

Book Reviews

Guide to Library Facilities for National Defense. Edited by Carl L. Cannon for the Joint Committee on Library Research Facilities for National Emergency . . . Preliminary edition. American Library Association, 1940. 235 p. \$1.25 (Planographed)

IN A PERIOD of less than six months the Joint Committee on Library Research Facilities has compiled the information contained in this guide to the resources of some 200 general and 400 special American libraries. Each of the cooperating libraries supplied the joint committee with a description of its holdings on defense subjects.

Each entry included in the guide consists of a description of the holdings of an individual library on subjects which concern national defense and war industries. The data is explicit, in some cases, as to the number of titles and periodicals on each subject and as to special collections or services offered by the library. Photostat and microfilm services are mentioned where these are available as are also special indexes, bibliographies, research reports, pamphlets, and trade catalog collections. In no case, however, are specific titles mentioned.

The material contained in the guide is arranged under forty-two broad subject headings such as aeronautics, automotive engineering, chemicals, European War 1939-, explosives, foreign relations, labor and laboring classes, military science, scientific instruments, etc. Under these forty-two headings the material is further divided by a number of subheadings. The entries appearing under these subheadings are arranged alphabetically by library

name and are grouped in geographical areas. A comprehensive subject and library index facilitates the use of the guide and an added aid in its use is a complete list of the cooperating libraries with their addresses and the names of their librarians.

The chief weakness of this survey, as pointed out by the joint committee and the editor, lies in the incomplete and vague descriptions of many important library collections. A more detailed analysis of the holdings of each cooperating library would add immeasurably to the value of this publication. The guide in its present incomplete form is the beginning of an important index to the library resources of this country on national defense subjects. The joint committee expects to prepare a revised and enlarged edition early this year. It is sincerely hoped that all libraries concerned will submit more detailed information for inclusion in the revised edition.—*Charles M. Mohrhardt, Public Library, Detroit.*

World List of Historical Periodicals and Bibliographies. P. Caron and M. Jaryc, editors. International Committee of Historical Sciences, Oxford, England, 1939. 390p. \$6.00.

THE EDITORS of this publication are already well known for their *Répertoire des Périodiques de Langue Française Philosophiques, Historiques, Philologiques, et Juridiques*, which listed 700 historical journals. Also to be remembered in connection with the work under review is the "World List of Historical Reviews" published in 1936 in the *Bulletin of the International Committee of Historical Sciences.*

Unlike the 1936 list, the present volume does not exclude local history reviews, making it the most complete directory of history periodicals ever published.

There are to be found here 3,103 periodicals and bibliographies—all of which were being published in 1939. But all of these are not properly historical periodicals. There are, in addition, titles which belong to the auxiliary historical sciences such as diplomatics and heraldry; ethnography; folklore; archaeology; art, literary, social, economic and constitutional history; and political economy. The term "bibliographies," as used in the title, may be misleading. Only serial bibliographies are included, such as the *Writings on American History* and the *Année Philologique*.

The arrangement is alphabetical. For each periodical there is given the initial date, editor, frequency, place of publication, and the publisher. Periodicals which contain bibliographical sections are so indicated. These bibliographies are described in detail as to their scope and arrangement, making this work a valuable supplement to *Index Bibliographicus*.

There is an index of editors, of subjects, and of periodical abbreviations based upon recommendations made in 1927 at a meeting of the International Institute of Intellectual Cooperation.

The wide scope of this work prepares the reader for omissions. Thus, the *Michigan Law Review* is listed, but not *Law and Contemporary Problems*; the *American Sociological Review* but not the *American Journal of Sociology*. There are also omissions in the field of history, for example, *Arctos* and the *Danubian Review*. Despite these unavoidable imperfections this publication is an extremely useful reference tool.—*Louis Kaplan, University of Wisconsin Library, Madison.*

Typologia; Studies in Type Design & Type Making, with Comment on the Invention of Typography, the First Types, Legibility and Fine Printing. Frederic W. Goudy. University of California Press, Berkeley, 1940. xviii, II, 170p. \$3.

THE University of California Press issued this commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the invention of printing. The author designed the type, "University of California Old Style," here used for the first time; and, with Samuel T. Farquhar, manager of the Press, arranged the make-up of this very fine book.

Goudy is an artist, a master conscious of the processes whereby he attains his results. His studies and his work have made him a connoisseur of letter shapes. It is well known how he, after taking rubbings of some letters in an inscription, was able to reconstruct other letters without having seen them.

There is a tendency to make small letters look like their *written* ancestors, the minuscules of the manuscripts. This tendency is not so active in the case of the roman capitals, for they are derived from *inscriptions*. After all, a type is a piece of metal; and, in style, is nearer the inscription than the manuscript. Goudy's types, designed in the tradition of Nicholas Jenson and William Morris, look as if made of metal. Truly reflecting how and of what they are made, they satisfy esthetic requirements.

The book is, essentially, an exposition of the author's principles and methods, and thus a primary source for the history of early twentieth century printing; for Frederic William Goudy, the greatest American type designer, is a most eminent representative of this period.—*C. U. Faye, University of Illinois, Urbana.*