

applied to faculty, which include research, publication, and teaching, are not necessarily suitable for librarians. Indeed there have been some distressing cases of professionally competent librarians being refused tenure because they could not meet criteria which included teaching and scholarly publications.”), suggest he recognizes that current serious management problems exist within the framework of some facts which are not fully perceived by the profession, and are unpalatable as well.

Durey is clearly aware, as many of his readers may not be, of the fact that the academic department or collegiate model may not work in libraries; that quality libraries do not really have a very high priority in academia; that unionization may well lead to lower standards; that insisting that library science is an academic discipline is pretentious if not fraudulent; and that as the opportunities for academic appointments constrict, both faculty and librarians have, not surprisingly, become self-serving to a degree which makes laughable our claims of professionalism. Durey does not address himself to these things as such, save by indirection, and the readers for whom I believe he wrote may not perceive them. Experienced librarians will, and administrators must.

If Mr. Durey has no solutions to the problems current management practices are trying to solve, he has at least described the various efforts being made to react to them and done so with commendable candor and objectivity. Now, if he will just write volume two. . . —*Stuart Forth, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park.*

Markuson, Barbara Evans. “The Ohio College Library Center: A Study of the Factors Affecting the Adaptation of Libraries to On-Line Networks,” *Library Technology Reports* 12:11-132 (Jan. 1976). (\$40.00 for single issue, available from American Library Assn., 50 East Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.)

Nitecki, Joseph Z. *OCLC in Retrospect: A Review of the Impact of the OCLC System on the Administration of a Large University Technical Services Operations.* University of Illinois Graduate School of Library Science. Occasional Papers, no.

123, May 1976. 35p. \$2.00 (prepaid). (Available from Publications Office, 249 Armory Bldg., University of Illinois Graduate School of Library Science, Champaign, IL 61820.)

Librarians using OCLC's on-line cataloging system seem to have an insatiable thirst for information about the experience of others with the system. Until now, there has been little systematic research to supplement the ever-present user discussion groups, on-site visits, and exchange of internal reports. Barbara Markuson's report takes a big step towards filling this information gap.

The Markuson report begins by presenting a well organized and clearly written description of OCLC's services. Beyond that, the principal questions addressed by the study are: “Why do libraries join networks? How have on-line operations affected costs, staffing, production, workflow? How has the transition to on-line operations been handled? Do staff like or dislike use of the cathode ray tube terminal for file access?”

The data for the study were gathered by use of an exhaustive questionnaire covering a wide range of issues related to the utilization and evaluation of OCLC. The questionnaire was mailed to 151 OCLC user libraries; responses were sought from three levels of library staff—top administrators, middle management, and terminal operators.

For the most part, the report is a compendium of responses to the items in the questionnaire. A sampling of the titles of statistical tables illustrates the many useful and interesting areas covered: “Importance of Factors Related to the Decision to Participate in OCLC,” “Assessment of Factors Relating to Successful Transition to OCLC,” “Budget Effects Due to OCLC,” “Value of Training Sources Reported by Respondents,” “Assessment of Operational Impact of OCLC,” “Difficulty of Learning Specific Terminal Related Tasks.”

The raw data included in these tables are provocative, although the report itself suffers from a lack of analysis and interpretation. The impression is very strong that the massiveness of the data is out of proportion to the yield of useful insights. Perhaps a more serious concern is the low response

rate. Although 81 of 151 questionnaires were returned, the average number of usable responses for 151 of the questions tabulated in the report was 64, or 42 percent. A mortality rate of this order requires some analysis of possible self-selection factors in the non-respondents.

In spite of these limitations, the Markuson study stands as an important contribution to the literature of network utilization and impact. Because of its breadth, the study will no doubt provide baseline comparative data for numerous more narrowly focused studies in the future.

Joseph Nitecki has prepared a report on OCLC utilization in a single library, Temple University. The report includes flow charts of Temple's OCLC interface procedures, Nitecki's analysis of the advantages and disadvantages of OCLC as compared to conventional manual procedures, comparative cost and performance statistics, and a discussion of problems encountered at Temple in using the system.

Nitecki describes his paper as ". . . the viewpoint of one administrator of one library and is based almost exclusively on

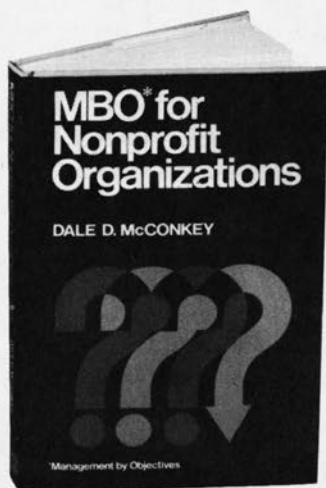
personal experience in supervising technical services operations in transition." As such, the usefulness of Nitecki's report is mainly illustrative. To some extent, its flaws are exactly the opposite of the Markuson report—a tendency to over-interpret a limited body of data.

Both reports are of interest to serious students of the impact of bibliographic networks. In addition, the first part of the Markuson report provides an extremely lucid introduction to OCLC's services and mode of operation for librarians still in need of it.—*Joe A. Hewitt, Associate University Librarian for Technical Services, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.*

Malinowsky, H. Robert; Gray, Richard A.; and Gray, Dorothy A. *Science and Engineering Literature: A Guide to Reference Sources*. 2d ed. Library Science Text Series. Littleton, Colo.: Libraries Unlimited, Inc. 1976. 368p. \$14.00. (LC 76-17794) (ISBN 0-87287-098-7)

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