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ABSTRACT

The aim of this survey, based on material held in the Aslib Library, was to produce a list of items dealing with cost and costings in library services, for use within the Aslib Research Department. Attention has been concentrated on material published since 1960, although a few items prior to this date have been included. Items which are considered to be particularly helpful have been marked with an asterisk. During the course of the search, references were found to material on related measurements, e.g., times, and it appeared useful that these also be included. However, no exhaustive search was made for such items; hence these sections are appended not as comprehensive lists, but rather as suggested readings. (Author)

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**A Selective Bibliography on Measurement in
Library and Information Services**

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Introduction

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During the course of the search, references were found to material on related measurements, e.g. times, and it appeared useful that these also be included. However, no exhaustive search was made for such items; hence these sections are appended not as comprehensive lists, but rather as suggested readings.

April 1970

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- E. Author Index**

Section A – Cost

Cost accounting

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Managerial cost accounting for a technical information center. *Amer. Docum.*, April 1969, v.20, no.2, p.111–118. Guidelines for designing a cost accounting system).
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Cost accounting forms designed by the Cost Accounting Study Committee of the Library Administration and Technical Services Section [of the Michigan Library Association]. *Michigan Libr.*, December 1963, v.29, no.4, p.19–21. (Specimen forms designed to 'aid the libraries to determine the unit cost of technical services of a library').

Cost analysis

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Cost analysis and simulation procedures for the evaluation of large information systems. *Amer. Docum.*, April 1964, v.15., no.2, p.142–149. ('A computer program has been written and used which simulates the several-year operation of an information system, and computes estimates of the expected operating costs.....')
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Cost analysis study: a project on technical processes seminar; under the direction of B.S. Wymar and H.R. Malinowsky. Denver, Col., 1965. (Report of a cost-analysis study (1960-1) of the Acquisitions, Cataloguing, Marking and Binding Units of the University of Denver

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Cost benefit analysis

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Program budgeting and cost benefit analysis in libraries. *Coll. Res. Libr.*, March 1969, v.30, no.2, p.156–160. (Discussion of general principles).

Costing

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System design, evaluation and costing. *Spec. Libr.*, October 1967, v.58, no.8, p.576–581. ('.....Two basic principles that are discussed and emphasised are the need to define what the program should and should not be doing, and the need and means for determining real as opposed to apparent costs in the design process.')
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Costing continued

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Technical service costs, statistics and standards. *Libr. Resources Tech. Serv.*, 1967, v.11, no.4, p.436-442. (Suggests methods for establishing costs and standards).

Costs

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Cost characteristics of library service. *Spec. Libr.*, December 1967, v.58, no.10, p.686-691. (Reports on a 1966 survey of nine aerospace libraries, gathering data on circulation, library staff, patrons served, library space. '.....Total operating costs of each aerospace library were estimated by using a fixed dollar amount spent per library staff member.')

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Library cost models: owning vs borrowing serial publications. Washington, DC, NSF, 1968. (A study of four university libraries. Costs studied were: acquisitions; subscriptions; cataloguing; binding; marking; administration; training. Contains tables of cost data).

Costs - abstracting

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Publications of the library and information department. In Ashworth, W. *Handbook of special librarianship and information work*. 3rd ed. rev. and enl., Aslib., 1967. p.482-532. (Offers some comparative costs for abstracting and reproduction methods).

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Book acquisition costs. *Libr. J.*, April 1965, v.90, no.7, p.1612-3. (Analysis of book acquisition costs of the public library, Toledo, Ohio.)

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Costs - bibliographic data conversion

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An analysis of bibliographic data conversion costs. *Libr. Resources Tech. Serv.*, 1968, v.12, no.3, p.296-311. (Describes studies made by the staff of the Marc Pilot Project to determine costs involved in converting bibliographic data to machine-readable form.)

Costs - book catalogue production

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The economics of book catalogue production: a study prepared for Stanford University Libraries and the Council on Library Resources. Sherman Oaks, Ca., Advanced Information Systems, 1964.

Costs – book catalogue production continued
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Costs – buildings and equipment

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Library building costs. *Coll. Res. Libr.*, March, 1965, v.26, no.2, p.109–113. (‘The principles upon which data concerning costs of academic library buildings and their furnishings and equipment should be determined are enumerated, and a sample report form laid out’).

