

budget; and concluding with "Retrospect—Important Issues to Remember." An appendix, "The State University Libraries: A Case Study," a brief but useful glossary of budgeting terms, and a four-page list of "References" round out the work. If this outline imparts a ring familiar to experienced library administrators, it is not surprising, for Martin has grounded his work carefully in the current literature on library administration. But his chief contribution might have been made more readily apparent had he subtitled the book, "The Political Aspects of Academic Library Administration."

Currently, library administrators are entangled in a difficult situation caused by diminishing levels of financial support, the eroding effects of inflation, outside demands for greater accountability, pressures resulting from the adoption of various forms of "participatory management," and the lack of widely supported standards of library service. They now face the difficult problem of setting priorities among programs, which in more affluent years would have been funded without question as equally worthy of support. Martin argues persuasively that the budget is a primary tool for coping with this situation.

"A budget," as defined by Martin, "is a statement which identifies in monetary terms the ways in which an institution will seek to achieve its goals during the period for which it is valid. It is not perceived similarly by all those who are affected by it and will require conversion into whatever mode is appropriate to each group, program or activity. It implies control and feedback to measure both conformity to the expressed or implicit goals and the degree of success attained in achieving those goals." He acknowledges that "fiscal consideration cannot be the sole determinant in policy-making," but stresses that "without knowledge of the financial situation, decision makers can seldom arrive at acceptable conclusions on other activities."

Martin disclaims any intention to explore the political basis of budget making on the grounds that it would require a monumental work to discuss policies on such a level. Yet, in my opinion, it is his successful illustration of the relationships between policy

decisions and fiscal decisions that gives vitality and importance to his work.

While obviously a "must" purchase for library school collections, *Budgetary Control in Academic Libraries* is worthy of the attention of all academic library administrators.—George W. Cornell, *State University of New York, College at Brockport*.

The On-Line Revolution in Libraries. Proceedings of the 1977 Conference in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Edited by Allen Kent and Thomas J. Galvin. Books in Library and Information Science, v.23. New York: Marcel Dekker, 1978. 303p. \$29.75. LC 78-15800. ISBN 0-8247-6754-3.

This volume contains a collection of papers, organized in four parts, with the lead paper in each part (except part four) an invited view and the subsequent papers generally reactions or commentary or amplification of a special aspect of the lead paper. Each paper is well organized, informative to both expert and neophyte, and many of the papers are quite perceptive.

Part one deals with the "Potential of On-Line Information Systems," with a lead paper by Allen Kent carrying that title. Samuel A. Wolpert, Anita Schiller, Martin D. Robbins, Joseph F. Shubert, and Carlos Cuadra offer their reactions to Kent and their own opinions on the future potential of on-line systems. Divergent views are taken, and even the transcription of the discussion sessions throughout the book is well done, normally a failing in many proceedings more often than not.

Part two is titled "Impact of On-Line Systems," with the initial paper by Lee G. Burchinal concentrating on the impact on national information policy and local, state, and regional planning. Following this paper, Melvin S. Day comments on national policy, Miriam A. Drake on library functions with John G. Lorenz reacting to Drake. Then Paul Evan Peters and Ellen Gay Detlefsen discuss the impact of on-line systems on clientele, and Martha Williams looks into the future. Contributions on other areas of on-line impact, including academic and public libraries, are well explained by Alphonse F. Trezza, Roger K. Summit, Richard DeGennaro, Keith Doms, and Detlefsen.

Part three concentrates on "Training and

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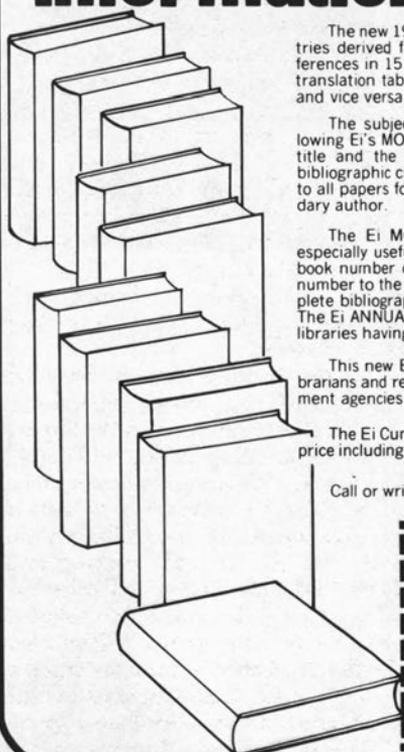
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Retraining of Librarians and Users." Elaine Caruso, Sally Bachelder Stanley, Judith Wanger, Susan K. Martin, Anthony A. Martin, and Elizabeth E. Duncan provide a spirited view of the nature of the training problem, and the issues of concern in user training, which should be read by every librarian, in this reviewer's opinion. Moreover, Stanley's paper powerfully reminds us of the inherent value of data base search training and reinforces the fact that it is the key to the full utilization of any data base and not merely some mechanical skill!

