

considerable literature devoted to periodicals weeding. He also makes no mention of the American Library Association's recent *Guidelines for Collection Development* (American Library Assn. Resources and Technical Services Division, Collection Development Committee. Chicago: American Library Assn., 1979), which contains a chapter on "Review of Library Collections." These guidelines see review (weeding) as part of the collection-management process and would be more useful than Slote's work to most academic librarians contemplating weeding. This book is recommended only for academic collections supporting a library-science program or to individuals with a strong interest in the subject of weeding.—*Barbara A. Rice, State Library Cultural Center, Albany, New York.*

Boss, Richard W., and Marcum, Deanna B. "On-Line Acquisitions Systems for Libraries," *Library Technology Reports* 17:115-94 (March-April 1981). Single issue, \$40.

Attendance at meetings devoted to discussions of automating acquisitions indicates that librarians need current and accurate information in this area. The authors of this report attempt to provide information to help librarians evaluate acquisitions systems.

The authors first list seven categories of automated systems: in-house, transferred software, software houses, integrated, turnkey, utility, and jobber. They then describe twenty specific automated acquisitions systems, divided into these seven categories. The depth of the description varies depending on the operational status of the specific system.

The rest of the report is designed for librarians planning to choose automated acquisitions, with sections on questions to ask in order to evaluate a system, and specific steps to take in procurement. Boss and Marcum conclude that libraries will benefit in the long run from integrated systems, and should pressure suppliers of automated systems to provide them.

The appendix has some sample screen displays; a list of WLN charges; general specifications for DataPhase's and OCLC's acquisitions systems; names, addresses, and contacts for the twenty systems described; and a bibli-

ography on automated acquisitions.

Unlike a famous winegrower, this *LTR* report was issued before its time. The purpose of *LTR* is to provide librarians with "authoritative information" on products so that informed purchasing decisions can be made. This report fails to provide this information. Many of the automated systems described were still under development in 1981, and descriptions of these systems are not critical, but simply state what the company hopes the system will do when (and if) operational. After reading this, the librarian is no better off than if he or she had read publicity releases from the company. The items in the appendix provide little helpful information, and the bibliography, with citations easily found in other sources, lists only two articles published after 1978. In order to provide the critical evaluations which are needed, this report should be redone next year, emphasizing major operational systems. In the meantime, librarians needing guidance on automated systems will find the papers presented at the LITA Institute on Automated Acquisitions (published in *JOLA*, V.13, no.3 and no.4, Sept. and Dec., 1980) more useful than this *LTR*—*William Z. Schenck, University of Oregon Library, Eugene.*

International Handbook of Contemporary Developments in Librarianship. Ed. by Miles M. Jackson. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 1981. 619p. \$65. LC 80-27306. ISBN 0-313-21372-0.

This is a collection of thirty-four original articles by fifty-one authors, on libraries and librarianship in sixty-five countries. Editor Miles M. Jackson, professor of library studies at the University of Hawaii, states that the purpose of the volume is to present an "overview of the major developments and most significant trends in librarianship since 1945." He adds that the book is concerned with international librarianship and is "not intended as a work of comparative library studies." Actually it is a kind of one-volume, long-article encyclopedia of libraries and librarianship by country.

Typically, each article provides brief historical, geographic, and occasionally political background, followed by information on the national library and on university, pub-