REPORT OF THE SEYCHELLES

LIBRARIES, DOCUMENTATION
AND ARCHIVES SERVICES

K. C. Harrison

Report prepared for the Government of the Republic of The Seychelles by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco)
# CONTENTS

## INTRODUCTION

### I GENERAL BACKGROUND

1.1 Geographical and climatic factors 3
1.2 Historical and political factors 4
1.3 Population 5
1.4 Literacy 6
1.5 Economic factors 7
1.6 Linguistic factors 8
1.7 Religions 9
1.8 Social customs 9
1.9 Administrative factors 9
1.10 Transport 10
1.10.1 Road 10
1.10.2 Sea 10
1.10.3 Air 11

## II EDUCATION

2.1 Educational system 11
2.2 Teacher training 13
2.3 Vocational education 13
2.4 Educational expenditure 14
2.5 Communications 14
2.5.1 Radio 14
2.5.2 Cinema 15
2.5.3 Press 15
2.6 Book production 15

## III THE PRESENT POSITION OF LIBRARY, ARCHIVES AND DOCUMENTATION SERVICES

3.1 Introductory 17
3.2 Relevant legislation 17
3.3 Library services 18
3.3.1 Carnegie Public Library 18
3.3.2 Praslin Public Library 21
3.3.3 School libraries (Grammar Schools) 22
3.3.4 School libraries (Junior Secondary and Primary Schools) 23
3.3.5 Ministry of Education Resources Centre 23
3.3.6 Teachers' Training College Library 24
3.3.7 Law libraries 24
3.3.8 Ministry collections 25
3.3.9 Hospital libraries 26
3.3.10 Police collections 26
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>Land Registry records</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>Radio Seychelles</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>Bookbinding</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV</td>
<td>PREVIOUS REPORTS</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>General</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>The Goodacre Report</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>The Twining Report</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>The Pala Report</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>The Bentley Report</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>Cooperation between Unesco and the British Council</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V</td>
<td>THE UNESCO LIBRARY WORKSHOP</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VI</td>
<td>MICROFILMING OF ARCHIVES AND OTHER RECORDS</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>Background</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VII</td>
<td>SUGGESTED PRIORITIES FOR AID</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>International fellowship and consultant services</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>Books and equipment requirements</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIII</td>
<td>A NATIONAL PLAN FOR LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>Objectives</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>Recommendations on development of library and archives services</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.2.1</td>
<td>General</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.2.2</td>
<td>Public library development</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.2.3</td>
<td>School libraries</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.2.4</td>
<td>Further Education libraries</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.2.5</td>
<td>Government Department collections</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.2.6</td>
<td>National Archives</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.2.7</td>
<td>Organisation for proposed Seychelles National Library Service</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPENDIX &quot;A&quot;</td>
<td>Library Service</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Selected tables from 1977 Census Summary of Results</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPENDIX &quot;B&quot;</td>
<td>School Population and Teaching Staff</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(as at January 31, 1977)</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPENDIX &quot;C&quot;</td>
<td>Proposals for a Library Law for the Seychelles</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPENDIX &quot;D&quot;</td>
<td>List of Institutions Visited</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPENDIX &quot;E&quot;</td>
<td>List of Personalities consulted or interviewed</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
INTRODUCTION

This report has been prepared in accordance with the instructions of Unesco, which required the consultant, in full cooperation with the Seychelles Authorities to:

(a) Study the actual situation of the library, documentation and archives services in the Seychelles.

(b) Prepare a plan for the development of a national information system in the Seychelles and in particular for the development of public libraries aimed to support literacy programmes and to demonstrate how library resources can best be utilised in rural areas.

(c) Prepare orders for books and equipment to be provided under the project.

(d) Prepare contracts with local institutions for the organisation of training workshops.

The consultant visited the Seychelles from December 4, 1977 to January 30, 1978 in order to assess the present situation of library, documentation and archives services, to discuss with the authorities the future prospects for library development, and to lay the foundations for a workshop for library assistants designed to be held during August 1978.

It was quite impossible to prepare orders for actual books since there were just not the bibliographical resources available in the Seychelles. Some lists of desiderata were however obtained and these have been submitted to Unesco. Recommendations regarding priorities for the supply of books and equipment will be found later in the report.

Visits made by the consultant to libraries, schools and other institutions totalled 26, while 35 working sessions and discussion meetings were held with various groups and individuals.
The consultant was also able to devote some time to much-needed public relations work in regard to the development of library, documentation and archives services in the Seychelles. Press interviews resulted in helpful coverage in the daily newspaper *The Nation*, and in the weekly journal *Weekend Life*. Radio coverage, including an interview, was also achieved, and talks were given to several audiences.

The Government of the Seychelles, through the Minister of Education and Culture, and all his staff, tendered the fullest possible support to the consultant, and all information sought was readily provided. In acknowledging this unstinted help and encouragement, it must be added that the report may contain errors of fact or interpretation. Such misconceptions are almost inevitable after a short visit, but responsibility for them is borne by the consultant, and no blame must be attached to those who helped to provide the basic information.
1. GENERAL BACKGROUND

1.1 Geographical and climatic factors

The Republic of the Seychelles, in the Indian Ocean, consists of two distinct groups of islands, the Granitic or Mahe group, 45 in all, and the outlying Coralline group, just under 50 in number. The Granitic group are hilly and mountainous, though never more than 900 m. (3,000 feet) in height, whereas the Coralline group are generally only slightly above sea-level and are very sparsely populated. The total area of the Granitic group is about 475 sq. km. (190 sq. miles), while that of the Coralline group is about 200 sq. km. (81 sq. miles).

Mahe, the largest island, has a population of 54,600, almost 90 per cent. of the total, and it is the seat of Government. It has the only seaport at Victoria, and the only international airport. The next largest island, Praslin, is 24 miles from Mahe and has 4,360 inhabitants. The only other islands with significant numbers of people are La Digue, with 1,910, and Silhouette Island, with 390.

Modern air travel has done much to reduce the isolation of the Seychelles, but it has still to be remembered that the nearest country, the Malagasy Republic, is 925 km (575 miles) away. Other relevant distances are Mauritius (1,577 km. or 980 miles), Mombasa (1,593 km. or 990 miles), Southern Yemen (2,269 km. or 1,410 miles), and Bombay (2,813 km. or 1,748 miles). Despite the international aircraft, and the inter-island flights, which have helped to reduce distance, the feeling of isolation still persists, and it remains an important factor in the lives and social background of the Seychellois.

Although they are situated only about 4 degrees south of the equator, the islands of the Seychelles enjoy a healthy climate free from such tropical diseases as malaria and yellow fever. The shade temperatures are rarely
lower than 21° Celsius (70° Fahrenheit) and are seldom higher than 31°
Celsius (88° Fahrenheit). The wettest months coincided with the visit of
the consultant. These are December and January, when the north-west mon­
soons blow, often bringing downpours of tropical proportions, as well as
other long periods of cloud, drizzle and showers. These are also the
hottest and most humid periods of the year. Fortunately, the Seychelles
are outside the cyclone zone, and even thunderstorms are comparatively
rare.

1.2 Historical and political factors

Before they were discovered, and eventually colonised, the Seychelles were
entirely uninhabited. There is some evidence that the islands were visited
by Arab traders in the Middle Ages. They were also sighted by the Portu­
guese sailors and navigators in the early 16th century, but the first well-
documented discovery was by an English seaman in 1609, predating the French
possession by nearly 150 years. In 1756 the French based on Mauritius
annexed Mahé and some other islands as a defensive measure against the
British, but the Seychelles were still left uninhabited until 1770.

Settlers, mainly French planters and their slaves, slowly developed Mahé
between then and 1790, when there was a population of 600, over three-
quarters of which were slaves. During the Revolutionary and Napoleonic
Wars, the islands twice capitulated to British naval forces and eventually,
in 1814, France gave over the sovereignty of the Seychelles to Britain.
Throughout their rule, which lasted from 1814 to 1976, the British continued
to respect the French law, language and culture, which accounts for the wide­
spread use of the French and Creole languages to this day.

The Seychelles were made a Crown Colony in 1903, and the British colonial
administration continued until 1976 when the Seychelles became an independent
republic within the Commonwealth, being in fact the 36th member of the
Commonwealth. Since June 1977, the only political party in the country is
the Seychelles People's United Party (SPUP) headed by President France Albert René. The President is also the Prime Minister and he presides over meetings of the Cabinet.

1.3 Population

A census was held as recently as the summer of 1977, and a tabulation of the results was made available to the consultant. The census on La Digue was carried out as a pilot project in May; on Praslin in June-July, and on Mahé and the outer islands in August. As well as giving population statistics, the summary provides most useful information on age distribution, housing, education and employment. Relevant tables are reproduced in the appendices to this report.

