

chives and manuscripts from 1969 to 1978. Long active in the Historical Society of North Carolina, she was its president in 1974-1975.

MARJORIE WHEELER, head of the Reference Department at Lamar University, Beaumont, Texas, retired January 31 after 15 years of service.

Deaths

ZINAIDA CARR, formerly at Lane Medical Library, Stanford University, died on March 10.

MARVIN WILKS MCFARLAND, retired chief of the Science and Technology Division at the Library of Congress, died on February 25. He had come to LC in 1948 as an aeronautical historian after serving

during World War II as chief archivist with the U.S. Strategic Air Forces and staff archivist to the commander of the U.S. Army Air Forces. He was named assistant chief of the Division in 1963 and chief in 1966.

JULIA WALDEN PLUMMER, library director at Lamar University from 1936 to 1967, died on April 6.

CATHARINE REYNOLDS, former head of government documents at the University of Colorado's Norlin Library, died on April 18. She had retired in June 1984 after serving in that position since 1966. For 16 years before that she had been head of the Government Documents Library at the University of Iowa. ■■

NEW TECHNOLOGY



• At the American Optometric Association Symposium on Vision in the High Tech Society in Washington on March 20, optometrist Vince King spoke on the hazards associated with video display terminals (VDTs). Common eye complaints of VDT operators include headaches, blurred vision at near and far seeing distances, itching and burning eyes, eye fatigue, flickering sensations, and double vision. King said that routine data entry tasks create the most complaints about vision, and that bifocal wearers may be the most susceptible because the traditional bifocal is positioned too low and is probably too strong a power for looking at a VDT. King said that eyestrain can be reduced by restructuring mundane tasks, and he cited one study in which productivity improved and complaints decreased when data entry was divided into 40-minute batches. Breaks were spent looking into the distance or doing tasks requiring minimum visual effort.

• The Biblio-Techniques Library and Information System (BLIS) has been acquired by Indiana University for its circulation and technical processing. When fully operational, the software will serve all Indiana University campuses.

• Micrographic Systems of Connecticut, New Haven, has contracted with the Women's History Research Center in Berkeley, California, to produce the Center's publications on silver film. The Center distributes materials on women and history, law, health, and mental health. For more information, contact the Women's History Research

Center, 2325 Oak St., Berkeley, CA 94708; (415) 548-1770.

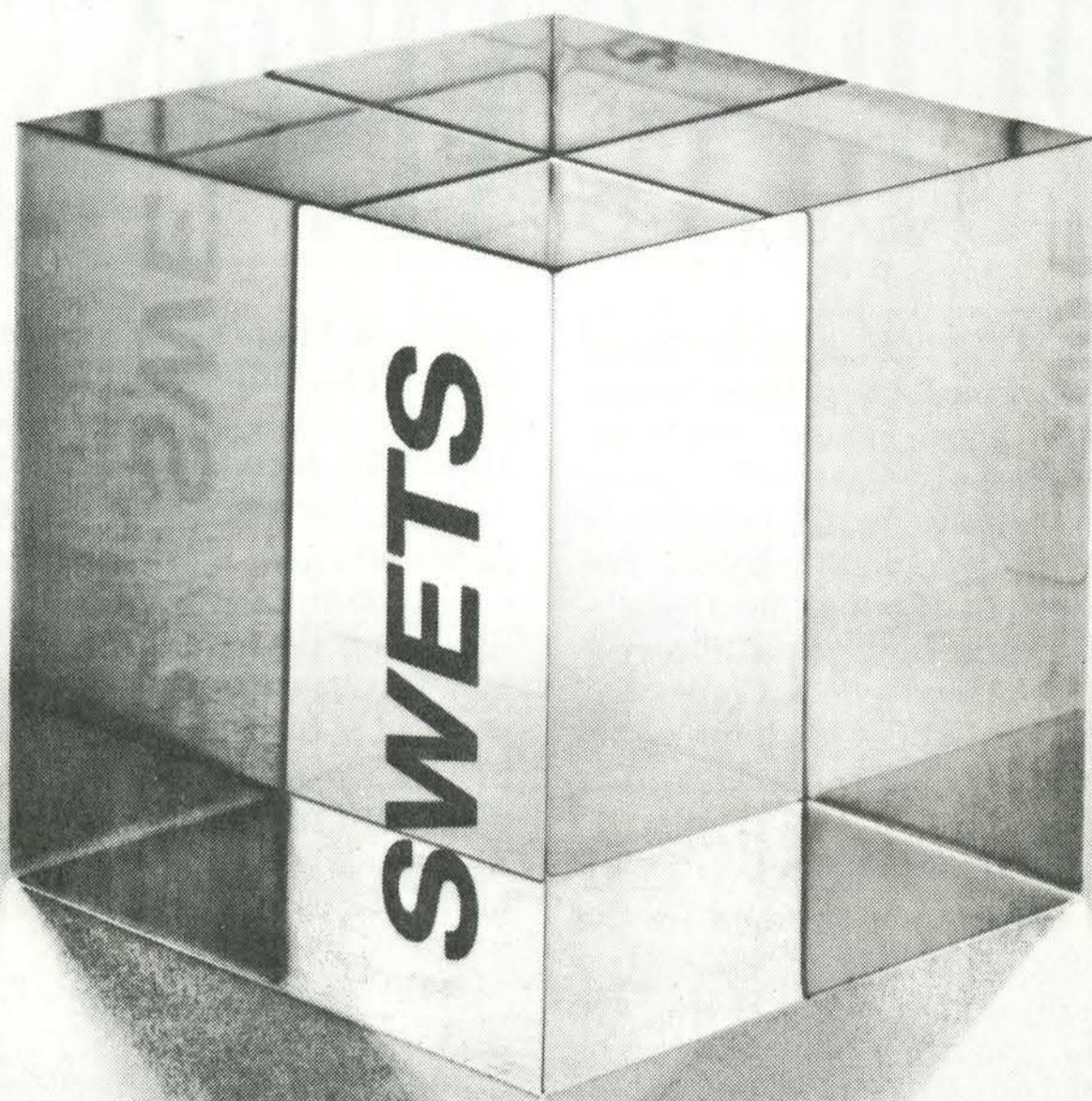
• The New York Library-Line (NYLINE) began operating on May 1 when over 50 libraries and library systems in the state launched a subset of the American Library Association's electronic information service, ALANET. NYLINE members can use ALANET for electronic mail service and obtain the New York State Library's electronic newsletter, *NYLINE News*. The costs for the network are being supported by Title III Library Services and Construction Act funds. NYLINE members currently include 22 public library systems, 9 research library systems, and 12 school library systems.

