

Publications, 1975. 8 vols. £150). Vol. 1 deals with London, Vol. 2 with the rest of the British Isles, Vols. 3-4 with newspapers published abroad, and Vols. 5-8 are an alphabetical title index.

iv. *The Shiloah Center Bulletin*

The Shiloah Center for Middle Eastern and African Studies of Tel Aviv University has published its first *Bulletin* in thirty-two pages of unbound typescript. The purpose of the *Bulletin* is to publicize current work in the Center. The first issue is devoted to an account of a seminar on the Arab-Israeli conflict since 1973. The full text of the papers read at the seminar will be published as a book (in Hebrew and English editions) this year. Persons and organizations wishing to be included in the mailing list of the *Bulletin* should write to the Secretary, Shiloah Center, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel. Comments and questions are welcome.

v. *British Middle East Libraries Committee (MELCOM) Publications*

MELCOM is a group of librarians and academics (with non-British members) interested in Middle Eastern Studies (Chairman: Dr J.D. Latham, Manchester University; Secretary: Dr D. Hopwood, Oxford University; Treasurer: Dr R. Bidwell, Cambridge University). It has produced cooperatively the following volumes, which may be purchased direct from the publishers or from booksellers:

1. *The MELCOM Guide to Arab Islamic Bibliography*  
Edited by Diana Grimwood-Jones, Derek Hopwood, and J.D. Pearson. To be published this year by Harvester Press Ltd., 2 Stanford Terrace, Hassocks, Nr Brighton, Sussex. Price: about £25.
2. *Union Catalogue of Arabic Serials and Newspapers in British Libraries*. Edited by Paul Auchterlonie and Yasin Safadi. To be published this year by Mansell Information/Publishing Ltd. (address on cover of this *Bulletin*). Price: about £10.
3. *Middle East and Islam: A Bibliographical Introduction*. Edited by Diana Grimwood-Jones. Second revised and enlarged edition to be published late this year or early 1978 by Inter Documentation Company, Poststrasse 14, 6300 Zug, Switzerland. Price: not yet fixed.

OBITUARY

Mr E.H. Paxton (1906-1977)

The death of Mr Evelyn Paxton occurred on 4 January 1977. An Oxford graduate in Oriental Studies (Arabic with Persian), Mr Paxton began his career in Egypt as a secondary-school English teacher, later becoming a university lecturer in English in Cairo. This period of his life, during which he aimed at perfecting both his literary and his spoken Arabic, was distinguished by his translation of the first of the three volumes of Ṭāhā Ḥusayn's celebrated autobiography *al-Ayyām*. This now well-known translation bears the title *An Egyptian Childhood* (London, 1932), and, appearing, as it did, within three years of the publication of the Arabic original, it testifies to Paxton's early enthusiasm, discrimination and competence in the field of modern Arabic literature.

Joining the BBC in 1939, Paxton became the first regular programme organizer of the new Arabic Service. During the war years and throughout the blitz he laboured unstintingly for the BBC. Expert in his craft, he was kind and considerate to his juniors, and his unfailing sense of duty and dedication inspired the complete confidence of all those who worked with him. From 1952 he was Assistant Head of Eastern Services, but in 1964 he returned to the Arabic Service, where he remained until his retirement in 1967. After retirement he became an increasingly active member of the Royal Society for Asian Affairs (formerly the Royal Central Asian Society) and was Chairman of the editorial board for their journal *Asian Affairs*. Another of his interests was the Association of British Orientalists in whose activities he had regularly participated for many years. Two years ago he was elected Chairman of the Association, and the office gave him great pleasure.

Evelyn Paxton was a great family man, deeply religious, and a loyal friend to many. After retirement he remained physically fit and mentally alert, but his last year was marred by an illness which he bore with great courage, much sustained by the devoted care of his wife and children.

Haskell Isaacs