

standable) determination to refrain from expressing opinion on the information received through questionnaires, interviews, and correspondence. Presumably, the book before us is an edited and partly expanded version of the dissertation. It is, however, still very much the report on the specific survey complete with all annexes, and the question should be raised whether an abstract in the form of a long article would not have served the purpose of the uninformed reader better. It seems the irony of ironies that the recently sharply increased publication, in book form, of surveys and dissertations in the library field is taking place in a period when other learned disciplines are criticized by librarians for having done just that.

After a description of the background and the design of the survey, Nemeyer gives a brief overview of the history of copying, ending with a fascinating chapter on the various government sponsored reprinting efforts during World War II. The author then reports on the survey, viewing the many aspects of reprinting through the opinions of publishers and librarians, with a statistical analysis of published bibliographical tools. There are no specific conclusions other than the expressed need for more cooperation between the two identified market elements (where are the real consumers: the readers??) and the recommendation that reprint publishers should join the A.A.P. A series of appendixes and indexes conclude this volume, of which we should mention the directory of reprint publishers.

There is undoubtedly no task more difficult than writing history while it is happening and Nemeyer deserves full credit for a courageous and largely successful effort.

Many future studies will be needed before a clear economic and behavioral picture can be developed. The most intriguing question remains unanswered for the time being: Did the demand create the supply; was it the supply which led to the demand, or were both elements at work?

Despite all previous comments, Nemeyer's book is required reading for all interested in and concerned about the effect of modern publishing on the needs of the scholarly community.—*Hendrik Edelman, Cornell University Libraries, Ithaca, New York.*

Patrick, Ruth J., *Guidelines for Library Cooperation*, California: System Development Corporation, 1972, 200p. \$12.00.

This book accompanies the *Directory of Academic Library Consortia* as a joint product from a United States Office of Education contract with the Systems Development Corporation. The purpose of the study was to "develop a fund of descriptive and prescriptive information about activities of academic library consortia in the United States with the ultimate aim of providing guidance for libraries that are forming or planning to form consortia."

The phase of the project reported herein was based on a case-study analysis of fifteen selected academic library consortia using field interviews. Although the information is slight in some respects, the book is designed to be a handbook or "cookbook" for consortia design, and in that respect it will be very useful. Network definitions and structures are vague at best, and suggestions on making a start are welcome. There are so many little details that tend to get lost in the excitement of planning large cooperative projects—yet these details will suddenly become obstacles in accomplishing the larger task.

It has been stated that libraries cooperate more readily when they are poor. As the *Guidelines* properly point out, it takes money to cooperate. The work involved is beyond the routines of normal operation; the funding of meetings and travel has to be supported. It is difficult to assemble people because the meetings are voluntary rather than required, and if monies are not available to support early efforts, contributed time may be difficult to obtain on a sustained basis.

The section on evaluation, though brief, is especially useful in that it outlines techniques and purposes of this device which is too often neglected by network planners.

In 1969, G. Flint Purdy outlined the range of cooperative activities that could be undertaken by library networks. This article, appearing in *Library Quarterly*, must by now be considered a seminal treatment in the organizational form of these functions. Several subsequent studies, including the *Guidelines*, have used his outline, although the inclusion of that network profile here is

merely to show and comment on the relationship of listed activities to the data gathered from the survey results.

For any planner deciding on the menu of activities for a network and needing suggestions on how to get there, *Guidelines* will be a useful tool. The ingredients will not all be applicable, and there will be a pinch more of this and a teaspoon less of that, but it will serve as a point of departure from which adjustments can be made to reflect local goals, resources, and needs. That is, after all, what library cooperation is all about.—*Donald D. Hendricks, Director of the Library, The University of Texas Health Science Center, Dallas, Texas.*

Lancaster, F. W. **Vocabulary Control for Information Retrieval**, Information Resources Press, 1972.

This is an exceptionally well done coverage of a topic vital to library practice as well as computer-based reference retrieval. It focuses its attention on vocabulary control and presents virtually every relevant aspect in a lucid, well organized, thoroughly illustrated, and technically informed manner. The professional in the field will find it as valuable as the student and teacher.

The content can roughly be divided into three parts:

- (1) A general classification of various kinds of vocabularies, with a more detailed description of each (Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 19).
- (2) An analysis of the various steps in creating and maintaining a vocabulary (Chapters 6, 17, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12).
- (3) A discussion of the use of a vocabulary (or set of them) (Chapters 13, 24; 14, 15, 16; 20, 21, 22, 23; and 18).

The general classification is now a classic one: precoordinated vocabularies (subject headings and classifications) and postcoordinated ones (thesauri and more restrictive word lists). While making this division, Lancaster is careful to point out that the distinctions, although conceptually clear, are blurred in practice. The detailed discussions are richly illustrated with examples and thorough comparative analyses.

The processing steps discussed include generating the vocabulary conceptually,

pragmatically, and mechanically (the latter as part of an excellent discussion of automatic indexing and classification), organizing and displaying it, establishing standards for it, providing reference structures for it, and updating it. A full chapter is devoted to a discussion of the use of computers in carrying out these processes. Again, a wealth of specific examples are presented, each with illustrations, analyses, and comparisons.

To his discussion of the use of vocabularies, especially in evaluation of their influence on system performance, Lancaster brings his own knowledge of this crucial issue. Since he has previously written about the criteria and procedures for evaluating performance, he simply summarizes them here, but then pays specific attention to the causes of retrieval failure due to vocabulary. The discussions of forms of syntax and other rules for use of a vocabulary, of auxiliary devices for reducing failures due to vocabulary (such as links, roles, and other relational indicators), or "natural language" uses, and of compatibility between languages are all equally well informed and well illustrated. Special attention is paid to the uses of vocabulary in "on-line" situations.

In summary, this book is heartily recommended to everyone concerned with the field of information retrieval.—*Robert M. Hayes, Executive Vice-President, Becker & Hayes Inc., Los Angeles, California.*

West, Celeste, and Katz, Elizabeth, eds. **Revolting Librarians**. San Francisco: Booklegger Press, 1972. Distributed by the American Library Association, Chicago. 158p. \$2.00 ppd.

The pun in the title is intended, of course, for here is a collection of 30-odd poems, stories, and articles on revolting librarians—those who revolt against the system and those who are revolting because they *are* the system. Ms. Katz and Ms. West are well known around the San Francisco Bay Area as members of the former group. Celeste is currently editor of *Synergy*, the graphically (and intellectually) exciting publication of the Bay Area Reference Center; Elizabeth is part-time librarian in the San Francisco Public Library.

Visually the book resembles *Synergy*. I recommend that you at least *look* at it even