

of a system in a model library. Only then would cost figures have any meaning. The comments of customers of these systems are of little value because, as Dranov states, "As things stand today, the only system in operation long enough to be fairly judged is the LIBS 100 from C. L. Systems, Inc., of Newtonville, Mass." Almost all other systems have only one or two customers with special vendor relationships.

I would recommend the purchase of Paula Dranov's work to anyone with a mild interest in automating circulation, for it has a great deal of valuable information. Anyone who plans to purchase a system should also purchase the *Library Technology Reports* issue for the small amount of additional information to be gained. If you are going to spend \$100,000 on a system for circulation, the additional forty dollars may be a worthwhile investment.—Edmond A. Menegaux, Executive Director, South Central Research Library Council, Ithaca, New York.

Schlachter, Gail Ann, with Belli, Donna.

Minorities and Women: A Guide to Reference Literature in the Social Sciences. Los Angeles: Reference Service Press, 1977. 349p. \$19.50. LC 76-53061. ISBN 0-918276-01-2. (Order from Reference Service Press, 9023 Alcott St., Suite 201, Los Angeles, CA 90035.)

McKee, Kathleen Burke. *Women's Studies: A Guide to Reference Sources.* With a Supplement on Feminist Serials in the University of Connecticut's Alternative Press Collection, by Joanne V. Akeroyd. With the assistance of B. McIlvaine, Government Publications Department. Bibliography Series, Number 6. Storrs, Conn.: University of Connecticut Library, 1977. 112p. \$5.00 (prepaid). (Order from Acquisitions Department, University of Connecticut Library, Storrs, CT 06268.)

In recent years there has been growing interest in ethnic affairs and in women's studies. Comprehensive guides to reference sources in these areas, however, have been lacking. Two recently published bibliographies together help fill this gap, each complementing the other.

Minorities and Women describes over 800 reference books related to women, American Indians, Asian Americans, black Ameri-

cans, Spanish Americans, and other minority groups in America. One section of "Information Sources" is presented in chapters by form (fact books, biographies, documentary sources, directories, and statistical materials), with entries in each chapter arranged by author under women or the minority groups. A second section of "Citation Sources" (bibliographies, abstracts, indexes, catalogs, guides to the literature, etc.) is presented in chapters by group and listed alphabetically by title. For each item, complete bibliographic information plus a descriptive annotation detailing purpose, scope, arrangement, special features, and publication history is given. Author, title, and subject indexes provide easy access to all publications cited.

Schlachter and Belli intend their guide to fill a bibliographic gap in reference literature, and they appear to succeed. Other reference works are available for individual minorities but differ in format and scope or need updating. Schlachter and Belli provide in-depth, current reference sources for several minorities together in one convenient volume. This reviewer was satisfied that their coverage is exhaustive when a spot check for two dozen recent, relevant works uncovered no omissions.

While their sections on women also are commendably thorough, these could have been published as a separate and expanded volume. Particularly for women's studies, the intentionally restrictive scope of *Minorities and Women* requires consultation of other guides. Possibly because their subject range is broad, the authors exclude several categories of publications, including those dealing primarily or exclusively with society in general; publications after mid-1976; reference materials in foreign languages and/or emphasizing areas outside of the United States; plus noncataloged materials, e.g., pamphlet-like publications of sixty pages or less.

A reference tool for women's materials filling most of these gaps is *Women's Studies: A Guide to Reference Sources*, by Kathleen Burke McKee. Based on the collection of the University of Connecticut Library, Storrs, it will be useful to librarians and researchers at other institutions. Items are presented by type of publication and are

indexed by author, title, and subject. Annotations give purpose, arrangement, and use of the sources in women's studies research. The inclusion of subject indexing terms in various sources will be welcomed by reference librarians who try to explain to undergraduates that one subject area is analyzed under various headings in various indexes.

For women's studies, the Schlachter and Belli volume, within the carefully defined scope of its parameters, is a more comprehensive guide to sources solely about women and published by "mainstream" publishers. In contrast, McKee's bibliography also is intended to be an introduction to reference sources from more traditional disciplines that are useful in women's studies research. Researchers who consult general indexes will wish to consult McKee first.

Items in the main section of McKee include the University of Connecticut's Alternative Press Collection's feminist reference books plus books and pamphlets from movement publishers on Third World women, socialist feminism, lesbianism, and other feminist issues. Alternative and/or small press and ephemeral material can be difficult to locate. McKee is worth purchasing solely for these listings and for the excellent, annotated supplement on feminist serials in Connecticut's Alternative Press Collection by Joanne V. Akeroyd. The value of this slim volume as an acquisitions and reference aid far exceeds its price. Regrettably, this paperbound work is poorly bound, and reinforcement of its binding is advised.—*Sherrie S. Bergman, College Librarian, Wheaton College, Norton, Massachusetts.*

Garfield, Eugene. *Essays of an Information Scientist*. With a foreword by Joshua Lederberg. Philadelphia: ISI Press. 1977. 2v. (Volume 1, 1962-1973. Volume 2, 1974-1976.) \$25.00 (plus postage and handling, \$1.00 in U.S., Canada, and Mexico; \$5.00 other locations). LC 77-602. ISBN 0-89495-000-2.

In my little desk dictionary, "essay" is defined as "an analytic or interpretative literary composition usually dealing with its subject from a limited or personal point of view." The lexicographer probably had in thought the essays of Lamb or Emerson or

Thurber or E. B. White. The current work would be better with the title "Disquisitions by . . ." or "Lucubrations of . . ." It is a heavy work, and "essay" is too light a word for the substance herein. The 398 pieces the author has chosen to call essays are, in reality, one long essay drawn from Mr. Garfield's thoughts on scientific journals and, more particularly, citation indexing in and for periodical literature.

Garfield, former president of ADI (now ASIS) and currently active in the Institute for Scientific Information (ISI), is also president of his own publishing firm, Information International, Inc. (III), in Philadelphia. III is publisher of various editions of *Current Contents*, and the essays republished in this unfinished set are gathered from *Current Contents'* first fifteen years. While Garfield is the one man that could (and did) write so extensively on citation indexing in his own periodical, the question of an overabundance of publicity must be raised when he republishes, uncut, the entire set. Perhaps an audience (unknown to this reviewer) has an unsatisfied appetite to read and reread articles on citation indexing.

It should not be inferred that the individual pieces gathered here lack merit. In fact, they are good, impassioned, and terse; they sound like Garfield in person. Garfield promotes his products; Garfield announces his plans for editorial change; Garfield evaluates his products for the information community; Garfield introduces his associates and vouches for their character and integrity; Garfield acknowledges the adulation his publications have received among users. If one could read them for review as they were meant originally to be read (one at a time) with a fortnight between sessions, they would have a less dramatic effect than the collective impact of the whole lot taken at a single sitting or even within a week's time.

Librarians, particularly post-master's students of library science, information scientists, and historians of science, will find in Garfield's two volumes a mine of primary importance. It is not the mother lode, but it is rich and has within it a vein of the pure metal—a vein to be probed and followed to the end. The author work was done as journal publication reached its height.