

## THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF RUSSIA: NEWSPAPER DEPARTMENT

By Alexander Sapozhnikov, Head of the Newspaper Department, National Library of Russia  
Translated by Olga Tkachuk

The history of the National Library of Russia begins in 1795, when Catherine II ordered the Zaluski family's collection of printed materials, which was among the largest European holdings of its

1930s. In 1938, the National Library opened Russia's first newspaper reading room, which was housed next to the newly organised newspaper storage site. In 1950, the Newspaper Department was

sent, this building houses the vast majority of the newspaper holdings collected by the National Library. There are publications in the fifty-plus languages that are spoken throughout Russia, as well as newspapers from abroad in more than fifty foreign languages. Periodicals are kept separately in various thematic collections throughout other parts of the library, and newspapers published in oriental languages are held at a separate site.

The Department also holds over five and a half thousand (5 579) separate Russian-language newspaper titles from

areas ruled by diverse factions, are also immensely valuable. Soviet newspapers are present in full, as their accumulation was mandatory for the entire duration of the regime. At the present time, all periodicals that are printed in the Russian language are collected and archived – including both national and regional publications, as well as smaller ones such as factory newsletters.

From its very conception, the Newspaper Department has done all of the following: receive new arrivals, maintain catalogues, organise and store collection material, research,



*The Russian National Library Building on the Fontanka Embankment. Reproduced by Alexander Sapozhnikov from <http://www.nlr.ru:8101/eng/ser/images/fontain.jpg>*

time, to be brought to St. Petersburg from Warsaw. These works formed the basis of the Imperial Public Library, which opened its doors in 1814 after securing substantial funding. Since 1810, the Library has retained the right to receive copies of all publications from Russian territories. Today the National Library provides public access to these rich resources, and our collection numbers well over 34 million separate publications.

Originally, all the newspapers, journals and books were kept together. The process of separation began during the

officially created in a separate building on the waterfront of the river Fontanka, about a ten minute walk from the Library's main building. 36 Fontanka, the building designated for housing these periodicals, remains one of the architectural gems of St. Petersburg. It was designed by the famous Italian architect Giacomo Quarenghi and completed in 1807. Prior to 1917, it served as an educational facility for young women of the upper classes.

In the years that followed, foreign-language newspapers were also moved to this site from other locations. At pre-

The holdings of the Department are made up by the following linguistic sub-groups:

<i>Newspapers</i>	<i>Individual publications</i>	<i>Annual sets</i>
Russian	436 496	391 594
Ukrainian	70 514	68 450
Belarussian	10 817	9 643
Foreign	51 831	17 980

1728 to 1917, which translates into almost twenty-seven thousand individual publications. This constitutes the most complete collection of this material in the world, and is a particular source of pride for our institution. The collected works that date from the time of the Russian Civil War of 1918-1920, and that were retrieved from many different

and provide easier public access through renewed databases and library services. We receive anywhere from five to six thousand newspaper titles yearly and the reading room contains bibliographical compositions that help researchers navigate their way through this sea of publications to the appropriate newspaper or article. There is a

reading room for up to 43 people that services over twenty-five thousand readers annually. The Department's library also lends out over seven hundred thousand titles every year. Specific copies can also be ordered, and our bibliographers make over five thousand information referrals annually.

The Newspaper Department contains two general catalogues – alphabetized and topographic – that list all of the newspapers in the collec-

catalogue for publications beginning in 1967 that includes personals and obituaries. The reading room provides electronic copies of newspapers, partly available through the library's server, that are accessible on computers throughout the library. There is also a series of electronic databases:

- A catalogue of Russian pre-revolutionary newspapers (1728-1917) – over 5 000 titles

profiling and collating some materials. At the present time, we have recorded over five thousand titles of Russian newspapers. An international partnership with Finland resulted in three hundred and fifty new titles being added to the microfilm collection in 2003-2004. Last August, the viewing of microfilm on equipment provided by Zeutschel was opened to the public.

