carefully. It is not recommended either as an initial or as a comprehensive review of these topics. To end on a positive note: the University of Chicago in publishing the report as a monograph has aided in making it easier for a user to gain bibliographic and physical access to the document.— *Morell D. Boone, University Librarian, University of Bridgeport, Bridgeport, Connecticut.*

Hug, William E. *Strategies for Change in Information Programs.* New York: Bowker, 1974. 373p. $13.95.

It may seem a discourtesy to the author to write a review of a book that one has not read thoroughly, but that, unfortunately, is the situation in which I find myself. I have examined this anthology, but I cannot say that I have read it, nor do I intend to read it, despite the fact that change in libraries is not only a subject which I recognize as being of some importance but also one in which I have an immediate and practical interest.

Mr. Hug's anthology consists of twenty-four articles, mainly dating from 1969 on, arranged in two equal parts. The first part is entitled "The Subtle and Ubiquitous Nature of Change" and the second "Alternative Strategies Or Ways to Aim at a Moving Target." There is also a three-page preface which describes generally the intent of the anthology and a five-page introduction to each part which comments briefly on each of the articles.

There are only four articles by librarians: Wasserman on "Professional Adaptation," McAnally and Downs on "The Changing Role of Directors of University Libraries," Atherton on "Putting Knowledge to Work in Today's Library Schools," and, of course, Shera on "Documentation into Information Science." The remaining articles are by people in a number of other disciplines. Many of the contributions by librarians on a topic such as this may not be significant, but a scanning of those articles that are included here leads me to believe that they are not very significant either. One of the articles that I did read, for example, was a two-page one called "Ex-Innovators as Barriers to Change," by Bob F. Steere. Apart from his creation of the incredibly horrible jargon word "complacentor," one need cite only his concluding remarks: "Look around you, Mr. Ex-Innovator! Are you today's traditionalist? Are you the present barrier to change?" Mr. Hug's description of this article as "thought-provoking"— I would better describe it as "thought-revolting"—gave me no confidence in his ability to identify the most significant articles on this subject. In addition I can readily cite a number of other more substantial and useful articles on this topic such as Victor Thompson's "Bureaucracy and Innovation" (*Administrative Science Quarterly* 10:1–20 [1965]), and my knowledge is somewhat limited.

I am increasingly dismayed by anthologies, generally designed to serve some poorly defined purpose, in which all of the material is readily available in any decent library and for which, therefore, a solid bibliographical article might well suffice and might, indeed, be even more useful since it could cover a wider range of material. Such anthologies only contribute to what can best be described as information pollution. They might have some value as a supplementary textbook in a course, but they have relatively little other value. Surely there are less expensive and less polluting ways to make readings readily available to students. Such anthologies would be more bearable if they managed to include reasonably lengthy, understandable, and useful introductory remarks that put the material into perspective, analyzed it, and used it to arrive at some kind of useful and meaningful conclusions.

In this case Mr. Hug's preface is so brief and so jargon filled that it is of limited value, and he appears to reach no real conclusions. The material is simply presented for the reader to make of it what she/he will. I came away from a scanning of this book with the feeling that to read it carefully would leave me no better informed about the nature and meaning of change and how to effectively accomplish meaningful change in a library setting. I cannot recommend it to others.—*Norman D. Stevens, University of Connecticut Library, Storrs, Connecticut.*

Ford, Stephen. *The Acquisition of Library*

Materials. Chicago: American Library Assn., 1973. 251p. $9.95.

In 1969, after considerable deliberation, an ALA committee recommended that a book on acquisitions work be prepared and published. Wulfekoeter's book (1961) was considered out-of-date and the need was felt for a synthesis of the abundance of literature on new developments. Stephen Ford, formerly order librarian at the University of Michigan, was found willing to prepare the book. According to the preface, it is designed for use as a textbook in library schools and as a "conceptual manual" for practicing acquisitions librarians. Ford touches on most aspects of acquisitions work, such as searching, domestic and foreign purchasing, blanket orders, out-of-print material, serials, automated order routines, etc. A quick glance through the table of contents, the literature lists at the end of each chapter, the glossary, and the index at the end seems to point toward success because there are very few, if any, obvious omissions.

Close reading, however, reveals two serious problems which have been confirmed by evaluations from library staff with varying experience and education. The first problem is the obvious failure to define the book's audience. In trying to reach the public, school, college, and university acquisitions librarians, the trained and the untrained as well as the student, Ford overshoots his goal by a wide margin and, as a result, none are reached. He goes out of his way to cover all possible viewpoints, never going into too much detail, never showing preferences, and the result is a series of halfway attempts. In this way, his description of the NPAC program has little meaning to anyone. He never really says what USBE is and does not even give an address. A good example of his careful generalization is the disappointing chapter on collection development and selection procedures when he states: "Some academic libraries do not allocate funds to departments, and others have control over allocations that permit library staff members to make purchases from them. In other institutions, allocations to faculty units are small and a large general fund gives the library faculty extensive responsibility for collection development."

My main criticism of Ford's book, however, lies with editorial aspects. On page after page there are sentences and statements that at times are very hard to understand even for the well-trained reader. On page 50 Ford mentions that the annual supplements to the British Museum Catalogue appear periodically. But the worst sentence must be on page 123 where it reads: "Nonperiodical serials also differ from other library purchasing when they are purchased as series rather than as monographs. Librarians call these standing orders or continuations."

It is truly unfortunate that so much time and effort have been spent on this project by the author and numerous others. A less ambitious and more practical searching and acquisitions manual, such as the one Clara Brown did recently for serials (EBSCO, 1973), would have been far more useful, especially for those librarians involved in the continuous training of new staff.

For the time being, we will have to go back to dog-eared homemade manuals, Wynar's bibliography, and photocopies of good articles.—*Hendrik Edelman, Assistant Director, Cornell University Libraries, Ithaca, New York.*

Williams, Harold. *Book Clubs & Printing Societies of Great Britain and Ireland.* Ann Arbor, Mich.: Gryphon Books, 1971. (Repr. of 1929 ed.) 126p. $13.50.

Here is a little volume that will delight the cockles of many a bookish antiquary's heart. It first appeared, in a severely limited edition and largely without notice, some forty-five years ago in London, and this Gryphon reprint now makes it for the first time generally available in this country. Individuals and libraries with interest in bibliographic printing and the early book clubs and scholarly text societies will want copies.

The author prefaces his text with a clear and succinct definition of his subject. "On the study of texts," he writes, "on the appeal of antiquarianism, on wayfarings among forgotten books or rare editions, and the contribution these ventures bring to our knowledge of history, of social life, and of literature, are founded those societies whose work this essay follows."

After a brief survey of seventeenth- and