

less modest in their submissions. Thus, the William L. Clements Library is given six lines, The John Carter Brown Library, an integral collection on the campus of Brown University, and perhaps the single greatest glory of all academically hosted special collections in the Western Hemisphere, is not mentioned. For years the John Crerar Library, a premier special collection of scientific primary sources, existed as a separate, nonacademic institution in Chicago. When its collections were merged with the science collections of the University of Chicago, and its name placed on a campus building, it presumably then merited a phrase or two. Institutional brochures, guides, and other publications such as generated exhibition catalogues need to be listed.

Perhaps this unevenness in treatment is the most disturbing—even jolting—aspect of the book. The text cries out for editors who know a bit more about special collections nationwide, or more willingness to devote time to the needed surveying, before entries can be rushed into print. Still, who in the rare book world can resist the preliminary piece by those grand ladies of that world, Leona Rostenberg and Madeline B. Stern? Their introduction, however, in spite of its fascinating anecdotes and perspective, coming as it does from two booksellers who have long aided in the creation of great college and university special collections, as good as it is, cannot be a substitute for a truly comprehensive survey of the resources that are available in special book and manuscript collections throughout the United States. Apparently, we will have to wait a bit longer for one source to do that.—John Neal Hoover, St. Louis Mercantile Library Association.

The Architecture Library of the Future: Complexity and Contradiction. Ed. by Peggy Ann Kusnerz. Ann Arbor, Mich.: University of Michigan Press, 1989. 197 p. \$27.95 (ISBN 0-472-10114-5). LC 89-5493.

The year 2000 looms ominously in our future. We presume that since we lived through 1000 the world shall pass through the next millennial marker without apocalyptic conclusion, and so we plan for the

next century. The proliferation of published blueprints seems as inevitable as the retrospective surveys that will surely descend upon our bookshelves after January 1, 2000.

The Architecture Library of the Future intends to be such a blueprint. For it, Peggy Ann Kusnerz compiled and edited papers presented at a symposium held in 1987 at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Thomas Monaghan, founder and president of Domino's Pizza and the National Center for the Study of Frank Lloyd Wright, sponsored the symposium, perhaps in hopes that the combined thoughts presented here might provide him with a template from which he might form a library for his center in thirty minutes or less.

Satire aside, the volume contains some useful and some puzzling thoughts. The contributors' think pieces all relate to libraries which cater to the needs of specialized professionals or professionals-in-training. Most relate to desires and predictions by patrons and providers, but the inclusion of some caused me some perplexity, since they contained only reportage of current situations and implied no applications for the future. Perhaps the editor's statement that "The ideal architecture library of the year 2000 will be built upon the strengths of the past and enriched by the anticipated demands and opportunities of the future" should have been stated more boldly for both readers and presenters.

Judith Holliday's piece on collection development adds little new thought. Herbert Scherer's lament on the merging of his art (not architecture) library back into the central collection should not surprise most professionals. James Hodgson's description of the Harvard experience may be of interest to some readers, but the idiosyncrasies of the institution bear little relevance to the outside world. The same might be said of Stephanie Cormier Byrnes' description of the collection at the American Institute of Architecture.

Marilyn Schmitt's summary of Getty Trust projects, Angela Giral's report on the status of the AVIADOR Project (Avery Videodisc Index of Architectural Draw-

ings on RLIN) and Mary Ison's description of COPAR (Committee for the Preservation of Architectural Records) might also fall in this category except that these developments provide us with stepping-stones into the future. Close study and memorization of these chapters will reward the reader. Memorization is almost essential since access to the factual information contained in them otherwise disappears due to the lack of an index for the book.

As a professional concerned with the success of client-based information delivery I found Elizabeth Byrnes' contribution specifically and generally applicable. Margaret de Popolo's and Nancy Schuller's papers help us see the importance of images as an information source and stress the necessity for making them easier to use. Nancy Lambert's description of Yale's planning process provides a practical example for others just as Daphne Roloff's report of the Canadian Center for Architecture inspires us with a success story.

I'm not sure how universally applicable

are the desires of users such as Anatole Senkevitch, Kurt Brandle, Hemalata Dandekar, Kenneth Herbert, and Gunnar Birkerts. A more convincing case might have been made by the organizers of the symposium if a professional or an educator outside the University of Michigan had been invited. In any case, the librarian described by Carla Stoffle will be able to hear and will try to meet the needs of such specialized library users. Stoffle's job qualifications for such a librarian listed on p. 147, however, may seem to be matched only by a candidate from Plato's Cave or Krypton.

Throughout the papers themes of time, immediacy, and quick delivery of information rise to the top. Large library networks, systems, and centralized facilities lead the way in developing quick electronic access to large bodies of information because they are more economically efficient. Branch libraries often function better than centralized ones in selecting the appropriate type of information and providing it in a personalized package, and this is what the users say they want. Kathryn Deiss' observation that the influ-

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ence of the librarian who delivers the information, not the "extraordinary catalogs, databases, and indexes," will help to "provide visionaries in architecture or any other field," seems pertinent here.

As we look to the future let us also look to the institutions of the future. They may not benefit from the models of the past. Only Richard Dougherty, ironically a former director of libraries both in Berkeley and Ann Arbor which support well-established branch libraries, cautions us

against blindly accepting models of the past. "These specialized service outlets have served their purpose well but, as interdisciplinary studies and research have gained greater favor, the ability of small, specialized collections to support such research has diminished." Perhaps a closer look at the interdisciplinary divisional library should be considered for those institutions not already tied to a model.—David L. Austin, University Library, The University of Illinois at Chicago.

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