REGINALD JONATHAN HOY

The premature death of another Founder Member, R. J. Hoy, B.Sc., F.L.A., on 23rd February, 1963, is also recorded with great regret. He had been employed in the libraries of the University of London, the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, and at the time of his death was Deputy Librarian of the School of Oriental and African Studies. Mr. Hoy contributed several items to our "Tools of our Trade" feature, one of these being included in this issue, and his keen interest in our Society will be missed.

BOOK REVIEWS


This second, revised edition of Mr. Collison's useful guide to bibliographies will be welcomed by all students of the subject. It provides a general survey of subject and national bibliographies, and incorporates a useful list of bibliographies of individual literary figures. This book is obviously intended as an introduction to the subject, and the section headed "Further reading" might well have been extended to advantage, or references provided within sections to sources of additional material.

Bibliography is a constantly growing subject, and rapid developments make it virtually impossible for guides to keep pace with them. This one unwisely anticipates the date of publication of the supplement to Walford's Guide, but otherwise presents an accurate conspectus of the subject, and will remain an invaluable source of information for students.

J.L.T.


Over 200 pages are devoted to the results of a study of Federal and Non-Federal science information processing and retrieval programs in the book Documentation, indexing, and retrieval of scientific information compiled by the Committee on Government Operations of the United States Senate.

This book is highly recommended as a "must" reading for any indexer, scientist, researcher, writer, or editor.

GERALD A. WILLEY.


Dr. S. R. Ranganathan's numerous publications have done much towards establishing librarianship as a profession in India, and have been read with profit by librarians throughout the world. This is not one that can readily be appreciated outside India, and must be classified as one of his less successful efforts. The first
edition appeared in 1940, and much has happened in reference work during the past twenty-one years. Much of this book is padded with conversations, and a large proportion of the material is obsolete. The 167 case studies occupy a great deal of space, and no doubt serve some useful purpose, but there must be an easier way in which to teach the use of reference material.

Few readers will find time or patience to read this book from cover to cover, which means that they will miss many thought-provoking statements. The useful material might well have been sifted and rearranged to form a book of less than 200 pages, and the two indexes might also be made intelligible to those other than the ardent disciples of Dr. Ranganathan who can appreciate his quaint terminology. One really has to consult the text after encountering entries such as: Book lifter B321; Difficult customer on the phone F574; How of initiation C3; Unprinted sources J423; Wish, Unexpressed A17; Woman and women instance H. (This last is actually under H533 on page 295, immediately following the Louse and lice instance!)

J.L.T.


This small book addressed to newcomers in medical library work is packed with information of wide usefulness. There is a survey of medical libraries of various types, mainly British and American, with an account of libraries in hospitals, which Mr. Thornton is specially well experienced to discuss. The whole book is enlivened by his forthright and considered opinions. The chapter on cataloguing and classification describes existing practice, while excellent surveys of reference materials, bibliographies, and methods of library research come right up to date. These special chapters could be very helpful to an indexer of medical publications.

W. R. L.

TOOLS OF OUR TRADE

A publication has appeared, in several volumes, under the general title The State of the library art, edited by Ralph R. Shaw, and published by the Graduate School of Library Science, Rutgers State University, New Brunswick, N.J., U.S.A. The date of publication is officially 1960.

The work is intended as a survey of the literature—it does not purport to discuss the pros and cons of the subjects covered, but only to list the items published about them, and to explain briefly what they say.

Vol. 2, part 2 is by Margaret S. Bryant and is entitled "Bibliographies, abstracts and indexes", and occupies 108 pages. Only part of each chapter is devoted to indexes and indexing, and many of the items discussed seem to me to be too varied to be of value to our Society, but there is much of value, and this is almost certainly the only such survey of the literature of Indexing which exists at present. Two bibliographies are quoted, and should find a place in the Society's library—(i) Jacobstein (J.M.) Indexes and indexing; a selected bibliography of books and pamphlets, Library Journal, vol. 83, pp. 1357-8, May 1st, 1958; (ii) Steiner-Prag (E.F.) Library Journal, vol. 83, pp. 1356-7.

R. J. HOY.