

total library system is expanded in the text between the display in figures 1-2 and 11-1.

Many subjective statements are made which contradict the authors' contention of the precision inherent in systems studies. For example: "The total systems concept is more completely and successfully implemented in terms of preciseness and timeliness of needed information through machine methods than by laborious economically unjustified, and error-prone manual methods." (p.12-13); "Although formal time-study techniques are applicable here, standard rates can be approximated with a high degree of validity simply by subjective observation." (p.57); "Time and motion and use studies may be required for definitive answers but initially considerable reliance can be placed on the interviewee's estimates of time taken in processing the input and the observed frequency of consultation and the extent of the usefulness of the proofcard file." (p.74, 77)

There is a great emphasis on the use of forms and their completion. But only the forms used in the Rensselaer study are shown as the examples of the kind to use, with little consideration being given to forms analysis and design. The chapter on flow-charting is replete with diagrams, some containing closed loops. It is debatable whether the chapters on the case studies and on how to write the reports are necessary, or whether they are being used as filler.

The volume has some typographical errors, the most glaring of which is in the chapter heading of flow charting. There are twenty-one pages of forms and nineteen pages of flow charts in the text.

The volume lacks discussion of error tolerance, of constraints imposed by the system, of other newer systems analysis thoughts such as probability analysis, utility theory, and queuing theory.—*Henry Voos, Rutgers University.*

Die Fachliteratur zum Buch- und Bibliothekswesen (Handbuch der technischen Dokumentation und Bibliographie Band 2), 9. Ausgabe. Munich: Verlag Dokumentation, 1970 (dist. by R. R. Bowker Co.) 650p. \$24.50.

Besides the usual updating, two things are new about the ninth edition of this

standard international bibliography of the book trade and librarianship. First of all the publisher has attempted to reach a wider audience by providing bilingual title page, preface, table of contents, and headings. Unfortunately, the English translations are abominable and do a grave injustice to an otherwise fine bibliographic effort. Book selectors should not be put off by the poor English—the sloppiness here is not symptomatic of the rest of the work. Furthermore, the excellent organization of the material does make this bibliography useful so long as the reader has at least some knowledge of German.

The second new feature is the inclusion of a large section devoted to information science. In the past, material was divided into three groupings: book trade, librarianship, and book production. Now the category of documentation or information science has been added.

The material in this bibliography is entered, within the four large categories mentioned above, under 102 separate subject and form classifications. This classified arrangement is supplemented by an author index, an alphabetical listing of all periodicals, and a directory of publishers with their addresses. Publishers are entered alphabetically under country. The countries are also listed alphabetically, so it becomes important to know that Hungary is Ungarn, Cuba is Kuba, and Austria is Österreich in German.

This ninth edition contains some 5,250 citations, down considerably from the eighth edition published in 1967. The current volume is more useful for acquisitions purposes, however, because all monographic works published prior to 1965 have been eliminated. Most entries provide author, title, place and date of publication, and name of publisher. In many cases frequency, collation, and price are also included. To utilize collation and frequency information, knowledge of German bibliographic abbreviations is necessary.

In any large international bibliography there are bound to be errors, and this reviewer found quite a number, particularly among American publications. But because American users are unlikely to need the work for U.S. publications, this is not a serious drawback. The work is bound to be

useful for anyone engaged in research in librarianship or book publishing.

R. R. Bowker Co. is advertising this work as the *International Bibliography of the Book Trade and Librarianship*, a much better English title than "The Literature about the Book—and Librarianship," which was the title provided by the publisher, Verlag Dokumentation. The ads are misleading, however, because it is not made clear that this tool requires some knowledge of German to be useful. Incidentally, this particular work comprises volume two of a ten-volume series entitled "Handbuch der Technischen Dokumentation und Bibliographie."—*Guenter A. Jansen, Suffolk Cooperative Library System.*

The Enduring Desert; a Descriptive Bibliography. Elza Ivan Edwards. Foreword by Russ Leadabrand. Los Angeles: The Ward Richie Press, 1969. 306p. \$27.50.

E. I. Edwards is not new to the field of desert bibliography. His first desert bibliography appeared in 1940 under the title, *The Valley Whose Name Is Death*. Then followed *Desert Treasure* (1948), *Desert Voices* (1958), and *Desert Harvest* (1962). The present volume is an expansion of selected material which appeared in the author's previous works with additional material added, including periodical articles, pamphlets, and ephemera.

For each item presented in this publication the author has provided an annotation which is descriptive of the work and its contents. However, there seems to be little attempt to critically evaluate each item, and often the author's own personal reactions are included. The predominance of the items listed are historical or biographical with few entries in the sciences or natural history. Aside from these minor strictures, the work as a whole is not only delightfully interesting to read, but has a wealth of material which can be found in no other source on California desert lore.

The author is unquestionably familiar with his material. The annotations may discuss all or part of the book and in most cases are sufficient to let a reader know if he wishes to examine the work.

The Enduring Desert is not wholly limited to desert subjects, as there is an abun-

dance of material on other western subjects, particularly the gold rush, mines and mining, railroads, etc. This nondesert material is easily accessible through the extensive index. In addition, a supplemental reference section lists books containing only incidental desert mention and a record of journals and diaries. The volume must also be classed as an example of modern fine printing for which The Ward Richie Press is often noted.

The Enduring Desert might best be described in the words of Russ Leadabrand from the foreword:

Readers . . . will find *The Enduring Desert* a rich and satisfying experience. There is material here for a hundred monologs on desert history, folklore and traditions. . . . Go now and enjoy *The Enduring Desert*. Read it at leisure as you would savor a fine wine or a rich steak. You'll find the rewards are without number.

—A. Dean Larson, *Brigham Young University.*

The Plateglass Universities. Michael Beloff. Cranbury, N.J.: Associated University Presses, 1970. 208p.

Establishing university campuses is a familiar activity in the United States; it has also been an academic preoccupation in Britain as discussed in this book. The "Plateglass" universities are institutions opened in the 1960s to make room for the rapid increase of students. Traditionally, few university degrees were earned in Britain, and in recent years efforts have been made to increase degrees by establishing new campuses and by grants to students.

The new universities are scattered about the English countryside. Most are near the coast, and some of the seven are near ancient cathedral towns or other historically important centers. They are the first universities to be established with government funds rather than private backing. They have been able to grant degrees from the start and have not been controlled by other universities. Differing from "Oxbridge" with medieval roots or "Redbrick" in the centers of the industrial revolution, the new universities have developed an architectural style and educational élan that the author feels is caught by the term "Plateglass."

The first years of an institution are the