

with the recognition that moral choices are never made in isolation, but have a social basis: "For us, the hope of intellectual independence is to resist, and the necessary first step in resistance is to discover how the institutional grip is laid upon our mind" (p.92).

It would be an arbitrary exercise to suggest reasons why this book should appeal particularly to academic librarians. Catalogers and indexers may find interesting Douglas' discussions of the social elements in our common classification of our world. As administrators of public institutions, directors will respond to her emphasis on values that transcend individual calculation. And certainly selectors should be aware that here is a volume worthy of their attention. But it is as thinking individuals interested in understanding their society and their place within it that librarians will respond to her ideas, which allow us to see the social ether that surrounds and shapes us, but of which we are too often unaware.—Paul Metz, *University Libraries, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg.*

Morris, John. *The Library Disaster Preparedness Handbook.* Chicago: American Library Assn., 1986. 129p. \$20 (ISBN 0-8389-0438-6). LC 86-1155.

Hickin, Norman. *Bookworms: The Insect Pests of Books.* London: Sheppard Pr., 1985. 176p. \$30 (ISBN 0-900661-38-0).

There has been a plethora of literature issued in the last few years on how to prevent and recover from a disaster, as well there should be. Disaster preparedness is an element of preservation that does not require buckets of money (though it may indeed require buckets) or a professionally staffed conservation lab, and yet the benefits of preventing a disaster and of a quick, knowledgeable recovery from one are potentially enormous. Many of the publications reflect the planning process and the plans created by individual institutions. A lot of it is repetitious but almost all of it contains some useful information. However, this book is not just another disaster preparedness handbook. Rather than presenting an outline of what a comprehensive disaster preparedness plan

should contain or a list of supplies one may need to salvage wet, muddy library materials, this book contains chapters with such titles as "Problem Patrons" (including angry patrons, rowdy teenage gangs, and drug users), "Theft and Mutilation of Books and Materials," and "Planning and Design for Safety and Security." There is a chapter on recovery from water damage, but it is not a how-to on salvaging various types of library materials. It describes automatic water-warning systems and freeze- and vacuum-drying as salvaging techniques. Much of the chapter is a case history of the flood at Stanford University's Meyer Library, including an excellent flow chart designed by Sally Buchanan that describes the decision-making and routing steps the books moved through on their way from the freezer back to the shelves.

In other words, disaster preparedness as discussed here means loss control rather than contingency planning. And therein lies its usefulness. The information it contains is largely supplemental to other works on preparedness.

The strength of this book is directly related to the expertise of the author. John Morris is a loss control consultant who has specialized in libraries and museums, so he can speak pointedly to the specific concerns of library staff. The discussion of the planning and design of facilities as they relate to loss prevention are thorough and practical, as is the review of security programs, problem patron management, fire protection and prevention, and insurance. Simple and inexpensive strategies are given along with more costly and sophisticated ones. All are liberally interspersed with firsthand accounts of the multitude of calamities with which Morris has had experience. The information on materials preservation and conservation, on the other hand, is cursory and not particularly useful.

The *Handbook* provides a foundation of information that enables librarians to analyze critically and upgrade their own existing situations. Perhaps more importantly, it can provide a basic understanding of the available means of protecting libraries and their contents so that staff can effectively

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communicate their needs to architects, contractors, or consultants who may not be conscious of the sometimes conflicting functions within libraries. Each chapter has a bibliography, and the index and glossary add to the book's utility. The *Handbook* is printed on pH-neutral paper.

Bookworms addresses another potential disaster that libraries face—insect infestation. The most valuable information that a pest book can contain is (1) a good photograph or illustration of each insect in both the larva and adult stages (and male and female, if the difference is significant); (2) a description of the life cycle of each insect, including its feeding habits and potential for damage at each stage; and (3) the options available for its extermination. Additionally, photographs of damage caused by each type of insect are helpful to determine the culprit's identity even if a specimen is not found at the scene. *Bookworms* does some, but not all of this.

I recently had occasion to attempt the identification of a large cockroach. When I consulted *Bookworms*, I found seven cockroaches described but only two illustrated. I read that adult cockroaches don't

actually feed on books but "cause widespread fouling and a browsing effect on soft surfaces." There was little information on their life cycle and no mention of what library environmental factors may be attractive to them other than water and being "below ground level." The illustrations were good, though, and from them I could tell that I had an adult, female Oriental cockroach.

It had been my understanding, however, that cockroaches can be very damaging to books, so I decided to check another source. My suspicions were confirmed. I learned from a book on pests in museums that cockroaches can be extremely destructive to books, eating both paper and binding components. (In the case of our cockroach we are reasonably certain it was attracted by the PVA that had spilled onto the floor of our bindery. We are more conscientious about cleaning up, as a result).

Another discrepancy caused me to be less confident in the usefulness of this book. One of the plates is described as showing a leather-bound book that has been attacked by Dry-wood termites, though the book is clearly clothbound.

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Elsewhere drywood [sic] termites are described as living only in wood. It is very unlikely that the clothbound, publisher's binding shown in the plate has wooden boards.

Careless editing further serves to detract from the worth of this book. The index refers the reader to the section of plates in the center of the book by listing the plate by number. However, the plates themselves are not numbered, so one must count from the beginning of the section of plates to locate the correct one. At least one entry in the index is duplicated.

Hickin refers several times to the threat that certain types of insects pose to books, yet the specifics of *how* they damage them are meager. In his introduction to the genus *Anthrenus* (which contains several of the carpet beetles commonly found in book and archival collections) he says that it is "a most important one for those concerned with conservation of books." And yet, when the two most common of these beetles are described there is no mention of how they damage library collections

other than "old leather-bound books may be damaged." The implication is that newly bound leather books are not attacked. Does this also mean that collections that do not contain any leather will not be attacked by carpet beetles? This is not my experience.

Overall, *Bookworms* gives good, detailed physical descriptions of insects and provides a great deal of useful information about them. It also contains some excellent illustrations and photographs with which to identify adults and larvae (but not always both). However, I found that the information was scattered in a way that made it inconvenient to use the book as a reference tool. Furthermore, mistakes, ambiguities, and omissions have the potential for producing frustration and erroneous conclusions. Less emphasis on entomology and more on the practicality of dealing with insects in book collections would make this work more useful for library staff (and probably, book collectors).—Bonnie Jo Cullison, *Newbery Library, Chicago*.

ABSTRACTS

The following abstracts are based on those prepared by the ERIC Clearinghouse of Information Resources, School of Education, Syracuse University.

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Accreditation: A Way Ahead. "To Explore Procedures and Guidelines for Participation of a Variety of Associations in the Accreditation of Programs of Library and Information Science Education." By the Committee on Accreditation, American Library Association, Chi-

ago. 1986. 97p. ED 272 201. MF—0.75; PC—\$7.20.

To involve other professional and educational groups in the accreditation process of educational programs in the field of library and information science, for which the American Library Association has current responsibility, this project developed specific recommendations with respect to the following needs: (1) to effect procedures and interorganizational arrangements that will provide the basis for participation of multiple societies; (2) to establish guidelines by which the specific interests and concerns of each participating society will be recognized in the accreditation process; and (3) to revise as necessary the 1972 Standards for Accreditation, which provide the current basis for evaluation of programs. The report consists of eight chapters and four appendixes. The first chapter is an executive summary, intended to serve not only as an introduction but also as a freestanding document, suitable for communication of the results to a large audience. The second chapter is a background paper describing the current accreditation process and the role of