Costs – catalogue card production (See also entry no.23)

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Cataloguing drive using the Polaroid CU5 close-up camera. *Aust. Libr. J.*, October 1968, 17, p.311–320. (National Union Catalogue/Library of Congress catalogue entries photographed to produce catalogue entries for the University of Sydney Library. Includes rough costs).
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A further note on the economics of catalogue card reproduction. *J. Docum.*, March 1964, v.22, no.1, p.55–58. (Gives costs of producing catalogue cards by multilith at University Library of Newcastle upon Tyne).

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Cost comparison of computer versus manual catalog maintenance. *J. Libr. Autom.*, September, 1968, v.1, no.3, p.159–177. (Study of the Orange County Public Library, Orange, California).

Costs – cataloguing (see also entry no.20)

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Mergers and catalogues. *Libr. Ass. Rec.*, April 1968, v.70, no.4, p.100–2. ('Some cataloguing problems arising from the London Boroughs' reorganisation, and how they are being dealt with in Tower Hamlets Libraries.....together with a note on a practical and inexpensive method of card reproduction.' [Flat-bed wax stencil duplicator]).
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Study of circulation control systems: public libraries, college and university libraries, special libraries. Chicago, 1961, vii, 138p. (Lists times and costs for various kinds of charging systems. Discusses staff and equipment).
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The cost of an on-line circulation system. *Program*, October 1968, v.2, no.3. p.81–94. ('The unit costs are derived of the presently operating manual circulation system at Queen's University [Belfast], and the on-line computer-aided system in process of development. For the period 1971–5, during which the computer system is expected to be fully operational, they are: manual system 8.2 pence per loan; computer system 9.4 pence per loan. The computer system is thus 15% more expensive, but it will effect a 45% reduction in the library staff time devoted to circulation work').

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Selective checking. *O & M Bull.*, May 1968, v.23, no.2, p.85–99. (Contains formulae and tables for estimating cost of checking).

Costs – classification

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The cost of classification: a neglected topic. *Libr. J.*, June 1964, v.89, p.2287–

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The cost of classification: a note. *Cat. Index.*, October 1969, no.16, p.4. (Separates cataloguing from classification times in order to justify centralised classification costs).

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Unit concept co-ordinate indexing: the costs of setting up and operating a system. *Northern Aslib Bull.*, Oct/Dec., 1966, v.11, no.4, p.3–27. (Describes the system in use at British Insulated Callender's Cables Ltd. Includes costs).

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Vergleiche der Wirtschaftlichkeit von Sichtloch-Kerblock-und Steilkarten. *Nachr. Dokum.*, 1963, v.14, p.65–72. (Comparative study of the costs of peek-a-boo, edge punched and conventional card systems. Summary in English).

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Time required, cost and personnel for documentation. *Amer. Docum.*, July 1962, v.13, no.3, p.313–319. (Compares use of visual card, edge punched card, and Hollerith card for documents from collection to retrieval. Costs in yen).

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Costs – documentation continued
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duplicating, filing).

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Costs – files

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Costs – information systems

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Determining costs of information
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Information services: measuring the cost.
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Costs – information storage and retrieval

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of the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation
to unearth some of the economic factors
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tion').
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The cost of scientific information. *J.
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Costs – mechanization (See also entry no.84)

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Comparative costs of converting shelf list records to machine-readable form. *J. Libr. Autom.*, March 1968, v.1, no.1, p.66–74. (A study at Michigan State University Library comparing three methods of conversion: key punching, paper tape typewriting, optical scanning by service bureau).
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Cost distribution and analysis in computer storage and retrieval. Pt 1, *Amer. Docum.*, April 1966, v.17, no.2, p.89–95. Pt 2, *Amer. Docum.*, July 1967, v.18, no.3, p.162–164. (A method for costing computer jobs done by mechanized storage and retrieval activity is proposed and discussed. Job unit costs are calculated).
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How to computerise your serials and

periodicals when you don't know how. *Wilson Libr. Bull.*, April 1970, v.44, no.8, p.861–4. (Step-by-step account of the procedures used at University of Alaska, Fairbanks, including chart of costs and times).

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The Unilever research SDI system. *Inform. Stor. Retr.*, 1970, v.6, p.53–71. (Describes the computer system and search programs together with the costs of the operation).

Costs – microfilming

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The economics of microfilming and document reproduction: papers given at Seminars held by the Microfilm Association of Great Britain, Cambridge, 27th September 1968, and Edinburgh, 8th November, 1968. MAGB, 1969. (General costs and prices).

