

to present quality programs, as well as the responsibility of participants in such programs.—*Sheila Creth, University of Connecticut, Storrs.*

National Library and Information Services:

A Handbook for Planners. Edited by C. V. Penna, D. J. Foskett, and P. H. Sewell. London, Boston: Butterworths, 1977. 231p. \$16.95. LC 76-54296. ISBN 0-408-70818-2. (Available from Butterworths, 19 Cummings Park, Woburn, MA 01801.)

Librarians familiar with the works of C. V. Penna will find that this volume is an elaboration and expansion of his theories and earlier works on planning library services for underdeveloped nations. In this handbook, in collaboration with P. H. Sewell, formerly senior library advisor in the Department of Education and Science in Great Britain, and D. J. Foskett, librarian of the University of London Institute of Education, Penna makes a case for "conscious and systematic" planning of national library and information systems at the highest government level.

The authors propose, furthermore, that effective and efficient systems can only be developed if planned within the nation's social and economic structure and submit that these systems are successful only if managerial control is similar to that used in large-scale industry.

Librarians, interestingly enough, are not the target audience for this book. The authors state that, in their treatment of this topic, they have deliberately catered to the "political, educational and administrative authorities who, in many cases, have had to assume responsibility for LIS planning with very little information or precedent to guide them." They hasten to add, however, that they recognize that library professionals have been trained by many library schools in the principles and techniques of planning but unfortunately have had few occasions to use their expertise.

The authors have likewise been careful to point out that centralized planning is more apt to take place in countries such as the USSR where centrally planned economies are the norm, rather than in countries such as the United States and western Europe

where national libraries and information centers have developed in a decentralized and more happenstance fashion.

Although extremely informative, the scope and content of the handbook are so broad that coverage of each topic is uneven. At times it appears that the authors cannot decide whether they are writing a textbook or a handbook and end up doing a little bit of both. Educators can find a list of topics useful for teaching a course in planning library information systems; others will find this a compact guidebook.

Two-thirds of the book deals with methodology, principles, and techniques of planning; the preparation of plans and matrixes; policy making; the relationship between formulation of policy and financial control; and the relationship of library and information systems to other government agencies. The authors touch upon problems unique to underdeveloped nations such as lack of publishing houses, use and maintenance of nonbook materials, accountability, and difficulties of forecasting manpower needs and supply.

Only the last chapter of the book deals with implementation and hastily covers such topics as staffing; acquisitions and selection policies and procedures; cataloging and bibliographic control; the variety of classification schemes that lend themselves to systematic arrangement of an information system; abstracting and indexing; thesauri; and use of automatic data processing.

It is unfortunate that, although the authors appear to have used an extensive amount of documentation in collecting data for this volume, they chose to limit their bibliography to a few selected items. In spite of its limitations, the handbook is a worthwhile addition to library collections.—*Sylvia G. Faibisoff, Northern Illinois University, De Kalb.*

Books Are for Use. Final Report of the Subject Access Project to the Council on Library Resources. Pauline Atherton, Director. School of Information Studies, Research Studies #4. Syracuse, N.Y.: School of Information Studies, 1978. 172p. \$10 (10% handling costs and N.Y. sales tax if applicable). (Order [IST-10] from: Printing Services, Syracuse Univer-