

vide very little practical assistance in budget planning, this paper may trigger some rethinking of internal resource allocations for interlibrary loan and collection development.

This collection of articles provides an often interesting sampler of issues in library financing. In some articles, it approaches the substance of a buffet dinner but, ultimately, lacks the fulfillment of a well designed, satisfying meal.—*Gary M. Shirk, Yankee Book Peddler, Inc.*

Saffady, William. *Introduction to Automation for Librarians.* Chicago, American Library Assn. 1983. 312p. \$35. LC 83-7164. ISBN 0-8389-0386-X.

The author indicates that "this book is intended for librarians, information specialists, library school students, and others who want a tutorial survey . . . of information processing technology. . . ." The first section of the book would also serve very well for any individual, even one not particularly interested in libraries, who needs a basic understanding of computers and how they work.

The first section of the book, entitled "The Fundamentals," sets forth a basic introduction to computer hardware, software, and various data processing concepts, such as batch and online processing, separate file and database management methods of data organization, centralized and distributed processing, and types of computer networks. There is enough historical background to make the reader understand how hardware and software capabilities have changed, but there is no attempt to provide a complete history of the field. The paragraphs on binary coding and the table comparing ASCII and EBCDIC coding schemes are a much clearer presentation than most such explanations.

The emphasis is on systems capable of running large-scale library applications, with a brief comment on microcomputers. There is also a separate chapter on automated office systems, including facsimile transmission, videodiscs, copying machines, microfilm, dictation equipment, and automated text processing. This is an extremely important area that many li-

brarians overlook in their desire to automate bibliographic processes and to provide their users with online access to the commercial data bases.

The second section of the book, which is almost exactly half of the total work, deals with library applications of automation, with separate chapters on computerized circulation control systems, automated cataloging, automated reference service, and automated acquisitions and serials control. In the chapter on cataloging, the sections on the MARC format and the bibliographic utilities are particularly useful.

As is always the case with Mr. Saffady's work, the book is well and clearly written. It is provided with numerous useful illustrations and has an extensive list of suggested readings at the end of each chapter. It should be read by all librarians who are, or are going to be, involved with library automation. Unfortunately, as is always the case with a work of this sort, it is already somewhat out-of-date; hopefully, plans for a future editions are being made.—*Louis A. Schultheiss, University of Illinois at Chicago.*

Bulick, Stephen. *Structure and Subject Interaction: Toward a Sociology of Knowledge in the Social Sciences.* New York: Dekker, 1982. 250p. (Books in Library and Information Science, No. 41) \$35. LC 82-17140. ISBN 0-8247-1847-X.

In the final chapter—entitled "So What?"—of this brave and thoughtful book, Stephen Bulick summarizes the questions he has asked and the conclusions he has drawn: "The two themes mainly in the author's mind during the course of this work were the sociology of knowledge and the development and maintenance of library collections. It was almost a revelation to come to the conclusion that the latter may be a practical application of the former. Or, more accurately, its operational extension." (p.160) Readers who have followed his argument to its conclusion will almost surely agree that the link between these seemingly distant domains, first suggested by James C. Baughman, has been established.

Recognizing that circulation data can speak to the same bibliometric questions