

ABSTRACTS

SZÖNYI Katalin: Videodiscs and their use in information retrieving and library systems. – In the case of computer-based information and library systems, ensuring mass storage is one of the critical point. The recently developed videodisc technologies offer solutions to this problem. Of the capacitive electronic disc, the high-density, groove-free capacitive disc and the optical disc, the latter is covered in detail by the article. The mode of operation of optical discs manufactured with the analogue and digital technology, and their applications are described. As a good example of application, the large-scale experimental project undertaken by the Library of Congress is mentioned. In the field of optical discs the newest development is the compact disc technology, suitable for the storage of digital information, which may revolutionize the way of delivering information to end-users. Taking into consideration the fast and manifold development of videodiscs, steps should be taken in Hungary already now to prepare for the manufacturing and use of videodiscs in the library and information field. [pp. 463–475]

FUTALA Tibor: Weeding, stock reorganization and storage library. – Points out that the real solution to the serious troubles of storing the holdings in almost every library in Hungary is in the majority of cases not a question of storage libraries. The tensions resulting from bad selection policies and duplicates already unneeded should be eased first of all by de-selection as well as selling the discarded copies to book trade or private persons. The amount of surplus stock which deserves to be saved from smaller libraries is not more than an estimated 1.5 million items all over the country, these copies are worth being integrated, through subsequent selection, into the holdings of large special libraries and county libraries. Gathering these copies should be organized on a subject-field basis in relation to foreign books and by counties in relation to books published in Hungary until 1952. The central storage library of the National Széchényi Library should determine its collection interests first of all historically (foreign titles until 1850 and Hungary-related works.) [pp. 476–489]

SONNEVEND Péter: Weeding, duplicate management, and storage library. – The applicability of storage libraries has been sharply discussed in recent years by the Hungarian library community. This issue is difficult because of the accumulated problems of bad co-operation by selection profiles, the quantitative approach to acquisition, the difficulties of de-selection (weeding) as well as the exiguity of storage space. Suggestions of the paper (an extended version of the proposal submitted to the National Council for Librarianship) are: 1. making de-selection a continuous process; 2. further developing of the utilization of the discarded materials on two levels (network and national); 3. designating the subject-field (and additionally, the regional) storage libraries from among the largest collections, as well as that the storage library of the National Széchényi Library should be competent in the social sciences and belles lettres. [pp. 490–496]

PÁLVÖLGYI Mihály: Classification and information retrieving technique: possibilities of teaching a subject. – The reform of the college-level library education has also influenced the teaching of the subject "classification and information retrieving technique" of four terms. Teaching of classification is begun in the second term, when students already possess a sufficient amount of knowledge of logic, information science, librarianship as well as bibliographic description. In teaching the subject, in addi-

tion to the UDC and the maintenance of the classified catalogue, an increasing attention is being paid to the teaching of the co-ordinated and descriptor-based information retrieval languages and that of computer-supported searching. Students familiarize themselves with the information retrieving tools first as users, then they obtain professional knowledge based on this experience. Theoretical and practical educations are complementary. At the beginning teachers aim at a collective solving and analysing, meeting, while later the independent problem solving and work of students are stressed. The effectiveness of teaching is continuously controlled. Students are asked to express their opinion, and the feedback obtained during the teaching in parallel of librarianship subjects as well as during practical education are taken into consideration. [pp. 497–510]

RÓNAI Tamás: Subject retrieving facilities in college libraries. – The subject retrieving facilities of 21 college libraries are examined. In the libraries examined the general public-access classified catalogues describe 30 to 80% of the holding. The majority of operative classified catalogues are unreliable and the level of exploiting the documents is insufficient. Exploiting tools for special collections and holdings are gratuitously diverse and unreliable. All this indicates deficiencies of cataloguing. [pp. 511–516]

BOBOKNÉ BELÁNYI Beáta: On the application of small computers in libraries. – After the outlines of the spreading of computers as well as describing the major foreign library projects in relation to mini and microcomputers, the author reports the application of small computers in Hungarian librarianship. The machine most frequented in Hungarian public libraries is the Commodore 64. Its capacity is little for performing larger tasks, but it is enough to help develop the librarians' computer literacy. The domestic programs developed for maintaining library records, for bibliographic, information, education and text editing functions are listed. The author suggests that a software bank should be set up, the staff of which could also provide professional counselling and user education. [pp. 517–524]

FUTALA Tibor: For Jenő KISS, on the relationships of librarianship and cultural activities. – Comment on a previous essay on the history of Hungarian librarianship (Könyvtári Figyelő, no.4. 1985, pp. 351–365), examining the author's statements according to which the national library administration in the seventies can be blamed that it was reluctant to keep contacts with cultural organizations. The examination concludes that this was not only and not primarily the fault of librarianship. The tensions between libraries and community centres developed, and existed for a long time, in part because of the insufficiency of resources for maintenance, operation and investment and in part because there were few large rooms for public use in Hungarian towns and villages. This situation was typical also in the seventies. [pp. 525–531]

KOVÁTS Zoltán: Notes on Jenő KISS' paper on the forty years of Hungarian librarianship. – Another comment on the same publication (Könyvtári Figyelő, no.4, 1985). Criticizes the paper for focussing on public librarianship and ignoring the special library and information field. The author deals with the controversies between libraries and information agencies, and argues that information work is an important task of special libraries, but points out that the period of extensive development resulted in a lot of parallelisms with public librarianship. This situation may be improved by computer-based information searching, the first, promising, steps of which have been already taken long ago. [pp. 532–534]

A b r o a d

TREMKÓNÉ MESZLENY Mária: Computer-assisted co-operation and its child: HEBIS. – Study trip report about the shared cataloguing system of Hessen libraries, the Hessisches Bibliotheks- und Informationssystem. [pp. 535–543]