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ARCHIVES AFRICAINS

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BIBLIOGRAPHICAL CONTROL OF AFRICAN
MANUSCRIPTS AND ARCHIVES

by Peter Duignan

Two major problems face archivists and librarians before they can achieve anything like adequate bibliographical control over African manuscripts and archives. First, the African archives must collect and organize their local materials. Second, they must gather in copies of the records of African history which are scattered throughout the world. Probably no other peoples have the records of their past so widely dispersed. The full history of Africa can be written only after collecting the writings and records of Arabs, Portuguese, and other Europeans who were once involved with Africa but whose accounts are now stored outside of Africa. These records should be located, organized and inventoried, and microfilms made for the countries of Africa.

In Africa a three-stage operation must be undertaken to ensure good bibliographic knowledge of what is in the archives: development of archival techniques; production of finding aids for making the records known and available to scholars; and provision of bibliographical information on archival finding aids and publications.

The developing of archival techniques starts with training archivists and launching "rescue operations": (a) to collect the records in an archival institution, (b) to prevent the uncontrolled destruction of files, and (c) to safeguard the holdings against physical dangers. After the "rescue operations" the records must be arranged.

Physical arranging, boxing, and ordering of the files take staff and time; unwanted material must be weeded out. Finding aids for "in house" use as well as to serve the researcher are the next step in the process. These services are thus far poorly developed for most of Africa, yet they are essential for bibliographical control. Another duty of archival institutions is, of course, management of current records. Even though researchers may not always use these files, the organization of documents and the elaboration of registry procedures, the weeding out and "birth control" of records, are necessary for efficient management and future use. Here also the position is bad; records management needs to be taught and practised.

The third stage of archival organization is the production of devices for making the records available to scholars and to government. There are various kinds of finding aids and methods to do this. There are unpublished lists that illustrate individual record groups. There are massive inventories in book form that give detailed information on whole collections indicating their provenance, the archives having been arranged "according to their origins in an organic body or an organic activity". Such inventories also furnish information concerning the archival classes (in-letters, out-letters, diaries, etc.), dates covered, number of units, etc. The information contained in these inventories may be summarized in the form of published guides that also give information concerning the history of individual departments and other relevant data. There are calendars providing summaries of documents. There are documentary collections that reprint documents in toto. In all these fields some valuable work has been done; some worthwhile projects are under way. But many deficiencies remain in most parts of Africa.

Finding-aid coverage (i.e., guides, lists, inventories, registers, and calendars) of archival and manuscript holdings in African archives is generally poor. In many countries there are neither published nor unpublished finding aids; in some countries they exist internally in manuscript or typed form; but in only a few countries (Senegal, Guinea, Nigeria, Congo (Kinshasa), Kenya, the Malagasy Republic, Rhodesia, and South Africa) are there published or duplicated inventories. Even these inventories give only partial or fragmentary coverage of the extensive holdings of the respective national archives.

What researchers and government officials need most at this point are guides (superficial ones are better than none) to the holdings of each national archive in Africa. These could then serve as the base for a single survey guide to archival sources throughout Africa. The International Council on Archives (ICA) is proposing such a survey guide in conjunction with UNESCO's "History of Africa Project".

Until trained archivists are available, it is unlikely that we will make much progress in the production of finding aids. The shortage of trained archivists in Africa is extreme. ICA has proposed the establishment of two regional archival training centers, one for English-speaking countries and the other for French-speaking countries. To employ expatriate archivists for the preparation of finding aids would be too expensive; in addition, most archives will need an enormous amount of work in arranging and classifying their records before any finding aids can be prepared. Within Africa therefore, except for a few countries, archival "description" is lagging behind because of the underdeveloped state of African archival institutions and the lack of professional archival personnel. Little improvement is possible until these deficiencies are remedied, and this is obviously a long-term business. The use of expatriates can help, but it is at best a short-term, expensive alternative. Outside Africa the situation is better, not only because more has been done but also because extensive surveys are in preparation.

One can paint too dark a picture, however. Bibliographical sources providing information on archival finding aids, publications, documentary surveys, and recent acquisitions are in reality varied and numerous. Some archives publish reports annually or irregularly; they reproduce their finding aids or calendars or print collections of their documents. Articles in learned journals and special newsletters describe archival holdings or organizations or acquisitions. Comparative reports on archival and library facilities were published in 1959 and 1965. Two major series are surveying the holdings of Europe and the United States to provide guides to the records of African history.

In this paper I should like to describe briefly what has been and is being done in these fields and where current information on archival and manuscript collections is to be found. Finally, I should like to make recommendations to improve the present services.

Part I: Europe and the United States

The major archival survey underway in Europe and the United States at this time is the International Council on Archives (ICA) "Guide to the Sources of African History" outside of Africa. For some years ICA assisted by UNESCO has been sponsoring this multivolume series. Guides have been commissioned for Africa-related materials in France, West Germany, Denmark, Belgium, Holland, Switzerland, Italy, Spain, Portugal, the Vatican, and the United States. These guides will be both comprehensive and detailed. Publication is planned for 1969-70. Additional financing is necessary so that ICA can extend its coverage to every country possessing a significant amount of African sources - e.g., China, India, Brazil, or the Caribbean nations. A similar guide for Great Britain is soon to be published by J.D. Pearson, Librarian of the School of Oriental and African Studies.

Another important series is Guides to Materials for West African History in European Archives (London, Athlone Press, University of London, 1962-). The following in this series have been published:

Materials for West African History in the Archives of Belgium and Holland. By Patricia Carson. 1962. 86 pp. (1,258 items).

Materials for West African History in Portuguese Archives. By A.F.C. Ryder. 1965. 92 pp. (997 items).

Materials for West African History in Italian Archives. By Richard Gray and David Chambers. 1965. 164 pp. (1,480 items).

Materials for West African History in French Archives. By Patricia Carson. (In press).

