

**BAHAMIANA IN THE COLLEGE OF THE  
BAHAMAS LIBRARY**  
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There are always some materials acquired by a college library that, because of their nature, constitute a special collection. These materials may be rare, irreplaceable, fragile or have local archival value.

Until recently the College of The Bahamas Library had no such special collection but in May 1979 a special Bahamiana collection was established at the Oakes Field Library. This collection will provide basic research material for faculty and students interested in Bahamian history, geography and culture. The initial collection consists of books and periodical articles and is housed in the assistant librarian's office at Oakes Field.

The libraries at COB have always provided Bahamian materials for loan to library users but their popularity has subsequently led to theft thus depleting our collection of valuable local material and creating an added expense for replacement to our book budget. In some cases the missing books are out-of-print and cannot easily be replaced. The special Bahamiana collection is, therefore, a closed access, non-circulating collection available to researchers upon application to the librarian.

The initial collection of books consists of sixty six titles and thirty three periodical articles, all Bahamian books presently in print. As funds become available more titles will be added to the collection. Space limitations prevent listing the contents of the collection, though it is hoped that a catalog, to be revised at regular intervals, will be produced early in 1980.

There is, however, presently a small collection of books that should be mentioned due to their importance to researchers. These books have only recently become available and will prove to be a valuable addition to the Bahamiana holdings. They are:

Moseley, Mary. *The Bahamas Handbook*. Nassau: Nassau Guardian, 1926.

Nutting, C. C. Narrative and Preliminary Report of Bahama Expedition, 1895.

Peggs, A. Deans. A Short History of the Bahamas. Nassau: Nassau Daily Tribune, c. 1951.

Rigg, J. Linton. Bahama Islands. New York: D. Van Nostrand, 1949.

The COB libraries are not attempting to compete with the Archives or the Nassau Public Library. Their Bahamiana holdings are far superior to ours and financial and space restrictions prevent us from collecting materials comparable to theirs. The library will, however, provide as many Bahamian materials as possible for studies and research being conducted by our faculty and students.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** *The catalog referred to above, has since receipt of this article, been published and consists of 234 entries.*