

background would derive from an understanding of the nature of the publications themselves and the characteristics of dispersion of new ideas in the literature. The author emphasizes that the major use of these techniques has been to study the literature itself for an understanding of the nature of science and its publications.

Can, or would, many librarians apply these techniques in individual libraries? Would a standard pattern derived from grant supported research in a prototype library (the author notes a project at the Allen Memorial Medical Library, Cleveland, Ohio) be adaptable to other libraries? These questions lead only to conjecture without pilot studies.

This elaborate apparatus depends for its basic data on those highly suspect library use statistics (borrowing and in-house use). The final chapter outlines the step-by-step procedure for applying this bibliometric method to libraries, the first step being based on use statistics. Bibliometry, as the author recurrently emphasizes, deals with quantitative factors not the qualitative substance of the information in the materials. Use statistics, unless exceptionally sophisticated, are only erratically indicative of the utility of the use. The author cautions that the librarian must understand the character of the scientist and his research methodology as well as the nature of the subject literature. That the scientist may reject as overwhelming the productivity of automated data retrieval and SDI services is a fact of life. That by the time of its appearance in publication an idea may be too late for effective use is suggested by a currently in preparation directory of expertise to conjoin ideas from the source brains. These points are raised not to invalidate Mr. Donohue's presentation but to suggest that the procedures might be overly elaborate for the ultimate benefit. A further hesitancy derives from a jaundiced acquaintance with the idiosyncrasies of library users and of librarians in determining selection policy: neither is notable for dispassionate rationality.

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BETTY ROSENBERG

Advances in Librarianship, Vol. 4. MELVIN J. VOIGT (Editor). Academic Press, New York (1974). 246 pp. \$15.00. LC # 79-88675.

VOLUME four continues the fine series of review articles Mr. Voigt began editing four years ago. As usual the articles are well written and documented. Each article is worthwhile reading and Mr. Voigt is to be commended for his selection of authors and his editing. The type face makes the text more pleasant to read. All in all it is a worthy companion for the preceding volumes.

This year's review contains the following articles: "MARC and Its Application to Library Automation" by Roy Torkington; "Selective Dissemination of Information" by Georg Hauerhoff; "Circulation Automation" by Hugh Atkinson; "Social Responsibility and Libraries" by Arthur Curly; "Women in Librarianship" by Anita Schiller; "The Use of Resources in Learning Experience" by Johnnie Givens; and "Reading as Information Processing" by John Geyer and Paul Kolens.

Although Ms. Schiller did not comment on authorship problems for women librarians one cannot help noting that only 13 of the 42 authors in this series are women. It is important to note the series seems to be drifting toward an automation/information science bias. Three of the seven articles in this year's volume deal with automation and/or information science. Ten of 38 articles in the series have been concerned with the same subject area. No other broad subject area has been given comparable treatment. If the series is to be a true annual review of librarianship a better balance in subject treatment must be achieved.

At \$15 a copy this book will probably not go into too many personal collections. The series could be of more value and reach more persons if the sale price could be reduced and the subject treatment made more equitable.

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The Subject Approach to Information (2nd Edition). A. C. FOSKETT. Linnet Books, Hamden, Conn. (1972). ISBN 0-208-01078-5.

MANY second editions are so slightly revised a reader must search carefully to find any of the changes. Mr. Foskett is not guilty of such a practice. Although the first edition received great praise the author has found ways to improve the book. The additions and revisions have made the second edition an outstanding book of great value to both practitioners and teachers.

The most important changes are: (a) revisions to reflect changes in the Dewey, Bliss, and Colon classification systems, (b) a new chapter on "The Document as Evidence," and (c) two chapters on post coordinate indexing languages—(i) scientific and technical and (ii) social sciences.

Every practitioner should read this work, even if they are not catalogers. It certainly should be required reading for everyone graduating from any library school in the English speaking world. If the book has not yet been translated into other languages by now it soon will be. Without question it is fundamental reading for everyone in library and information science.

