

ALA - Committee -- International Relations

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
OFFICIAL FILE

Minutes of Meeting, Friday, June 17, 1977, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Present: H. Vail Deale (chairperson), Mohammed Aman, E. J. Josey, Irving Lieberman, Jean Lowrie, Anne Pellowski, Theodore Welch, Jane Wilson (staff liaison).

Visitors: Alice D. Ball, Helen H. Lyman, Jane P. Franck, Hideo Kaneko, Lian Tie Kho, James D. Poe, J. Randall Rosensteel, Ruby Martz, Edward S. Moffat, Elisabeth Nebehay.

Absent: Theodore Waller.

1. The USBE program report was given by Alice D. Ball, Executive Director. (Attached is a brief statement on USBE Services to Libraries Outside the United States). There is more demand now for American publications. OPEC is giving money and helping in cost structure. At present fifty countries have arrangements with USBE. The latter is attempting to expand contacts and has established a special committee to implement this.

2. Helen H. Lyman presented a brief description of her proposed project to study literacy and public libraries in Australia, Canada, and the United Kingdom. Included would be an investigation of public library involvement in programming for literacy in the major English-speaking countries as well as identification of educational and training opportunities available in the departments of librarianship in these countries. To date, she has identified 17 libraries in which to do interviews and eleven schools of librarianship. It was moved (Lieberman) and seconded (Welch):

"That the IRC express appreciation to Helen H. Lyman for presenting the proposal to study literacy and public libraries in Australia, Canada, and the United Kingdom in relationship to U.S. programs resulting in publications and symposiums as a conclusion. The IRC supports the idea of a study and hopes that appropriate financing might be found."

3. Beverly Brewster reported on her recent work in Iran and her investigation of problems in library growth and development at selected Iranian provincial universities (see attached summary).

4. Jane Wilson presented the HRLSD-IRC report in the absence of the Chairperson, Harris C. McClaskey. The report consisted of a letter from Professor McClaskey accompanying a proposal for international coordination of library service for blind and physically handicapped individuals prepared by Frank Kurt Cylke for discussion at IFLA (see attached).

5. Allen B. Veaner, Chairperson of the Advisory Committee on Liaison with Japanese Libraries, reported on the resolution from the 1976 Conference in Kyoto to continue the liaison through the exchange of persons and a proposed exchange on library buildings. Efforts to promote this will continue. Attention was called to Ted Welch's new book: Toshokan: Libraries in Japanese Society (Chicago, ALA, 1976).
6. Frances Hinton reported for John Byrum (ALA/RTSD) on the Cataloging Code Revision Committee. Additional recommendations have been sent to the joint steering committee for the revision of the Anglo-American Cataloging Rules. The possible publication date is November, 1978 with general implementation around 1980.
7. Jean Lowrie reported on Nigeria Bookweek. Robert Baensch continues as chairperson for the planning committee. A meeting will be held June 23 in New York City. The Booksellers appear to be having better communication than the librarians and publishers with Nigerian counterparts. Mr. Baensch is negotiating with the State Department to obtain funds for three librarians and two booksellers to go to Nigeria. There is a probability of Bookweek being held in conjunction with the Ife Book Fair in early spring, 1978.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Jean Lowrie  
Secretary



# Universal Serials & Book Exchange, Inc.

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## USBE Services to Libraries Outside the United States

Libraries throughout the world take part in USBE's resource-sharing operations and benefit from them. In 1977, USBE members include institutions in 54 countries outside the United States. These participating member libraries include libraries large and small, general and special, situated in institutions of higher learning, national and international government departments, hospitals, research institutes, private corporations, and others.

USBE serves these member libraries as a source where they may obtain periodicals, books, government documents, and other types of publications in research fields. Each library can request from USBE the publications it needs by means of sending in its own want lists or by checking USBE's monthly air-mailed lists of available materials. USBE searches the requests in its collection of 4,000,000 periodicals, books, and government documents and sends the available items at standard handling fees plus postage; periodical titles not immediately available will (at the library's request) be searched among the 5,000 additional publications which USBE receives each day.

Member libraries make the USBE collection and distribution possible by contributing or depositing shipments of publications which are surplus to their own needs. These exchange contributions are not expected to balance the number of publications they receive from USBE; on the other hand, USBE hopes to receive any useful publications which the member can send. Many libraries outside the United States have made arrangements whereby their obligation to deposit publications can be postponed, or at least partly satisfied, by arranging with an American member library (which has been able to send USBE more than it takes) to send publications on its behalf, at least temporarily. Libraries receive no money credit for publications sent to USBE.

In 1976, 349 member libraries outside the United States received 158,500 publications from USBE, bringing to more than 4,700,000 the total USBE has sent abroad since it started operations in 1949. The receiving libraries paid a standard handling fee based on the type of publication, and averaging about \$2, for each publication received, plus shipping or mailing costs. Member libraries also pay a \$25 membership fee each year which entitles them to receive the USBE/NEWS as well as the monthly lists of available publications.

