

page 90; Will Ransom's *Kelmscott, Doves and Ashendene* (p.242) was published by the Book Club of California in San Francisco, not Los Angeles where the book was printed; and the Morris statements in the Appendix are not indexed under "Morris, William—views on bookmaking." Some printing historians might question the statement on page 208 that John Henry Nash "became the most famous printer in America." Perhaps a bit of hyperbole.

The author teaches the history of books and printing in the School of Library Service, Columbia University.—*Tyrus G. Harmsen, Occidental College, Los Angeles, California.*

Chen, Ching-chih. *Scientific and Technical Information Sources*. Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, 1977. 519p. \$24.95. LC 77-9557. ISBN 0-262-03062-4.

Guides to the literature of science and technology do not increase in numbers, fortunately, as much as the literature itself does; but with each new guide on the market the inevitable comparisons with older

and established titles occur. It was in 1954 that Frances Jenkins at the University of Illinois produced her first edition of *Science Reference Sources*, that useful outlines that many of us science librarians cut our teeth on. Then in 1959 came Albert J. Walford's excellent *Guide to Reference Material*, published by The Library Association, with volume one designated "Science and Technology."

Both these stalwarts appeared in several subsequent editions over the years. Walford is still with us today, but Jenkins has earned a good rest and the present work is said to be taking over her banner.

In 1967 another heavyweight—we use the term in reference to the quality and not the pagination—appeared; H. Robert Malinowsky edited the work that now, in its second edition, is titled *Science and Engineering Literature, A Guide to Reference Sources*, with the good assist of Richard and Dorothy Gray. In 1972 Earl J. Lasworth and Scarecrow Press produced *Reference Sources in Science and Technology*.

The first mentioned reference guides

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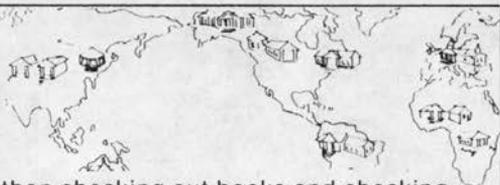
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were or are arranged by divisions of science, such as general science, mathematics, physics, chemistry, and so on. The Lasworth title and the present Chen work are arranged first by the format of the listed references, such as encyclopedias, dictionaries, handbooks, and bibliographies, then subdivided by science fields. Mark this difference well.

Chen, who is an associate professor at the School of Library Science at Simmons College, says that the work "is intended primarily as a reference guide for science and engineering librarians and their assistants and as a textbook for library school students engaged in the study of the structure, properties, and output of scientific literature." There are twenty-three sections in the new guide ranging from selection tools and guides-to-the-literature, through the usual reference book categories of handbooks and dictionaries, all the way into the newer fields of nonprint materials and data bases. Each entry is arranged by title within the sections and subsections and followed by a brief annotation of the book's coverage and character, and, finally and very use-

fully, a listing of citations to book reviews for that particular item.

The only index in the back is by author. Finding a work quickly, if one already knows the title, is sometimes difficult because one must decide which one of the twenty-three main sections contains it. This operational difficulty of finding known works and the decision not to include older reference books (the majority here have imprint dates since 1970) limit somewhat the usefulness of this compilation. There are some bonuses: a good reference list of citations to articles on a wide range of information science topics and up-to-date entries on guides to patents, technical reports, conference proceedings, etc.

Finding information for science library users almost always revolves around a subject area of science first and then the technicalities of finding the proper type of handbook or periodical or whatever. Guides such as the present one have much useful bibliographical information, but their library-science oriented format often acts as a hindrance rather than a help.—David Kuhner, Norman F. Sprague Memorial Library, Claremont, California.

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Muehsam, Gerd. *Guide to Basic Information Sources in the Visual Arts*. Information Resources Series. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Jeffrey Norton Publishers/ABC-Clio, Inc. 266p. \$14.95. LC 77-17430. ISBN 0-87436-278-4.

Bibliographic sources to the arts are not new. The earliest recorded art bibliography dates back to 1651 when Raphael Trichet du Fresne compiled a list of entries to accompany an important work by Leonardo. Since that time various books have erratically appeared throughout the years. I must here venture the statement that nothing so complete as Ms. Muehsam's guide has yet been published.

The standard guide in the past has been every art librarian's intimate acquaintance, Mary Chamberlin's *Guide to Art Reference Books*, published by the American Library Association in 1959. Chamberlin's guide was prepared for essentially the same readers as was Muehsam's volume; these are art historians, art librarians, and students. The