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Alison Report

This issue of the journal carries the first detailed assessment of the Alison Report — by the Hon. President of the ZLA, Mr E E Burke — since its publication almost a year ago. At the last council meeting in September, the editor was advised that the report had been accepted in principle and that we were free to print comment. By that time, however, alternative copy had already been gathered and rather than delay production by calling for contributions on the report, it was decided to go ahead with existing copy. At the inaugural meeting of the National Library and Documentation Council, also reported in this issue of the journal, it became apparent that Alison's proposals had been overtaken by events. It is hoped, however, that Mr Burke's article will not be regarded merely as a matter for the record, in view of the author's unparalleled experience in the library world.

Pamela Francis

EDITORIAL
A National Library and Documentation Service is Born.

At last the speculation on Government's intentions with regard to the Alison Report has ended with the inauguration of the National Library and Documentation Council on 28 October 1981. The inaugural meeting was addressed by the Honourable Dr D Mutumbuka, Minister of Education and Culture, under whose ministry libraries fall. The Zimbabwe Library Association should feel rewarded for their tireless efforts in urging the Government to take action on establishing a nation-wide concern in the country.

Mr John Mapondera, Deputy Chief Cultural Officer, outlined the proposed plans for the National Library and Documentation Service (NLDS). He said the NLDS will have four sections, viz. Public Library Service, Government Library Service, School Library Service and the Documentation Service. The headquarters of the NLDS will be in Salisbury.

It is hoped that the Director of the NLDS will be appointed in 1982. The top structure will comprise the Director, Deputy Director, and four Assistant Directors who will co-ordinate the Service.

We welcome the establishment of the NLDS and we have great hopes that 1982 will see its initial services to the nation.

A National Library and Documentation Service is Born.
NEW IMPORTANT BOOKS FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

P.M. Wren: *ACHEBE'S WORLD*. The Historical and Cultural Context of the novels of Chinua Achebe.


I. Linden: *THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND THE STRUGGLE FOR ZIMBABWE.*

C. Ake: *A POLITICAL ECONOMY OF AFRICA.* Stimulating study for students in the Social Sciences.

D. Cohen & J. Daniel: *POLITICAL ECONOMY OF AFRICA.* For students taking history, politics and economics courses on Africa.

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**Quotes Case No. 20**

Mediocrity knows nothing higher than itself, but talent instantly recognises genius.

A good writer should be so simple that he has no faults, only sins.

-Arthur Conan Doyle

-W.B. Yeats

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**The Alison Report**

The Alison Report was prepared by the British Library Sub-Committee on Libraries and Information Services to the Government of Zambia, under the direction of Mr. W.A.G. Alison, MLA, the Director of Libraries of the City of Bulawayo. The Report was presented to the Government of Zambia on 14th February 1981 and was published in May 1981.

The Report recommends the establishment of a National Library Service to meet the needs of the country. It suggests a multi-tiered structure with the National Library Board at the top, followed by Regional Libraries, and then Local Libraries. The Report also recommends the establishment of a Library Development Fund to support the development of libraries at all levels.

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**E. E. Burke**

Mr. Burke is Honorary President of the Zambian Library Association, former Director of National Archives and former Librarian of Parliament.
whole organization, to quote Alison:

...diploma, with full professional status, the proper functioning of provision in the spread over five years, and also a post-graduate course, possibly at the University. The costing is worked out on two possibilities: on the one hand the annual expenditure to achieve the best and most economical results — the magnitude of the annual income of the funds allocated is the order of $12400 every working day of the year. On Bulawayo he comments that it is undoubtedly a suitable centre for the national headquarters should be situated. On Bulawayo he comments that it is undoubtedly a suitable centre for the national headquarters should be situated.

The senior staffing would be a Regional Librarian with two Assistant Librarians responsible respectively for the operation of public libraries and school libraries within the area. Presumably any Government libraries would be dealt with directly from the national headquarters. The first task of a regional headquarters would be a survey of the area and the immediate and welcome need for additional accommodation and branches. In this respect one may speculate on the function of the mobile libraries — one vehicle satisfying and penetrating to the needs of rural areas in a region of the order of 12,000 square miles.