An older but still useful guide edited by Daniel Thomas and Lynn Case is Guide to the Diplomatic Archives of Western Europe (1959). Specialists wrote each chapter and provided information on the history, scope, arrangement, and condition of materials in the archives. Valuable African-related collections may be located from this source. In 1966 William Jenkins and Frederick Kirk, Jr., published A Preliminary Report on a Survey of the Public Records Depositories of Africa, the Levant and Western Europe, 1963,¹ which includes reports about archives and libraries in Morocco, Senegal, Nigeria, South Africa, Rhodesia, and the United Arab Republic. Arthur Hewitt's Guide to Resources for Commonwealth Studies in London, Oxford, and Cambridge, with Bibliographical and Other Information (1957)² describes in detail the resources of the chief British centers for African studies. See especially the first part, where Hewitt covers public and private archives, papers of chartered companies and other companies, and parliamentary papers. A second part describes individual collections. Some of the resources described furnish material for studies of all parts of Africa. Hewitt cites existing guides, registers, and inventories to collections. Until Pearson's guide is published, this volume remains one of the most useful descriptions of the Africa-related material of any country yet produced.

Since Hewitt's guide appeared, numerous additions have been made to British collections and more specialized guides have come out. Important official guides include: Great Britain, Public Record Office, Guide to the Contents of the Public Record Office: Vol. I, Legal Records, etc.; Vol. II, State Papers and Departmental Records (1963).³ Africa-related materials are found almost entirely in Vol. II, in the records of the Colonial Office, the Commonwealth Relations Office, and the Foreign Office. All records are arranged by region or country, with separate classes for each. The Public Record Office has also issued The Records of the Colonial and Dominions Office (1964) and List of Colonial Office Confidential Print to 1916 (1965). In the latter, Africa is covered on pages 5-85; the work has over a thousand numbered items in 116 volumes of selected correspondence, memoranda, reports, and other documents which range from a single page to several hundred pages.

The Public Record Office has available various Search Room lists - (a) Colonial Office, (b) Foreign Office - and xerox copies of these and other Search Room finding lists can be supplied on request. The following volumes in the Public Record Office's Lists and Indexes series are essential for Africa: no. 36, List of Colonial Office Records (London, 1911); no. 52, List of Foreign Office Records to 1878 (London, 1929); no. 53, Alphabetical Guide to War Office and Other Military Records Preserved in the P.R.O. (London, 1931); and no. 13 in the Supplementary Lists and Indexes: List of Foreign Office Records (1879-1913?) (London, 1966?), 8 vols. (in progress) - Vols. 1-4, General Correspondence; Vol. 5, Various Classes; Vols. 6-8 (?), Embassy and Consular Archives. Various other lists are in preparation, including those for the Board of Trade, War Office, Admiralty, and State Papers.

The Standing Conference on Library Materials on Africa (SCOLMA) has since 1962 produced Library Materials on Africa: Newsletter. This bulletin is largely concerned with descriptions of library and archival collections on Africa and is an excellent source for current information on holdings and recent acquisitions as well as descriptions of older collections. The Conference has also published The SCOLMA Directory of Libraries and Special Collections on Africa, compiled by Robert Collison (2nd edition, London, 1967, 92 pp.), a very useful directory of about 155 libraries, archives, institutes, government depositories, etc., in the United Kingdom which hold African materials or do research. It supplements Hewitt's Guide to Resources for Commonwealth Studies, but

analyses, except in a few cases, are not as informative as in Hewitt. Data are generally confined to name, address, telephone number, name of librarian, visiting hours, and a brief general description of holdings.

The Colonial Records Project of the Oxford Committee for Commonwealth Studies has since 1963 been trying to collect the diaries, papers, correspondence, etc., of people who have lived and worked in Africa in any capacity be it as missionary, merchant, government official, or traveler. An Annual Report of the Oxford Colonial Records Project is issued. In 1965, the Project approached 3,200 possible contributors but 6,000 names yet remained to be contacted. The 1966 report lists more than 400 additions to the Rhodes House Library, Oxford. Notes on acquisitions are issued irregularly and are listed at the end of each annual report. The Project is producing name lists, lists of papers received, and inventories or registers of papers and collections. It is hoped from these individual registers to produce a full descriptive catalogue of all the Project's archival and manuscript materials. (See paper by Louis B. Frewer, The Provision of Raw Materials for African History, submitted to this conference.)

Parenthetically, the SCOLMA Newsletter in 1964 carried a survey of African archival and manuscript collections in the Rhodes House Library. Rhodes House issues irregularly an accessions list of manuscripts or copies of manuscripts received, a most important bibliographic source of information. The article in the Newsletter shows the richness and variety of the holdings of Rhodes House but also indicates how far afield the staff goes to collect all material dealing with the British Empire, i.e., filming private collections in South Africa or the United States. Since it is also housing the Oxford Colonial Records Project material, the Rhodes House reports, accessions lists, and inventories are one of the most valuable continuing sources for information on African archival and manuscript collections.

Another inventory of an archives and manuscript collection in Great Britain is: Richard Hill, "The Sudan Archive, School of Oriental Studies, University of Durham, England," Africana Newsletter (Stanford, Calif., Hoover Institution), v. 1, no. 4, 1963: 40-41.

There is also an index for the Church Missionary Society Archives in London prepared possibly in 1960. Listed are papers of the West Africa (Sierra Leone) Mission, 1803-1914, the Yoruba Mission, the Niger Mission, and the Nyanza Mission, plus other missions, i.e., the Tanganyika, Northern Nigeria, Ruanda, South Africa, and East Africa missions. Entries cover letters and journals from missionaries and government officials, minutes of committee meetings, correspondence, treaties, petitions, proclamations, and ordinances. Included are papers of Samuel Crowther, Thomas B. Macaulay, William Balfour Baikie, and Alexander M. Mackay.

