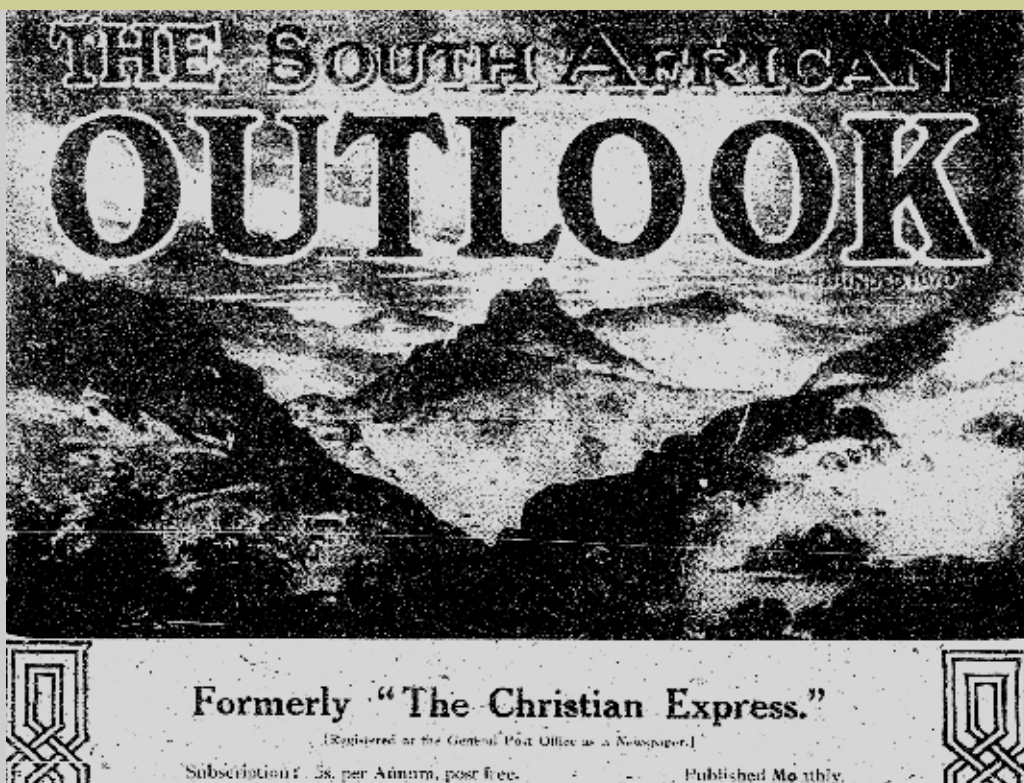


# FOCUS *on Global Resources*

Summer 2010 • Volume 29 • Number 4

## RESOURCES on AFRICA

- World Newspaper  
Archive—African  
Newspapers 2
- On Using the World  
Newspaper Archive 5
- CRL Resources on  
19th-Century Christian  
Missionary Work  
in Africa 8



April 1, 1922 issue of *The South African Outlook* (Lovedale, South Africa), formerly called *The Christian Express*. From CRL's *World Newspaper Archive—African Newspapers*.

### *In This Issue*

This issue of the *Focus on Global Resources* newsletter highlights sources for research on Sub-Saharan Africa, featuring the recently released [World Newspaper Archive](#) collection of digitized African newspapers from the 19th and early 20th centuries. These newspapers, drawn from CRL's own collections, include many titles not found elsewhere that survive today only due to the prescience and efforts of members of the [Cooperative Africana Microform Project](#). CRL's James Simon explores the new research based on these titles, demonstrating the perennial value of this collection.

Ariel Marcus's survey of CRL collections on 19th-century Christian missionary work in Africa reminds us of the impact of the precursors of colonial regimes in the region. For example, Mr. Marcus points out that the London Missionary Society first sent the legendary explorer David Livingstone to South Africa in 1840.

—Bernard F. Reilly, Jr.  
President

## World Newspaper Archive—African Newspapers

**James Simon**

Director, Global Resources Network  
Center for Research Libraries



Cover page advertising in the May 14, 1920 issue of the *Nigerian Pioneer*. From CRL's *World Newspaper Archive—African Newspapers*.