The USBE program offers a number of benefits to libraries outside the United States. Membership gives them access to the large stock of publications in research fields, many published in the United States but also including periodicals, books, and government documents from more than a hundred other countries. The resource-sharing, clearing-house character of the USBE operation ensures that the cost is low--about 30% of the commercial price of the publications involved. Libraries can arrange the quantity and frequency of their exchange shipments to USBE to suit their own requirements. Through shipments to USBE they can place their own national publications in the central USBE stocks for worldwide distribution. As a non-profit organization USBE can provide additional special services in its distribution process.

Each member library of USBE has a vote in the annual election for the governing officers and Board of Directors. In addition, the national library associations of each country, and its national libraries, are eligible to join the list of 45 USBE sponsors.

S. A. Tammes

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
REPORT BY BEVERLY J. BREWSTER TO THE ALA INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS  
COMMITTEE, DETROIT, 17 JUNE, 1977

Beverly J. Brewster reported to the International Relations Committee on her recent research activities in Iran. Dr. Brewster, Assistant Professor at the new Department of Library Science, Pahlavi University, Shiraz, Iran during 1974-1976, received a grant in 1975 from the Pahlavi University Research Council, funded by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education, to investigate problems in library growth and development at selected Iranian provincial universities. The universities chosen for comparison and as case studies were the University of Azarabadegan, Tabriz, established in 1947, Ferdowsi University, Mashad, established in 1948, and University of Isfahan, established in 1950.

The purpose of the study was to investigate the role of provincial academic libraries within the educational development and expansion program begun in 1963 under the Third Five Year Plan. This Plan and subsequent five year plans have emphasized educational reform to produce a pool of technically trained manpower. At the university level this has taken the form of establishment of new science-related faculties or colleges, wide provision of scholarships for advanced overseas study in scientific and technical fields, expanded facilities and new campuses, modernization of curriculum and teaching methods, and creation or enlargement of book budgets.

Within this framework of change, provincial academic libraries have undergone stresses and modification themselves and the direction of their change and the limits of their effectiveness have been largely determined by factors such as attitudes of administrators and faculty members, university politics, and general trends in educational development, rather than the advances or

changes in library development taking place in Tehran.

The most notable constraint has been the heavy emphasis on undergraduate education in science and engineering. In consequence, faculty research, while desired has been meagre so that library collections comprise textbooks and weak and uneven periodical holdings; lectures and laboratory-oriented courses have not served to modernize teaching methods or study habits so that library use by faculty or students is minimal and largely for study-hall purposes; the subject nature of the collections has meant that persons working in libraries regardless of the level of their library training, are unable to establish any kind of dialogue with faculty and are regarded as clerks rather than professionals.

Dr. Brewster's data were obtained through visits, with a research assistant, to each of the three campuses, and from forty structured interviews in English and Farsi with university chancellors, vice-chancellors, deans of faculties, librarians, and library staff. In addition, bookdealers in Isfahan, Tabriz, and Tehran were interviewed. The full report on her study and findings will be published in the near future.



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
TWIN CITIES

Library School  
419 Walter Library  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455

June 14, 1977

Ms. Jane Wilson  
Staff Liaison  
ALA International Relations Committee  
Detroit Plaza Hotel  
Detroit, MI

Dear Ms. Wilson:

Greetings! This letter will confirm our telephone conversation of this afternoon summarizing the work of the ALA, HRLSD International Relations Committee. Unfortunately we cannot attend the meeting of the ALA International Relations Committee scheduled for Friday June 17 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the Detroit Plaza Hotel.

As indicated, the HRLSD committee is at present primarily concerned about plans for international coordination of library services for the blind and physically handicapped. Enclosed you will find a proposal which will be discussed at the International Federation of Library Associations, September 6, 1977 in Brussels. This is the work of Frank Kurt Cylke, Chief, Division for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress and has the committee's full support. We would very much appreciate having the "Action" section, pages three and four, reported by yourself or someone of your choice; the need for these services is very great.

If you can provide a vehicle for publication of this information it would be more than welcome. Do let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you for your cooperation and please accept my best wishes for a productive conference. C'ead Mile Failte - 10,000 Gaelic Good Wishes!!!

Sincerely,

Harris C. McClaskey, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor,  
Chairperson, ALA, HRLSD International Relations Committee

HMcC

cc: Kurt Cylke, Lethene Parks, Mary Power

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STEREOTYPED

A PROPOSAL  
for  
INTERNATIONAL COORDINATION  
of  
LIBRARY SERVICE FOR BLIND AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED INDIVIDUALS

This is to advise you that the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) has appointed a Special Committee on Library Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped to work on the preparation of a report to be presented at the IFLA General Conference in Paris, France, on October 11, 1977.