Part four contains the closing summary by Thomas J. Galvin. He highlights the results of the conference in these very fitting eight words:

Potential	—	Enormous
Training	—	Essential
Funding	—	Uncertain
Integration	—	Mandatory

Also attached is a conference evaluation in an appendix that was done by administering a pre- and postconference questionnaire. Not only are the results given but

concrete suggestions are made for future improvement. The conference did appear to change some attendees' attitudes with respect to certain problems of instituting on-line services and served to highlight where needed research should be done now to prepare for the future.

After reading this whole volume, which I believe to be very well edited, I am left with the feeling that since I missed attending the actual event these proceedings are a welcome and profitable experience to read. The French have a saying, "Il ne se mouche pas du pied," which means that "one did things up in a big way." This volume lives up to that exclamation. Moreover, although the type is of reduced size, the book is very readable, and a surprising amount of content is packed into its pages with only two typographic errors discovered—on pages 93 and 165, both name misspellings. The book is certainly worth its somewhat high price, even for addition to one's own private library. This should be a prime acquisition for any library and information science collection and particularly useful to student

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and practicing librarian or information specialist.—Audrey N. Grosch, *University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.*

Dewey, Melvil. *Melvil Dewey: His Enduring Presence in Librarianship.* Edited by Sarah K. Vann. The Heritage of Librarianship Series, no.4. Littleton, Colo.: Libraries Unlimited, 1978. 278p. \$17.50 U.S. and Canada; \$21 elsewhere. LC 77-21852. ISBN 0-87287-134-7.

Here is another worthwhile contribution to a growing body of works by and about the bearer of the best-known name in American library history. From Grosvenor Dawe's official eulogy, published under the Lake Placid Club imprint the year after Melvil Dewey's death, to this latest compilation, biographers have given as much attention to revealing the man through his writings as through their own narratives. Small wonder, for while the bulk of Dewey's publication during his lifetime is substantial, that of his unpublished correspondence, notes, and diaries is even greater and harder to access because of its dispersion and difficult shorthand.

The editors of this work, and of the series to which it belongs, disclaim having produced the definitive study "so badly needed." Yet Sarah Vann researched an impressive list of sources to give us a concise biography, a useful selection from Dewey's library writings, and a nearly definitive chronological bibliography. She mentions, but does not attempt to document, such other enthusiasms as simplified spelling, the metric system, and the Lake Placid Club.

This biobibliography adds nothing startling to our general acquaintance with a nineteenth-century titan. Ardent, industrious, high-principled, optimistic, hyperactive, and opinionated, Dewey deliberately chose librarianship as his primary sphere of action. He was not merely a joiner but also a founder of lyceums, societies, and clubs. He planned, organized, and administered at every opportunity, attracting loyal supporters and antagonizing other strong-willed associates throughout his long career. He was more an activist than a contemplative scholar or researcher. His writings tend toward exhortation, bolstered by fairly absolutist pronouncements based on shrewd

practical observation. Yet through the familiar idiosyncrasies of his nature and his milieu emerges a picture of a genial, just, dedicated, and effective man.

Following a short but revealing biography in part I, part II, which forms the bulk of the volume, groups selected professional papers of Dewey into fourteen subtopics, each prefaced by a brief critical commentary. They cover his views on the American Library Association, women in librarianship, education for librarianship, library cooperation, cataloging and classification, the Library of Congress, public and academic libraries, and glances toward the future and the past. The bibliography in part III first identifies extant Dewey manuscript collections. It next cites in chronological order his editorial achievements and his library-related publications. Finally it gives a useful survey of works about the man. The book closes with a general index.

Few readers will proceed straight through this book from cover to cover. It is more a source for reference and browsing. Its chief impact will be to remind us how little in library theory and practice is new. Terminology and modes of expression alter, but the issues are perennial, resulting in solutions that frequently become cyclic. That is, the issues transcend our temporal solutions. They must be faced and "solved" by each new generation. Historical perspective becomes, then, not an excuse for skepticism or irresponsibility, but an opportunity to learn from the experience of the past. Melvil Dewey packed into his eighty years a great deal of observation and common sense that can inform and guide us today.—*Jeanne Osborn, The University of Iowa, Iowa City.*

"Libraries and Society: Research and Thought." Phyllis Dain and Margaret F. Stieg, issue editors. *Library Trends* 27:221-417 (Winter 1979). \$5. ISSN 0024-2594. (Available from: Univ. of Illinois Pr., Urbana, IL 61801.)

The need for librarians to study their relationship to society in these changing times is of prime importance. The library's role in our sociocultural milieu is dependent on varied circumstances, technological advances, changing human thought and behavior, to name but a few factors. This issue