In the [Winter 2008–09 issue of \*FOCUS on Global Resources\*](#), we outlined the goals of the [World Newspaper Archive \(WNA\)](#), a collaborative effort of the Center for Research Libraries (CRL), its partner libraries, and Readex (a division of NewsBank) to preserve and provide persistent electronic access to historical newspapers from around the globe. The program launched in 2008 with the financial and in-kind investment of CRL's member institutions.

In this multi-year and multi-stage endeavor, CRL and affiliates combine expertise and resources to digitize and make available for scholarly use their newspaper holdings from several world regions. The first phase of the effort made content from Latin America accessible, with more than 1 million pages of content from 35 titles produced in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

The WNA's latest module, [African Newspapers](#), was released in January 2010. *African Newspapers* will make available more than 400,000 fully searchable pages of newspapers published in Africa between 1800 and 1922. The module features titles published in Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda, and Zimbabwe. Languages include English, German, French, Portuguese, Afrikaans, Xhosa, Sotho, and others.

WNA Charter Participants, faculty members, and subject experts from the Cooperative Africana Microform Project (CAMP) all recommended titles. The final material, nearly 40 titles in all, was selected for breadth of coverage, diversity of viewpoints, and historical significance.

At the time of this writing, *African Newspapers* contains more than 325,000 pages of content from the majority of intended titles (content continues to be released on a rolling basis). The following list highlights but a few of the titles represented in the archive.

### Eastern Africa

*The East African Standard, Mombasa Times, and Uganda Argus (Mombasa, Kenya) 1903–15.*

Karachi-born A. M. Javanjee founded the *African Standard* in 1902 and sold it to European owners in 1905. This weekly edition featured cable news, items of importance to European settlers, and events of local interest. The *Standard Group* became the dominating force in English-language journalism in East Africa in the early 20th century.

*The Central African Times/Nyasaland Times* (Blantyre, Malawi) 1899–1908, 1911–22.

Local Scotsman R. S. Hynde founded *The Central African Times* to cater to the region's European settlers. After a brief closure in 1908, the paper resumed publishing as the *Nyasaland Times*, including expanded coverage of world events. This title became the main newspaper in Nyasaland (now Malawi) during the colonial era.

## Western Africa

*Gold Coast Leader* (Cape Coast, Ghana) 1902–22.

This highly lauded nationalist title began in 1902 and continued until the early 1930s. Cofounder and editor J. E. Casely Hayford was a prominent activist, journalist, and author of *Ethiopia Unbound*, one of the first West African novels published in English.

*Lagos Weekly Record* (Lagos, Nigeria) 1891–1921.

The *Lagos Weekly Record*, begun in 1890 by Liberian immigrant John Payne Jackson, often criticized British colonization and control of Lagos, and forcefully urged racial consciousness and African nationalism.

*Sierra Leone Weekly News* (Freetown, Sierra Leone) 1884–1922.

Founded in 1884 by J. C. May and E. W. Blyden (widely regarded as the “father of Pan-Africanism”), the title was a major newspaper on the west coast of Africa for more than 60 years.

## Southern Africa

*Leselinyana la Lesutho* (Moriya, Lesotho) 1863–1922.

Founded in 1863, this Sesotho-language title was one of the first newspapers in southern Africa to appear in an African language; it also serialized important authors' work in regional languages.

It was published in Morija as the organ of the Lesotho Evangelical Church, supported by the Paris Evangelical Missionary Society.

*La Cloche* (Tamatave, Madagascar) 1880–92.

This weekly title began publication in 1880 in the city of Tamatave (now Toamasina) and focused on independent reporting, featuring political and literary announcements of interest to a primarily European audience.

*Beira Post* (Beira, Mozambique) 1898–1917.

With publication beginning in 1893–94, and restarting in 1898, the *Beira Post* was the first newspaper published in Mozambique and was written in both English and Portuguese (as *Correio da Beira*).

*O Brado Africano* (Maputo, Mozambique) 1918–22.

João Albasini founded *O Brado Africano*, a successor to the liberal reform paper *O Africano*, in 1918. The weekly title was printed in both Portuguese and Ronga and featured many of Mozambique's young writers.