The resident population of the Seychelles is estimated at 61,950 in August 1977. Of this total, 54,600 live on Mahé, 4,360 on Praslin, 1,910 on La Digue, 390 on Silhouette, and 690 on all the remaining islands. The population of Mahé is sub-divided into 23,000 living in the capital Victoria and its suburbs, and 31,600 residing elsewhere on Mahé. The total population has risen from 52,650 in 1971 to 61,950 in 1977, an increase of 18% in six years. Almost all the increase has taken place on Mahé, there having been little change on the other islands. The population of Praslin has in fact fallen slightly. The proportion of the population under the age of 15 is 39.8%. Though this is high by comparison with many countries, it has in fact fallen from the even higher figure of 43.4% in 1971. The census summary provides the observation that this is mainly due to the fact that the number of births per annum over the last fifteen years has been remarkably constant. The number of women of child-bearing age is increasing rapidly and will be 45% higher in ten years' time. "This increase", states the summary, "must have an effect on the number of births in the coming decade". In fact, one
official projection forecasts a population of 121,000 by the year 2000, and any future plans for the development of library and information services must keep this constantly in mind.

1.4 Literacy

No figures relating to literacy are available, so what follows is the consultant's own assessment of the situation, and is derived from observation, from documentary evidence, and from conversations with Seychellois people of varying rank and station. Compared with the majority of developing countries, illiteracy is less of a problem in the Seychelles than elsewhere. Bearing in mind that 93% of the population is under the age of 65, and considering too the level of education, primary, secondary and vocational, now available to the younger generation, the general impression must be that the majority of the population has achieved a good level of literacy in English or French, or both. Yet it cannot be denied that illiteracy exists among the older section of the community. The census summary reveals that of the total working population of 22,683, no less than 11.8% had received no formal education, and a further 46.9% had attended primary school only. On the other hand, looking at the working population under 25 years old, which accounts for 35% of the total, 50% have attended Form I or II of secondary education.

As usual when considering problems of literacy, much depends on the definition of the word, that is the standard at which a person is regarded as literate or otherwise. The fight to eradicate illiteracy is still being fought in the Seychelles. Though much remains to be done, significant progress has been made in recent years. The provision of better public and school libraries, particularly in the rural areas, must be regarded as an essential element in this never-ending struggle.
Economic factors

Historically the Seychelles was a plantation-based economy, with the export of copra and cinnamon being of prime importance. Farming and agriculture still employs 2,833 people, about 12% of the total working population. Fishing, which might have been regarded as a major source of employment, is now the occupation of 835 people only. The construction industry is now the major employer, providing jobs for over 4,000 people. Since July 1971, when Mahé Airport was developed to receive jet aircraft, it is the tourist industry which has shown the greatest growth. Already, five international-style holiday hotels are operating on Mahé alone, and others are planned. Successive Governments have, however, been careful in allowing a controlled and gradual extension of tourism, being determined not to let it spoil the natural beauty and special environment of the Seychelles.

At the end of 1976 a target figure of 47,000 tourists was aimed at during 1977, but in the event there were over 54,000 visitors during last year. With several new hotels already under construction, it seems certain that by 1980 the annual influx of tourists may exceed 80,000.

Despite this apparent buoyancy in the mainstreams of the economy of the Seychelles, the census summary revealed that the total unemployed in the 15-64 age group was 2,330 or 10% of the economically active population. There were about equal numbers of men and women who said they were unemployed, and of the total of unemployed 6% had had no education, 38% had primary education only, 45% had attended Forms I and II, and the remaining 10% had attended higher levels of education.

The budget speech of the President broadcast to the nation at the beginning of January 1978 planned for total Government expenditure
during the year of just over 205,000,000 Seychelles rupees (about $29,285,000 or £15,770,000). This compares with a budget of only 100,000,000 rupees (£7,500,000) for 1976. Even allowing for inflation, this is an impressive increase.

1.6 Linguistic factors

The official language of Seychelles is English, used for correspondence, public notices and street signs. French is also widely used and understood. The lingua franca is however Creole, which is used in the family circle, and is the language used by most Seychellois when speaking to each other. Creole has no recognised orthography, and no dictionary, although it is understood that such a dictionary is in preparation. In the public and school libraries there are books in both English and French. The present Government has stated its intention of expanding the French language and culture, so there will be a need in the future for more books in French. It will always be essential, however, to maintain a balance between the two languages.

All teachers maintained that the language of instruction in the schools was English, except for the teaching of the French language and the subject of Religious Instruction. When pressed, teachers admitted that early instruction had of necessity to be in Creole, since most children came to school from family backgrounds where only Creole was spoken. Tuition in English was approached gradually, so that by age 8 or 9, children were being taught in English since they had sufficient comprehension by that time.

The only daily newspaper The Nation has about four pages in English, with the remaining four in French or Creole. It is noticeable that advertisements, both private and official, are printed in English. The only weekly journal, Weekend Life, is printed in English. Radio programmes,
on the other hand, tended to use more French and Creole than English, but news bulletins were in all languages.

1.7 Religions

There is complete freedom of worship in the Seychelles. It is estimated that nearly 90% of the population is Roman Catholic. The next in line is the Anglican or Episcopalian Church, and there is an active group of Seventh Day Adventists. Roman Catholics have been very active in the educational field, with the Regina Mundi Convent School for Girls, and aiding a number of other primary and secondary schools. Since January 1, 1978 though, all schools and colleges come directly under the Ministry of Education and Culture.

1.8 Social customs

It cannot be said that reading is an important social custom of the Seychellois. A number of factors militate against this, notably the excellent climate which encourages outdoor rather than indoor pursuits. There are also such factors as the lack of electricity which, apart from private generators, is not supplied on Praslin, La Digue and the smaller islands. Mahé is the only island served with mains electricity, but even there only 50% of the houses have electricity, though the percentage is gradually increasing. Overcrowding in small houses is yet another element which does not encourage reading and private study.

There is, however, evidence that the younger generation of Seychellois are eager to use books, both for information and for recreation, and it is upon the younger generation and its needs that future library development should be built.

1.9 Administrative factors

Apart from the Office of the President, which includes such pervasive
sections as the police, statistics, broadcasting, and the work of the Attorney General and the Registrar General, there are seven Ministries. These are Agriculture, Fisheries and Food; Education and Culture; Finance, Tourism and Aviation; Health and Welfare; Labour and Social Security; Port and Marine Services; Works and Land Development. A favourable factor for the development of library, documentation and archives services is that public libraries, school libraries, museum and archives already function under the aegis of the Ministry of Education and Culture, which can act as a catalyst for their future growth.

1.10 Transport

1.10.1 Road

Mahé is well-supplied with roads, most of which are surfaced. There is a coast road which goes all round the island, except for one or two stretches of coastline. One stretch of this road on the west coast is unsurfaced but passable for motor vehicles, and this is expected to be surfaced in the near future. There are also five lateral roads crossing Mahé from east to west over the mountain passes. All are surfaced, and are usable by motor vehicles including buses and trucks. Bus routes radiate all over the island from Victoria. This means that the roads are also generally suitable for a mobile library. The island of Praslin has about twenty miles of roads, about half surfaced, the rest being earth roads. There are no bus routes on Praslin. La Digue has only about 7 miles of earth roads.

1.10.2 Sea

The only seaport is on Mahé at Port Victoria, which has been considerably extended in recent years. Over 300 ships call there each year, more than one-third of these being cargo vessels. There is a regular ferry service three times a week from Mahé to Praslin and La Digue and return, and there are less regular sailings between Mahé and some of the smaller islands.
1.10.3 **Air**

The international airport on Mahé was enlarged in 1971 to receive modern jet aircraft, and this led immediately to a great increase in tourism. There are three flights weekly between the Seychelles and London, two to Paris, and there are also regular connections with Tokyo, Hong Kong, Colombo, Bombay, Mombasa, Nairobi, Dar es Salaam, Johannesburg and other cities. There is also a regular air service between Mahé and Praslin, and other Seychelles islands with airstrips include Bird Island, Coetivy, Fregate, Denis and D'Arros. There are no airstrips on either La Digue or Silhouette Island, and their only link with Mahé is by sea.

2. **EDUCATION**

2.1 **Educational system**

Education falls under the portfolio of the Minister of Education and Culture. In 1977 there were 34 Primary schools, 14 Junior Secondary schools, 1 Senior Secondary school, 2 Grammar schools, and 3 Further Education colleges. The total number of pupils in that year was 14,562, consisting of 6,978 boys and 7,584 girls. The number of teachers totalled 659, comprised of 553 female and 106 male. More detailed tables of the school population will be found in Appendix "B".

Education is generally free but not yet compulsory. In practice nearly all children attend school, because parents realise the importance of education and the majority give their children every encouragement to attain scholastic distinction. Some truancy is however reported, and this is often cause by parents who keep their older children away from school in order to look after their younger brothers and sisters whilst the parents are out at work.

