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ABSTRACT

The first section establishes a working definition of library science and outlines the existing publications patterns of library science information. The existing system of bibliographic organization is examined in detail and services provided in the U.S.S.R. are described as an example of a systematic attempt at world coverage. In late 1967, efforts were so diverse that no one service (or group of related services) provided reliable coverage of current information. The existing literature on the attitudes of the user of library science information is reviewed, together with literature on more general aspects concerning the publications covering the field. The second section which deals with steps toward a model scheme is mainly concerned with the needs of the English language bloc. The establishment of an International Study Group is suggested to study library science information problems with the three main tasks of: 1) a survey of information needs, producing a user profile; 2) a survey of information patterns, producing an information profile and 3) a comparison of the two profiles leading to the construction of a master scheme of information services to cover both primary and secondary services. (see also LI 002 796 - 797 and 002 799 - 002 807). (Author/AB)

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A MODEL SYSTEM OF BIBLIOGRAPHIC ORGANIZATION
FOR LIBRARY SCIENCE LITERATURE

by

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CONFERENCE ON THE BIBLIOGRAPHIC CONTROL
OF LIBRARY SCIENCE LITERATURE

State University of New York at Albany
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Notes:

1. The author of this paper was hospitalized from 23rd October 1967 to 1st December 1967, and from the latter date until early February he was confined to home. The publication deadline for this paper has meant that not all the possible research has been done. Some statements must therefore stand as postulates.
2. Although in the earlier sections, reporting on developments in bibliographic organization, international developments have been described, the main emphasis is on access to the subject through the English language. It is felt that this is probably the primary concern of the Conference.
3. I have received helpful information and opinions from H. A. Whatley, A. J. Walford, I. Dahlberg, V. Gero and others; the use I have made of this information is my own responsibility. Thanks are due also to the staff of CLW/LRISD and my wife who dealt with my staccato requests from hospital bed and home; it is they who made the writing of this paper possible.
3. The following abbreviations will be used:

<u>LSA</u>	-	<u>Library Science Abstracts</u>
<u>LL</u>	-	<u>Library Literature</u>
<u>DA</u>	-	<u>Documentation Abstracts</u>
<u>AJ</u>	-	<u>Abstract Journal: Scientific and Technical Information</u>

A MODEL SYSTEM OF BIBLIOGRAPHIC ORGANIZATION
FOR LIBRARY SCIENCE LITERATURE

What is library science

Before we can consider the control of any information area we must identify the complex of subjects which make up that area. These can usually be represented by a series of concentric circles, with a hard 'core' of information (about which there is a professional, educational or scientific consensus), and a series of fringe subjects arranged around this 'core'. In the case of library science, some seek to escape the task of definition by the use of the tautological statement that library science is information concerning activities within libraries. This writer has defined library science as information concerned "with creation, recording, transmission, storage, retrieval and use of information"¹. Lawrence Clark Powell has defined the nucleus of a library as "anyone reading a book"². Historically we can view library science as an expanding subject. For many centuries we regarded ourselves as conservationists; later, we began to structure this act of conservation by the use of catalogues or other guides to what had been conserved. More recently we have become concerned with two aspects of use; the problem of retrieval of specific information from a large store, and the information gathering habits of specific classes of user. Parallel with the

¹COLLEGE OF LIBRARIANSHIP, Wales. Library, Research and Information Services Department. Library Division. Guide to the library. 2nd ed. 1967.

²Lecture to CLW staff and students. 22nd November 1967. Unpublished tape.

latter developments have been the following: the desire to encourage non-users to become users; the transportation of part of the store to potential users; bringing non-users into contact with the store by using other attractions. There has always been a professional interest in the recording of information and its transmission: courses in book production, publishing and selling have long featured in our professional education. There has been a less general concern with the problems of the creation of information, its faulty transmission or barriers to transmission.

If one wished to divide this writer's definition into core area and fringe areas, the core's centre would be LCP's "anyone reading a book" and outwards from that we move to the procedures needed to ensure that anyone who needs information (in whatever form of record) obtains it. The institutions, in other words, should be constructed to facilitate a sympathetic response to the needs of the individual.³ This is perhaps an idealist or utopian view since most frequently it is the individual who has to compromise his needs with what the institution offers.

My 'core' is thus the magic act of reading/discovering about which so much has been written, but which still remains an act of wonder. Stretching away from this we have, on the side of the individual, surveys of users' needs and our professional philosophy which should seek to answer the question "Why are we here?". Next, within the core, we have those artefacts or manifestations of activity which seek to

³see: PERLMUTTER, H. V. Towards a theory and practice of social architecture: the building of indispensable institutions. London, Tavistock Publications, 1965.

link the individual and what he needs or wants - catalogues, guides to libraries, leaflets, posters, lectures. Behind these artefacts are the technical processes which make, for example, catalogues and guides possible - classification and cataloguing, indexing, applied bibliography. From these we move to the materials needed, the stage where philosophy manifests itself in institutions, - acquisitions, buildings, staff, finance. If one wanted a two word definition, perhaps storage and retrieval best covers the core of library science. Forget, for the moment, means, and concentrate on the basic similarity underlying every happy joining of an individual and necessary information, wherever this takes place.

Next we move to the fringe areas. These stretch away, from the individual on the one side, into areas of sociology, politics, economics, group and individual psychology. From the information, on the other side, we move into areas of transmission, recording and creation of information. Around the whole we may wrap the three contextual circles of culture (the interaction of man and information), communication (person to person and society to society, contemporaneously and over centuries) and education (the structured communication of culture).

It is necessary to spend some time on such a definition since it is obvious that one's philosophy colours every statement.⁴

⁴contrast: DOWNS, R. B. Resources for research in librarianship.
LIBRARY TRENDS 13 (1) July 1964, 11, 2nd paragraph.

Library Science Publication patterns

Estimates of world information are difficult to make. If, however, we postulate that library science information will mirror the world information growth pattern, we can draw some general conclusions from the world situation. Escarpit⁵ details the problems of discussing world figures at some length. Emphasizing the dangers of making conclusions from such data, he does indicate some general trends. World production of books increased by 40% between 1952 and 1962, from 250,000 titles to 350,000 titles. It is a subjective impression (taking U.S. and U.K. figures as a guide, and noting the rapid increase of publication in the emergent countries) that world production has now reached 500,000 titles. Of the 1962 figures, Escarpit estimates that 35.7% were published by the four main language groups: English, German, Spanish and French. He later states that there are about eight 'reading' languages: English, Chinese, Russian, Spanish, German, Japanese, French and Italian. These eight reach about three-quarters of the 'reading' population of the world.

We would find that these figures hold true for library science book production, with two exceptions - the amount of material in Chinese would be less and some minority groups (e.g. Scandinavian language bloc) would feature in the main list. A quick examination of some lists seems to confirm these postulates. Both lists⁵ issued by Robert Maxwell & Co., Ltd.

⁵ESCARPIT, R. The book revolution. London, Harrap, 1966, 53-79.

⁶MAXWELL, Robert & Co., Ltd., Documentation and Supply Centre. Catalogue of literature displayed during a library and information sciences exhibition, Oxford, 29-31 July 1965. Oxford, the Centre, 1965; & New reference tools for librarians. 1st ed. 1964, 2nd ed. 1966, + supplements. Oxford, the Centre.

show a preponderance of English; and even the 1965 German listing⁷ demonstrates the quantity of English language material despite a bias toward the language of the country of compilation. The annual bibliography issued by F.I.D.⁸ is a special case, but even here English is very evident. The accessions lists to Aslib, Unesco and the Library Association libraries confirm this dominance of English language material.

Estimates of world serial literature within library science fall into two parts - the number of journals and the number of articles. It is as difficult to make conclusions about this as it is about scientific serial literature^{8a} in general. Various lists of serials exist, but all are biased. First there are the 'theoretical lists' (those drawn up to record the existence of publications falling into certain subject areas); these give the following figures for current journals: 717;⁹

⁷SAUR, K.-O. Handbuch der technischen dokumentation und bibliographie. Zweiter band: Die Fachliteratur zum Buch und Bibliothekswesen. Munich, Verlag Dokumentation, 1966, 45-197.

