

it is logical to assume that many A & I services must cover the same journals." The authors question the degree of journal overlap between services but more importantly seek to establish the extent of journal article overlap. Thus their definition of overlap as a two-level concept: journal and journal article.

This report is *exactly* what its title purports it to be. The journal and journal article overlap among the chosen fourteen abstracting and indexing services are studied and reported in minute detail.

The fourteen services are: *Nuclear Science Abstracts*, *GeoRef*, *International Aerospace Abstracts*, *Mathematical Reviews*, *Psychological Abstracts*, *Meteorological and Geostrophysical Abstracts*, *Searchable Physics Information Notices*, *BIOSIS*, *Chemical Abstracts Service*, *Engineering Index*, *INSPEC*, *Bibliography of Agriculture*, *Index Medicus*, and *Selected Water Resources Abstracts*.

Journal literature published in 1973 covered by at least one of the fourteen services constitutes the population for the study.

A painstaking and ponderous description of the progression of the study leads the reader through the mathematics and statistical methods employed. The tables are excellent and profuse with, in most cases, commendable explanations. The study reveals that of the approximately 26,000 journals scanned by the services, 5,466 of them had articles included in at least two services. This figure reflects journal overlap; the individual articles are not necessarily covered by more than one service. Statistical treatment of the massive study data allowed the authors to estimate a 23.4 percent maximum article overlap for the 5,466 journals.

This project, which was supported by the National Science Foundation, Division of Information Contract C875, was completed within the short period of eighteen months. Therein may lie the reason for some of the errors which mar the report. More careful editing perhaps would have eliminated the profusion of typefaces encountered and straightened out the mix-up in page numbers early in the report. An exception to the commendable explanations of tables is that given for Table 8, "Article Overlap—Services Perspective." The description, far

from explaining the table, renders it unintelligible.

The appendix contains some of the most interesting information found in the report, namely the comparison of the fourteen services by the methods of factor analysis and multidimensional scaling (MDS). Clusters of services in the graphical form, resulting from multidimensional scaling, clearly reveal similarities of coverage.

The study makes no qualitative judgment of overlap. The data are provided, figures for maximum possible article overlap and estimates of actual overlap are given, and the conclusion "overlap is considerably less extensive than was estimated by the researchers before the study" is drawn. This information will probably be most useful to the services included in the study. The practical application for academic librarians is not readily apparent.—*Dolores B. Owen, Documents Librarian, University of Southwestern Louisiana Libraries, Lafayette.*

Clinic on Library Applications of Data Processing, 13th, Champaign, Ill., 1976. *The Economics of Library Automation*. Papers Presented at the 1976 Clinic on Library Applications of Data Processing, April 25-28, 1976. Edited by J. L. Divilbiss. Urbana, Ill.: University of Illinois Graduate School of Library Science, 1977. 164p. \$8.00. LC 77-075153. ISBN 0-87845-046-7. ISSN 0069-4789.

This volume contains the papers presented at the thirteenth annual clinic in a series which has managed to attract recognized authorities on specific topics in the field each year. Contents of this volume are "The Economics of Library Computerization," by Frederick G. Kilgour; "Cost Analysis of Automation in Technical Services," by Ryburn M. Ross; "The Economics of Automated Circulation," by A. Robert Thorson; "Performance Measures in Automated Systems Management," by Martha West and Brett Butler; "The Impact of Computers on Book and Journal Publication," by Hugh Folk; "Cost Analysis and Reporting as a Basis for Decisions," by Douglas S. Price; "The Economics of Book Catalog Production," by Maurice J. Freedman; "The Economics of Catalog Conversion," by Michael Gorman; "Cost Advantages of Total System Develop-

ment," by Velma Veneziano and James S. Aagaard; and "The Economics of Computer Output Media," by S. Michael Malinconico.

All of the papers are well written and supported with details, both technical and cost related to the topics that the authors are addressing, with the exception of Kilgour's, which is really an introductory or keynote paper meant to set the scene for the following presentations. In this reviewer's opinion Ross' paper, based on the experiences at Cornell University, is one of the best specific case examples to be found in the literature addressing this topic. His statement that "bigger and better computers do not mean lower production costs" not only is presently true but increasingly will be the case as improved-performance, lower cost hardware/software systems become more prevalent. Thorson's paper on costs and experiences at Ohio State University shows that circulation automation, while an expensive undertaking in development, conversion, and operation, has considerable service benefits which offset these costs.

The papers by Freedman, Gorman, and Malinconico, all of whom address aspects of catalog production, give an excellent overview of the complexities of the decision process involved in this highly technical aspect of library operation.

With the current trend toward development of network services and their integration into library operations in a cost effective manner, it is refreshing to have Veneziano and Aagaard chronicle their experiences developing the in-house online system at Northwestern University. Their work shows that with a properly managed effort and rather modest in-house funding sophisticated online systems can be operated as well as developed by a large library.

Editorial quality of the volume is excellent. If one deficiency could be noted, it is purely on the point of the appropriateness to the topic of the paper by Folk. Certainly, a paper on the impact of computers on the publishing enterprise is of interest to librarians and can serve as an example from a sister field but is not purely within the context of the economics of library automation which deals with library internal operations largely. However, Folk's paper is an excellent overview from the publisher's viewpoint, and as such it is a valuable addition to the volume, aesthetic judgments being laid aside in favor of technical substance.

Those who have acquired past volumes in this series also should acquire this one. Libraries and individuals building collections in the library automation or the cost/benefits of information systems will derive more benefit from this slim, well-designed collection of papers than the modest price expended in its acquisition.—*Audrey N. Grosch, University of Minnesota Libraries.*

Painter, George D. *William Caxton: A Biography*. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1977. 227p. \$14.95. LC 76-41134. ISBN 0-399-11888-8.

As the assistant keeper of fifteenth-century printed books at the British Library for twenty years, the author of this book is well prepared to "assess and correct our existing knowledge of Caxton's life and work." In fact, Painter presents the most thorough published reassessment of the historical record since Blades' biography of exactly one

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