Costs – photocopying

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The Xerox 914 copier: a cost analysis and an appraisal. *Aust. Libr. J.*, October 1962, v.11, no.4, p.206–209. (Gives a summary of costs for volumes of exposures from 1,000 to 100,000 per month).
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Factors affecting the cost of library photocopying. *Spec. Libr.*, February 1967, v.58, no.2.
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Simple calculations show that – photocopying saves money. *ALA Bulletin*, 1961, v.55, p.803–804. (Demonstrates that: 'Practically any photographic process offers substantial savings over manual operations in performance of the clerical routines of which it is capable.' Costs quoted in dollars).

Costs – planning

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Guide to equipping and staffing industrial technical libraries. *Aslib Proc.*, January 1957, v.9, no.1, p.12–28. (Suggests estimated costs for equipping a hypothetical library of 25,000 volumes).
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The cost of materials for a science library. *Spec. Libr.*, July-August 1965, v.56, no.6, p.386–387. (Quotes instances of rising costs of materials).

Costs – preservation

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Preservation costs and standards. *Spec. Libr.*, October 1968, v.59, no.8, p.614–619. (Suggests standards of performance of various preservation techniques, and gives indicative costs of some types of preservation work in commercial shops and Library of Congress).

Costs – processing (See also entry no.38)

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Processing costs for science monographs in the Columbia University Libraries. *Libr. Resources Tech. Serv.*, 1967, v.2, no.1, p.97–114. (Contains estimated times and costs for processing procedures).
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Optimum allocation of technical services personnel. *Libr. Resources Tech. Serv.*, 1969, v.13, p.99–101. ('A procedure is given for determining the optimum allocation of available man hours among the various functional subunits of any given technical processing division, so as to minimize the time required for a volume to be processed. Cost implications are also discussed').

Costs – searching (See also entry no.49)

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A least cost searching sequence. *Coll. Res. Libr.*, March 1964, v.25, no.2, p.126–128.
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An analysis of output costs and procedures for an operational searching service. *Amer. Docum.*, April 1963, p.123–142. (American Society for Metals Documentation Service. Contains tables of costs).

Costs – storage

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How many books should be stored where? An economic analysis. *Coll. Res. Libr.*, March 1967, v.28, no.2, p.92–103. ('Valid decisions.....can only be based upon comparing cost of storage with the value of having the same materials at hand. Considerations for such determinations are raised, and formulae are proposed').

Costs – union catalogue production

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The production of a printed union catalogue by computer. *Libr. Ass. Rec.*, September 1965, v.67, no.9, p.311–316. (London Borough of Barnet. Gives some costings).

Section B – Time

Times – acquisition processes

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An ordering procedure utilizing the Xerox 914 electrostatic process. *Libr. Resources Tech. Serv.*, 1966, v.10, no.1, p.43–50. (Contains tables of times for the old and new procedures).

Times – catalogue card production

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This works for us: the perfect employer. *Spec. Libr.*, March 1967, v.58, no.3, p.187–188. (Short description of the use of magnetic tape-typewriter, for the production of catalogue cards. Table of comparative times for m.t.t., duplimat, manual typing).

Times – cataloguing

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Cataloguing and classification in British university libraries. Part 2: the labour force. *J. Docum.*, March 1969, v.25, no.1, p.43–51. (Gives percentages of time spent by graduate and non-graduate staff in classification and cataloguing, and other procedures).

Times – charging systems See entry no.40.

Times – classification See entries nos.50, 44, 53 and 87.

Times – documentation See entries nos.50 and 53.

Times – files See entry no. 54.

Times – indexing

88. Jahoda, G.
Indexing with edge-notched and internally punched cards. In *Information retrieval today*. Minnesota, University of Minnesota, 1963. p.37–46. (Gives comparative times for the systems).

Times – information: storage and retrieval See entries nos.55 and 56.

Times – procedures See entries nos.7 and 13

Times – processing See entry no.79.

'Standard' times – clerical procedures

89. *Voos, Henry
Standard times for certain clerical activities in technical processing [summary]. *Libr. Resources Tech. Serv.*, 1966, v.10, no.2, p.223–227. (Summary of the author's thesis of the same title, q.v. Contains tables of mean times for activities).

90. *Voos, Henry
Standard times for certain clerical activities in technical processing. Ann Arbor, University Microfilms, 1965. (Discusses typing, lettering, posting, jacketing, tying, erasing, stamping, supervision).

'Standard' times – library procedures

91. *Leonard, Lawrence E.
The Colorado Academic Libraries Book Processing Center Project Time Study Methodology. *Libr. Resources Tech. Serv.*, 1969, v.13, no.1. (Includes tables of standard times for library procedures compiled from data collected during the study).

Section C – Staff

Staffing (See also entries nos. 50, 80, 106)

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