

AREAS OF INTEREST AND ACCOMPLISHMENT

Thus far, Drum and Spear Press has identified and begun work in several major areas of interest:

1. In the area of educational material for black youth, we offer:

Children of Africa -- published in 1970; a family coloring book for both pre-school children and their parents; designed to show and tell our past and present history; the first edition of this book is already sold out, currently Westminster Press is assisting us with the second edition.

"Saa Ya Watoto" -- to be distributed in 1971; syndicated tapes from our children's story-telling radio program, done in play form with musical accompaniment.

"Legend and Lore of Africa" -- to be distributed in 1971; stereo LP recording of some of the best tapes from our "Saa Ya Watoto" series.

The Hut -- to be published in 1971; a social science workbook for high school-aged black children, divided into sections dealing with the history, geography (natural resources, tribal boundaries), etc. of the African world.

The Tortoise -- to be published in 1971; an African fable in story-book form which teaches young children the lesson of sharing.

"Children's Digest" -- to be begun in late 1971 or early 1972; a monthly publication, with a wide range of educational features, including science, black history, and African language sections; designed specifically for black children ages 8 - 12.

2. In the area of restoring the historical, political and cultural legacy of black people, aimed particularly at adults, we offer:

\ History of Pan-African Revolt -- published in 1969; written by C.L.R. James, the noted West Indian historian; assesses the history of black rebellion in the West.

\ The Book of African Names -- published in 1970; recounts the legacy of the African naming ceremony and lists many African names for girls and boys, along with their meanings; this book has satisfied the needs of many young couples who have sought a book which would help them in giving their children traditional African names.

The Baby Book -- to be published in 1971; a photo album for baby pictures, with appropriate African proverbs noted at each stage of the child's development; includes section on traditional African methods of child-rearing.

The African Nigger -- to be published in 1971; written by Frank Owano; an autobiography

which recounts the author's travels from East Africa to the U.S. during the years of the Kennedy program aimed at bringing African students to the U.S; pinpoints the roles played by political figures such as Tom Mboya and Oginga Odinga.

"The African World Map" -- a wall-sized (35" x 45") map of the geographic areas where black people live -- the Caribbean, South America, North America and Africa; will also include resource charts which will note dates of independence of various African nations, languages of the African world by tribe and/or area, and population figures.

3. In the area of developing the facility and familiarity of the black community with our languages, we offer:

Kusema Kiswahili -- published in 1969, written by Bernard Muganda (a teacher from Tanzania, now teaching in the African Studies Department of Howard University; a simple step-by-step manual for learning the East African language; a revised edition to be published soon.

Watoto wa Afrika -- to be published in 1971; a Swahili version of Children of Africa being printed for us in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, to serve the dual purpose of providing an easy language teaching aid for black children here, as well as providing for Swahili-speaking children in Africa a picture of the larger black community in the U.S. and other parts of the world.

4. In the area of aiding black artists with significant contributions to make in the field of art and literature, we are presently acting as printer and distributor for Tom Feelings, noted black illustrator. We are also the overseas distributors for the latest book (Fragments) by the brilliant, young Ghanaian author, Ayi Kwei Armah (The Beautiful Ones Are Not Yet Born).

5. In the area of helping other people communicate their history, lifestyles, etc. to the black community, we offer:

Enemy of the Sun -- published in 1970; edited by Aruri and Ghareeb; a book of Palestinian poetry, including poems of love and life,

many of which reflect the suffering of
the dispossessed Palestinian people.

6. In the area of introducing black authors from outside the U.S. to the black community here, we are currently negotiating with Presence Africaine in Paris and Bogle L'Ouverture Bookstore in London for distribution rights.

These are our major areas of interest to date. For the future, we plan (in addition to the upcoming Children's Digest) an adult magazine. It will, on a regular and serious basis, air political, social, and economic thought, and discuss events affecting black people. We also intend to begin the publishing of technical books and technical visual aids (games, etc.) to begin to meet the important need for technical knowledge in the black community.