

CONTENTS

POZSGAY Imre

INTERVIEW WITH THE MINISTER OF CULTURE.—Imre Pozsgay, leader of the responsible ministry for general supervision of librarianship (Minister of Culture) assesses in this interview the work of libraries and outlines the development plans. He declares that, in the next plan period, priority must be ensured to the development of libraries within the entirety of public education. In the recent past, it was already managed to establish legal conditions for this work. Cooperation of library maintainers as well as of different libraries, on the basis of a uniform conception, must be strengthened in the future too. For the time being, the Ministry of Culture together with the Ministry of Education endeavours to bring up-to-date the training of public educational specialists and within it that of librarians. The Ministry wants to establish and realize the development objectives relying on library leaders and members, on professional organizations of librarianship, on the Association of Hungarian Librarians and, last but not least, on the National Council for Librarianship. 433—442.p.

STATISTICAL THEMATIC ISSUE

INTRODUCTION

443—444. p.

ERDÉSZ Tiborné

LIBRARY STATISTICS IN THE SYSTEM OF CULTURAL STATISTICS.—The author emphasizes in her study the importance of a co-ordinated statistical collecting of data. According to her conclusion library statistics must not only adjust itself in the entirety of cultural statistical collecting of data but it also has to consider the statistical collecting of data in the field of other branch statistics (population statistics, financial and labour statistics, etc.). Further on, the author describes the international agreement established in 1979 within the framework of Unesco. This agreement marks out different “spheres” within the cultural statistics and sets them out in detail by functions (process of composition, preservation, reception, etc.). Finally, in connection with the preparatory work of the new Hungarian library statistical standard, the author emphasizes that when drawing up the standard, first of all, the standpoints of a co-ordinated collecting of data must be rendered valid. 445—449. p.

FOGARASSY Miklós

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS ON THE STANDARDIZATION OF LIBRARY STATISTICS.—The author brings up problems in connection with the preparatory work of a Hungarian library statistical standard. He compares some very important definitions

of the international recommendations (Unesco, ISO) with the present Hungarian statistical practice pointing to the deviation between the collecting of data in public and special libraries. He also deals with the desirable definition of the concept "library", with the problems of defining the "service points" and "administrative units", then with the Hungarian statistical standardization of "physical" stock units, with the problems of financial and service index numbers. Hungarian statistical standard must comply with two almost equivalent requirements: according to possibilities it has to adapt the international prescriptions, at the same time it has to adjust itself to the specific Hungarian library conditions and also to the "traditional" processes of earlier collecting of data.

450–456. p.

MOHOR Jenő

CENTRAL RECORDING OF LIBRARIES AND THE STATISTICS.—According to the new library statutes central records must be kept of Hungarian libraries. In interest of establishing records a number of questions must be cleared up: the measures of recording should be fixed (the lower level under which the institution cannot be included in the central records), the quantity of information to be collected on libraries of different significance, information supplementing the statistical data. Information on the subject specialization of libraries is also an important task of recording. An ongoing renewal of the collected data—partly with the help of the statistical system—raises a number of unsolved questions. The establishment of central records enables the manifold survey of Hungary's library system. The utilization of these possibilities is the task of the future.

457–462. p.

NOVÁK Ákos

PREPARATION OF DECISIONS AND PLANNING BY MEANS OF UTILIZING STATISTICAL DATA, INDICES AND WORK STANDARDS. Experiment gained in the library network of the József Attila University.—Since 1956, the date of publishing the library law, an analytical, planning activity is going on in the library network of the university. First some important problems of member libraries were investigated and mainly registering, executive, intermediate activities carried out. In the second period network tasks came into prominence and then, the analytical, evaluative, decisions preparing and planning activities, occurring from time to time only in the previous period, depending on statistical data, indices, standards became an essential part of the work. This work, following the accomplishment of the university reform and the integration of faculties and their libraries, developed to a leader level, became deliberate and regular. Since the publishing of the new library law in 1976 there is a steady demand towards such an activity.

463–472. p.

BÉKÉS György

ARGUMENT AND TOOL. Experiences of utilizing library statistics in the Pest County.—Since 1974, the Cultural House and Library of the Pest County issues a publication entitled “Main statistical indices of libraries in the Pest County”. This publication is used as a working tool by librarians and leaders directing cultural policy. It is perceptible from the analysis of divergent data, collected in settlements of similar order of magnitude, that libraries must be developed and possibilities manifest themselves for it. Indices and their relations serve as a basis for planning and for the improvement of library work. The rate of development of librarianship in the Pest County was slower than in other Hungarian counties. The comparison of data published in 1978 prove that librarianship in the Pest County got out of the dead point. 473–476. p.

SZABÓ László

LIBRARY PROGNOSTIC AND ITS METHODS.—The task of libraries, coming more and more into prominence, is the forecast establishing the planning and the preparing of decisions for leaders. The primary function of forecasts, prepared for short and middle distance plans, is the determination of development as regards the libraries and their socio-economic surroundings. The methods applicable for the preparation of library prognostic may have mathematic-statistical character and are subjective. Library prognostic may become a general practice if objective conditions can be ensured—even if they are complementary social and economic forecasts or statistical publications constructed consequently—and if library leaders are aware of the necessity of prognostic for their work. 477–486. p.

SÁRDY Péter

TENDENCIES AND EXTREMITIES IN THE ANALYSIS OF THE TEN YEARS OLD PUBLICATION “TEKE” (LIBRARY PROVISION OF HUNGARIAN SETTLEMENTS).—The basis of present article is a publication of the Hungarian library statistical system, entitled TEKE which covers the data of local public libraries sited in settlements with more than 5000 inhabitants. Out of the data, given by the publication, three are emphasized: total basic area of libraries in the settlement; sum allotted to acquisition and number of enrolled readers. Its method is twofold: it examines the chronological change of the most important data on the one hand, and some extremities on the other (e.g. those settlements where the enrolled readers run to less than 10 percent of inhabitants; where more than 50 percent of the enrolled readers is younger than 14; or where more than 50 percent of the sum allotted to acquisition is not derived from the budget). The library situation in Budapest is compared in short with that within the country. The article aims, in the first place, to prove that interesting and informative consequences can be drawn from library statistical data and this can be done with small effort. 487–498. p.

LAKATOS András

HUNGARIAN LIBRARY STATISTICAL DATA SOURCES.—The author presents in his article the most important Hungarian library statistical source publications. He describes a comprehensive work on the Hungarian statistical data representing the results of a nation-wide survey. He characterizes, in short, the series entitled “Statistical Bulletin of the Ministry of Culture” which supplies regularly data from the fields of public education, public libraries and special libraries. The country-wide library statistical publications “TEKE” (Library supply of Hungarian settlements) and “SZAKMA” (Operational data of trade union libraries) are dealt with. The former supplies data series of settlements with more than 5000 inhabitants, the latter informs on the operational data of trade union libraries. In addition to the country-wide publications the statistical issues of county libraries are assessed which supply also data series on settlements with less than 5000 inhabitants. Finally, the author draws attention to the comprehensive work retrospectively on the functions and services of university libraries from 1945 to 1974.

499–507. p.

NICHOLAS, D.—RITCHIE, M.: Literature and bibliometrics. Clive Bingley, London—Linnet Books, Hamden, Conn. 1978. 183 p. (Rev.: TÖRÖK Sára)

508–515. p.