taiga and tundra. Or is this perhaps a topic to which Professor Budurowycz has not given attention?

Yet, as each of the individual descriptions and the general recapitulations and suggestions show, the author is cognizant of the needs of Canadian libraries, and he has provided an admirably detailed guide which can be used both by the scholar and by the librarian. He has, it may be, gone somewhat further than absolutely necessary in providing lists of specific titles, but this does lend a useful amount of information that is likely to be of value to those who consult this volume. In a final forty-some pages of conclusions and evaluations, Professor Budurowycz examines the general state of library holdings for each of the major countries and subject fields and offers recommendations as to the future development of Canadian information resources for these topics. A set of statistical tables provides summaries of the size of the major Canadian collections both overall and by country or subject.

In summation, one may say that, despite the preceding reservations, Professor Budurowycz has both diligently and successfully compiled a solidly based and worthwhile guide to Canadian repositories of Slavic and East European materials, one which will be of value not only in Canada itself but also particularly to the scholar who is interested in Ukrainica and in other facets of the Slavic experience with Canada.—Robert V. Allen, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.


A wealth of information about Canadian law libraries is offered in this report of a survey funded and conducted by the Resources Survey Division of the National Library in close cooperation with the Canadian Association of Law Libraries (CALL). The objectives of the survey were to collect, present, and analyze descriptive data regarding Canadian law libraries, and serve as a basis for recommendations concerning the general needs of law libraries.

A more specific objective was to provide data for the determination of which of two alternative remedies—a centralized national legal collection or a subsidized law library network coordinated by technical services in the National Library—would solve the problem of inadequate legal resources in many areas of the country. Poor law library facilities and inadequate staffing were cited in 1956 by the Committee on Legal Research of the Canadian Bar Association as the primary reasons for the inadequacy of legal research in Canada.

The methodology used included a combination of mailed questionnaires and visits by the survey team. All law school libraries and major law society libraries were visited. Smaller libraries were visited on a selective basis. The major characteristics reported in this book are those of the libraries, not those of the legal collections. Data concerning representative holdings will be published later as a supplement to this book, but this information is discussed to some extent in the analysis section.

Although one section is titled “Descriptions of Libraries” and another is titled “Results of Investigations,” both sections are descriptive. The former presents data concerning each library participating in the survey; the latter presents a descriptive analysis of the information under the headings of collections, staff, budget, space, services, facilities, administration, access to collections, and cooperative programs. The appendices contain all the data collected, the questionnaire used, a list of the participating libraries arranged by type of library, a listing of statutory provisions regarding law society libraries and law foundations, and a bibliography.

Because the analysis of various aspects tends to be superficial, the major value of this book is the display of data collected. The analytical treatment of public services is an example of the superficiality. In the descriptions of law libraries, little mention is made of circulation policies. On the other hand, in the results section the statement is made in the discussion of space available
that: "a larger percentage of law library materials are noncirculating or circulate only on a short term basis than is the case with materials in other kinds of libraries" (p.173). This indicates the possibility of some variation in circulation policies. Since, throughout the book, emphasis is placed on the dependency of the legal profession on law books, more attention should have been given to this element of service.

In the discussion of services offered by law school libraries, it is asserted that the number of staff members correlates to the range of services provided; Table III is cited. There is no Table III, per se, but apparently by using the "eyeball" method of comparing Tables IIIa, IIIc, and IIIe a correlation was determined. Since these, and some other tables, display only columns of "Y" and "N," representing the actual yes and no responses to each question by each library, any attempt to study the tables produces a blur of Ys and Ns. A reader must count and produce a total for each horizontal and vertical row.

The twenty-four recommendations based on the data obtained should present some guidelines to Canadian law librarians in structuring priorities, particularly the recommendation that CALL develop standards for Canadian law libraries. The recommendation of a national network of law libraries, rather than a centralized national structuring priorities, particularly the recommendation that CALL develop standards for a national network of law libraries, is the better of the two choices is based on the data presented. But, as law school libraries and law society libraries become more developed, the need for either alternative may become less acutely perceived. Perhaps, armed with the data presented in this report, law librarians and other administrators can seek and gain the needed support of their publics.—Joyce Shapiro Beene, formerly Assistant Law Librarian/Technical Services, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville; presently student, Memphis State University School of Law, Memphis, Tennessee.


The Use of Computers in Literature Searching and Related Reference Activities in Libraries attempts to "cover a wide range of applications of machine-readable data bases in support of the reference activities of libraries." The eleven papers included, indeed, deal with a wide range of applications, with the degree to which they are directly related to actual reference activities varying considerably. If the emphasis was intended to be on variety of applications, the criterion has been met by several of the papers, which represent viewpoints from not only academic, special, and public librarians but also data base processors, vendors, and other intermediaries. Variety is also represented by discussion of numerous steps in the process of getting data from the producer to the end user. However, it seems as though some of the variety and range could, perhaps, have been justifiably sacrificed in order to focus more clearly on what is or could be happening in reference departments.

Individually, the majority of the papers are quite worthwhile reading. The first, on evaluating data bases, is both a good introduction and a review of a topic which merits considerable attention. The remaining articles generally fall into three categories: views from a user's standpoint; descriptions of systems in specific environments, such as public and special libraries; and views from regional and national levels. Not fitting into any of these three categories, but certainly relevant to the future of computers as related to reference work,