The Newspaper Division has successfully completed some

fully collated. In the beginning of 2005, we finished a second joint project with the National Library of Finland, which partly consisted of the numeration of over sixty thousand pages of different periodicals. We are currently equipped with a laboratory that houses two newspaper scanners – Zeutschel OS 7000 and SMA GG50 AO.

At present, the Newspaper Department is the most dynamic subdivision of the Na-



above: Pre-Revolution Newspapers  
right: Provincial Newspapers



*The Russian National Library Newspaper Collections.*

Reproduced by Alexander Sapozhnikov from newspapers used as background at <http://www.nlr.ru:8101/eng/nlr/newspaper/paper.html#1>

tion. The reading room permits access to a number of additional card catalogues that are arranged alphabetically and topographically by geographic location and language of origin, and cover all of the newspapers archived since 1946. There is a card

- References to St. Petersburg in various publications – over 120 000 titles
- Current newspapers published in Russia - over 17 000 titles

Our department has been undergoing the large task of mi-

projects that involve the collation of particular newspapers. In one joint effort with the Russian State Library, the country's very first newspaper *Vedomosti* – an innovation of Peter I – has been

tional Library of Russia where growth is stimulated through the use of new technology. We are open to exciting opportunities in international co-operation for various important projects.

**The editor of the *News from the IFLA Section on Newspapers* would like to invite you to submit any articles, announcements, upcoming conferences, and news in general on the topic of providing and preserving access to newspapers and the news in your country or region. Please contact Sandra Burrows at [sandra.burrows@lac-bac.gc.ca](mailto:sandra.burrows@lac-bac.gc.ca) or write to:**

Sandra Burrows, Newspaper Specialist, Library and Archives Canada, 395 Wellington Street, Ottawa, Canada K1A 0N4.

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE I. R. IRAN COUNSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY LIBRARY (ICALIB), THE FIRST OFFICIAL LIBRARY OF IRAN (1906)

By Dr. Freydoon Azadeh Tafresh, Acquisition Department of the Islamic Consultative Assembly Library (ICALIB)

Making decisions based on insight and precise information and getting help from scientific and historical findings is essential for a legislative institution. This had been realized by representatives of the Iranian nation who warmly received the suggestion for the establishment of the Library.

Arbab Keikhosro Shahrokh, representative of the Zoroastrian Society of Iran had an important role in offering and supporting the suggestion. As well, he arranged the appropriate regulation and collecting of donated and purchased books until the official inauguration of the Library in a separate building, under management of Yousef Etesamolmolk.



*Arbab Keykhosrow, representative of the Zoroastrian Society in first period and one of the founders of the Library in 1906. Reproduced by Freydoon Azadeh Tafresh from <http://www.vohuman.org/Article/Keikhosrow%20Shahrokh%20Shahrokh%207.jpg>*

Ever since then, the Library has made a significant impact

as a scientific/cultural centre. In addition to the fulfillment of the information needs of the Legislative Branch, it has served a great number of famous Iranian as well as foreign researchers and hosted university students, instructors and intellectuals.

After reorganizing the library and approving the new charter in December 1996, the library was renamed «The Library, Museum and Documentation Centre of the Islamic Consultative Assembly» under the Board of Trustees headed by the speaker's senior chairman of the Islamic Consultative Assembly.

The Library of the Islamic Consultative Assembly consists of two parts: Library no. 1, with a wider range of subjects and a more general area

of activity and Library no. 2, with a more specialized collection for Iranian and Islamic Studies related to former senate located in the Museum building.

A major portion of the sources has been donated to the library because of the interest of political and cultural figures, publishers and writers, orientologists, domestic and foreign scientific circles.

### *Periodicals Collection:*

Periodicals date back to Naseredin Shah (the king of Qajar) period up to the present time and include 25,000 bound volumes under 5,000 different titles in different fields. They are a rich and unique addition to the national and historical archives of Iran.

