

they may have improved service. It is from this point that librarians should begin their deliberations and negotiations for computer systems—and use the rest of these proceedings along the way.—*Fay Zipkowitz, Worcester Area Cooperating Libraries, Worcester, Massachusetts.*

Howell, J. B., ed. *Special Collections in Libraries of the Southeast*. With an introduction by Frances Neel Cheney. Jackson, Miss.: Published for the Southeastern Library Association by Howick House, 1978. 423p. \$15. (Available from Southeastern Library Association, P.O. Box 987, Tucker, GA 30084.)

There are several surprises in this new survey of special collections in libraries of the Southeast; at least, there were for me. I might have expected to find a large collection of books on furniture in High Point, North Carolina, but I did not know that the South Asia collection of about 100,000 volumes at the University of Virginia is "the most complete collection of this kind of ma-

terial in the world." I knew that the Keeneland Association in Lexington, Kentucky, has a splendid collection relating to the breeding and racing of thoroughbred horses, but I was surprised to learn that the University of Miami has more than 130,000 volumes of Soviet imprints, most of them after 1960, along with complete or substantial files of 500 Soviet periodicals.

Special Collections in Libraries of the Southeast is a fascinating guide to research collections in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia. It is arranged in outline form, alphabetically by state and then alphabetically by city, with most of the 2,022 collections described in just a few lines. An index by owning institution and another by subject give easy access to the outline, although the absence of running titles makes it difficult to know where you are, geographically.

Local history, church archives, genealogical records, Confederate imprints, Civil

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War diaries, and plantation journals and account books are collected throughout the Southeast, from major universities and state historical societies to the smallest public library. The index contains 111 references to black collections, many with a special emphasis, such as slavery, lynching, civil rights, Seventh-Day Adventists, folklore, literature, and the arts.

Local industry, agencies, and organizations have produced several important collections. Maxwell Air Force Base, in Alabama, has the country's largest collection of material relating to airpower and to the history of military aviation in the United States. There are collections on tobacco in Winston-Salem, hydraulics in Vicksburg, and golf in Lake Park, Florida, the headquarters of the Professional Golfers Association of America, while the lumber industry can be studied in collections in Alabama, Mississippi, and North Carolina.

The University of Miami and the University of Florida, as we look even farther south, have established major collections relating to the Caribbean, especially Cuba, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic. Florida State University has about 10,000 items relating to Napoleon and the French Revolution, and Duke University has more than 90,000 books and pamphlets of Italian literature, including the library of Guido Mazzoni, a Florentine scholar. In the Belknap Collection of the Performing Arts, the University of Florida has half a million pieces including posters, programs, and photographs concerning theater, dance, opera, and film performances.

Is this a useful guide? Definitely, in my opinion. In addition to alerting local scholars to the resources of their own region, in addition to the brief but helpful inventories of the major state and university libraries, it is one more index to put before scholars looking for information about Frederick Delius, Jean Giono, utopian communities, Judaica, Tibet, dime novels, the history of medicine, and Princess Augusta Sophia's collection of English plays.—*Marjorie G. Wynne, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut.*

Taylor, Betty W., ed. *Audio Research in the Law*. Series 1: Basic American Law.

Dobbs Ferry, N.Y.: Condyne/Trans-Media Distributing Corp., 1978. lv. (280p.) + 4 cassettes. \$65. LC 78-66385. ISBN 0-91338-33-8.

It is no secret around law schools that, for the new law student, the legal literature might be likened to the Book of Seven Seals and that learning its particular and unique features, a necessity for every lawyer, presents a formidable hurdle. It is also commonly known that the successful teaching of legal research has confounded many a law teacher and law librarian. Therefore it is not surprising that many of them are engaged in a perpetual search for better methods to impart the lore of researching the law and to instruct students as successfully and painlessly as is possible in the "tools" of their trade—the law books.

This publication is the result of such an effort. It has been styled on the museum-tour type of program, the editor informs us. It consists of a plastic three-ring binder containing a soft-cover booklet (offset printing) and four audio tapes. The tapes are stored inside the front cover where there are cavities for two more tape cassettes. One will be forthcoming from the publishers at an additional \$15 and covers U.S. government documents; the other, it is suggested, could contain a cassette on the legal materials on one's home state and would have to be homemade.

The pamphlet contains, after a first chapter with an "Introduction to the American Legal System," seven chapters on the basic, generally recognized units of the legal bibliography. They are (2) dictionaries, encyclopedias, periodicals; (3) treatises, practice books, looseleaves, directories; (4) case law and digests; (5) annotated reports; (6) statutory laws; (7) administrative law; and (8) citators.

These chapters have been written by the set's editor and six other law librarians and vary, as is to be expected, greatly in quality. The overly ambitious scope of the introductory chapter overcrowds the few pages to the point of incorrectness.

At the end of each chapter the specific pertinent law books are listed, and the student is directed to bring them together and review them while following the instructions provided on the audiotape. For instance,