⁸F.I.D. Bibliographie de la documentation et de la Bibliothéconomie. The Hague, F.I.D., 1950-1965. see: F.I.D. NEWS BULLETIN cited at 31 below.

^{8a}see: SCRIVENOR, Sir T. The growth of scientific literature. IN: ASLIB. 38 Annual Conference, Exeter, 1965. Looking forward in documentation. London, Aslib, 3-5 - 3-9.

Directories. F.I.D. NEWS BULLETIN 15(12) 1965, 63-64.

⁹A.L.A. Library Periodicals Round Table. A directory of library periodicals in the Continental United States. 1957. My source: STIBITL, M. T. & Allen, W. C. 717 library periodicals!!! [analysis of the above]. LPRT NEWSLETTER 5(1) Winter 1958, 3+6.

150¹⁰; 147¹¹; 132¹²; circa 325¹³ circa 400¹⁴. (New lists are expected soon from Drexel and Centre of Library Science and Methodology in Budapest Against this we can set the 'purposeful lists' (those drawn up recording those titles which an information transfer agency has found necessary to obtain in response to its tasks or the demand of users). From these we discover the following: Aslib have 351 titles of which 222 are current¹⁵; the Library Association have 1090 titles of which circa 570 are current¹⁶; Unesco library in Paris took¹⁷ circa 300 relevant to my general definition

¹⁰HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN. Institut für Bibliothekswissenschaft. Verzeichnis bibliothekarischer Fachzeitschriften. Berlin, Deutsche Staatsbibliothek, 1966.

¹¹SAUR, K.-O. cited at 7 above, 83-98.

¹²DEUTSCHE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR DOKUMENTATION. Bibliothek und Dokumentationstelle. Verzeichnis laufend gehaltner Periodika. Frankfurt, DGD, 1967.

¹³WINCKLER, P. A. Library periodicals directory. Brookville, N.Y., Graduate Library School of Long Island University, Merriweather Campus, 1967. My estimate.

¹⁴F.I.D. Library and documentation periodicals. 2nd ed. The Hague, F.I.D., 1961 supplement FID NEWS BULLETIN 12(2) 1963, 8. I have used the estimate of Whatley in STECHELT-HAFNER BOOK NEWS cited at 26 below.

¹⁵Letter from Librarian, Aslib, to author dated 11th October 1967. See also: FOY, Y. Periodicals held in the Aslib library... ASLIB PROCEEDINGS 19(8) August 1967, 260-271.

¹⁶TAYLOR, L.J. The Library Association Library. LIBRARY ASSOCIATION RECORD 68(4) April 1966, 124, col. 2.

¹⁷UNESCO. Library. Check list of periodicals available for circulation as of 1 November 1965. Paris, Unesco Library, 1965. Limited circulation document WS/1265.16 CUA. My estimate.

of librarianship. At CLW we have over 300 current serials and probably receive a further 50 serial-type publications. We can cite, for comparison, the table of amounts spent on periodicals in Kaser¹⁸ and the specific figures¹⁹ for one Graduate Library School of 376 current periodicals in 1964. Compare also Gilchrist's figure²⁰ of 762 titles covered by five abstract services.

Without extensive counting of articles we cannot determine the number of articles published. We can cite the number of abstracts in the various services but the various services overlap and they cover books and research reports. In 1966 Documentation Abstracts included 1205 abstracts; Library Science Abstracts, 1106 abstracts; in 1967 it looks as though these two figures will be maintained or exceeded. Abstract Journal: Scientific and technical information will publish somewhere between 3500 (its target) and 4000 abstracts, whilst Express information of foreign literature on library science and documentation²¹ will have published about 4000 abstracts.

¹⁸KASER, D. Library school libraries. JOURNAL OF EDUCATION FOR LIBRARIANSHIP 5(1) Summer 1964, 18, Table II.

¹⁹DOWNS, R. B. cited at 4 above, 11, line 5. The School was University of Illinois.

²⁰GILCHRIST, A. Documentation of documentation. ASLIB PROCEEDINGS 18(3) March 1966, 69, last paragraph.

²¹F.I.D. NEWS BULLETIN cited at 36 below.

It is a subjective impression that the fastest growing area within library science documents is the research paper. Many of the U.S. reports are covered in Documentation Abstracts, and some will be covered in the new Research in Education. But the international problem is a large one, less so for research reports which form part of a regular series, but more for the ad-hoc paper often called into being by the need to justify a proposal for funding. Because of the cellular structure of the profession, such 'ghost' documents become cited whether or not they are obtainable.

Although our main concern is with the printed document we should note that information exists in other forms. Films and filmstrips²² have been with us for some time and at least one series of tapes is being issued commercially.²³ One article²⁴ suggests (and the general trend of teaching confirms) the future, wider use of audio-visual aids. Indication of such information will need listing in any series of secondary publications. Library Literature already covers some audio-visual material.

²²WHEELER, H. Introducing the library through film. WILSON LIBRARY BULLETIN 41(2) October 1966, 197-199.

Selected 16mm. films and filmstrips on libraries, books and reading. WILSON LIBRARY BULLETIN 32(4) December 1957, 301-302.

²³Library tapes. Charles Burke, Box 494, Westport, Conn. U.S.A.

²⁴VIDAL, S.M.F. de. Audio visual techniques and the history of books. UNESCO BULLETIN FOR LIBRARIES 19(2) March-April 1965, 62-67.

The existing system of bibliographic organisation

There exists a concise summary of this whole subject in F.I.D. News Bulletin²⁵ and Whatley's survey²⁶ provides much detail on the indexing and abstracting services current in 1963-4 and early 1965. It is not intended to duplicate these sources, only to amplify and update them. The situation they describe parallels many other disciplines; there is an ad hoc pattern of growth frequently reflecting the drive and/or initiative of an individual or the aspirations of a small section of the profession. However, the F.I.D. report and work subsequent to it, the Council on Library Resources funding of Whatley's survey and the existence of this Conference, indicate a movement toward rationalisation.

First, to up date Whatley's survey, we mention that an English version of Referativnyj Zhurnal: Nauchnaya i tekhnickeskaya informatsiya²⁷ has been published monthly since January 1967 as Abstract Journal: Scientific and Technical Information. On the last page of the 8th issue of 1967 is printed an 'open letter' from the Editorial Board - this

²⁵Documentation of documentation. FID NEWS BULLETIN 16(4) 1966, 42-43. This periodical is very informative on developments, these are featured in its Documentation Literature and Documentation of Documentation columns.

²⁶WHATLEY, H. A. A survey of the major indexing and abstracting services for library science and documentation. London, Library Association, 1966. See also: Both by H. A. Whatley) Library science periodicals. STECHERT-HAFNER BOOK NEWS 19(5) January 1965, 49-51. Library science and documentation indexing and abstracting services. UNESCO BULLETIN FOR LIBRARIES 19(5) September-October 1965, 226-231.

²⁷SCHUR, H. Documentation and information science abstracts: the Referativnyj Zhurnal... IN: SAUNDERS, W. L. The provision and use of library and documentation services. Oxford, Pergamon Press, 1966.

informs the reader of the subject coverage of the abstracts and the sources used. "The materials are selected among the printed sources arriving at the Institute" [VINITI - The All-Union Institute of Scientific and Technical Information] "from 100 odd countries of the world". Since the subscription is \$10 and at least 3500 abstracts will be published, this is a reasonably cheap service. A scanning of the 8th issue for 1967 leads to the following subjective impressions: its coverage is closest in intent to Documentation Abstracts amongst the other services, but it has a far wider language spread and chooses from a wider frame of reference in terms of fringe disciplines. The time-lag seems to be variable, some publications are abstracted very quickly (strangely these are not always Russian language materials) and some very slowly. Most material abstracted appears to have been published in 1966, and, although there is a significant representation of 1967 material, there is some from as early as 1963. The virtues of AJ seem to be: a) coverage of material in non-expected host periodicals (a by-product of a VINITI-like institution); b) translation into English from difficult languages (although there does not seem much from Oriental languages), and c) the volume of material covered and the aim of comprehensiveness.²⁸

Of the other services listed by Whatley²⁹, American Documentation - Literature Notes and the Documentation Digest of Sci-Tech News have been

²⁸WHATLEY, H. A. cited in 26 above, 27. GILCHRIST, A. cited at 20 above, 70, line 7 and 72, last 2 lines. FID NEWS BULLETIN 16(11) 1966, 103, col. 2, paragraph 5.

