

problem—to the practical and realistic, such as Joseph Jeffs' description of the mobile compact shelving system at Georgetown University and Arthur Tannenbaum's and Eva Sidhom's report on the establishment of an environment conducive to microform use at New York University.

As the editor makes clear in the introduction, we are entering a new era in the planning and design of libraries that we expect will be profoundly influenced by emerging service and collection policies and by significant technological developments. For this reason, this volume merits serious consideration by library planners in all types of libraries. It is refreshing to see such a fresh flow of ideas mixed with the seasoned experience issuing from these pages. One could ask for little more from a compilation concerned with the broad topic of space.

Contributions that will be of especial interest to academic librarians include Jerrold Orne's forecast of the future of academic library architecture; Joleen Bock's detailed analysis of the space needs of media-centered community college libraries; and Thomas Slavens' analysis of the failure of the divisional plan at Drake University.—*Michael B. Binder, Fairleigh Dickinson University, Rutherford, New Jersey.*

Periodicals Administration in Libraries. A Collection of Essays Edited by Paul Mayes. London: Clive Bingley; Hamden, Conn.: Linnet Books, 1978. 158p. \$10. LC 78-8456. ISBN 0-85157-262-6 Bingley; 0-208-0165-9 Linnet.

Paul B. Mayes, engineering and science librarian at Liverpool Polytechnic, has gathered seven essays by eight other British librarians who discuss some aspects of handling periodical publications in a variety of styles and with varying success. At first glance, the treatment seems incomplete. Why, for example, only "periodicals"? On reflection, this brief collection is a rather tight summary of basic and current problems.

One good section is the discussion of principles, which is well written and quite complete. Other good parts are the two longer essays, one on selection, acquisition, and recording and the other on physical forms and storage. The section covering sources of bibliographic information is too brief, and the section on

automation in serials receipt and claiming is not fully up to date. But this field is changing rapidly and is not well documented elsewhere.

One major topic in serials work not covered is cataloging. Some cataloging problems are raised in the discussion of arrangement, shelving, and classification; but the specifics are not here. Other topics, such as budget and personnel, receive slight treatment. Only selected information can be covered in a short book. What is here is handled reasonably well, and the text is generally coherent and informative.

On the other side, the historical information is a bit wobbly. In one place one author says, "The first three European journals appeared in 1665. . . ." Another author claims that "the periodical as a form is traceable for some three or four thousand years before the invention of movable type. . . ."

Titles are cited in the text and listed in the references by cataloging practice in capitalization rather than the more normal bibliographic practice. This technique leads to inaccuracies such as *Christian science monitor* (Christian science as compared to Buddhist science, perhaps?) and *Who's Who*, rather than *Who's who* if the rules are to be followed. The citations throughout use only initials for first names. This practice is both incomplete and annoying, and the editor has also omitted periods—or, if you will, full stops.

A few wording problems can easily be found, such as saying that a periodical "will be a serial publication with a continuing title." Why not "is"? And further: if a periodical changes its title, does this statement really mean that the publication is now no longer a serial? If not, what is it? And in a few instances, terminology strange to American ears is used. One example is the chapter on "relegation." The few instances of British spelling should not, however, cause any problems.

All but one of the essays has a list of references, and one is called a bibliography. The lists are short and consequently avoid pedantry. Many sources are British and may be unfamiliar, but the lists do offer a start on additional reading.

This is not a great book, but it is a good one. While short, in some cases too brief, the collection is an introduction and an overview touching on many of the basic topics. Despite its weaknesses, this is a much-needed and

welcome addition to a group of new books on technical processing.—Neal L. Edgar, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio.

University Library Buildings in Southeast Asia. Proceedings of a Workshop Held in Singapore, 22–26 November, 1976. Editor: Peggy Wai-chee Hochstadt. Assisted by: Maria Ng Lee Hoon. Singapore: University of Singapore Library, 1977. 62p. + 6 microfiches. S\$14 (Asian countries excepting Japan); US\$12 (other countries). (Available from: University of Singapore Cooperative Bookstore Society Ltd., Bukit Timah Road, Singapore 10, Republic of Singapore.)

This volume is of some value to those who collect materials on library buildings, but for those who are interested in fast information for the planning process this book is not recommended because of its poor organization.

As the title indicates, it is a record of the proceedings of a building workshop. Abstracts of all the papers are included in the sixty-two-

page book along with the "discussion" that followed the presentation of each paper. But the papers themselves, the real meat of this publication, appear on microfiche in a pocket at the back. Thus, this little book does contain a lot of information, but it's hard to find.

One must read the abstract to determine the extent of one's interest in a given paper and then go on to the microfiche reader to get further information. Then one must alternate between the "discussion" pages of the book and the text of the microfiche to obtain a critique of a particular building plan. The constant referral from hard copy to microfiche is so inconvenient that it becomes frustrating.

Two fold-out pages containing a summary "Table of Statistics of University Library Buildings in Southeast Asia" appear to be useful, except that U.S. readers will find it difficult to convert linear meters to linear feet, square meters to square feet, and cost per square meter to cost per square foot. It seems this could have been done once for all readers by the editor.

The book does record evidence of good library building planning in Southeast Asia, and the fiche even include some drawings of floor plans. It is a volume of principal importance to libraries with in-depth collections on building planning or as a record for those who attended the 1976 Singapore conference.—Hal B. Schell, University of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Steady-State, Zero Growth and the Academic Library. A Collection of Essays Edited by Colin Steele. London: Clive Bingley; Hamden, Conn.: Linnet Books, 1978. 148p. \$11. LC 78-7030. ISBN 0-85157-243-X Bingley; 0-208-01680-5 Linnet.

In the United States the fate of libraries appears to be in the hands of a disillusioned general public. Commencing in California, the reaction of concerned citizens to seemingly uncontrollable governmental spending at all levels has aroused heretofore passive legislative bodies into vigorous reaction to slash spiraling budgets. At institutions of higher education the budgeter's scalpel has been sharpened by an apparent cautious attitude on the part of potential college goers about the real returns from education. It is therefore a period of retrenchment and reexamination.

Steady-state and *zero growth* are terms be-



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