American history.—*Paul S. Koda, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.*

Henry, W. M. et al. *Online Searching: An Introduction.* London, Boston: Butterworth, 1980. 209p. $31.95. LC 80-40242. ISBN 0-408-10696-4.

Directed to managers and would-be practitioners, this book provides an introduction to online searching strictly for bibliographic references. It reflects the four authors' British affiliations, describing both European as well as North American activities.

The text is almost evenly divided between ten chapters of narrative and eight appendixes. The chapters that provide background information about hardware, the structuring of files, the intellectual concepts of analyzing questions, and search strategy to retrieve references online are particularly good, giving concise accounts of details. Less space is devoted to discussion of related personnel issues surrounding online search services, although three chapters address such topics as, the role of the intermediary, management aspects, and education for searchers.

The first appendix provides a fairly detailed "check list for search preparation and search strategy" aimed primarily toward the search intermediary. Each of five other appendixes summarizes, in tabular format, details of the major search systems of Blaise, ESA-IRS, Infoline, Lockheed/DIALOG, and SDC/ORBIT. The last appendix is about Euronet, a European telecommunication network connecting numerous online service systems, including most described in the earlier appendixes. The book ends with an author and subject index.

In a textbook fashion, numbered subdivisions of chapters, a thorough index and selected citations at the conclusion of most chapters offer the reader easy reference to specific information as well as leads for further study. The text itself is well written, useful both for a novice to the subject and for an experienced searcher who seeks a review or clarification of a particular question. The occasionally used jargon is generally defined in comprehensible terms and descriptions of technical topics are understandable.

The authors repeatedly warn the reader to seek additional sources for more current data, and cite several sources that may be

used. However, two noticeable omissions might be considered, especially for reviews of databases: *Database Review* and the "Sources" section of *RQ*.

A good contribution to the small group of basic introductions to online searching, this is a recommended text for general training or for reference use, particularly for the British perspective. It does not however replace vendor or database manuals for those conducting specific online searches.—*Danuta A. Nitecki, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.*

Olson, Nancy B. *Cataloging of Audiovisual Materials.* Mankato, Minn.: Minnesota Scholarly Pr., 1981. 154p. $17.50. LC 79-83907. ISBN 0-933474-07-5.

This work is "designed to accompany AACR2." It is intended for catalogers to use as a reference when working with the more specialized types of nonbook material and is not a "stand alone" guide for media cataloging.

Examples and notes on the cataloging of nonmusic sound recordings, motion pictures and video recordings, graphic materials, realia, kits, and original microform publications are presented in the order in which their cataloging rules are found in AACR2. Cataloging notes provide the corresponding AACR2 rule number, making it easy to refer from the code to the manual and vice versa. Each example is illustrated by a photograph of the item, a particularly good idea that enables the cataloger to see the material under discussion. Although the examples are few in number, they are well chosen and provide a good sampling of the more unusual media problems a cataloger may encounter, such as cannonballs and unique audio formats.

The most frequently encountered types of nonbook material, music sound recordings and microform reproductions of previously published material are not discussed in this volume. This would appear to be a major weakness. The author may believe that catalogers are more accustomed to dealing with this type of material, and the problems encountered will only be with the more esoteric types of material—with which this book deals. But, reference should have been made