²⁹WHATLEY, H. A. cited in 26 above, 14-15. Partially updated by VALENTI, M. Le bibliografie currenti di biblioteconomia e di documentazione. AIB BOLLETTINO D'INFORMAZIONI 6(3-4) May-August 1966, 83-91. 17(4) 1966, 66/889.

absorbed into Documentation Abstracts 1(1) 1966- (quarterly).³⁰ This is jointly sponsored by ADI, SLA, and the American Chemical Society. A quick scanning of the 1966 issues of DA reveals a bias toward English language material in general and U.S. material in particular. There is good coverage of the elusive research report published in the U.S. Material is also taken from other services (e.g. LSA). One would hope to see the internationalisation of DA, since a subscription of \$25 makes for unfavourable comparison with AJ.

The Revue Internationale de la documentation (13 in Whatley's list) has ceased publication with the last issue of 1965; some of its functions have been absorbed by F.I.D. News Bulletin. Regrettably, the Bibliografia service (the reason for it featuring in Whatley's survey) has not been carried over to F.I.D. News Bulletin. Whatley did not mention the annual Bibliographie de la documentation et de la Bibliothéconomie which has also ceased.³¹ This annual publication had potential for exploitation as the international annual index to other abstracting services; it was a cumulation of items mentioned in the Bibliografia section or printed in the Revue.... plus items from other services.

³⁰FID NEWS BULLETIN 16(6) 1966, 57; 17(10) 1967, 109, col. 1. For details of indexing see Documentation Abstracts 1(4) 1966, 34-45 and HOOPER, R. S. An experiment of indexing and classifying the literature of documentation. IN: ADI 29th Annual Meeting, 1966. Progress in information science and technology. Santa Monica, Calif., Adrienne Press, 1966. DA 1(4) 1966, 66-0963.

³¹FID NEWS BULLETIN 15(8) 1965, 29. The 1965 volume published 1966 was the last in the series.

One service not mentioned by Whatley is the Current Documentation Literature section in Annals of Library Science and Documentation; this was an indexing service which started in 1964. The last issue of Annals of volume 12, 1965, carried an Index to Current Documentation Literature (author and subject) which extended to 34 pages and indexed the 2631 entries (arranged by the Colon Classification) which were taken from about 60 periodicals.³²

In 1966 began publication of an index to library science literature in the German language; this is Literatur Zum Bibliothekswesen³³ which is published from Deutschen Staatsbibliothek, Berlin and produced by the Zentralinstitut für Bibliothekswesen, Berlin. The first issue mentions that its publication results from the Budapest conference of December 1964³⁴ which was attended by heads of centres of methodology in library science and documentation from the socialist countries. Two other services are mentioned by the F.I.D. list.³⁵

In 1965 the Budapest Centre of Library Science and Methodology began publication of Express information of foreign literature on library science and documentation. In 1965 there were 4376 entries, mainly of

³²This service is still in being and the 1966-67 issues are likely to include over 3000 entries.

³³For this and other German services: FID NEWS BULLETIN 16(8) 1966, 72, col. 1; 16(10) 1966, 99-100; 17(10) 1967, 109, col. 2.

³⁴BODAY, P. LSA 16(2) 1965, 15184; DA 1(1) 1966, 66-0169.

³⁵Documentation of documentation cited at 25 above, 43, col. 1.

the index or current contents type, but there are sometimes abstract style annotations.³⁶

Two services produced in the U.S.S.R. are of interest because of their purpose. The first, Bibliotekovdenie i bibliografija za rubezhon (Librarianship and bibliography abroad) is produced from the Lenin Library in Moscow and contains articles (by Russians) reporting direct experience abroad or summarising trends in activities abroad. In contrast to this, Informatsija o bibliotechom dele i bibliografii za rubezhom: Sbornik materialov (Information on librarianship and bibliography abroad: collection of materials), produced by the All-Union State Library for Foreign Literature in Moscow and published by Izdatelstvo 'Kniga', translates or abstracts material published abroad. Considering that the Russian librarian also has access to Bibliotekovedie i bibliografija, Referativnyj Zhurnal³⁷ and Teoriya i praktika nauchnoi informatsii (an express information bulletin from VINITI),³⁸ he is remarkably well informed on international developments without the need to know any other languages.

³⁶FID NEWS BULLETIN 15(6) 1965, 17, col. 2; 15(10) 1965, 42-43; 16(4) 1966, 42, col. 1.

³⁷Both covered in WHATLEY, H. A. cited in 26 above.

³⁸FID NEWS BULLETIN 15(10) 1965, 42 col. 2. 100-120 condensed translations of about 1500 words. This reference also mentions other VINITI services as does 16(10) 1966, 99, col. 2.

Other developments since Whatley have included several discussions. Whatley himself has gone to the U.S.A. and discussed mutual problems with the producers of abstracting and indexing services in the U.S.A. In the U.K. a working party of Aslib and the Library Association on the problems of abstracting and indexing library science literature, has reached some measure of agreement on fundamentals. Representatives from the Library Association, Aslib, ADI and the American Chemical Society met on 15th September 1966 to discuss mutual problems. At the time of writing nothing is known of the result of these meetings, except the F.I.D. report.³⁹ One can presume, perhaps, from the evidence of lack of change that the talks have had little effect on the actual services.

The Research Sub-committee of the Reference Special and Information Section of the Library Association, during a consideration of the whole problem of indexing or abstracting U.K. serial literature, gave detailed consideration to LSA. Their report is now under consideration within the Library Association.

Perhaps the most important development since Whatley's survey has been the tests⁴⁰ made on the various services. Gilchrist⁴¹ covered American Documentation - Literature Notes, LSA, Nachrichten fur

³⁹FID NEWS BULLETIN 16(11) 1966; 108, col. 2. paragraph 2 & 3. See also: Library Science Abstracts. IN: Library Association. Annual Report. [for 1966]. London, Library Association, 1967, 19.

⁴⁰WHATLEY, H. A. cited in 26 above, reports on the comparison of LL and LSA on page 56 on his survey. See also: LSA 17(1) 1966, 66/241.

⁴¹GILCHRIST, A. cited at 20 above, the full pagination is 62-80.

Dokumentation, Referativnyj Zhurnal, Revue International de la Documentation and, for one test only, LL. His work utilised a technique suggested by B. C. Vickery and developed by Martyn⁴² who had applied it already within library science.⁴³ Buntrock⁴⁴ was also testing some of these services using a cumulative index of 2685 articles from five documentation journals. This index⁴⁵ brought into being a thesaurus of documentation. None of these articles shows the control of library science literature to be particularly adequate; they reflect the advantages of a variety of services but they emphasise that such a variety still do not produce as good a result as an internationally agreed pattern.

The situation in late 1967 reflects a diversity of effort producing an unsatisfactory result. There is no one service (or group of related services) to which one can turn to receive reliable coverage of current information. The AJ, despite its wide coverage, is still limited to a

⁴²MARTYN, J. & SLATER, M. Tests on abstracts journals. JOURNAL OF DOCUMENTATION 20(4) December 1964, 212-235.

⁴³MARTYN, J. & SLATER, M. cited at 42 above, 222-223.

⁴⁴BUNTROCK, H. Dokumentation der dokumentation. NACHRICHTEN FUR DOKUMENTATION 15(1) March 1964, 53-56 and 15(3) September 1964, 145-147.

