sices, including library and information services.

In his introduction to this volume the editor and conference director summarizes his personal observations of the conference as follows: (1) the papers represent the most comprehensive collection of material on networks available; (2) a national network of libraries and information centers appears to be a viable concept; (3) the individual is the one to be served by a national network; (4) the development of the network concept is an interdisciplinary task; (5) libraries and information centers will need to be "proactive" rather than reactive; and (6) new patterns of organization that will permit networks to operate effectively must be developed, and meaningful network development cannot be imposed from the top down but must grow from grassroots motivation and support. It is, incidentally, difficult to reconcile this observation with the conference resolution asking the National Commission to devise a comprehensive plan.

This publication presents the thirty-one commissioned papers, the five working group summary reports, a bibliography, and, as an epilogue, a poetic parody Hiawatha's Network. While the papers are uneven, contain much duplication (Gone With the Wind is constantly being transmitted by telefacsimile in two minutes but Ralph Shaw's slow messenger is nowhere to be seen), and too often consist of speculation about networks they do, in general, bear out Becker's conclusion that this is the most comprehensive source of information on networks available. In particular the papers by Casey, Hacker, Hayes, Kenney, Miller and Weber, and Lynden represent good summaries of the historical development of networks. On the other hand it is hard to believe that the network concepts of the future as described by Licklider and Samuelson will be attained by 1980, as Licklider suggests. The papers of most significance are those by Bunge ("Reference Service in the Information Network"), Chapin ("Limits of Local Suficiency"), and Dennis ("The Relation of Social Science Data Archives to Libraries and Wider Information Networks") which represent analyses of and commentaries upon present-day practices and problems.

The major value of the conference was probably the preparation and publication of this information. It is difficult to see how the conference otherwise advanced the cause of networks. There are now, and were at the time this conference was planned, many elements of a network in existence. A major conference of those actively involved in those elements which discussed ways of developing standards and practical bases of cooperation and intercommunication would certainly have been a more productive use of the grant funds than the discussions represented here.

The most distressing element of this conference, however, is how little attention was paid to the major question of what it is libraries have to communicate and what the real purpose of a national network is. Only Chapin's paper seems to have directly addressed this problem and there is little evidence in the working group summaries that anyone at the conference paid much attention to it. His paper deserves further attention, especially the conclusion that "Elaborate schemes, at great expense, that do little more than make the last 3 or 4 percent of materials available are likely to be [and should be] rejected by librarians and the public."—Norman D. Stevens, University of Connecticut.

OTHER BOOKS OF INTEREST TO ACADEMIC LIBRARIANS


ABSTRACTS

The following abstracts are based on those prepared by the Clearinghouse for Library and Information Sciences of the Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC/CLIS), American Society for Information Science, 1140 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Suite 804, Washington, DC 20036.

Documents with an ED number may be ordered in either microfiche (MF) or hard copy (HC) from ERIC Document Reproduction Service, LEASCO Information Products, Inc., P.O. Drawer O, Bethesda, MD 20014. Orders must include ED number and specification of format desired. A $0.50 handling charge will be added to all orders. Payment must accompany orders totaling less than $10.00. Orders from states with sales tax laws must include payment of the appropriate tax or include tax exemption certificates.

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The final report on the Council on Library Resources (CLR) Grant no. 443 for the New England Library Information Network (NELINET) is divided into three parts. Section one is a general commentary on the NELINET project, which was conceived to test the viability of creating a centralized, regional capability to use electronic data processing techniques for technical processes and other service requirements of a network of libraries. The philosophy of the total project and of the system design planned to achieve project objectives is discussed. The NELINET system design and its transferability is reviewed in section two. Section three is a technical report on the hardware, software, and system design of the project.


The five papers presented at this symposium are: (1) "The Librarian and the Porcupine: Experiences With Cooperation and Technical Services in New York State," by Peter J. Paulson; (2) "Interlibrary Cooperation; The Academic Areas," by D. A. Redmon; (3) "The Role of Urban Libraries in Cooperation," by John Dutton; (4) "Library Network; Observations on the Chicago Conference," by Clint Lawson and (5) "SCOPEing the Future of Librarianship in Ontario," by John Wilkinson.


