and consists of the oral testimony plus a selection of the written material.

That there were such hearings is by itself of considerable historical interest, since, although the struggle by women for equal rights has extended well over a century, these were the first ever held by a Committee of Congress to consider the subject of discrimination on the basis of sex. The emphasis of the testimony and documents was on the then current situation, though information on trends was presented in a number of cases.

The people testifying included representatives of women in education (students, counsellors, and educators), national organizations whose primary concern is equality for women, women in the labor market and President Nixon's Task Force on Women's Rights and Responsibilities. The breadth and depth of their testimony and documentation gives undeniable and overwhelming evidence of the existence of discrimination against women and of its perpetuation by attitudes unconsciously accepted by many people, by determined actions on the part of a wide variety of people and employers, and by neglect on the part of some of the federal agencies charged with enforcing existing laws and regulations dealing with sex discrimination.

Also represented were the Departments of Labor, Justice, and Health, Education and Welfare. The point of view of the enforcer of legislation and regulations is, naturally, somewhat different from that of the proponent of the establishment of such. In each instance, the people speaking for these agencies, though they made considerable efforts to do so, were unable to dispel the impression, pointed to by facts, that the agencies attached very little importance to the problem of discrimination against women.

As one might expect when twenty-six people testify on the same subject, there was some repetition. However one major point that was not hammered home is that the present "degrading, dehumanizing, immoral, unjust, indefensible, infuriating" situation exists in spite of over 100 years of active campaigning by women to overcome it.

It was Representative Green's intent that the record of the hearings be "the most complete record that has been assembled in terms of the discrimination in both the legislative and the executive branches [of the Federal government] and in all other forms of discrimination against women." (p.55)

It is certainly that. Here are gathered all the strands that have been woven to make the strong fabric of sex discrimination which has worn so well for so long. Legislation alone will not correct the situation.

People must be concerned enough to monitor the enforcement of the laws and regulations if their intent is to be carried out and equality under the law gained by women. This volume should help to heighten people's consciousness of the gross inequities that still exist and thereby assist in the eradication of "the last socially acceptable form of discrimination."—Margaret Tjaden, Head, Physics and Mathematics Research Libraries, University of Washington, Seattle.


This eighth volume in the well-received series in Library and Information Science may be the one most difficult to fit into the series editor's overall goal stated as the synthesizing of the most essential contributions from elusive and innumerable sources. The compiler states forthrightly that the reprints in this volume are articles which she enjoyed discussing with her students. As with any collection of reprints, these papers vary in quality, perhaps a bit less in relevancy; they are neither the most essential contributions, nor are they from the most elusive of sources. More than half of the material is reprinted directly from the Bulletin of the Medical Library Association. With two exceptions, the remainder should be readily available on the shelves of every medical library of reasonable size.

Unquestionably the collection has value beyond immediate classroom use with library school students. The overall impression conveys that subtle something which sets a medical library apart. In her introductory remarks, the compiler acknowledges a finely drawn distinction between types of libraries. She states unequivocally that one must conceive of medical libraries...
as part of a medical system and that there always have been elements in medicine itself which cause medical librarianship to differ from other kinds of librarianship. The common ground with librarianship is explored in her first grouping of articles, "The Environment of Medical Libraries," which treat the problems associated with the rapid increase and change in knowledge.

Subsequent groupings are: "Medical Librarianship as a Profession"; "The Organization of a Medical Library for Service"; "Types of Medical Libraries"; and "Medical Library Networks." Progressively the papers reveal the sense of urgency and the compelling service dynamic which pervades a setting where the librarian is more intimately a part of the team effort. Scott Adams, in one of his papers not included in this collection, summed up the whole difference most succinctly in stating that the true measure of value of a scientific library lies not in what it has, however rich its holdings may be, but in what it does. The medical library since World War II, with support from the National Library of Medicine and direction as well as demands from the professional medical associations, has been a doer. There have been failures as well as successes as this branch of librarianship has forged ahead and, in many respects, pointed the course for librarianship in general.

Administrators in hospitals not yet supporting adequate library service can learn from this book, as can library committees and the part-time person frequently given the challenging job of organizing the library in smaller hospitals. Administrators in academic and general library settings, whether or not a medical library unit is included in their system, should benefit from perusing the articles collected in this volume. Library school collections should include the volume, provided the students are encouraged to check the Bulletin of the Medical Library Association for the rich year 1972 and after.—James W. Barry, University of Arizona Medical Center, Tucson.

OTHER BOOKS OF INTEREST TO ACADEMIC LIBRARIANS

Abramson, Harold J. and Sofios, Nicholas.

Index to Sociology Readers, 1960-1965. Vol. 1 Author Index, Vol. 2 Subject Index. 1125 p. $25.00.


Klatz, Bill and Klaessig, Janet, eds. Library