formulation of policies, provide an excellent combination of theory and specifics and are a base that individual libraries can use to establish procedures to help meet their individual needs. At only five dollars, this book is one of the best buys in library publishing.—*William Schenck, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.*

Collection Management. LJ Special Report #11. New York: Bowker, 1979. 48p. $5; cash with order, $3.95. ISBN 0-8352-1215-7. ISSN 0362-448X.

This group of thirteen articles provides collection management ideas in a readable reportorial and inspirational style. Editor Karl Nyren has divided the *LJ*-size pamphlet into three topics: buying on a budget; the new special collection; and periodicals, needs/costs/uses.

The articles range from being quite specific in suggesting management responsibilities and methods to being rather philosophical in supporting the need for responsible collection management.

To buy on a budget, libraries are encouraged to use remainder houses, committees, computer data bases, rigorous use studies, and the process of developing a "collection development" policy as means for controlling expenditures.

Even in times of retrenchment a library keeps growing, changing, developing its programs. One means of doing so is to start a special collection. Nyren printed five essays that suggest the birthing process of, and then the maintenance methodology for, special collections. This section is especially reportorial/inspirational in nature, yet with bibliographic information amply presented.

The third section contains two essays about the need for, and methodology of, adequately managing the library's serials material. This section returns the reader to the need for more rigorous study of use, cost, and need for each subscription.

Though the price seems steep for a forty-eight-page production, the essays do provide ideas for the collection manager of any size or type of library. One weakness is

the lack of explicit commentary on the weeding process. Weeding is implied in most of the essays, yet seems still to be only an assumed process. Withal, the format provides handy idea generators for collection managers.—*James E. Weaver, Whatcom County Public Library, Bellingham, Washington.*

2nd International Online Information Meeting, London, 5–7 December 1978. Organized by Online Review, the International Journal of Online and Teletext Information Systems. Oxford, New York: Learned Information, 1979. 286p. $35. ISBN 0-904933-15-6. (Available from: K. G. Saur Publishing Inc., 175 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10010.)

This volume contains thirty papers presented at the second international meeting on this topic organized by the journal *Online Review*, which is noted for its well-refereed articles in the field. However, in reviewing this volume this reviewer finds both good news and bad news for the prospective purchaser. First, the good news.

The papers are consecutively numbered and further keyed by a letter prefix to apparently form ten broad subject groupings, although no headings really define these divisions in the table of contents.

Group A leads off with an excellent paper by Neal Gregory called "The U.S. Congress—On-Line Users as Policy Makers," which is followed by a paper dealing with language uses and ambiguities in retrieval systems that is cleverly written but unfortunately tells the reader nothing really new.

Group B deals with user education with several well-known authors describing their experiences in training users in very creditable fashion.

Group C contains one of the more creative and interesting papers by D. D. Singer and others, titled "The Role of a Minicomputer in an Information Department to Provide Online In-House Services."

Group D offers three papers dealing with information costs, international data transmission tariffs, and pricing of on-line services by means other than the connect time and royalty basis.

Group E contains one paper on the marketing strategies used in Spain for their "Red INCA" information retrieval system, which interestingly employs remotely connected television monitors to connect users with searchers at the various "Red INCA" search centers.

The remaining papers address a variety of topics, e.g., the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Time Series Data System; manufacturing industries' information needs in the United Kingdom; the Aslib Online Information Service; the experiences of a large industrial conglomerate in Finland with on-line search services from Europe and the United States; the searching of chemical structure data files; the searching of chemical substances; Viewdata and Electronic Publishing; the OCLC system; press information banks; the NASA information system; automated subject switching in distributed networks; and data transmission speed impact on time structure and cost of on-line searching.

Fifteen of the authors are from the United Kingdom, seven from the United States, two each from West Germany and France, and one each from the Netherlands, Spain, Finland, and Luxembourg. All papers are in English, and they use many British spelling forms. Most of the papers are well written and organized, with consistent format used throughout, aided by uniform typeset titles and author bylines. The text of each paper is the typed original so that fonts vary between the papers with a few done on right-hand-justification text-processing systems. Thus the good news from an information viewpoint is that this volume contains a large quantity of better than average quality papers of interest worldwide.

But now the bad news. Copy editing of this volume is really shoddy, particularly in several of the papers, giving a very uneven view not only of author's care in final manuscript preparation but also a poor impression of the publisher's copy-editing policies for publications of this type. On page 258 even one hand-penned correction is to be found. Moreover, authors have occasionally coined new, nonexistent words, such as "parallely" on page 124. And one of the papers by a French author carries very interesting French-language words occasion-