For Belgium the Archives, bibliothèques et musées de Belgique is the standard professional serial for library and archival matters in Belgium. Full coverage is given to material on the former Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi. Official inventories include Ministère du Congo Belge et du Ruanda-Urundi, Document Note: Stanley au Congo, a facsimile report prepared by C. Notte, Archivist of the Independent State of the Congo, from the administrative records of Stanley's two expeditions into the Congo.⁵ The Academie Royal des Sciences d'Outre-Mer (formerly the Institut Royal Colonial Belge) in its Bulletin des séances and Mémoires has published numerous articles and surveys about manuscript collections and archives for the period of the Congo Free State and the Belgian Congo.⁶ Several Belgian Congo archives are discussed by Roger Anstey in the Journal of African History (v. 2, no. 2, 1961: 324-326).

From 1958 to 1961 the Belgian National Foundation for Scientific Research surveyed British libraries and archives for material on the Congo. Three volumes listing the material filmed were published in 1961. At the School of Oriental and African Studies (London) letters were micro-filmed from the Mackinnon Papers; at the British Museum material was copied from the Gladstone and Dilke Papers. The Public Record Office

was searched for documents and Confidential Prints for the period 1866-1903, and the London School of Economics provided copies of the E.D. Morel Papers.⁷

In France the Répertoire des bibliothèques d'étude et organismes de documentation (1963)⁸ is a useful reference tool listing 2,382 research collections and libraries in France. Under the general heading of Africa more than thirty research collections are given. The quarterly Gazette des archives, the organ of the Association Amicale Professionnelle des Archivistes Français, contains occasional articles or notes on archives of French-speaking Africa.⁹

Another valuable but unpublished detailed guide to the Africa holdings of the Archives of the Overseas Ministry of France appeared in typescript in 1962. Copies are held by Mr. Laroche in Paris and Mr. Maurel in Dakar. The inventory is organized first for Africa general by subject, i.e., explorations, diplomacy, personnel, with the date and contents of each file given; then there are breakdowns for the major regions (French West Africa, French Equatorial Africa) and for the countries within each region. The contents of each dossier are briefly described and the inclusive dates provided.

Articles on German African holdings occasionally appear in Archivalische Zeitschrift, Der Archivar, and Archivmitteilungen. P. Markov in "West African History in German Archives," Journal of the Historical Society of Nigeria (v. 2, no. 4, Dec. 1963: 602-605), outlines the holdings in the German Federal Republic (the Bundesarchiv at Koblenz and the local archives of Hamburg, Bremen and Emden) and in the German Democratic Republic (the archives at Merseburg, the Geographische Gesellschaft in Gotha, and the central archives at Potsdam).

The best surveys of German Africa-related materials have been done in the United States as a result of acquiring the captured German Foreign Ministry Archives. The defeat of Germany in 1945 made available to scholars archival collections of the greatest importance. Most of the captured records were shipped to England or the United States, where they were microfilmed and indexed. Among the materials are the archives of the German Foreign Ministry (Auswärtiges Amt), referred to in the following two guides: American Historical Association, Committee for the Study of War Documents, Catalogue of Files and Microfilms of the German Foreign Ministry Archives, 1867-1920, continued by the U.S. Department of State, Historical Office, A Catalog of Files and Microfilms of the German Foreign Ministry Archives, 1920-45, 3 vols., compiled and edited by George O. Kent.¹⁰ For African affairs the first-named catalogue lists almost a hundred pages (pp. 726-812) of primary sources.

During World War II the German Foreign Ministry published a volume of Völkerrechtliche Dokumente über Afrika (1942) using papers from the Belgian and French foreign ministry archives. An Index of Microfilmed Records of the German Foreign Ministry and the Reich's Chancellery Covering the Weimar Period, prepared by the Committee on War Documents of the American Historical Association and published by the National Archives and Records Service (Washington, 1958), contains some files about Africa.

The archives for Portugal's overseas territories - Arquivo Histórico Ultramarino, Lisbon (formerly known as the Arquivo Histórico Colonial) - contain the papers of the important overseas council from 1643 to 1833 as well as the papers of the colonial offices which succeeded the council. For the history of Portuguese diplomatic affairs and involvement with other nations in Africa these archives are indispensable.

A brief description of the main archives, libraries, and institutes - fourteen in Lisbon and two in other cities of Portugal, six in Angola, Mozambique, and Portuguese Guinea - appeared in "Documenting Portuguese Africa: Archives, Libraries, and Institutes," Africana Newsletter (v. 1, no. 3, 1963: 19-24). Also cited are sources in Rhodesia, England, Germany, and the United States dealing with Portuguese Africa.

This writer knows little about Spanish and Italian collections on Africa. Two items of interest are María Asunción Val, "El archivo y biblioteca de la Dirección General de Plazas y Provincias Africanas, posible base para un centro de documentación de Africa," Revista de archivos, bibliotecas y museos (Madrid) (v. 65, 1958: 123-128), and Guillermo Guastavino Gallent, El desarrollo de las bibliotecas y de los archivos en Africa (Madrid, Dirección General de Archivos y Bibliotecas, 1962, pp. 38-41). Gallent, formerly director of the Library and Archives of the Spanish Protectorate of Morocco, has published a number of articles relating to the facilities under his charge. The Institute of Historical Research of guides to West African sources does cover Italy; see Richard Gray and David Chambers, Materials for West African History in Italian Archives (1965).

United States links with Africa have been close not only because of the slave trade but also because Americans as explorers and missionaries, frontiersmen and soldiers, tobacco farmers and mining engineers played a role in the history of the continent. Yet the history of American involvement in Africa to be found in a variety and quantity of archival and manuscript materials is inadequately known. Because of the extent of American commercial, missionary, philanthropic, scientific, and governmental contacts with Africa since 1619 the resources are many. The Handbook of American Resources for African Studies (1967)¹¹ is the first attempt to describe in detail these holdings. Descriptions of African materials are given for 95 library and manuscript collections, 108 church and missionary libraries and archives, and 4 business archives. A long article describes the extensive Africa-related material in the National Archives. An especially valuable part of that essay is a detailed inventory compiled by E.J. Alagoa of "Records of the United States Diplomatic and Consular Posts in West Africa, 1856-1935".¹²

Also useful for locating African material in the United States is P. Hamer's A Guide to Archives and Manuscripts in the United States (1961) and The National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections (1962-66).¹³

The United States national volume of the International Council on Archives "Guide to the Sources of African History" outside of Africa is being prepared by Mr. Morris Rieger of the National Archives. Mr. Rieger will attempt a comprehensive coverage of African archival and manuscript materials held by all government and nongovernment bodies and private persons if they are in depository custody.

