

the data or specifications by which one developed it, it may safely be assumed that the model will be found to work beautifully. Further evidence can be found in the repeated misinterpretation of charts, data, and other authors' statements. Second, although the author is attempting to study library-related activities, she gives every indication of not knowing, and not caring to find out, how libraries work, and what librarians see themselves as doing. Third, general presentation is inexcusably sloppy; we may pass over the simple grammatical errors with the comment that they are far too copious for a doctoral dissertation, and a commercially published one at that. Likewise a writing style which is pervasively lazy (figures are always 'very interesting' or the information explosion 'very serious,' etc.) one can live with. The many lapses of sentential logic in the narrative, however, become a real obstacle to comprehension. An author's argument in one sentence became "this fact" in the next; chemists are assumed at one point to be unconcerned with a journal's editorial policy, at another, to be consciously utilizing it, etc. Writing like the following should never have passed so much scrutiny: "Although much research has shown that the average chemist limits his reading to only a few hours a week, there seems to be a prevailing idea that he would be a more creative (or productive) chemist if he read more. Though many surveys show that the creative scientist reads on the average more than the noncreative scientist the occurrence of these phenomena gives no justification for assuming that what is being observed is a cause and effect phenomenon. There is no inherent knowledge in the printed or the spoken word. Creativity in the chemist, like creativity in anyone else, takes place in the mind of the individual. That this creativity may be stimulated by colleagues, by reading the published literature, or by hundreds of other ways may very well be true; but it may not be true." (p. 112.)

Kent, in his foreword, far from giving any support to a student who is in a thorny predicament at least partly, one must conclude, due to a lack of useful guidance, leaves the unmistakable impression that his main aim is to disassociate himself from the whole embarrassing affair. He largely avoids discussing the work he is supposed

to be introducing and what he gives us instead is self-serving reminiscence, abysmal punning, unrelated generalities, and bad grammar of his own variety.

The whole production leaves a sorry impression of library and information science education at the Ph.D. level.—*Peter G. Watson, Head, Center for Information Services, University of California at Los Angeles Library.*

Reichmann, Felix and Tharpe, Josephine M., *Bibliographic Control of Microforms*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1972. 256p. \$12.50.

In acknowledgement of the need for improved bibliographic control of microforms, the Association of Research Libraries, under contract with the Office of Education, sponsored a study "to determine the elements of an effective system of bibliographic control of microforms which would permit the expeditious selection, acquisition, cataloging and use of micropublication both current and retrospective." The book under review is the product of this study.

Major findings include the following: cataloging, shelving, and classification practices vary enormously; many libraries fail to report their microform holdings to the National Register of Microform Masters; analytics for microform series are not adequately represented in public catalogs. As the ultimate solution to these problems, the authors recommend that "a national, machine-readable index to microform publications should be established."

Reichmann and Tharpe solicited information from "250 American libraries and scholarly organizations and about 150 foreign institutions through approximately 1,500 letters and scores of telephone calls." The results of this monumental enterprise are documented in thirty-three pages of text. Almost half of that space is devoted to a description of micropublishing activities in some seventy foreign countries; addresses of agencies engaged in production and sale of microcopy are given. Thus the bulk of the analytic study itself is limited to just a few pages. As much as the authors' aim of conciseness is to be applauded, it becomes all too obvious to the reader that such a concentrated treatment cannot possibly do justice to the complex and far-reaching subject matter. Significant issues

are either ignored, or, at best, granted summary attention. No attempt is made to isolate the components of the existing bibliographic maze; nor are the expected benefits of the proposed machine-readable index delineated in any detail. To cite but one example: libraries' inability to cope with the filing of analytics is identified as a major problem in bibliographic control; and yet, the extent to which the proposed machine-readable index would alleviate the need to continue filing analytics in public catalogs is not discussed.

Four appendixes are added to the body of the text:

1. The United States Government as microform publisher.
2. A machine-readable index for microtexts, by Henriette D. Avram and Harry Gochman.
3. American university presses that plan to publish microforms.
4. A microform bibliography, with the cooperation of Suzanne Dodson and Laura L. Jennings.

Appendixes 1 and 3 appear to be largely superfluous. Appendix 2 is a brief outline, showing "a possible method of using the computer and associated hardware devices to produce one or more indexes to be used as a finding tool to the material contained in microsets."

Appendix 4 represents the book's principal contribution. Although the authors confide their misgivings at including the microform bibliography in their final report, being "woefully aware of its shortcomings both in admissions and omissions," the bibliography does constitute a useful tool; 493 items are listed, subdivided in four categories:

1. Catalogs and Lists.
2. Collections and Series.
3. Manuscripts and Archival Collections.
4. Reference Books.

A good index, and a bibliography of related literature, complete the volume.

While *Bibliographic Control of Microforms* contains some valuable bibliographic data, nevertheless, the book in no way fulfills the reader's expectation of a systematic examination of the subject under study.—*S. Micha Namenwirth, Assistant University Librarian, Collection Development, University of California, Berkeley.*

## OTHER BOOKS OF INTEREST TO ACADEMIC LIBRARIANS

- Avicenne, Paul. *Bibliographical Services Throughout the World, 1965-69*. New York: UNIPUB, Inc., 1972. 303p. \$9.00.
- Botetourt Bibliographical Society. *Inventory of the Library of William Nelson, Jr. of Yorktown, Virginia*. Virginia, 1972. Botetourt Publications Number 3. 17p.
- The Bowker Annual of Library & Book Trade Information*. 18th ed., 1973. Jeanne J. Henderson, managing ed. New York: R. R. Bowker Co., 1973. 548p. \$19.00.
- Brown, James W., et al. *AV Instruction, Technology Media and Methods*. New York: McGraw-Hill Book Co., 1973. 584p.
- Carbone, Salvatore and Raoul Gueze. *Draft Model Law on Archives: Description and Text*. New York: UNIPUB, Inc., 1972. 225p. \$4.50.
- Cockhill, Brian and Dale L. Johnson. *Guide to Manuscripts in Montana Repositories*. Missoula: University of Montana Library, 1973. \$3.50. (Guide is available through the Montana Historical Society Library, Helena, Montana.)
- Fessler, Aaron L., ed. *Index to Current Urban Documents*. Volume 1, No. 1/2, July-October 1972. Connecticut: Greenwood Publishing Co., 1972. 184p. \$75 annual subscription, quarterly.
- Foster, Donald L. *Prints in the Public Library*. Metuchen, N.J.: Scarecrow Press, 1973. 127p. \$5.00.
- General World Atlases in Print 1972-1973*, S. Padraig Walsh, comp. New York: R. R. Bowker Co., 1973. 211p. \$12.50.
- Hegener, Karen C., ed. *Annual Guides to Graduate and Undergraduate Study, 1973*. New Jersey: Peterson's Guides, Inc. \$75.00 per set. (8-volume set, individual books also available.)
- Kase, Francis J. *Foreign Patents: A Guide to Official Patent Literature*. New York: Oceana Publications, Inc. 1973. 358p. \$20.00.
- Keller, Dean H. *Index to Plays in Periodicals: Supplement*. Metuchen, N.J.: Scarecrow Press, 1973. 273p. \$7.50.
- Kujoth, Jean Spealman. *Best-Selling Children's Books*. Metuchen, N.J.: Scarecrow Press. 1973. 305p.