

by multiplying staff members with advanced subject knowledge and springing them loose from daily duties into greater contact with the faculty and into continuing staff development programs, all of which takes time and money. There is no cut-rate solution via organization to the development of additional subject specialization on library staffs.

So, in addition to being conducted in the wrong library this study does not produce much of use to Columbia or anyone else. It does contain lots of charts and diagrams and lots of very detailed schedules, and two ideas that Columbia has used—that there be a planning department (long talked about in libraries but seldom tried), and that the university librarian be elevated to vice-president, a post that Jim Haas assumed shortly after the study. Good head, that lad! Although he was responsible for instigating this study, he has not let it infect his library system to any great degree. —*Ellsworth Mason, University of Colorado, Boulder.*

Harrison, Helen P. *Film Library Techniques* (Studies in Media Management [New York: Hastings House, 1973]). 277p. \$16.50.

Helen P. Harrison, media librarian at the Open University and a Fellow of the British Library Association, has produced an exhaustive combination state-of-the-art survey and practical technical manual dealing with film libraries.

The material covered is extensive and well organized. Information on the function and purpose of film libraries, their history and organization, and future developments is supported by highly detailed and practical technical applications presented in a scholarly and informed manner.

Cataloging and information retrieval are discussed in depth, as are matters of copyright and economics. The section on administration and planning contains prescriptive guidelines which are flexible, and which can be generalized to apply to functions and conditions in varying situations.

Film is a medium which poses a significant number of problems to the archivist,

handler, and organizer. Storage and preservation, requirements for intermediary devices and utilization, copyright, and of course, cataloging procedures are examples of aspects which relate to library procedures, but which require specialized techniques for implementation.

Development and applications of techniques are further complicated by the diversity in film libraries. These can be identified as distribution, documentary production, feature production, government, government research, national archives, newsreel, and television, as well as the educational film libraries. Aims, policy, and contents will vary among these libraries, affecting their procedures.

Considerable attention is devoted to cataloging and classification, particularly shot listing. A shot list is a record of the contents of the film, with the amount of detail determined by the type and function of the film library. Essential features to be recorded include title, credits, footage, type of shot, description of shot, and sound (commentary, speech, or natural sound effects). Newsfilm and stockshots require detailed analysis in order to permit access to one short sequence among many hundreds of thousands of pieces. The analysis can extend to notes on placement of the camera, its angle and movement, and the distance of the subject from the camera. For the librarian trained in handling analytics for print cataloging, this process may seem prohibitive in terms of time and cost, yet it is an essential procedure in working with film other than feature or educational films.

Harrison's comparison of the cataloging codes of practice for use in film libraries is based on her intimate knowledge of operational techniques. While she is highly supportive of the requirement for international standards, she has good reason to express doubt that rules being formulated for general libraries and resource centers will be entirely adaptable to the needs of specialized institutions and single-medium collections. Special libraries serve their clientele in an individualized manner, and film libraries have intrinsic requirements peculiar to their function.

A brief review can merely reference the extensive information contained in this

work, which combines a high degree of scholarship and a wide practical expertise.

The monograph is well indexed and well designed as a communication arts book should be. A glossary of terms would be useful, as would be an appendix of abbreviations found throughout the book.

For the American reader, the National Film Library, formed in 1935, now the National Film Archive, and the references to BBC programming will reinforce the awareness that British techniques of information storage and retrieval are indeed highly advanced, given impetus and support by the well-supported public services aspect of British programming.

Although the work is highly specialized in its major application, it contains much practical information and is recommended as a source book of information on film and information retrieval techniques in a significant format.—*Gloria Terwilliger, Director of Learning Resources, Northern Virginia Community College, Alexandria.*

OTHER BOOKS OF INTEREST TO ACADEMIC LIBRARIANS

- Atkinson, Frank. *Librarianship*. Hamden, Conn.: Linnet Books, Shoestring Press, 1974. 112p. (ISBN 0-208-01351-2).
- R. R. Bowker & Co. *El-Hi Textbooks in Print 1974*. New York: Bowker, 1974. 466p. \$19.95. (70-105104). (ISBN 0-8352-0697-1).
- Carey, R. J. P. *Library Guiding*. Hamden, Conn.: Linnet Books, Shoestring Press, 1974. 186p. \$10.00. (73-18477). (ISBN 0-208-01350-4).
- Downs, Robert B. *British Library Re-*

- sources*. Chicago: American Library Assn., 1974. 332p. \$25.00. (73-1598). (ISBN 0-8389-0150-6).
- Gale Research Co. *Book Review Index: 1972 Cumulation*. Detroit: Gale Research, 1973. 530p. \$45.00. (ISBN 0-8103-0557-7).
- Greene, Jon S., ed. *Standard Education Almanac 1973/74*. Orange, N.J.: Academic Media, 1973. 506p. \$25.00. (68-3442). (ISBN 0-87876-039-3).
- London, Keith. *Documentation Standards*. New York: Mason & Lipscomb, 1974. 253p. \$12.50. (73-12155). (ISBN 0-88405-052-1).
- Marc 2 Research. *Index to All Books on the Physical Sciences in English, 1967 through January, 1974*. Rockville, Md.: Marc 2 Research, 1974. 457p. \$27.00. (74-75515). (ISBN 0-914358-01-4).
- Marshall, John David. *Of, By, and For Librarians*. Hamden, Conn.: Shoestring, 1974. 242p. \$8.00. (73-16428). (ISBN 0-208-01333-4).
- Sugden, Virginia M. *The Graduate Thesis*. New York: Pitman, 1973. 157p. \$6.95. (73-82105).
- Trzyna, Thaddeus C., ed. *Directory of Consumer Protection and Environmental Agencies*. Orange, N.J.: Academic Media, 1973. 627p. \$39.50. (72-75952). (ISBN 0-87876-032-6).
- U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. *Records, Computers and the Rights of Citizens*. Washington, D.C.: GPO, 1973. 344p. \$2.45. (73-13449). (ISBN 0-262-08070-2).
- Waters, Marie B. *Worldwide Directory of Computer Companies, 1973-74*. Orange, N.J.: Academic Media, 1973. 633p. \$39.50. (77-114301). (ISBN 0-87876-33-4).