

of jargon. Useful bibliographies appear at the end of each study. They should be of value to library students in both Britain and the U.S.A., not only for their insight into current problems in library management but also for the valuable background information they contain.

Practising librarians may well not wish to read every study in detail, but the majority should find something of relevance and value in this volume.—*J. K. Roberts, Librarian, University of Wales Institute of Science & Technology, Cardiff, Wales.*

**Archive-Library Relations.** Edited by Robert L. Clark, Jr. New York: Bowker, 1976. 218p. \$15.95. LC 76-18806. ISBN 0-8352-0770-6.

Expecting much from a book with such a title and from contributors of recognized stature, I was acutely disappointed. This volume, designed to explore the relationships that exist between the library and archival professions, is weak because it is devoid of analysis and without demonstrable historical perspective. The principal authors, Robert L. Clark, Jr., and Frank G. Burke, simply don't get to the heart of the matter.

For example, most major manuscript collections have developed within the context of libraries, more particularly within "special collections" units administered by those with a rare books orientation. In addition, early manuscript collecting was for reasons of institutional prestige, was inherently elitist, and did not attempt to be comprehensive in its documentary coverage of events and developments. Under these historical circumstances a rarities approach seemed to be suited. Not so for modern manuscript collections which seek comprehensiveness of documentation and which are becoming the repositories for corporate records and personal papers as quickly as they reach inactive status.

No heed is given to the fact that archives for public records are primarily extensions of administration and have only secondary value for research, thereby clearly differentiating them from manuscript collections which are assembled primarily for research. Historically, it was this same kind of confusion of purposes (and demonstrated here by Clark and Burke) which impeded the

development of archival theory and practice in the U.S. The writings of Margaret Cross Norton<sup>1</sup> and T. R. Schellenberg<sup>2</sup> point this out, but arguing cogently and convincingly against the appropriateness of applying library methodology to archives and manuscript collections. Neither Burke nor Clark shows evidence of any familiarity with the writings of Norton or Schellenberg, yet I'm confident they are.

If the above judgment seems unduly negative, it is, nevertheless, justified in light of the recent *Modern Manuscripts* by Kenneth Duckett.<sup>3</sup> For all the good things about Duckett's book, it is absolutely archaic in its coverage of contemporary collection development and recommendations for "bibliographical control." Burke and Clark share his weakness, and all three look to technology to save us, Burke through Spindex and Clark through MARC.

Clark avoids the historical/institutional setting in dealing with the administrative placement of the management of archival and manuscript collections in libraries, believing the problem is a personality issue, not an institutional one (see especially p.157-60). As noted above, the placement of manuscript collections under special collections units has been damaging historically, impeding the development of an appropriate body of theory and practice to deal effectively with the management of manuscript collections. The placement of state archives under library administration as well confounds the primary function of a state archives which is an extension of state administration (see p.156-60).

If the above assessment of this book is harsh, it is intended to be just that. Both Burke and Clark act as though the differences of these disparate functions ought to be blurred if we are to nurture amiable relationships. But if that is their hope, we will continue in a miasma lacking the necessary historical perspective, and without that no analysis of these relationships will lead us out of the fog.

There are strengths in the book, however. Both Burke and Clark, despite their shortcomings, do describe (but do not "analyze") the archival and library "settings," methodology, education, collection, policies, and administrative relations. Miriam Crawford's sections on "legislation,

copyright and literary rights, access and confidentiality, and social responsibility" are written with considerable perception and clarity. Hers is much the strongest part of the book and would be worth excerpting for special publication if updated at the time.

Frazer Poole's chapter on preservation is quite good, but Duckett's relevant chapters in *Modern Manuscripts* are in more detail. Together they provide valuable reading. Robert L. Brubaker's chapters on professional communication are useful in showing the need for the various associations of librarians, archivists, and historians to collaborate more closely if we are to deal with all of these common problems more effectively in the future. We might begin by influencing the Public Documents Commission in its deliberations on the status of federal records. Marietta Malzer's chapter, "Writings on Archive-Library Related Topics," provides an excellent introduction to the literature.—Richard C. Berner, *Head, University Archives and Manuscripts Division, University of Washington*.

#### REFERENCES

1. Norton on Archives, edited by Thornton W. Mitchell (Carbondale: Southern Illinois Univ. Pr., 1975).
2. T. R. Schellenberg, *The Management of Archives* (New York: Columbia Univ. Pr., 1965).
3. Kenneth W. Duckett, *Modern Manuscripts: A Practical Manual for Their Management, Care and Use* (Nashville, Tenn.: American Association for State and Local History, 1975).

Rosenberg, Kenyon C., and Doskey, John S. *Media Equipment: A Guide and Dictionary*. Preface by James W. Brown. Littleton, Colo.: Libraries Unlimited, 1976. 190p. \$11.50. LC 76-25554. ISBN 0-87287-155-X.

Next to building construction schematics, nothing is guaranteed to cause the uninitiated librarian more sleepless nights than the preparation or checking of specifications for future media equipment purchases. And like a capital construction project, language and terminologies are more difficult than one normally encounters while final decisions are often based on compromising function to economics.

This book's aim is to guide an individual in selecting the most suitable media equip-

ment for a library or learning center. However, only the most commonly used dissemination hardware is covered: film, filmstrips, slides, overhead and opaque projectors, and audio recording and playback equipment.

The book is divided into three sections. The first gives the basic criteria one should consider when purchasing any media hardware. It is very short and ends with a checklist of questions which repeat, almost word for word, the considerations which preceded it in the section.

The second section outlines specific media hardware and hardware systems by dividing each into its important parts, often defining these parts and outlining the relationships between the parts. Performance specifications for most pieces of electronic hardware are given as well. Evaluation checklists for thirteen pieces of equipment are appropriately placed within this section.

The largest part of the book, however, is devoted to a "Dictionary of Technical Media Equipment Terms." More glossary than dictionary, it contains definitions for selected terms as well as the full names and addresses of principal trade, professional, and governmental organizations concerned with educational media. Simple line drawings illustrate many of the equipment parts and systems defined.

The preface of the book acknowledges that it should be used "in conjunction with other helpful publications." A study of each of the three sections confirms that this volume is merely an introduction to some of the very traditional kinds of media equipment. The first section's coverage of general criteria is sketchy and redundant. While one can understand why media production equipment was excluded from the second section, it is harder to excuse the absence of dissemination and duplication hardware which complements the audio and visual equipment which is covered. There is an almost total absence of guidelines for maintenance and repair. Scant coverage given to video equipment in the section is not redeemed by the large number of video definitions appearing in the "Dictionary." The bibliography is short and incomplete.

Certainly not a harmful or misleading book, it is probably worth the purchase price. However, one is continually struck by the fact that firmer editorial direction