⁴⁵In one place Buntrock says that this has 2685 articles (cited at 44 above) in another (BUNTROCK, H. Terminology work... IN: ADI 26th Annual Meeting, 1963. Automation and scientific communication. Washington, D.C., ADI, 1963) he says that the index covers 6000 articles. Buntrock (letter to author dated 3rd March 1966) says that Dr. Cremer of the Institute for Dokumentationswesen in Frankfurt has a copy of the index on computer tape.

fairly narrow area of techniques and related non-library science disciplines (e.g. linguistics, information theory). Its coverage of the basic core of library science is poor. Neither of the other two English language services give as comprehensive coverage: DA is narrow by intention and by its emphasis on U.S. material; LSA is narrow by virtue of economics and its reliance (in part shared by DA) on semi-voluntary effort. The major indexing service, LL is biased toward English language material, particularly material originating in the U.S.A. Other services (e.g. Express Information ... from Hungary) do pose problems of language. There is a pervasive slowness about all the services (Express Information ... being an exception here), and there is nowhere an attempt to present to the English language reader a systematic comprehensive coverage of the core and fringe of library science - either in the form of a comprehensive index to the total information output; or a selective abstract to the major and lasting contributions to the subject.

Little attempt is made in any of the services to list books, pamphlets etc, although LL does cover some books (again there is a U.S. bias) and both LL and AJ mention book reviews. Some sources which concentrate on information regarding books and similar publications are listed below. The Library & Information Bulletin of the Library of the Library Association (1967 - quarterly) gives a list of material classified by the Classification Research Group's Classification for Library Science. This would appear to be listing about 1000 items a year, although this number may grow. The Unesco Library in Paris issues New publications in the Unesco Library

(bi-monthly) - this material is arranged by U.D.C. Each issue of Aslib Proceedings carries a section Selections from the recent literature which lists books etc. in author order; then follows a select list of recent articles etc. also in author order. One can subscribe to Class Z in the Library of Congress proof sheet service;⁴⁶ this is a relatively fast-access international service which receives the benefit of projects like NPAC and PL-480. Thesis literature is covered in part by LL and also in the annual list in Library Quarterly;⁴⁷ both lists reflect U.S. material only. Individual institutions also issue their own list and, of course, national lists (e.g. Dissertation Abstracts) will cover this form of material.

Having covered serial literature, books and pamphlets and thesis literature, there are two further areas which should concern the conference: they are Conferences and research in progress. FID News Bulletin, Scientific Information Notes, Aslib Proceedings, Library Journal and Library Association Record publish lists of conferences; Unesco issues an annual list with supplements. These lists are not records of documents, but they are indication of likely documents. Some conference papers are published as a book; some appear in the serial literature; some are only available as pre-prints to those attending the conference; a final category enjoy a ghost existence, never actually published but cited in the literature.

⁴⁶Material from the Card Division of the Library of Congress. 303 sheets were published in Class Z in 1965.

⁴⁷e.g. LIBRARY QUARTERLY 36(4) October 1966, 325-332.

Research-in-progress is poorly covered. From 1968 the Library Association Yearbook will include details of U.K. research in progress. Since the death of Library Research in Progress there is no one publication offering this sort of cover in the U.S.A., although documentation research is covered in Scientific Information Notes and the annual Current research and development in scientific documentation. We must await the activities of the new ERIC Clearinghouse for Library and Information Sciences at the Center for Documentation Information Retrieval at the University of Minnesota.⁴⁸ The Unesco Bibliography, Documentation, Terminology Bulletin reports internationally within its subject coverage; as does the News and information section of Unesco Bulletin for Libraries. Research in progress and sponsored publications are often revealed through press releases from the funding agency (Council on Library Resources) or a bulletin from a Government agency co-ordinating research (OSTI Newsletter). Lastly, it is worth noting that general lists of scientific research in progress can be used to trace library science research. The three volume Department of Education and Science British Council Scientific Research in British Universities and Colleges, 1966-67, (London, HMSO, 1967) can be cited as an example.

Published research reports are covered in the general book services described above plus the following services. DA gives good cover for U.S. material within its subject areas; the new Research in Education⁴⁹ will

⁴⁸ Material from ERIC and FID NEWS BULLETIN 17(10)1967, 106, col. 1.

⁴⁹ Material from ERIC and FID NEWS BULLETIN 17(10) 1967, 113-114.

be 'fed' by the ERIC Clearinghouse mentioned above. The Journal of Documentation often gives very full abstracts of important research reports; AJ does this also but frequently for material well on the fringe of documentation. Lastly, we can mention the SDI services of the Scientific Documentation Centre; they offer a cover of library science for £40 per year.⁵⁰

As a conclusion to this review of the existing situation (in the English language services) in 1967, we should mention the frequent need for librarians to have access to documents on equipment etc. Library Journal gives an annual listing and Library Technology Reports offer a comprehensive service for reports on specific products. Other countries have centralised library supply agencies.⁵¹ Perhaps one day librarians will have access to international standard catalogues.

This writer had hoped to carry out a full postal survey to update the information contained in Whatley. Regrettably (see Note 1 at front) this has not been possible.

⁵⁰Material from the Scientific Documentation Centre, Halbeath, Dunfermline, Scotland.

⁵¹e.g. DEWE, M. Library supply agencies. LIBRARY ASSOCIATION RECORD 67(1) January 1965, 4-5. References.

Attitudes of the user

In his survey Whatley included a survey of user reaction to the services⁵² but he makes frequent mention of the need for further surveys. Few professional groups can be as undersurveyed (in relationship to their informational needs) as librarians. There is a fair amount of literature commenting on publications (particularly serial publications) but very little on users needs, preferences or gathering habits. Hanson & Tilbury's article⁵³ stands out in this desert, as they themselves say: "The need to find out more about the reading habits of scientists is widely acknowledged. Is there not a good case for finding out about our own?". Their survey was restricted to special librarians who were Aslib members, who happened to be attending the 1962 Aslib conference, and who answered the questionnaire - a small 'activist' sample (as the authors admit). I recommend their survey and the potential areas of investigation which it highlights. In terms of the interests of this Conference we should note⁵⁴ that none of the 86 respondents regularly scanned LL; 26% did so for Revue Internationale de la Documentation; 32% for American Documentation and 39% for LSA. A specific question⁵⁵ was asked about retrospective searching (to which only 62 replied): of these 11 frequently, 26 occasionally used LSA

⁵²WHATLEY, H. A. cited in 26 above, 60-65.

⁵³HANSON, C.W. & TILBURY, P. Literature read by Aslib conference attenders. JOURNAL OF DOCUMENTATION 19(2) June 1963, 63-71

⁵⁴HANSON, C. W. & TILBURY, P. cited at 53 above, 65, Table I.

⁵⁵HANSON, C. W. & TILBURY, P. cited at 53 above, 69, Table 7.

and 2 frequently, 2 occasionally used LL. Before leaving this survey, attention should be drawn to Hanson's review paper⁵⁶ covering the general problems of research into users' needs.

Mary Lee Bundy's survey⁵⁷ is very thorough, unfortunately she did not ask any question directly related to this Conference. She did ask one question to discover where public library administrators ranked library science periodicals as a source of information in a list of various possible sources. Library periodicals came third after contacts with librarians (first) and library institutes and workshops (second).⁵⁸

Other literature tends to concentrate on the content of the periodical - its quality, quantity or informational value. I mention these articles briefly since most contain opinions or facts which are still relevant to the profession. Benge⁵⁹ surveys five U.K. periodicals. Wilson⁶⁰ covers

⁵⁶HANSON, C. W. Research on users' needs: where is it getting us? ASLIB proceedings 16(2) February 1964, 64-78.

⁵⁷BUNDY, Mary Lee. Public library administrators view their professional periodicals. ILLINOIS LIBRARIES 43(6) June 1961, 397-420.

⁵⁸BUNDY, Mary Lee. cited at 57 above, 417.

⁵⁹BENGE, R. B. Our library journals. LIBRARY ASSISTANT 44(2) October 1951, 117-120.