## SEYED ASHRAFEDDIN GILANI (*NASIM-E-SHOMAL*) A SATIRICAL POET IN THE GUISE OF A JOURNALIST

By Dr. Freydoon Azadeh Tafresh, Acquisition Department of the Islamic Consultative Assembly Library (ICALIB)



*The old Parliamentary Library Building. Reproduced by Freydoon Azadeh Tafresh.*

*A brief introduction to the publications archive of ICALIB (Islamic Consultative Assembly Library):*

This is one of the four main archives in the world preserving Pharsi language publications. As one of the prominent centres, this archive is preserving confined, periodic, unstable and unique publications. Since 1929, it has unofficially been the most reliable place to keep Iranian printed materials and manuscript sources. Most Iranian and Pharsi language journalists have given their publications

directly or indirectly, to this archive in order to preserve their material for posterity. Therefore, from the very establishment of this library, the periodic publications that were published some decades earlier and were kept in personal libraries and book closets were donated to this library.

During this time, some political, social and critical publications, that had already caused two great social changes (the Constitution Revolution and changing Ghajar dynasty to Pahlavi) were overtly or covertly transferred to this

archive and made it the most important centre for retention of the sources of the pro-democracy wave in Iran as well as in the Orient.



The old Parliamentary Library Reading Room. Reproduced by Freydoon Azadeh Tafresh from <http://www.majlislib.com/images/right/index/8.gif> at <http://www.majlislib.com/INDEX.asp>

### Satirical Journalism

Satirical journalism has been one of the conventional styles of critical literature from the Constitution era to late in the Ghajar era. The beginning of 20th century was a starting point for publishing critical and satirical publications. *Tolo* weekly newspaper, which was a product of earlier half-satirical publications, was published in Bushehr in 1900. But two decades later, the punishment committee assassinated *Matinol Saltaneh*, its manager. *Matinol Saltaneh*, who was founder of Iranian satirical publications, witnessed the publication and confiscation of many critical and satirical publications in his lifetime. The year 1907 was the climax of Iranian critical and satirical publications. At this time, coincidental with the Constitution Revolution, satirical newspapers such as *Ehtiaj*, *Azarbayejan* and *Hashaaratol Araz*, published in Baku under the influence of Molla Nasreddin, began to publish colorful and attractive caricatures.

Despite using local languages (Turkish and Pharsi), these

publications had a universal appeal and looked at world affairs through satire. At the same time, some other satirical publications were publish-

ed in Iran that, with the local language and a strict and satirical look, dealt with Iranian affairs. *Nasim-e-Shomal* was the first publication that illustrated the social and political situation of Iran in a satirical way and made for a huge wave of satirical publications and paved the way for supporting democracy and social change in Iran.

*Bohloul*, *Chanteh*, *Paberehneh*, *Zayandehroud*, *Kashkoul*, *Tashvigh* and lastly *Gol-e-Zard* were among the satirical and rich publications that critically dealt with Iranian matters before World War I. In the same style. After the First World War and the confiscation of all satirical publications, a satirical publication, *Tofigh* magazine, was published in Iran and was considered the result of all earlier publications. It was a weekly published for almost half a century, and was the epitome of Iranian satirical publications, begun by *Nasim-e-Shomal* newspaper.

*Seyed Ashrafeddin and «Nasim-e-Shomal»*

Seyed Ashrafeddin Hosseini Gilani (1870-1934), the man-

ager of the weekly *Nasim-e-Shomal*, is famous for his satirical, critical and political poems. His weekly newspaper witnessed three different periods.

The first period was its activity and publishing in Rasht city. After the occupation of Tehran by the warriors and advocates of the Constitution, and the departure of Seyed to Tehran, the second period of publishing of *Nasim-e-Shomal* began and the first issue was published there. In Tehran, Seyed Ashrafeddin Hosseini Gilani kept following the same style he had in Rasht (north of Iran) and criticized the conditions governing Iran with his poems. The third period of its 15th year publication in Tehran began from the death of Seyed by a man named Harirchian Sae. The



*Seyed Ashrafeddin Gilani, the manager, editor, writer, singer and composer of the poems of the «Nasim-e-Shomal» newspaper. Reproduced by Freydoon Azadeh Tafresh*

third period apparently was continued and the paper has been published irregularly since.

