later, are we as a profession still hesitant to declare ourselves unilaterally as open storehouses and dispensers of the recorded resources of knowledge and information, regardless of format?

The intuitive answer may be that information in form other than print is suspect as being less than intellectual. Let us look a little more closely at some of the monographs on our shelves, where in the name of thoroughness and academic freedom we have collected biased, poorly written, out of date and occasionally unreadable works. And let us compare these with some of the nonprint media which vividly capture in sight and sound, history, skill techniques, procedures, beauty and ugliness, and engaging entertainment. Our shelves should proudly contain the totality of the human experience, in all the forms devised by mind and technology, providing total access for that vitally-concerned segment of society which is our clientele.

Nonbook Materials, The Organization of Integrated Collections is a guide and a precept for those who have accepted this challenge.—Gloria Terwilliger, Director of Learning Resources, Alexandria Campus, Northern Virginia Community College.


There have been few serious biographical studies done on the major figures in Revolutionary journalism. Edes and Gill, Rivington, John Holt, James Parker, and others still await biographers. Fortunately, Hugh Gaine, one of the most controversial and enigmatic of the Revolutionary editors, has now been given the careful and unbiased treatment he has so long deserved.

Professor Lorenz has written an important book. For he has revealed, better perhaps than anyone else, the tremendous obstacles encountered by an editor who wished to remain independent of “special interest” in a time when emotions ran high and neutrality was viewed as a traitorous act. In doing so he shows clearly the reasons for Gaine’s erratic editorial course from 1752 to 1776.

In Professor Lorenz’s biography Hugh Gaine emerges as a talented and dedicated editor who only wanted to print the news and make money. However, in those days an editor had to ally himself and his paper with a special interest group if he intended to stay in business, and thus Gaine was forced to change sides frequently in the tumultuous years preceding the Revolution in order to ensure his livelihood.

Gaine made a fateful decision when he decided to abandon the patriot cause in 1776, and return to New York to resume the publication of his New York Mercury in that occupied city. Once he had made his choice there was no turning back and he soon became one of the most hated and maligned Tory editors in Revolutionary America. His notoriety was further enhanced when he became the subject of Phillip Freneau’s long and cutting poem, “Hugh Gaines Life.” Freneau maintained that Gaine would:

Always adhere to the Sword that is longest and stick to the party thats like to be strongest. . . .

Unfortunately, Gaine underestimated the patriots, and chose to support the wrong “party.” Nevertheless, he remains a major figure in the annals of American publishing, and Professor Lorenz’s balanced, well-written, and timely study should be acquired by every library with an interest in the history of the American Revolution.—Michael H. Harris, Associate Professor, College of Library Science, University of Kentucky, Lexington.


This seventh in a series of Readers in Library and Information Science is a compilation of articles covering the whole field of technical services. In one small sense the title is misleading for in actuality descriptive cataloging and classification have been excluded from this volume and covered in another of the series.

The collection brings together materials of a historical nature, some state-of-the-art articles, and some attempts at predicting the future. One big disadvantage is a “de-