

Structure for Collection Development" are out of place in the text, but this mistake is covered by an "errata slip."

Although this report is an internal report, it should get wide distribution in the academic library field. It contains some unique insights into the problems of planning for academic library collections and is a very useful supplement to the handbooks of the Association of Research Libraries' Collection Analysis Project. Messrs. Miller and Edelman are to be commended for their incisive statements about complex collection-planning problems at Cornell because their recommendations will have enduring value outside of Ithaca.—*Frederick C. Lynden, Brown University.*

Carpenter, Michael. *Corporate Authorship: Its Role in Library Cataloging*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 1981. 200p. \$27.50. LC 80-1026. ISBN 0-313-22065-4.

Now, when the dust has settled after the debate between the supporters and opponents of corporate "authorship," triggered by the preparation of AACR2, we have a

good book on the topic. The timing seems unfortunate, because a publication date a few years earlier would have helped to clarify some of the issues then under debate.

The book is divided into three parts: (1) "The Problem of Corporate Authorship," (2) "The Nature of Authorship," and (3) "Conclusion." The first part is a description of the rise, development, and ultimate demise of the concept of corporate "authorship," limited mostly as it was to the English-speaking world and lasting approximately a century and a quarter. The second part analyzes the concept of authorship in more general terms, presenting the main arguments pro or con for the extension of the concept to include corporate bodies in addition to the traditional personal authors.

The book is well written and offers a fairly thorough exposé of relevant developments, especially in the United States. If the work has a flaw, it would be its tendency to present the pro-corporate-authorship arguments more fully than their counterpoints. However, even so, the reader gets a clear presentation of the qualitative differences between personal and corporate authorship and of the theoretical difficulties faced by anyone trying to formulate a justification of why personal authors and corporate "authors" should be treated in the same manner in a cataloging code. The procrustean qualities of such a position were not lost on the framers of AACR2 and led, ultimately, to its abandonment altogether.

It also focuses our attention on what happens when one tries to create a cataloging code, not by starting with the user and what his needs are, but with the code maker's perception of what such a code should be. After all, what difference does it make to the user when a main entry under personal name is called "authorship" and one under a corporate body "emanation," when in most cases he is totally unaware of such refinements anyway?

The book is, by its nature and topic, of special interest, and is recommended for collections or persons interested in the history and development of the concept of "authorship." It is definitely not something a practitioner needs to have handy when trying to interpret or unravel the whys of AACR2.—*Ake I. Koel, Yale University Library.*



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