*Cape Town Gazette and African Advertiser* (Cape Town, South Africa) 1806–26.

Slave dealers Alexander Walker and John Robertson started the *Cape Town Gazette and African Advertiser*, South Africa's first newspaper, in 1800. With articles

in English and Afrikaans, the title was changed briefly in 1803 to *Kaapsche Courant* but the English title was restored in 1806.

***Ilanga Lase Natal (Durban, South Africa) 1903–22.***

The first Zulu/English newspaper, this publication was founded in 1903 by John Dube, the first president of the African National Congress.

***Indian Opinion (Durban, South Africa) 1903–22.***

Founded by Mohandas Gandhi in 1903, *Indian Opinion* advocated for the rights of Indians living in South Africa.

***Tsala ea Becoana/Tsala ea Batho (Kimberly, South Africa) 1910–15.***

Solomon T. Plaatje founded *Tsala ea Becoana* in 1910 (changed to *Tsala ea Batho* in 1912–13). Marketed as a native-owned independent publication, the newspaper contains records of the early meetings of the African National Congress.

***Buluwayo Chronicle (Bulawayo, Zimbabwe) 1894–1922.***

*The Buluwayo Chronicle*, among the earliest press publications in what is now known as Zimbabwe, started in 1894 as a weekly and graduated to a daily (except Sundays) in 1897. It was founded by John William Howard of the South Africa-based Argus Printing and Publishing Company (publishers of the *Rhodesia Herald*, among other titles) and edited by H. S. Hodges.

The *World Newspaper Archive* employs the robust and reliable search-and-discovery platform used by Readex's major newspaper databases: *Early American Newspapers* and *Hispanic American Newspapers*. *African Newspapers* is cross-searchable with these products as well as other modules of the *World Newspaper Archive*.

Thirty-seven [CRL Charter Participants](#) invested in the launch of this phase of the *World Newspaper Archive*, and CRL offers highly favorable rates for those member institutions that request ongoing access. Member investment goes directly back to CRL for additional conversion activity.

CRL guarantees the long-term persistence and continued functionality of the news content for the CRL community. CRL aims to ensure not only persistent access, but CRL member control over the future costs and quality of that access. ❖

*Additional information on this module can be found at:* <http://www.crl.edu/collaborative-digitization/world-newspaper-archive/african-newspapers>.

## On Using the World Newspaper Archive



**James Simon**

Director, Global Resources Network  
Center for Research Libraries

Distinctive masthead of the *Central African Times* (March 7, 1908, Blantyre, Nyasaland). From CRL's *World Newspaper Archive—African Newspapers*.

The Center for Research Libraries has focused a great deal of attention on the library partnership aspects of the *World Newspaper Archive* (WNA). However, the resource is also gaining scholarly attention as access to the resources becomes better known on campus. CRL is interested in learning more about the uses and benefits of WNA among faculty, scholars, and students, as in the following examples:

**Robert Hill** (Professor, Department of History, UCLA) is editing a multi-volume set on the papers of Marcus Garvey, noted journalist, activist, and founder of the Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA). Hill has been able to mine references to Garvey in African newspapers, leading to new resources to cite in the ongoing compilation of Garvey's works.

**Laura Fair** (Associate Professor, Department of History, Michigan State University) has written on the social history of cinema in Tanzania and was able to locate significant references on early cinema houses in East Africa.

**Elias C. Mandala** (Professor, History Department, University of Rochester) has used the *Nyasaland Times* as a source of documentation on the agrarian history of Southern Malawi in his article, "Feeding and Fleecing the Native: How the Nyasaland Transport System Distorted a New Food Market, 1890s-1920s" (*Journal of Southern African Studies* 32, no. 3 [September 2006]: 505-24). He is excited that the newspaper is now available to his university on WNA, and that its inclusion in *African Newspapers* may reveal new insight into the paper.

**Peter Limb** is the Africana Bibliographer at Michigan State University and an Associate Professor (Adjunct) in the History Department, where he teaches courses on the economic, social, and political history of South Africa.