⁶⁰WILSON, Louis Round. The challenge of library literature to education for librarianship, 1923-1953. IN: SHORES, Louis. Challenges to librarianship. Tallahassee, Fla., Florida State University, 1953. Reprinted in: WILSON, L. R. Education and libraries: selected papers. London, Crosby Lockwood, 1967, 277-291.

the expansion of library science literature in the U.S.A. from 1923-1953. The ALA Library Periodicals Round Table did some important work, the results of which were published in its Newsletter.⁶¹ One could cite Carnovsky's article⁶² on standards as typical of the higher level of contribution. Jack Bird published two long articles on library literature;^{63,64} his 1955 article is a general comment on quality; whilst in 1956 he is relating these general comments to the need for research in library science and the need to encourage the research mentality in the library school educand. In 1955 the Illinois Library Association gave over part of its annual conference to the subject of library science publications; the results were published in the I.L.A. Record.⁶⁵ This symposium contains another article on standards from Carnovsky.⁶⁶ 1961 saw the publication of two further articles in the

⁶¹AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION LIBRARY PERIODICALS ROUND TABLE NEWSLETTER 1(1) April 1954- 10(1) June 1963. Ceased. See: Selection of "Best articles" from the LPRT Newsletter 1954-1962, last page of last issue.

⁶²CARNOVSKY, L. Standards for library periodicals. LIBRARY JOURNAL 30(3) February 1, 1955, 264-269.

⁶³BIRD, J. A new look at library literature - or why write about information work? ASLIB PROCEEDINGS 7(2) May 1955, 74-83.

⁶⁴BIRD, J. Role of professional periodicals in education for library and information work. ASLIB PROCEEDINGS 8(1) February 1956, 55-67.

⁶⁵I.L.A. RECORD 9(4) April 1956, 61-72.

⁶⁶CARNOVSKY, L. Library periodicals: objectives - theory and practice. I.L.A. RECORD 9(4) April 1956, 69-72.

U.S.A.: Thompson⁶⁷ wishes for a reduction in the number of periodicals produced; Castagna⁶⁸ comments on the literary style of writers on technical processes. In 1963 one whole issue of Occasional Papers⁶⁹ was given over to The Literature of Library Technical Services, but a valuable opportunity was missed since the document is, in substance, an annotated bibliography. A better survey is provided by Wynar,⁷⁰ here concerned with reference theory.

Whatley has published two articles reviewing LSA after five⁷¹ and ten⁷² years. In both articles, but especially in the latter, he gives some indication of librarian's reactions to LSA. He reports on a survey made of British schools of librarianship in 1959; 23 replies were received from the staffs of these schools which, in the main, showed satisfaction with LSA. At this point we can cite the article by Rippon & Foskett⁷³ demonstrating the value of LSA.

⁶⁷THOMPSON, D. E. The sad state of library literature. ALA BULLETIN 55(7) July-August 1961, 642-644.

⁶⁸CASTAGNA, E. Please help me to understand. LIBRARY RESOURCES & TECHNICAL SERVICES 5(4) Fall 1961, 301-306.

⁶⁹A.L.A. Resources and Technical Services Division. Publications Committee. The Literature of library technical services. Urbana, Ill., University of Illinois Graduate School of Library Science, 1963. (Occasional papers, 58, revised).

⁷⁰WYNAR, B. S. Reference theory: situation hopeless but not impossible. COLLEGE & RESEARCH LIBRARIES 28(5) September 1967, 337-342.

⁷¹WHATLEY, H. A. Library Science Abstracts - five years old. LIBRARY ASSOCIATION RECORD 57(5) May 1955, 183-185.

⁷²WHATLEY, H. A. Ten years of Library Science Abstracts. LIBRARY ASSOCIATION RECORD 62(5) May 1960, 143-145.

⁷³RIPPON, J. S. & FOSKETT, D. J. Abstracts and library science. LIBRARY ASSISTANT 45(5) May 1952, 68-73.

Lastly, in this section on the attitude of the user we may mention some articles which have reviewed the activities of a single journal. Huang⁷⁴ studied Journal of Cataloging and Classification/Library Resources and Technical Services from 1948-1964; an interesting contribution to the history of ideas within library science. Katz⁷⁵ gives an idea of the problems of a library science journal with his article on Library Journal. Schulze⁷⁶ studies the history of Zentrallblatt für Bibliothekswesen. On serials history see also Blough.⁷⁷

Noting the lack of material on the information gathering habits of the user (in this instance, the librarian) this writer had initiated two surveys. The first was of the staff of the College of Librarianship Wales; the second of the Delegates to the CLW/British Council International Course for Senior Librarians. Unfortunately, due to the writer's accident, he was not able to 'encourage' both groups to complete their survey documents. This has resulted in a very unsatisfactory return of documents expressed as a proportion of the potential response.

⁷⁴HUANG, T. S. JCC/LRTS 1948-1964: one man's view. LIBRARY RESOURCES & TECHNICAL SERVICES 11(1) Winter 1967, 14-21.

⁷⁵KATZ, B. A day at LJ. LIBRARY JOURNAL 91(12) June 15, 1966, 3110-3116.

⁷⁶SCHULZE, H. Zum 80. Jahrgang des Zfb. ZENTRALBLATT FÜR BIBLIOTHEKSWESEN 80(8) August 1966, 449-455. My source: LSA 17(4) 1966, 66/892.

⁷⁷BLOUGH, N. L. Histories of some major library periodicals. Columbus, Ohio, Western Reserve University, 1955. (Master's project). My source: ALLEN, W. C. [Review of the above]. LPRT NEWSLETTER 4(1) January 1957, 6-7.

In the case of the survey of staff only 14 replies were received of a possible 32; an inadequate number for any conclusions. The view may be expressed that 32 is too small a number anyway; it is the author's contention that the staff of a library school are the profession in miniature. In addition these 32 were not an unknown group; unlike most surveys this writer knew the respondents well and also knew what services they had access to. These postulates mean that only 100% response makes it possible to judge the validity of the hypothesis. Perhaps this matter will be considered by the Conference; perhaps it could survey itself - my questionnaire exists and can be adapted.

The second survey attempted to discover the situation in the 19 countries represented on the course. But of the 25 possible replies only ten were received; again too small a response to test the theory or provide data for general conclusions.

What then is to be done - steps toward a model scheme

This writer was requested by the Conference Planning Committee to describe a model scheme of bibliographic organization. As this article has developed two facts became evident: there is no co-ordination of effort in the English language bloc of the profession with regard to bibliographic organization, and, the needs of the profession have never been adequately surveyed. It is essential that the profession be surveyed to discover our needs; such a survey should take note of specialisms and levels of authority.

This writer's first recommendation is thus that since no individual or group should impose services or postulate model systems without knowing the needs of users, steps be taken to begin such a survey. The profession has reached the stage where an International Committee from the English language bloc should be formed and charged with an oversight of library science information problems. The A.L.A. already contains one group, of which this writer has the honour of being a member - the Committee on Relations of Library School Libraries.⁷⁸ From the kernel of such a group could be formed the nucleus of the committee which I postulate above; this should contain the librarians of the professional associations (such persons being charged with authority to speak for their associations), one librarian from a library school in each country and one representative of the user group. Whilst the main committee is based on the U.S.; one can see the advantage for nation sub-committees reflecting all those within the country with an interest in relevant problems.

This committee would have three tasks; carried out in each country and then co-ordinated by the main committee. The first task is to survey the information needs of a representative sample of the profession in English language countries. Such a survey should be carefully structured to avoid the common error of audience surveys - where responses reflect standards taken from existing media. If the questions were centered on information needs then the profile would reflect information need, not

⁷⁸ Committee on Relations of Library School Libraries. ALA BULLETIN 61(10) November 1967, 1204, col. 1.

use of publications. This is not to deny the validity of questions concerning existing media (both primary and secondary levels) but to highlight the main point of the survey.

