

Review Articles

College and University Business Administration

College and University Business Administration. Compiled by the National Committee on the Preparation of a Manual on College and University Business Administration. Volume II. Washington, D.C.: American Council on Education, 1955. 267p. \$4.50.

The first volume of this manual was concerned with the principles of college and university accounting, budgets and budgetary accounting, financial reports, audits, and the allocation of indirect expenditures and determination of costs. The current volume is devoted to discussions of purchasing, physical plant, property and liability insurance, inventory of plant assets, management of auxiliary enterprises, organized activities and service departments, student affairs, non-academic personnel, staff welfare, investment management, sponsored research administration, and legal problems.

The discussion directly related to the library in this volume is concerned with inventory of plant assets. The following statement in the volume represents specific suggestions regarding equipment:

Books are included in the category of equipment. New accessions, including microfilms, and the cost of binding periodicals, should be added to the inventory control records at cost and included in the plant asset accounts, appropriate adjustments being made for books lost or disposed of.

The general library should maintain a record of all books acquired by the institution, regardless of the source of funds used. The records thus maintained will suffice as a detailed inventory record, and need not be duplicated in the details of the inventory of the physical plant property.

Although this is the only statement referring directly to the library, there are many discussions of problems which are of concern to the college or university librarian. For example, the section dealing with "Ethics and Public Relations" under "Purchasing" contains basic suggestions for librarians in

dealing with agents and others who supply materials. Under "Physical Plant" many of the problems of academic librarians are considered. These include building planning, space utilization, operation and maintenance, heating, repairs and decoration, control of keys, fire protection, and similar matters.

The section dealing with "Sponsored Research Administration" describes various types of contracts, and notes procedures involved in the proposal, negotiation, and implementation of agreements. By implication, the urgency for considering the library in any research project is suggested. This probably should have been made more specific, for experience has shown that contractual arrangements should designate allotments for library services. In some institutions, special forms which are used in such agreements include specifications for funds for the library.

An extensive bibliography includes a section, which is not complete, dealing with "Libraries, Museums, and Audio-Visual Departments."—*Maurice F. Tauber, Columbia University.*

The American Book Collector

The American Book Collector. Published ten times a year at 1822 School St., Chicago 13, Ill. \$5.

For six years *The American Book Collector* (formerly *The Amateur Book Collector*, vol. 1-5) has been publishing interesting and useful articles and bibliographical information for book collectors and students of literature. Edited and published by W. B. Thorsen of Chicago, the journal fills the needs of those librarians who never seem to have time to keep up with the many specialized periodicals dealing with the varied events in the world of books.

In an editorial of the Summer, 1956, issue, Editor Thorsen reported:

We have at this writing, after completing six years, exactly 106 library subscribers in the

United States out of a total of over 13,000 libraries. Of bookseller subscribers we have today 153, from a total of approximately 2,000 rare booksellers, antiquarian dealers, secondhand shops and book scouts.

To this reviewer, this came as a bit of a shock. Therefore these remarks may serve as a memo as well as a review of the journal and its contents for readers of CRL, who may not have seen copies of *The American Book Collector*, or who may have neglected to order it for their libraries. Surely there are hundreds of librarians concerned with topics other than statistics, administration and technical studies who would find this periodical with its bookish essays, informative articles and news items of more than casual interest. The library's clientele will find that the publication has considerable appeal for them too.

One of the major contributions published during 1954-55 was the work by George Chapman Singer entitled "Marketing Methods and Channels of Distribution in the Rare Book Trade." Mr. Singer treats the many aspects of buying and selling rare books at auction and through the antiquarian shops, and prepared the study as a thesis in marketing at the University of Pennsylvania Graduate Division.

Although this investigation may not offer new information for our librarians who are rare book specialists, this reviewer believes that many of the younger members of the profession, particularly those who have had little experience with special collections and rare books, will find much useful information in Mr. Singer's six exploratory chapters. The series is an excellent supplement to Storm and Peckham's *Invitation to Book Collecting* and Carter's *Taste and Technique of Book Collecting*, which have appeared in recent years.

The subjects treated in recent issues of *The American Book Collector* serve to indicate the scope of the journal: "Collecting Science Fiction," "Hans Christian Anderson, 1805-1955," "Bibliographical Essay on Frederick Rolfe (Baron Corvo)" and "News and Reviews of Private Presses." There have been brief articles on "Australiana," "Jack London as a Collectible Author," "Eleven Ways to Spot a Forgery," "Benjamin Franklin: American Book Collector, 1706-1956," and numerous others.

A regular feature of the magazine is the inclusion of reprints of some lesser known but historically important contributions, such as Thomas A. Jones's *J. Wilkes Booth* (Chicago, 1893) and *The California Journal of William Perkins, 1849-1852*, which appeared serially with appropriate illustrations. In each issue there are regular columns on Lincolniana, Autographs, Auction Sales, and Western Roundup, as well as book reviews and classified advertising. The forty-page Summer, 1956, issue contained the First Annual Collector's Directory and a provocative article on "American Book Burnings" by Walter Hart Blumenthal, author of *Bookmen's Bedlam*.

Librarians who respect the field of books and want to aid in the support of a publication which provides them with authoritative, well-written articles while keeping them informed about sales, collectors and bibliographical studies will understand why *The American Book Collector* deserves a larger list of subscribers in the profession.—*H. Richard Archer, R. R. Donnelley and Sons Co.*

Concepts of Historiography

Man on His Past: The Study of the History of Historical Scholarship. By Herbert Butterfield. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1955. 238p. \$4.50.

Essays in the History of Ideas. By Arthur O. Lovejoy. New York: George Braziller, 1955. 359p. \$3.75.

Those noisy proponents of the doctrine that the formal training of librarians must "get back to the book"—by which they usually mean a return to bibliomania or some other manifestation of book madness—would do well to read with care these penetrating lectures presented at the Queen's University in Belfast by the distinguished Cambridge historian, Herbert Butterfield. *Man on His Past*, though it draws its argument from the field of historiography, specifically the historiography of the nineteenth century, is fundamentally a protest against that form of scholarship which is a superficial "spoon-feeding . . . with secondhand knowledge." Butterfield is in constant outcry against a