In the editorial column of the first issue of 15th year of *Nasim-e-Shomal* there was an article written by Harirchian named, «Journalism and Our People» that indicated the significance of journalism, as follows:

«Journalism nowadays has become the biggest task in the

contemporary civilized country, that can not be ignored at all. To maintain his status and to attract people's attention, a Journalist should consider some points in his articles. In my opinion, a journalist should have some qualifications such as: considering God and religion, loving the King and the country, and recognizing the people's desires.»

The second requirement was what all publications had to observe in order to maintain their job in that era; otherwise, they had to bear a kind of governmental censorship. In contrast, *Nasim-e-Shomal* in its first and second periods, contained satirical and serious critical poems on Mohammad Ali Shah (the King). In his newspaper, Seyed did his best to target the bases of cruelty and tyranny in Iran and fearlessly, he criticized Mohammad Ali Shah (king of Gajar). Most of the issues of this weekly newspaper, which include some issues from the fourth to fourteenth year, are kept in Central Library of Tehran University. The Iranian National Library, retains issue no. 16 of the first year and some issues of the 2nd, 3rd, 6th and 7th years and Astan Ghods Razavi Library in the holy Meshad city has some issues of the 7th year and the library No. 2 of the ICALIB has only the issue No. 22 of the 7th year in their archives.

*A brief explanation of the satirical weekly newspaper «Nasim-e-Shomal»:*

In that period the Tehran population was much smaller than now, and the percentage of literacy was low compared to the present. Two or three thousand and sometimes four thousand prints of each issue of *Nasim-e-Shomal* were sold and distributed. Considering this fact that even now, some



left and  
right:  
Copies from  
*Nasim-e-  
Shomal*.  
Reproduced  
by  
Freydoon  
Azadeh  
Tafresh



newspapers cannot reach such a circulation, it can be confirmed that *Nasim-e-Shomal* was the best selling and most successful newspaper in its own era.

This weekly newspaper had only two or four pages, but people were eagerly buying it as it expressed their conditions and pain in the sweet language of poetry. The fans of this newspaper were never content with reading it once or twice, but read the poems several times until the next issue came out. They often kept the old issues, which had become so crumpled, in a safe place as they would their valuable papers.

Doubtlessly, people quickly learned and memorized the poems of *Nasim-e-Shomal* as they eagerly read them for several times or carefully listened to those who were reading for them. Most of *Nasim-e-Shomal*'s readers were illiterate, but they bought an issue of it and kept it as a precious thing and at the end of a working day, when men got together, the newspaper was given to a literate man who read the poems loudly for others to enjoy.

Seyed Ashrafeddin published his newspaper in a small printing house in Tehran that belonged to Jewish people. The day, on which *Nasim-e-Shomal* was published, a dozen of children stayed in a line inside the printing house

and Seyed himself divided the newspapers among them. The children would return in the afternoon and hand the money they had received to Seyed and he managed the expenses until next week by that money. Seyed had treated these homeless and poor children so amazingly that they never cheated him and they were even proud of being the sellers of *Nasim-e-Shomal*.

When these traveling newspaper sellers cried and declared the newspaper's name, people rushed to them and the newspapers were taken up among men and women, children and young people, literates and illiterates. In tea-houses, passages and wherever people could come together, literate persons read the news for other people who sat around, and listened carefully to them.

There was no week in Tehran without a tumult raised by this newspaper. The government was impatient with Seyed but was unable to do anything to him because of his courage and audacity. There was no use in arresting the writer, as he would have continued his activities in jail. He had an amazing memory and did not need to write down his thoughts as whatever came into his mind, he was able to record in his heart.