Whilst the user survey was taking place, the national sub-committees should study the structure of the existing information pattern. How does the information manifest itself - what is published, in what language, by whom written, with what purpose, for which audience? To show that this can be done in some detail one can examine the relevant chapters in Pings' study⁷⁹ of nursing literature in journal form. The I.C.S.U. is carrying out a series of studies⁸⁰ as are other bodies;⁸¹ either of types of publications or small subject areas. What should result is an information profile of library science.

Once these two profiles were completed, their comparison would yield information vital to the development of information media in library science. First, need registered in the user profile with no satisfaction in the information profile indicates subjects inadequately covered in the primary information. Second, need registered in the user profile for which

⁷⁹PINGS, V. M. A plan for indexing the periodical literature of nursing. New York, American Nurses' Foundation Inc., 1966.

⁸⁰e.g. I.C.S.U. Abstracting Board. Some characteristics of primary periodicals in the domain of the physical sciences. Paris, ICSU, 1966.

⁸¹e.g. AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PHYSICS. The role of 'Letters' journals in primary distribution of information... New York, N.Y., A.I.P., 1954
(AIP/DRP 64-1)

satisfaction exists in the information profile informs us that the links between need and satisfaction are inadequate. The links between need and satisfaction are generally emphasised in the bibliographic organisation of a subject area: secondary publications should 'signal' or 'indicate' to those with a need that primary information (covered by secondary services) contains satisfaction of that need.⁸²

The third task of the committee is to construct a master scheme of information services in the English language. This will: a) fill those gaps revealed in the primary publication pattern; b) bring into existence a co-ordinated system of secondary publications best suited to the needs of the profession.

In the face of this plan it seems unnecessary to stress that the model scheme which I postulate below is a highly tentative suggestion. It is a modification of the existing pattern aimed at removing the worst excess of lack of coverage and inadequate intergration. It is a model only in this author's view; his views are no better than any other individual. We cannot talk of true models until we know true needs: needs cannot be estimated by pundits from above but must arise from the known views of a representative sample of the whole potential audience.

The profession (I emphasise again that my remarks refer to librarians in the English language bloc) needs three types of service which it is not receiving:

⁸²for an explanation of 'need' and 'satisfaction' see: CORRIGAN, P. R. D. Spin-off/Fall-out. LIBRARY WORLD 69(309) November 1967, 126, col. 1.

1. Fast access to current information
2. Comprehensive record for ultimate search
3. Access to foreign thought through translation abstracts

The third item will be used as document-substitutes because, either the serial is not widely available, or, more frequently, the language of the article makes it incomprehensible.

Before I detail the services I wish to examine two paradoxes. If you want service from a secondary publication, you cannot expect speed. If you demand speed, it is very difficult to expect service. Exceptions to this paradox result from the application of money. This, in turn, indicates that the subject areas concerned are of great economic, military or social significance. Probably a million dollars would solve the world bibliographic organization problem in library science - but that million would have to be used year after year.

The fact of economic significance can already be seen at work in library science. National government funds are pouring into those areas which will aid the national economy in some way. Documentation areas have benefited more from this than the so-called 'standard' practices of public and academic libraries.⁸³ The millions that have been spent on automated indexing, and computerised information retrieval, mechanical translation, would not have been given unless those areas were seen to

⁸³CUADRA, C. Introduction to the ADI Annual Review. IN: Annual Review of information science and technology, 1. New York, Interscience/Wiley, 1966, 3.

have economic significance. Some of the sages of the profession in the U.K. are keen to highlight the worst idiocies of 'more money than sense'; mistaking the extreme for the norm they make your professional credo a caricature of itself. To this writer there are signs that the U.K. is following, albeit on a smaller scale relative to the U.S. but large enough relative to U.K. research in general, a similar path toward excess in some research areas.

The second paradox which I wish to emphasise centers around the locality of the service given. If the service is truly local (i.e. each person serviced by his own institution) then services begin by being tailored to the needs of the individual and continue to reflect that individuals changing circumstance. However, local services are limited by the materials available and the limited skills and language knowledge of the operators of the service. National services tend to have these skills and access to material, but they aim at a hypothetical average user; individual needs tend to be ignored. International single language services tend to have the greatest expertise and access to the most material, but they aim at national average users; individual preferences disappear completely. It was once thought that SDI would solve this paradox, but reactions from one experiment⁸⁴ and my own experience in trying to establish the subject interests of library school faculty, tend to make

⁸⁴AITCHISON, T. M. Investigating SDI. ASLIB PROCEEDINGS 17(12) December 1965 343-353. AITCHISON, T. M. & CLAGUE, E. P. Selective dissemination of information project. Report. London, National Electronics Research Council, 1966.

this impossible of realisation. It is hoped that the surveys suggested earlier (and postulated below) will solve some aspects of the above paradox.

The librarian's first need is fast access to international information. Since fast access is the aim of this service, we can expect very few services to be performed for us. If we postulate about 10,000 documents (all forms) per year that exist within library science or are relevant to it; the service has to appear frequently enough to make each issue capable of being scanned from cover to cover. Fortnightly publication would keep each issue to under 400 items. Having said this, we must acknowledge that many users will not scan the whole issue. This makes some form of subject arrangement, necessary, but, since fast access is the overriding aim, this subject arrangement must be easy to apply. There are grounds for experimentation here; this is possible since this service is a new one and there are thus no problems of continuity and the service does not cumulate and thus compatibility from issue to issue is not required. As part of the annual survey (suggested for all three services) users could be asked which subject arrangement they preferred.

Economic parameters would also effect the choice of possible arrangements. The method of arrangement must not be so difficult to use that it delays the appearance of information. The system used must not act as a barrier to fast access or involve a two-step retrieval procedure (from item

to source of item via a code). To save time (emphasising again the main purpose of the service) titles in foreign languages would not be translated: their subject content being revealed by the subject arrangement.

One final point about the subject arrangement concerns the danger of over exact classification. The system used must be an adequate 'signalling' device without the error of over exact specification. This latter mistake 'hides' material under too specific descriptors. An adequate signalling system in a fast access information service invites the user to browse through fairly large sections of the service. Because it is not carrying out any deep subject analysis it should not 'lull' the user into believing that such analysis has been carried out. As an aside we might highlight the worrying trend in some of current professional research which is direct contrast to the method of thought of the creative person. Our talk of precision, recall, relevance or very specific SDI, reinforces the trends toward specialism built in by education and economic need. I have dealt with this elsewhere⁸⁵ and will close this aside by adapting Shera:⁸⁶ information indicating services do not equal cogitation, they should prepare the way for it.

⁸⁵CORRIGAN, P. R. D. cited at ⁸² above, 126.

⁸⁶"... education is not a substitution for experience, but a preparation for it." SHERA, J. H. & PERRY, J. W. Changing concepts of classification... IN: KAULA, P. N. Library science today. London, Asia P.H., 1965.

Having outlined the service in general terms, we can consider some practical details. The service should be based on an international range of information within library science and a more limited range of information for subjects relevant to library science but not part of it. Since the aim is fast access there is a relationship between the age of a document and the decision to include it. Everything discovered which is over six months old should not feature in the fast access service, its place is in the permanent record since its function is completeness of record. The International Committee mentioned above should agree on which journals represent the core list and the fortnightly service would be complete for these journals (except non-relevant advertisements and non-relevant book reviews). It can be best understood as a semi-automatic service; non-discriminatory in what it lists within the core areas. Core journals would need to be air-mailed to the service. The service would also need access to a wide range of national bibliographies and listing services (particularly of a fast access nature, e.g. LC Proof sheet service) and reliable forward-listing services. Similarly lists of theses and research material would need to be available. Material beyond the core imposes a considerable strain. For relevant material in unusual host periodicals, the service would either need access to its own store of world serial literature; could poach on other fast access service listings, or would need to rely on individuals. The latter method has many faults, witness the problem experienced by DA and LSA. The middle path ('poaching') has the disadvantage that material would thus be delayed in proportion to the speed of the service

from which material was poached. The first choice (access to world serial literature) is not too utopian; since a few months experience would soon reveal the second core of journals which frequently contain relevant material. Relevant material 'hidden' in books is much more difficult and here, as for the really out-of-the-way periodical article, there is a need to rely on individuals. As mitigation, the International Committee could give each national sub-committee responsibility for journals or subject areas for this kind of material.

