

NEW TECHNOLOGY

• Apogee Robotics has produced an optically guided robot vehicle, The Orbitor, that can deliver books and other library materials from return areas to the circulation desk for discharge and reshelving. The Orbitor follows a retro-reflective tape that attaches to the floor. Bar codes on the floor provide the vehicles with location information and operating instructions, while the rest of its functions are controlled by an on-board Hewlett-Packard 71B computer. Safety devices include three forward scanning ultrasonic sensors, front and side impact bumpers, flashing lights, audible chimes, and a speech module. It can hold 300 pounds of books. Contact Apogee Robotics, 2290 E. Prospect Road, Fort Collins, CO 80525; (303) 221-1122.

• Aries Systems Corporation has developed software that simplifies searching a subset of the National Library of Medicine's MEDLINE database.

Knowledge Finder, which runs on the Apple Macintosh computer, contains full citations drawn from all journals in the NLM's Abridged Index Medicus, and in the Brandon/Hill journal lists recommended for small medical libraries, nursing, and the allied health sciences. The database, which covers January 1983 through the present, is distributed on CD-ROM optical disk. Field testing will be completed by the end of this year and Knowledge Finder should be available by January 1988. For further information, contact Aries Systems Corporation, 79 Boxford Street, Andover, MA 01845-3219; (617) 689-9334.

• Bell & Howell is now marketing a microcard/microprint adapter that can be used in conjunction with their 5100 Bond Paper Reader/Printer to view and print materials in those formats as well as microfiche. Contact Mala N. Garg, Bell & Howell Company, Document Management Products Division, 6800 McCormick Road, Chicago, IL 60645-2797; (312) 675-7600.

• CLSI, Inc., is offering a compact and cost-effective automation package for small libraries with 100,000 or fewer titles in their collection. The MicroLIBS System is a full-function incorporation of CLSI's LIBS 100 System architecture that uses microcomputer components. Options are available for systems with either one or two 120-megabyte disks. The system is smaller than a two-drawer file cabinet, but it has the potential for enhancements into a larger network. Contact CLSI, 320 Nevada Street, Newtonville, MA 02160; (617) 965-6310.

• Demco has designed a compact videotape display unit, the Video Browser Sleeve System, that displays up to 240 tape cartons in a 13" x 25" space. The cartons are flattened and placed into clear plastic sleeves that can be labeled and arranged in browsable bins that attach to wall or countertop. For more details, contact Demco, Inc., P.O. Box 7488, Madison, WI 53707; (800) 356-1200.

• General Research Corporation has developed LaserGuide, a CD-ROM patron catalog with two unusual search capabilities in addition to the usual keyword and Boolean methods. LaserGuide's map feature displays a map of the library showing the location of a selected book. Maps can be modified at any time or expanded to a set of maps showing different floors or branches, and different colors



The Orbitor, a robot book-fetcher.

can be used to differentiate areas. The system's browse feature allows patrons to use cursor control keys to see titles to the left or right of specific books, even in such "unbrowsable" sections as closed stacks, storage, or acquisitions. Contact General Research Corporation, 5383 Hollister Ave., P.O. Box 6770, Santa Barbara, CA 93160-6770; (805) 964-7724.

• The Library of Congress has produced a compressed audio disk with 33 hours of sound on one side. The disk contains nearly every spoken word recording manufactured before 1910 in the Library's collections. The disk contains 668 selections and is believed to be the first of its kind in the world. Its production coincides with the centennial of the invention of the first audio disk in 1887 by Washington inventor Emile Berliner. The Library has produced the disk only for use at the Library and is not offering it for sale. Interested audiophiles may listen to it in the Recorded Sound Reference Center of LC's Performing Arts Reading Room, LM 113, James Madison Memorial Building, 101 Independence Ave., S.E. Access to the title, performer, genre, and subject of each selection is controlled by the user through a menu-driven micro-computer. The disk includes 19th-century actors and actresses, minstrel shows, vaudeville, Presidential candidates, jokes, music, and sound effects. The system was developed for LC by Interactive Production Associates of Santa Monica, California.

• Midwest Library Service is now offering an automated technical services system, MATSS, that interfaces with OCLC, RLIN, WLN, the Bibliofile System, and Bowker's Books in Print Plus on CD-ROM. The system combines directly with bibliographic utilities, produces vendor-ready orders, tracks encumbrances and receipts of library purchases by account, allows for automatic claims and cancellations, monitors vendor performance, produces catalog cards, and prints spine and pocket labels. Orders can be checked for duplication in the LCCN and ISBN fields, and then produced in BISAC format for electronic transmission to vendors or printed for mailing. Multiple fiscal years are supported with the allowance for encumbrance figures to be adjusted into the new year. Received items are balanced against the invoice amount and corresponding funds are unencumbered and expended automatically. For more information on MATSS, contact Corey Hudson, Midwest Library Service, 11443 St. Charles Rock Road, Bridgeton, MO 63044; (800) 325-8833, in Missouri (800) 392-5024.

• Paradigm Press is offering a free sample copy of discSCOPE, a floppy disk containing selections from *SCOPE: Humanities Computing Software*. Every four months, *SCOPE* lists courseware, software, and reviews relating to humanities research and instruction. The disk may be freely copied for distribution to interested users and uploaded to

campus networks. Requests should be sent to Paradigm Press, P.O. Box 45069, Sarasota, FL 34277-4069.

