BIBLIOS REVISITED

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In the following, Orange County Public Library's earlier reports on its BIBLIOS system are updated. Book catalog and circulation control modules are detailed, development and operation costs documented, and a cost comparison for acquisitions cited.

"In 1968 ALA began publishing, through its Information Science and Automation Division, a Journal of Library Automation. It is perhaps appropriate to note that in the first three quarterly issues only one public library project was described (1), and this was a project under contemplation, not one actually in operation." (2) This statement by Dan Melcher to substantiate his contention that library automation is suspect is, in itself, suspect. The public library project alluded to as being contemplated in 1968 was brought to fruition by Orange County (California) Public Library in 1969, and has functioned with startling success ever since. In addition, the finished system was reported to the library (3) and data processing (4) worlds in 1969 and 1970 respectively.

Orange County Public Library's BIBLIOS (Book Inventory Building Library Information Oriented System) is a system designed to fulfill all functional requirements of a multibranch library which is growing by leaps and bounds (5). Specifically these functional requirements are: acquisitions, book processing, catalog maintenance, circulation control, and book fund accounting, in addition to management reporting on a level not practical

in a manual system.

THE FUNCTIONAL SYSTEM

The interrelation of these system elements is shown diagramatically in Figure 1. Briefly and from a user's point of view, the system works like this:

A title is desired by someone, patron or staff member. The person refers to the book catalog, Figure 2, to see if the item is in the collection. If it is and not in circulation, he gets the book directly. If the item is in circulation, he can submit a request for it—to receive the book on its return. To update the catalog, a cumulative supplement is produced, keeping current the listing of the library's holdings. If the title is not found in the catalog or supplement, the monthly cumulative on order list, Figure 3, is consulted. If the title is listed, a request is submitted and, on receipt and processing, the book is released to the requester. If the title is cancelled, the requester is notified.

When a title wanted for the collection is not listed in either the catalog or the cumulative on-order list, a bibliographic information sheet (BIS), Figure 4, is completed and optically scanned into the system. This information is essentially a pre-cataloging bibliographic description of the desired material. Once entered, these same data serve first to create purchase orders and related reports; then, once edited by the catalogers from the book in hand, to create book card and pocket sets (Figure 5), book catalog entries, shown in Figure 2, holding lists (shelf lists) for each branch, and a broad array of operational reports. It is a feature of BIBLIOS that the descriptive data (from the BIS) are entered in their entirety only once. This means that a bibliographic description need not be initialized by each individual using it; rather, it need only be consulted and, if necessary, corrected or deleted. Thus, an entry once in the system is immediately available for, among other purposes, ordering. This is especially significant since it means that each entry in the book catalog, the catalog supplement, the cumulative on-order list, etc., can be ordered against by simply using the key number for the desired item and the number assigned to the branch wishing to order. This poses the possibility of orders for materials which are OP or otherwise not readily available through the usual vendor channels. BIBLIOS addresses these potential errors by listing (pre-vend list, Figure 6) all order requirements for review before they are used to create orders. By editing this list against Books in Print and/or publishers' catalogs and taking corrective action, orders for the unobtainable are short-stopped.

On placing an order, while a unique subpurchase order number is mechanically created, the key number continues to document the title for processing purposes. In this role the key number follows the order until it is filled or cancelled. Thus, the key is used by BIBLIOS to update inventory automatically on receipt of an order and to create the card and pocket sets for those materials received. Finally, the key number is used by the branches to report inventory changes and, as a subset of inventory, for circulation control.

Since it is through the key number (or key, for short) for a bibliographic citation that the citation is used in the various functions performed by BIBLIOS, perhaps a little detail concerning the key is in order.

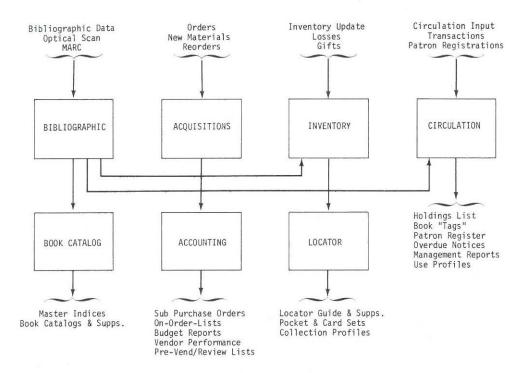


Fig. 1. BIBLIOS—The functional system.

THE KEY NUMBER

In Figure 2, the key for 73084452 has been underlined. The key number resembles the LC card order number. Wherever an LC card order number is available, it is used. When no LC card order number is available, a unique Orange County (OC) number is applied. The OC number consists of two alphabetic characters in the first two positions (at one time the numbers implied year) of the "traditional" number followed by a six-digit sequential number. Since the Library of Congress has certain idiosyncracies about its card order number, the key also specifies the type of material it represents (for example, only book keys are in the book catalog), and identifies each volume, or edition, of a title which has a blanket LC card order number.

