

information services. The now familiar characteristics of the information problem were all considered, including the increasing rate of information production; the faculty dissemination practices; the inadequate libraries; and the linguistic barriers.

In addition, attention was directed toward the less familiar elements of the information problem such as the shifting requirements of the scientific community; for example, the interdisciplinary approaches to environmental problems necessitating information from not only the classical sciences but also such subjects as sociology and economics. The lag in accommodating these requirements is demonstrated in the present services of journals, indexes, and abstracts. A search, therefore, for more flexible forms is herein attempted.

Although these aspects of the information problem have been recognized and under study intermittently for several years, the investigation tries to unify some of the existing fragmentation by resolving the issues on an international scale. The utilization of the most advanced communication technology is an obvious conclusion in view of the computer's capability to handle speedily large chunks of information as well as its flexible capacity to manipulate. Mechanized systems also create problems in the information arena vis-à-vis compatibility and fragmentation. The added problem of reliance upon machines and their indigene to industrialization which many developing countries lack along with a paucity of infra structures of libraries.

The subject of costs is dealt with knowingly and realistically. An information network has to be more than a luxury for the wealthy, so says the UNISIST Committee. International communication and cooperation are essential elements in a successful information system. Through such a unified effort, reduced costs and more effective information transfer may be expected, according to the investigators. New and emerging patterns of cooperation are also identified, which augurs well toward a feasible world network of scientific information. The job to be done, nonetheless, exceeds the resources of any one or two countries, making cooperation and sharing imperative requirements.

The investigators advanced twenty-two wide-ranging recommendations. They run from the development of basic philosophy of sharing the work and products of information transfer and the on-going experiments aimed at increasing effectiveness, to the establishment of governmental agencies at the national levels in consonance with the principles of UNISIST and the creation of interrelated managerial bodies, one of which would be a permanent secretariat.

It is notable that the study emphasizes that UNISIST is not a radical departure in science information transfer but rather a systematization of international cooperation. Another way to describe the plan is to regard UNISIST as a type of worldwide movement more than an operating system in its own right. In essence then, the concept of UNISIST appears not to be an information system superimposed upon existing services but a cooperative effort of governments and scientific organizations toward approaching solutions in an evolutionary and pragmatic fashion.

As the document itself suggests this is indeed, "a report of major importance to all those concerned with the communication of scientific information."—*Le Moyne W. Anderson, Colorado State University.*

Proceedings of the Second Conference on Federal Information Resources. Washington, D.C. March 30-31, 1971.

This little volume is hardly an appropriate subject for review, since it is in itself a review of the announced subject by a large number of participants. As one of them, a few additional remarks may serve to elaborate the text usefully.

The nearly verbatim record of presentations and comments reveals no essential change in the divergent approaches of those on the donor (government) side or those on the receiver (public) side. The producers (?) of information are plagued by costs and funding problems and the users by frustrating reductions in available resources, while both sides are targets of steadily increasing demand. There are a few noteworthy statements, for the record, if for no other purpose. Milczewski's summary of progress since the first conference,

Adkinson's prognostications for the future, and Warren Haas' statement of common needs deserve reading. One new note was added to this conference by the insertion of one whole section on Negro Research Libraries. The picture of resources presently found in black research libraries was cogently developed by Jean-Anne South and others.

Although no earth-shaking effects have been achieved by this or its predecessor conference, a third is in planning and the cumulative effect may be important. These meetings do assure continued communication, and in our harried world this is an achievement not to be discounted.—*Jerold Orne, University of North Carolina.*

Robert H. Muller, Theodore Jurgen Spahn, and Janet M. Spahn. ***From Radical Left to Extreme Right.*** 2d. v.1. Ann Arbor, Mich.: Campus Publishers, 1970.

The present book is a revised and expanded edition of Robert Muller's 1967 book of the same title. It is a bibliographic guide to current periodicals of "protest, controversy, advocacy, or dissent. . . ." (Title page)

The authors classified about 400 fringe publications into nineteen groupings each of which constitutes a separate chapter. Some of the groupings fell along the usual two-dimensional continuum as being "Radical Left," "Marxist-Socialist Left," "Conservative," and "Anti-Communist." However minimal use was made of this device which, as the authors note, often does more to cloud issues than to clarify them. Other groupings were more precise and topic-oriented. E.g.: "Civil Rights," "Sex," "Peace," "Servicemen's Papers," "Underground," "Race Supremacist," "UFO's," and "Miscellaneous." Each chapter has a brief signed preface, usually written by Muller.

For each periodical title included, information is given as to address, cost, publishing history, circulation, format, and an indication of which issues were examined by the reviewer. Following this information appears a one-half to several page signed review of the publication's content.

Each review includes the reviewer's observations about the periodical's particular

area(s) of concern, its basic editorial policies toward those issues, special features, typical advertising accepted, regular contributors, columnists, cartoonists, etc. The name of the publisher is usually stated. A typical review also includes a variety of quotations which are intended to be representative of the editorial attitudes, quality of writing, types of issues covered, and the general flavor of the issues. The reviewers avoided making value judgments about the publications—no recommendations were made pro or con. The intention was to let the reviewers' observations and the selected quotations speak for themselves.

Proofs of each review were sent to the editor of the respective periodical for comment. The editor's comments are included in the "Feedback" section of each review. In the cases where changes were made in the original review at the request of an editor, the reviewer noted the change in the "Feedback."

Most of the feedback was positive, although a few editors availed themselves of this opportunity to further espouse their position while condemning the reviewer as being the victim of one or another conspiracies or indoctrinations.

Two indexes are provided. The first is geographical by state and then by locality. The only information given in this index is the title of each periodical published in that location; no page numbers are given. The second index is by title, both present and former. An effort is made also to index the names of editors and publishers. The latter could be particularly helpful in answering reference questions about the publication activities of groups not listed in the standard directories. The authors also index each title by basic editorial attitudes such as male chauvinism, firearms control, minority rights, etc., thus providing a specific topical approach to what are basically topical publications.

Most librarians considering this book for their collection will be asking themselves how subscribing to such publications would enrich their library collection, if at all. These librarians are referred to Muller's introductory essay in which he discusses the pro's and con's of investing part of a library's resources for polemic publications. Most of Muller's thoughts are pro as might