• The University of Minnesota's Bio-Medical Library, in partnership with Health Sciences Computer Services (HSCS), recently installed MinneMEDLINE (Minnesota MEDLINE). MinneMEDLINE runs on the NOS/VE operating system of a Cyber 180/830 and utilizes IM/DM, a Control Data software product developed by Battelle Software Products Center. The MinneMEDLINE database includes the full bibliographic record, with abstracts for the entire database from 1985 to the present. Special features include: a search language closely patterned after NOTIS, a user-friendly interface, a linked locations database that permits sorting of retrieved citations by library stack location, and online Medical Subject Heading Tree Structures (including "explode" capabilities). Additional databases are currently being considered for loading on the HCSC system as the University continues with its IAIMS development. Contact Sherrilynne Fuller, Director, Bio-Medical Library, 505 Essex Street, SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455.

• Visual Horizons has developed an attachment for slide tray projectors that allows users to preview a full page of 20 slides. PAGE-VU attaches to the front of the projector and is designed so that the slides are enlarged and can be moved up, down, or sideways to check for photo details or positioning in the projector. Contact Visual Horizons, 180 Metro Park, Rochester, NY 14623; (716) 424-5300.

• Jay Ziolk, director of the Mississippi County Library and College Library in Blytheville, Arkansas, has developed an electronic device, the Laser Counter, that uses a light beam to count people entering the library. The device has an effective range for entrances up to 30 feet wide. Ziolk said he developed the Laser Counter because he found

ACRL New England Chapter

The ACRL New England Chapter's Fall Conference will be held at the College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, Massachusetts, on November 16. The theme will be "Economic and Demographic Changes in Academe: Effects on Library Services." Registration (including lunch served in the Hogan Center) will be \$22 for ACRL members and \$28 for non-members. The keynote speaker will be Shirley Echelman, executive director of the Association of Research Libraries. Part of the morning session will be devoted to small group discussions, with several topics to choose from. For more information, contact Karin Begg, Assistant University Librarian for Technical Services, 410 O'Neill Library, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA 02167; (617) 552-8709.

that state legislators and college administrators were more impressed with patron counts than circulation statistics. The device is four inches square,

costs \$199, and may be ordered from Laser Counter, 1420 W. Walnut, Blytheville, AR 72315; (501) 762-2251. ■■



PUBLICATIONS

• *Archival and Manuscript Repositories in the United States: A Directory* (109 pages, 1987) has been compiled by the Society of North Carolina Archivists. The directory describes 125 repositories in the state with archival or manuscript holdings. Entries are arranged by city and provide information on holdings, services, copying facilities, equipment allowed, and staffing. Indexes by institution, county, repository type, and subjects are included. Copies are \$10 for SNCA members and \$12 for non-members (plus \$2 postage). Write the Society of North Carolina Archivists, P.O. Box 20448, Raleigh, NC 27619.

• *The Delorme Mapping Company's Atlas and Gazetteer* series of state atlases is, quite simply, the best thing to happen in American cartography for many years. Each atlas is roughly the size and thickness of current U.S. road atlases, with a wealth of cartographic detail on rural and suburban areas that cannot be found in other sources. Nearly every geographic feature and dirt road has been identified, making it hard for hikers or other rough-country travelers to get lost. The Delorme Company's goal is to supply the outdoor aficionado with the most comprehensive, detailed, accurate, and easy-to-use map available. The gazetteer sec-

tion of each atlas includes parks, hiking, canoeing, campgrounds, fishing and wildlife areas, museums, historic sites, bicycling, unique natural features, and golf courses. Road names in major urban areas are not comprehensive, but these can be found in easily obtainable city maps; urban points of interest and tourist spots are identified, however. So far atlases have been issued for the following states: Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Florida, Michigan, Northern California, Southern California, Pennsylvania, New York, and Ohio. Washington State is scheduled for publication in December. Prices are either \$10.95 or \$12.95, depending on the state. Contact the DeLorme Mapping Co., P.O. Box 298-87, Freeport, ME 04032; (800) 227-1656.

• *Collection Development: Cooperation at the Local and National Levels*, edited by Barbara G. Valk (146 pages, July 1987), contains the papers of the 29th Annual Meeting of the Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials, held at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, June 3-7, 1984. The papers are divided into five major sections: cooperative collection development, Latin American legal resources, collection of primary resource materials, foreign acquisition field trips, and bibliographies and reference aids. Copies may be ordered for \$35 (plus \$1.50 postage) from the SALALM Secretariat, 728 State Street, Madison, WI 53706. ISBN 0-917617-10-X.

• *The Courts and American Education Law*, by Tyll van Geel (502 pages, October 1987), reviews and analyzes many trends in American education law of interest not only to primary and secondary school educators, but to higher education institutions as well. Relevant sections include aid to private schools, governance by the state legislature, collective bargaining, race and gender segregation, religion and the schools, free speech rights of teachers and students, the rights of handicapped and minority language students, and the law of teacher rights. A final chapter covers the legal and administrative implications of the recent Supreme Court appointments of Chief Justice William Rehnquist

CE course writers/presenters needed

ACRL is requesting proposals from anyone interested in preparing or teaching one of three new continuing education courses. The courses to be developed are:

Marketing for Academic Libraries;
Liability in the Information Age;
Effects of Technology on Academic Libraries.

Unsolicited proposals for other courses are always welcome. Individuals who wish to submit a proposal are asked to contact: Sandy Donnelly, ACRL Continuing Education, 50 E. Huron Street, Chicago, IL 60611, for proposal guidelines.