He gained most of his popularity in the Minor Tyranny

period and after the bombardment of the parliament (1907) when he wrote very strongly worded poems about the heads of tyranny in a very delicate way and people in secret passed on his poems. In those days, there were not more than 3 or 4 leaden word printing houses in the whole of Tehran, and the Jewish Printing House was one of them. It consisted of two rooms with a printing machine and typesetters in one and a table and three chairs. Seyed's newspaper, in four small pages, was published once a week on these old devices.

The single sales of his newspapers were his only income. He had no subscribers and even the subscription price was not printed above the front page. Whoever was willing to have a copy had to call the traveling sellers.

This newspaper was composed wholly of poems written entirely by Seyed. Doubtlessly, he was the founder and creator of a very pleasant and effective style in Pharsi poem, and although many poets have worked in that style after him, he still ranks as the first people's poet. Before him poetry was the language of distinguished people for distinguished audiences.

Seyed Ashrafeddin is the first person in the Pharsi language who has created a unique

kind of poem (journalistic) that both in its words and meanings seemed pleasant and soothing for the mass illiterate people. This is why Iranian people have been amazed and interested in his poetry for so many years. Although the poet always looked cheerful and pleasant, it seemed that he had a sorrow he kept to himself. Such a special feeling could be seen in his poems. While he laughed and made people laugh, his poetry also reflected a sad soul. When his poetry was read aloud, it produced a sad melody.

Seyed Ashrafeddin Hosseini Gilani died in 1934 and someone else published *Nasim-e-Shomal* for seven more years. Late in his lifetime, before being caught up with illness and sorrow, he published all his poems in two volumes at the very same printing house that rapidly sold all its copies.

It was published, thousands of miles away from Iran, in Bombay twice but all the copies were sold out a second time. The poet's face never appeared sorrowful or troubled. Definitely, his childlike manner and infectious smile made all people around him laugh and is still reflected in the sky and the sky will never forget him.

## REPORT OF THE 21ST BUSINESS MEETING, NEWSPAPERS SECTION, IFLA

held at the Hilton Hotel, Buenos Aires, Argentina on Sunday, August 22, 2004

Report prepared by Edmund King, Head, Newspaper Library, British Library

The Newspapers Section created an Open Session for the IFLA Buenos Aires Conference, which was designed to appeal to a regional audience. The Section wished to spread knowledge of the efforts of organisations to promote the preservation of newspapers.

There were three papers. The texts of each paper are available in English and in Spanish at the IFLANET website <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla70/prog04.htm>

The paper by Alonso Quintero gave much information on the Great Columbia Press project. The work and support of ABINIA (see: <http://www.bne.es/eng/labicoabinia.htm>) for this project has assisted the realisation of digital files relating to newspapers of this period.

The paper by Jorge Orlando Melo informed delegates about the efforts made to catalogue newspapers published in Columbia before 1900, then to microfilm their content, and to consider the possibilities for their digitization. We were given a glimpse of the considerable wealth of newspaper publishing that exists in Columbia.

Adan Benevides' paper focused upon Mexican newspapers, and the work of the University of Texas to preserve these via microfilming. The paper has much specific information about the holdings of the Benson Collection at the University of Texas. It also states how the work en-

sured the filling of gaps in runs of newspapers, to make as complete a run as possible for future researchers. This was a model and a reminder to all of the need to make texts of newspapers as complete as possible when creating microfilm

The Open Session attracted 116 delegates. It showed that newspaper projects relating to Latin American titles are ongoing. These papers will provide a source of information for others who may wish to create projects for other newspaper collections in the region.

### Highlights of the Minutes of the 22nd Business Meeting Held at the Council Room, National Library of Australia Canberra on February 21, 2005

(From Minutes provided by Edmund King, Head, Newspaper Library, British Library)



*Jan Fullerton, Director General of the National Library of Australia, opening the conference.  
National Library of Australia. Nla.int-nl39421-Is4-v  
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Edmund King and Majlis Bremer-Laamanan will examine the Microfilming for Digitisation Guidelines and updates will be completed. A digital learning workshop will be proposed at the upcoming Oslo meeting. Another workshop to promote good practices on storage and handling of microfilm will be considered after the Mo I Rana IFLA Satellite meeting 2005 takes place.

