted toward the general realization among those present for the need for "collection development cooperation," "regionalization," and "networking" of libraries as a matter of an inevitable historical trend."

International Association of Orientalist Librarians. This Association organized several panel presentations and a business meeting during the 30th International Congress of Human Sciences in Asia and North Africa (formerly the International Congress of Orientalists) held in Mexico City from 3 to 8 August, 1976. Panel themes were collections and resources, computer techniques and applications, and regional cooperation. Unfortunately, none of the panels included participants offering papers on Middle East librarianship. The business meeting dealt with changes in the constitution and a discussion of the need for and ways of gaining closer affiliation with IFLA. All Middle East library specialists are invited to join the Association. The dues of \$3.00 per year, which include the IAOL Newsletter, should be sent to: Dr. G. E. Marrison, Secretary-IAOL, Dept. of Oriental Manuscripts, British Library, London WClB 3DG. The 31st International Congress is planned to be held in 1979 in Iran. Note by Dunning Wilson.

Middle East and Orientalist Serials Accessible Through the Center for Research Libraries. The Expanded Journals Project of CRL began in early 1973. As member libraries effect cancellations and these titles are chosen by CRL for subscription under the Project on the recommendation a member library we find a growing number of titles relevant to Middle East area studies available here. CRL warns us that most of the titles were added recently and that files earlier than 1972/73 should not be expected. Their lists and catalogs should be consulted for exact details. Inter-Library Loan borrowing or photocopying services are available in cooperation with the British Lending Library Division at Boston Spa, U.K. A list of the Middle East and Orientalist serials was culled from the latest printed CRL lists. A further group of general Africanist titles could have been included as useful.

American Oriental Society. Journal. Arab Report and Record al-Andalus Arabica Archiv fur Papyrusforschung und verwandte Gebiete (Leipzig) Archiv orientalni and its Supplement (Prague) Archivum ottomanicum (Hague) Asia and Africa Review (London) Bitzaron Byzantine studies (Pittsburgh) Byzantinische Zeitschrift Byzantinoslavica (Prague) Cahiers d'outre mere (Bordeaux) Central Asiatic journal (Wiesbaden) Deutsch Orient-Gesellschaft. Mitteilungen (Berlin) Deutscher Palaestina-Verein. Zeitschrift. (Wiesbaden) di Goldene keyt Hesperis-Tamuda (Rabat) IBLA (Tunis) Indo-Iranian journal Institute for Palestine Studies. IPS Bulletin & Supplement. Instituut voor Tall, Land- en Volkenkunde. Verhandelingen (Hague) Iraq (London) Ishmael (Paris) Islamic Culture Jewish heritage (Washington DC) Jewish spectator (New York) Journal asiatique Journal of African and Asian Studies (Delhi) Journal of Asian history (Wiesbaden) Journal of cuneiform studies Journal of the economic and social history of the Orient (Leiden) Libyan press review (Tripoli) Middle East perspective Middle Eastern studies Muslimnews International (Karachi) an-Nahar Arab Report (Beirut) Narody Azii i Afriki (Moscow) New Outlook (Tel Aviv)

Orientalia (Rome) Proche-Orient; etudes economiques Proche-Orient; etudes juridiques Public administration in Israel and abroad Revue de Qumran Revue des etudes islamiques Sefarad (Madrid) Studia Iranica (Leiden) Syria (Paris) Tarikh (New York) Tiers monde (Paris) Turk Tarih Kurumu. Belleten Welt des Islams Welt des Orients (Göttingen) Yiddish (Flushing) Yuval (Jerusalem) Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigrafik (Bonn)

RESERVATION FORM for Thursday Morning, 9:30 a.m., Nov. 11:
Tour to UCLA Library and Near East Center with Luncheon following

MELA members:

The Program Committee of MELA would be happy to plan a tour of the library and Near East Center at UCLA during the joint MELA/MESA meetings, Nov. 10-13th, 1976. We are tentatively considering Thursday morning, Nov. 11 as the most convenient time for such an event. The bus is planned to leave the Hyatt Regency Hotel at 9:30 a.m. We need to know, however, how many of you plan to be in Los Angeles and how many would be interested in such a tour. Please return the form below as soon as possible to Dunning Wilson Near East Bibliographer Research Library, UCLA Los Angeles, CA 90024

I will/will not be attending the MELA/MESA conference, Los Angeles, Nov. 10-13, 1976.

I would/would not be interested in a bus trip, library and Near East Center tour (including lunch at the Faculty Club) of UCLA, Thursday morning, Nov. 11, 1976.

name		
insti	tution	