The selection of the LC card order number for this application was based on a suspicion that the bulk of materials in the collection were already

ADULT CATALOG '71 CUMULATIVE SUPPLEMENT 7 AUTHOR-TITLE SECTION

Ward, Ritchie. The Living Clocks. Drawings by Hollett Smith Alfred A. Knopf. 1971 385p Index B/W Illus Photos 574.1 77111247	 Original T. P. Reads Williamsburg. Printed; London. Reprinted for T. Jefferys 1754. Covers the Period from Oct. 175 to Jan. 1754 University Microfilms. 1966 32p No Index Maps
Wanda Fundanial D	
Warde, Frederick B. Fifty Years of Make Believe. By Frederick Warde International Pr. Syndicate 1920	973.26 66026314-00: Washington International Arts Letter Editor Grants and Aid to Individuals in the Arts
FICTION 21008154 Wardropper, Bruce W. Editor	Containing Listings of Most Professional Awards, and Information About Colleges Universities and Prof. Schools of the Arts by the Editors of the Washingto
Bruce W. Wardropper Appleton-Century. 1971 353p For Lang Poetry Collection Bibliog	Intl. Arts Letter. Paperback Wash. Int. Arts Letter. 1970 75p No Index R378.34 7011269! Waskow, Arthur I.
Ware, Clyde. The Eden Tree. Touchstone Publishing	The Freedom Seder. A New Haggadah to Passover Holt. Rinehart. Winsto. 1970 56p B/W Illus
FICTION AA013079 Warmack, Oliver J.	296.437 7910355: Wasley, Ruth. Bead Design. A Comprehensive Course to Beginner and Experienced Craftsman b
2.7 Pub. by the Author. 1969 120p No Index 200 77013647-001	Ruth Wasley and Edith Harris Crown 1970 216p Index B W Illus Col Illu Photos 746.5
	Warde International Pr. Syndicate. 1920 310p FICTION 21008154 Wardropper, Bruce W. Editor Spanish Poetry of the Golden Age. Edited by Bruce W. Wardropper Appleton-Century. 1971 353p For Lang Poetry Collection Bibliog SP861.08 78132806 Ware, Clyde. The Eden Tree. Touchstone Publishing Company 1971 357p FICTION AA013079 Warmack, Oliver J. The Mystery of Iniquity. Volume 1. 2 Thess. 2.7 Pub. by the Author. 1969 120p No Index

Fig. 2. A book catalog page featuring four columns.

assigned a number, a suspicion which was confirmed on completion of conversion through simple reporting of the keys on file. In short, after fifty years of operation of Orange County's libraries, 92 percent of all titles in the collection had an "LC number," a factor one might weigh when trying to decide between ISBN and LC card order number; nor has it been indicated that ISBN's will be developed retrospectively.

AN UPDATE TO THE SYSTEM

In the paper presented to the American Society for Information Science in 1969 (6), neither the book catalog nor the circulation control modules had been implemented.

Book Catalog

In May 1971, the first edition of BIBLIOS book catalog was released for public use. Since that date, the cumulative supplement has been run six times. The module of BIBLIOS producing the book catalog and cumulative supplement is diagrammed in Figure 7. Input is the title-master file (the system's bibliographic data base) and a specification of the output required. The output options available to the library include the production of either a full catalog or a cumulative supplement (displaying all entries placed on file since production of the full catalog which have been edited by cataloging). In the case of full catalog production, the title-master file is updated to reflect the use of all qualifying entries for catalog production and the date of their use. This updating facilitates cumulative supplement production by precluding the use of these entries from display until the next full catalog run.

In addition to the type catalog (full or supplement), the library designates the format of the output. Either an off-line print-out or a print file designed to drive a mechanical photocomposition device, or both, can be requested. It is important to note that this print file is designed specifically to be hardware independent, e.g., it will run on RCA, Photon, Alphanumeric, or comparable equipment with equal ease. Hardware independence in its simplest terms means the computer program does not have to be rewritten each time a vendor goes out of business. And, coincidentally, this print file is in the sequence it is to be displayed in. In short, the vendor only performs that processing necessary to make his device set type to the library's specification for layout, font style, and font size—a specification, it might be added, which calls for upper- and lower-case type from a file in upper-case only.

This approach differs from what has become typical of book catalog production in that sorting, file maintenance, and all related processing are sustained by the library through BIBLIOS. The vendor only sets type, prints, and binds. The results spell savings since a potentially error-laden file does not have to be committed to the most expensive of all displays, photocomposition, before corrections can be made.

