

data that let librarians ask questions about productivity and efficiency and give them the tools to begin to analyze library problems and to present a realistic audit. For example, it was determined from the program that file maintenance cost for 1976-77 was more than \$149,000. This was 9 percent of all staff costs and 10 percent of all staff time, clearly an area for further study.

It is good to read that a start has been made with a program covering labor and time costs of all library functions. This is necessary, difficult, and costly work, but it can and must be done. This competent, practical account should be useful in showing the way.—*Barbara R. Healy, University of Rochester, Rochester, New York.*

Davinson, Donald. *The Periodicals Collection*. Rev. and enl. ed. Boulder, Colo.: Westview Pr., 1978. 243p. \$18.75. LC 78-17873. ISBN 0-89158-833-7.

Perhaps the biggest problem with this book is determining who will find it useful. Practicing librarians who have worked with periodicals for some time should know most of the material; while library school students may find it difficult to follow without reading many of the references. The beginning librarian or the experienced librarian just moving into the periodicals area probably will be its best audience and should find it to be a good introduction with many references to other material for additional study.

The book is divided into three parts. The first section is a history and description of the types of periodicals. While mainly concerned with the British viewpoint, it covers the subject thoroughly. Even the experienced periodicals librarian undoubtedly will find it informative. Although most of the examples listed are British publications, it should be relatively easy to transfer the information for use in American libraries.

The second part covers bibliographic access to periodicals. Specific publications, e.g., *Ulrich's International Periodicals Directory*, *Chemical Abstracts*, *Current Contents*, *Science Citation Index*, *Union List of Serials*, are mentioned and their uses and limitations described. Again the British slant is noticeable, but the titles covered include the major U.S. and European bibliog-

raphies. Davinson's comments on the proliferation of abstracting and current awareness services are interesting. Because so many more articles are being published now than in the recent past, specialists are finding it increasingly difficult to read all the material pertinent to their fields and, therefore, are forced to resort to abstracting and similar services. The increases in the size, number, and price of these services, in turn, are causing problems of control for librarians and of production for the publishers.

The third part covers the librarian's and the user's contact with the actual periodical. This is the weakest part of the book because Davinson tries to cover too much in too little space. Only the highlights of purchasing, recording, storing, and displaying periodicals receive mention, and the reader is left needing more practical advice to put into immediate use or more theory for future consideration.

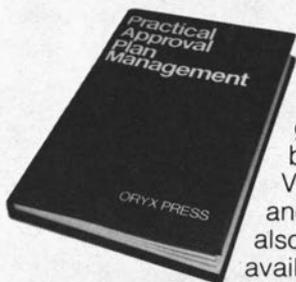
The 1978 edition of *The Periodicals Collection* is a revised and enlarged edition of a title with a rather long and apparently evolving history. The 1960 edition, *Periodicals; A Manual of Practice for Librarians* (London: Grafton), was more a practical manual with suggestions on titles to be purchased, staffing, and furniture. As time has gone by, the book seems to have become more and more theoretical. Whether or not this edition is needed depends upon the type of information being sought. It is not a how-to-do-it book; it does give the history and purpose behind what is being done. There are a selected subject and title index and an author index.—*Martha Willett, Indiana State University, Evansville.*

Jackson, Eugene B., and Jackson, Ruth L. *Industrial Information Systems: A Manual for Higher Management and Their Information Officer/Librarian Associates*. Publications in the Information Sciences. Stroudsburg, Pa.: Dowden, Hutchinson & Ross, Inc., 1978. 314p. + 1 fiche in pocket. \$35. LC 78-15890. ISBN 0-87933-328-6. (Distributed by Academic Press.)

The present volume is undoubtedly a valuable addition to the series entitled *Publications in the Information Sciences*. The purpose of this book is to outline the technical

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and administrative functions of an industrial information service as well as to advise information officers, librarians, and management on various aspects of the acquisition, analysis, processing, storage, retrieval, dissemination, and use of new and significant information. The introductory chapter, presenting an overview of the information explosion and its implications for management, is lucid, comprehensive, and very carefully written.

The material in this monograph is systematically presented; the authors write clearly, and the text is liberally supplied with well-chosen examples and the latest references.

Based on their extensive experience in both conventional and nonconventional information products, services, and systems, the authors offer very practical recommendations on services, facilities, personnel, policies, and procedures for establishing and maintaining an industrial information service and center.

Of special interest is the summary data on

the industrial library systems of the Fortune 500 companies (Appendix B). Another interesting feature of this publication is a chapter by Robert A. Kennedy of the Bell Telephone Laboratories Libraries and Information Systems, Murray Hill, New Jersey, in which he focuses on practices at the premier industrial library in operation today.

In summary, this is an excellent book and should be read by all persons engaged in the management of industrial libraries and information centers and systems. It is highly recommended as a required textbook for courses in industrial librarianship, information systems and services, and information storage and dissemination technology.—*Jata S. Ghosh, Ardmore, Pennsylvania.*

Symposium on Retrieval of Medicinal Chemical Information, Anaheim, California, 1978. *Retrieval of Medicinal Chemical Information.* W. Jeffrey Howe, Margaret M. Milne, and Ann F. Pennell, eds. Based on a symposium cosponsored by

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