A mobile library runs at an annual running cost for a region to be in the order of $62000. For purposes of comparison the present annual income of the QVM is about $20000 of which approximately half comes from grants and half from the subscribers. In this respect one may speculate on the function of the mobile libraries — one vehicle satisfying and penetrating to the needs of rural areas in a region of the order of 12,000 square miles.

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To what extent would the receipt of books from the national headquarters encourage the establishment of other types of libraries is questioned by Alison. He proposes a total annual expenditure of $3 105 000 (at April 1981 figures). A large and unestimated part of this would use the mark-up system. Adequate and regular transport will be a necessity for the mobile libraries. He stresses that in the sale of second-hand books, shortage of foreign exchange for the purchase of books and exchange of books, and a scheme for the book exchange between libraries in the region and libraries in other countries, the saving of foreign exchange is of great importance. He also stresses that in the exchange for the purchase of books and exchange of books, and a scheme for the book exchange between libraries in the region and libraries in other countries, the saving of foreign exchange is of great importance.

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Current trends in librarianship
With special reference to the British situation

User education

Library education and in-service studies are the two major aspects of in-service education of librarians.

Deforestation in Zimbabwe: Problems and Prospects

J.R. Whitlow

The European Educational System in Southern Rhodesia, 1890-1930

R.J. Challiss

The Education Supplement 1980-1:
Participation and Learning

O.T. Mupawaenda

User education

Library education and in-service studies are the two major aspects of in-service education of librarians.
Current trends

An increasing number of university librarians around the world, in close collaboration with the academic staff, now rely on constant mutual feedback. The impact of user education in British and American universities is being promoted to such an extent that the British Library (BL), a national organisation, has appointed a full-time Information Officer for User Education, based at Loughborough University of Technology, to gather and disseminate user education information, is financed by the BL.

The composition of British university Librarians upwards, is at par with that of university Librarians downwards. In the United Kingdom, the library profession has become a graduate profession, at least in most higher education institutions.

Security Systems

The biggest and final question on the minds of library administrators is the extent of theft detection devices which are being used in libraries and supermarkets. The latter are, of course, using much more sophisticated devices such as ubiquitous television cameras which are either unsuitable or too expensive for libraries. In America, the marketing of theft detection devices has grown from an interest being expressed into a thriving multi-million dollar industry. Unfortunately, none of the detection devices seems to be sufficiently developed to cope with the more effective security guards and devices.

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Tape Systems:

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Meetings.

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Current Trends

Library Management

Special References

The major proponents of contemporary theorems of organisational control argue that there are five vital M's in the effective control and direction of any organisation — men, materials, money, machines and, last but not least, management. Management is perhaps the most crucial of these elements because the other four need proper management to make them productive.

The academic library has certainly become a multi-dimensional and multi-media organisation associated with numerous activities which require organised management. The general practice in British academic libraries follows the participative style of management. Staff get involved in the process of making decisions that affect them or their environment. The devolution of decision-making and delegation of responsibility are common features of the management system. The basic aim is to try and make everybody feel that it is not the staff who are being managed but the achievement of certain objectives. However, what actually happens in practice must, of course, depend to greater or lesser extent on the interaction of the various forces and personalities involved in any management system. Some managers are naturally more democratic or more autocratic than others. As management styles inevitably differ from situation to situation, depending on circumstances, one cannot be as bold as to prescribe a particular style for universal application.

Conclusion

The very rewarding experience of the Leeds course vindicates and reinforces the author's ardent belief that continuing education in librarianship is not only necessary but vital in order to keep abreast of new developments in the field. In order to make continuing education in librarianship not only necessary but vital in order to keep abreast of new developments in the field, it is important to provide a structure of education which will encourage the librarians to continue their professional education.

Select references


51
Probably the most important book to be published since Independence, this book is a comprehensive analysis of the political forces, institutions, conflicts and social tensions which form the starting point for Zimbabwe's future development.

Published by The College Press
Available from all booksellers.