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LB201404 CUMULATIVE ON-ORDER LIST
                 MEDIA O1 BOUK
           AUTHOR
                                                                                                      TITLE
                                                                                                     MY BEST FRIEND
             WIDERBERG, SIV
       WIDMER, KINGSLEY
WIER, ESTER
WIEST, J. / LEVY, F. MANAGEM NT GUIDE TO PERT-
WILCOX, LESLIE A. ANSON'S VOYAGE
           WILDER, LAURA (INGALLS) BY THE SHORES OF SILVER L
WILK, MAX WIT AND WISDOM OF HOLLYWO
           WILKERSON, DAVID
           WILKERSON, DAVID
WILKES, BILL ST. JOHN
WILKINSON, PAUL H.
WILKINSON, RUPERT
WILKINSON, RUPERT
WILKINSON, RUPERT
CROSS AND THE SWITCHBLADE
NAUTICAL ARCHAEDLOGY
AIRCRAF ENGINES OF THE W
PREVENTION OF DRINKING PR
        WILKINSON, RUPERT
        WILLARDS, MILDRED WILDS LUCK OF HARRY WEAVER WILLCOX, DONALD MUDERN LEATHER DESIGN
      WILLCOX, DONALD MODERN LEATHER DESIGN WILLCOX, DONALD NEW DESIGN IN JEWELRY
         WILLIAMS, DONALD
WILLIAMS, BRAD
WILLIAMS, COLIN
                                                                               LOST LECENDS OF THE WEST
HOMOSEXUALS AND THE MILIT
                                                                                                    MODD DESIGN
           WILLIAMS, GARTH
WILLIAMS, JAY
          WILLIAMS, ETHEL W.
     WILLIAMS, JAY
WILLIAMS, JOHN G.
WILLIAMS, JOHN G.
WILLIAMS, JOYCE
WILLIAMS, MILLER
WILLIAMS, MILLER
WILLIAMS, ROBERT M.
WILLIAMS, TENNESSEE
WILLIAMS, TENNESSEE
WILLIAMS, URSULA MORAY
WILLIAMS, URSULA MORAY
WILLIAMS, URSULA MORAY
WILLIAMS, WARREN W.
WILLIAMS, WARREN W.
WILLIS, F. ROY
WILLSON- EARWAY
WI
            WILSON, EDMUND
                                                                                                       UPSTATE
            HILSON, ELLEN JANET (CAME AMERICAN PAINTER IN PARIS
           WILSON, ERICA
WILSON, H. W., FIRM, PUBL FICTION CATALOG FOR 1970
           WILSON, IRA G. WHAT COMPUTERS CAN NOT DO WILSON, JEAN WEAVING IS FUN
           WILSON, JEAN
            WILSON, JUHN ROWAN BARRINGTON HAVE FAITH
                                                                                                       HAVE FAITH WITHOUT FEAR
            WINCHELL, CONSTANCE MABEL GUIDE T REFERENCE BOOKS,
           WINDCHY, EUGENE C.
                                                                                                        TONKIN PULF
                                                                                           PLAYGRO P BOOK
            WINN, MARIE
                                                                                                    WINTERIS TALES 16, 1970
            WINTERIS TALES
    WINTERBURN, MOLLIE

WINTERS, DONALD L.

WINTERS, DONALD L.

WIRTENBERG, PATRICIA Z.

WISE, ARTHUR

WISE, HERBERT ALVIN

WISE, SIDNEY T.

WITHERS, CARL

WINTERS, CARL

WINTERS, CARL

WINTERS, CARL

WINTERS, MOLLIE

TECHNIQUE GF HANDBUILT POLICY

HENRY C'NTWELL WALLACE AS

ALL-ARDUND-THE-HOUSE ART

WHO KILLED ENOCH POWELL

GREAT TILES OF TERROR / T

INVEST END RETIRE IN MEXI

AMERICA. RIDDLE BUOK
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           WITHERS, CARL
                                                                                               AMERICA. RIDDLE BUDK
SUMMARY OF CALIFORNIA LAW
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Fig. 3. All outstanding titles are reported in the monthly cumulative onorder list.

DRANGE COUNT	TY PUBL	IC LI	BRAKY
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10-04-71 PAGE- 68

