

Spain collection. The volume is physically less inviting because of paper/type selection, which forecast a crowded page and a more difficult readability factor. The organization, not by sections but by some unexplained listing, demands closer attention to overall concerns for state-local finance aspects.

This collection, according to the introduction, "provides an overview of research activities in the major financial and problem areas of state and local government finance." They were published originally as part of a volume of current research in the field of state/local government finance. The issues selected, defined, and delineated in the volume are important for scholars and workers in public (nonfederal) finance. The range of topics is indeed comprehensive, from policy to collective bargaining to authority to the improvement of productivity. Each piece stresses a research concept couched in terms of examples of activity. There is, overall, a nontechnical level of language that promotes both attention and understanding.

Financial stress is as important to library/

information center managers as it is to anyone concerned with fiscal operations responsibility. Neither volume will solve specific budget procurement/allocation/evaluation problems. Either one—or both—will add much background information and provide considerable food for thought. It is hoped that such food will not aggravate additional stress, financial or otherwise, among our information-focused personnel.—*Harold Goldstein, Florida State University, Tallahassee.*

DDC Dewey Decimal Classification. Proposed Revision of 780 Music. Based on Dewey Decimal Classification and Relative Index. Prepared under the direction of Russell Sweeney and John Clews. Albany, N.Y.: Forest, 1980. 101p. LC 80-16730. ISBN 0-910608-25-3. Available for review.

This revision of the 780s of the DDC has been issued as a separate monograph so that librarians may have the opportunity to evaluate it before the DDC Editorial Board makes a decision as to whether it will be used

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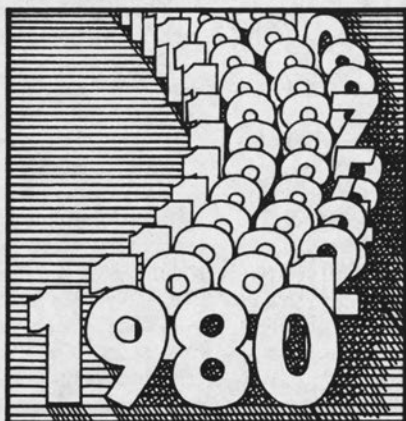
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to replace the current music schedules. In the meantime, the Decimal Classification Office at the Library of Congress will continue to supply class numbers based on the nineteenth edition. However, the revision is to be used in the *British Catalogue of Music* (replacing the system created by E. J. Coates). This should be an ideal way of putting the revision to the practical test.

A detailed analysis of the new system and a comparison with that of the nineteenth edition is not possible here. These seem to be the most important points: it is a completely new set of schedules; it makes extensive use of a systematic faceted structure; an enormous amount of synthesis is available and the notation is as expressive as possible within the constraints of DDC; provisions are made for dealing with classical music, popular forms (e.g., jazz, blues, country and western music), and the various ethnic, folk, primitive, and classical music of non-Western traditions. The introduction explains the details of the citation order and other structural features. The classification of instrumental media of performance is based on the classic scheme of Curt Sachs and Eric von Hornbos-

tel (first published in 1914, and finally translated into English in 1964 in *Galpin Society Journal* 17:45-63).

As in all systems for classifying music and the literature about music, the heart of the system is the part set aside for media of performance. As in other versions of the 780s, we have here a parallel system, which is to say that a book about the piano is classed in 786.2 and piano music is classed in M786.2 (or, as an alternate to this: 786.2027). Class 780 is for standard subdivisions, 781 is for general principles, 782 through 788 are for media of performance, and 789 for individual composers. Generally speaking, it seems quite logical and is a great improvement over the nineteenth edition.

The most radical change is based on the assumption, which is probably valid, that the composer is the central organizing principle for much of the literature about music. For example, we assume that it is helpful to have books about Beethoven and about his music in one class. Thus, class 789 is for works about individual composers (each composer gets a subclass and these are arranged in alphabetical order by composers' names). Classifiers

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are given the option of choosing from three different types of class numbers for composers. For example, Beethoven's class number is created by adding one of the following to the base number 789: 15, .B33, or .BEE. Thus, Beethoven's class number could be one of these: 789.15; 789.B33; or 789.BEE. Obviously, a library has to choose one of these methods and use it consistently.

The basic idea of the new 789 class is sound and it should be enormously useful, but there are some problems. How is it decided which composers get their own subclasses and how are the class numbers constructed? The editors' solution has been to print a list of around 300 composers' names in the schedules, along with the appropriate class notation, and instructions to "class a composer not named in this list in 789 without further subdivision" (p.58). One would assume that the decisions on inclusion and exclusion should be based on "literary warrant," which is to say that if a sufficient number of monographs have been published about a composer, then that composer is included in the list. Now this gets to

be a very tricky business when we are dealing with a classification system that is international (for example, composers thought to be important in France may be hardly known in, say, the United States, Australia, India, or Iceland). In the end, the only generally acceptable solution will be some sort of open system that will permit the addition of names at any time and be such that *all* composers in 789 are given a subclass.

These problems related to class 789 should not obscure the fact that this is the best version of the 780s ever published. Within the limitations imposed by an international general system, there is not much more that could have been done to modernize the 780s.—*Gordon Stevenson, State University of New York, Albany.*

Seminar on AACR2: Proceedings of a Seminar Organized by the Cataloguing and Indexing Group of the Library Association at the University of Nottingham, 20-22 April 1979. Ed. by Graham Roe. London: The Library Association, 1980. 92p. \$17.50.

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