In summary, considerable effort is now being devoted to the production of finding aids to sources outside of Africa; by 1970 most of this work will have been published. Still many gaps will remain, and one would hope to see other former colonial powers follow the example of the Oxford Colonial Records Project in collecting and inventorying the records dealing with their colonial past.

Part II: Africa

Within Africa archival "description" lags far behind because of the poverty of African archival institutions and the lack of professional archival personnel. To remedy this will take time. Nevertheless a great deal has been done and much work is underway.

The first good survey of African archives was by T.W. Baxter, Archival Facilities in Sub-Saharan Africa (1959). This report listed twenty-seven governmental archives in Africa and described how they were organized, the scope of their holdings, available finding aids, etc.

Philip Curtin wrote an article for the Journal of African History in 1960 which gave brief descriptions of the organization, problems, and holdings of archives in Senegal, Mauritania, the Ivory Coast, Cameroun, Guinea, Soudan, Togoland, Niger, Dahomey, former French Equatorial Africa,

Nigeria, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Gambia, Zanzibar, Kenya, Tanganyika, Uganda, Sudan, Congo (Leopoldville), Portuguese Guinea, Ethiopia, and Ruanda-Urundi. Miss Helen Conover of the Library of Congress produced a most useful bibliography on African Libraries, Book Production and Archives: A List of References in 1962.

Surveys of African archives have appeared in the Africana Newsletter, v. 1, nos. 1, 3, 4, 1963, and v. 2, no. 1, 1964. Brief descriptions of the organization and content of the archives of Cameroun, Gambia, Sierra Leone, the Rhodesias and Nyasaland, Madagascar, Réunion, and Senegal were given. In 1965 in the African Studies Bulletin (New York) an excellent survey by G. Wesley Johnson described the archival system of former French West Africa. Also in 1965 appeared E.W. Dadzie and J.T. Strickland, Directory of Archives, Libraries and Schools of Librarianship in Africa.¹⁴ Information is given on thirty-six archival institutions and includes date of foundation, staff, subjects covered, and date of oldest record and series of records held. Details are provided on the existence of catalogues, inventories, guides, registers, etc., and whether or not these were published and available or were just for internal use. Of the thirty-six archives responding, at least twenty-three indicated that they had some catalogues or guides or inventories, though most implied these finding aids were only for internal use.

Since information about African finding aids and descriptions of archives is so difficult to come by, I am preparing as a separate document a selection of the more important ones. These can be considered as no more than illustrative; the list is arranged by region with subgrouping by country. Clearly a published list of all such existing finding aids and a bibliography of published articles, pamphlets, books, and calendars dealing with archives and manuscripts should be compiled and printed. The items mentioned in this paper could, it may be hoped, form the basis for such a volume. It appears, at least from the published literature, that only Senegal, Nigeria, the former Belgian Congo, Rhodesia, the Malagasy Republic, the Mascarenes, and South Africa are reasonably well off in staff, organization, and the production of finding aids. Ghana, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Kenya, Zambia and Malawi, Tanzania, Uganda, the Sudan, and Angola and Mozambique appear to have the infrastructure for archival work but lack personnel and money to collect and organize material and to prepare adequate guides to their holdings.¹⁵

Another kind of finding aid is a documentary survey. The publishing of historical documents in the original or in translation or in both forms is the last stage in the archival process which started with the gathering and organizing of material, the production of inventories and calendars, and finally the selection and publication of some of these important records. G. Theal's great nine-volume Records of South-Eastern Africa gave South Africa an early lead among African countries in this kind of work. The Van Riebeeck Society since 1918 in its Publications series has printed substantial volumes, mostly of manuscript records. The most important series of publications based on South African archival sources is Archives Year Book for South African History (Pretoria, Government Printer, 1938-). It consists of original contributions in Afrikaans, English, and Dutch, based on South African archival sources.

Rhodesia followed the South African example. Work first began when Professor J.P.R. Wallis, formerly of Pretoria University, joined the Archives as editor during the Second World War. With generous financial help from the late Sir Ernest Oppenheimer, the Archives then produced the Oppenheimer Series, 1945-56, mainly edited by Professor Wallis. At the time of its completion the series numbered nine separate publications in thirteen volumes. The series published the journals and letters of European missionaries, explorers, traders, and empire builders - men such as the Rev. Robert Moffat, Dr. David Livingstone, Thomas Leask, and John Smith Moffat - covering European penetration into Central Africa during the nineteenth century. A new series, the Robin Series (no. 1-, 1960), carries on this important work of publishing edited versions of original manuscripts and diaries.

The Archives also sponsored a major scheme for the publication of Portuguese documents bearing on Portuguese penetration into what is now the northern part of Mozambique and of Zambia and Rhodesia and Malawi. Dr. Eric Axelson initiated the project, which involved researches in archives and libraries in Europe and also in Goa. Work continued under the supervision of Professor A. da Silva Rego of the Higher Institute for Overseas Studies in Lisbon. Several volumes have already been published in a Portuguese-English edition under the English title Documents on the Portuguese in Mozambique and Central Africa, 1497-1840, National Archives of Rhodesia and Nyasaland and Centro de Estudos Históricos Ultramarinos, Lisbon. Further volumes will be published as editorial work is completed

Elsewhere in Africa this kind of work apparently has been left to individual scholars unsponsored by governments or corporations. From among scores of valuable collections reference should be made to the Hakluyt Society which has long published source works, some of which deal with Africa, e.g., Charles Beckingham and G.W.B. Huntingford (editors and translators), Some Records of Ethiopia, 1593-1646.