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	SUB PO NBR			PTL	LIST
LC-DC NUMBER	LB DRDER ND	VENDOR	QTY	CD	PRICE
	71077077/7	0.7	0.0		
72114229	7127707747	ET	2.2		3.86
AA011448	7117908249	BRO	4		7.00
75136008	7127705427	BRD	5		3.95
AA011253	7113002633	BRO	1		4.95
73125589	7127700303	BRO	1		8.95
39027949	7117918536	PKW	1		2.80
73124983	7122105261	· BRD	23		7.95
63009442	7125600790	BRO	1		4.95
77159558	7127703436	BRD	4		7.95
41013397070	7122106980	Cit	2		25.00
78083057	7109704020	BRO	8		10.00
72131147	7122107263	BT	12		4.50
69017667	7125602394	BRO	1		12.50
79126870	7122103587	BRO	3		7.50
65012400	7127705530	BRD	1		8,95
.70080368	7127702979	BRD	1		5.95
AA011209	7125605046	BT	2		8.95
60015252	7127702742	BRO	1		5.00
57004312	7122100631	BRD	1		3.30
71136987	7122104431	BRD	16		3.47
73146203	7125601188	BKD	1		3.95
AA012052	7122100095	BRO	1		1.35
76122786	7125602623	BRD	1		4.95
AA017727	7116109875	CH	2		10.00
63013641	7125605433	BT	1		3.75
79102411	7127700637	BRO	7		3.80
79152875	7127704868	SKO	16		3.80
AA017711	7116108965	CH	20		6.50
75083024	7127702651	BRU	1		8.50
75143302	7125603013	BRD	.1		8.95
70149223	7125600143	BRU	. 6		4.95
62009637	7127701161	BKD	1		7.50
09035044070	7125609788	ЫI	26		25.00
73112925	7122117088	PRW	13		6.95
AA013577	7127708884	BT	11		8.95
72150928	7125607/64	DD	9		6.95
77124690	7125603013	вТ	6		3.95
AA006785067	7117903415	BRD	2		4.00
AA012355	7125608130	DD	4		6.95
67013391	7127711323	CHA	1		4.95
55013394071	7127708931	BT	3		5.95
AA017794	7116104869	038	4		10.00
76630795	7127707032	87	2		8,95
68028053	7122100197	680	1		5.00
76148431	7125603651	BRO	4		5.95
48005552	7127702071	BRD	ì		4.95
AA017085	7117918194	DRN	27		1.95
53010845	7127705905	BT	3		3.50
60004794169	7122109607	CH	3		25.00
00004174888888107	1166103001	417	2		23.00
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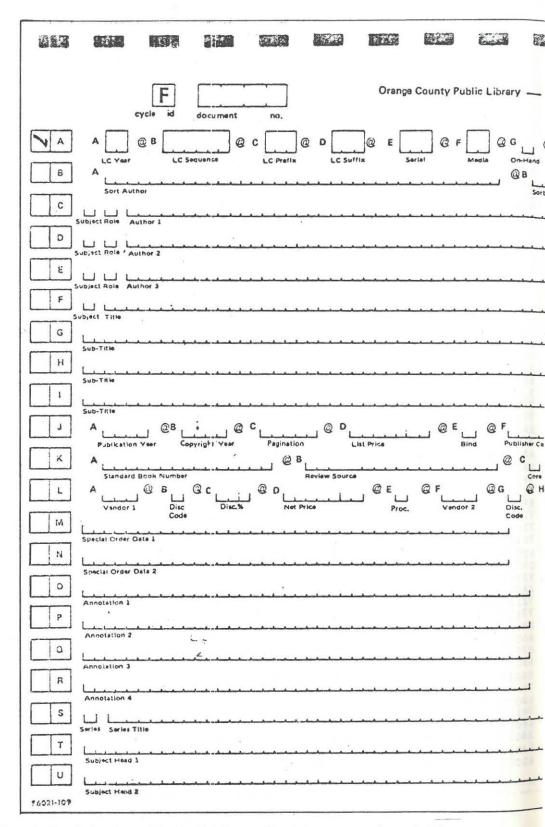
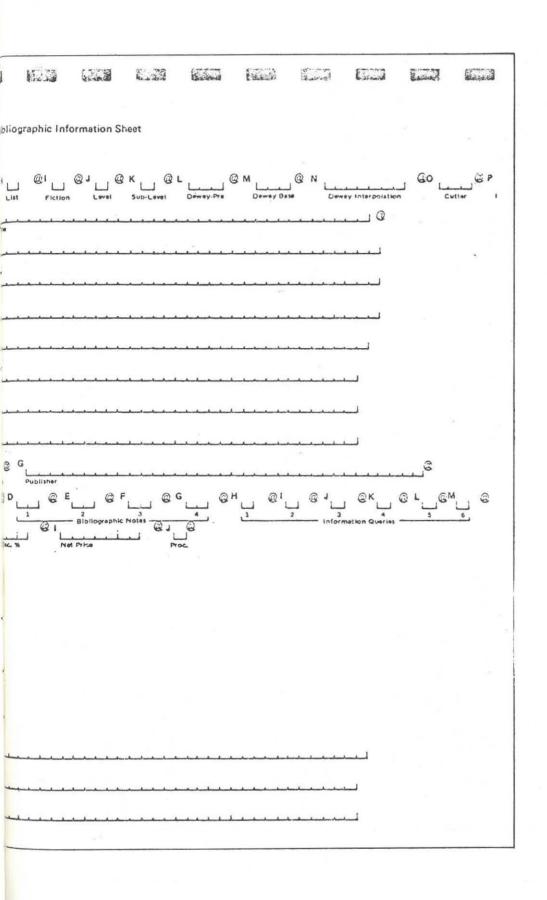


Fig. 4. It all begins with the bibliographic information sheet (BIS).



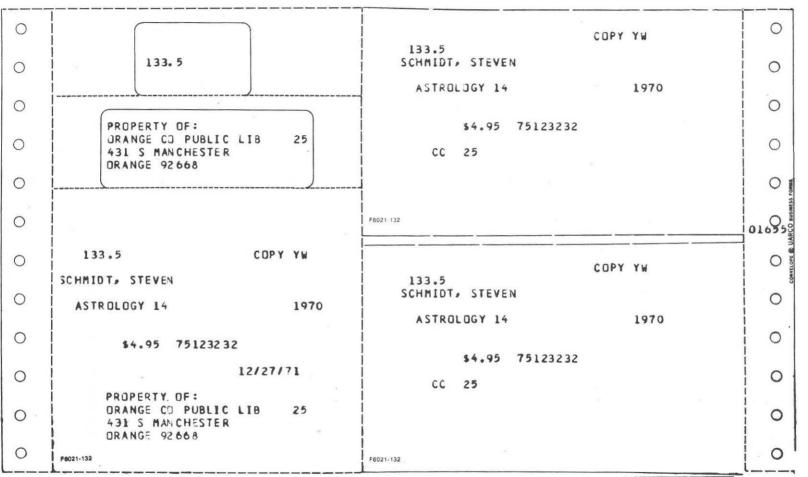


Fig. 5. Pocket, circulation cards, spine label, and property stamp are machine-generated for each addition to inventory (reduced by 20 percent).

