

Readex Microprint Publications 1950-1960.
[New York: Readex Microprint Corp., n.d.]
47p. On request.

This year is the tenth anniversary of the first publications of the Readex Microprint Corporation. Since June 1950 they have issued "more than 250,000 titles" on Microprint cards. This catalogue lists their publications by major categories, and includes a five-page index to help locate inclusive subject headings within these wide groupings.

Southwestern Newspapers on Microfilm. Dallas, Tex.: Microfilm Service & Sales Co. (P. O. Box 8066), [n.d.] 62p. On request.

Five states in the southwestern region of the United States (Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas) cover a wide area with Dallas roughly at its center. This catalogue lists some four hundred publications (or approximately twenty million filmed pages) microfilmed in this area. The arrangement is by state, broken down alphabetically by city. Coverage in Louisiana is very slight. Also listed are holdings of the Oklahoma Historical Society and the Arkansas History Commission. Queries about these items should be directed to them and not to the publisher.—*Hubbard W. Ballou, Photographic Services, Columbia University Libraries.*

Studies in Cataloging and Classification

Cataloging and Classification. By Maurice F. Tauber. *Subject Headings.* By Carlyle J. Frarey. (The State of the Library Art, Vol. 1, Parts 1-2) Ed. by Ralph R. Shaw. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Graduate School of Library Service, 1960. 271, 92 p.

This is part of the series forming Dean Ralph Shaw's review of "perhaps forty percent of the entire range of librarianship and bibliography," and it is a grand job. The

task of surveying the literature has been well done. The "state of the art" is clearly and comprehensively presented. The evaluation of this state is penetrating. And the consequent proposals for research projects are the sound result of mature understanding.

One example from the first section of the book may help describe the method of these studies. The literature on the question of a divided catalog is summarized in five pages and the evaluation is then:

Do the studies aid a librarian in making a decision in regard to the division of the catalog for a particular library? The answer must be no, unless a particular library catalog is examined in relation to particular groups of users. It would seem that what evidence is available supports division for almost any catalog of any size. The presence of guesswork and rationalization, however, suggests that further study of the arrangement of the catalog is desirable.

As a consequence, three proposals are made for further study—one a statistical study of entry duplication in divided catalogs of various sizes; a second to test a three-way split into authors, subjects, and titles; and the third an experiment in the horizontal division of the catalog by date periods. Later, in a summary chapter entitled "Program for the future," a fourth study is proposed to determine the administrative efficiency of filing in a divided catalog. The author expresses conviction that division of catalogs may lead "to the harmonious shift to printed catalogs for subjects for older portions of the collection"; and similarly penetrating observations are made under the other topics discussed.

The author's proposals for research projects were the motivation for the CLR grant: "The Council early considered the possibilities for basic research in library problems. A necessary preliminary step appeared to be a listing of the problems and a survey of the present state of knowledge regarding them in order to permit a selection of topics offering promise to investigation." This book suggests eighty-five of these topics in cataloging. They include seven each in the areas of descriptive cataloging, classification, "collectanea" files, and documents; and a lesser