A few more examples might be mentioned: G.S.P. Freeman-Grenville (editor), The East African Coast: Select Documents from the First to the Earlier 19th Century (London, Oxford University Press, 1962, 314 pp.); G.E. Metcalfe (editor), Great Britain and Ghana: Documents of Ghana History, 1807-1957 (London, T. Nelson, 1965, 779 pp.); and C.W. Newbury (editor), British Policy towards West Africa: Select Documents, 1786-1874 (London and New York, Oxford University Press, 1965, 656 pp.).

In the United States, in addition to the recent reissuing of the massive Documents Illustrative of the History of the Slave Trade to America, edited by Elizabeth Donnan, a new source of historical records has been mined by N. Bennett and G. Brooks, Jr., in New England Merchants in Africa: A History through Documents 1802 to 1865 (1965).

Part III: Current Sources of Information

The study of African history still presents an immense task to bibliographers and historians alike. There is an urgent need for one or several bibliographies of past documentary publications and of work in progress. Such bibliographies might well be prepared by candidates working for advanced degrees in library science. In addition, historians of Africa require full documentary collections. These should cover not only the colonial period but also, as far as possible, the precolonial epochs. One hears of plans to publish Hausa, Fulani, and Swahili documents or to collect, annotate, and translate the writings of important African leaders such as Dan Fodio. Many such projects are mentioned in the Research Bulletin of the Centre for Arabic Documentation, Ibadan. Great documentary collections of this kind would provide for the new African scholarship the impetus given to medieval German and English history respectively by the Monumenta Germaniae Historica and Bishop Stubbs's Select Charters.

In addition, there is a great need for published guides such as Central African Archives (now National Archives of Rhodesia), A Guide to the Public Records of Southern Rhodesia under the Regime of the British South Africa Company, 1890-1923 (1956), which is now about to be published in a new and up-to-date edition. The Rhodesian guide can serve as a model for other publications of this kind.

Whereas the preparation of such guides will generally have to be left to professional archivists, historians might play a more active part in the preparation of calendars. In the past many erudite men first made their names in the preparation of such works. Today young scholars are generally reluctant to embark on the preparation of similar calendars, much to the loss of historical learning. Faculties of history at academic institutions might assist both the progress of scholarship at

large and the training of their postgraduate students by encouraging them to prepare scholarly calendars in place of Ph.D. dissertations. Again an impending Rhodesian publication could serve as a model. This is to be called A Calendar of the Historical Manuscripts Collection of the National Archives of Rhodesia. It will cover all the holdings in the Historical Manuscripts Collection, that is to say, it will describe all material of non-official provenance in the Archives, including political papers, records of commercial companies, missionary material, and papers of clerical organizations, African associations, and other private bodies, as well as papers of individual settlers and Africans which are deposited in the Archives. The entries for each individual collection will contain: a biographical sketch of the person who produced the papers in question or, alternatively, a historical note on the institution which produced the papers; a general description of the papers (origins, dates covered, approximate volume, etc.); a selective calendar of the material in question; and editorial notes. Both the Guide and the Calendar might well serve as models for other African archives.

Current information on African, American, and European archives and manuscript collections dealing with Africa are scattered through scores of journal and specialist publications. A few African archives put out annual reports or occasional publications to describe their holdings (see Appendix A for a partial list of such publications). But one has to look in an inordinate number of publications and in the most unlikely places to make discoveries about the records of Africa. Who among us regularly scans the acquisitions lists or "in house" library bulletins of the world! Yet in such places are to be found the inventories of Africa-related material. To illustrate - The Library of the University of Oregon (United States) publishes a little newsletter Call Number; in its spring issue of 1961 appeared a description of the 468 letters and documents of Lt. Lieven Van de Velde dealing with the establishment of the Congo Free State. To have discovered the "Inventory of the Hans Cory Papers" (former Ethnographer to the Government of Tanganyika) you would have had to be reading the Library Bulletin and Accessions List of the University College, Dar es Salaam.

The need to coordinate and consolidate information on African archival and manuscript materials has long been necessary. Perhaps this conference can suggest ways to solve the problem. Meanwhile I recommend that you keep watching for the publication of archival and manuscript finding aids and guides and scanning at least some of these more important sources: Africana Newsletter (1962-64; Stanford, Calif.); African Studies Bulletin (New York); Bulletin of the African Studies Association of the United Kingdom (Birmingham); American Archivist (Menasha, Wis.); Archives, bibliothèques et musées de Belgique (Bruxelles); Archives (journal of the British Records Association, London); Archivum: Revue internationale des archives (Paris); Gazette des archives (Paris); Library Literature (New York); Library Science Abstracts (London); S.A. Argiefblaad. S.A. Archives Journal (Pretoria); and UNESCO Bulletin for Libraries (Paris).

The Standing Conference on Library Materials on Africa (London) produces Library Materials on Africa: Newsletter which has information on archival and manuscript holdings and acquisitions. Similar data are found in the Royal Commonwealth Society Library Notes and the Rhodes House Library Accessions List. Also useful are the various library association journals like the former WAIA News, bulletin of the West African Library Association (Ibadan, Nigeria), changed in 1964 to two bulletins, of the Ghana Library Association and the Nigerian Library Association respectively. The East African Library Association Bulletin, started in 1962 as a quarterly, gives some data on archival and manuscript records. In addition, the SCAUL Newsletter (1965-), issued by the Standing Committee on African University Libraries, occasionally has references to manuscript acquisitions.

Then, too, one should not ignore articles or news and notes sections of journals like the American Historical Review, Bulletin de Madagascar,

Bulletin des séances of the Académie Royale des Sciences d'Outre-Mer, Journal of African History, Journal of the Historical Society of Nigeria, Research Bulletin of the Centre of Arabic Documentation (Ibadan), Bulletin d'I.F.A.N. (Dakar), Tanganyika Notes and Records, and Uganda Journal, to list but a few sources.

Part IV: Recommendations

The resources which the new African as well as the former metropolitan states are likely to devote to the study of African history will obviously be limited. American scholarly bodies or foundations can help, but even they will have only a restricted amount of money to spend. I cannot at this stage go into the question of priorities. But speaking in general terms, I should like to suggest the following as what might be called an "optimum program". We should:

1. Encourage (a) the formation of archives and the collection of government and private records; (b) the issuing of annual or occasional reports by archives; (c) the duplication of finding aids; (d) the publication of surveys of documentary collections.

