Contents

Introduction
by the Chair of the Editorial Committee..........130

Libraries and Librarianship in Spain
by Carme Mayol and Angels Massisimo.....................131

Abstract: For the occasion of the 59th IFLA Council and General Conference to be held in Barcelona, Spain from 22 to 28 August 1993, the authors present a survey of the historical background to the development of libraries in Spain. For each of the types of libraries presented (public, school, university, special and research libraries), an overview of their structure, legal framework, and technology is given. Also included are descriptions of the National Library, professional education and training, professional associations, and the information marketplace.

Information for Research on Women and Development
by Anju Vyas...................................................147

Abstract: The worldwide interest in women and development has shown itself in various ways and has contributed to the growth of a large body of research and information on women; the setting up of independent research centres outside and within university systems; the establishment of women's programmes' units within governmental systems; and conferences, symposia and workshops on issues related to women. The paper describes how information on women and development differs from other information profession has responded to the challenges of this evolving area of research and study provides an indication of areas for future action.

The Implications for Libraries for Research on the Reading of Children
by Marilyn L. Miller...........................................155

Abstract: A summary overview of what is known about the formal teaching of the reading to the young, especially as it relates to the role of the library in the social environment of the child is provided. Some major studies in the United States about reading and young people are described. Formal research is grouped into three broad areas of inquiry: 1) reading as an integration of numerous learned processes; 2) environmental influences on reading; and 3) investigation into classroom practices, especially those that stem from studies of teaching and of text use. The author concludes by discussing the implications of this research for libraries and librarians concerned with developing a literate society.

World Literacy and the Role of Libraries
by Lucille C. Thomas............................................162
Abstract: To focus world attention on the problem of illiteracy, the United Nations declared 1990 as International Literacy Year (ILY). One of the actions taken to motivate and stimulate active international cooperation in the planning and implementation of activities to eliminate illiteracy was the World Conference on Education for All, held in Jontein, Thailand in 1990. Since ILY, many of the member states have taken the political and administrative initiatives to translate the main recommendations and some of the actions taken in Africa, Asia, the Arab States, France and the United States. Particular emphasis is given to the role of libraries and librarians in the literacy effort.

Literacy and Development in the Third World: Could Librarianship Make a Difference?
by Rosario Gassol de Horowitz

Abstract: The necessity of planning economic, social, and cultural development is recognised by most government leaders in developing countries. In these countries it is generally believed that only through planning can education contribute effectively to the developmental process, and that libraries, as an integral part of education must be incorporated into that planning. However, in the Third World, development planning is essentially a political process, for the national plan becomes a tool with which a society deliberately allocates resources, creates new institutions, and reforms existing ones. The author considers how librarianship can become a change agent in the process of development, covering such topics as the investment of resources, the role of technology, and the eradication of illiteracy.

IFLA Reports

History of ED Legislation on Copyright and Lending Right
by Harald Muller

News Section

From the IFLA Secretariat

IFLA Annual Report 1992
Convening Notice of the 59th IFLA Council and Conference
IFLA Finances in 1992
IFLA Staff in Barcelona
Alive and Kicking: Great Interest in IFLA Standing Committees

From the ALP Core Programme

Annual Report 1992 of the Alp Core Programme by the Programme Director, Birgitta Bergahl

From the PAC Core Programme

Annual Report 1991-1992 of the PAC Core Programme by the Programme Director, Jean-Marie Arnoult

From the UAP Core Programme and the Office of International Lending
Annual Report 1992 of the UAP Core Programme and the Office of International Lending by the Programme Director, David Bradbury, and the Research Officer, Margaret Barwick.................224

From the UBCIM Core Programme

Annual Report 1992 of the UBCIM Core Programme by the Programme Officer, Marie-France Plassard.............................229

From the UDT Core Programme

Annual Report 1992 of the UDT Core Programme by the Programme Director, Leigh Swain......................................235

Reports of Meetings

LAC Seminar on Library Services for the Blind in Developing Countries, Havana, 15-19 February 1993.................................239

From other Organizations

FID to Convene East Africa Environmental Information Conference.................................................................241
Publications of International Relevance..........................................................242
Miscellaneous.........................................................................................244
International Calendar........................................................................246

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