The influence of religion upon education must be mentioned. Up to the end of 1977 there were 27 R.C. aided schools, 5 Church of England aided,
1 Seventh Day Adventist aided, and 1 private school. From January 1, 1978, however, all schools are directly administered and financed by the Ministry of Education and Culture. The effect of this change is visible in the Ministry's budget, which rose from a total expenditure of 17,000,000 rupees in 1977 to an estimated 26,600,000 rupees for 1978.

The geographical location of schools is that after re-zoning at the end of 1977 there are 5 on Praslin, 1 on La Digue and 1 on Silhouette Island. All the other schools are on Mahe.

Primary education is of six years' duration from age 6. English is the language of instruction for all subjects except French and Religious Knowledge. In practice Creole has to be used in the early years, English being introduced gradually. As far as secondary education is concerned, in 1977 a total of 4,250 boys and girls were receiving this type of education. Of these, 3,090 were at the 14 Junior Secondary schools, while 492 were at Seychelles College, 464 at the Regina Mundi Convent School for Girls, and 204 were attending the Senior Secondary Course. The latter has been in existence for only one year and is in very inadequate accommodation. There are plans to transfer it to purpose-built premises at Anse Royale, but such a move may not take place within the next five years.

Seychelles College is nominally the boys' grammar school, but it is the only school in the country preparing pupils for Advanced Level subjects and because of this it also accommodates about 20 girls from the Regina Mundi Convent.

It ought to be mentioned here that at the Ministry of Education there is a Resources Centre which supplies the country's schools with audio-visual equipment and some other aids. This will be dealt with in greater detail later in this report.
2.2 Teacher training

There has been a Teacher Training College (TTC) in the Seychelles since 1959. It arranges a three year course for students with a minimum of five years' secondary education. The annual intake varies between 30 and 60 students, and currently there are 150 students in college, of whom only 17 are men. The tutorial staff numbers 15 full-time, but in addition there are 5 or 6 part-time lecturers. The course is run on general lines, but there already exists some specialisation, notably in languages and mathematics. It is expected that there will be an increasing trend towards specialisation.

Additional to the basic training course, the TTC also organises re-training courses. This is an on-going programme, and there are often as many as 50 teachers attending these six-week refresher courses. The TTC is located not far from Victoria, and adjacent to what might be termed "the academic campus". The Hotel Training School, the Secretarial School, the Technical School, the Seychelles College and the Regina Mundi Convent are all nearby. The TTC has a small library which will be described later, and it has good classrooms. There is no residential accommodation.

The TTC has an annual break from late July to early September, and it is sometimes used for outside courses during that vacation. This makes it ideal for the proposed Unesco Workshop for Library Assistants in 1978, and the accommodation has been firmly booked for that purpose during August 1978. Further reference will be made to this Workshop later in the report.

2.3 Vocational education

In addition to teacher training, there is a Hotel and Tourist Training School, and a Secretarial School. Both are short of space, but this
particularly applies to the Secretarial School, which has about 100 students and teaches shorthand, typing, duplicating and other office skills in three crowded classrooms. The Hotel School teaches all aspects of hotel and restaurant work, including reception, housekeeping and catering, as well as the art of tourist guiding.

2.4 Educational expenditure

As already indicated, educational expenditure in the Seychelles has increased by over fifty per cent. in 1978 from the 1977 figure, an increase of 9,567,290 rupees, taking the 1978 total to 26,629,300 rupees (c. £2,000,000 or nearly \$4m.). Of the total expenditure, formal education accounts for nearly 21m. rupees, while non-formal education, which includes youth and cultural activities, a films unit, the Carnegie Library, the Museum and Archives, as well as grants to local organisations, accounts for 1,761,300 rupees, and shows an increase of 950,360 rupees over the 1977 estimate. The recent appointment of a Senior Education Officer for non-formal education will probably lead to further increases in these fields in 1979 and subsequent years.

2.5 Communications

2.5.1 Radio

There is one radio station in the Seychelles, this being the Government controlled Radio Seychelles, which broadcasts programmes in Creole, French and English. Apart from some closed-circuit television available in the tourist hotels, there is no television in the country. It is understood that the provision of TV is not a priority and it may be some years before it becomes available. This is due to a combination of factors, including the remoteness of the country, the small population, and the probable high costs of introducing the service. Meanwhile, radio provides an essential and popular link between the islands of the Seychelles. Programmes, which frequently include items of extremely local and personal interest, are eagerly heard,
and few people are ever far away from their radio sets. Publicity for the library service, in the way of book talks, has been featured from time to time, and much more use ought to be made of radio for this purpose.

2.5.2 Cinema

There is only one cinema in the country, and that is situated in the centre of Victoria, the capital of Mahé. There is, however, another hall in Victoria which is fairly frequently in use as a cinema. Film shows are sometimes put on in colleges, schools and social centres in the villages.

2.5.3 Press

There is one daily newspaper, the Government-owned The Nation. More than half its contents are in English, the remainder being in French or Creole. The weekly journal Weekend Life contains more feature articles, and is in English throughout. British Sunday papers are normally available at the two bookshops in Victoria late on Monday afternoons, but daily papers from Britain are not provided. The British dailies, usually about a week or more after publication, are on view at the British High Commission in Victoria. Some French newspapers and magazines are also available in the bookshops.

2.6 Book production

The largest printing establishment is the Government Printer whose function is to print and publish all statutory forms required by Government departments, annual reports, committee reports, estimates, bills, ordinances, staff lists as well as the daily newspaper The Nation, and other publications. The department also provides stationery and forms required by all the Ministries and Government departments.
Bookbinding is also carried out by the Government Printer. Apart from the above published material there is minimal book production in the Seychelles, reliance being almost entirely placed upon imported books from Britain, France, the USA and the Commonwealth countries. Locally published material is, however, preserved in the National Archives in accordance with Cap. 236, 1964 of The Laws of the Seychelles.
3. THE PRESENT POSITION OF LIBRARY, ARCHIVES AND DOCUMENTATION SERVICES

3.1 Introductory

This section is based on 26 visits to libraries, colleges, schools, Ministries and other Government departments during the consultancy. Some institutions were visited several times. Every care has been taken to ensure accuracy of information and of statistics, but any shortcomings or errors will be the fault of the consultant and not of those who provided the basic information.

3.2 Relevant legislation

In The Laws of the Seychelles there appear to be just two ordinances relative to libraries and archives. The first is Cap. 161 of 1908 which related to the Carnegie Library. There are additional ordinances as follows:

- No. 14 - 1944
- No. 25 - 1960
- No. 8 - 1946
- No. 14 - 1963
- No. 6 - 1956

The Carnegie Library Ordinance provides for continued Government financial support for the library. It also set up the Carnegie Library Board, and provided for regulations for the use of the library.

The second relevant piece of legislation is Cap. 236 relating to the Seychelles Archives. Dated 1964, it specifies "public archives" as all records more than 30 years old, and it set up a Committee of Trustees and a Records Committee. It also provided for legal deposit by ordering that "the publisher of every newspaper, periodical, book or bound pamphlet printed in the Seychelles shall, as soon as may be after such newspaper, periodical, book or bound pamphlet be published, deliver one copy direct
or by post to the Curator free of charge". The law goes on to exact a penalty for non-compliance, which is a fine not exceeding 500 rupees. It is important to note that, unlike many other deposit laws in other countries, there is no requirement made of the Archives to undertake to preserve material acquired in this way, nor is there any requirement for the Archives to make such material available to the public for reference or research. These omissions should be rectified in future legislation.

3.3 Library services

3.3.1 Carnegie Public Library

There is only one public library in the country and that is the Carnegie Public Library situated in the centre of Victoria on the island of Mahé. In 1908 Andrew Carnegie gave the money for a public library building. As already mentioned, the Carnegie Library Ordinance of 1908 provided for a governing body in the shape of the Carnegie Library Board, and this held its first meeting on January 21, 1909. It was decided to advertise for a Curator and later for an Assistant Curator, and by November 1909 both had been appointed. The library building was completed by the end of 1909, since it is recorded that the first meeting of the Board to be held in the new library took place on January 13, 1910. The official opening ceremony was held on January 22, 1910, the anniversary of the laying of the foundation stone.

Needless to say, neither the Curator nor the Assistant Curator were qualified librarians, hardly surprising since there were relatively few qualified or experienced librarians in Britain at that time. It must be stressed, however, that since 1910 the Carnegie Library has never been in the charge of a qualified librarian except for two short periods in the early 1970s, when VSO librarians from Britain were in charge. The first
of these had a very short tenure of office which was terminated by ill-health, but the second VSO incumbent was in charge for almost two years and carried out excellent work, the evidence of which is still apparent.