This leads to the problem of who should produce the service and what its pricing and distribution policy should be. Since the U.S.A. produces the majority of English language material, it seems fitting that the U.S.A. should be the host country for such a service. Its location within the U.S.A. would be influenced by access to the various types of material listed above. Without knowing the relative disadvantages of the various possible locations it would be foolish if I named one, but the newly created ERIC Clearinghouse would however seem to have some advantages.

As far as distribution policy is concerned, we are driven to the conclusion that since speed is of the essence we must consider a two stage distribution policy. It is suggested that the centre handle distribution within the U.S. and that it send to each national distribution centre (the professional association), airmail proof of each issue. The national distribution centres would undertake distribution within the country. This brings us to pricing policy: since the aim of all services is to encourage

access to the literature, prices should reflect this aim and not deter use. For this reason free distribution is the aim (The Express Information... from Hungary is a free service) and possibly the two step distribution method makes this possible. Professional associations could see this service as part of their overall assistance to members; making a direct payment to the centre supplying them with copy and bearing the postage costs from their own funds.

A further advantage of the two step distribution method is that, to some extent, it throws the problem of self-sufficiency in journals covered, onto the national professional groups. Each national sub-committee could guarantee at least one location for every serial in the core collection. Loans or photocopies could thus be arranged. A third step could be introduced into the distribution method, particularly in large countries, where area distribution centres distributed copy to their users (e.g. library school libraries to faculty, students and local librarians).

The fortnightly service described above attempts to satisfy the need for fast access to current information. The second level service is an attempt to satisfy the need for comprehensive coverage of the whole record. Since the fast access service has a life of a single issue, we need the second level service published monthly. However, the monthly issue of the second level service should not be regarded as a cumulation of the two preceding fortnightly publications. The two services have

different functions, the monthly service aims at completeness. In the monthly service the subject analysis would be more structured toward the retrieval of specific information. As well as deeper subject analysis we can expect several other services from this monthly publication - first where the document demands it, double entry may be made;⁸⁷ second, titles not in English should be translated, and third the service should cumulate. Like the fortnightly service the monthly publication should be complete for the select list (internationally agreed) of core journals. Since its aim is completeness it should include an item no matter how late this comes to its notice.

For reasons of economy we cannot require more than an index from this service; this is the most suitable form for a comprehensive record of the literature. Unlike the fortnightly service I think that this monthly service can be created from an existing publication: Library Literature. To suit the service postulated above, LL will need to: expand its coverage of core journals; achieve access to a range of library science information in book, pamphlet, thesis or report form (unlike the fortnightly service, the monthly index must be based on actual documents not secondary sources; its subject analysis demands this and it will be

⁸⁷for a discussion of this see: RANGANATHAN, S. R. Seepage, multifocalness and slant in a document. IN: RANGANATHAN, S. R. & NEELAMEGHAN, A. Documentation periodicals. Bangalore, Indian Statistical Institute Documentation Research and Training Centre, 1963. (DRTC Seminar, 1)



a source of data), and be published monthly. It would need to utilise the rest of the H. W. Wilson organisation to ensure adequate coverage of fringe material and core material occurring in unusual host journals.

I would prefer to see the new LL come off the service basis and move to a straightforward pricing policy. I suspect that a median price in the upper range of the present policy, will not lose many subscriptions. Since the new LL will aim to be a complete record of information, I am sure that new subscriptions will be forthcoming.

The present indexing system used in LL is not the most efficient. The start of the new service would seem a useful period to introduce a new subject structure, the intervening period offers an opportunity for an overhaul of the index language and structure. I have used the occasion of two reviews to comment⁸⁸ on some faults of indexing services arranged on the dictionary principle and some of those criticisms can be made against LL. I urge upon the new LL a survey of its users at the end of the first year under the new system.

The third area of need which we have earlier postulated, was access to foreign thought and development through abstracts in the English language. If we set on one side, for the moment, DA and AJ (because their subject

⁸⁸British Humanities Index [Review]. JOURNAL OF DOCUMENTATION 21(1) March 1965, 70-73. Guide to Indian periodical literature [Review]. JOURNAL OF DOCUMENTATION 21(3) September 1965, 208-9.

coverage is deliberately narrow), this leaves LSA. From Whatley's table⁸⁹ of periodicals contributing the most abstracts to LSA and Gilchrist's analysis⁹⁰ of abstracts by language of source document, together with an examination of any issue of LSA, we see a heavy bias toward English language source documents.

I feel that some of this arises from the anxiety which the editor of LSA must feel when making his selection of abstracts for each issue. He is unsure whether another service will cover an item. If we can give the editor this assurance he could be more selective in his abstracting (there is no need to attempt blanket coverage) or the use of space (several items in LSA are index entries only). What we can demand of the abstracting service is the provision of abstracts which can be used as document substitutes. Three kinds of abstracts are needed: brief abstracts of statistical reports; medium abstracts of major contributions to theory or descriptions of practice (not routine reports and not personalised accounts), and longer abstracts of important developments abroad where the original source document is in a foreign language. All these abstracts should be informative and not indicative. If we relieve LSA of its double burden of coverage and abstracting, and allow it to be selective by criteria of excellence and 'the need to know', we can expect abstracts of the major research reports, theses and books of the year also.

⁸⁹WHATLEY, H. A. cited in 26 above, 25.

⁹⁰GILCHRIST, A. cited at 20 above, 72, Table 7.

If we postulate the above coverage, publication should be every two months and the target should be 500 abstracts a month (3000 a year), about 50% being translation abstracts from foreign language originals. We could rename the new service International LSA, since it would be international in coverage.

If the new service is to be adequate we cannot expect the existing organization to be able to create the new service. LSA depends on a part-time editor, funding by subscription, and semi-voluntary labour. Since it will benefit, the profession in the English language bloc must give support, either by direct funding (from the professional associations in each nation) or by assistance toward its production (each country guaranteeing to underwrite the salary of a section of the work). Those associations which wished could include ILSA in the services to members. Where the new service should be situated I am not sure; given the international support envisaged above one imagines that the Library of the Library Association has the serial literature to support this service. The new costs would be for staff and printing and distribution costs.

I am not sure whether the existing subject arrangement of LSA is fitted to its new role. Since abstracts are document substitutes we should demand a more exact subject arrangement, possibly involving the use of a classification system. The subject index could then refer to subject descriptors (notation) not to abstracts. Dissatisfaction with the index is one complaint frequently made against the existing LSA.

I urge on the new IILSA an annual survey of users as for the other services.

We can now tabulate the new services:

1. LIBRARY SCIENCE INFORMATION (LSI): Current Awareness

Fortnightly.

Comprehensive of core journals

Comprehensive of core books, pamphlets, theses, research reports, conferences, symposia

Selective of fringe areas; material judged by date

No translation of foreign titles

General subject arrangement. Experimentation during first year

Non-cumulating

Low-price/free. Two (or three) stage distribution

Survey of users

Produced by? (ERIC Clearinghouse)

2. LIBRARY LITERATURE: INDEX

Monthly.

Comprehensive of core journals

Comprehensive of all other relevant material wherever found, whatever form

Translation of foreign titles

Specific subject arrangement with revised subject headings/thesaurus in use

Cumulating. Annual. Five yearly

Standard price. Direct distribution.

Survey of users

Produced by H. W. Wilson. Possible co-operation with Centre producing 1

3. INTERNATIONAL LIBRARY SCIENCE ABSTRACTS: ABSTRACTS

Every two months

Selective within core areas

Highly selective within fringe

Translation-abstracts

Possible use of classified arrangement

Cumulating annually via author, title indexes
 coded to abstract numbers; subject index
 coded to classification. Five yearly
 cumulations of all abstracts interfiled and new
 indexes to the five yearly cumulation.

