

New Serial Notes

The Institute of Jewish Studies of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem has undertaken the publication of a new English-language journal in Jewish Studies entitled *Judaica in Jerusalem*. The purpose of this journal is to overcome the language barrier and enable scholars throughout the world in related fields such as history, philosophy, comparative religion, Bible, etc., to make use of the fruits of Israeli scholarship written in Hebrew.

The journal is divided into three sections: The first section will be devoted to abstracts of doctoral dissertations which have been approved by Israeli universities in recent years. The second section will contain summaries of the important articles relating to Jewish Studies which appear in Israeli scholarly journals in the Hebrew language. The third section will consist of abstracts and critical reviews of the major books in Jewish Studies published in Israel in Hebrew.

A major goal of *Judaica in Jerusalem* is to present a true and balanced picture of Israeli scholarship, its interests and schools of thought. The first issue is scheduled to appear in fall-winter 1983-84. The journal is planned as a bi-annual publication.

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Evidence for the need for an English abstract journal for Jewish Studies published in Hebrew is found in a recently published citation analysis of Biblical Studies (Yitzhaky, 1982). The author found that Hebrew Biblical Studies account for about 4% of all studies in this field and for about 5% of all cited papers in the field. This led him to conclude that research published in Hebrew is used and cited primarily by those who are Hebrew speakers and who publish their own papers in Hebrew as well. Dissemination of information about Judaic Studies published in Israel in Hebrew to the international community of scholars in this field should increase the impact of this research literature.

—Ed. (B.H.W.)

REFERENCE

Yitzhaky, M. [oshe], "Bible Research in Hebrew in the 20th Century: a Bibliometric Study," *Alei Sefer: a Journal for the Study of the Hebrew book*, No. 10 (June 1982), pp. 143-152. (LC Romanization: *'Ale Sefer*.)

CARLJS Periodicals Project: An Interim Report

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Current periodicals of Jewish interest number in the hundreds. As these titles proliferate and as the funds available for new subscriptions decrease, libraries have found it necessary to be more selective and to limit the number of new serial subscriptions which they order each year. Some institutions have even been forced to cancel subscriptions for titles to which they had subscribed for many years. Librarians expressed need for sharing information regarding periodical holdings to enable them to make informed decisions about placing and cancelling subscriptions. The Executive Committee of the Council of Archives and Research Libraries in Jewish Studies (CARLJS) therefore appointed a committee to study the situation and make recommendations.

The Periodicals Committee, after considerable deliberation, concluded that the membership would benefit most from sharing information pertaining to periodicals that might be considered peripheral to the interests of most member institutions or that were expensive and therefore not held widely. It was also the belief of the Committee that steps must be taken to assure that at least one copy of every serial title of Jewish interest is preserved so that it can be made available to readers and scholars.

In the course of the discussion it was noted that a union list of serials would be the best vehicle for the dissemination of the requisite information. It was pointed out that both the *Union List of Serials* and *New Serial Titles* were incomplete. The Committee felt, therefore, that the compilation of a union list of Judaica serials is a desideratum. In view of the fact that the funds and personnel required to see such a project to fruition were not available, the Committee recommended to the Council that it approve the compilation of a list of "esoteric" titles, i.e., titles reported held by no more than five member libraries.

Following the Council's approval, the Committee set about compiling the list of "esoteric" titles. It sent members a photocopy of the current periodicals cardex of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion Klau Library in Cincinnati and requested that each member note the titles that were currently being received. Additions to the Klau Library holdings were also noted. Twelve of the thirty-three member libraries, representing the major collectors of Judaica, responded to the survey. The Committee therefore considered the survey valid and proceeded to compile both Judaica and Hebraica lists of "esoteric" titles based on these responses.

Procedures have been established and forms devised (see Figures 1-3) for reporting and disseminating information pertaining to new serial titles and changes in the status of older serials. As a result, periodic reports have been sent to the membership. In addition, as a result of the information gathered, three supplements to the master list have been distributed. Procedures are now in place as well for the committee to monitor the holdings of periodical titles and to seek cooperation from member institutions in continuing to receive and maintain titles not widely held.

A word processor has now been made available for use by the committee and it plans to integrate and edit the master list and the supplementary lists during the coming year. In addition, the Committee will once more explore the feasibility of preparing a union list of serials.

The Committee is confident that lists of "esoteric" titles and reports pertaining to new serial titles have been helpful in aiding librarians to make decisions pertaining to the acquisition and cancellation of serials. We are hopeful that a greater number of members will participate in this cooperative venture.

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יצחקי, משה. "מקומם של הספר והמאמר העבריים במחקר המקראי במאה העשרים--ניתוח ביבליומטרי," *עלי ספר*, חוברת י, תמוז תשמ"ב, ע' 143-152.