An examination of the Minute Books of the Carnegie Library Board from 1909 to 1977 shows that the Colonial Government gave only grudging financial support to the library. From time to time the library flourished under an enthusiastic and persuasive Board chairman, and it is noticeable that under such guidance the Government was usually persuaded to increase its subventions. But such increases often fell into the category of "too little and too late"; and the Carnegie Library had a constant battle for survival. That it did survive was due to the devotion of a few people over the years. A good example occurred from 1959 to 1964 when the library was in the charge of Mrs Mary Barker, an unqualified librarian but a graduate well-versed in both books and administration. Under her energetic control, the library enjoyed a new lease of life, thanks to the many improvements she initiated.

Salaries of the unqualified staff were abysmally low, and the funds available for buying books and periodicals were totally inadequate. Much reliance was placed on donations from the British Council, the Ranfurly Library, the French Embassy and from private donors.

When the Carnegie Library was presented in 1909 it was intended that the entire building should be utilised as a library. Due to insufficient support from the Colonial Government, however, the library did not grow as quickly as had been envisaged. In the early years the library occupied the ground floor of the building, whilst the upper floor was gradually utilised as a meeting hall and later for receptions and film shows. In 1963 a Museum was being planned, and the following year the ground floor was taken over by the Museum and Archives, the library being transferred to the upper floor.
Recently white ant infestation has been discovered in the flooring of the library, and a decision has been taken to remodel the old Victoria District Council building, to transfer the library there, and then to repair the present Carnegie building and to give it over entirely to the Museum and Archives. It is disturbing to note that the VDC building will afford the library only the same amount of floor area as that presently occupied. However, all the land around the VDC building is Government-owned and assurances have been given that it will be feasible to erect an annexe or an extension big enough to accommodate extra working space as well as the pool book stock needed by any future mobile library headquarters.

The present book stock is quoted as 17,500 volumes, of which over 2,000 are described as "old stock". Much of the latter should be withdrawn as useless but some should certainly be kept. It is the kind of material that most libraries would relegate to a book store, but the Carnegie Library does not have this luxury. Many of the remaining 15,000 volumes are also in a poor state and below the normally accepted standards of condition for open shelf stock. So far, the Carnegie Library has never had sufficient resources to replace much of the worn-out stock, so it has to be kept on the open shelves.

The service is free to Seychelles residents, but visitors must pay a (returnable) deposit of 20 rupees per book. Books are loaned for two weeks and fines for overdue material are charged at the rate of 5 cents per book per day. Loans average about 200 per day, three-quarters of them being to children. The staff of four comprises the librarian, who is unqualified, two library assistants and a clerk/typist.

The budget of the Carnegie Library in 1977 was 20,000 rupees, plus 6,000 rupees rent from the Museum and Archives for the use of the ground floor of the building. For 1978, the Ministry has increased the 20,000 rupees to 60,000 but
this has to cover all library expenditure except salaries, which are in a separate vote of the Ministry of Education's estimates.

Hours of opening of the library are from 0830 to 1700 hours, Monday through Friday. Up to December 31, 1977, it was also open on Saturday mornings from 0830 to 1200 hours but as from January 1, 1978 Seychelles, including Government departments, went on to a five-day week and, since this included the library staff, Saturday opening was discontinued. Urgent reconsideration should be given to this decision. There is need for a greater all-round appreciation of the fact that a public library exists to serve the public. It is no argument to say that Saturday opening in the past has not been successful; when the book stock and the general services are improved during the next two years it should be accompanied by longer opening hours, and Saturday opening ought to be reinstated.

3.3.2 Praslin Public Library

The only other public library in the whole of the Seychelles is at Grand Anse on the island of Praslin. It is a run-down collection of very old books and periodicals, open Monday through Friday from 1200 to 1600 hours. It is staffed by one attendant who issues an average of one book per day to the few users. It is used rather more as a reading room, though there is no regular supply of newspapers and journals. Even the Government daily The Nation was not provided, though this was rectified after the consultant's visit. No funds were available for buying either books or periodicals, but this situation too is being adjusted in 1978, since the increased subvention for the Carnegie Library in the Ministry's 1978 estimates is deemed to cover an improvement in the Praslin service.

There is a local demand for a library at Baie St Anne. This could be located in the Social Centre connected with the Primary School. There is another centre near the village, this being the Sir John Thorp Social Centre,
which has a room suitable for development as a junior reading room. If
this were equipped with a selection of paperback books and appropriate
periodicals it could serve as a useful experiment as an informal youth
reading centre.

3.3.3 School libraries (Grammar Schools)

The two grammar schools, Seychelles College (boys) and Regina Mundi Convent
(girls) both have school libraries properly accommodated. That of Sey­
chelles College, being newer, is attractively presented and furnished,
while the book stock, English and French, is in reasonably good condition
though more stock is needed. The British, through their Ministry of Over­
seas Development (ODM) provided money for the building and equipment. The
library has 20-30 seats for students and it appears to be well-used. There
is a librarian and one assistant, but the school's budget has no separate
allocation for books and journals for the library. Such excellent accom­
modation ought to be supported by a regular book fund in future.

The Regina Mundi Convent has 450 girls, from age 12 to 16 or 17. The
school library is reasonably accommodated, but more space is badly needed
since the shelves are very full. About 9,000 volumes are in stock, 7,000
of these being English and the remaining 2,000 French. Books are lent for
two weeks, and the girls may take out up to five books at a time. Use of
the library is now entirely informal. Class periods used to take place in
the library, but not any longer. The Ranfurly Library gave 1,000 volumes
to the school six years ago. The Regina Mundi Convent's library needs are
first for more books, secondly for tapes and cassettes, and thirdly for
records of classical music and plays. The book needs priorities are first
for more junior fiction, secondly for more senior fiction, and lastly for
non-fiction, especially for books on the arts and handicrafts. Although
shelf space is now at a premium, room could easily be found for many more
new books because a fair proportion of the existing stock is moribund and should be discarded.

3.3.4 School libraries (Junior Secondary and Primary Schools)

Libraries in the Junior Secondary and Primary Schools do not really exist. In nearly all schools of this type visited there was in any case no space for a library. One exception was St Anthony's Primary School at Anse Etoile which, in addition to displaying good classroom collections, boasted a separate room, nicely shelved and presented, but still with insufficient books. At every school visited the head-teachers were enthusiastic at the eventual prospect of having a developed and efficient school library. Teachers were also keen on the use of books, and most classrooms had collections of easy readers, both in English and French. Many of these easy readers were presentations, chiefly from British sources.

A number of teachers had started money-raising schemes in order to buy more books either for the school library or as prizes for the pupils. One school at least used profits from the "tuck-shop" for this purpose, while others had organised sales of work or had interested Parents' Action Groups in the need to supply more books.

All teachers would welcome more equipment in the way of cassette-recorders, slide projectors and film projectors. These are supplied through the Ministry of Education Resources Centre, but there is a dire shortage of equipment of this kind and much more is needed.

3.3.5 Ministry of Education Resources Centre

One very encouraging factor is the existence of the Ministry of Education Resources Centre. This was started only in January 1977 and it appears to have got off to a very successful start. It is staffed by a director, two assistants (including one trainee), and two technicians. It is a central
collection of books and equipment which is drawn upon by the schools. Services to schools, such as duplicating, are provided, but a photocopier is needed as it would be greatly used by teachers. The staff of the Resources Centre is very enthusiastic about the work already accomplished, but many more books, and much more equipment, are needed.

The Centre is at present poorly equipped with English language books especially reference books, but it is rather better off for French material. It urgently needs more reference books for teachers, more textbooks, and material on teaching instruction. Other requirements include an additional duplicator, a photocopier, about six additional film projectors, and a similar number of slide projectors. All the projectors would be used for lending out to schools as required. This is an area in which Unesco aid would be particularly appropriate, and a recommendation will be found later in this report.

3.3.6 Teachers' Training College library

The Teachers' Training College has a library of about 4,000 volumes, with about 30 periodicals currently received. Seats for students number 30. Students may borrow up to three books at a time, the loan period being three weeks, with renewals if necessary. The library has recently received an OIJM presentation, which helped to swell last year's intake to 880 volumes. The books are arranged by the Decimal Classification and it has a card catalogue of authors and titles, with a subject index. A member of the TTC staff is at present on a two-year course at the Manchester School of Librarianship on a British Council scholarship.

3.3.7 Law libraries

There are two law libraries in the Seychelles, both small collections. The Supreme Court library contains approximately 2,000 volumes, and has reading space for ten people. There is an element in the budget for new books but,
despite requests to the Establishment section for a post of librarian to be created, there has been no success so far. The library is pleasantly housed, but there are additional bookcases in corridors and in a Court Room containing material which is rarely consulted and some of which is deteriorating badly.

