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edited by Sheila Ritchie



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INTRODUCTION

Modern library practice is intended as a textbook for students of librarianship and as an educational manual for library training purposes. It attempts to bridge the gap between the very basic introduction and the specialist monograph.

It differs from the first edition – published in 1977 as Library practice a manual and textbook by Jack Burkett, Sheila Ritchie and Albert E Standley, ELM Publications, Buckden, 1977 - in the following respects:-

- Chapters 1, 2 and 3 are all new material; Chapter 3 largely replaces the old edition Section 3.
- Chapter 9 is new material and replaces parts of old edition Sections 5 and 7.
- Section 7 in the old edition Computers in the library does not receive a Chapter of its own but is dispersed wherever it is appropriately matched with another section. For example, computers and stock control is covered in Chapters 8 and 9. Computers are such familiar features of library life that it was thought artificial and unhelpful to separate them from their respective operations.
- Sections 9, 10 and 11 from the old edition have not been reincluded; Section 9 because of the dispersion of its material into other chapters; Sections 10 and 11 because reader comment on them over the past few years has indicated that they were of minor usefulness.

Several authors have contributed to this edition; each Chapter is attributed below:

Chapter 1		SR
Chapter 2		SR
Chapter 3		LB and EW
Chapter 4		AES and SR
Chapter 5		AES and SR
Chapter 6		SR
Chapter 7	1	SR
Chapter 8	1	AES and SR
Chapter 9)	PFB
Chapter 10)	LD
Chapter 11		SR

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Lionel Durbidge, MA, FLA was recruited to the profession by Willesden (now Brent) Public Libraries in 1940. The RAF required his services from 1943-47. Then, after further service in Willesden, he held senior posts in both Bedfordshire and Nottinghamshire County Libraries where interest in the practical problems of library planning developed. A three year spell as Tutor Librarian in Dacorum College of Further Education, Hemel Hempstead was followed by teaching librarianship in Loughborough: at the Technical College School of Librarianship from 1965-74 and the University's Department of Library and Information Studies since 1974.

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