

give conscientious compilers the jitters. Whether to develop primarily by type of source, type of publication, by area, or by subject is a difficult decision and hard to stick by, once made. Mr. Wasserman has succeeded in avoiding the seemingly inevitable inconsistencies and compromises no better and no less than the rest of us. It is most important to the layman, perhaps, that the compiler, in any discussion of statistical sources, should map a clear trail from the currently issued statistics in any series to the annual compilation and on to the historical base book (or vice versa, of course). This guide is only partly successful in performing this function.

The facilities of trade associations and chambers of commerce receive more than adequate attention, the contributions of research and professional associations perhaps not enough, if consideration is taken of the comparative quality of their publications. On the other hand, the author no doubt had in mind that local chapters of trade associations are often the most accessible source of aid to business men, even though they publish nothing.

The outline of the kinds of information basic to appraisal of local areas (including primary sources of such information) is something beyond what this reviewer has come across anywhere else and should be most useful to students in marketing, business men and all those interested in the marketing research process. It adds to a field scantily covered in most bibliographic guides.

It is difficult to compare this book with others in the field. Coman's *Sources of Business Information* (1949) is out of date. Miss Manley's *Business Information* (1955) was based on public library experience and service and so conceived for a different purpose. This book does not, in intention, compete with the technical manuals such as *Government Statistics for Business Use*, by Hauser and Leonard (1956), *Measures of Business Changes*, by A. H. Cole (1952), or *Measuring Business Changes* by Richard Snyder (1955).

The paucity of the information given in some of the bibliographical citations is to be deplored. Often no address is given for associations and organizations. Some of the listings of services without issuing body are so fragmentary as to be useless as a guide to procurement. No prices are given. Omission of

such information is particularly unfortunate since many of the types of publications listed are not included in standard publishing lists.

On the whole, the book well fulfills its purpose as "an aid for those active in business and government, as well as for students in the field." In fact, the author seems unnecessarily modest when, after stating that "inclusion or exclusion [of information sources] was determined on the basis of the author's personal familiarity with publications and organizations and his accessibility to data," he adds that "the examples used as illustrations throughout the book do not necessarily represent the best or even the most important of their types." Why not? Mr. Wasserman is obviously well informed and well able to defend his selections, which are excellent.

The typography and format of this book are a credit to the Cornell University Press.—Janet Bogardus, Librarian, Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

The Classified Catalog

The Classified Catalog, Basic Principles. By Jesse H. Shera and Margaret E. Egan. With a Code for the Construction and Maintenance of the Classified Catalog, by Jeanette M. Lynn. Chicago, American Library Association, 1956. 130p. \$4.

It is always a pleasure to welcome a new addition to the material on librarianship. From the first notice to the profession in 1950 of a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation for a study of a classified catalog, librarians particularly interested in this problem, or in the potentialities of such a medium of control, awaited the results with interest. The study was instituted at the John Crerar Library in Chicago by Jesse H. Shera and Margaret E. Egan, with the cooperation of Herman Henkle, librarian. We have now the finished work which Mr. Henkle in his Foreword says will leave some unsatisfied, please others, but provide, he hopes, a useful study for those librarians interested in developing this type of catalog.

It is a useful and needed study, and although some may smile a little at the pontifical statement in the Foreword about becoming a better classifier by reading Chapter

Two, this in no way diminishes the merit of the work. In their Introduction the authors refer in most modest terms to their presentation of the general principles of logic that are contained in this Chapter Two. They suggest that a grasp of the principles will be of "material assistance to the classifier, yet readers who do not wish to undertake this discipline may readily omit . . ." It is not, however, wholly a question of willingness or non-willingness to undertake this reading—it seems to the reviewer quite proper to raise the point that while a grasp of the principles is essential it does not necessarily follow that a classifier would find the ideas here presented as meaningful as might be found in another work. The ideas are sound but they are not presented simply enough to fit the purpose of this book. For example, the Aristotelian and Kantian tables are given with no explanation of terms—such as the "Modality" of Kant. If the reader is well grounded in philosophy he doesn't need the tables; if he isn't they are relatively meaningless. Perhaps the most serious drawback is the failure to make clear the applications of the philosophical categories to the expression of divisions of knowledge in a library classification.

The work is divided into three major sections. The first is a presentation of the nature and functions of a library catalog; the second the résumé of philosophical principles underlying classification; and the third a discussion of the construction and maintenance of the classified catalog. Two appendices follow, one offering a suggested method for systematic analysis of materials and the second a bibliography.

Chapter One provides a synthesis of ideas and historical facts concerning objectives of catalogs, and arguments for and against traditional forms. This, of course, has been done to some extent in all handbooks of cataloging. It serves here to set the stage for this study and draw the attention of the librarian to the cogent points necessary for making a decision between a dictionary and a classified catalog.

Reference has been made above to the intent of the second chapter. Its Section Three, "Characteristics and Structure of the Literature," presents a series of questions which will help the librarian who has a sub-

ject field so intensely developed that the need for a special classification might well be considered. In the case of a general library with an already established system of subject control, the librarian who wishes to review his policies periodically will find this section equally useful.