The other collection of law books is kept in the Attorney-General's department in National House. Again there is no librarian, and there is some duplication of material noticeable compared with the stock of the Supreme Court library. In view of this duplication, and in view also of the fact that the records of both the Supreme Court and the Magistrates' Court are uncared for and are stored in a loft, it would seem that urgent consideration should be given to the appointment of a law librarian and documentalist to be responsible for both the law libraries, and to have care of the Courts records.

3.3.8 Ministry collections

There are no librarians or documentalists employed by any of the Government ministries, yet collections of literature are already beginning to grow steadily, less than two years after the country's independence. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food has a small library open to its staff and to bona-fide research workers. There are ten seats for readers, but no librarian, the collection being the responsibility of a clerical assistant who has many other duties. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Tourism and Aviation is situated in National House and is beginning to realise the need for a qualified librarian to care for its growing collection of books, journals and other printed material. The Ministry of Finance is not in National House but is separately commodated in the centre of Victoria. This Ministry too has already recognised the need to organise its documentation. A United States Peace Corps librarian who will be working in the Seychelles during 1978 and 1979 has already
classified and catalogued the Finance Ministry's material.

Early consideration ought to be given to the appointment of a Government librarian who, in the first place, could tend for the growing collections of books and documentation in the various Ministries. As time goes on, and as the collections expand, additional assistance will be necessary. In view of the great need to develop a National Information System in the Seychelles, such an appointment is one of the essential first steps.

3.3.9 Hospital libraries

A visit to the Seychelles Hospital at Mont Fleuri revealed that there was no patients' library, and although a doctors' library was mentioned it was not available to be seen. The consultant was assured that there were not enough books in the doctors' library, and that it was severely lacking in up-to-date editions. The hospital is a teaching institution with 105 probationers taking sandwich courses. Some textbooks were available in multiple copies, but there were neither enough titles nor sufficient multiple copies. A nurses' library was seen — a most attractive room, with shelving, tables and chairs, but not ONE book! However, a list of over 200 wanted books was provided, and it is hoped that these will be supplied very soon by the British Ministry of Overseas Development. Additional help will still be needed, both for the nurses' and the doctors' libraries, and to inaugurate a patients' library.

3.3.10 Police collections

The Seychelles Police, strength about 500, have two training establishments, one on Mahé and the other on Praslin. They already have small but growing collections of books and documentation, both for office use and for training purposes. The need to organise and properly maintain these collections is recognised, and the Police Commissioner is keen to send one or two persons to attend the Unesco Library Workshop in August 1978. More books are needed
on police teaching, law and procedure, as well as background literature for current affairs studies at the Training School on Praslin. Audio-visual aids required include three overhead projectors and a slide projector with accessories.

3.4 National Archives

The Museum and Archives, as previously mentioned, occupy the ground floor of the Carnegie Library building, and have done so since 1964. They are in the charge of an archivist who received training in archives administration at University College, London in 1967, and who later attended a course at Leicester for museum training in 1973. In addition to this archivist, the staff consists of one assistant archivist, one archives research assistant, and one museum assistant. Like the Carnegie Library, the Museum and Archives operate under the Senior Education Officer for non-formal education in the Ministry of Education and Culture. In 1977 the budget for the Museum and Archives was 20,000 rupees, but for 1978 this had been increased to 40,000. Although the vote specifically mentions acquisitions, this figure has to cover all expenses on Museum and Archives except salaries and wages.

A great deal of work remains to be done in both fields. The Archives contain 689 files, of which about one-third are still not accessioned, catalogued or indexed. The Museum, started in 1964, is similarly not accessioned or catalogued. Other problems include the need for transport for museum items, the need for someone to work on paper preservation, and the need for a taxidermist in the future, though this is not a priority at the moment.

The microfilming of the Archives has already been the subject of a grant from Unesco, and further reference will be made to this project in chapter 6.

3.5 Land Registry records

A visit was also paid to the Land Registry where the records are in everyday
use. Many volumes, especially those of 70 or 80 years ago, are deteriorating alarmingly. The need for microfilming these records, along with the National Archives, the police records and the survey records, has been recognised, and it is hoped that an early opportunity will be taken to put this work into operation, with the aid of the Unesco grant already promised.

3.6 Radio Seychelles

The Government-owned broadcasting station has a collection of discs and cassettes, and there is an assistant librarian (unqualified) on the establishment. More accommodation, and more qualified advice and assistance, will be required in the future.

3.7 Bookbinding

Binding, both of new books and rebinding, is carried out by the Government Printer. Repair work to books and documents is also done there. With the foreseeable increase in the number of libraries—public, college, school, Government department and others—the demand for rebinding work and for the binding of journals and periodicals will rise steeply. Since this work is an essential element in the projection of efficient libraries thought should be given now to the need for more bookbinders. Extra technicians will be required on the establishment, and training facilities must be provided.
PREVIOUS REPORTS

4.1 There have been previous investigations and reports on the library situation in the Seychelles, all during the present decade. Three have been under British Council auspices, one under Unesco. Brief résumés of these, and action taken, if any, are now offered.

4.2 The Goodacre Report

In 1972 Ivor Goodacre, the British Council's Public Library Development Officer in East and Central Africa, visited the Seychelles, which formed part of his sphere of responsibility. His detailed report was confined to the need to improve the Carnegie Library, to carry the public library service out to the rural areas, and to improve school libraries. He rightly advocated a nationally planned library system, and underlined the need to train a small cadre of professional librarians for the country. On September 12, 1972 the Carnegie Library Board met to consider his report and Goodacre himself was present to introduce it and to answer questions. Although the report seems to have been well-received by the Board, no action was taken on it.

4.3 The Twining Report

Two years later, in 1974, Elizabeth Twining, the British Council librarian based in Nairobi, also visited the Seychelles. Her visit was extremely short, but she surveyed the public library scene, prepared a brief report for the consideration of the Carnegie Library Board, and directed a short but effective course on basic library management which was attended by a number of people concerned with organising small collections of books and documents. On September 11, 1974 Miss Twining attended a meeting of the Carnegie Library Board, during which she emphasised three points:

(a) that the public libraries of the Seychelles were totally inadequate, and that they should be regularly funded.
(b) that there was an urgent need to train first one, then more people to become librarians with internationally recognised qualifications.

(c) that the library services of the country should be co-ordinated.

At that same Board meeting it is recorded in the Minutes that one member stated that a five-year development plan should be drawn up. So far there is no such plan, but Miss Twining’s suggestion that the public library should be regularly funded has been adopted by the present Government. As we have seen, a nil figure in the 1976 estimates became 20,000 rupees in 1977, has risen to 60,000 rupees in 1978, and a continuation of this trend has been promised.

4.4 The Pala Report

From December 7 to 26, 1976, Francis O. Pala, then Director of the Kenya National Library Service, undertook a mission to the Seychelles under Unesco’s Regular Programme. He was asked to report on the development of a plan for a national information policy in the Seychelles, and to advise on the development of a Seychelles National Library, Seychelles National Archives and the Seychelles National Museum. His report, serial no. FMR/BEQ/PG1/77/145, was published by Unesco in 1977, and there is no need to repeat here Mr Pala’s findings and recommendations, which are summarised on pages 12 and 13 of his report. He, too, refers to the urgent need for training, not only for library staff, but for the staff of the Museum and Archives as well, and he draws attention to the need for new library legislation aimed at producing a national library and information service.

4.5 The Bentley Report

Only one month before the visit of Mr Pala, another British Council investigator arrived in the Seychelles in the person of Arthur Bentley, the British Council’s Library Development Officer for East and Central Africa.
Mr Bentley, who is based in Lusaka, Zambia, is responsible for advising on library development in the Commonwealth countries of East and Central Africa, including Mauritius and the Seychelles. The Bentley Report was made available to the Carnegie Library Board at its meeting on April 29, 1977. There were fifteen specific recommendations on the development of public, rural and school libraries, as well as on training.

Mr Bentley submitted a separate report to the British Council suggesting areas in which financial aid should be proffered by the ODA and the British Council. It has just been conveyed to the Seychelles Government that British aid is confirmed as follows:

(a) £12,000 towards the repair of the old VDC building to convert it into use as the central public library, plus a further £5,000 for furnishing and equipping the building. The total costs were estimated at £20,000/£3,000 will have to be found from local sources. A spokesman of the Seychelles Ministry of Education and Culture saw no problem about this.

(b) Book presentations to the Carnegie Library to the value of £5,000 in the year 1977-78, and a further £5,000 in 1978-79. These grants are subject to the Seychelles Government continuing to increase its annual subvention to the library. Book selection to spend these grants is now being done by the librarian of the Carnegie Library in association with the US Peace Corps librarian.

(c) The presentation to Seychelles of a mobile library in 1978-79.

(d) An initial book presentation of £10,000 in order to stock the mobile library.

