

author index. The index provided in the book does not include author entries for the references. The compilation of one list would have revealed that Reichmann, Blasingame, and Jahoda used the second edition of Robert S. Casey's *Punched Cards, Their Applications to Science and Industry*, and that Thompson and Hickey used the first edition. The compilation would have revealed interesting failures to cite fundamental chapters in Casey's book, such as that Reichmann does not refer to Madeline Berry's chapter ten, "Application of Punched Cards to Library Routines" although Thompson does; Thompson missed Wildhack and Stern's chapter six on the Peek-a-Boo System because he completed his part before the second edition was published; neither Reichmann, Thompson, nor Blasingame cites Ree's extensive chapter three on commercial equipment and supplies; and Miss Hickey's part would be improved had she seen my chapter nineteen on "Holes, Punches, Notches, Slots and Logic."

The book presents many examples of deficiencies. Blasingame (p. 113) quotes one advantage of machine-sorted cards as "Rapid sorting, even when there are very large numbers of cards." The original article refers to one machine only, the collator, for sorting on 16 characters, and states that it will require 4 hours 16 minutes to search 100,000 cards, using both feeds together. Librarians will not be impressed by such speed! This quotation and related discussion are given under the general account of punched cards in literature searching; they belong under the "Single Card—Multi Field Method" on pages 117-18.

Thompson writes (p. 68) of "the rhomboid design of the squares" of Delta feature cards; this is geometrically impossible. I have checked these examples. Reichmann says (p. 33): "In the vast bibliographical organization of the Library of Congress almost all known methods of information retrieval are employed (non-mechanical, semi-automatic and fully mechanized); the activities of these installations are coordinated by a Committee on Mechanized Information Retrieval." Neither part of this sentence is true; there are no fully mechanized information retrieval systems anywhere. Jahoda quotes Shaw in 1956 (p. 193-94) to the effect that a complete Minicard installation should cost about \$350,000

for one unit or \$150,000 each if 100 sets were produced. There are several operational Minicard systems now, but the cost of one more is more nearly \$2 million than the figures predicted. Hickey shows pictures of machine-sorted punched cards on pages 324-26 as "actual size," but they are reduced about 26 per cent.

The COMAC and the IBM 9900 Special Index Analyzer are paper-tape machines with mechanical sensing, not photoelectric, as stated by Jahoda (p. 167-71). Zatocards have plain notching positions, not holes—Reichmann (p. 18). Thompson describes the Alpha-Matrex machine (p. 77-78) and quotes claims for it, without adding that only one experimental model was constructed and that is now gathering dust because of cumbersome input and output features and an unacceptable number of false drops on retrieval, perhaps because of poor indexing.—*C. D. Gull, General Electric Company.*

German Research Libraries

Handbuch der Bibliothekswissenschaft. 2d ed. Volume II. Edited by Georg Leyh. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz, 1961. 1025p.

The second volume of the second edition of the *Handbuch der Bibliothekswissenschaft* is the most comprehensive work on the administration of research libraries in any language.

It is especially valuable to us for the contrasts it suggests between European and American research library administration. The traditional doubts that American librarians have for libraries which 1) shelve books by size and *numerus currens* and 2) offer delivery only in four to twenty-four hours need further analysis. As for the "dogma of classified arrangement" to which we are so devoted, it may only be observed that no major research library will be able

to secure building funds to house traditional codex books in this manner in the quantities in which they should be coming in to support research adequately. Moreover, the scholar who is properly trained bibliographically is likely to prefer a well-planned classed catalog to classified arrangement. As for quick delivery of books, we all find this policy convenient, but the scholar who organizes his bibliography before he starts work, and plans his procedure carefully, will find twenty-four hour or even forty-eight to seventy-two hour delivery (say, from MILC or some other external depository) a matter of slight consequence.

Perhaps our greatest benefits from the organizational integration of popular and research libraries in the United States have not been the traditions of open shelves and quick delivery but the traditions of experimentation and the honest willingness to face the seemingly unbookish monster of mechanization. German librarians are far from hostile to mechanization, but the inadequate budgets and the absence of well-heeled foundations and dollar-happy government agencies are reflected in many parts of the *Handbuch*. On the other hand, the superior quality of the top level of the staffs, duplicated in only a half-dozen or so of our greatest libraries, compensates in a certain measure for inadequate mechanization.

Leyh has dealt elsewhere and *in extenso* with the matter of librarianship as a profession, and his introductory essay is a codification of his thought on the subject. Buttressed heavily with historical data and information on library education in the Germanies, Leyh's study is characterized by a strong emphasis on the scholarly aspects of our business, by the need for common sense, and by the urgency of self-expression. His ideas are free from cant, and Leyh's own avoidance of blind convention in all aspects of library work has been a formative influence in German librarianship for more than half a century.

