ies. One wishes the author had incorporated this information in a general index. Especially welcome in Welsch's book is information concerning the availability of microfilm readers and copying facilities in each institution.

An example of the author's time-saving advice: In order to obtain authorization to use the pre-1945 files of the German Foreign Office (now located in Bonn), the researcher must present a letter of introduction from the U.S. Embassy. Similarly, the reader is advised as to the best procedure for gaining access to politically sensitive material in West and East Germany.

This book is a prerequisite for the scholar who wants to know all about the many libraries and archives in Germany, the size of their collections, and their outstanding holdings. A comprehensive bibliography following each listing enables researchers to do in-depth background readings on the institution they plan to visit. This volume will be a most useful addition to the reference collection in college and research libraries.—*Kurt S. Maier, Leo Baeck Institute, New York.*

Clack, Doris H. *Black Literature Resources: Analysis and Organization.* Books in Library and Information Science, vol. 16. New York: Marcel Dekker, Inc., 1975. $17.50. (LC 75-23582) (ISBN 0-8257-6307-6)

The concern for proper organization of black resources is not new. As Arthur Spingarn assembled his vast personal library of black literature during the first half of this century, he knew early that bibliography, like book collecting, is never an end in itself. Nor is it ever complete. He simply mirrored the concerns of many collectors or scholars of black literature during his period and after. This small volume which Doris Clack has written is an extension of a continuing concern for the proper organization and analysis of resources in black history and culture.

In preparing the volume, Clack cites two areas as significant and worthy of addressing through the work. First, the text aims to fill at least a part of the void which exists in professional attention given to the problems of bibliographic organization of black resources and to inspire examination of other areas of bibliographic organization in search of applications suited to black resources. Second, the text aims to facilitate the search for classification notation and index terms which have already been developed and which are used for arranging materials.

The author's primary concern is with the treatment of black themes in *Subject Headings Used in the Dictionary Catalog of the Library of Congress.* To address this issue, she attempts to define the rationale for the work in Part I, which is devoted to a brief historical look at subject analysis of black materials through citations to a few published works on the subject. Clack cites the work of Frances L. Yocum, pioneer in this area, whose subject headings for black themes had a marked influence on the development of black subjects in the Library of Congress list. While the author recognizes that the literature on this subject is limited, there is a conspicuous absence of reference to the work of Atlanta University and Annette H. Phinazee in sponsoring a conference which partially embraced this issue. In 1967 proceedings of the conference were published under the title *Materials by and about American Negroes* and included a number of recommendations worthy of consideration.

Part I of the Clack volume continues with brief discussions on "The Development of Black Literature Resources from an Historical Perspective" in which the author follows some of the paths of black history, attempts to show the nature of black literature from 1761 through the New Deal era of the 1930s, and discusses various conditions of the times which had an effect on black writings. Part I ends with "The Influence of Black Studies on the Development and Use of Black Literature Resources," which summarizes various studies and concludes that far too few libraries are providing personnel and finances required for the adequate support of black literature resources.

"Subject Analysis Schedules" is the focus of Part II and, for the most part, includes a list of all relevant subjects on black themes which were included in LC classification schedules, a list of relevant LC subject headings, and nonrelevant classification notation and subject headings which have

been used in organizing black literature, as found in the *Dictionary Catalog of Negro Life and Literature,* New York Public Library. When Clack studied LC's treatment of black subject headings, she concluded that its subject analysis "is not adequate to accommodate black literature in a systematic array as a unique body of literature," that there were inconsistencies between headings listed in the index and those listed in the outline, and that use of the system often fails to lead to the retrieval of relevant documents. After page-by-page review of the LC subject analysis system, Clack pulled all subjects together in a single listing that the librarian may see the picture as a whole. The nonrelevant list is designed to complement the relevant materials within a public catalog and to show the array of specific subjects on which published documents exist.

Those who know black literature well will conclude that this book is incomplete. What is lacking most is a list of headings useful to the comprehensive collection which extends the LC list and the nonrelevant list. Even then, headings which Clack terms nonrelevant may well be relevant in a comprehensive collection.

Part I is a mixture of short, but vital topics that might well have been expanded into separate volumes. It might have been better to omit this section altogether and expand Part II, which appears to be the main thrust of the volume. More critical subject analysis of headings, showing patterns in their establishment, might also have been given. Although the volume is arranged in two parts, the overall plan and progression of the work is confusing. So is the language used in the text.

More than it does, the volume should stress that the LC subject headings list and classification schedules were designed to fit materials which are in the Library of Congress. Because LC does not collect all materials published, it has a built-in system for eliminating subject classifications which might be useful in more specialized collections.

It is unfortunate that this book was published just at the time that LC was revising its subject headings list for black themes, substituting the word "Afro-American" for "Negro" when relating to blacks in the U.S., the word "blacks" for "Negro" when referring to blacks in other countries. Numerous changes also appear within the new list.

The strength of the work is that it pulls together in a handy volume lists of relevant and nonrelevant headings on black subjects which may be found in library catalogs. Librarians and library school students who are less familiar with black history and culture and its literature may also find Part I of some value.—*Jessie Carney Smith, University Librarian, Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee.*

Borko, Harold, and Bernier, Charles L. *Abstracting Concepts and Methods.* Library and Information Science. New York: Academic Press, 1975. 250p. $14.95. (LC 75-13069) (ISBN 0-12-118650-4)

The authors have filled the long-standing need for a good text on abstracting with a well-organized, readable work. While the stated audience is library school students, it should also be more broadly useful for self-teaching and as a supplementary tool for training in abstracting services. Furthermore, this is not the kind of text the reader trudges through because it is good for him; it is actually readable and interesting. This judgment was confirmed by use of the book with a course in abstracting and indexing.

There are three sections: background on the nature of abstracts and abstracting services, with criteria, instructions, and standards; abstracting procedures; a miscellany on management, automation, and personnel; the purposes of journal literature; a good projection of future trends; automatic abstracting; and career opportunities.

The section on evaluation of abstracts in the chapter on automatic abstracting could well have been placed elsewhere; it is a sad commentary on the field that most of the formal work on evaluation of abstracts has been done in research on automatic abstracting.

Abstracts are placed in their context as a major type of document surrogate, and the historical review of abstracts and abstracting services shows the use of this form over the millennia from the earliest written