ed from the pages of professional journals like *Science*. Payment for writing would have to exceed the literary quarterlies by at least fivefold. None of the reviewers would have to be put in the position of being "regulars," lest they stagnate, nor must they be overworked, lest they come to view writing for the magazine as a chore. The orientation of the whole enterprise must by no means be exclusively literary, and its commitment should always be to the life of the mind, its sole *raison d'être*.

Have we set our sights too low?

But—and here is the kicker—Mr. Hollander then notes: "At a casual estimate, this would cost at least $750,000 a year." —*Richard Harwell, Bowdoin College.*

Indexing Theory, Indexing Methods, and Search Devices. By Frederick Jonker. New York: Scarecrow Press, 1964. 124p. $4. (64-11785).

Indexing is not a new subject to the librarian. It is taught extensively in library schools, and the professional literature abounds with definitive works and treatises on methods and practice. With the growth of scientific and technical literature and the advent of automation, deeper studies have been made to increase knowledge and understanding of the weaknesses and strengths of conventional techniques. Documentalists have explored unconventional avenues of research. The field is therefore in a receptive mood to welcome a solid book on indexing which sets forth the general principles of the science. In this respect, the text under review falls nowhere near the target.

Rather than advancing a major theory, or even evaluating current methods, the book only verbalizes some unsteady personal observations of its author. This alone is confusing because the text is couched in the author's private, technical vocabulary. He speaks of the "terminological continuum," "access guides," "living language," "unpermuted multiple-criterion classification," "systematicity," etc. Not one of these words and phrases is explained in terms of their relationship to established definitions or doctrine. The bibliography reflects a shallow appreciation of standard source material.

Evidently only slight attention was given to page makeup and editorial organization. Several of the illustrations are too small to decipher, and some graphs are either partially or completely unlabeled. A misspelled word appears on the table of contents page, and others are conspicuous through the book. An entire section listed in the table of contents is missing from the text.—*Joseph Becker, Washington, D.C.*

Library Administration: Theory and Practice. By R. L. Mittal. Delhi: Metropolitan Book Company, 1964. xiv, 514p. $5.50.

Believing as he does that the standard works in library administration, foreign and domestic, have an "alien background" and fail to meet the needs of Indian students and librarians, the deputy librarian of Panjab University library has written this book "to present in a compendious form various principles and practices concerning [the] administration of libraries."

Mr. Mittal's compendium opens with three chapters on the "Philosophy of Librarianship," "Library in Education," and "Library Administration: Function and Principles." These are followed by a discussion of principles of personnel administration and library finance. Some later chapters outline in great detail the activities and operations of libraries in the manner of a staff manual: "Processing Work," "Maintenance Work," "Stacking and Shelving Methods," "Care and Repair of Books," "Periodicals Work," "Library Rules and Regulations," and "Charging and Discharging Methods." Toward the middle of the book there is a chapter on reference service in which the author offers his Odyssey of reference books. This change in menu is a welcome relief but, in view of the author's stated purpose, it is surprising to find his annotated list of reference works so heavily slanted toward American publications. There is an index but no separate bibliography.

This book, I am sure, will prove a useful contribution to Indian librarians and Indian students of librarianship. In a sense it is a kind of reference work and it suffers some of the weaknesses of a reference book which was not designed as such. Quotations, formulae, statistics, names, and footnotes shuf-

fle ubiquitously throughout the book, avoiding one another most of the time, but generally adding to our state of confusion. Mr. Mittal has delved widely into the writings of American librarianship—journals, books, and even obscure PhD dissertations—and the results jam the pages in long quotations: "Miss X has rightly pointed out. . . ." "Dr. Y. has remarked. . . ." "Mary Doe opines. . . ." etc. Oliver Goldsmith's method in writing history was to read Hume, Kennet, Rapin, and Carte in the morning, spend the afternoon at coffeehouses, and then, after a good dinner, write down what remained in his head in his own words. The result may not reflect the trappings of scholarship but it makes for wonderful reading and I heartily commend the method to Mr. Mittal.

The author does not feel, I am sure, in spite of the exaggerated claims on the book jacket, that this book will be useful to American librarians. It probably would not have accomplished its author's purpose if it were. I would suggest that, in a revision, Mr. Mittal lean less heavily on quotations, particularly from American sources; emphasize principles more and procedures less; ask an expert in English to read the manuscript before it is released; and insist on a thorough job of editing by the publisher. Composition, presswork, and binding leave much to be desired.—*Guy R. Lyle, Emory University.*

Problems in Planning Library Facilities; Consultants, Architects, Plans and Critiques: Proceedings of the Library Buildings Institute, Chicago, July 12-13, 1963. Edited by William A. Katz and Roderick G. Swartz. Chicago: ALA, 1964. 208p. $4.25. (64-19851).

This volume presents the proceedings of the Library Buildings Institute conducted in Chicago, July 12-13, 1963. The foreword notes that "ten building or equipment institutes have been held in the last twelve years" and comments further that "interest still seems to be high." The recent article by Theodore Samore entitled "Academic Library Buildings: Needs, Legislation, Inventory" in *CRL,* July 1964, provides ample evidence of the reason for this continuing interest. Where else can the amateur, faced with building problems, find such ready advice and criticism from architects, building consultants, and others recently experienced through having survived a building program?

Appropriately, the opening paper is one entitled "The Library Building Consultant" by Keyes Metcalf. Mr. Metcalf bases his discussion on five questions: (1) Why have a consultant, (2) How do you select him, (3) At what stage in the planning should he be selected, (4) What do you pay him, (5) What should he do? This, along with the panel discussion following, provides valuable information for the librarian and the administrator faced with the prospect of a new building.

The section on college and university libraries includes the presentation of plans for the following institutions: Harvard Medical School, San Diego State College, University of Waterloo (Canada), University of Illinois (Chicago campus), State College of Iowa (Cedar Falls), Bluffton College (Ohio), Western Kentucky State College, Asbury Theological Seminary (Kentucky), University of Notre Dame, and University of California (Riverside). The plans range in size from the 429,780 square feet for Notre Dame to the 19,112 square feet for an addition to an existing building at Bluffton. There is considerable variance in the quality of reproduction of plans, but generally the photographs, drawings, and building plans give an idea of what is being discussed in the text.

In addition to the college and university libraries section, there is a public libraries section, one on school libraries, and another on hospital and institution libraries.

The public libraries section starts with "Programing Before Planning" by Hurst John, with Harold Roth, Clarence Paine, and Frances Flanders as a panel to discuss Mr. John's paper. A later panel discussion, moderated by Frederick Wezeman, deals with the "Role of the Architect, Engineer, and Librarian in Library Planning."

The school libraries section opens with a paper by an architect, Charles J. Benda, Jr., on the things an architect should know about the library and the information which should be supplied to him. This is followed by "The School Library Program: What the Architect Needs to Know" by John L. Cam-