

to the implications of relying upon interlibrary loan for access to titles either not acquired or discarded after being held for a period. Another section develops mathematical models of acquisitions policies for libraries that are part of a hierarchy of libraries consisting of personal libraries, departmental libraries, university libraries, and a national library. In another section, the authors speculate upon the pervasiveness in librarianship of negative exponential distributions similar to the famous Zipf distribution. They argue persuasively in just a few paragraphs that it is important from both the theoretical and practical points of view to find out to what extent their speculations are correct.

This report will be useful to library systems analysts and operations researchers. It would also be a good document for reading by library administrators who would like to get an idea of the kinds of things that are going on in library operations research. (Those whose forte is not mathematics should skip over the detailed mathematical expositions. All significant points are also made in prose.) Finally, this is the kind of document that a university librarian might well want to share with some of the operations research specialists on his campus. Collaboration between librarians and operations researchers outside the library has already borne fruit at several institutions.

Any library ordering this report should probably also order the Library's Occasional Papers nos. 1, 2, and 3, since some of the material in this no. 4 is merely a condensation of work reported more fully in the three earlier papers. The reader should be warned that there are numerous typographical errors in the equations and in the discussions of them.—*Kelley L. Cartwright, School of Library Service, University of California, Los Angeles.*

**The Subject Approach to Information.** By A. C. Foskett. Hamden, Conn.: Archon, 1969. 310p. \$7.50.

It is important to view this volume in the context in which it was written. In his preface the author states that "it is my hope that this work will help to fill a need

which exists at present for a textbook suitable for that part of the Library Association part I paper 3 syllabus which deals with the subject approach." He then goes on to say that he has "tried in this text to emphasize the similarities as well as the differences between the different methods of retrieving information, and to show the kind of situation where each is likely to prove of value." To accomplish this in modern context he has "concentrated everywhere on the modern approach, including terminology. . . ."

The volume was examined in terms of both form and content. There are minimal variations in typeface which make it difficult to separate the examples from the text. The arrangement is logical for the subject it covers, going from the general to the specific. However, in arranging the text where it concerns particular schemes, a general discussion is used with examples before the general layout of the particular classification scheme under discussion is given. The index is thorough and useful. Nineteen percent of the indexed items refer to bibliographic data. Since the content is generally aimed at a British audience, the systems in use in Great Britain and India are more thoroughly covered than those in use in the United States.

Whether the chapters are arranged in the order of importance to the author, or whether, by so arranging them he has eliminated some redundancies, it is interesting to note that the number of pages devoted to each system decreases (except for Colon):

DC	23
UDC	15
Bliss	12
Colon	14
LC	9
LCSubjHd	5
Sears	3

There are some minor problems in language. For example, when Foskett discusses homographs (p.40), he lists

PITCH	(Bitumen)
PITCH	(Music)
PITCH	(Football), in our context we would use (Baseball);

or when he discusses pseudo-homographs he uses

WADERS (birds)  
WADERS (footwear), a word not in use for galoshes in this country.

Note also the lack of consistency in capitalization of the explanatory words. The use of "literary warrant" throughout the volume makes it a term that should be defined for the U.S. audience.

Although he has previously stated that he is concerned only with the modern, and that this is an elementary textbook, the lack of consistent bibliographic citation was a bother. Those authors whom Foskett knew, or liked, received complete citations, others, such as Library of Congress Rules for Descriptive Cataloging; the Cutter, Kaiser, Dewey volumes that are early twentieth century; and Farradane's operators which are cited for almost a full page, are mentioned without complete references, etc.

Twenty-four pages are devoted to post-coordinate systems, whereas eighty-four are devoted to precoordinate systems. Because of the organization of the volume quite a bit of redundancy occurs. This may be a reinforcing device for teaching purposes.

Despite all the foregoing, the volume is clearly and logically written and would certainly serve as an elementary exposition of subject indexing and classification. Definitions are given throughout, as well as examples. If one supplements this volume with the primary references and series such as the books on *The Intellectual Organization of Information*, edited by Susan Artandi, one can grasp both the concepts, development, and the literature dealing with this subject.—Henry Voos, Rutgers, The State University.

## BOOKS RECEIVED

NOTE: The titles listed represent books received at the editorial office that may be of interest to academic librarians.

*A Bibliography of the Catholic Church: representing holdings of American libraries reported to the National Union*

*Catalog in the Library of Congress*. London: Mansell Information/Publishing Limited and Chicago: The American Library Association, 1970. 572p. \$35.00. (ISBN 7201-0134-4).

*Album of American History*. Vols. 1-6. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1969. (74-91746).

American Theological Library Association. *Summary of Proceedings 24th Annual Conference, American Theological Library Association, New Orleans, 1970*. Wilmore, Ky.: American Theological Library Association, 1970. 171p.

Audiovisual Committee, Public Library Association. *Guidelines for Audiovisual Materials & Services for Public Libraries*. Chicago: American Library Association, 1970. 33p. \$1.00. (74-121113). (ISBN 0-8389-3116-2).

Booth, K. M. *Dictionary of Refrigeration and Air Conditioning*. New York: American Elsevier Publishing, 1970. 315p. \$16.50. (70-122953). (ISBN 444-20069-X).

Bricker, George W. *Bricker's Directory of University-Sponsored Executive Development Programs*. 1971 Supplement. Wilton, Conn.: Bricker Publications, 1970. 54p. \$15.00. (73-110249).

Brierley, J. K. *A Natural History of Man*. Rutherford, N.J.: Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, 1970. 184p. \$8.00. (70-139994). (ISBN 8386-7819-X).

Bush, Alfred L. and Fraser, Robert S. *American Indian Periodicals in the Princeton University Library*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1970. 78p. \$2.50.

Campbell, Allan and Dawson, Irene, eds. *The Library Technician at Work: Theory and Practice*. Proceedings of workshop sponsored by the Training of Library Technicians Committee of the Canadian Library Association, Ontario, 1970. Ottawa: Canadian Library Association, 1970. 232p. \$5.00.

*Children's Books in Print 1970: Title Index, Author Index and Illustrator Index*. New York: R. R. Bowker, 1970. 697p. \$13.50. (70-101705). (ISBN 0-8352-0464-2).