Edmund King and Sandra Burrows (Library and Archives Canada) will explore a link of electronic sources for newspapers and using «email alert» to notify members of new electronic newspaper links.

The next proposed IFLA Satellite meeting will be on the topic of *Digital Newspaper Projects in the Americas*, to be held in Utah and co hosted by the University of Utah.

The theme for the IFLA 72nd General Conference Open

Session on Newspapers will be *Newspaper Projects in East Asia*.

### Highlights of the International Newspapers Conference: Asia and the Pacific: Newspapers in the 21st Century held in Canberra February 22 to 24, 2005 and organized by the Newspapers Section, IFLA and the National Library of Australia

The following aims were realized at this conference by the papers presented and the opportunities for attendees to see the National Library of Australia and other digital projects in Canberra.

- Promote awareness of newspaper collections in libraries in IFLA Member countries, and in Australia and in South East Asian Countries.
- Raise awareness of the need to publicize mea-



## 71st IFLA CONFERENCE OSLO, NORWAY 2005

The **IFLA Newspapers Open Session Meeting** will take place on Monday August 15th from 13:45 to 15:45. The theme will be: *Newspaper digitization projects. Developments in the online availability of older newspapers.*

Speakers:

- Digital newspaper developments at the Bibliothèque nationale de France: digitization of French national newspapers from the end of the 19th century to 1944  
PASCAL SANZ (Bibliothèque nationale de France, Paris, France)
- Digitization of newspapers at the British Library: the British Newspapers 1800-1900 Project  
JANE SHAW (The British Library, London, UK)
- Recent digitization developments for older newspapers of Scandinavian countries  
MAJLIS BREMER-LAAMANEN (University of Helsinki, Mikkeli, Finland)
- The Newspaper digitization work in China  
YUZHONG ZHANG (China)

The **IFLA Satellite Meeting. Arctic Circle Conservation Colloquium** will take place August 10th and 11th in Mo i Rana, Norway.

The meeting will be co-sponsored by Newspapers and Preservation and Conservations Sections. The theme is: *The interdependency of preservation and storage for making solutions to the longevity of varied library materials.*

The Colloquium venue will be at the Mo i Rana facility. The National Library of Norway has developed the facility at Mo i Rana which is situated just south of the Arctic Circle. It provides a new approach to the long-term retention of all types of library materials. The Colloquium provides you with the opportunity to learn at first hand about the aims of the NLN's preservation programme, and how these aims have been achieved in practice.

This storage facility is almost unique. It has facilities for the retention of materials that serve as an example to others. The National Library in Rana has also an automated storage and retrieval system, which contains the lending material of the Repository Library. This storage solution is the first of its kind in the Nordic library sector. This is your chance to travel to the far North, and be guided by the professional staff of the National Library of Norway. You will also be able to experience the Arctic Summer! It is intended to place further

details about the Colloquium programme, about the speakers, the accommodation, the travel arrangements and any Registration needed – all on a website.

The agenda is as follows:

*DAY 1 Wednesday 10th of August*

- 12:00 Registration and Lunch at the Library
- 12:45 Welcome and General Introduction to National Library in Rana / Jonny Edvardsen
- 13:45 Coffee Break
- 14:00 Preservation Planning Policy at National Library in Rana / Gunhild Myrbakk, Lars Gaustad and Svein Arne Solbakk
  - Achievements
  - Lessons learned
  - Future planning
- 15.30/17:30 Tour of the Storage Vaults / Gunhild Myrbakk
- 18:00 Departure to The Arctic Circle Centre

*Day 2 Thursday 11th of August*

- 09:00 Digital Preservation of different Media
  - Photographs / Kjetil Iversen
  - Sound and Television Recordings / Lars Gaustad
  - Newspapers / Heidi Herbst

