

considerable literature devoted to periodicals weeding. He also makes no mention of the American Library Association's recent *Guidelines for Collection Development* (American Library Assn. Resources and Technical Services Division, Collection Development Committee. Chicago: American Library Assn., 1979), which contains a chapter on "Review of Library Collections." These guidelines see review (weeding) as part of the collection-management process and would be more useful than Slote's work to most academic librarians contemplating weeding. This book is recommended only for academic collections supporting a library-science program or to individuals with a strong interest in the subject of weeding.—*Barbara A. Rice, State Library Cultural Center, Albany, New York.*

Boss, Richard W., and Marcum, Deanna B. "On-Line Acquisitions Systems for Libraries," *Library Technology Reports* 17:115-94 (March-April 1981). Single issue, \$40.

Attendance at meetings devoted to discussions of automating acquisitions indicates that librarians need current and accurate information in this area. The authors of this report attempt to provide information to help librarians evaluate acquisitions systems.

The authors first list seven categories of automated systems: in-house, transferred software, software houses, integrated, turnkey, utility, and jobber. They then describe twenty specific automated acquisitions systems, divided into these seven categories. The depth of the description varies depending on the operational status of the specific system.

The rest of the report is designed for librarians planning to choose automated acquisitions, with sections on questions to ask in order to evaluate a system, and specific steps to take in procurement. Boss and Marcum conclude that libraries will benefit in the long run from integrated systems, and should pressure suppliers of automated systems to provide them.

The appendix has some sample screen displays; a list of WLN charges; general specifications for DataPhase's and OCLC's acquisitions systems; names, addresses, and contacts for the twenty systems described; and a bibli-

ography on automated acquisitions.

Unlike a famous winegrower, this *LTR* report was issued before its time. The purpose of *LTR* is to provide librarians with "authoritative information" on products so that informed purchasing decisions can be made. This report fails to provide this information. Many of the automated systems described were still under development in 1981, and descriptions of these systems are not critical, but simply state what the company hopes the system will do when (and if) operational. After reading this, the librarian is no better off than if he or she had read publicity releases from the company. The items in the appendix provide little helpful information, and the bibliography, with citations easily found in other sources, lists only two articles published after 1978. In order to provide the critical evaluations which are needed, this report should be redone next year, emphasizing major operational systems. In the meantime, librarians needing guidance on automated systems will find the papers presented at the LITA Institute on Automated Acquisitions (published in *JOLA*, V.13, no.3 and no.4, Sept. and Dec., 1980) more useful than this *LTR*—*William Z. Schenck, University of Oregon Library, Eugene.*

International Handbook of Contemporary Developments in Librarianship. Ed. by Miles M. Jackson. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 1981. 619p. \$65. LC 80-27306. ISBN 0-313-21372-0.

This is a collection of thirty-four original articles by fifty-one authors, on libraries and librarianship in sixty-five countries. Editor Miles M. Jackson, professor of library studies at the University of Hawaii, states that the purpose of the volume is to present an "overview of the major developments and most significant trends in librarianship since 1945." He adds that the book is concerned with international librarianship and is "not intended as a work of comparative library studies." Actually it is a kind of one-volume, long-article encyclopedia of libraries and librarianship by country.

Typically, each article provides brief historical, geographic, and occasionally political background, followed by information on the national library and on university, pub-

DOES YOUR SUBSCRIPTION AGENCY OFFER YOU... ***MORE***?

MORE ... than 160,000 foreign and domestic serials,
including continuations and annuals?

MORE ... personalized service and flexibility from
regional offices?

MORE ... easily handled claiming, with the least time-
consuming claim system:

- A. A simple list
- B. A monthly Claim Checker
- C. A Missing Copy Bank?

MORE ... innovation, with the world's first
international online data communications
system for serials?

MORE ... professionals with the knowledge and
concern to make your serials program work
better?

We provide the most... *MORE* often.

EBSCO SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES
The serials professionals.

P. O. Box 1943
Birmingham, Alabama 35201-1943
(205) 252-1212
Telex: 5-9717



lic, special, and school libraries, library education, and library associations. Some authors go considerably beyond these headings. Some confine themselves to straightforward descriptive statements. Some provide a considerable amount of interpretation and explanation. To say that there is some unevenness among the articles in thoroughness, interpretation, detail, and style is merely to note an inevitable characteristic of a book such as this. As a matter of fact, the unevenness is minimal.

Most contributors are natives of the country they write of and hold library positions in them. Many, however, are U.S.-based librarians or educators who have had some long-standing association with library matters in another country. In the latter category are Mohammed M. Aman of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, who writes on the Arab countries; Ray L. Carpenter of the University of North Carolina on Italy; Katherine Cveljo of North Texas State on Yugoslavia; Josephine Fang of Simmons College on the People's Republic of China; Abdul Huq of St. John's University on Bangladesh, and Ivan

Kaldor of SUNY at Geneseo on the USSR. John Harvey's article on Iran is a well-informed and up-to-date overview of libraries and librarianship in that country, despite its having been written during a period when information was most difficult to come by.