(e) Technical Assistance awards for two graduate trained librarians (to await requests).

(f) A School Librarians' vacation course for 1979-80.
Cooperation between Unesco and British Council

It is obviously good news that a mobile library is to be given to the Seychelles by the British Council and OM, and that it is to be stocked with £10,000 worth of new books, for this will greatly facilitate the start of a much-needed effective rural library service. Also that the VDC building is to be converted into a central public library, and that an additional £10,000 worth of new books will be provided in 1977-78 and 1978-79. These welcome injections into the library service need not in any way clash with Unesco's intentions. There will still remain many areas in which Unesco's aid will be necessary and meaningful. The stocks of the Carnegie Library and the library on Praslin are so run down that much more new material will be needed over and above the British aid. The improvements to the college and school libraries and to the Ministry's Resources Centre can only be encouraged through Unesco help. The Unesco Library Workshop planned for August 1978 is eagerly awaited and will be well supported, while the suggested School Librarians' vacation course referred to in 4.5.(f) above offers the possibility of joint Unesco/British Council action.
5. **THE UNESCO LIBRARY WORKSHOP**

5.1 As requested, the consultant has made arrangements for the Unesco Workshop for Library Assistants to take place in August 1978. Every influential person contacted was informed of Unesco’s intention to arrange this brief course in basic library management, and without exception this news was received with enthusiasm and with promises of support. Every organisation possessing a library or documentation centre, however small, stated its intention of sending one or more members of their staffs. The accommodation at the Teachers' Training College has been firmly reserved with the Principal, the Ministry of Education has promised to announce details of the course as soon as these are known, and the US Peace Corps librarian who is in the Seychelles during 1978 and 1979 has volunteered to act as Liaison Officer between the chosen Director of the Workshop, the Ministry, the TTC and the students. Unesco has already been orally alerted on the urgent need to select a Director speedily, and to convey to the Ministry details of the name of the Director and the dates and other arrangements for the Workshop.

5.2 The TTC summer vacation is from July 28 to September 11, 1978. No decision has been finalised about the duration of the Unesco Library Workshop, but it is suggested that it should be from two to three weeks. The chosen Director may find it necessary to have a four to five week assignment, the first week for travel, acclimatisation and the gaining of background information, followed by the direction of the two or three week course, with the final week for reporting to the Ministry and for return travel. The Director could rely upon the US Peace Corps librarian not only for liaison beforehand but also for practical help during the course. The Director should also be made aware of the fact that a five-day week operates in the Seychelles, and
that working hours are from 0800 to 1200 hours, and from 1300 to 1600 hours. Resources of bibliographical material and textbooks on library and information science are meagre, but the TTC library facilities would be available.

5.3 Intending participants have been told that the course can do little more than to convey to students the basic elements of library management. It will be for the chosen Director to plan the detailed syllabus, but it is expected that it will include, inter alia:

- An appreciation of the need for professionalism in the organisation and management of collections of books, documents and archives
- The aims and objectives of a National Information System
- The aims and objectives of public libraries
- The organisation of school libraries and resource centres
- Basic factors in the selection of materials
- Order and acquisition methodology
- Elements of book classification
- Elementary cataloguing and indexing
- Elementary circulation control
- Basic reference material and its use
- Elementary readers' advisory work.
6. MICROFILMING OF ARCHIVES AND OTHER RECORDS

6.1 Background

The consultant was informed that Unesco had already approved an amount of $22,700 for microfilm photocopying equipment and microfilm reading equipment for the National Archives. An earlier grant made in December 1976 was referred to, and it was suggested that the possibility be explored of the equipment serving a national role to strengthen the national information system, rather than confining it to the more limited role of the National Archives.

Such an extension is certainly possible, and indeed it was found that the Ministry of Education and Culture had already been thinking on the same lines. In September 1977 a visit was paid to the Seychelles by representatives of a well-known international commercial concern in the field of microfilming and photocopying. Working from a report of August 1975 an estimate was submitted to the Ministry of Education and Culture for the microfilming of:

(a) National Archives - 191,000 pages and 21 maps
(b) Land Survey - 9,000 pages and an estimated 2,000 maps
(c) Land Registry - 55,000 pages
(d) Police - 13,500 pages

This estimate was dated October 19, 1977 and a photocopy of it has already been delivered by the consultant to Unesco for scrutiny. It is recommended that if arrangements can be made which are acceptable to both Unesco and the Seychelles Government, the "completely self-contained operation" mentioned in the correspondence of October 19, 1977 should be embarked upon.
7. SUGGESTED PRIORITIES FOR AID

7.1 International fellowship and consultant services

The consultant was informed that inputs were provided in Unesco's 1978 budget for, inter alia:

- $12,900 for books and equipment.
- $16,800 for an international fellowship (ie 12 man/months at ca. $1,400 per month).
- $13,500 for consultant services (ie 3 man/months at ca. $4,000 per month).

These three items total $43,200.

In the considered opinion of the consultant, the funds in the budget for the international fellowship and for additional consultant services should both be diverted to the provision of books and equipment, for the following reasons:

(a) the greatest need in developing library, documentation and archive services is for more books and equipment.

(b) as far as the international fellowship is concerned there is no-one in the Seychelles at the moment suitable for recommendation. The authorities have been made aware of the urgent need to create a small cadre of professionally qualified librarians and information scientists but it will necessarily be some time before suitable candidates emerge.

(c) additional consultant services would seem to be unnecessary in 1978, and it would be infinitely preferable to spend the $13,500 on books equipment. Such a switch would certainly be popular in the Seychelles where there is a feeling, rightly or wrongly, that intended international aid so far has produced a plethora of consultants and insufficient tangible help.
The idea of transferring both the international fellowship and the consultant services funds to books and equipment has been discussed with the Ministry of Education and Culture, and the authorities are in full accord with the idea.

7.2 Books and equipment requirements

As already indicated, the lack of bibliographical resources in the Seychelles made it impracticable for actual booklists to be compiled, even if there had been sufficient time to do this. (One such list, compiled by the Hotel and Tourism Training School, has been forwarded to Unesco under separate cover). The following recommendations are therefore submitted:

For Ministry of Education Resources Centre for use by schools

**Equipment**
- 4 film projectors (ca. £2,200)
- 6 slide projectors (ca. £500)
- 4 tape recorders (ca. £1,000)
- 1 photocopier (ca. £3,800)

**Books**
- (a) English language reference and textbooks on teaching instruction to the value of £1,500 (to include the latest edition of the *Encyclopedia Britannica*).
- (b) Easy readers for use in school classrooms to the value of £5,000.

**Total grant to Resources Centre** = £14,000

For Hotel and Tourism Training School

**Books**
- As per list already submitted to Unesco to the value of £1,500
For Teacher Training College Library

Books to the value of $3,000

For Seychelles College Library

Books to the value of $1,000

For Regina Mundi Convent School Library

Books to the value of $1,000

For Seychelles Hospital Doctors' Library and Nurses' Library

Books to the value of $2,700

For the Carnegie Library, Praslin Library and the Rural Library Services

Books to the value of $20,000

The total of the above grants is $43,200. Every endeavour has been made to reflect the immediate needs of the Seychelles, which are to develop and expand the public library services to the rural areas, to inject much-needed books and equipment into the area of school library resource centres, to encourage the growth of the two grammar school libraries, and to improve vocational education in the fields of medicine, nursing, teaching, hotels and catering by encouraging the growth of libraries in those areas.
A NATIONAL PLAN FOR LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT

8. Objectives

A country of the size of the Seychelles offers a perfect opportunity for establishing a National Library Service, comprehending all types of libraries, archives and documentation services, firmly based on a brief, simple yet comprehensive law, and receiving regular and adequate financial backing from the Government. Such a service should be operated under the auspices of a stated Ministry and, if the practice of many other countries were to be followed, a National Council should be appointed to meet regularly and to advise the Minister on necessary developments. The Service should be directed by a qualified and experienced person, and steps ought to be taken as quickly as possible to secure the professional training of assistant librarians with the aim of creating, in five or six years' time, a small but effective cadre of professional librarians, documentalists and archivists.

In present circumstances, with no qualified librarians at all in the entire country, it is recommended that a suitably experienced and qualified expatriate librarian should be sought to direct the service until such time as a Seychellois is qualified and experienced enough to take over. The duties of the Director, as well as developing the services, should include the supervision of staff training.

The importance of fixing the salaries and status of the Director and his eventual professional staff at the proper level must be underlined. The experience of some other developing countries is relevant here, and can teach a salutary lesson. It has been found, for example, that where a National Library Service forms part of the Civil Service, young librarians who have trained abroad at great expense have returned to
their home countries ostensibly to manage and develop library services, but in no time at all they have transferred or have been transferred to other sectors of the Civil Service because their salaries and status as librarians were too low to retain them in the National Library Service. This has led to a situation where, for every two steps the Library Service takes up the ladder of progress, it falls back one step. More time is lost, and more money has to be spent on training more young librarians, sometimes with the same result over again.