Standard price. Direct or indirect distribution
 Survey of users

Produced by? (International funding via International
 Committee, work done at Library of Library Association?)

This leaves two services: DA and AJ, both restricting themselves to documentation and allied topics. Given the existence of AJ, with monthly publication and its vast coverage (over 35000 abstracts in 1967), I wonder whether there is still a need for DA. It was brought into being (one presumes) by inadequate coverage in existing services, but this was before January 1967; since that date AJ has been appearing with four times as many abstracts.

Given the new pattern of services (listed above) and given that they will cover documentation as one of the subjects within library science, does DA need to continue? Neither old LL or old LSA were tuned to their needs; they would be under the new system. LSA is not useful to the documentalist at the moment,⁹¹ but over 10% of the actual abstracts in the first issue of DA are taken from LSA and some of these are from U.S. journals! Many entries in all issues of DA to date are index entries (or little more): they would have faster access of this kind through

⁹¹GILCHRIST, A. cited at 20 above, 69, line 9 of text.

the fortnightly and monthly services proposed. In the ILSA major developments would be covered, including major research reports, and the new ILSA will appear every two months. The DA, or rather its sponsoring organisations, will be in a position to influence the core journals for the first two levels of service and to influence the balance of abstracts in ILSA.

The DA machinery could if they wished act as a feeder for the AJ service, although whether this is possible from the U.S.A. side or acceptable from the U.S.S.R. side is another matter. I think that DA has done some pioneering work in its method of production and some of its indexing techniques, but its continued existence after the initial stages of the new services would be increasingly anachronistic. The new services aim to serve all library science, part of which (as DA has demonstrated by material taken from Library Science Abstracts) is called documentation.

Before comparing the postulated trio of services with the existing situation and Whatley's survey, I wish to comment on some by-products from the new service. It should be possible to take from the new style LL sectional bibliographies for specific subject areas (e.g. new developments in documentation; library buildings; the use of computers in library administration) and to couple these bibliographies with relevant translation-abstracts from the new ILSA. The resulting surveys could either

be published as they stand or sent to specialists who would review the literature listed/abstracted on the lists. There is a demand for special subject listings of this nature, either for the researcher beginning a project or for faculty at library schools. They can be produced for relatively little effort.

This was done for the 1st and 2nd issues of the Annual Review of Information Science and Technology (Interscience/Wiley, 1966, 1967), but they had to be compiled by SDC or Annual Review staff. This kind of work can be a semi-effortless by product of other adequate service. I know that in the case of one five yearly review within library science, much of the time of those preparing the reviews is wasted on simply discovering what has been written.

The advantage which the postulated system has over the existing pattern is that international coverage through co-ordinated services on three levels, make available to the English language world the total information file of library science information. Each service will survey its users and modify its services in response to feedback. The user and information surveys suggested will lead to modifications or possibly abandonment of some of the services which I have postulated. My 'model' it is emphasised is based solely on this writer's view of the existing system. The system proposed is also amenable to adaptations in technology. Whatever technology is used there is still likely to be a need for fast access; a complete record of all existing information; document substitutes, particularly from foreign language originals.

Whether these arrive through the post, on a console, or dialed on long distance telefacsimile, or are stored on micro-chips, the needs remain. The biggest possible change would arise through such developments in technology that made national services capable of being tailored to individual needs.

My proposals differ from those of Whatley.⁹² My main objections to his survey and proposals centre around the appearance of a priori considerations which seem to permeate his report. Whilst I can be charged with similar a priori beliefs, mine open opportunities, they do not ossify or limit still further existing inadequacies. There is a detectable ambivalence in his survey (which may be unconscious) towards surveys of users; several of his recommendations are made as concrete statements without possibility of variation after any survey. His method of providing access, through abstracts, to foreign language material, involving a two step process, would seem to delay the time when, say, the English language reader, would have access to information on foreign developments. I have had the view represented to me that library science is a slow, soft discipline and there is no urgency in obtaining access to information. This seems to me a view which bears little relation to the real world; a world which, without adopting the stance of the prophet of doom with his image of the continents subsiding beneath the weight of paper, is obviously producing information at an accelerating rate. Necessity is forcing

⁹²WHATLEY, H. A. cited in 26 above, 68-70.

librarians to move from defense to attack, the literature of attack is the literature of science. I think that this post-war period has seen library science harden to the point where the problems have been standardised and internationalised, where an Indian University Librarian shares the problems of a French documentalist. The times are changing and we need new services to acknowledge that change.

This brings me to the methods of financing the new services. And to the Council on Library Resources. I am amazed that CLR has so rarely made any grants which help the flow of information to librarians; most of its grants sponsor research which produce fresh publications that are lost in the total store of information through inadequate control. Far better for CLR to 'lubricate' the flow of existing information to those who need to be made aware of it, than add to the weight of unknown material.

It is to CLR that I suggest the International Committee turn for its finances - for the two surveys, for the initial costs of the three new services and for grants in aid as new areas of need are revealed. There is an obvious need for co-ordination between the three services: some sort of executive committee of the editors of the three services plus a co-ordinating executive secretary. The fortnightly service will have relatively low costs if it is based on an existing collection of literature which is adequate, if the two step distribution method is adopted. The Editor will obviously be professional, he may need one or

two professional assistants and there will need to be clerical staff. The problem of financing the increase in scope of LL could be partly lessened by a double use of serial literature from the fortnightly service centre, or by siting the editorial work of the LL at the fortnightly centre. Funding the expansion of the new ILSA is largely a staffing problem (particularly as translator-abstracters will be needed), distribution and other editorial costs (materials) should be amply covered by subscription. In all cases we might find that CLR needs to help for the first year of the new services.

Unless I be pictured as the man from the Marshall plan, let us examine the specific situation of the U.S.A. To begin with allow me to quote Pings:⁹³

"The United States contributes more than any other to the scholarly record of nursing and consequently should have the greatest concern that the system of bibliographic control be devised to ensure, in part at least, an effective use of this record. On the other hand, even though as a nation the United States contributes the most to the scholarly record of nursing, it still publishes less than one third of the total and, consequently, if the practise of nursing in the United States is to be recognised as being an art and a science, then its interest must be international in scope."

⁹³PINGS, V. M. cited at 79 above, 105.

Substitute 'library science' for 'nursing' and I could not have expressed it better myself. The U.S.A. gives much to librarianship but because its needs are great it must take much also; to allow it to take it must have access to world information on library science. To provide that access you need an adequate range of services which indicate the existence of relevant information. By offering these services to the English language world, by co-ordinating them through an International Committee from that world, you gain much. The other countries will assist where they can, by distribution of the fortnightly service, by direct funding of ILSA, by national self-sufficiency in journal literature: we can help out when the services are going, only the U.S.A. (or more exactly CLR) have the resources for inception.

Subsidiary funding might be possible through Unesco; but an international organization might well object to funding a single language bloc's services. There is no reason why the postulated surveys and services should not be copied by other language groups and perhaps in some Erewhon about Nirvana year there will be a series of international services based on the same set of journals, produced in international harmony, by Unesco. International agreements take time. Let us begin with the English language bloc, the largest reading language bloc in the world, after the Chinese.

As a final note I would state again that my system is simply that; my own view of possible developments. It is a point from which discussion can begin; a polarisation from which others can be repelled, or toward which still others can be attracted. The best system can only come from a discovery of what users actually need. I close with Shera:⁹⁴

"... one must first decide what system is best suited to one's needs and leave the problem of its financing until all other considerations have been taken into account. Eventually circumstances may compel the tailoring of the suit to fit the cloth, but librarians should not argue from poverty, and should compromise with their ideals only as a last resort. Above all the librarian must know that he is compromising, and how much he is losing in the bargain."

January, 1968

⁹⁴SHERA, J. H. On keeping up with keeping up. UNESCO BULLETIN FOR LIBRARIES, 16(2) March-April 1962, 65, paragraph 2.