This last chapter is particularly interesting because Christian points out the security problems minicomputers create for electronic data bases. Apparently, it is technically feasible for anyone equipped with a minicomputer or a computer cassette to "simply take the data base vendor's search output in digital electronic form directly to the cassette or mini instead of (or in addition to) getting it as online alphanumeric printout." In effect, an electronic library can be created to be used and manipulated without economic benefit to the original vendor—electronic theft.

Christian's book is a clear exposition of the current state of electronic bibliographic data bases. It seems best suited for library school libraries and academic libraries. Despite its high price, it is recommended.—*Henry M. Yaple, University of Wyoming, Laramie.*

Clinic on Library Applications of Data Processing. University of Illinois, 1977. ***Negotiating for Computer Services.*** J. L. Divilbiss, editor. Urbana: Graduate School of Library Science, University of Illinois, 1978. 117p. $8. LC 78-13692. ISBN 0-87845-048-3.

Negotiating for computer services, the topic of the 1977 Clinic on Library Applications of Data Processing, is an increasingly important aspect of library management. Little in-library education and few on-the-job experiences prepare the librarian for the difficulties of making decisions on computer equipment and systems: selection of appropriate machinery, combinations of machinery, programs, support systems, maintenance, and improvement arrangements.

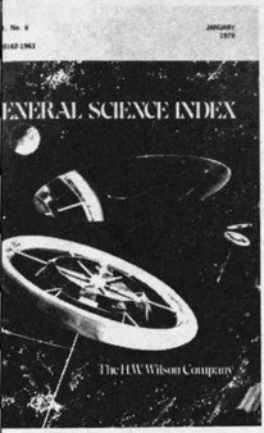
Too many of the arguments and justifications for computer systems naturally come from the experts in the field, who are also, incidentally, the vendors of the systems. The library may need automation, but how does the library staff "buy" automation in a considered, logical, and timely way? The papers in this collection, while uneven in clarity and depth of detail, will be helpful and edifying to those grappling with the mysteries of design, hardware, software, and contracts.

Most of the presentations concern negotiations between libraries and agencies outside their parent institutions—commercial vendors, network services, union lists. James Corey's discussion of negotiation within an organization is the best written and very informative. He is frank and to the point in describing examples of problems and solutions and the roles of human error and institutional politics in systems. Charles Dyer presents an attorney's tutorial on contracts for data processing, dense with information and very useful. The role-playing practicum carried out at the clinic apparently worked very well and can be repeated; all the materials and instructions are included.

Richard Boss and G. E. Gurr talk about the ill-fated 3M system at Princeton University—from the points of view of the library and vendor respectively. Boss's group did essentially what most well-meaning libraries would do in consideration of systems and negotiation of a contract, and the experience was, as we hindsightedly see, a disaster. Gurr gives us a capsule description of the free enterprise system in the United States and informs us that he does not believe in the Golden Rule but operates under it because "it is simply good sense from a self-serving viewpoint." (Would you buy a used car from this man, much less a circulation system?)

Papers on negotiations for OCLC services, MINITEX services, and the on-line bibliographic data bases offered by BRS are useful and still timely. I have lamented elsewhere in these reviewing pages about the delay in publishing proceedings of this annual clinic; in the case of the 1977 clinic the proceedings have a certain timelessness and value, at least as long as libraries continue to muddle through the decisions attending automating their libraries.

Ronald Brady, vice-president for administration at the University of Illinois, assures us that librarians need not be the underdogs in negotiations. He gives perhaps the best advice when he urges thoroughness of thoughtful planning, a conceptual model for the system we want, and attacking the right problem—that of the future instead of that of the present. He also stresses that very few computer systems in the educational environment have reduced costs, although



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they may have improved service. It is from this point that librarians should begin their deliberations and negotiations for computer systems—and use the rest of these proceedings along the way.—*Fay Zipkowitz, Worcester Area Cooperating Libraries, Worcester, Massachusetts.*

Howell, J. B., ed. ***Special Collections in Libraries of the Southeast.*** With an introduction by Frances Neel Cheney. Jackson, Miss.: Published for the Southeastern Library Association by Howick House, 1978. 423p. $15. (Available from Southeastern Library Association, P.O. Box 987, Tucker, GA 30084.)

There are several surprises in this new survey of special collections in libraries of the Southeast; at least, there were for me. I might have expected to find a large collection of books on furniture in High Point, North Carolina, but I did not know that the South Asia collection of about 100,000 volumes at the University of Virginia is "the most complete collection of this kind of material in the world." I knew that the Keeneland Association in Lexington, Kentucky, has a splendid collection relating to the breeding and racing of thoroughbred horses, but I was surprised to learn that the University of Miami has more than 130,000 volumes of Soviet imprints, most of them after 1960, along with complete or substantial files of 500 Soviet periodicals.

Special Collections in Libraries of the Southeast is a fascinating guide to research collections in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia. It is arranged in outline form, alphabetically by state and then alphabetically by city, with most of the 2,022 collections described in just a few lines. An index by owning institution and another by subject give easy access to the outline, although the absence of running titles makes it difficult to know where you are, geographically.

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