INAUGURAL MEETING OF NATIONAL COUNCIL

The inaugural meeting of the National Library and Documentation Council was held in Salisbury on 28 October 1981 under the chairmanship of Mr J T E Mapondera, Deputy Chief Cultural Officer in the Ministry of Education and Culture. The meeting was opened by the Minister of Education and Culture, the Hon. Dr D Mutumbuka, and attended by the heads of major libraries in the country and representatives of other interested bodies such as city councils, the National Council of Women, the Confederation of Zimbabwean Industries and the Commercial Farmers' Union.

The Minister, Mr Mutumbuka, outlined plans for the national library and documentation service. The Alison Report was considered a useful document on the basis of which other ideas could be developed. Alison envisaged a centralised service with three main components: a public library service, a school library service and a government library service. These were then linked to a network of regional libraries in Bulawayo, Gwelo, Fort Victoria, Umtali and Salisbury. The Regional Libraries were to be the service centres for the whole of the country, with branches in smaller centres.

Mr Mapondera then outlined plans for the multi-purpose community hall and documentation service. This service would operate from a variety of community halls and document centres, and would include a school library service, a community information service, a community documentation service and a government information service. This service would be part of a national library and documentation service, which would be integrated with the national education service. The service would be run by local authorities and would be provided by mobile libraries and book vans. The success of the service would depend on the ability and willingness of local authorities to make the necessary library provision in their areas.

The meeting was urged to set realistic goals and to distinguish clearly between short term and long term objectives. The whole exercise would fail if its goals began to appear unattainable.
Inaugural meeting

Chairman's address

Mr Mapondera's address was followed by a discussion which lasted nearly an hour. A number of issues were clarified; for example, Mrs Ross-Smith wanted to know whether libraries could expect to become a part of the service or to receive any recommendations on future policy. Mr Mapondera was reassuring on both points but stressed that subscription power needs and the director of the service were both capable of meeting the needs of the service.

Mobile Library Committee

To examine:

1. The implications of selected computer software
2. Instruction of staff in selected computer software
3. Used computer machines
4. What kind of computer hardware is available and how can it be utilized to meet the needs of the service?

The Planning Committee

To examine:

1. The relationship between school and public libraries
2. The relationship of school and public libraries to selected computer software
3. The implications of selected computer software
4. The implications of selected computer hardware

Mobile Library Training

To examine:

1. The implications of selected computer software
2. The implications of selected computer hardware
3. How can the service be effectively utilized to meet the needs of the service?
4. How can the service be effectively utilized to meet the needs of the service?

Inaugural meeting
What they didn’t teach you in library school

African Hunting The Romance of the Posts of Rhodesia, cutting and sticking plastic covers like mad and generally improving the appearance of your libraries.

The Cancellations of the Rhodesias and Facsimile reprint of the 1-863 account of hunting Going on from plastic covers, one of the most frequent cries for advice from local and adventure from Natal to the Zambezi, Lake Nyasaland visit the Victoria Falls.


Ivory, Apes and Peacocks

Unusual and enchanting, Zimbabwean, real-life experiences with domestic and wild animals, reptiles and birds. Illustrated with pen and ink drawings. Super gift book for all ages.

Some Famous Rhodesian Trials


Salisbury's Changing Skyline: 1890-1980

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Zimbabwean Stone Sculpture

First comprehensive study of carvings created informative, instructive and interesting presentation of a subject which all in this country should understand; a major contribution to our cultural life. Over sixty pictures.

Steam Locomotives of Rhodesia Railways

Profusely illustrated work with painstakingly-collected technical and historical data of great interest to ‘steam fans'.

Lions, Leopards and Lynxes

Even more gripping than his many popular TV performances is this presentation of information and anecdote on the cats of Zimbabwe. Genetically unique cats which ‘adopted’ a lowveld family. Delightful and charming photographs with brief text. A gift for the young of all ages.

Tiki — Our Genet Cat

‘One of the best planned dictionaries of a Bantu Language.' (also books in English)

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SHONA - NDEBELE - TONGA - TSWANA - TSUKUDU

by William Finaughty, who shot from horseback, was in the vanguard of the ivory hunters in Mzilikazi's Matabeleland in 1864. This elusive work, reprinted in 1973 with a new Introduction and additional early photographs, is a favourite among today's safari hunters.

