Book Machine is a whole authors' and publishers' micro-system, soon to be put on the market; complete with special sorts, pagination facility, wide choice of type size and style (displayed on the screen as printed), split screen for proof-comparison, etc; with an indexing program, compiled after consultation with indexers, thrown in.

The fruitful and wide-ranging discussions produced many points of interest: one could expect to save from 30% to 50% of time compared with manual indexing; index updating and revision particularly benefited from the use of a computer; it might be of benefit to publishers to lend indexers computers; the compatibility problem should be solved within two or three years. The cost of equipment (or of using an indexing service) would be tax-deductible; bank loans (possibly favourable Business Development loans) should be easily obtainable. Full details of addresses and prices are included.

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We learn with regret that the attempt by Gerald Fowler to start an Indexers' Group in New Zealand has after all failed to find sufficient support. Hail—but not, we trust, farewell; au revoir perhaps?

J.L.B.

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Reviews quoted in our previous issue praised the meticulously detailed, giant index to Robert Latham's edition of The diary of Samuel Pepys. By contrast, what terseness is displayed in the main-character entry for the Everyman's Library edition of this work (Dent, 1906):


The Bookseller, 1 October 1983, reports sales of nearly 10,000 copies of Robert Latham's Index to The diary of Samuel Pepys (Bell & Hyman, 1983, £19.50) in its first six months. The volume even reached a number of bestseller lists: truly a star among indexes!

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Obituary

Theodore C. Hines

We are very sorry to learn of the death, on 25 June 1983, of Theodore C. Hines (Ted to his friends, and as he signed his letters), Professor of Library Information Science/Educational Technology at the University of North Carolina, Greensboro.

He became a member of the Society of Indexers in 1961–2, within three years of its formation, and was an industrious participator in the practice of indexing and the development of its methodology by computer and later by microcomputer.

In conjunction with Jessie L. Harris and Lois Winkel, he wrote articles on these subjects, which appeared in The Indexer, 7 (2) Autumn 1970 and 11 (4) Oct. 1979 respectively. An article previously written by himself, when on the staff of the School of Library Service at Columbia University, New York, ‘A computer code for alphabeting’, was in The Indexer 5 (1) Spring 1966.

Ted Hines, with R. J. Palmer, Dr Jessie L. Harris, and others, was largely responsible for the formation in 1968 of the American Society of Indexers, and he was one of its six Directors from 1971–6.

Judging from what I have read about him, and from his letters, he was a very hard-working professor, stimulating, encouraging and collaborating with his students, and constantly finding more efficient ways of indexing. He and I were hoping to meet when I was in New York briefly after attending the IFLA Conference at Toronto in 1967, but, regrettably, he found at the last moment that his schedule was too tight for this to be possible.

The development of indexing practices, and the training of indexers, may suffer temporarily from his passing, but his stimulation and past endeavours will nevertheless continue to be beneficial in the years to come.

L. M. Harrod

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L. M. Harrod

As we go to press, we learn with deep regret of the death on 12 March 1984 of Leonard Montague Harrod, Vice-President of the Society of Indexers, and for fourteen years Editor of The Indexer. An obituary will appear in our next issue.