The editor's decisions on which nations to include would probably raise questions no matter which were included or excluded, but the stated criteria are simply too vague to explain his choices. The criteria are that included countries have been chosen as "representative" and "have library developments that are significant and more pronounced than those found in other countries." These criteria do not explain, for example, the inclusion of Hungary and the exclusion of Norway and Sweden, or the exclusion of Indonesia and Taiwan and the inclusion of the Pacific Islands and Singapore; and they most certainly do not justify the exclusion of all of the Latin American world except Mexico.

Jackson states that the book is "intended both for reference use and for general reading." For "general reading" it provides inter-



PUBLICATIONS FROM THE UNITED NATIONS

Just Published

United Nations Official Records 1962-1981

Contains Official Records of the General Assembly, the Security Council, Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, the Trusteeship Council, the Trade and Development Board, the Disarmament Commission, list of the UN Booksellers and National Distributors. Official Records are published in 8½" x 11" format with paper covers unless stated otherwise.

Send for UN Official Records Catalogue 1962-1981,
available free of charge.

UNITED NATIONS

Room A-3315
New York, New York 1007



PUBLICATIONS

Palais des Nations
1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland

esting and authoritative surveys of library developments from 1945 to the present in selected countries, followed by brief bibliographies for further study. Most of the material is not conveniently available anywhere else, so the volume will be an important addition to library science collections. For reference use, its obvious limitation is that it is confined to a select number of countries. Access to the contents is flawed by a carelessly made index which omits many of the proper names in the text.—*John J. Farley, State University of New York at Albany.*

ABSTRACTS

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

Documents with an ED number here may be ordered in either microfiche (MF) or paper copy (PC) from the ERIC Document Reproduction Service, P.O. Box 190, Arlington, VA 22210. Orders should include ED number, specify format desired, and include payment for document and postage.

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

Managing to Survive/Succeed: Potentials Within the Library Organization. 1981 LACUNY Institute Bibliography. By Mimi B. Penchansky and others. City University of New York, N.Y., Library Association. 1981. 23p. MF—\$0.83. PC—\$1.82.

Prepared for the 1981 Spring Institute of the Library Association of City University of New York (LACUNY), this bibliography lists sources on academic library management techniques. Its three sections encompass the following areas: (1) the individual's relationship to the library organization, (2) effective management of time, and (3) human resource development within the library. Listings are alphabetical by author.

Academic Library Instruction in Kansas. A Directory. Comp. by Virginia Quiring and others. Kansas State University, Manhattan, Library. 1980. 26p. ED 206 308.

MF—\$0.83. PC—\$3.32.

Results of a 1980 survey are tabulated to provide a view of the scope and diversity of materials and activities for library instruction at the thirty-six Kansas academic libraries which responded to the questionnaire. The questionnaire, included as an appendix, addressed staffing, including qualifications and evaluation; funding; methods used in library orientation and instruction as well as instructional goals and objectives; methods of publicizing and evaluating the instruction; print and nonprint materials used; and the respondents' interest in cooperative sharing of resources for library instruction.

BCLN Hardware and Computing Facilities Evaluation Study. Final Report. By Stephen H. Smith. British Columbia Union Catalogue, Richmond. 1981. 139p. ED 206 309; for related documents, see ED 200 203-207. MF—\$0.83. PC—\$9.32.

This study to determine the hardware and computing facility costs of establishing and operating a British Columbia Library Network (BCLN) for current members of the B.C. Union Catalogue used empirical data regarding their performance of the DOBIS system and estimates of workload, and compared those data with the costs of obtaining current computer-utility services from the University of Toronto's UTLAS system. Hardware and computing facilities requirements, including teleprocessing network evaluation criteria and software support evaluation criteria, are explored. Request for proposal (RFP) information is provided.

BCUC Data Base Loading and BCLN User and Data Base Requirements Study. BCUC Replication Study, Design Phase I. Main Report. By Lynn M. Rosen and G. W. Brian Owen. British Columbia Union Catalogue, Richmond. 1981. 196p. ED 206 310. MF—\$0.83. PC—\$12.32.

This design phase study concerning the proposed replication of the DOBIS system for the British Columbia Library Network (BCLN) was conducted to determine the preferred strategy for the transfer and loading of the British Columbia Union Catalogue (BCUC) database currently resident at the University of Toronto's UTLAS system. User and database requirements are investigated in order to recommend a suitable database design for the BCLN DOBIS system. Other implementation tasks such as pilot usage projects are examined. Cost estimates and an implementation schedule for all tasks are included. A bibliography lists previous BCUC reports and documents, National Library DOBIS documents, journal articles, and miscellaneous publications. A fifteen-page supplementary report