2. Speed up the training of African archivists, manuscript librarians, and archival personnel. Support the International Council on Archives (ICA) program to establish two regional archival training programs. Seek funds to send some Africans overseas to be trained. Employ temporarily more short-term expatriate archivists to get started on the work of collecting, organizing, and arranging materials. Use university students as part-time help. Request visiting research scholars to do some archival sorting or organizing and encourage them to produce finding aids.

3. Increase finding-aid coverage (i.e., guides, lists, inventories, calendars, and registers). There is a need for rudimentary guides to holdings of each national archive in Africa. This could be made the base for a single guide to archival sources throughout Africa. European government archives should be requested to do more work inventorying their African material. Only Great Britain, Belgium, and the United States have done significant work in this field.

4. Publish an expanded and updated version of Baxter's Archival Facilities in Sub-Saharan Africa. Such a guide should give detailed descriptions of available finding aids and archival manuscript collections and should outline work in progress or planned. A bibliography should be part of such a study and should cover all books, articles, reports, and surveys written about African archives in Africa. A companion volume to this survey should be a bibliography of books, articles, reports, surveys, and finding aids dealing with Africa-related collections outside of Africa. A third possibility is a bibliography of all documentary publications like the Van Riebeeck Society's Publications or the Oppenheimer Series.

5. Encourage librarians, archivists, scholars, etc., to write notes or survey articles for local, national, and international journals, library bulletins, African association newsletters, or the like about new acquisitions, or production of finding aids, or work in progress dealing with African materials. Individuals in each African nation and in countries with Africa-related materials should be encouraged to scan the wide variety of publications necessary to keep abreast of archival and manuscript developments even in their own countries and to prepare yearly summaries of their findings. The approach of the SCOLMA Newsletter or the African Studies Bulletin (of the United Kingdom and of the United States) should be adopted in Africa by existing library journals or new ones to give periodic reports on these matters and to describe archives.

Cooperation within each country could lead to regional exchange of information and, it is hoped, to continental and then worldwide reporting. A world center or data bank with an annual listing of the year's work in archives and manuscript collections concerned with Africa is not an impossibility. If someone in each region in Africa, in each country of Europe, and in the United States could gather the data and report his findings to a central place, the problem of finding out what has been done would be solved. Such an annual survey could be published continually by one organization or could be published on a rotating basis by various learned associations or African programs.

6. Request the Oxford Colonial Records Project to issue an up-to-date list of its holdings on Africa rather than wait for a full descriptive catalogue.

7. Encourage all former colonial powers to form similar colonial records retrieval projects and to produce finding aids for such records.

8. Propose a microform program that would copy the records of Africa held abroad and have them sent to the relevant African state or deposited in regional centers. Scholarly associations in Europe and the United States should encourage depository bodies with such material to film it for African archives.

9. Support the ICA in its quest for funds to extend its coverage to every country with a significant amount of African sources.

Footnotes

¹ William Jenkins and Frederick Kirk, Jr., A Preliminary Report on a Survey of the Public Records Depositories of Africa, the Levant and Western Europe, 1963 (Chapel Hill, Bureau of Public Records, University of North Carolina, 1966).

² Arthur Hewitt, Guide to Resources for Commonwealth Studies in London, Oxford, and Cambridge, with Bibliographical and Other Information (London, Published for the Institute of Commonwealth Studies, University of London, by the Athlone Press, 1957), 219 pp.

³ Great Britain, Public Record Office, Guide to the Contents of the Public Record Office: Vol. I, Legal Records, etc.; Vol. II, State Papers and Departmental Records: revised and extended to 1960 from the Guide by the late M.S. Giuseppi (London, H.M.S.O., 1963), 249, 410 pp.

⁵ Belgium, Ministère du Congo Belge et du Ruanda-Urundi, Document Notte: Stanley au Congo, 1879-1884 (Bruxelles, 1960), 206 pp.

⁶ Some Belgian archival and manuscript surveys which have been published include:

Académie Royale des Sciences d'Outre-Mer (formerly Institute Royal Colonial Belge and Académie Royale des Sciences Coloniales).
Bulletin des séances. v. 1-25, 1930-54; n.s. v. 1- 1955-

Bulletin, v. 24, nos. 2-4, 1953:

Charles, P. "Archives historiques de l'Institut Royal Colonial Belge." No. 2: 471-473.

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_____. "Dossier relatif aux explorations congolaises: Lettres Livingstone et explorations Vangele." No. 3: 931-935.

Guebels, L. "Rapport sur le dossier J. Greindl." No. 2: 583-619.

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_____. "Rapport sur le dossier: Expédition Lemaire, 1902-1903." No. 3: 905-930.

_____. "Dossier relatif aux explorations congolaises: Documents rassemblés par M.L. Verriest." No. 3: 936-941.

Stengers, J. "Rapport sur les dossiers: Correspondance Léopold II - van Eetvelde." No. 2: 474.

Léopold II - de Cuvelier. No. 3: 824-837.

Léopold II - Liebrechts. No. 3: 838-839.

Léopold II - Strauch. No. 4: 1193-1209.

_____. "Rapport sur les dossiers relatifs aux territoires cédés à bail." No. 2: 575-582.

_____. "Rapport sur les dossiers relatifs aux conventions diplomatiques de l'Etat du Congo (1884-1906)." No. 3: 942-946.

_____. "Rapport sur les dossiers: Reprise du Congo par la Belgique et Dossier économique." No. 4: 1210-1226.

Bulletin, v. 25, No. 2, 1954:

Luwel, Marcel. "Inventaire des archives historiques du Musée Royal du Congo Belge à Tervuren": 799-821.

Vandewoude, E. "Les archives du personnel d'Afrique de 1877 à 1918": 615-651.

Bulletin, n.s. v. 3, No. 2, 1957:

Walraet, Marcel. "Inventaires d'archives et publications de textes": 359-373.

