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Are Computer-Oriented Librarians Really Incompetent? Excerpts from the Proceedings of a LARC Meeting Held During the ALA Conference in Dallas, Texas. Library Automation Research and Consulting Association, Tempe, Ariz. 1971. 10p. (ED 056 701, MF—$0.65 HC—$3.29)

The May 1971 issue of *College & Research Libraries* featured an article by Dr. Ellsworth Mason which constitutes an all-out attack on the application of computer technology to library systems. Mason views the computer-based technology to library systems developed to date (at least the ones he has studied) as unqualified disasters from a cost benefit point of view and librarians who have made the decisions to implement them as naive, incompetent, and hypnotized by the siren songs of the computer industry. In conjunction with the American Library Association conference in Dallas, Texas, The Library Automation Research and Consulting Association (LARC Association) arranged to hold an informal discussion of Mason's charges. This paper presents excerpts of the proceedings.

Informal Communication Among Scientists: Proceedings of a Conference on Current Research. Ed. by Susan Crawford. American Medical Association, Chicago, Ill. Feb. 22, 1971. 50p. (ED 056 697, MF—$0.65 HC—$3.29)

On February 22, 1971, a meeting of investigators studying informal communication among scientists was held at the American Medical Association. The participants were limited to ten members in order to preserve a seminar-type format. The meeting was led by Derek Price, and Fred Strodtbeck, an authority on small groups, was invited as resource scientist. Besides a list of the participants, the "Proceedings" of the meeting include major presentations by Drs. Price and Strodtbeck, discussion of these papers, and resumes of work submitted by the attendants.

Materials Transfer: A Report of a Pilot Document Delivery Service, November 1969–June 1970. By Elizabeth Pan and Ron Miller. Five Associated University Libraries, Syracuse, N.Y. 1971. 52p. (ED 056 721, MF—$0.65 HC—$3.29)

The purpose of the FAUL Technical Memoranda (FTM) series is to disseminate quickly to librarians and information scientists the objectives, methods, procedures, analyses, conclusions, and recommendations relating to the performance of small projects in applied research. This report is an account of a study to develop a document delivery service between the Five Associated University Libraries (FAUL). The approach and activities of the Access Committee and the FAUL Central staff about materials and people movement among the libraries during the 1969–70 academic year are described. The primary objective of the experiment was to measure and compare the transportation modes under con-

sideration in terms of speed, cost per pound, and predictability. The results are presented in tables. An appendix summarizes the usage and costs of the service. The recommendation that the pilot system be extended from June 1970 until January 31, 1971, was followed; however, all the data requested in the recommendation were not collected and were not incorporated into the report.

A National Survey of the Public's Attitudes Toward Computers. Time, Inc., New York; American Federation of Information Processing Societies, Montvale, N.J. 1971. 51p. $5.00.

The general public's attitudes toward continually expanding computer usage is frequently speculated about but is far from understood. This study is aimed at providing objective data on the public's attitudes toward computers, their uses, their perceived impact on the American economy as well as on the individual, and their future uses. The report discusses selected data but these are intended to be illustrative of rather than a definitive summary of major results. Survey results are based on 1,001 telephone interviews with a statistically drawn probability sample of the population (adults, 18 years and over) of the United States. Thus, it is believed that the figures presented can be extrapolated with a reasonable degree of accuracy to the entire American adult population. Although attitude studies are subject to a wide variety of interpretations, it is believed that this study is a significant step forward in the search for a better understanding of the public point of view on computers.

Widening the Circle, Libraries for Tomorrow; Interim Report of the Governor's Task Force to Study Library Services in Maine. Governor's Task Force to Study Library Services in Maine, Augusta. 1971. 36p. (ED 056 738, MF—$0.65 HC—$3.29)

The Governor's Task Force to Study Library Services in Maine were directed to accomplish three tasks: (1) survey the present resources and services of the state, public, college, school, and special libraries

in Maine and evaluate these resources and services in terms of identified needs; (2) determine ways in which libraries, their services and resources, may be improved and coordinated at all levels to assure equal access for all citizens to their educational and cultural benefits; and (3) recommend action by which the state can encourage and effect development of library service indicated by the study. This interim report summarizes the findings of the Task Force regarding library resources, services, and principal needs. It then outlines the elements of a library service concept based on the library as a means of access to the full body of library resources in the state. As the first step toward translation of this concept into explicit recommendations for state action, it recommends the development of new library service standards for Maine.

College Bibliocentre Acquisition and Accounting System Operating Manual. College Bibliocentre, Don Mills, Ontario. 1971. 54p. (ED 056 691, MF—$0.65 HC—$3.29)

The Acquisition and Accounting System has been programmed and tested, and is currently running in parallel with the manual operations. Implementation is taking place in planned stages so as to ensure a smooth takeover and to enable staff to familiarize themselves with a number of different approaches to their work. As would be expected, the workload has increased considerably, but it is to be hoped that the extra effort will pay off in terms of maximum effectiveness of the operating system. The ultimate purpose of this manual is to illustrate the reports that the Community Colleges will be receiving, to describe their content, and to provide the means for interpreting the information. The manual is divided into four sections. Section I summarizes the Acquisition and Accounting System from the machine standpoint by means of flowcharts and accompanying narratives. Section II describes the operating environment. Section III shows the reports the Colleges are to receive and Section IV outlines the administrative and housekeeping reports of the College Bibliocentre.