

of overriding concern to the federal government or to the general public." In "The United States Government Printing Office in the 1980s" William J. Barrett complements Schwarzkopf nicely by focusing on the impact of technology on the GPO. Luciana Marulli-Koenig examines collection development principles and applications relating to United Nations documentation. Peter I. Hajnal provides a basic description of Unesco's documents and publications and of the problems of bibliographic control. In "The Uses and Misuses of Information Found in Government Publications" Joe Morehead engagingly presents an issue that has both practical and ethical implications. What is the librarian's role in interpreting, pointing out pitfalls, and warning about unreliable statistical data particularly for unsophisticated library users? Is there an obligation to do more than acquire, catalog, and make government information accessible? Citing examples of widely used statistics that may be misleading, easily misinterpreted without close attention to explana-

tory material, or self-serving, Morehead concludes by saying he is attempting to raise the question of the librarian's role for further discussion. The article could well serve as an excellent introduction to discussion of the topic.

As a group, the papers in this volume do not make a unified statement nor do they conform all that well to the collection development and public access title they've been assigned. However, each of them does make a valuable contribution—whether it is in providing background information, outlining an approach to a current topic of concern, or describing an area where research is badly needed. Although the book is a worthwhile addition to libraries with extensive holdings in government publications and/or library science, its \$29.95 price tag may well be a deterrent to libraries without them.—Carol Turner, *Stanford University Libraries*.

Price, Paxton P., ed. *International Book and Library Activities: The History of a U.S. Foreign Policy*. Metuchen, N.J.: Scarecrow Press, 1982. 248p. LC 82-3297. ISBN 0-8108-1545-1.

This is a frustrating book because its generous title implies far more than actually comes through. The U.S. government, through one agency or another, has long and usefully been involved in a variety of international book and library activities. A focussed analysis of this rich experience could be enlightening and fascinating, but it has not yet been written. One thinks immediately of such undertakings as: the Library War Service established by the ALA in 1917, with its interesting progeny the American Library in Paris; the aggressive Library of Congress Mission to Europe in search of wartime books beginning in 1943, and its aftermath the Farmington Plan; the expansive and often embattled U.S.I.A. overseas library program; the practical Franklin Books Program; and, of course, the extensive, worldwide activities of ALA's International Relations Board under the sponsorship and funding of a number of government agencies as well as private foundations.

However, this book barely mentions but



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a few of these and concentrates only on the high intentions, largely aborted, of the Interagency Committee on Books, on which Paxton Price was the H.E.W. representative, established in 1966 by an enlightened Assistant Secretary of State for Educational and Cultural Affairs, Charles Frankel, in an attempt to support the goals of President Johnson's "Great Society." The Committee's National Policy Statement on International Book and Library Activities, issued in January 1967, was an unexceptionable pronouncement, but politically it came too late. Two years later the new Nixon Administration, as is the custom, abandoned this along with such other Johnson projects as it could. The only fruit of the National Policy Statement was, in effect, this book, which consists of little more than about two hundred pages

of largely undifferentiated extracts from the responses of overseas missions and posts to Dean Rusk's requests for comments on the several paragraphs of the intended new policy—paragraph by paragraph, country by country—with no useful analysis or synthesis, and, of course, with no results.

The National Policy Statement itself should not be forgotten, but it should be recalled as a footnote in some larger theme, such as an article on the little-known but impressive Government Advisory Committee on International Book and Library Programs, which actually drafted the National Policy Statement for the Interagency Committee. There, in G.A.C., is a story waiting to be told.—*Robert Vosper, University of California, Los Angeles.*

ABSTRACTS

The following abstracts are based on those prepared by the ERIC Clearinghouse of Information Resources, School of Education, Syracuse University.

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Further information on ordering documents and on current postage charges may be obtained from a recent issue of Resources in Education.

Motivational Properties of Support Staff Tasks in the Face of Automation. By Edward D. Garten. 1981. 10p. ED 217 830. MF—\$0.83; PC—\$1.82.

This paper maintains that staff needs which are both implicit and explicit within the automation-laden technical services work in a library setting most often do not receive adequate attention from the library's supervisory staff. It argues that analysis of problem areas within a given unit in the library can better promote positive strategies for dealing with technology related concerns of library personnel.

Further, the paper recommends that supervisory personnel be aware of the importance of reaffirming the value of the human services rendered by support or clerical staff within the work setting.

Library Specifications for a New Circulation System for Concordia University Libraries. By James Tallon. 1981. 17p. ED 217 848. MF—\$0.83; PC—\$1.82.

This study of library requirements for a new circulation system is organized into three sections: (1) items required for initial implementation in July 1982; (2) items relating to notice generation and activity statistics, with implementation expected by fall 1982; and (3) items provided in the system as initially implemented, with additional programming required. Items in the first section include borrower information, conversion process, borrower information requirements, reserves, fines, requests, internal borrowers, CMF/item file, table governing routine procedures with online read and write access, and form of information display. Items in the fall 1982 implementation section are listed under fines, requests, internal borrowers, and additional requirements. The final section lists items under borrower information, reserves, internal borrowers, general system requirements, and additional requirements.