Dr. Limb's interest in the *World Newspaper Archives—African Newspapers* is two-fold: first, as a librarian and representative of the Cooperative Africana Microform Project (CAMP), from which much of the current module's content has been drawn, and second as an African history scholar. Dr. Limb's current research includes the works of African physician and politician A. B. Xuma, women in early African politics, comparative African-Indian nationalism, and a centenary history of the early black newspaper *Abantu-Batho*.

With these research interests in mind, Dr. Limb began to search the WNA collection, first to assess the technical and content quality of the archive, and second as a potential source for his ongoing work. Limb found the database encouraging for both purposes.

“In general, I find the full text capabilities to be very good,” Limb notes. “The OCR [optical character recognition] appears to have worked very well, despite the evidence of poor-quality microfilm for some of the sources.” Many of the newspaper pages appear faded in spots, particularly along gutters and edges of the paper.

Limb also appreciates the features included in the Readex newspaper platform. “The image preview accompanying text searches is useful for interpreting context, particularly when a reference may only be to a last name or a single word of a title.” He cited references to *Abantu-Batho*, where editors of other newspapers would often only include “*Abantu*” as the source of an article from the former. Both the preview function and text highlighting within articles assisted in locating pertinent references to his research topic (“abantu” is a common word meaning “people” in many Southern and Eastern African languages).

Limb’s work on *Abantu-Batho* is part of a scholarly compilation on the history and publication of this important title. Started in 1912 with funding from the *Queen-Regent* of Swaziland, the paper supported the newly formed South African Native National Congress, renamed the African National Congress (ANC) in 1923. *Abantu-Batho* became the official organ of the ANC by 1928 and was a leading African-owned newspaper in South Africa, championing the cause of African nationalism until financial troubles forced its closure in 1931.

Despite its historical importance, only fragmentary issues remain accessible (CAMP holds microfilm for the period April 1930–July 1931). Single copies of *Abantu-Batho* are held by various repositories or individuals in different countries, but the majority of issues from 1912 to 1929 remain elusive. Researchers must search alternative sources for information relating to the publication.

By using the *World Newspaper Archive*, Limb and his colleagues can uncover references to articles (often reproduced wholesale) and letters published by the ANC mouthpiece. Piecing these together, the scholars are beginning to form a more complete publication history of the newspaper, including evidence of a previously undiscovered preview edition of the title. “With *African Newspapers*,” Limb describes, “we’re able to widen the scope of the material we are able to cite and reproduce for the publication, and add to the content of the essays we are producing.”

Aside from keyword searching, Limb finds the ability to browse and move through issues a distinct advantage over text-only databases, particularly for the historian who may not be able to pinpoint what terms to search. Searching the text of a newspaper only provides certain insight into the paper’s history, while full-issue browseability allows users to view the overall structure (advertisements, photographs, letters, and opinions) and content of the title.

Detail from *Africa* by Keith Johnston, F.R.S.E. Engraved & printed by W. & A.K. Johnston, Edinburgh. William Blackwood & Sons, Edinburgh & London, (1861). Courtesy of the David Rumsey Historical Map Collection, [www.davidrumsey.org](http://www.davidrumsey.org).



Dr. Limb sees tremendous potential for *World Newspaper Archive–African Newspapers*, especially as additional content is added. As an advisor for the original selection of titles, Limb and the selection committee found that the availability of early African newspapers was rather “lopsided” in terms of regional balance, language, and political and racial perspectives. The lack of availability is due to the sporadic publishing history of newspapers in Africa in the late 19th–early 20th century, as well as the imbalance of early collecting practices.

Limb states: “Pre-1923, we were not able to find many francophone newspapers. Within collections in the U.S., titles are historically weighted toward only a limited number of countries, such as South Africa, particularly white-owned papers for this early time period.” The editorial policies of white newspaper owners often constrained African editors or journalists, which led some to establish their own newspapers such as *Imvo Zabantsundu*, the first black-owned and -controlled newspaper in South Africa in 1884. Before this date, African-owned papers were rare (although several vernacular publications, such as *Leselinyana La Lesutho*, were aimed at black readership in the 19th century).

CAMP actively seeks to address these imbalances with a new round of title identification, acquisition, and, in some cases, original preservation. “We see this as an opportunity to make accessible titles that are under-represented in contemporary research, including those in African languages with non-Roman script,” Limb explains. “We would love to include titles from Ethiopia in Amharic.” CAMP aims to balance the content between long-running titles and newspapers with short, ephemeral runs.