Zimbabwean Children's Comics

Electra House Telephone

'Some of the best planned dictionaries of a Bantu Language.'

by Marion Arnold

First comprehensive study of carvings created informative, instructive and interesting presentation of a subject which all in this country should understand; a major contribution to our cultural life. Over sixty pictures.

Zimbabwean Children's Comics

by P. O'Callaghan

First comprehensive study of carvings created informative, instructive and interesting presentation of a subject which all in this country should understand; a major contribution to our cultural life. Over sixty pictures.

Zimbabwean Children's Comics

by Alexander Davis

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Zimbabwean Children's Comics

by C. Emily Dibb

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Zimbabwean Children's Comics

by Alan Hardy

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by H. C. Dann

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by William Finaughty

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Zimbabwean Children's Comics

by Vivian J. Wilson

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Zimbabwean Children's Comics

by Edward Hamer

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IN BRIEF

Patents Seminar was reached, which will be put to the Annual General Meeting of the Pan-African Information and Documentation System. The seminar, which is due in March, will be held in Salisbury from 22-26 February 1982 to finalise discussions on the creation of the Southern African Development Information System. The meeting is expected to provide a platform for the discussion of the Pan-African Information and Documentation Systems and to ensure the coordination and dissemination of information.

The PADIS Intergovernmental Meeting was held in Addis Ababa where the PADIS Intergovernmental Steering Committee was established. The committee will advise on the establishment of the PADIS Information and Documentation System and the effective use of patent documents and the effective use of intellectual property laws, the classification of patents, state of the art searches based on the classification of patents, and the establishment of a database of all information required by policy makers, planners and intellectual property laws.

The annual report and constitution of the PADIS Information and Documentation System must be circulated to all members of the PADIS Information and Documentation System and must be approved by the PADIS Information and Documentation System's executive committee. Amongst the Zimbabwe contingent were most of whom were legal practitioners or representatives of their country's office of the Registrar-General. Amongst the Zimbabwe contingent were most of whom were legal practitioners or representatives of their country's office of the Registrar-General.

A Swedish library mission visited Zimbabwe for three weeks in January at the invitation of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Information Sciences. The party comprised of librarians and representatives of bodies interested in library development in Zimbabwe, and included visit to libraries throughout the country. Their visit was arranged by the Swedish Library School at Boras, the Dag Hammarskjold Library in Uppsala and Miss Kirsten Jonsson of the Swedish International Council for Cultural Affairs in Stockholm.

In a very full programme, the party familiarised government officials of the ministry, librarians and representatives of bodies interested in library development in Zimbabwe, and included visit to libraries throughout the country. Their visit was arranged by the Swedish Library School at Boras, the Dag Hammarskjold Library in Uppsala and Miss Kirsten Jonsson of the Swedish International Council for Cultural Affairs in Stockholm.

The PADIS Information and Documentation System is designed to provide ready access to information required by policy makers, planners and intellectual property laws, the classification of patents, state of the art searches based on the classification of patents, and the establishment of a database of all information required by policy makers, planners and intellectual property laws.
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QUALIFIED MRS. CATHY MATHIKA (university OF ZIMBABWE), MR. GOODWELL MOTSI (national archives), AND MRS. JUNE SMITH (Ministry of EDUCATION) HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE HIGHER DIPLOMA IN LIBRARY SCIENCE THROUGH THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH AFRICA.

LITERATURE BUREAU CHIEF RETIRES

WALTER KROG, WHO HAS DIRECTED THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE'S LITERATURE BUREAU FOR 22 YEARS, WENT ON LEAVE PENDING RETIREMENT ON 31 DECEMBER 1981. HE HAS BEEN THE BUREAU'S REPRESENTATIVE AS INSTITUTIONAL MEMBER OF THE MASHONALAND BRANCH OF THE ZIMBABWE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION DURING THIS PERIOD AND HAS GIVEN SEVERAL TALKS TO MEMBERS ON THE WORK OF THE BUREAU.


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WHO'S WHO IN LIBRARIANSHIP AND INFORMATION WORK IN ZIMBABWE

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