D. King (U.S.A.) contributes “Information Measurement as a Tool of Management” (p.367-75), a suggestive paper but one that is not quite clear. G. Carrion-Rodriguez of Mexico has a perceptive paper called “Forecasting Curricula . . . in the Developing Countries” (p.438-51), but unfortunately it is limited to science and technology and to academic libraries. To this reviewer, the best paper is B. Tell’s (Sweden) “Changing Role of Those Working in the Library and Information Center” (p.426-71). He points out that “. . . the developing countries are neglecting the principle which should be guiding the new era, namely information responsiveness to user’s needs” (p.463).

Certain papers, especially those on social processes, seem to be written as though there were no human beings, only bureaucratic systems. The papers, in general, seemed to be “talking” past each other, as though they were written on different planets and based on totally different assumptions. We can only hope that the pubs did a brisk business and more face-to-face meetings resulted. Very few papers, except the one by F. Lancaster of the U.S.A. (p.223-33), seemed to be aware of on-line interactive systems and their potential impact on the interfaces between human beings and systems. Nor did anyone seem to address the questions around the economics of information (except King): its measurement, uses, benefits, and costs. This reviewer, based on this collection, has the uncomfortable feeling that the “new trends” are terribly tentative, not very clear, and soon to be outdated.—Robert S. Taylor, Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York.


It would be hard to quarrel with the major premise of this latest contribution to the bibliography of the private press, namely, that during the last three decades private printers have made a remarkable resurgence, particularly in England. While no private press today even remotely approaches the sort of grandiloquent gestures so nobly tendered by the Kelmscott, Ashendene, and Doves presses at the beginning of the century, still there is a refreshing enthusiasm in many that demands attention, if not always admiration. Bellamy is an admirer, but, unfortunately, not always attentive to the niceties of bibliographic arrangement one would naturally expect from a “practising librarian.”

This volume, as the author notes in his introduction, is based on chapter 18 and 19 of Roderick Cave’s Private Press, published in 1971 by Faber and Faber. A comparison of the two reveals that Cave’s work has supplied not only the inspiration but much of the material as well, reworked and expanded as promised, but disappointingly derivative. Part two, consisting of a survey of eight contemporary British private presses, is what makes the book worth having. Biographical and critical information about contemporary private-press printers is frustratingly scarce; it is usually available only in journal literature and hard to get at, especially in smaller libraries. However, coupled with an appendix that lists the major titles published by the eight presses, Bellamy has compiled a useful guide to their work. Nevertheless, it is disappointing that he has chosen to describe a “representative cross-section of current practices,” that of the many presses now active in England, only a small fraction are covered here in any detail. The primary source of bibliographical information about small private presses is an annual bibliography, Private Press Books, issued by the Private Libraries Association, though the last volume published (1976) puts it somewhat behind the pace. This series, supported by the Cave and Bellamy volumes, would go far toward establishing a nucleus reference collection on recent private-press work.

It would, I suppose, be ungrateful to measure this volume by the same standards of printing routinely practiced by the presses it attempts to describe. However, competent design, copy editing, and typesetting might reasonably have been expected from the publisher. The appendix of press imprints is a typographic muddle and could have been modeled more closely on the format in the Private Press Books annuals. Book citations

Handbook for AACR2
MARGARET MAXWELL

Designed as a companion to AACR2, this new work will assist library school students and experienced catalogers in gaining a clearer understanding of how to apply the most commonly used rules for description, choice of access points, and form of heading as set forth in the Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules, 2d Edition.

The Handbook is easy to use since it follows the now familiar structure of AACR2. The organization also has immediacy in its numbering of paragraphs to correspond with specific rules of the code. Explanation and commentary, together with full cataloging examples, are keyed to the brief statements given by AACR2.

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ing over the years to treat catalog code revisions, new editions of Dewey and Sears, developments in subject analysis, and the changes wrought by bibliographic networking. In the latest edition these changes have dictated more a rewriting than a revision. There is still a healthy portion of background theory to support the main topics. Brief outlines of some of the lesser-used classification systems and newer methods of verbal analysis are included with examples, and the sections on Library of Congress subject headings and Library of Congress classification are considerably expanded and fully illustrated. The section on centralized services, cataloging routines, and catalog and shellist filing is updated and expanded.

The descriptive cataloging section, which constitutes more than half of the book, is keyed to AACR2 by rule number and is illustrated by numerous examples. In recognition of the increasing use of machine-readable cataloging records, rule examples are no longer given in traditional card format. In some cases transcriptions or copies of the chief source of information are supplied as an aid to interpretation. The rules are conveyed by many direct quotes from AACR2, to which are added discussions of problem areas and words of advice regarding interpretation and possible future changes. A good deal of enumeration of rule numbers and captions without comment shows the problem of condensing the code to a size that would not overwhelm the rest of the book. Most of the omissions are understandable, but the slight treatment of capitalization and abbreviation places full burden on the examples.

This is a work of shared responsibility, with principal responsibility attributed to one person (AACR2, Rule 21.6B1). In the preface Bohdan Wynar gives credit to other authors for either "writing," "preparing," or "revising" many of the chapters. Arlene Taylor Dowell handled AACR2, while Jeanne Osborn covered document indexing, filing, centralized processing, and cataloging records and routines. Wynar was wise in his choice of these assisting authors. Their sections are well written and show excellent understanding of background, current practices, problems, and future trends.