Limb sees an opportunity to engage with large repositories in Europe with early titles in colonial languages (German, French, Italian, Portuguese), but more importantly with colleagues within Africa itself. “There are many archives in Africa with collections of newspapers in print that are not yet digitally preserved. This could be an opportunity to correct some of the poor-quality images on those papers previously filmed, but also to uncover new content.” The true challenge is in establishing an equitable partnership model between libraries, publishers, and CRL’s commercial partner, Readex. “The majority of African institutions are not able to afford access to content at Northern market price levels, so we should consider how to create partnerships with institutions that have important content.” He notes that scholars are also interested in newspapers published post-1923, some of which still appear, so working with existing publishers is a vital necessity.

Finally, Limb notes, “I can see amazing possibilities for teaching, by linking to primary sources, but we need to brief professors on this.” ♦

*“I can see amazing possibilities for teaching by linking to primary sources.”*

## CRL Resources on 19th-Century Christian Missionary Work in Africa



**Ariel Marcus**

Research Assistant

Center for Research Libraries

Bishop James Hannington's sketch of "a buffalo rushing out the jungle" from *Lion-Hearted: The Story of Bishop Hannington's Life Told for Boys and Girls*, Edwin C. Dawson, E. & J. B. Young & Company (1989), New York. From CRL collections.

Missionary work in central and southern Africa began in the early 19th century, before Europeans had colonized those regions. Missionaries were among the earliest explorers of central and southern Africa. The London Missionary Society sent David Livingstone to South Africa in 1840, where he became one of the first Europeans to traverse the continent. When Europeans began to colonize central and southern Africa toward the end of the century, international coordination featured prominently in both missionary and colonial projects.

Through the [Purchase Proposal Program](#), the Center for Research Libraries has acquired valuable resources for the study of European missionary work and colonial administration. Recent acquisitions include two sets of official correspondence relating to Africa from the Church Missionary Society (CMS), which add to CRL's growing collection of resources from the CMS Archive (including papers relating to missions in India, East Asia, and the Americas).

### **Church Missionary Society Archive. Section VII. Pt. 1–2**

The recently acquired sets from the Church Missionary Society Archive contain the General Secretary's papers relating to Africa from 1847 to 1950. The General Secretary, the highest official within the society, oversaw all of the organization's policy decisions. The CMS sent missions throughout Africa to places as Sierra Leone, Yoruba, Niger, and South Africa. The papers in Part 1 and 2 include topics such as the education of natives and missionaries, alcohol use among Africans, and the maintenance of missions.

### **Church Missionary Society and Bishop James Hannington**

Five years after the Church Missionary Society was founded in 1799, the first two missionaries from the society left for Africa. "At the turn of the [19th] century [CMS] had a staff of 1,300 missionaries, 375 local clergy, 1,000 local agents and teachers and an annual income of the equivalent of £20 million." ([http://www.adam-matthew-publications.co.uk/digital\\_guides/cms\\_section\\_VII\\_parts\\_1\\_and\\_2/Publishers-Note-Part-1.aspx](http://www.adam-matthew-publications.co.uk/digital_guides/cms_section_VII_parts_1_and_2/Publishers-Note-Part-1.aspx))

The Church Missionary Society's Bishop James Hannington was murdered in Uganda in 1886. Hannington was later officially recognized as a martyr. His story exemplifies the various roles missionaries played in the European colonization of Africa. Eight years after Hannington was killed, Uganda became a British Protectorate.