- Internet Archiving / Svein Arne Brygfeld
- 10:30 Coffee Break
- 10:45 Tour of the Studios
  - Practical Work at the Digital Radioarchive Studio / Lisbeth Johannessen
  - Demonstration of the Digital Radioarchive / Svein Arne Brygfeld
  - Using Search Engine Technology to access the National Library's Collections / Svein Arne Brygfeld
- 12:15 Lunch
- 13:00 Effective Preservation for Libraries and Archives
  - Environmental Control / Anders Myrbakk and Lars Gaustad
  - Automation of Storage Processes / Kari Mathisen
  - The BL Additional Storage Programme / Ed King
- 14:15 Site Tour: The Automated Storage and Retrieval System / Kari Mathisen
- 15:00 Discussion
- 15:30 Close

continued from page 6:

- ensures to promote access to newspaper collections
- Raise awareness of the importance of newspapers for researchers of all ages and backgrounds
- Emphasise good practice

for the storage of original newspapers

- Raise awareness of the need to copy newspapers
- Exchange information regarding current and future projects to digitise older newspapers.

Abstracts of the papers are available at: <http://www.nla.gov.au/initiatives/meetings/newspapers/abstracts.html>

The full text of one paper is also available at: <http://www.nla.gov.au/initiatives/meetings/newspapers/pap>

burr.html and other papers will be published in the near future.

The program of the conference is available at: <http://www.nla.gov.au/initiatives/meetings/newspapers/program.html>

## IFLA SURVEY ON HOLDINGS OF AFRICAN NEWSPAPERS KEPT IN ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES IN AFRICA – UPDATE

From *Minutes of the 22nd Business Meeting Held at the Council Room, National Library of Australia, Canberra on the 21st of February 2005. p. 4, Item 6a.* Minutes prepared by Edmund King.

### Survey of Newspapers in Africa

Else Delaunay tabled papers relating to the latest work on this survey; it was mainly carried out in Francophone African countries. 125 questionnaires had been circulated; 44 replies had been received. This second round of work has yielded more precise needs from African coun-

tries, with priorities stated for up to three most important newspaper titles in each country.

It was time to make decisions within a project-planning framework:

- How to ensure complete runs of newspapers for filming.
- Secure copyright permission for filming.
- Ask relevant national library if it will keep positive copies of newspaper microfilm.
- To film all title changes.
- Secure an estimated cost of filming each title.
- Look at potential compa-

nies who could do the filming work.

- Decide who will own the master negatives; and why had they should be stored.
- Investigate potential funding bodies for this work.
- Circulate details of proposed filming to subject specialists.

### Actions

1. Circulate the survey papers to section members: Edmund King.
2. Mount the papers on the IFLANET. Edmund King
3. Set up a Subgroup: Edmund King; Else Delau-

nay, Geoffrey Hamilton, to take up work forward.

4. Discuss this matter with James Simon, CRL, re:CAMP: Henry Snyder and Edmund King.
5. Consider subsuming the African survey listed within the Library of Congress Program: Geoffrey Hamilton.

The committee congratulated Else Delaunay for her work on this survey. Geoffrey Hamilton will be preparing the minutes for the next newsletter from the Subgroup meeting in the next few months in London.

## FRONT PAGES OF CANADIAN HISTORIC MILESTONES NOW AVAILABLE

In 2002, Library and Archives Canada commemorated the 250th anniversary of the oldest Canadian newspaper, the *Halifax Gazette*, which began March 23, 1752. At that time, our web pages

included front pages of a variety of Canadian newspapers on dates important in Canadian history. We have just obtained copyright permission to reproduce most of these pages and we will be adding

more as time goes on. Please visit:

<http://www.collectionscanada.ca/8/16/r16-212-e.html> (English edition)

<http://www.collectionscanada.ca/8/16/r16-212-f.html>

(French edition)

Once you have clicked on the smaller image, a box will appear in the lower right-hand corner and you may click on it to see a larger image of these pages.



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