The fundamental objective of the study is to obtain a detailed analysis of the book publishing industry and the book printing industry in Canada, in order to determine what steps the federal government might take to assist the industry in improving its viability and in promoting its stability and growth. This objective implies that the study will provide the detailed analysis of the industry necessary to formulate the major policy options which may be open to the industry and to the government of Canada. The primary purpose of the study is statistical and economic data collection. Publishing and manufacturing are the elements of the book industry considered. Publishing includes manuscript selection, editing, copyrighting, marketing, and aspects of physical distribution as they pertain to publishers. Manufacturing encompasses typesetting, printing, and binding. Both English
and French language publishers of Canada are analyzed.

**A Report on Information Services at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.** By John Callahan and others. 25 Jan. 1972. 39p. (ED 059 731, MF—$0.65 HC—$3.29)

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill community has long been in need of a coordinated and expanded information service. Students, particularly those in the General College, have had great difficulty obtaining information concerning academics, transportation, sports, cultural events, or merely a telephone number. The present services are inadequate for various reasons. They are scattered, overburdened, incomplete, and often overlapping. The problem has been aggravated by the recent growth in the size of the student body. The reorganization and coordination of the present system would render information more accessible and its dissemination more efficient. The following report is intended to study the existing services, discuss the problems encountered with these services, and offer some proposals for solutions. The proposal is broken down into three areas: telephone locator, ticket sales, and general information. Each area is discussed separately.


The major objective of this research study was to gather information about factors which influence collection development and selection decision making in the Smithsonian Institution libraries. The user's judgment of the extent to which the collections met his needs is the only parameter of assessment. Museum curators, the bulk of whose time is spent in research, were asked how well the collections met their needs. Also examined were the resources actually utilized by the curators in their research work, and their participation in and perception of the library material selection process. The study was designed to provide information for policy making, but the implications which are drawn must be considered tentative since only the user's point of view is covered. A more complete analysis must also consider the perspectives of librarians and administrators of the Smithsonian Institution.


The November 1970 general conference of UNESCO proclaimed calendar year 1972 as International Book Year. The general theme is books for all, and the goal is to focus attention on the role of books and related materials in the lives and affairs of the individual and society. The overall objectives are the encouragement of authorship and translation; improved circulation and production of books; promotion of the reading habit; and strengthening the usefulness of books in education, international understanding, and peaceful cooperation. This handbook provides guidelines for United States participants in the following areas: (1) functions and organization of the ad hoc committee and the U.S. Secretariat, (2) techniques for planning activities, and (3) planning for resources, publicity, and promotion. Lists of films, publications, and organizations concerned with the International Book Year are appended.

**Ohio College Library Center Annual Reports 1967/1968–1970/1971.** Ohio College Library Center, Columbus, 1971. 56p. (ED 059 730 MF—$0.65 HC—$3.29)

The two principal goals of the Ohio College Library Center (OCLC), as approved during the first annual meeting held October 25, 1967, are: (1) increase the resources for education and research to faculty and students of its member institutions and (2) the deceleration of per-student costs in its member colleges and universities. Plans to achieve these goals are given. The second annual report includes the design of five major subsystems: (1) a shared
cataloging system, (2) a remote catalog access and circulation control system, (3) a bibliographic information retrieval project, (4) a serials control system, and (5) a major technical processing system that will computerize most of library processing. The third annual report discusses the implementation of these five subsystems. The foremost accomplishment reported in the fourth annual report was the implementation of the shared cataloging system.


As used in this handbook, microform retrieval equipment is defined as any device that is used to locate, enlarge, and display microform images or that produces enlarged hard copy from the images. Only equipment widely available in the United States has been included. The first chapter provides information about the most widely and generally used microforms and describes considerations related to equipment requirements. In chapter II, those factors are discussed that affect equipment selection regardless of the type of microform. The next four chapters further describe the equipment available for reference to a given microform. Operational and functional information about the equipment available is compiled in tables in each chapter. Chapter VII briefly describes equipment that does not really fit the classifications used in chapters III through VI but provides types and levels of retrieval and reference that will be of interest to many. The appendix lists the manufacturers who supplied the information about the equipment included in the handbook.