formulation of policies, provide an excellent combination of theory and specifics and are a base that individual libraries can use to establish procedures to help meet their individual needs. At only five dollars, this book is one of the best buys in library publishing.—William Schenck, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.


This group of thirteen articles provides collection management ideas in a readable reportorial and inspirational style. Editor Karl Nyren has divided the LJ-size pamphlet into three topics: buying on a budget; the new special collection; and periodicals, needs/costs/uses.

The articles range from being quite specific in suggesting management responsibilities and methods to being rather philosophical in supporting the need for responsible collection management.

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the lack of explicit commentary on the weeding process. Weeding is implied in most of the essays, yet seems still to be only an assumed process. Withal, the format provides handy idea generators for collection managers.—James E. Weaver, Whatcom County Public Library, Bellingham, Washington.


This volume contains thirty papers presented at the second international meeting on this topic organized by the journal Online Review, which is noted for its well-refereed articles in the field. However, in reviewing this volume this reviewer finds both good news and bad news for the prospective purchaser. First, the good news.

The papers are consecutively numbered and further keyed by a letter prefix to apparently form ten broad subject groupings, although no headings really define these divisions in the table of contents.

Group A leads off with an excellent paper by Neal Gregory called "The U.S. Congress—On-Line Users as Policy Makers," which is followed by a paper dealing with language uses and ambiguities in retrieval systems that is cleverly written but unfortunately tells the reader nothing really new.

Group B deals with user education with several well-known authors describing their experiences in training users in very creditable fashion.

Group C contains one of the more creative and interesting papers by D. D. Singer and others, titled "The Role of a Minicomputer in an Information Department to Provide Online In-House Services."

Group D offers three papers dealing with information costs, international data transmission tariffs, and pricing of on-line services by means other than the connect time and royalty basis.

Group E contains one paper on the mar-