Account of four years' activity of the Commission d'Histoire du Congo to produce an inventory of archives.

Bulletin, n.s. v. 4, No. 2, 1958:

Heyse, Théodore. "A propos d'un inventaire des archives des territoires du Congo et du Ruanda-Urundi": 271-286.

Grieken, Emile van, and Madeleine van Grieken-Taverniers. Les archives inventoriées au Ministère des Colonies. Bruxelles, 1958. 69 pp. (Académie Royale des Sciences d'Outre-Mer, Classe des sciences morales et politiques, Mémoires in-8^o, n.s. v. 12, fasc. 2). Bibliography: pp. 66-69.

"Les archives de l'Etat indépendant du Congo" is by E. van Grieken, "La Commission d'Histoire du Congo et les archives historiques de l'Institut Royal Colonial Belge" by M. van Grieken-Taverniers.

Grieken-Taverniers, Madeleine van. "L'histoire de l'Etat indépendant du Congo et les archives du Ministère du Congo Belge et du Ruanda-Urundi." Archives, bibliothèques et musées de Belgique, v. 30, no. 1, 1959.

_____. Inventaire des archives des affaires étrangères de l'Etat indépendant du Congo et du Ministère des Colonies, 1885-1914. Bruxelles, 1955. 125 pp. (Académie Royale des Sciences Coloniales, Classe des sciences morales et politiques, Mémoires in-8^o, n.s. v. 2, fasc. 2).

Heyse, Théodore. "L'Académie Royale des Sciences Coloniales et l'ancien Congo." Archives, bibliothèques et musées de Belgique, v. 29, no. 1, 1958.

On sources for history of the Congo.

Luwel, Marcel. Inventaire: Papiers Jules Cornet, géologue (1865-1929). Tervuren, Musée Royal de l'Afrique Centrale, 1961. 100 pp. Polycopie. (Inventaire des archives historiques, No. 1).

7 Fonds National de la Recherche Scientifique, Inventaire des micro-films de papiers privés relatifs à l'histoire du Congo conservés à la "School of Oriental and African Studies" de l'Université de Londres et au "British Museum" (Bruxelles, 1959?), 18 l.; idem, Inventaire des

microfilms des documents relatifs à la histoire de la Belgique et du Congo conservés au "Public Records Office" à Londres, 1866-1903 (Bruxelles, 1959?), 57 l.; idem, Inventaire des microfilms des papiers Morel, Series A, B, E, F, G, H, I, se rapportant à l'histoire du Congo et conservés à la British Library of Political and Economic Science, London School of Economics and Political Science (Bruxelles, 1961?), 115 l.

8 France, Direction des Bibliothèques de France, Répertoire des bibliothèques d'étude et organismes de documentation (Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale, 1963), 3 vols. in 1, 1233 pp.

9 Three sources surveying African material in French archives are: (1) Bibliothèque Nationale, Département des Manuscrits, Catalogue des manuscrits éthiopiens (Paris, Imprimerie Nationale, 1954), 287 pp.; (2) Carlo Laroche, "Les archives d'outre-mer et l'histoire coloniale française," Revue historique, no. 206, Oct.-Dec. 1951: 213-253 (digest in Archivum, 1952: 180). The author was chief archivist of the former Ministère de la France d'Outre-Mer. In addition to this analytical article, he has written a number of brief descriptions of the current state of the archives which have appeared in the Gazette des archives: n.s. no. 4, 1948: 14-20; No. 23, Jan. 1958: 77-79; No. 28, 1960: 32-33; (3) Etienne Taillemite, "Les archives de la France d'Outre-Mer," Gazette des archives, n.s. no. 22, 1957: 6-22, which gives general information on the archives of the Ministry, with special attention to working tools and to archival enterprises carried out in the Ministry and in overseas territories of recent years.

10 American Historical Association, Committee for the Study of War Documents, Catalogue of Files and Microfilms of the German Foreign Ministry Archives, 1867-1920 (Washington, 1959), 1,290 columns; U.S. Department of State, Historical Office, A Catalog of Files and Microfilms of the German Foreign Ministry Archives, 1920-45, compiled and edited by George O. Kent (Stanford, Calif., Hoover Institution, Stanford University, 1964-66, 3 vols.

11 Peter Duignan, Handbook of American Resources for African Studies (Stanford, Calif., Hoover Institution, Stanford University, 1967), 218 pp.

12 Mr. Alagoa worked in the United States National Archives and prepared this inventory which first appeared in the Journal of the Historical Society of Nigeria, v. 2, no. 1, 1960.

13 Philip M. Hamer, ed., A Guide to Archives and Manuscripts in the United States (New Haven, Yale University Press, 1961), 775 pp. - useful for locating African material in the United States, though unfortunately entries do not always indicate an African relationship.

The National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections, 1959-1961 (Ann Arbor, Mich., J.W. Edwards, 1962), 1061 pp.; 1962 (Hamden, Conn., Shoe String Press, 1964), 532 pp.; Index, 1959-1962 (Hamden, Conn., Shoe String Press, 1964), 732 pp.; 1963-1964 (Washington, Library of Congress, 1965), 500 pp.; 1965 (and) Index, 1963-1965 (Washington, Library of Congress, 1966), 701 pp. The catalogue is compiled by the Library of Congress from reports provided by American repositories. Many American collections with African material are cited. Indexes are full, in one alphabet of names, places, subjects, and historical periods.

14 E.W. Dadzie and J.T. Strickland, Directory of Archives, Libraries and Schools of Librarianship in Africa (Paris, UNESCO, 1965), 112 pp.

15 I operated on the principle that archivists and librarians were tired of answering questionnaires, so I sent none. This survey then is based primarily on published data or personal information. During the conference itself I assume gaps and omissions will be pointed out and the paper can be revised accordingly.

RESUME

CONTROLE BIBLIOGRAPHIQUE DES MANUSCRITS ET DES ARCHIVES AFRICAINS, par P. Duignan

Les bibliothécaires et archivistes africains se heurtent à deux problèmes d'importance majeure: il leur faut rassembler et classer les matériaux locaux; ils doivent également rassembler les exemplaires de documents d'histoire africaine, dispersés à travers le monde.