The committee will consist of a chairman, Frank Kurt Cylke, Chief of the Division for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C., and a number of other members from various countries. The chairman has been appointed by the International Federation of Library Associations and has been authorized to act on behalf of the International Federation.

It is proposed that the committee will be responsible for the preparation of a report to be presented at the IFLA General Conference in Paris, France, on October 11, 1977.

To Be Discussed  
International Federation of Library Associations  
September 6, 1977

Brussels, Belgium

## Introduction

Access to information is vital if an individual is to function effectively in our rapidly developing society.

Blind and physically handicapped individuals require the same accessibility as their sighted and nonhandicapped associates to data and other processed material if they are to operate personally and professionally without disadvantage.

Librarians have a responsibility to provide information in a usable form to all people. Librarians serving blind and physically handicapped individuals share this responsibility, and thus have the duty to provide data and information in appropriate tactile, recorded, and other pertinent formats.

The question before librarians, therefore, is how the information transfer process can operate effectively at local, national, and international levels. How best can librarians serve their clients who have a need for information in special formats?

## Proposal

I suggest that the time is right to address at the international level library service for blind and physically handicapped people. Further, I suggest that the development of common technical and service guidelines is of prime

~~not confidential~~

importance and that the International Federation of Library Associations is the organization to serve as the coordinating body.

Background

For many years library service for blind and physically handicapped individuals has had nearly as many organizational locations as there are nations. Many countries consider the service an adjunct of its welfare services and some place it in the library orbit; some utilize private organizations as service points and some utilize the public sector. I suggest that organizational placement within any specific country is irrelevant. At the same time I suggest that it is mandatory that coordination be effected within the broad scope of the library and information-science community.

Library service for the handicapped has the same philosophical base as that for the nonhandicapped. Many of the service and technical approaches are identical; those not identical are quite closely allied. Although providing appropriate library material for blind and handicapped people has necessitated the utilization of mechanical, electrical, and electronic engineering disciplines, the medium selected must be related to service and library philosophy.

Therefore, library service should be addressed by an organization of librarians such as IFLA rather than by an organization devoted to the welfare of the blind.

Action

Two levels of discussion will take place during the 1977 International Federation of Library Associations meeting. The first area of discussion will be concerned with developing a proposal that IFLA establish a working group devoted to the coordination of library services for blind and physically handicapped individuals. The second area will address the following service and technical concerns:

1. The development of an international inventory of library resources;
2. The need for identification of existing production formats;
3. The need for standardization of production formats;
4. The development of an effective international interlibrary loan mechanism; and

5. The need for a coordinated application  
of existing and future technologies to  
production requirements.

#### Conclusion

It is essential that librarians serving blind and physically handicapped individuals consider the points and suggestions noted in preceding paragraphs and come together in Brussels prepared to take the first step toward integrating their service into the mainstream of library activity.

Fédération Internationale des  
Associations de Bibliothécaires  
Internationaler Verband  
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Международная Федерация  
Библиотечных Ассоциаций

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SECTION OF  
LIBRARIES IN HOSPITALS

March 1977

Dear Colleague,

In anticipation of the IFLA Congress in Brussels, herewith a letter and a paper on cooperation of Libraries for the Blind by Mr. Frank Kurt Cylke.  
Libraries for the Blind or Organizations of the Blind might contact you on the matter.

The full program of our Section is as follows:

Tuesday September 6

09.00 - 10.30

1. Frank Kurt Cylke:  
*Cooperation among Libraries for the Blind.*

11.00 - 12.30

2. D. Heleen Rosskopf:  
*Coordinated library services for blind students.*  
M. Joy Lewis, F.L.A. (Senior Lecturer, School of Librarianship The Polytechnic of North London, Great Britain and former Chairman of the Sub-section of Libraries in Hospitals):  
*Staffing and management of hospital- and welfare libraries.*

Wednesday September 7

09.00 - 13.00

Tour  
Tour

Thursday September 8

12.00 - 13.30

Lunch with Mrs. S. Smets-Périer and Mrs. E. Vandenberghe-Arents, Chairmen Executive Committee, Conseil National des Bibliothèques d'Hôpitaux de Croix-Rouge Belgique. *On invitation only.*

14.00 - 15.30

1. Dr. H. Bain (Specialist in geriatric internal medicine, Institute de Psychiatrie, Gériatrie et Réadaptation de l.O.S. "Rayon de Soleil", Charleroi, Belgium:  
*La lecture du troisième age; psychologie du lecteur, psychologie du bibliothécaire.*

2. Business Meeting

16.00 - 17.30

Standing Committee. *On invitation only.*

As mentioned in enclosed letter, subscription papers will be sent out in March.

Looking forward to meeting you in Brussels

Yours Sincerely

Peter B. Lecuwenborgh