

the appendixes. Chapter nine, on resource sharing, is a completely new addition on an important topic in view of budgetary constrictions among most, if not all libraries.

The authors have replaced the foreword and long introduction with a brief preface, outlining what they have changed this time—chapter by chapter. There is little doubt that the fifth edition is a significant improvement over the previous editions of *Building Library Collections*.

They have followed through in their announcements of the previous edition by adding bibliographic annotations and listing the NICEM multisubject update service as in operation as of the fifth edition. NPAC (the National Program for Acquisitions and Cataloging) is another previously unmentioned organization that is now included. Nonbook categories have been upgraded or broadened to include maps, with recordings divided into audio and video recordings, slides added to films and filmstrips, and periodicals changed to serials. Automation is mentioned along with the latest on OCLC, Inc.

This title continues to be an excellent textbook that will be used frequently by students and teachers and by anyone who wishes to have a handy selection guide that is objective and thorough. In addition, the useful appendixes cover such important topics as selection principles, intellectual freedom, and controversial problems facing libraries.

The second edition of the *Background Readings in Building Library Collections* has condensed the two-volume set of the first into a single volume. The topics of several articles in the first edition have either been merged with other topics or dropped.

The scope, organization, and arrangement of the second edition should overcome some of the objections found with the first. The previous brief table of contents is now an updated eight-section heading list with the title and author of every article listed under its respective category heading.

There are three parts to every chapter or section: an introductory overview of the selections, the body of readings, and "recommended readings." There are brief biographical sketches of the contributing au-

thors. The alphabetical index includes entries for authors, subjects, and titles. The title references, however, refer only to pages where the title is mentioned in the text rather than to the beginning page of the reading itself. While it is no great hardship to refer to the table of contents for article page numbers, they could have been included in the index as well for completeness and convenience.

This is a selection of articles with interest to students and professionals who might need a review of the subject.—G. Robert McLean, *University of Toledo Libraries, Toledo, Ohio.*

Knight, Nancy H. "Theft Detection Systems Revisited: An Updated Survey," *Library Technology Reports* 15:221-409 (May-June 1979). Single Issue \$40. ISSN 0024-2586. (Available from American Library Assn., 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.)

The theft of library materials is an issue that has plagued libraries through the years.

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Today, with inflation eroding acquisition budgets at an astounding rate, libraries cannot afford to continually replace books in lieu of acquiring new materials. Libraries must find methods that will noticeably reduce loss and theft rates. Not since the Middle Ages when scholars chained the books to the stacks has one single solution surfaced that will totally alleviate this problem for libraries. Instead, during the past fifteen years a number of theft detection systems have emerged. Current theft detection systems on the market will not completely eliminate the unlawful removal of library materials, but depending on the individual library and its specific problems, noticeable changes in the loss rate of materials can be realized in a relatively short span of time.

Nancy Knight's "Theft Detection Systems Revisited: An Updated Survey" is the fourth in a series of *Library Technology Reports* on this subject dating back to July 1970. Knight, who has been monitoring library security systems since the 1960s, can be

considered an acknowledged expert. Her latest study of theft detection systems expands upon her earlier report and offers the reader a more comprehensive and detailed examination of individual systems, both from the manufacturer's and from the user's point of view.

In this updated report Knight examines five major theft detection systems: Checkpoint System, Inc.; Gaylord Brothers; Knogo Corporation; 3M Company; and Sen-tronic International. Each manufacturer has answered a series of questions that enable the reader to understand the mechanics of each system. Illustrations and photographs of various equipment models are supplied as well as a list of institutions, by state, which are using the system.

Two areas of particular concern to all readers will be cost information and analysis of system success. The author includes information on the cost of each system, and costs of associated equipment such as security labels and the installation of these labels. In addition, she examines by institu-

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tion the annual losses before and after installation.

Another section of interest to the reader is the "synopsis of user's experience" where the author has surveyed the field (using a good sample of various kinds of libraries—public, academic, school, and special) to determine the effectiveness of each system and its compatibility with individual libraries.

The reader who is contemplating acquiring a theft detection system will want to use Knight's report as a companion to Bahr's *Book Theft and Library Security Systems, 1978-79*. Bahr offers informative advice on conducting various inventories to help determine the needs of the system and the loss rate, while Knight's survey will be indispensable when it comes to gathering comparative information on individual manufacturers.

If Knight can be faulted for any deficiency, it would be that further editing of the manufacturers' responses would have been helpful. As it is presented, the information tends to become very tedious; a more resourceful presentation of this information would be helpful in her next report. All librarians who want to gain insight into particular theft detection systems should consult this work.—George Charles Newman, *Findlay College, Findlay, Ohio*

*Editor's Note:* Papers presented at the 1978 ACRL national conference in Boston have recently been published in the 583-page volume, *New Horizons for Academic Libraries*, edited by Robert D. Stuart and Richard D. Johnson (New York: K. G. Saur, 1979. \$29. LC 79-12059. ISBN 0-89664-093-0).

The volume includes the seven theme papers first published in the March 1979 issue of this journal as well as the sixty-six contributed papers presented at other conference sessions. They are grouped into the following sections: administration and management, bibliographic control and automation, bibliographic instruction, cooperation, economic aspects, the librarian's role, resources, and services. Many of the contributed papers include revisions and updates not present in the microfiche copies distributed at the conference.

## ABSTRACTS

*The following abstracts are based on those prepared by the ERIC Clearinghouse on Information Resources, School of Education, Syracuse University.*

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*Further information on ordering documents and on current postage charges may be obtained from a recent issue of Resources in Education.*

**A Survey of User Attitudes Toward Selected Services Offered by the OISE Library.** Ontario Inst. for Studies in Education, Toronto. 1978. 75p. ED 168 464. MF—\$0.83; PC—\$4.82.

A survey of faculty and students to assess user needs and satisfaction with collections and selected library services is described, and the resulting data are reported. Questionnaire construction, sampling and distribution, and response rate and factors are discussed. Data analysis is broken into major categories, which include responses to general questions regarding library use and general questions about the OISE library collection. The second category is further broken into the rating of books and periodicals in the specific fields of adult education, applied psychology, curriculum, educational administration and planning, higher education, history and philosophy, measurement, evaluation and computer applications, sociology, and special education. General questions about the library focus on satisfaction with library hours, difficulty in locating material, reference and information service (including satisfaction with reference services), interlibrary loan use, orientation effectiveness, circulation services, special collections (including audiovisual and curriculum resource materials), and library facilities. Conclusions are itemized from the results of each major subdivision of the questionnaire. Appendixes include copies of the questionnaires used.

**Criteria for Collection Analysis in the Academic Library.** By Catherine Yancheff. 1978. 29p. ED 168 496. MF—\$0.83; PC—Not Available from EDRS.

An assessment of literature from journals, reports, and monographs on criteria for the analysis of academic library collections reveals that there