

Association of Research Libraries-Foreign Acquisitions Committee Sub-Committee on Africa (the former Farmington Plan Committee).

The comprehensive collecting responsibilities from certain African countries were reassigned at a summer meeting in Chicago. Mr. Panofsky said that Princeton would handle Maghrebi publications (New York Public Library previously had this assignment but as it does not lend on inter-library loan a main purpose of such assignment is frustrated).

G.K. Hall Co. publications.

- 1) Mr. Finn announced the following: Sub-Saharan Africa; An Index of Periodical Articles had been published.
- 2) The Ibadan University Library's African Collection catalog was now being filmed.
- 3) Chicago Public Library's Cleveland Hill Branch has an index of Afro-American articles and other items. This may be published.
- 4) The Index Libycus a bibliography of Libya by a member of staff at the University of Frankfurt Library was due for publication soon.
- 5) Under consideration are the catalogs of the Bibliotheque Royale in Brussels and that of the Library of the Musée de l'Afrique Centrale at Tervuren.
- 6) The Royal Commonwealth Society Library's Catalog had been published.
- 7) Under consideration is the catalog of the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office Library.

Bantu Library Association of South Africa.

Mr. Manaka, Deputy Librarian of the University of the North at Turfloop, South Africa, spoke on the work of the Association. His library lacks scarce Africana on the northern part of South Africa. The Library of the University of Zululand and other libraries were cooperating to make greater resources available to their readers.

The meeting adjourned at 5 p.m.

## L E T T E R

Having attended all the panels on Southern Africa at the Denver meeting, I am thoroughly frustrated. Instead of a differentiated analysis, mostly convictions were offered on both sides, many pathetic and narcissistic babblers continuously had the microphone and the floor, be they from the South African Foundation or the self-styled, pseudo-radical academic establishment. In comparison, the State Department representatives were enlightening in revealing true contradictions.

Several Chairmen were most incompetent by allowing lengthy papers to be read to an originally susceptible audience, which was inevitably dazed and decimated after two passive hours. Particularly the Wednesday evening and Saturday morning sessions were contemptuous of their audience by not allowing more exchange with the panel. I have recently published two books on South Africa and had my hand up several times but I did not get one chance to make a single public comment during the entire meeting. Instead, several discussants and panelists poured their ignorant commitment over their patient audiences again and again.

For the next meeting, I suggest a prior screening of all papers with regard to minimal standards, an indication of the qualifications and competence of discussants, panelists and chairmen and the limitation of all presentations to 10 minutes at the most so that an intelligent exchange of arguments is not impossible.

Finally, the ASA should publish a list of all persons registered at the conference and the hotels at which they are staying, so that one can find at least one's interesting colleagues privately.

Heribert Adam