

doubtedly prove to be a useful bibliographic tool. A thorough reading of the chapter on the bibliographic approach will prepare serious students, both of physics and of librarianship, for effective use of physics literature. While one may find it difficult to decide just which approach or combination of approaches would produce the best results in his quest for literature, the book has a virtue in being brief enough to allow one to read any part deemed pertinent in a short time. The book's value as a ready reference guide may be somewhat hindered by this broad approach arrangement, except to those who use it frequently.

The author has been thoughtful in his selection of titles. In this work he surveyed four extensive technical library collections. Moreover, he was guided by knowledge gained as a science librarian. Omission of titles does not indicate that they lack merit. Selectivity in reference guides is bound to offend the personal opinions of users at some point or another. It will not be difficult, using this book as a guide, to develop bibliographies and readily to fill in titles which have been omitted to keep the book compact and live. Dr. Whitford's comments, though brief, are pertinent and filled with clues to additional useful literature on both physical science and bibliographic work in physics.

This book does fill a major gap. It is now the only suitable book that can be used as a text for prospective physics librarians. It brings Parke up to date by listing books published in the last seven years. It answers a need for an effective guide to literature, arranged to provide a maximum amount of information on all phases of physics (including teaching, philosophy, popularization and industrial applications) for a variety of types of users.—*Russell Shank, Columbia University Libraries.*

Document Reproduction

International Federation for Documentation.
Manual on Document Reproduction and Selection. F.I.D. Publ. No. 164. The Hague, F.I.D., 1953. \$7.10 plus \$2.50 for Suppls.

In the last chapter of the *Manual on Methods . . .* Robert Binkley writes: "It has seemed almost impossible to close the book, because the rush of innovation makes a chapter

out of date almost as soon as it leaves the typist's hands." (Joint Committee on Materials for Research. *Manual on Methods of Reproducing Research Materials . . .* by Robert C. Binkley . . . Ann Arbor, Edwards, 1936. p. 183.) That was in 1936. The normal progress to be expected in eighteen years was accelerated by the forced efforts resulting from a world-wide war. There has long been a need for a study to bring Binkley up to date.

The International Federation for Documentation has published with assistance from UNESCO a manual that is by no means a revision of Binkley, but an entirely new approach to the problem. Whereas the earlier report was limited to practices and procedures native to the United States, the new publication is global in scope. In order to be as universal as possible, it speaks with two tongues. Most of the expository material is presented in both English and French. The editorial board, under the leadership of F. Donker Duyvis (Secretary General of F.I.D.) presents as international a gathering as does the United Nations.

Realizing that documentation methods and equipment are not of a static nature, the editors of this manual wisely decided to bring it out in a loose leaf form. The first mailing consists of two three-ring binders filled to about one-half of capacity. The pages are not numbered consecutively, but sections and sub-sections are given expandable classification numbers, and the pages are numbered within classes. This will facilitate the insertion of supplementary material as it is received.

At present Part I is all that has been issued. It consists of sections on: Reproduction, Document Reproduction Materials, The Cost Angle of Document Reproduction, Standardization for Document Reproduction, and a General Bibliography on Document Reproduction. Part II, which is due to appear later in 1954, and will be sent automatically to buyers of Part I, will contain sections on: Selection, Training of Personnel for Document Reproduction, and an Index to both parts.

The largest section of Part I is that on Reproduction. It is divided into sub-sections on: Reproduction by Hand or Mechanical Means (e.g. typing, relief printing, offset printing, etc.), Photographic Reproduction,

Electronic and Photo-conductive Methods (e.g. Xerox), and Thermic, Catalytic and Other Methods (e.g. Thermofax).

In general the chapters of each sub-section consist of a descriptive text that is complete yet concise. This is followed by illustrative material if available. Next comes a bibliography, and then a listing of manufacturers and apparatus by country of origin. After this appears a section of descriptive literature from cooperating manufacturers, generally in the form of reprints of the specification pages of advertising brochures. At present this section provides only a most incomplete coverage of the firms listed in the division before it. It is hoped that other manufacturers will heed the invitation made in the editorial note: "An appeal is made to all readers and users to supply the editors with comments, additions and corrections so that gradually the manual will become less tentative in form and contents. . . ."

One must criticize this manual for the difficulty of interpreting the information in the listing of equipment. It is an arduous task to tabulate the inconsistent information supplied about their products by the manufacturers of reproduction equipment. It can be done however, as exemplified by the tables in the UNESCO Survey (*UNESCO Survey of Microfilm Use 1951*. Paris, UNESCO, June 5, 1952. 43 pp.).

Interest about and concern over the problems of communications appear to be issues facing all libraries today. The universality of this manual makes it a necessary reference tool for all but the smallest institutions. Ralph Shaw in his introduction sums it up in this manner: "It is, therefore, an attempt to enumerate the methods for reproduction and selection available so that these methods can be studied in relationship to all the other conditions in reaching a decision as to which is the best method for reproducing any given publication, at any given time, in any given place."—Hubbard W. Ballou, *Columbia University Libraries*.

Foreign Medical Periodicals

Union List of Foreign Medical Periodicals, 1941-1952. Japanese Medical Library Association. Tokyo, Japan, Kokusai Shobo Ltd., 1954. 124 p.

In 1942, the third edition of the *Union List of Periodicals in Medical Schools* was published by the Japanese Medical Library Association in keeping with its policy of contributing to the development of Japanese medical science and the facilities for research in the field of medicine. Although a number of the Association's subsequent publications—*Union Catalogue of Medical Works in Medical Schools* (six volumes published, three in process), *Catalogue of Japanese Medical Periodicals* (1941), *Classification of Medical References* (1936), and the *General Index of Foreign Medical Works for the Last Ten Years* (1951) have in some respects had features which served the 1942 list in a supplementary capacity, the first direct descendant and accurate indicator in the true sense of being a union list, is the work reviewed in this statement—the *Union List of Foreign Medical Periodicals, 1941-1952*.

This work, however, is distinctly different from the parent publication in several respects. First its language media makes it a tool of value not only for the Japanese medical practitioner and research specialist, but for medical men and women the world over. In addition to the publications being listed by title in the language of a publication's origin, the locator device (symbols) and its key are in English, rather than in Japanese characters as in the 1942 edition. The one exception noticed in the matter of titles being listed in language of origin is the Russian *Arkhiv anatomii i embriologii i d'embriologii* (*Archives russes d'anatomie, d'histologie et d'embryologie*). In the 1942 edition the main entry was in Russian with a French translation.

Paucity of Russian titles notwithstanding, it may be said that the scope of the work, in listing the libraries' holdings, is universal in coverage. There are 1734 titles listed. These are located in the holdings of the 77 cooperating major medical libraries of Japan.

Where the 1942 periodical list was compiled with several parts and sections, much of it entirely in Japanese, the present smaller, more compact work, is in a single alphabet by title arrangement. The pages are double columned with the first word of each title in heavy black type which stands out clearly, providing a means for rapid finding. Preceding each first word in the margin is the title's numbered listing in fine type. Each entry lists the title