June 1989

Price Clearinghouse Proposal

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Recommended Citation

Boissonnas, Christian (1989) "Price Clearinghouse Proposal," *Against the Grain*: Vol. 1: Iss. 2, Article 18.
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.7771/2380-176X.1031>

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Give Us Your Input!!

against the grain

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Detach (or copy) and Mail, please . . .

Proposal for a Clearinghouse on Book and Serial Prices

Please respond to Christian ("The Hulk") Boissonnas, Acquisitions Librarian, Cornell University Library, 110A Olin Library, Ithaca, NY 14853 (bitnet: CBY@CornellC)

How much interest is there among libraries *et al* for a clearinghouse that would collect, analyze, and distribute data on costs and pricing of monographs and serials, integrating some of the work already being done on serials costs by Hamaker and Co. PVLRL's Subcommittee on Serials Pricing, and other similar groups? Though this could take many forms, it could be a mechanism whereby libraries would collect data specific to each other and send it to a central clearinghouse for entry into a common database where it would be analyzed and distributed to participants. At this stage, don't get too hung up on the logistics, such as volume of material and the cost of implementing this. Just tell me what you think. If enough of you like the idea of forming some sort of library specific exchange mechanism for monograph and serial prices, we can form a steering committee to consider the possibilities and make more specific recommendations.

Please take just a minute to give your reactions to these questions:

1. Hulk, you are great and all that but this idea is . . . well, forget it . . .

2. It's a really great idea, but . . .

3. Free form answer about the idea . . .

4. What is the likely market for the reports of this Clearinghouse?

Librarians, Vendors, Publishers, all of these, other _____

Size of this market (in round numbers, approximately, of course) _____

5. Would you like to work on the Steering Committee? Yes or No

If so, your name, address, and phone number(s) please

6. Other organized or disorganized, scrawled, or coherent or incoherent comments . . .