• The Pine Cone is marketing a light-weight vacuum cleaner called Mini-Vac that is designed for cleaning the hard-to-reach areas of microcomputers, typewriters, and other office equipment. Mini-Vac runs on a 9-volt alkaline battery, has two different interchangeable wands and bristle brushes, and is only 5 inches long. The machine costs \$29.95 (plus \$2 handling) and may be ordered from the Pine Cone, Blake Building, Dept. CRN-85, Box 1378, Gilroy, CA 95021.

• The University of Michigan Library, Ann Arbor, has acquired seventy Zenith-150 microcomputers for staff use from Zenith Data Systems. Each 320K, dual-disc machine includes an internal modem, printer, and integrated software package. The selection of Zenith equipment was based on a review of available hardware by library staff and available pricing agreements for computer equip-

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ment made with the University. Zenith has donated an additional fifty Zenith-150 machines which will be placed in the Undergraduate Library's Microcomputer Center jointly operated by the Library and the Computer Center. Michigan plans to use its microcomputer network for word processing, electronic mail, and electronic conferences for staff to discuss issues and assist each other in using the machines more effectively.

The Library expects that the enhanced communication capability will help tie together its geographically distributed staff. The availability of word processing and editing capabilities will provide critical support for writing and maintaining files of written material. Branch libraries will be

able to access the Library's holdings. The Library hopes to evaluate the impact of the deployment of microcomputers among staff. Such a study might identify specific characteristics of the changes taking place in the library environment.

• The University of Missouri Libraries have installed an online catalog on campuses in Columbia, Kansas City, Rolla, and St. Louis. The catalog, called LUMIN (Libraries of the University of Missouri Information Network), is based on software developed by the Washington Library Network. The WLN software was modified to operate as a user-friendly public access catalog. Missouri is also planning to acquire a Biblio-Techniques circulation system. ■■



PUBLICATIONS

• Administration, Personnel, Buildings and Equipment: A Handbook for Library Management, by David F. Kohl (304 pages, January 1985), describes the central findings of 800 survey articles relating to these topics that have been drawn from library literature in the years 1960-1983. The findings are grouped into 164 topical categories and listed chronologically by type of library—academic, public, special, and school. Copies may be ordered for \$35 from ABC-Clio Information Services, P.O. Box 4397, Santa Barbara, CA 93103. ISBN 0-87436-431-0.

• American Family, a monthly newsletter on family policy and programs published by the Youth Policy Institute, offers in-depth features on current trends in family studies, extensive coverage of federal legislation, annotated bibliographies of relevant books, articles, and reports, and up-to-date news on people, organizations, and meetings. In 1983 the newsletter won a National Council on Family Relations commendation for coverage. The annual subscription is \$55. Write American Family, Youth Policy Institute, St. John's Hall, Cardinal Station, Washington, DC 20064.

• Automation and Reorganization of Technical and Public Services, SPEC Kit #112 (95 pages, March 1985), contains the results of a survey to determine the extent to which research libraries have reorganized staff and the role played by automation in planning organizational change. The 14 documents included are program descriptions, organization charts, recommendations, and job de-

scriptions. SPEC kits are available by subscription from SPEC, Office of Management Studies, ARL, 1527 New Hampshire Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20036. Individual kits are \$20 postpaid.

• The Bancroft Library Guide to the Book Artifacts Collection, by Flora Elizabeth Reynolds (48 pages, 1985), describes the Library's collection that documents the development of writing and printing. The classification and organization scheme is outlined in the guide, which also features illustrations of some of the printing artifacts and type ornaments. Copies are \$5 and may be ordered from Anthony Bliss, Rare Book Librarian, Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720.

• The Barchas Collection: The Making of Modern Science (89 pages, 1985) describes the Stanford University Library's collection of scientific works in the history of science and ideas which includes 2,000 rare books and pamphlets dating from the 15th through the 20th century. The works featured were selected for an exhibition held early this year to dedicate the Samuel I. and Cecile M. Barchas Room and the acquisition of the Barchas collection. Copies are available for \$14 from the Publication Sales Office, Green Library, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 94305. ISBN 0-911221-03-4.

• Black Studies: A Catalog of Selected Doctoral Dissertation Research (34 pages, 1985) contains citations to 1,744 dissertations and theses published between 1979 and 1984 which are available from University Microfilms International in microform