Holdings data are not included in the Book Catalog. Holdings are displayed separately in the locator guide (Figure 8), where the key for each item in the book catalog which has inventory is listed in concert with the numbers for these branches holding the item and, when more than one copy is held, the number of copies. The locator guide is kept current with a cumulative supplement which lists all changes to inventory. This approach, rather than displaying holdings in the book catalog, was chosen for a variety of reasons. First, it makes little sense to display strictly numeric data which lend themselves to tightly packed typography in a format designed for text and for which a premium page rate is being paid. Second, inventory data are volatile for a multibranch library. The holdings of any given branch vary significantly from month to month due to patron losses, acquisitions, gifts, etc. In addition, holdings (inventory) shifts are fostered by a standing policy that titles not being used extensively at one branch be reassigned to another branch to fill a known requirement.

While the locator guide tracks the holdings for all titles in the collection, BIBLIOS also creates holdings lists (Figure 9) for each branch. These lists display, in shelf-list sequence, the materials in each branch's collection. In use, they replace the traditional shelf list (and related filing) at the individual branch as well as facilitating periodic full branch inventory to maintain the accuracy of the inventory master file. Reporting, for inventory

purposes, uses the key number for the affected items.

Circulation Control

Where the book catalog and allied subsystem components have been successfully implemented, circulation control (for lack of a device to economically capture circulation transaction data) has not. An economical data collection unit designed for libraries has not been developed to date by any major manufacturer. In those cases where a machine having the necessary characteristics is offered, it invariably is the product of an undercapitalized firm which promptly goes broke after demonstrating its prototype. The result of this "state of the hardware art" is that the ten fully coded and tested programs in the BIBLIOS circulation control subsystem have been shelved.

Operational, though not operating, this subsystem which is shown diagramatically in Figure 10, draws on the two major data bases maintained by BIBLIOS, the Title-Master and Inventory Master Files. For implementation, the manual registration files now resident in the branches would have to be converted, and book tags or cards would have to be generated and placed with their respective volumes. When these requirements are satisfied, the only remaining input would be circulation transactions created from "marked book" (7), patron card, and the yet-to-bemarketed transactor. These data elements would be patron number, key number, branch number, and Julian date. The method used to capture this transaction input could take any of a broad array of formats (punched

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	\bigcirc	LB20J702 PRE-VEND LIST			DRANG	E COUN
	\circ	PARALLAN LUCELPHA STAL			- And the first part	MEDIA
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	0	74160871 1 RUDDFSKY, BERNARD UNFASHIONABLE HUMAN BODY	N	A		14,95
		73163093 1 RUNYDN, CHARLES W. PIG-WORLD	F	Δ		4,95
	0	76160353 1 RYCK, FRANCIS	F	Δ		4,95
	0	AAO12421 1 SACK, JOHN LIEUTENANT CALLEY	N	A		5,95
	0	77125906 1 SANDERS, ED. FAMILY	N	A		6,95
	0	AAO13111 1 SANDERSUN, IVAN TERENCE U. 5, A.	N	A		12,95
		61014215 1 SANDOZ, MARI THESE WERE THE SIOUX	Ŋ	J	R	3,50
	0	AA010485 3 SANTESSON, HANS STEFAN DAYS AFTER TOMURROW	F	J		5,95
	0	AA010476 1 SASEK, MIRUSLAV ESTO ES SAN FRANCISCO	N	J		2.16
	0	AAO10477 1 SASEK, MIRDSLAV ESTD ES WASHINGTON, D. C.	N	J		2.16
	<u>O</u>	65019787 1 SASEK, MIRDSLAV THIS IS HONG KONG	N	J	R	4.95
	0	59016286 1 SASEK, MIRDSLAV THIS IS PARIS	N	J	R	3,94
	0	74171270 1 SAXTON, JUSEPHINE GROUP FEAST	F	A		4,95
	0					

Fig. 6. Before producing a sub-P.O., the pre-vend list is checked for O.P. materials, among other things.

y Pl	BLIC LIBRARY		DATE	- 11-08-71	PAGE	- 44
01	BOOK					
ĬΑ	PUBLISHER SPECIAL ORDER DATA	NATE	VDR CD	D DISC	NET	PR AV
3	BARNES-NOBLE ECONOMICS	1971	*BRO BT	A		
4	DOUBLEDAY	1971	*DD	A		
5	DOUBLEDAY SF	1971	*00	A		e
9	STEIM-DAY	1971	#BRU BŢ	A		
2	VIKING PRESS	1971	#BT BRD	A	4	
3	E. P. DUTTON	1971	#BT BRO	A		
2	RAND MCNALLY	1971	*BRO	A	4 V01	
1	HASTINGS HOUSE	1961	BT *BRO	A		
13	LITTLE, BROWN JLG DISTRIBUTED BY DUUBLE	1971	#BT BRO	C		
9	HOLINO PROYECTO-LEER URDER DEPT.	1970 BRU_DART		A		
10	MULINO PROYECTO-LEER DROEK DEPT.	1970 BRO-DART		С	(++2) (+124	
1	WYCWILLVH-NA	1965	*CH	C		e ar y ann ann a
1	MACMILLAN-NY	1959	# СН	Ċ		
6	DOUBLEDAY	1971	#DD	A		

