Library science students” a book that brings together in one place the principles and practices of the Library of Congress in regard to subject headings as they have evolved over the years.

Charles A. Cutter’s Rules (1904), David J. Haykin’s Subject Headings (1951), and announcements in Cataloging Service Bulletin (1945–1978) provide the basic documentation for the underlying principles examined. Other principles were determined from interviews with Library of Congress personnel and from the examination of Library of Congress catalogs.

The book attempts to “re-examine the underlying principles of Library of Congress Subject Headings in light of recent developments and some of the recent theories and to describe current subject cataloging practice as carried out by the Library of Congress.” According to the author, “no attempt was made in this book to formulate any rules. It is an analysis of the principles and a description of current practice.”

The book is divided into two major parts, with part 1 dealing with principles, form, and structure and part 2 with application. The principles cover uniform headings, terminology, and specificity. The chapter on forms of headings covers single noun headings, adjectival headings, conjunctive and prepositional phrase headings, headings with qualifiers, and inverted headings. In regard to structure, there is a chapter on subdivisions, one on cross-references, and another on proper names in subject headings.

Regarding practical aspects, the book covers the application of principles to special types of materials, such as serials, nonbook materials, and biography. Also included is the application of principles to certain subject areas, such as literature, music, and art. The work ends with eighty-one pages of appendixes, which include varied lists of cumulated free-floating subdivisions and rules for abbreviations, capitalization, punctuation, and filing.

The book is not easy reading, but it is impressive. The dissertation-like style of presentation of part 1, with its numerous direct quotations and exposition, may dissuade even some serious readers; however, the simple sentence structure facilitates the progression through the analysis. To fully understand the work, one must have not only a thorough knowledge of Library of Congress subject headings but also an understanding of the Anglo-American Cataloging Rules and the works of Cutter and Haykin.

The reader may become perplexed by the lack of coordination or the collocation of some topics and the resulting redundancy. The repetition is more distracting than reinforcing. Also, in the relative index, one is hard pressed to predict the placement of a topic. For example, data on see references are indexed under “Cross references” and under “See references.” Following a questionable principle of only referring from the broad to the specific, linkage between the two phrases exists only under the broader term.

The weakness in general organization and indexing is balanced by the wealth of information and the use of copious illustrations.

Library science instructors will welcome this book as a comprehensive compilation of subject heading principles that may be conveyed collectively to students who have already been exposed to basic theories of cataloging. Professional librarians will find the appendixes particularly useful as a convenient reference tool for routine subject heading work.

Though limited in appeal by design, the book is monumental in scope, it is timely, and it makes a significant contribution to the literature of subject analysis. It is hoped that it will generate a resurgence of interest in the development of a code that will do for subject cataloging what AACR has done for descriptive cataloging.—Doris Hargrett Clack, Florida State University, Tallahassee.


The Special Report entitled Buying New Technology consists of six reports on automated circulation systems, another six on online data base systems and services, one on an automated system for the cataloging and classification of government documents, one on automated materials storage, and two on audio applications.

The main contribution of the volume lies in the papers concerned with automated circula-
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325 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19106, U.S.A. Tel. (215) 923-3300, Cable: SCINFO, Telex: 84-5305
tion systems and on-line data bases. Librarians who are currently or will soon be involved in the planning, implementation, and operation decisions of these services will find this volume useful, although not essential. The authors' years of practical experience with the systems described amply support their advice and recommendations. While this volume is well worth the five dollars, one only hopes future editions of this feature of the series will be better organized.

Academics are well represented among the contributors, who include Herbert Ahn, discussing procedures to follow in shopping for automated circulation systems; two SUNY librarians reporting on a survey of automated circulation in their system; Sidney Matthews, relating the experience at Southern Illinois with automated circulation from 1963 to 1977; Jeffrey Gardner, reviewing the development of computer-based search services; Peter Watson, providing a checklist of questions for use by those contemplating the establishment of on-line search services; T. Philip Tompkins, reporting on the Kansas City experience with providing on-line search services in a multi-type library network; Nelson Gilman, reporting on a merger of two search centers to form a university-wide service at USC; Mary Vickers, relating the experience of two academic libraries in sharing use of an OCLC terminal; and Raymond Frankle and Wilson Stahl, telling of their experience with the Canadian Cooperative Documents Project (CODOC).