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Resource Sharing in Libraries: Why, How, When, Next Action Steps. ALLEN KENT (Editor). Marcel Dekker, New York (1974). 393 pp. \$24.50.

THIS volume complements the System Development Corp.'s publications on library consortia[1, 2] as an important text on cooperation and network building among libraries.

The volume consists of 17 papers that emanate from a conference convened in April 1973 primarily to bring university presidents and librarians together to foster understanding and a working relationship among them. The papers are grouped in four parts: (1) factors necessitating resource sharing, (2) technical procedures involved in various resource sharing activities, (3) technologies utilizable for resource sharing and illustrations of the consensus that now is the time for resource sharing, and (4) discussions of next steps in consortium development, primarily focused on the Pennsylvania scene. This reviewer found the papers variable in quality as indicated below. The index is adequate but somewhat amateurish. The important topic of costs, for example, that is covered in several papers, has only one index entry and the term "software" none. The book is satisfyingly free of typographic errors, but does this justify a \$24.50 price?

The major paper in the first part is essentially a pedantic review of much of the literature (e.g., WEINBERG [3], SATCOM [4], KNIGHT and NOURSE [5], SDC cited above) on library cooperation and literature growth that may be helpful to an audience unfamiliar with this history. A commentary on this paper provides a useful discussion of different approaches to computing academic library costs. Remarks of several university presidents include observations on the need for control of the generation and use of information and changes in user habits.

The second part begins with a lengthy description of resource sharing as it is accomplished at the operational levels of acquisition, cataloging and processing, delivery of services, and storage by deposit libraries. This is a nuts-and-bolts exposition useful for decision-making at working levels. Joseph Shipman's brief but lively summary of cooperative programs in the U.S., Germany, and Scandinavia includes an opinion that 10-20 regional installations comparable to England's National Lending Library might be appropriate to alleviate pressures on U.S. research libraries. John Finzi discusses the Library of Congress' contributions to processing and he uses the Centralized Processing Center at the University of Massachusetts Library as an illustration of a desirable inexpensive processing operation. Robert Muller's paper is a thoughtful consideration of depositories (cooperative storage centers); he hypothesizes the need for one or several national centers not necessarily structured along the lines of existing storage libraries that he doubts will materialize before 2000.

One of the highlights of this volume is a 119-page tome on network technology prepared by Isaac Auerbach and Herbert Landau. Their thesis is that data communications is a key to effective resource sharing, and their paper provides a state-of-the-art on storage technology, communications technology, standardization activities, an extract from *Auerbach Software Reports* on information storage and retrieval (IS&R) systems that includes comparison charts of technical and administrative characteristics of 62 current IS&R packages, an appendix on applications of network technology in Pennsylvania, and a 98-item bibliography. Melvin Day expresses concern that information services have stimulated more demand for documents than delivery systems can supply; he discusses MEDLINE, the Regional Medical Library Program, and the need to improve the speed, efficiency, and cost of document delivery. The need to control rising costs while increasing services is Henry Chauncey's theme; he fears that computer operations are frequently duplicative and wasteful and exhibit unsatisfactory levels of documentation, program support, and user assistance. Herman Henkle's view is that depressed federal spending appears to be causing systems to falter which suggests adoption of the route of limited networks centered in local institutions. Henkle, one of two consultants selected to study the feasibility of a Metro-Sci-Tech Library in Pittsburgh, presents the principal recommendations submitted to planners; this discussion is another highlight of the volume.

Leon Montgomery's paper introduces the fourth part with summaries of SDC's nationwide survey [6], three proposals for further consortium development, descriptions of five consortia excerpted from the SDS survey, and descriptions of academic consortia in Pennsylvania together with summary charts on their services, delivery systems, communication mechanisms, and data bases excerpted from a Drexel University prepared inventory [7]. The volume ends with a brief tracing of the growth and current activities of the Pittsburgh Regional Library Center and an overview of Pennsylvania's numerous programs as seen by the state librarian, Ernest Doerschuk.