Chapter Three, by Jeannette M. Lynn, which gives detailed directions for making a classified catalog, is the heart of this study. The observations, as stated in the Introduction, are based upon experiences with the Dewey Decimal classification, but the principles are so presented as to be applicable for any classification. They are applicable, in major part, although some fifteen years experience with the LC system, eight of which have been concentrated wholly in its application to a classified catalog, have provided experience that would indicate some of the conclusions or recommendations in this chapter would have been enriched by a working knowledge of what another classification can do in similar circumstances. For example, a numerical index, the reverse of the alphabetic subject index, is presented as a necessary corollary to the alphabetical index. This increases the cost of the indexing appreciably and may not be as necessary as it appears. In using a classification such as the LC where specificity of numbers without recourse to tables occurs more frequently than in the DC, it is possible to pin-point the "crowded" spots and rely on a partial numerical index depending on the judgment of the classifiers to recognize the crowded number and to provide a control for it. It is also true that it is possible to take a calculated risk and omit a numerical index in an institution where withdrawal of a complete subject field or even a relatively precise part of that field will probably not occur. The author implies that "See Also" references will be widely used. Some classifiers seriously question the value of any widespread use of "See Also" references, whether in a dictionary or in a classified catalog.

It is further suggested that regular routines be established for continuous revision and refinement of the classification system. Again, with the use of LC this is not usually required of the local classifier. The LC quarterly revisions *Classification—Additions and Changes*, provide a continuous source of new

numbers and expansions of subject fields. In recent months, for example, a librarian working with large masses of materials on the Near East or Africa has found the LC offering revisions and new numbers in quantity.

These examples are not cited to suggest that use of LC is best suited to the classified catalog, but they will, it is hoped, provide in some measure comparisons that may help in a consideration of the workability of one or the other of our major classification systems. As a practical consideration it is unlikely that any large library would be able or want to pioneer a new system for its entire collection, but it might wish to provide a complimentary medium of subject analysis for some areas, and in this case a comparison of the potentialities of LC and DC would be useful.

Finally, a word on the format and typography of this study. The cover has a simple and attractive design but the use of reproduction of typed copy with unjustified outer margins is regrettable. We are sacrificing a great deal to cost when as librarians we permit our works to be printed in an unattractive style. That it seems to be a financial necessity we may recognize, but if other readers are as annoyed as the reviewer with the bleakness of the appearance and the awkward way that every initial use of the letter I was followed by an off-line letter, it might be possible to get ALA to search for better methods of printing. In order, however, to avoid closing this review on a minor note, it seems only fair to repeat, this study has been needed, and the profession should be grateful to the Rockefeller Foundation for its interest and concern in promoting the examination and study of one medium of subject control that has been in partial eclipse for some time.—*Mary Darrah Herrick, Cheney Library, Boston University.*

Bibliography of Slavic

Periodicals

Bibliografija rasprava, clanaka i knjizevnih radovia. I Nauka o knjizevnosti. I/1 Knjizevnost openito. Teorija knjizevnosti. Uporedna knjizevnost. I/2 Historija jugoslavenskih knjizevnosti. A-K-Zagreb, Yugoslav-

ia: Leksikografski zavod FNRJ, 1956. XIII, 859p.

The Yugoslav Lexicographic Institute in Zagreb has published the first volume of that series of the monumental Yugoslav Encyclopaedia which will contain the bibliography of factual, polemical, critical, and literary articles. This first volume covers the bibliography of literature and is divided into two parts: (1) literature in general, theory of literature, and comparative literature (94 pages); and (2) the history of the South Slavic literatures, A-K (pages 95-677). There is also a subject index on pages 679-806, an index of pseudonyms and initials on pages 807-831, and an author index on pages 832-859. All pages are double-columned.

The purpose of this work is to provide a retrospective bibliography of works published in the periodicals in South Slavic languages from the end of the eighteenth century up to 1945, although the present volume ends with 1941. This was an enormous task, since the material is scattered in thousands of different periodicals published over some 150 years. Prior to publication it was necessary to classify each of the entries under an appropriate subject.

When complete, this bibliography will consist of about twenty-five volumes, of which the first fifteen will include: I-III, literature; IV-VII, Yugoslav literatures; VIII-XI, history; XII-XIII, philology and foreign literatures; XIV and XV, art and the theater. Only articles from periodicals (including scholarly and popular magazines, newspapers, annuals, almanacs, calendars, etc.) are included. Books were omitted, since another bibliography of Yugoslav books is in preparation and is scheduled for publication at an early date.

Most of the material included in this bibliography was published within the boundaries of modern Yugoslavia. However, some publications from foreign countries were also included, especially if written by Yugoslavs residing abroad or by foreigners especially interested in studies of Yugoslav history, culture or national characteristics.

Work on this bibliography was hampered by the difficulty of securing information on the date of publication of several periodicals. In the case of some periodicals it is possible