

philosophy, which, even for old books, students of today would like to see brought into line with modern terminology. There is the question of inverted headings, which in a specialized catalog are more convenient if made directly, partly because that is the way users think and partly because it facilitates subdivision if this becomes necessary. A special hobby of the reviewer is the avoidance of headings that end with "of." *Light-Wave theory* is no less comprehensible than *Physics-History*, and this device consistently followed at least has the merit of eliminating one filing complication. Mr. Voigt has eliminated a few hyphens where this was justified, with the same end in view.

It is also to be noted that this list is strictly confined to the subject matter of physics; it

does not include the mathematical techniques and disciplines nor the topics in cognate and ancillary sciences which must be part of a physics library and which it is most important to have well represented in the catalog. The question of form division is also passed by. How, for instance, does Mr. Voigt segregate the general works, which are textbooks sought by undergraduates, from treatises and compendia used by research men? In these respects the list does not constitute a self-contained tool. It is, however, a very commendable first move in the right direction, and it is to be hoped it may stir the Library of Congress to give to its physics headings the consideration it has recently been giving to its mathematics headings.—*Margaret C. Shields, Princeton University Library.*

New Microfilm Resources

Union List of Microfilms, Supplement II. Philadelphia Bibliographical Center and Union Library Catalog. 1943. xi, 282, [2]p. 8½ × 11 inches. Mimeographed.

Because of the present war conditions many cooperative library projects have folded up or have been temporarily shelved. Not so with the *Union List of Microfilms*. In spite of the absence of one third of the committee responsible for producing the volume the work has gone on. Attending difficulties have been overcome, and the second supplement has made its appearance. In fact, coming with the supplement is the notice that the editorial work for Supplement III will begin Sept. 15, 1944.

The serial numbering of the entries is continued from *Supplement I*. *Supplement II* adds 3687 new items. The scheme of arrangement remains quite the same as in the original publication and the first supplement, e.g., one alphabet with many helpful cross references. Though some entries are necessarily lacking in some of the desired information, they in general consist of the author, title, imprint, collation (and-or number of frames; for extensive works number of reels), location of original form which film was made, and whether master negative or positive. The compilation was made from information given on cards sent in by the cooperat-

ing libraries. Ordinarily one would not expect quite as much film to be produced as this supplement indicates. However, the editors think some of it is film completed earlier rather than new film produced since the first supplement.

Union lists like the above are becoming more and more numerous in the various fields of knowledge. They are beginning to fulfill a need of cooperation, the various ideas on which we are learning about through the writings of Robert B. Downs and Fremont Rider, to mention two librarians specifically. The effort to make known the resources of one library to another, one region to another, and even one country to another, goes on apace with the publication of many tools similar to the *Union List of Microfilms*. With the publication of each such tool we make a definite bit of progress in the field of cooperation. From the original *Union List of Microfilms* and its supplements a growing field of resources on film is becoming available for interlibrary loan and permanent acquisition by those libraries needing the material. With growth and possible perfection its value will become increasingly great.

All librarians have become acutely aware of the problem of maintaining files of European publications during this war period.

Those difficulties will be with us even after the war is over. The *Union List* will serve as an invaluable aid in locating the issues of those publications that have been filmed by various libraries and agencies. It is highly desirable that all the cooperative projects of filming the elusive material abroad have their results recorded in the *Union List*.

In the introduction we find the statement:

"It is expected to continue the publication of this catalogue, with the prospect of a cumulative edition when personnel and resources permit a thorough bibliographical revision and a more complete indexing." Here is a hope that we all wish to see fulfilled.—*G. F. Shepherd, Jr., head, circulation department, and in charge of microphotography, University of North Carolina Library.*

Stepping-Stones to Cooperative Cataloging

Cooperative Cataloging Manual for the Use of Contributing Libraries. Library of Congress. Descriptive Cataloging Division. Washington, U.S. Government Printing Office, 1944. 104p.

The Library of Congress has issued a small *Cooperative Cataloging Manual* which should help to facilitate present-day cooperative cataloging. At the same time it may serve as a point of departure for a discussion of cooperative cataloging of the future.

The *Manual*, prepared principally by Helen B. Stevens, describes the procedures of the cooperative cataloging centered in the Library of Congress. It tells how libraries should proceed in supplying copy for printing but does not attempt to explain the intricate art of cataloging. In a brief introduction the history of cooperative cataloging in the United States is sketched, from Charles Coffin Jewett's *Plan for Stereotyping Catalogues by Separate Titles* in 1851 to the activities of the A.L.A. Cooperative Cataloging Committee, begun in 1932 and merged, in January 1941, with the work of the Library of Congress.

The cooperative cataloging associated with the Library of Congress has been concerned chiefly with the analyzing of serial publications and the cataloging of foreign books. Lately the work has been expanded to include the cataloging of American doctoral dissertations, the output of a number of university presses, and the official publications of some of the states of the union, while the cooperative cataloging of the acquisitions by several federal libraries in Washington, begun in 1902, has been continued.

Copy for printing is thus of various types and originates from many sources. The *Manual* gives useful information as to the manner in which copy should be prepared by the cooperating libraries. A special section

devoted to the preparation of authority cards is in several respects more instructive and detailed than the corresponding section in the 1941 preliminary *A.L.A. Catalog Rules*. The work at the Library of Congress is likewise described, details being given as to the receipt and revision of copy, leading finally to the printing and distribution of catalog cards.

An appendix contains a list of the 365 libraries that have participated in cooperative cataloging, a list of 615 reference books useful in establishing and verifying author headings, and a list of easily understandable abbreviations that may be used advantageously by both the Library of Congress and the collaborating libraries. The latter feature constitutes in large measure the realization of a project that has for years been on the agenda of the A.L.A. Division of Cataloging and Classification.

The *Manual* emphasizes that with respect to entries the *A.L.A. Catalog Rules* are generally to be followed, while "beyond the heading, uniformity of practice is essential only so far as filing and intelligibility of the cards are concerned" (page 16). Nevertheless, we learn on page 20 that the title of the book, including name of author, edition statement, and imprint, "should be accurately transcribed . . . according to L.C. cataloging rules." Collation, series note, and full name note are likewise to follow L.C. rules, while subject headings should be assigned according to the *L.C. List of Subject Headings*. Standardization, thus, seems to be more thorough than at first suggested.

This contradiction touches upon a point of considerable importance for the future of American cataloging. When the revolt against overelaborate cataloging took place at the time of the publication of the new *A.L.A. Catalog Code*, a distinct tendency