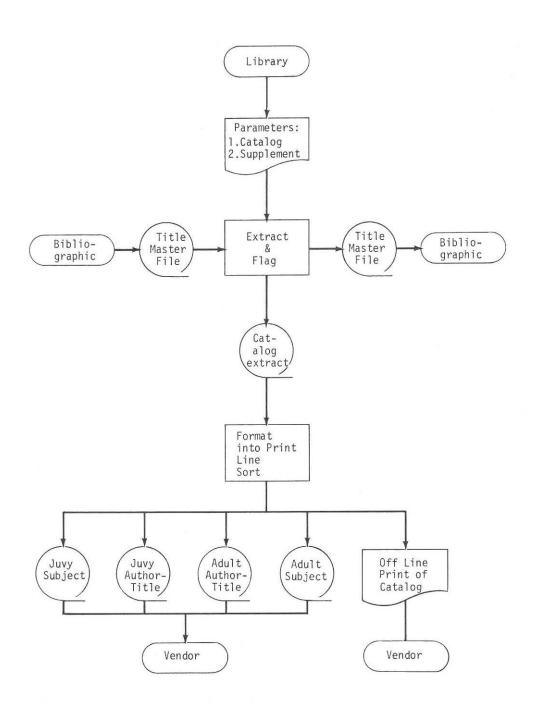


Fig. 7. BIBLIOS book catalog subsystem.

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520128	16 0	2 11	14	21	22	23	24 25	52013140	- 002 63			52013548	02-2 14	21 25 26	27 45	52013799 2	4 42						
	2	6 27	32	35	56-2	61	63	52013175	11				61			52013827 2	1						
520128	46 0	2.3	1 1	3 1	4 15	21	22	52013192	02-2 13 14	21 22 23	24-2	52013550	02 14 21	32 42	63	52013828 1	2 28	36 4	2 63	3			
	2	3 24	.3 2	5 2	6-2	27 2	28		25 26 27-2			52013559	02 11 14	22 24	25 27 28	52013829 4	1						
	3	2.2	35 4	1 4	2 52	56	61		45 52 56 (51 63			35 56 6			52013836 6	1						(
	6	3						52013193	12			52013565	45			52013845 1	4						
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520128	99 2	1 54	61					52013252	02 11 13	4 21 22	23	52013634	14 21 25	28 35-2	61	52013879-0	03 0	1 11	14 2	1 22	23		
520129	02 4	5							24-2 25 26			52013640	21			2	4 27	28 3	32 42	56	61		
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520129	05 2	8 35	52					52013253	21 24 25 1	7 45 61			28 32 36	41 42-2	45 56	52013881 2	6 61						
520129	06 0	2.2	1 1	2 2	4 25	26	27	52013255	11 24 32	-			61 63			52013904 1	2						
	6	8 32	42	52	56-2	61		52013258	21			52013647	11 28 36			52013912 0	1 14	21 2	2 23	24	26	27	
520129								52013263				52013648	61			2	8 32	35 4	15 56	61			
520129									02-2 11 14	15 21 22	24	52013649	41			52013935 2	6						
520129			25						25 26-2 27			52013657	02			52013939 1		22 2	24 26	27	32	35	
520129									41 42 45 6			52013659				3							
520129			25					52013268		13(37)		52013663	42			52013940 1	3						
520129								52013287	63			52013669	13 52			52013941 2	5						
520129								52013288				52013675				52013968 0	1						
520129			2 2	8 6	3				02 11 14 2	4 25 26-2	35-2	52013677				52013969-0							
520129									42 45 56 6				22-2 23			52013969-0							
520129			24	32	35	61 6	3	52013291				1	32 35 4	~	52 54 56	52013969-0	03 02	2 61	_				
520129	49 2 51 2					-	-	520132	11 14				-		-	~ V1 2	6	/		-	-		

Fig. 8. If a title listed in the book catalog has inventory, the key, branch number, and copy count are displayed in the locator guide.



Fig. 9. The maintenance of manual shelflists is obviated by a BIBLIOS-produced holdings list for each branch.

COSTA MESA	07/01/71		PAGE	341
ON-FICTION				
TLE	R	S	NBR LC/OC NBR	
			67017872	
	:		61016665	
CARD FROM ANOTHER			64015641	
CARD THE RECEIVED			63025374	
LETE CASINO GUIDE			66023116	
EGY FOR THE GAME OF TWENTY ONE			66012019	
KS	:		58005566	
MPGROUNDS REV ED			60001380	
THE CHECKES INC.			62008215	
			29000805A	
			88091802	
COORTS STORIES			68025594	
SPORTS STORIES			62015934 53006862	
OR GIRLS AND WOMEN	*		60007465	
The second secon			38003909	
PEDIA			61019409	
	*		60013658	
			57011288	
S			64019529	
3			67026079	
			66019433	
IRTS			61010232	
	*		63021480	
961			63016506 45035124	
963			45035124	
964			45035124	
966			45035124	
70			45035124	
V CAMES			65021807 49008127	
K GAMES	*		68031281	
KER			58003667	TO THE OWNER
			BBC 40004	
	*		66025876	
LL GUIDE 1965 1966	*		88090177	
IP HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL	:		62011346	• • • •
HARD WAY			67011223	
			66014357	
			AA010179	
CTON	*		60012110	
SION	- :		64020856	
			62022305	
ERBACK			65022618	
			62005250	
	*		62018326	
	*		64019933 2 63016799	• • • •
	•		5 03010144	• • • •