Academics are not nearly as well represented in the Special Report Library Space Planning; yet many of the contributions have general applicability since the themes themselves concern us all, viz., energy, cooperation, library organization, new technology, collection development, the site, and remodeling.

As befits a volume with this title, the authors are concerned with numerous factors affecting space planning, from the philosophical and erudite—notably Jerold Nelson's biological model for collection space and James Baughman's dissection of the library ecology

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problem—to the practical and realistic, such as Joseph Jeffs' description of the mobile compact shelving system at Georgetown University and Arthur Tannenbaum's and Eva Sidhom's report on the establishment of an environment conducive to microform use at New York University.

As the editor makes clear in the introduction, we are entering a new era in the planning and design of libraries that we expect will be profoundly influenced by emerging service and collection policies and by significant technological developments. For this reason, this volume merits serious consideration by library planners in all types of libraries. It is refreshing to see such a fresh flow of ideas mixed with the seasoned experience issuing from these pages. One could ask for little more from a compilation concerned with the broad topic of space.

Contributions that will be of especial interest to academic librarians include Jerrold Orne's forecast of the future of academic library architecture; Joleen Bock's detailed analysis of the space needs of media-centered community college libraries; and Thomas Sla­vens' analysis of the failure of the divisional plan at Drake University.—Michael B. Binder, Fairleigh Dickinson University, Rutherford, New Jersey.


Paul B. Mayes, engineering and science librarian at Liverpool Polytechnic, has gathered seven essays by eight other British librarians who discuss some aspects of handling periodical publications in a variety of styles and with varying success. At first glance, the treatment seems incomplete. Why, for example, only "periodicals"? On reflection, this brief collection is a rather tight summary of basic and current problems.

One good section is the discussion of principles, which is well written and quite complete. Other good parts are the two longer essays, one on selection, acquisition, and recording and the other on physical forms and storage. The section covering sources of bibliographic information is too brief; and the section on automation in serials receipt and claiming is not fully up to date. But this field is changing rapidly and is not well documented elsewhere.

One major topic in serials work not covered is cataloging. Some cataloging problems are raised in the discussion of arrangement, shelving, and classification; but the specifics are not here. Other topics, such as budget and personnel, receive slight treatment. Only selected information can be covered in a short book. What is here is handled reasonably well, and the text is generally coherent and informative.

On the other side, the historical information is a bit wobbly. In one place one author says, "The first three European journals appeared in 1665. . . ." Another author claims that "the periodical as a form is traceable for some three or four thousand years before the invention of movable type. . . ."

Titles are cited in the text and listed in the references by cataloging practice in capitalization rather than the more normal bibliographic practice. This technique leads to inaccuracies such as Christian science monitor (Christian science as compared to Buddhist science, perhaps?) and Who's Who, rather than Who's who if the rules are to be followed. The citations throughout use only initials for first names. This practice is both incomplete and annoying, and the editor has also omitted periods—or, if you will, full stops.

A few wording problems can easily be found, such as saying that a periodical "will be a serial publication with a continuing title." Why not "is"? And further: if a periodical changes its title, does this statement really mean that the publication is now no longer a serial? If not, what is it? And in a few instances, terminology strange to American ears is used. One example is the chapter on "relegation." The few instances of British spelling should not, however, cause any problems.

All but one of the essays has a list of references, and one is called a bibliography. The lists are short and consequently avoid pedantry. Many sources are British and may be unfamiliar, but the lists do offer a start on additional reading.

This is not a great book, but it is a good one. While short, in some cases too brief, the collection is an introduction and an overview touching on many of the basic topics. Despite its weaknesses, this is a much-needed and