Fritz Redenbacher has written a manual of acquisitions practices which with slight modifications to satisfy local conditions, could be used as a manual in any library. Redenbacher identifies the tools of the acquisitions librarian, defines his methods, and draws broad outlines for policy-making. At times his ideas are clearly governed by the

starvation-level book funds of nearly all European university libraries. His book selection procedures are technically correct, but we need a sharper definition of the methods of mass acquisitions and the various forms of access to the world's scholarly literature and source materials in printed form. The admirable work of the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft in dividing fields of emphasis among the West German research libraries is described in detail; but neither this agency nor our Farmington Plan has been fully satisfactory for covering the current world output of printed material fully.

For all his technical correctness, Redenbacher has not faced squarely the problem of mass acquisitions. Neither has Heinrich Roloff, whose study of cataloging is just as correct, technically, as Redenbacher's. Neither essay takes full cognizance of 1) the publication explosion of the later twentieth century, 2) the need of research libraries to have some level of access to *all* of this material, and 3) the practical necessity of using machines to handle it.

Yet Roloff has much insight into the essential problems of cataloging scholarly collections. Like all *Handbuch* articles, his study provides a resumé of scholarship on the subject, fully documented; and it will, or should be, a point of departure for cataloging theorists. The fundamental problems of entry, classification, and subject indexing will face the mechanizers of the next decade just as sternly as they faced Heyne, Jefferson, or Panizzi. The essay on public service by the late Gustav Abb, revised by Wilhelm Martin Luther, describes the various levels of service. The variety of the demands of the groups to whom we owe service, and of our collections requires a more sophisticated approach than the naïve concept of getting the right book to the right person at the right time. Over three centuries of solid tradition undergird the studies of Abb and Luther, and they give us a much-needed perspective. On the other hand, Luther, who has seen the scrumptious appointments of some post-1945 American libraries, is keenly aware of the need for physical facilities conducive to constructive reading, whether for research, study, or recreation.

F. A. Schmidt-Künsemüller's essay on library binding reflects the similarity of library binding problems in Europe and

America. His common-sense definitions of the binding responsibilities of a research library will be useful on both sides of the Atlantic.

The treatment of special libraries by Norbert Fischer is perhaps more valuable for the description of special library organizations and individual libraries, especially in Europe, than for an exposition of administrative principles. While certain broad principles can apply to general research libraries in all countries, the details of operation of a medical library, for example, are somewhat different from those of an art library. For this reason Alfons Ott's essay on the music library will be more useful to music librarians than Fischer's will be to other special librarians.

Leyh's essay on shelving and call numbers reflects his broad knowledge of practices in other countries, and his decades of successful administration of a major research library command serious attention to his words. Those of us who see forty thousand to one hundred thousand volumes a year pouring into our stacks may live to regret the day that we didn't heed Leyh's warnings about classified arrangement for the bulk of our holdings.

Leyh's study of library statistical records involves definition and exposition rather than analysis. The vagaries of library records are so confusing that the simple and practical approach is difficult even within homogeneous groups. Leyh urges consideration of large bodies of statistical data rather than isolated facts, separation of the fundamental from the secondary, thoughtfulness in making comparisons.

Heinrich Treplin and Hildebert Kirchner study laws governing library use, acquisition and disposal of unneeded books, copyright law (including policies on photographic copying), and international law (especially in connection with destruction and "liberation" by military action). Library legislation in the United States is generally studied in a much narrower sense (mainly covering laws on public municipal and state-wide library service), and the breadth of the Treplin-Kirchner approach deserves serious consideration by authors of our manuals on research library administration.

The late Hugo Andres Krüss' contribution on international aspects of library work was

copied verbatim from the first edition of the *Handbuch* (II [1933], 717-752), and Breycha-Vauthier covers the last three decades, including the development of the international Federation of Library Associations, UNESCO, international aspects of documentation and standards, and international libraries (mainly of the UN).

The concluding chapter on library architecture by Leyh and Gerhard Liebers is one of the most valuable in the entire work. As customary for all *Handbuch* essays, there is a significant and instructive historical introduction. Liebers, who has travelled in the United States, gives a perceptive and critical analysis of the numerous new buildings here in the last decade and a half, and he is able to extract some basic principles from our broad experience, extensive theorizing, and exchanges of ideas. At the same time he does not overlook new library buildings in other parts of the world, and he is able to round out the historical and theoretical material in Leyh's section to form a broad and coherent study.—Lawrence S. Thompson, *University of Kentucky Libraries*.

Standards at Work

The Sioux Falls College Library: A Survey.

By Mark M. Gormley and Ralph H. Hopp.
Chicago: ALA, 1961. iii, 34p. \$2.50.

Those familiar with library surveys might consider this slim volume, at first glance, scarcely of passing interest. Sioux Falls College—coeducational, liberal arts, denominational, enrollment 496—is typical of hundreds of its genre. Its library is hardly unique (discouragingly), reflecting years of semistarvation: collections lamentably small, staff skeletal, building incapable of accommodating foreseeable enrollment increases.

This report is in turn typical (in the best sense) of what a college administration may expect upon requesting a library survey under ALA auspices: a visit by a team of able and experienced librarians—here, the executive secretary of ACRL, and the associate