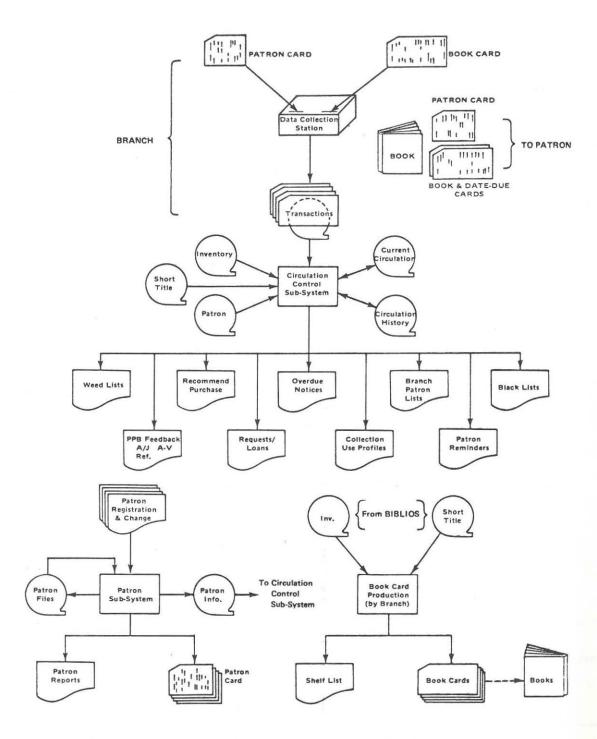


Fig. 10. BIBLIOS circulation control subsystem.

cards, cassette, or mini-reels). Ideally, the elusive transactor should be

able to "read" a label on the book as well as a patron card.

Kimball labels, "Sunburst" tags, magnetically coded swatches and the like have worked and continue to work in the retail trade; there is no reason why they shouldn't work for libraries. The only deterrent seems to be the reticence of their manufacturers to enter an unknown market where, following the Melcher axiom, they are met with a "stubborn, 'show me' attitude when automation is proposed." (8)

The products designed into the circulation control module include: weed lists, patron "black lists," circulation profiles (graphically displaying patron use of each branch's collection), and automatic duplicate ordering. Reports measure circulation from a manager's viewpoint, but not to the exclusion of such bread-and-butter products as overdue notices, registration lists, and

related statistical recapitulations.

A WORD ABOUT DOCUMENTATION

For each program in each subsystem of BIBLIOS, forty unique programs in all, there is a formal package consisting of:

1. A program specification detailing the inputs, processing, outputs, idiosyncracies, and edits of that program;

2. A listing of the COBOL program itself;

- 3. An operations binder (notebook) section for set-up and run procedures:
- 4. A user's guide section relating requirements and diagnostics to the librarians using the program including typical problems; and,

5. Assorted total system binders (notebooks).

While some might think "overkill," in automation this is not the case. The BIBLIOS system has yet to fail a scheduled commitment. Further, it is suspected that the mere discipline of documentation caused many serious reconsiderations of program and procedural logic, at the time and on the spot, with the result that BIBLIOS is a reliable system—requiring no major rework and continuing to respond to the library's functional requirements for over two years at this writing.

A WORD ABOUT DEVELOPMENT COSTS

Both developmental and operational costs for BIBLIOS are known and documented. Specifically, the costs to procure such a system are broken out in Table 1, where each subsystem is examined in terms of the dollars it represents and the assorted tasks required to bring it into being. The totals represent all costs over approximately a three-year period beginning with rough specifications and yielding the first book catalog.

It must be noted that final program specifications and coding were performed for Orange County by a contractor. This approach was chosen, since a good job done on time was wanted. That the approach was valid is

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Table 1. BIBLIOS development costs (including full conversion and publication of first book catalog).

							2
Contractor	MARC	Bibliographic Inventory	Book Catalog Locator Guide	Acquisitions	Circulation	Total	ournal c
Program Specifications & Coding	\$16,686	\$ 54,299	\$ 25,800	\$ 72,305	\$ 91,000	\$260,090	of Library
Orange Co. Public Library							Aut
Analyst	3,360	7,840	2,240	14,560	7,000	35,000	Automation
Coordination	1,225	7,679	818	5,310	5,670	20,702	ition
Implementation (K.P., Machine Time, Etc.)	4,772	12,263	4,635	7,879	10,110	39,659	Vol
Conversion/Outside Services	800	53,500	41,370			95,670	5/2
Subtotal	10,157	81,282	49,063	27,749	22,780	191,031	June,
TOTAL	\$26,843	\$135,581	\$ 74,863	\$100,054	\$113,780	\$451,121	1972

evidenced by the achievement of a successful system on schedule and within budget. This approach reflects a contention that librarians can specify their requirements if they "have a mind to," and that a contracted programming staff can satisfactorily perform to predetermined standards and timeframes if properly directed. In direct contrast to this approach are the incredible schedules developed when requirements are not specified (and frozen), and the suspected monumental costs hidden in lost staff time due to extended parallel operations or simply waiting until "they" get the "...thing" to run right.

The remaining cost components, briefly, reflect direct library analyst time, the cost of coordination meetings, direct key punch and machine time for programs, their test, debug, string test, systems test, and for the bibliographic and book catalog, subsystems conversion and catalog print file generation. The conversion/outside services include a MARC subscription, the creation and use of a group of nine typists to optically scan the library's files to convert them to machine readable form (including error correction), and the contracted services of a photoreproduction house to mechanically compose, print, bind, and deliver 500 sets of the book catalog and 100 sets of the locator guide. These are the costs of setting the system up, staff training, and creating a single operational display: the book catalog.

