which stems from legislative concern and multicampus systems. Such systems have not yet gone very far in management, but now that their building programs are over, they probably will. The result is less autonomy for the local campus and less authority for the local president (p.26). To hasten innovation and reform the report calls for the educational entrepreneur but recognizes that "Entrepreneurs rarely thrive in a climate of detailed budget review, pressures for equal treatment, statewide interest groups, flagship campus dominance, or concern for political expediency." (p.27) Among the other bureaucracies needing attention is the interlocking directorate of universities and accrediting agencies. Medical licensing is a national scandal but is far from the only one (p.41). Moreover, the relationship between academic training and success in a profession is not nearly as direct as is frequently assumed (p.39–40).

The Newman task force suggests that the time is critical for change in the system, though it does not underestimate the difficulties. What can one do about all these problems? Society can create new enterprises with different missions and provide new enterprise funding. State governments can utilize competitive grants similar to foundation grants or to the University Grants Committee in Great Britain (p.65; cf. Ashby, p.85–89). Federal funding can adopt a marketing approach where the student takes an institutional grant plus his own grant and selects the institution best for him (p.65–66). Universities can diversify their faculties by bringing in "practitioners who are outstanding in their jobs, and . . . given full status within the institution." (p.77) They can also reduce discrimination against women and older students and adapt minority education to the students rather than making the student conform to the traditional mold (p.79). Most of all, of course, institutions can reexamine their individual missions, especially necessary if cost effectiveness is to work in academic programs. Community colleges, for example, must cease being dominated by the four-year institutions and meet the specific needs of the students they serve (p.60). For the real problem is "How can skill in resource utilization become a factor in the system of academic rewards?" (p.86) All of this

is a rather large order, but the task force is not pessimistic about solutions, if they can stimulate debate on the problems. Fortunately, their report is short enough and inexpensive enough to be placed in the hands of all those interested in the future of higher education. That group should surely include academic librarians and the professional associations to which they belong.—*Edward G. Holley, University of Houston.*

Tales of Melvil's Mouser; or Much Ado About Libraries. Paul Dunkin. New York: R. R. Bowker Co., 1970. 182p.

Q. Pimbran Thotwon put down the book. Heady stuff, this.

A book by a librarian (P. Dunkin, to woe and to wit) could and did declare outrageously tongue-in-jowl war upon the host of sacred cows to which we all ('cept you 'n me) bow down. Why, is nothing sacred anymore? quoth Thotwon queryingly. Indeed, a perusal of the tome revealed that Melvil's Mouser was indeed a clever cat: he several times took poor Thotwon for a dunking in his own chuckling perplexity.

Surely it cannot be a verity that the venerable NLA always comes out third-best in every two-sided battle? And yet, pondered Thotwon ponderously, perhaps there *is* something peculiar about an institution which seems ever on the brink of discovering that it *is!*

Surely, stammered Q. Pimbran, some librarians have been overeager to snatch at schemes: but surely only *some* catalogers have sat at the stoop of the Seer of the East and swallowed the many facets of the Five Laws . . . ?

Surely, turbulated Thotwon, IMCs (Q.P.T. knew what *that* meant even in his sleep— *Instructional Materials Centers*) do need promotion: after all, aren't we all heathen looking toward the salvation of the funny-looking missionaries? (Somehow Thotwon was dimly aware that his words had tripped up somewhere—but never mind, he'd *read* it somewhere.)

And surely, tremulated Thotwon to himself, library education is *not* in a shambles: "The broad sweep of the library universe" swam before his ken as he fondly recollected dear Miss Bittybotty and her class in Foundations of Librarianship many years

previous. What was it dear Miss B. had iterated?—that since all libraries have books, and since all people read books, therefore all libraries are at bottom the same. Quondam P. Thotwon for a moment experienced the sinking feeling that the "continuum curve" of the library curriculum was rather the center of a motionless arc, going nowhere and signifying nothing. But only for a moment.

Thotwon returned from his reverie to the book. He was warmly glad that somebody had at last blown the whistle upon all those librarians who behave like perfectly pompous asses. Which proves, smugged Q.P.T., that they *are* people. Thotwon was glad he wasn't one of *them*, as he gazed out the window and noted the Moon, peering over his shoulder.

        o   o   o

If you missed this book, go right your mistake right now. Dunkin hits hard at the soft underbellies of the human (and inhuman) foibles, fallacies, and frumperies of our profession. Even if you recall reading some of these pieces in *Library Journal*, go get this collectanea and be shriven once again. The message is too important to be left in the medium.—*William Henry Webb, University of Colorado.*

Perreault, Jean M. *Toward a Theory for UDC: Essays Aimed at Structural Understanding and Operational Improvement.* Hamden, Conn.: Archon Books and Clive Bingley, 1969. 214p. $9.00.

Anthologies, collected works, and readers which bring together a number of articles and papers on a narrow, specific topic are a common form of publication in many fields but are relatively new to librarianship. This book by Jean Perreault can be categorized as that type of publication. Perreault has long been known for his writings on classification theory and for his efforts in promoting the use of the Universal Decimal Classification system. This volume brings together seventeen of his essays on UDC. Eleven of these have been published previously and six are found for the first time in this volume.

Perreault is quick to point out in his introduction that the book is not a treatise on the UDC. One would have to agree. The essays are arranged under four headings:

General theoretical background, Structure of UDC, Problems of display (notation), and UDC and reclassification. The essays in the latter category are of a more practical nature and are more lucid than those in the first three. Although a brief introduction of one page or less is found at the beginning of each group of essays, it is the arrangement which relates them to each other. The introductions consist of short summaries or statements about each individual essay in the group. No attempt is made to discuss each group as a whole or to draw any conclusions.

The title, *Toward a Theory for UDC,* is appropriate for the book, if one agrees that a body of theory for the UDC is lacking and that this book presents new principles on which to base theory. However, after reading this collection of essays, one does not find that the author has added any new principles. Therefore, it is necessary to question whether or not he has made any steps toward a theory for UDC. It should be remembered that the book is a collection of essays of which two-thirds have been published earlier. There is no indication in the volume as to which essays have been formerly published and which have not. Neither is there any indication as to how extensively the previously published essays have been revised. The author states in his introduction that "all of them which have been published before—have been strenuously revised." (p.10) At the same time, he fails to give the extent or purpose of the revision. Since the source of original publication is now given, the reader cannot make comparisons between the original and the revised essays without extensive research. Perreault defends this practice by stating "part of my intention is to make it possible to refer to this volume as a compilation of previously published papers in perfected form, at the same time making reference to the original periodical sources unnecessary." (p.10) Also, there is no indication of why the six remaining essays had not been previously published. One only can assume that they were written for this collection.

The combination of poor writing, poor editing, and extremely bad typography makes this a very difficult book to read. The reader has the feeling that some of the