

## ABSTRACTS

**Róbert Dán 1936–1986.** – Obituary for the suddenly departed Head of the Library Department, Loránd Eötvös University, Budapest. (SZABÓ Sándor) [pp. 351–352.]

**Lajos Nagy 1911–1986.** – Obituary for the retired research worker of the Library of the Institute of Political Science and Jurisprudence, a European authority in legal information and bibliography. (BALÁZSNÉ VEREDY Katalin) [pp. 353–354.]

**DÁN Róbert:** Qualitative requirements and changes in the university-level library education. – The curricular reform process at the Library Department of the Budapest university since 1979 was aimed at two goals: on the one hand, a modernization of teaching, and a closer co-operation with the university on the other. In the spirit of complex teaching, computer science and information science etc. have been added to the traditional subjects, and parallel with this, the department has begun to be upgraded to a research workshop. Not only the teachers of the department were involved but also the students have been entrusted with doing smaller or larger projects. For producing professionals capable of performing quality tasks, the students are heavily screened already at the entrance examination. The resulting changes have enforced the position and improved the role of the department within the university. [pp. 355–357.]

**KATSÁNYI Sándor: Problems of the manpower situation in libraries.** – Staffing of libraries does not fit in with the tasks expected of library workers. The author pieces together the facts of library manpower, which can be compared one with another. He concludes that: 1. Library work has been largely technologized, the medium level of qualification has become dominant. Badly enough, library education also supports this line, i.e., technical librarianship and basic library skills are taught at medium level. 2. As a result of the high rate of library workers with intermediary qualification, the proportion of "static" workers, clinging to the same institution and following traditional norms, has increased, while that of the "dynamic" elements, who think more freely, has decreased. These latter are more exposed to the lure of other professions, and librarianship is at present unable to keep them. 3. The distribution of qualified manpower is uneven, which tendency seems to be increasing. The number of "handicapped libraries" (e.g. school or village libraries) is also increasing. The anomalies in labour situation should be eliminated as soon as possible. [pp. 358–369.]

**SZ. NAGY Lajos: Steps toward up-to-date services. Use and results of the TPB funds in the national social science libraries.** – Through the Government's Committee on Science Policy (TPB) nearly 4 000 000 forints were granted between 1982 and 1985 to seven leading social science libraries. Economy, sociology, law and public administration were aided in the first stage, while pedagogy, musicology as well as libraries with MISON (social science information system of socialist countries) functions were preferred after 1984. The funds, distributed once a year, were spent on equipment, programme development and system design. The fund allowed for these leading social science libraries to begin, or to continue, the development of their computer-based services. Concrete forms of co-operation have also evolved, such as checking the ordering among economic libraries, harmonizing music

data bases, organizing the distribution network of the national pedagogical information system (OPIR), as well as enforcing the contacts with the INION data base. Further work needs the maintenance of existing support. [pp. 370–376.]

**DIPPOLD Péter: A few peculiarities of the classification and information in history.** – The specific features of the information systems in historical science arise basically from the structure of the discipline: the classification systems here are based upon the trinity of space, time and discipline. The examination of a few fundamental types of historical classification (UDC, the specialist system applied in the Hungarian Institute for Historical Scholarship as well as bibliographic systems) leads to the conclusion that these systems are unable to meet the researchers' demands. The subject heading systems provide another type of subject access, however, the fact that they do not correspond in their internal structures to the structure of historical science, often results in a poor usability. The solution may be a combination of the two methods: a hoped historical thesaurus would be an instrument for scholarly information, representing the structure of the discipline but also having the advantages of subject heading systems. [pp. 377–385.]

**SCHNELLER Károly: Universal Decimal Classification and classification and information in history: comments on P. DIPPOLD's article.** – The author recalls the controversy evolving in the sixties over the tools and the efficiency of historical classification and information, the main points of which were the questions of subject demarcation, the indexing, the information work as well as the use. Géza JESZENSZKY, of the National Széchényi Library, developed a specialist system for indexing events in Hungarian history, using ".0" subdivisions. A demonstration table shows that the system is compatible with the UDC notations. It is useful for the users because it focusses on the junction points of the given period. Although the system has not been adopted by FID, the National Széchényi Library of Hungary has been applying it for many years in arranging its own classified catalogues. An investigation into the classified catalogue using habits and into user needs is very much needed. [pp. 386–394.]

**ARATÓ Antal: Withdrawal in public libraries.** – Continuing acquisition has resulted in an excessive increase in public library holdings. Acquisition indices of provincial town and village libraries are analysed. The libraries investigated were found to discard each year a quantity of books corresponding to 30–40% of new titles. The author thinks this too little. Groups of unwanted books could be identified by circulation data analysis. A way of handling duplicates still suitable for library use would be the development of repositories. A lot of problems concerning central depots remain to be cleared. [pp. 395–404.]

**GOMBA Szabolcsné–BODA István: Thoughts about computer networking.** Comments upon István PAPP's paper (Könyvtári Figyelő, vol. 31, 1985, no. 4, p. 381). – A possible university automation model is described. Uniform data bases, to be developed in university libraries, could uniform the stock of collections, scattering in the university, which could lead to the possibilities of subject searching. The authors, as István PAPP, think that the development of a national computer network in libraries is necessary. They offer the "centrally located computer+remote terminals" model, which could be applied both at the national level and in the internal automation of local centres. They suggest that the central computer of the national network should be reserved for information items needed at least two of the libraries connected, while particular items should be available through local networks. They think it is not worth starting "large-scale" automation with the partial procedures of circulation control, since this can be carried out on microcomputers. [pp. 405–407.]

#### A b r o a d

**MAJ, Jerzy: Forty years of Polish public librarianship in charts.** – A quantitative analysis of general development trends of Polish public libraries between 1945 and 1984. (Abstract: FUTALA Tibor) [pp. 408–422.]