

Recent Publications

BOOK REVIEWS

International Conference on African Bibliography, Nairobi, 1967. The bibliography of Africa; proceedings and papers. J. D. Pearson and Ruth Jones, eds. New York, Africana Pub. Corp., 1970. 362p. \$17.50.

Organized by the International African Institute (London), the International Conference on African Bibliography brought together a distinguished group of librarians, documentalists, and scholars concerned with the problems of coordination and standardization of current African bibliographical services. Over twenty-five papers on a variety of topics were presented. The participants, coming from African countries, Europe, Britain, and the United States made a number of recommendations. The development of standardized national bibliographies is of primary importance for the bibliographical control of African books, periodicals, and government publications. Several countries have, with varying degrees of success, made serious efforts in this direction. In separate papers the state of the art is described for Nigeria, Uganda, Tanzania, South Africa, Senegal, Mali, and Madagascar. Closely connected with the subject of standardization are the problems of cataloging and classification. Jean Fontvieille of the Institut Fondamental d'Afrique Noire in Dakar illustrates these problems clearly in his outstanding paper, "Le Nom des Écrivains d'Afrique Noire," which, as the conference recommended, should be made available in English.

Another important dimension of African bibliography is the control of the literature dealing with Africa. Such materials are published all over the world and bibliographical access remains a serious prob-

lem. A number of existing services are described and special attention should be called to the discussion of available bibliographical card services in the article of René Bureau and the extensive listing of periodicals containing bibliographical data on articles relating to Africa which was published as an appendix to Julian Witherell's contribution, "Bibliographic Control of Periodical Literature on Africa." Other noteworthy papers deal with the problems of procurement of African materials—including a description of the efforts of the Library of Congress—the need for the organization of African archival collections, and the problems concerning African ephemera, microforms, and nonbook materials. The most significant contribution, however, is the "Survey of Bibliographical Services Covering Current Publications on Africa" by Ruth Jones, librarian at the International African Institute and coeditor of these proceedings.

Although the results and recommendations of the conference were widely publicized immediately afterwards, it is unfortunate that it took three years to publish the proceedings. A few contributions have been slightly updated, but a review of the progress in African bibliography since the conference would have greatly increased the usefulness of this volume. Seven of the contributions are in French; the others are in English. The introduction and the conference recommendations have been printed in both languages. There is no index.—*Hendrik Edelman, Joint University Libraries.*

Problems in University Library Management. Association of Research Libraries, Washington, D.C., 1970. 63p.

This little pamphlet is the first product of an effort mounted by the Joint Committee on University Library Management of