A WORD ABOUT OPERATING COSTS

Early in 1965, as a prelude to implementing a book acquisition program, a time/cost study was performed to determine how much it cost the library to order a book (one title). This study detailed and costed the typing, sorting, assignment of vendors, and the reduction of a diversity of paper requisite to creating a purchase order. Excluding the cost of the purchase order form itself, the direct manual cost for this process was \$1.56 per title, using a clerical rate of \$2.10 per hour. In the intervening years three things have happened:

First, clerical rates have increased to \$2.79 per hour which when applied to the unit cost of the 1965 acquisitions study means a direct outlay of \$2.07

per title (as against the previous \$1.56).

Second, the number of branches has increased which implies that, if the manual system of 1965 could cope with the increased load, it would have required more people and therefore an increase in indirect costs, not to mention the probability of less efficiency due to increased direct costs.

Third, Orange County has automated this function (as well as others). Since Orange County is wont to track costs, it so happens that the cost for creating a purchase order (subpurchase order under the new system) is available. Specifically, Orange County knows computer and peripheral costs and the exact time for processing from actual billings over the past two years. The reduction of these data to a per-unit-handled equivalent, while detailed, is not difficult. Thus, it is possible to deduce the machine costs

Table 2. Typical processing costs for one title in Orange County Public Library's BIBLIOS system.

	MARC			Acq	uisitions²	Book Catalog				
	(Weekly)	Bibliographic	c¹ Inventory	Order	Receive ³	B.C.	Inventory			
Run Cost	\$325.16	\$300.40	\$201.21	\$1244.94	\$238.55	\$238.00	\$26.00			
Average Items Per Period	1154	1,000	8,100	Order	700 Receive	4000				
Cost/Entry	2.83	0.30	0.025	\$1.78	\$0.34	0.059	0.0006			
Supplies	0.13		0.028	\$.05	(Sub P.O.)					
Services		0.02 (Opscan)	(Convelope)	.06	(Opscan)	0.041 (Comp/Print)	0.0028 (Comp/Print)			
TOTAL	\$2.96	\$0.32	\$0.053	\$1.89	\$0.34	\$.10	\$0.0034			

Example:

Cost of entry from initial input to display in book catalog (including Convelope; excluding MARC source: \$2.77).

 ^{40%} Bibliographic.
 60% Bibliographic.
 Includes invoice, vendor, and budget displays.
 If all new entries to system came from MARC.

equitable to those for the earlier manual effort: creating a purchase order for one title, including the purchase order form, now costs \$1.89.

Similar economies can readily be documented as can the increases in service to our patrons at no increase in staff. The operating costs for those BIBLIOS subsystems in regular use are given in Table 2. Only two entries on this table are not self-explanatory.

MARC

MARC, which is indicated as processed weekly, has not been run for over a year. The explanation is simple economics. It costs \$0.32 to manually place a bibliographic description on file (excluding the time spent to circle an entry in Publishers' Weekly (PW) vs. \$2.96 to process the same entry from MARC. This cost for MARC includes the subscription cost prorated to selected entries, the translation and format of all MARC entries, the automatic release of those entries of limited value to a public library, the cumulation of entries which may be of value, the extract and transfer of those entries selected, and the reporting via indices and full listings for the contents of the cumulated file. The unit cost is the actual processing cost for MARC II files for one year divided by the number of titles processed through the rest of BIBLIOS during the same period. This cost does not include corrections to selected MARC entries (invariably in the call number and author fields for consistency with the library's existing files). The costs affiliated with processing corrective input closely resemble those for bibliographic, e.g., \$0.32 each.

Prorated Bibliographic Input

BIBLIOS works on pre-cataloged entries. The 60 percent bibliographic input shown under acquisitions relates to the full initial description for a title being entered by a book selector to effect its order and subsequent reporting; the 40 percent shown under bibliographic is for cataloger input to adjust the entry for title-page accuracy, consistency with existing files, and, for nonfiction, the assignment of call numbers and subject headings. It is important to note that for reorders against a title already in the system, no bibliographic input is required. In the case of reorders, the per title cost is \$0.88 including subpurchase order forms.

REFERENCES

1. John C. Kountz, "Cost Comparison of Computer versus Manual Catalog Maintenance," Journal of Library Automation 1:159-77 (Spring 1968).

2. Daniel Melcher, Melcher on Acquisition (Chicago: American Library Association, 1971), p. 135.

3. John C. Kountz and Robert Norton, "BIBLIOS—A Modular Approach to Total Library ADP," Proceedings of ASIS 6:39-50 (1969).

- 4. John C. Kountz and Robert E. Norton, "BIBLIOS—A Modular System for Library Automation," *Datamation* 16-79-83 (Feb. 1970).
- 5. Orange County Public Library presently has twenty-six branches, three bookmobiles, and plans for at least three more branches and an additional bookmobile in the near future.

6. Kountz and Norton, "BIBLIOS—A Modular Approach."

- 7. The device affiliated with the book depends on the transactor. The only requirements are that it mechanically represent the key for the book, be practically indestructible, and that it can be prepared mechanically. This last consideration is an absolute when there are 800,000 volumes to convert.
- 8. Melcher, Melcher on Acquisition, p. 135.