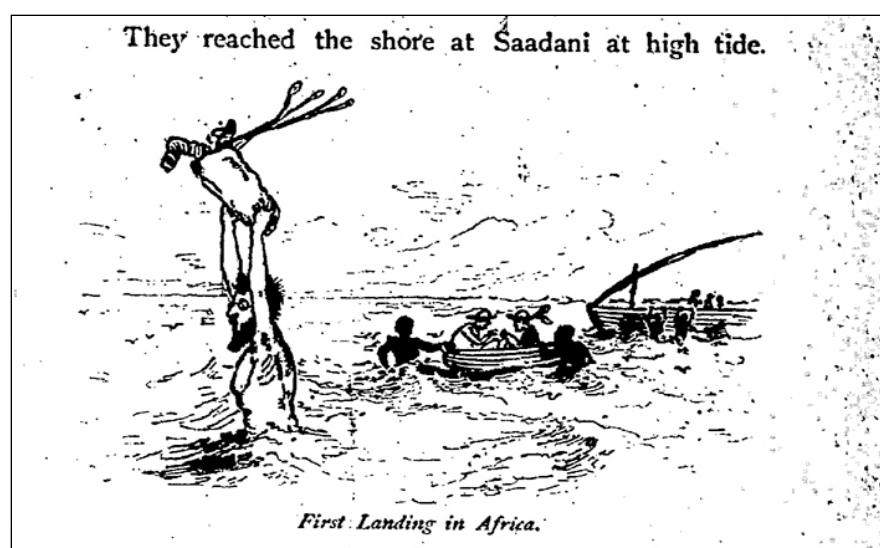


The Cooperative Africana Microform Project acquired the following publications, which were made accessible in digital format by CRL:

- [The Last Journals of Bishop Hannington: Being Narratives of a Journey through Palestine in 1884 and a Journey through Masai-Land and U-Soga in 1885.](#)  
Edwin C. Dawson (1888)
- [Lion-Hearted: The Story of Bishop Hannington's Life Told for Boys and Girls](#)  
Edwin C. Dawson (1889)

Dawson wrote *Lion-Hearted* as a biography of Hannington intended for children, and included the bishop's whimsical poems and drawings. Although mostly fanciful in nature, some of the drawings reinforce racist notions of European dominance over Africans. The book could be used to study notions of instruction in Christian children's literature at the end of the 19th century. The biography also reproduces Hannington's diary entries in the weeks before he was murdered, offering a unique view into European perceptions of missionary work in Africa.

Hannington's sketch of his arrival in Africa from *Lion-Hearted: The Story of Bishop Hannington's Life Told for Boys and Girls*, Edwin C. Dawson, E. & J. B. Young & Company (1889), New York. From CRL collections.



- [Bishop Hannington, a Missionary Hero.](#)

William G. Berry (1935?)

Berry wrote his biography of Bishop Hannington for adults, as he attempts to place the bishop's life in the historical context of Uganda missionary work. He also features Hannington's diaries in large portions of the text. Did the story of Hannington's martyrdom capture the imagination of Europe through his tales of African adventure or his high status in the Church? Dawson's and Berry's biographies could be productively compared. Not only do their audiences differ, but Berry wrote his book more than forty years after Dawson's.

Alexander MacKay, one of the first missionaries to Uganda still present when Hannington was martyred, appears as a key figure in both of these biographies. CRL's digital collections contain several other volumes on Hannington and MacKay:

- [James Hannington: The Merchant's Son who was Martyred for Africa.](#)  
Charles D. Michael (1928)
- [The Story of the Life of MacKay of Uganda: Pioneer Missionary.](#)  
Alexina MacKay Harrison (1900)
- [Uganda's White Man of Work: A Story of Alexander M. MacKay.](#)  
Sophia Blanche Lyon Fahs (1913)

## International Aspects of Missionary Work

Missionary work in Africa operated alongside the economic and political colonization of the continent. Although the Church Missionary Society began in England, two German Lutherans sailed for Africa in 1804 as the society's first missionaries. The missions also united across denominations. For example, a cross-denominational council of missionaries was created at a 1918 conference in Kenya. (Rosemary Keen [http://www.adam-matthew-publications.co.uk/digital\\_guides/cms\\_section\\_VII\\_parts\\_1\\_and\\_2/Editorial-Introduction.aspx](http://www.adam-matthew-publications.co.uk/digital_guides/cms_section_VII_parts_1_and_2/Editorial-Introduction.aspx)) Due to the cooperative nature of missionary work, a comparative study of missionaries from several European countries would be helpful. In addition to the English resources discussed above, CRL provides access to the following materials on colonialism, missions, and missionaries from Germany and France:

### Germany

- [Uganda: Eine Edelfrucht am Missionsbaum der Katholischen Kirche zu Ehren der Seligen Ugandamartyrer.](#)

Matthias Hallfell (1921)

Bishop Hannington was among several missionaries killed during service in Africa. Hallfell discusses the life and death of German Catholic missionaries in Uganda from 1878 to 1918. The circumstances and methodology of missionaries from different countries could be effectively compared on the basis on this book.

