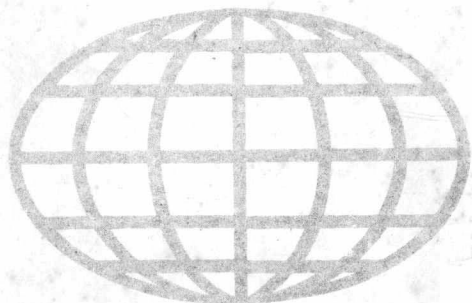


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Editor's Preface

The First Edition of this work in 1980 brought to fulfillment the long-term objective of the Editor to establish a firm basis for the comparative study of librarianship. Efforts to analyze the respective circumstances of librarianship in countries around the world are limited by the lack of factual data as a starting point for more in-depth study. For many countries there exists no readily available description of the major institutions that educate librarians and provide library and information services, including their size and scope.

The *ALA World Encyclopedia* attempts to fill this fundamental gap in the literature. Its historical articles trace the development of the field, an overview enriched by current description of library and information services in countries around the world. Professional concepts and principles are explained and analyzed in articles ranging from Abstracting and Indexing to Young Adult Services. Biographies bring to life the major activities in the lives of persons who have played a part in shaping the field.

In planning the Second Edition of this work, the editors consulted with the Advisers on its content and paid careful attention to the published reviews of the First Edition. The plan for the Second Edition called for 85 percent of the book to comprise new or completely revised contributions. When a complete revision by a contributor was not possible, the editors have revised the articles, including updated statistics and new illustrations. The editorial plan for the Second Edition continues its emphasis on the *Outline of Contents* as a guide to the organization of knowledge of the field. The Parallel Index in the margins of the text pages of the First Edition has been replaced by an expanded, conventional Index at the end of the text. The new Index also ties the *Encyclopedia* to the *ALA Yearbook of Library and Information Services*; that annual volume provides additional or continuing coverage of topics in the *ALA World Encyclopedia*.

This Second Edition of the *ALA World Encyclopedia*, whose one million words represent a 43 percent increase over the First Edition, follows the editorial plan of the First Edition.

There are six basic categories of articles:

- (1) One hundred fifty-two structured articles cover the status and condition of libraries in countries of the world and provide statistics. Nine other articles cover the history and role of libraries from ancient times to the present.
- (2) Eight articles cover the major types of institutions that deliver library and information ser-

vices. Contributors' comprehensive articles explore the purpose, characteristic services, clientele, and patterns of governance, finance, and administration of the institutions. They represent an editorial approach to comparative librarianship that attempts to discern commonalities and differences in these institutions and their practices as they exist in many countries.

- (3) Thirty articles deal with the principles and practices of librarianship and information management, explaining and analyzing the fundamental processes and basic types of services to the many different client groups.
- (4) Nine articles cover the field of education and research from early apprenticeship to formal library education.
- (5) Thirty-three articles describe the activities of significant international organizations, agencies, and associations.
- (6) Two hundred eighteen biographical subjects (an increase of almost a third over the First Edition) are from different places of the world and different times. They were selected for inclusion from nominations made by the international advisory group. Among the editors' criteria for inclusion are: foundation of an important library, or a primary role in a major library's growth, development, and influence; author of seminal writings of great impact and lasting influence; leadership in the profession, including activity in professional associations; significant activity as a library educator; contribution to the theory of librarianship in any of the field's components; exemplary role as a practitioner, within any part of the profession; publisher of related books and periodicals; and leadership in important national and international bibliographic enterprises.

The articles, which are alphabetically arranged, vary in length from several hundred words to more than 25,000 (Academic Libraries, for example). They were designed to provide enough space to treat significant aspects of each topic; hundreds of statistical tables, charts, and illustrations enrich and enliven the text.

The 411 contributors and 31 advisers from around the world gave extraordinary cooperation in response to the editors' requests, and the knowledge, experience, and professional and scholarly achievements of the authors are reflected in the pages of this work. The editors acknowledge their contributions with sincere gratitude.

Grateful acknowledgments go especially to Joel Lee and Don Stewart, who shared major editorial responsibility, and to Christine Roos, who kept track of our progress. The editorial team of editors, translators, writers, and production specialists worked in great harmony to reach a superb level of technological efficiency and editorial achievement. I extend my highest compliments to them.

This revised and enlarged Second Edition of the *ALA World Encyclopedia of Library and Information Services* builds upon the success of the First Edition.

The editors were encouraged by the response to the original publication and hope that our efforts to improve it will be received similarly.

ROBERT WEDGEWORTH
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May 7, 1986
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Outline of Contents

This Outline is organized under five principal divisions.

Part One, on The Library in Society, covers the history and role of libraries from ancient times to the present. In addition to nine major articles on historical periods, 152 articles cover libraries and librarianship in separate articles on the countries of the world. The articles, which appear in alphabetical order in the text, usually include comprehensive statistical information and tables. Biographies appear in the Outline under major headings according to period and place.

Part Two, on The Library as an Institution, comprises eight major articles on the principal types of libraries and archives. Articles emphasize North America but examples and generalizations are also drawn from various systems in other sections of the world.

Part Three, on Theory and Practice of Librarianship, deals with the heart of librarianship. Thirty articles bring together under broad titles the principles and practices of librarianship and information management.

Part Four, on Education and Research, in nine major articles covers librarianship, information science, and archival administration. The articles treat the fundamentals of curriculum content and issues in research and education.

Part Five, on International Library, Information, and Bibliographical Organizations, comprises 33 articles that describe the growth and development of international information systems and enumerate the key organizations on the international level.

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