

Summary

This beautiful edition of our periodical is dealing with the question: which concepts of quality are relevant to the Danish public libraries at a time when the concepts of value change every day. The problems are in this connection complex and it is - of course - not possible to give a full illustration of all the aspects relevant for answering the question.

Leif Emerék describes in his article - **Quality in the book-selection of the nineties** - the change from a modern to a postmodern criterion. The article has a theoretical and a historical approach analysing the relation between theories of culture, the policy of culture and the library-policy including the criteria for book-selection. It is a conclusion, that the universal precepts of modernism have changed into postmodern desintegration of the universal precepts. It is therefore necessary for the public libraries to reflect this cultural change respecting that different cultural needs are authoritative and have legitimacy.

Birgit Wanting and Bente Buchhave pose in their article - **Culture and quality in children's library in the nineties** - the question: which problems does the transition from an industrial society to an informationsociety raise for the children's libraries. Does it make any sense to maintain a special policy for the children's library, and - if yes - which changes must children's libraries expose themselves to. The authors examine the questions by means of reviewing some important articles concerning the problem of children's culture and some statements of the cultural policy relevant to the subject.

Niels Ebbe Jensen deals in his article - **The Danish public libraries as a subject of the press** - with the correlation between the press and the libraries. He does it through an investigation based on a considerable amount of questionnaires. The investigation shows which topics are the most

popular in the press: exhibitions, arrangements, the closing down of library branches and reduction of budgets. Further the author characterizes the journalistic treatment of the subjects, and it is a conclusion, that the librarians and the journalists should show more creativity in handling the library theme.

Grete Munch considers in her article - **Standard Catalogues** - the question of reviving these catalogues, which have a long tradition in Danish public libraries, as it has become more difficult to manage the growing book-stock. The conclusion is, that the standard catalogue has had its time. Better professional and special knowledges are the best tools in the book-stock management, and it is not the moment for standardized public libraries.

Two reviews close this issue. **Ilona Roboz Kristensen** reviews **Ingversen/Wormell: Informationsformidling i teori og praksis**. (Information retrieval - theory and practice). The book under review is written by two associate professors at the Royal Danish School of Librarianship. And it is the first book in Danish to introduce the theoretical and practical aspects of information retrieval. Theoretically the book is based on the cognitive viewpoint.

Leif Kajberg reviews **Ellen Branthin: Determinanten einer Fachdidaktik Bibliotheks-informatik (Towards a professional didactics for library informatics)** which was submitted by the author to the Faculty of Business Studies and Social Sciences of the University of Cologne in fulfilment of the requirements for the PhD degree in 1988.

The work centres on a discipline and library school subject labelled "Biblioteks-informatik" ("library-informatics") Which is the author's designation for the application of electronic data processing to libraries and documentation centres. It is pointed out that the application of computer-based systems - especially microcomputer software packages - in the library-information field confronts library school courses on computer applications and automated indexing and retrieval with special didactic and methodological problems.

Dr. Branthin's **opus magnum** is a major contribution to the "legitimation" of library-informatics conceived as a logical, integrated and coherent whole within the framework of curricula for library and information studies.