The answer to this problem is quite simple. It is much more economical in the long run for the Government to fix librarians' salaries at levels which will attract young people to the profession, and retain them after they have gained their professional qualifications. The Director of Library and Archives Services should rank with a Senior Education Officer in the Ministry, and the post should be paid on Grade E 8 (salary at maximum 74,400 rupees). It is further recommended that the scale for other qualified librarians should be G 7-8. (Scale G 7 is from 35,904 to 43,500 rupees, and scale G 8 is from 45,216 to 52,320 rupees). Progression from G 7 to G 8 should be subject to satisfactory service and report. Even these salaries are low compared with many other countries, and nothing less will suffice if a lasting library profession is to be set up in the Seychelles.

The very fact that the Government asked for Unesco help for its library development programme is an indication that authority sees the need for planned library, information and archives services on a national scale. This section ends, therefore, not with a long, detailed justification of NATIS (National Information Systems), but instead with a very brief statement which might nevertheless be found useful for justifying a nationally planned and integrated service.
8.2 Recommendations on development of library and archives services

It is felt that sufficient background information on existing services in the Seychelles has now been given, and this report ends with recommendations on future development.

8.2.1 General

(a) A Seychelles National Library Service (SNLS) should be set up under the Ministry of Education and Culture.

(b) A National Council on Libraries, Documentation and Archives Services should be appointed to meet at stated intervals and to advise the Minister on matters of policy.

(c) The SNLS should be in the charge of a professionally qualified and experienced Director, whose duties and responsibilities would include the development and efficient management of the Service, acting as Secretary to the National Council and reporting to it, and directing the development of the library and archives professions through suitable training courses.

(d) The necessary legislation should be enacted as soon as possible. The suggested contents of a library law for the Seychelles will be found in Appendix "C".

8.2.2 Public library development

(a) The Carnegie Library should become known as the Seychelles National Library.

(b) The move to the VDC building should take place as soon as possible on the lines suggested in the Bentley Report.

(c) The Ministry of Education should ask Government now to reserve land adjacent to the present VDC building for future use to accommodate an extension or annexe to be used as mobile library
headquarters. Lack of space in the building will make such an extension imperative as the service expands.

(d) Regular mobile library stops should be located at Cascade, Anse aux Pins, Anse Royale, Takamaka, Baie Lazare, Anse Boileau, Port Glaud, Bel Ombre, Glacis and Anse Etoile. Mobile library operations should take place in the afternoons, being timed to arrive on location at 1500 hours to serve school-children, and staying on the same site until 1800 or 1900 hours to serve adults after their working hours.

(e) Four Social Centres should be developed as Reading Rooms, these being at Anse aux Pins, Anse Royale, Anse Boileau and Glacis.

(f) Careful monitoring of public use of mobile library stops and of the Social Centre Reading Rooms should be carried out to determine which villages, if any, merit a permanent branch library in the future.

(g) A Patients' Library at Seychelles Hospital should be supplied from the stock of the Seychelles National Library.

(h) The Public Library at Grand Anse on Praslin should be provided with an up-to-date stock of books and periodicals. This should be possible from the British Council and Unesco aid. In addition its physical appearance should be improved and maintained. A trained library assistant should be provided as soon as possible.

(i) The Sir John Thorpe Centre at Baie St Anne should be developed as an informal youth reading centre, stocked with paperbacks and journals.

(j) Consideration should be given to establishing a sub-branch in the Social Centre at the Baie St Anne school.

(k) A book-box service should be supplied to La Digue from the Seychelles National Library. It should contain books for both adults and children, and the contents made available from the Secondary School with, hopefully, the co-operation of the Head and the teaching staff.
The boxes should be exchanged or replenished at regular intervals.

(l) A similar service should be given to Silhouette Island, based on the La Passe school there.

(m) Additional staff will be needed by the Seychelles National Library in developing the mobile and rural library services. When deciding the level of staffing, urgent reconsideration should be given to opening the Seychelles National Library on Saturdays, either all day or at least in the morning up to 12 noon.

(n) A continuous public relations exercise, through radio and press, should be maintained to encourage the spread of literacy through increased use of public and school libraries.

(o) In accordance with the Unesco Manifesto on Public Libraries, and with international practice generally, use of the Seychelles National Library and all its branches should remain free for both home reading and for reference and study.

8.2.3 School libraries

(a) It is vitally important to improve reading opportunities in the schools, since school-children comprise the majority of the literate population in the Seychelles. The Ministry of Education's Resources Centre is a new but successful venture. Its success should be reinforced with more books and more equipment, not only through Unesco aid, but also by increased votes in the Education budget.

(b) As soon as possible a trained and qualified Schools Librarian should be established and appointed. Such a person could well operate from the Ministry Resources Centre, but should be on the staff of the Director of Library Services.
(c) Plans for all proposed new schools in the future should be submitted to the Director of Library Services and the Schools Librarian to ensure that adequate and appropriate space is included for library/resource centres.

(d) Existing school premises should be examined to see if school libraries can be accommodated through re-allocation of space.

(e) The sizeable libraries at Seychelles College and at Regina Mundi Convent should be fully developed.

8.2.4 Further Education libraries

(a) The idea of a Central Library for Further Education, which it is understood is in the planning stage, should be proceeded with.

(b) The Teachers' Training College Library should be strengthened by the addition of more books and periodicals, and an extension to the building should eventually be made.

(c) The creation of a Central Library for Further Education will imply greatly increased stocks of books on hotel management, tourism, catering, secretarial work, and technology.

(d) In accordance with the Bentley Report, it is recommended that a professional librarian's post be established to manage the libraries of the TTC and the College of Further Education.

8.2.5 Government Department collections

(a) As soon as possible, a professional librarian's post should be established to manage the growing collections of books and documentation in Government Ministries and departments. This person should operate from National House but should be on the staff of the Director of Library Services. Support staff will
be needed as the collections grow in size and importance.

(b) A professional post of Law Librarian should also be established as soon as possible. This person would be responsible for maintaining the Supreme Court Library, the collection in the office of the Attorney-General, and the records of the Supreme Court and the Magistrates' Court. Consideration should be given to the possibility of merging the Attorney-General's collection with that of the Supreme Court. The consultant makes no recommendation one way or the other, except to point out that one large collection is normally preferable to two smaller ones.

8.2.6 National Archives

(a) The first priority after the move of the library to the VDC building will be the complete repair of the library flooring and the completion of other essential works so as to permit the Museum and Archives to occupy fully the present Carnegie Library building. This work should be proceeded with as speedily as possible, since the additional space is urgently needed both for the proper storage of records and for the development of the Museum.

(b) There is already a case for additional staff, and this will be strengthened when the whole building is occupied. Another assistant archivist should be added to the staff, as well as a conservationist of documents.

(c) At the same time that this expansion is taking place, consideration should be given to re-grading the salary of the Archivist/Curator to scale G 7-8. The present grade of the post is G 6-7. This would have the effect of giving the post parity with the qualified librarians working under the
Director of Library, Archives and Documentation Services.

(d) The Archives equipment should include a laminating machine, a photocopier and reprography equipment. The need for transport mentioned in the Pala Report is underlined.

8.2.7 Organisation for proposed Seychelles National Library Service

Minister of Education and Culture

| National Council on Libraries, Documentation and Archives Services
| Director of Libraries, Documentation and Archives Services (E 8)
| Librarian, Public Libraries (G 7-8)
| Schools Librarian (G 7-8)
| Librarian, Further Education Libraries (G 7-8)
| Librarian, Government Department Libraries (G 7-8)
| Law Librarian (G 7-8)
| Archivist/Curator (G 7-8)
TABLE I: POPULATION BY ISLANDS AND AGE GROUPS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AREA</th>
<th>POPULATION</th>
<th>% UNDER 15</th>
<th>%15-64</th>
<th>%65 &amp; OVER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Victoria</td>
<td>23,000</td>
<td>37.9</td>
<td>55.7</td>
<td>6.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Mahé</td>
<td>31,600</td>
<td>41.1</td>
<td>52.6</td>
<td>6.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mahé</td>
<td>54,600</td>
<td>39.7</td>
<td>53.9</td>
<td>6.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Praslin</td>
<td>4,360</td>
<td>41.7</td>
<td>52.0</td>
<td>6.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>La Digue</td>
<td>1,910</td>
<td>48.0</td>
<td>45.0</td>
<td>7.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silhouette</td>
<td>390</td>
<td>37.8</td>
<td>55.8</td>
<td>6.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other islands</td>
<td>690</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>83.6</td>
<td>6.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>61,950</td>
<td>39.8</td>
<td>53.8</td>
<td>6.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TABLE II: POPULATION AGED 12 YEARS AND OVER BY ECONOMIC STATUS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ECONOMIC STATUS</th>
<th>NUMBER OF PERSONS</th>
<th>% OF TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Government employees</td>
<td>5,370</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Private employees</td>
<td>13,470</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Self employed, own account and unpaid family workers</td>
<td>3,080</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Under employed persons looking for regular work</td>
<td>490</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Unemployed persons(other than first time job seekers)</td>
<td>1,840</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Unemployed first time job seekers (school leavers)</td>
<td>760</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Students</td>
<td>5,900</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Inactive persons (housewives, retired persons, etc.)</td>
<td>10,490</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>41,670</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECONOMIC STATUS</td>
<td>AGE GROUPS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12-14</td>
<td>15-19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working Population</td>
<td>296</td>
<td>3,854</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work Seekers</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>1,108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Economically Active</td>
<td>533</td>
<td>4,962</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others (Not Economically Active)</td>
<td>4,527</td>
<td>2,385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>5,060</td>
<td>7,347</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Work Seekers as % of Economically Active Pop. | 44% | 22% | 6% | 4% | 10%

