
In my little desk dictionary, "essay" is defined as "an analytic or interpretative literary composition usually dealing with its subject from a limited or personal point of view." The lexicographer probably had in thought the essays of Lamb or Emerson or Thurbor or E. B. White. The current work would be better with the title "Disquisitions by..." or "Lucubrations of..." It is a heavy work, and "essay" is too light a word for the substance herein. The 398 pieces the author has chosen to call essays are, in reality, one long essay drawn from Mr. Garfield's thoughts on scientific journals and, more particularly, citation indexing in and for periodical literature.

Garfield, former president of ADI (now ASIS) and currently active in the Institute for Scientific Information (ISI), is also president of his own publishing firm, Information International, Inc. (III), in Philadelphia. III is publisher of various editions of Current Contents, and the essays republished in this unfinished set are gathered from Current Contents' first fifteen years. While Garfield is the one man that could (and did) write so extensively on citation indexing in his own periodical, the question of an overabundance of publicity must be raised when he republishes, uncut, the entire set. Perhaps an audience (unknown to this reviewer) has an unsatisfied appetite to read and reread articles on citation indexing.

It should not be inferred that the individual pieces gathered here lack merit. In fact, they are good, impassioned, and terse; they sound like Garfield in person. Garfield promotes his products; Garfield announces his plans for editorial change; Garfield evaluates his products for the information community; Garfield introduces his associates and vouches for their character and integrity; Garfield acknowledges the adulation his publications have received among users. If one could read them for review as they were meant originally to be read (one at a time) with a fortnight between sessions, they would have a less dramatic effect than the collective impact of the whole lot taken at a single sitting or even within a week's time.

Librarians, particularly post-master's students of library science, information scientists, and historians of science, will find in Garfield's two volumes a mine of primary importance. It is not the mother lode, but it is rich and has within it a vein of the pure metal—a vein to be probed and followed to the end. The author work was done as journal publication reached its height.
INTRODUCTION TO REFERENCE WORK, Volume I: BASIC INFORMATION SOURCES, Third Edition
William Katz  State University of New York, Albany
A thorough analysis of various information sources and how they are employed in reference work, this book discusses traditional forms — such as bibliographies, indexes, and encyclopedias — with a chapter devoted to each form.
1978, 352 pages, $11.95

INTRODUCTION TO REFERENCE WORK, Volume II: REFERENCE SERVICES AND REFERENCE PROCESSES, Third Edition
William Katz  State University of New York, Albany
The second volume of this long-popular work analyzes advanced topics such as computerized reference searches, library networks, and how to conduct a reference interview. Part III: Reference Service and the Computer, is completely new.
1978, 288 pages, $10.95

INTRODUCTION TO LIBRARIANSHIP, Second Edition
Jean Key Gates  University of South Florida
A complete, overview of the profession of librarianship, this book emphasizes major objectives, services, and trends of libraries; and introduces readers to the attitudes and principles of librarianship as a career.
1976, 288 pages, $11.95

GUIDE TO THE USE OF BOOKS AND LIBRARIES, Third Edition
Jean Key Gates  University of South Florida
An analysis of what a library is and how to use it, this book emphasizes the academic library and covers the many kinds of library material available, both book and non-book.
1974, 308 pages, $9.50 cloth, $6.50 paper

LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANSHIP IN THE WEST: A BRIEF HISTORY
Sidney L. Jackson  Kent State University
This text covers the history of libraries and librarianship as they relate to the development of life and thought in western civilization, with emphasis on topics of current interest.
1974, 489 pages, $18.50

Prices subject to change
As there is a vein in the mine, there are dangers, too—the quicksand of diversion to topics not followed up; the poisonous gas of too much expansion on one theme; the chancy shoring of unselected timber using every scrap of "learned lumber" to form the shaft.

There is also dross that must be processed afresh by each reader to obtain that which is precious. Garfield's dross is his intense preoccupation with his corporate welfare. It is never so labeled, but no label is needed.

Garfield's price is high ($25.00), but the price per "essay" is low ($.06285 each). The problem is ancient and insoluble. It is a raisin cake. To buy the raisins (desired), one must buy the cake as well (undesired).

The work is recommended for purchase by library schools and for extensive collections on information science only.—Charles H. Stevens, Executive Director, Southeastern Library Network (SOLINET), Atlanta, Georgia.


At the 1976 annual conference of the American Library Association, a program on "Opportunities in Multitype Library Cooperatives" appropriately had the multi-sponsorship of units in ALA and the Special Libraries Association representing all types of libraries. The collection under review contains the revised and edited papers presented at that program plus additional ones solicited later. As with most heterogeneous gatherings of this kind, the resulting coverage is rather spotty and tends, perhaps unavoidably, to skim the surface of the many-faceted phenomenon of multitype library cooperation as it has developed in recent years. The collection does, however, offer to the librarian who has not been closely involved with cooperative activities (other than traditional interlibrary loan) a capsule view of the experiences of several enterprising groups and to those who have been involved some points of comparison.

Preceded by three background articles and by four pieces unevenly exploring the federal, multistate, state, and local roles in multitype cooperation, the longest section contains eight "case studies" and five essays from "special perspectives." Among the cooperative efforts described in the case studies are seven that are intrastate—two in Indiana, one in Milwaukee, three in New York, and one in Cleveland—and one that is multistate, the Bibliographic Center for Research, Rocky Mountain Region. The perspectives represent school, special, and academic libraries—large and small—and metropolitan library councils.

Although the emphasis on single-state and substate cooperatives may seem unbalanced, the case studies and the special perspectives, in which other cases are cited, possibly constitute the most valuable part of this book. Through accounts of the specific circumstances leading to the creation of formal organizations, the programs they have developed, and some of the problems they have encountered, other practitioners (even under radically different conditions) may be able not only to gain new ideas and insights but also to avoid the common pitfalls of cooperative efforts.

In an overview of the planning, governance, and funding of multitype library cooperatives—one of the background chapters—Sylvia Faibisoff provides a helpful distillation of selected sources, including a detailed table showing legislative support in the various states. The picture she presents, however, is incomplete. Several inaccuracies and omissions in her information relating to New England suggest that specific items should be double-checked before they are accepted as factual, and further research should be done in a particular area if it is important to learn the full situation there. For example, Faibisoff ignores the cooperative established in late 1972 by the six state library agencies of New England, with a multitype library advisory panel and a mission to serve all libraries in the region. She also refers to both the interstate organizations included—the New England Library Information Network (NELINET) and the Research Libraries Group (RLG)—by slightly variant names and omits one of the states covered by the former's services. Other apparent discrepancies, e.g., in the references to the states that have appropriated funds for multitype cooperatives.