### France

- [La Mission Française Évangélique au Sud de l'Afrique: Son Origine et Son Développement jusqu'à Nos Jours.](#)

Théophile Jousse (1889)

Jousse wrote this overview of the origins and development of French missions in South Africa to encourage the influx of more missionaries. He carefully stresses the importance of missionary work within the larger colonization of Africa. Jousse believes that Africans cannot genuinely accept European civilization before they have been converted to Christianity. The work of the missionaries then becomes a necessary precursor to the economic and political colonization of Africa. Although racism taints Jousse's arguments, he still offers interesting commentary on the interplay between religion, culture, and society.

- [Commission Internationale de l'Association Africaine.](#)

International Association for the Exploration and Civilisation of Central Africa (1877)

The missions, like the rest of Europe's project to civilize Africa, depended on international cooperation. The minutes and financial records from an 1877 meeting of the International Association for the Exploration and Civilisation of Central Africa demonstrate how economic and political attempts at colonization in the late 19th century relied on coordination between European states. In a series of appendices to the international meeting, the report contains letters, constitutions, and minutes from eight national chapters of the organization, including Switzerland, Italy, France, Spain, Belgium, and Germany. ❖

**FOCUS on Global Resources**, published quarterly, is compiled by CRL's Communications Department. Gwen Ihnat, Don Dyer, Editors. Special thanks to James Simon, Mary Wilke, and Ariel Marcus. Graphic design services provided by Molly O'Halloran, Inc.

ISSN #: 0275-4924

*Previous FOCUS on Global Resources issues on Africa:*

[England in Africa](#) (Spring 2007)

[Africa Studies](#) (Summer 2004)

### Center for Research Libraries Staff Contacts (800) 621-6044

President  
Bernard F. Reilly x 334  
breilly@crl.edu

Assistant to the President  
Yvonne Jefferson x 319  
yjefferso@crl.edu

Vice President/Director of Programs  
and Services  
Melissa Trevvett x 316  
mtrevvett@crl.edu

Member Liaison and Outreach  
Services Director  
Mary Wilke x 351  
mwilke@crl.edu

Director of International Resources  
James Simon x 324  
jsimon@crl.edu

Director of Technical Services  
Amy Wood x 327  
awood@crl.edu

Director of Information Systems  
Patricia Xia x 341  
pxia@crl.edu

Head, Access Services  
Kevin Wilks x 314  
kwilks@crl.edu

Head, Stack Management  
Patricia Finney x 328  
pfinney@crl.edu

Digital Program Manager  
Virginia Kerr x 265  
vkerr@crl.edu

### Global Resources Program Contacts (800) 621-6044

Director  
James Simon x 324  
jsimon@crl.edu

Project Manager—DSAL Project  
Gerald Hall x 318  
ghall@crl.edu

Project Coordinator—  
Global Resources Network  
Judy Alspach x 323  
jalspach@crl.edu

Project Coordinator—ICON  
Carolyn Ciesla x 315  
cciesla@crl.edu

Project Coordinator—Human Rights  
Sarah B. Van Deusen Phillips x 333  
svandeusen@crl.edu

Communications Specialist  
Gwen Ihnat x 289  
gihnat@crl.edu

### Contact for Information Regarding: (800) 621-6044

Billing/Invoicing/Deposit Accounts  
Accounting Department x 346

Membership/Communications/  
Public Relations/Marketing  
Don Dyer x 317  
ddyer@crl.edu

CRL Publications Orders (non-*FOCUS*)  
Meeting/Schedules  
Yvonne Jefferson x 319

Loans/Photocopies/Demand  
Purchases  
Access Services Department x 314

Microfilm/Microfiche Sales  
Lorraine Farley x 336  
lfarley@crl.edu

Purchase Proposals  
Mary Wilke x 351

Collection Deposits  
Mary Wilke x 351