## HANDBOOK OF LEGAL INFORMATION RETRIEVAL Edited by Jon Bing, NRCCL, in co-operation with Tove Fjeldvig, Trygve Harvold, and Robert Svoboda

1984 594 pages Price: US \$96.25 ISBN: 0-444-87576-X Published by North-Holland, Sara Burgerhartstraat 25, 1055 KV Amsterdam, The Netherlands

This book is one of the most valuable sources of relevant contemporary information on the state of the art in legal data retrieval, covering as it does both the major theoretical issues involved in such retrieval and the nature of the major systems around the world. Given the pace of development, it must be recognized that this book has dated somewhat since it was received for reviewing, but that is the fault of the publication rate of this Journal rather than in any way being the responsibility of the editors.

For the first time, a comprehensive picture of the major themes in legal data retrieval world-wide is presented in a single source, and the wealth of reference material will assist any researcher in the field. Although the Editor of this Journal made a small contribution to the "Handbook", the editors' skill in bringing together such a range of information from so many diverse jurisdictions is what stands out as making this book of value.

By contrast with the book just reviewed, from the same publisher, the "Handbook" has none of the major stylistic problems associated with Mr Borking's work. The use of the scientific reference citation standard dispenses with foot- or end-notes, and the quality of the printing is high, making the text very readable.