Economically Active Pop. as % of total Pop. | 11% | 66% | 75% | 23% | 61%
TABLE IV: WORKING POPULATION BY INDUSTRY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INDUSTRY</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
<th>% of TOTAL</th>
<th>% FEMALE</th>
<th>% 12 - 19</th>
<th>% NON-SECOLLOST</th>
<th>% WITH MORE THAN FORM II EDUCATION</th>
<th>% VOCATIONAL</th>
<th>% PART-TIME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Agriculture</td>
<td>3,613</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Fishing</td>
<td>835</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Manufacturing</td>
<td>1,366</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Water &amp; Electricity</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Construction</td>
<td>4,070</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Trade</td>
<td>1,350</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Hotels</td>
<td>2,125</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Restaurants and bars</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Tourism/aviation</td>
<td>725</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Other tpt. &amp; commns.</td>
<td>1,329</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Business services</td>
<td>456</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Domestic services</td>
<td>2,581</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Social services</td>
<td>1,598</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Central Govt. &amp; other services</td>
<td>1,924</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. International bodies</td>
<td>296</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Not stated</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL: 22,683 100% 36% 18% 4% 17% 15% 14%

The construction industry was the main employer followed by agriculture. Industries 7, 8, and 9, the main tourism industries, employed 3,000 people or 13% of the working population.
**TABLE V: WORKING POPULATION BY EDUCATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HIGHEST EDUCATIONAL LEVEL ATTAINED</th>
<th>TOTAL %</th>
<th>UNDER 25 %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No formal education</td>
<td>11.8</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary education</td>
<td>46.9</td>
<td>27.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary education Form I or II</td>
<td>24.4</td>
<td>50.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Form III or IV</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>13.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Form V</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Form VI</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University or higher education</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nearly 60% of the total working population had only attended primary school or had no schooling at all. Looking at the working population under 25 years old, which accounts for 35% of the total, we see that 50% have attended Form I or II of secondary education.
### TABLE VI: OUTER ISLANDS BY POPULATION, AGE GROUP & EMPLOYMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>island</th>
<th>POPULATION</th>
<th>MALE</th>
<th>FEMALE</th>
<th>UNDER 12</th>
<th>AGRIC. WKERS.</th>
<th>CONSTR. WKERS.</th>
<th>OTHER NON-WKERS.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aldabra</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alphonse</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assumption</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>60(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bird</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>17(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coetivy</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cosmoledo</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darros</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denis</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>6 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Des Roches</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farquhar</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fregate</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marie Louise</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Platte</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poivre</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providence</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Joseph</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL** 682 535 147 74 383 114 87 24

(1) Guano production
(2) Tourism
APPENDIX "B"

SCHOOL POPULATION AND TEACHING STAFF

(as at January 31, 1977)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of School</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>F</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>34 Primary Schools</td>
<td>10,003</td>
<td>4,971</td>
<td>5,032</td>
<td>424</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Junior Secondary Schools</td>
<td>3,090</td>
<td>1,360</td>
<td>1,730</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Grammar and 1 Sen. Sec. Sch.</td>
<td>4,250</td>
<td>1,886</td>
<td>2,364</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Further Education Colleges</td>
<td>309</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL All schools and colleges</strong></td>
<td>14,562</td>
<td>6,978</td>
<td>7,584</td>
<td>659</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>553</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PROPOSALS FOR A LIBRARY LAW FOR THE SEYCHELLES

The proposed new Library Law should, inter alia, make provision for the following desiderata:

Set up the Seychelles National Library Service (SNLS).
Nominate the Ministry responsible for the Service.
Provide for the establishment of a National Council on Libraries, Documentation and Archives Services to advise the Minister on policy and to act as a national co-ordinating body for implementing the Unesco National Information Systems (NATIS) project.
Make provision for the appointment of a Director and adequate support staff for SNLS.
Define the objects and functions of the National Council in so far as public, academic, school, Government and other libraries and archives collections are concerned.
Repeal caps. 161 and 236 of The Laws of the Seychelles.
Make renewed provision for deposit at the National Library of all material printed and published in the Seychelles.
Ensure that an obligation exists on the National Library to store, preserve and make available to the public all legal deposit material.
Charge the SNLS with the obligation of preparing and publishing a current and retrospective national bibliography.
Empower the SNLS to acquire and make freely available to the public all types of material, ie books, periodicals, newspapers, maps, prints, pictures, slides, films, microtexts, musical scores, discs, cassettes and other forms of informational material.
Empower the SNLS to undertake bibliographical services, including the preparation and sale of catalogues, booklists, postcards and any other promotional matter.
Empower the National Council to acquire land and buildings, and to construct, maintain or repair any property required for the use and development of the SNLS.
Make adequate financial provision to carry out and develop the aims and objectives of SNLS.
Make financial regulations for handling the monies for which the National Council is responsible, and for accounting and auditing.
Make provision for annual and other reports to be made to the Minister by the National Council.
To enact such other miscellaneous provisions as may be thought necessary or desirable.
LIST OF INSTITUTIONS VISITED, DECEMBER 5, 1977 - JANUARY 27, 1978

Carnegie Public Library
Ministry of Education and Culture
Seychelles College
Regina Mundi Convent School
Ministry of Finance
St Andrew's School, Cascade
St Michael's School, Anse aux Pins
Ministry of Education Resources Centre
St Joseph's School, Anse Royale
St Francis's School and Social Centre, Baie Lazare
St Anthony's Primary School, Anse Etoile
St John Baptist School and Social Centre, Glacis
St Mary's School, Anse Boileau
St Peter's School, Port Glaud
Teachers' Training College
Senior Secondary School
St Roch's School, Bel Ombre
National Archives and Museum
Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fishries
Praslin Public Library
Police Training School, Praslin
St Matthew's School, Praslin
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Tourism and Aviation
Central Police Headquarters, Victoria
Ministry of Information
Radio Seychelles
Supreme Court Library
Land Registry
Office of the Attorney-General
Seychelles Hospital
Hotel and Tourism Training School
Secretarial School
APPENDIX "E"

LIST OF PERSONALITIES CONSULTED OR INTERVIEWED

The Head of State of the Republic of the Seychelles (President P A René)
The Minister of Education and Culture
The Minister of Information
The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Finance
The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education
The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture
The Permanent Secretary (Port), Port Manager
Judges of the Supreme Court
The Acting Attorney-General
The Commissioner of Police
The Registrar-General
The Chief Statistician
The Headmaster, Seychelles College
The Principal, Teachers' Training College
The Principal, Hotel and Tourism Training School
The Principal, Secretarial School
The Principal of the Senior Secondary School
The Senior Education Officer for Development and Finance
The Senior Education Officer for Administration
The Senior Education Officer for Non-Formal Education
The Advisory Teacher for Praslin and La Digue
Mr A Chow (Bookseller, Seychelles News Service)
Mr Guy Lionnet (author)
M. Delhomme (Member of the Carnegie Library Board)
Mr Kantilal Shah (Member of the Carnegie Library Board)
The Law Registrar
The Matron of Seychelles Hospital
The Senior Nursing Instructor, Seychelles Hospital
The President of the Rotary Club of Seychelles
Dr Beryl Steele (Education Adviser, British ODM)
The Librarian of the Carnegie Public Library
The Archivist and Museum Curator
The Officer in charge of the Resources Centre, Ministry of Education
The English Language Teaching Adviser, Ministry of Education
The Anglican Bishop of the Seychelles
The Roman Catholic Bishop of the Seychelles
The Editor, "Weekend Life"
The Secretary of the Unesco National Commission for the Seychelles
The US Peace Corps Librarian, Seychelles
Headteachers and staffs of Primary and Junior Secondary Schools