to incorporate more automated procedures in distribution of their titles. In discussing how books are stored and delivered, Dessauer believes too many publishers are working independently and sees no effort on their part to consolidate operations. A system of regional, nonprofit distribution centers is suggested.

In the final chapter on financing, planning, and managing publishing companies, the author explains how operating statements and balance sheets work. He also shows how it is possible for a more expensive book to sell sufficient copies to make it more profitable than a moderately or inexpensively priced volume. He concludes: "More sales and larger printings are obviously not always the answer, nor are lower prices and more aggressive marketing. More important than such conventional techniques may be the accurate definition of market and the choice of the optimal means to reach it." Dessauer urges more broad based training programs for employees and endorses improving the quality of management in publishing. He supports both short- and long-range forecasting, arguing that testing the impact of future titles with alternative scenarios will help publishers become more responsive to the market.

The author is optimistic about the survival of the book and forecasts continuing growth of book consumers. Publishers still need to solve distribution problems, improve and increase marketing, and be more selective in publishing to avoid current "overproduction," he believes.

The revised edition of this book is the most current basic text on the economics of publishing available. It contains a twelve-page glossary of publishing terms and a short "Bibliographic Note" containing twelve citations (eleven in the previous edition) plus mention of three valuable trade publications.

Although I would like to see some improvements in the third edition, e.g., an expanded bibliography, some words on paper preservation, more discussion of noted publishers, and provision of examples from Book Publishing: What It Is, What It Does to illustrate his chapter on the manufacture of books, I strongly recommend that academic librarians, library school students, and students who wish to know more about publishing purchase this title. Practicing librarians should be more familiar than they are with publishing, its practices and terminology. Dessauer's book fills this need. —Fred C. Lynden, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island.

ABSTRACTS

The following abstracts are based on those prepared by the ERIC Clearinghouse of Information Resources, School of Education, Syracuse University.

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Further information on ordering documents and on current postage charges may be obtained from a recent issue of Resources in Education.


This review of educational information resources supported by the federal government, state and local taxes, and professional associations, provides a summary of the more active information centers along with the titles of some handbooks that can guide the user to additional resources. It also discusses who uses information and how, targeting of information to users, and the complexities of the dissemination process, concluding with some thoughts for future directions in information resource management for the educational community.


These proceedings of the 1979 White House Conference on Library and Information Services contain resolutions which are the basis for the proposed National Library and Information Services Program and for new national legislation. The resolutions reflect; (1) the need to reshape library and
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information services in order to make them more responsive to the people served, (2) the call for local control of services, and (3) the demand for economy and accountability in public agencies. Transcripts of speeches, open hearings, and the joint congressional hearing include the following:

"Personal Needs" by Clara S. Jones; "Lifelong Learning" by Francis Keppel; "Organizations and the Professions" by Herbert D. Benington; "Governing Society" by Major R. Owens; and "International Cooperation and Understanding" by Bernard Ostry. Also presented are conference highlights, an outline of the proposed national program, an outline of proposed national legislation, an overview of the conference, and a list of participants. Appendices include the conference rules, resolutions not passed, the conference agenda, statistics, "Conference via Computer" by Elaine B. Kerr, and a list of conference publications and media.

**Videotape as an Aid to Bibliographic Instruction.** By Janet Key and Thomas A. Tollman. Paper presented at the Spring Meeting of the Nebraska Library Association, Wayne, Nebraska, April 23, 1981. 10p. ED 206 319. MF—$0.83. PC—$1.82.

This report describes the use of videotaped lectures in the undergraduate library instruction program at the University of Nebraska at Omaha Library, outlines the structure of the program, and reviews the process of producing library-specific videotapes. The results of an informal survey to compare the videotape method of presentation with a slide/lecture method are reported.

**Legal Ramifications of Computerized Library Networks and Their Implications for the Library Director.** By Johnny J. Wheelbarger and R. Wilburn Clouse. Paper presented at the Annual Convention of the Association for Educational Communications and Technology, Philadelphia, Pa., April 6-10, 1981. 20p. ED 206 325. MF—$0.83. PC—$1.82.

Legal questions, raised by recent developments in computerized networks and relating to censorship, liability, responsibility and other topics, were explored by means of a questionnaire sent to a selected group of librarians, network personnel, and others. Designed to collect information about existing laws and current problems, the questionnaire elicited opinions that suggest that (1) networks cannot refuse questionable titles, (2) authors or publishers cannot demand the exclusion of titles from the database, (3) the networks probably cannot refuse "insignificant" titles, (4) networks probably cannot refuse membership without legitimate reasons, and (5) all parties have due process rights in dealing with parent networks. Limited amount of experience and the complete lack of litigation in this area, however, leave the specific questions unanswered. A thirty-item bibliography and the questionnaire are appended.


Intended for librarians concerned with the structure and administration of a collection of curriculum materials within the framework of an academic library, this report describes the cataloging procedures of the curriculum laboratory at Tufts University. It discusses the use of Dewey decimal classification, treatment of nonbook materials, retrieval of library materials, exceptions to standard cataloging practice, the value of a reorganization to a conventional card catalog and classification scheme, the organization of the children's literature collection, and the role of the curriculum laboratory within the academic library framework.


Conducted to review the present status of computerized bibliographic centers in Canada and to report on the most effective means of promoting computerized library network development in that country, this study summary of the findings of seven subsidies (1) describes the salient features of twenty Canadian and United States centers; (2) reviews major options relating to the development of a computerized national location service system, as well as technological and cost trends bearing on library and information services networking in Canada; (3) summarizes the principal findings and conclusions of three studies dealing with more general aspects of network management and with the funding of network related research and development in Canada; and (4) summarizes the report compiled from externally submitted briefs concerning the role of the National Library of Canada.

**Ownership and Distribution of Bibliographic Data: Highlights of a Meeting Held by the Library of Congress Network Advisory Committee (March 4-5, 1980). Working Document.** By Duane E. Webster and Lenore S. Maruyama. Library of Cong-
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Discussions summarized in this report focused on the relationships between individual libraries and the bibliographic utilities, as well as the options available to the library and information communities for preparing, sharing, and gaining access to machine-readable records. Issues discussed fall into three categories: (1) ownership and distribution of bibliographic data, (2) relationships among members of the total information community, and (3) flow of bibliographic data at the international level. Highlights of group discussions and pertinent recommendations are presented.


The two purposes of this report are to present concrete proposals related to the need for the National Library of Canada to facilitate the development of nationwide bibliographic and associated communications networks, and to outline the relevant network concepts assumed in framing the nine recommendations and the related implementation proposals that are presented. These proposals are intended to serve as an early practical step towards a wider and more complete nationwide library and information network in the longer term. Notes and references are provided for the three major chapters, as well as an implementation chart with timelines and a network flowchart. Discussion of long-term trends and needs for Canadian library and information networking and notes on European and U.S. arrangements to promote nationwide and community-wide networking are appended.


A controlled user test of an experimental viewdata system, Channel 2000, was conducted by OCLC in Columbus, Ohio, to investigate technical, business, market, library and social science issues involved in electronic delivery of information using videotext technology. The three part report includes a review of various facets of new consumer electronic information services, details of the Channel 2000 project, and the findings and conclusions derived from this study of a system that transmits textual and graphic data from a host
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