En Afrique, trois opérations doivent être réalisées: développer les techniques portant sur les archives et former du personnel; élaborer des guides; et enfin fournir de l'information bibliographique sur les guides et publications concernant les archives.

La formation des archivistes, la récupération de documents et leur classement, tout ceci est d'une importance capitale. Les guides sont très insuffisants en Afrique, qu'il s'agisse de catalogues, listes, inventaires, registres, calendriers ou collections documentaires. Trop peu de pays ont publié des guides relatifs à leurs collections. Ce qu'il faut réaliser, ce sont des guides (même superficiels) relatifs aux collections d'archives de chaque état africain. Ils constitueraient la base du guide général aux sources d'archives en Afrique, projeté par l'International Council on Archives (I.C.A.) Tant que nous manquons d'archivistes vraiment formés, il n'y a guère de réalisations à attendre. L'I.C.A. se propose de créer deux centres régionaux pour la formation des archivistes. Néanmoins, malgré toutes les difficultés, beaucoup de travail a été réalisé et beaucoup est fait actuellement en vue de fournir de l'information sur les archives et les manuscrits africains.

Deux grandes études sur les archives sont en cours en Europe et aux Etats-Unis. L'I.C.A. prépare un 'Guide aux Sources de l'Histoire Africaine' hors d'Afrique. Des guides ont été commandés pour la France, l'Allemagne de l'Ouest, le Danemark, la Belgique, la Hollande, la Suisse, l'Italie, l'Espagne, le Portugal, le Vatican et les Etats-Unis. La publication est prévue pour 1969-70. L'autre série est intitulée Guide to Materials for West African History in European Archives. Ont déjà paru les études de la Belgique, de la Hollande, du Portugal et de l'Italie. (Pour la description des autres guides généraux voir le texte.)

En Grande Bretagne, la Standing Conference on Library Materials on Africa (SCOLMA) publie depuis 1962 Library Materials on Africa: Newsletter, c'est une excellente source d'information en ce qui concerne les collections et acquisitions de manuscrits et d'archives. Voir également le SCOLMA Directory of Libraries and Special Collections on Africa (1967). Le Colonial Records Project du Oxford Committee for Commonwealth Studies rassemble depuis 1963 des journaux intimes, correspondances etc. de personnes ayant vécu et travaillé en Afrique. Un rapport annuel est publié, ainsi qu'une liste des acquisitions et des registres. Un catalogue descriptif complet est projeté.

Il n'y a qu'en Belgique où le travail de description et de collection des archives ait été aussi poussé qu'en Grande-Bretagne. Entre 1958 et 1961, la Fondation Nationale Belge pour la Recherche Scientifique a filmé, en Grande Bretagne, des documents portant sur le Congo. L'Académie Royale des Sciences d'Outre-Mer publie régulièrement dans son Bulletin des Séances et ses Mémoires des descriptions de collections d'archives et manuscrits (voir note 6 pour la liste partielle de tels articles. Pour la liste de plusieurs guides européens et américains comportant des descriptions de matériaux africains voir le texte.) Bien que de nombreuses lacunes persistent, on constate un réel effort en vue de faire paraître des guides des sources d'information situées hors d'Afrique. Il faut espérer que d'autres anciennes puissances coloniales suivront l'exemple du Oxford Colonial Records Project en rassemblant et en inventoriant les matériaux qui se rapportent à leur passé colonial en Afrique.

En Afrique même la 'description' des archives marque un retard en raison d'un manque de fonds et de personnel (voir le texte pour une liste choisie de ce qui a été fait dans le domaine de la description des archives et l'élaboration de guides.) Seuls le Sénégal, le Nigéria, l'ancien Congo Belge, le Kenya, la Rhodésie, la République Malgache et les Mascareignes ont travaillé en ce sens.

Le relevé documentaire constitue une forme de guide. La publication de collections de documents historiques est en un sens le dernier stade du processus de constitution d'archives (voir le texte en ce qui concerne les références à ce genre de travaux). Pour couvrir l'histoire africaine on souhaiterait de grandes collections documentaires du genre de Monumenta Germaniae Historica, et il faudrait encourager la constitution. Les historiens et les étudiants qui s'intéressent à l'histoire devraient être poussés également à préparer des catalogues des collections de manuscrits historiques.

Il est très difficile de trouver de l'information courante sur les collections d'archives et de manuscrits portant sur l'Afrique. Seules quelques archives publient des rapports annuels et font connaître leurs guides. Il faut lire une quantité de périodiques et bulletins d'information avant de tomber sur ce que l'on cherche. (Voir le texte pour une liste de plusieurs sources importantes d'information à parcourir.)

Comment améliorer cet état de choses? Plusieurs actions devraient être entreprises:

a) Encourager la formation et le recrutement du personnel des archives et la collection des documents, la publication de rapports, de guides et de collections documentaires.

b) Accélérer la formation d'archivistes africains en appuyant le programme de l'I.C.A. qui prévoit deux centres de formation; envoyer des Africains outre-mer, employer des expatriés pour amorcer des travaux d'archives, engager en ce domaine des étudiants d'université et des chercheurs de passage.

c) Publier d'avantage de guides aux archives en Afrique et en Europe.

d) Publier une version développée et mise à jour de l'ouvrage de Baxter Archival Facilities in Sub-Saharan Africa. Y ajouter une bibliographie des livres, articles, rapports et études sur les archives africaines. Des bibliographies du même genre devraient être élaborées à propos des collections qui se trouvent hors d'Afrique.

e) Encourager les gens informés à écrire des notes ou articles sur les archives et les manuscrits. Par un réseau d'informateurs aux plans régional, national et international, on pourrait créer une banque d'information ou un centre mondial chargé de répandre l'information. Un rapport annuel pourrait alors être publié.

f) Proposer un programme de microfilmage pour reproduire les documents africains retenus à l'étranger et pour les envoyer à chaque état ou à de nombreux centres régionaux.