

the basic data. An advance analytic report which was published in July 1961 limited its coverage to data on library volumes, personnel and expenditures. After many unavoidable delays, the full report has now been issued, and plans are under way to issue the analytic part for succeeding years during 1963 in order to catch up with the current compilations.

The first section explains the usable coverage of libraries represented in the data—1854 institutions or 95 per cent of the total population. Institutions are divided into seven categories, one of which, "Other professional schools," might be broken down in future compilations into medical, law, business, etc. to be more useful. Further distinctions, such as four-year and two-year colleges, public or private control, and enrollment ranges are maintained throughout the tables. The introductory section also contains tables showing a summary of management data, and median figures for all data according to enrollment, as well as totals for professional staff vacancies. While a first publication lacks naturally a basis for comparison, it is hoped that future reports will expand the description of trends.

The appendix contains eighty-seven tables which analyze more fully each of the items on the statistics questionnaire. The table of contents divides the tables into the two corresponding parts of the questionnaire: management data and salaries. It is a formidable listing chiefly because the table titles are lengthy, repetitious, and tend to hide the key words which would allow users to proceed directly to the desired type of data. A subdivision of the topics covered under each of these sections would improve this listing, as would a shortening of table titles.

Each librarian can locate the standing of his library in relation to the high and low figures for each item, the median and the first and third quartiles.

The first analysis marks an important milestone in the development of a statistical picture of academic libraries. It will be useful to librarians and administrators in planning improvement of local libraries, and to all who seek to buttress legislation with convincing data. While there is room for improvement in the selection and presentation of data, it must be remembered that the original statistics questionnaire was changed, refined, and amplified over a period of years

in response to the suggestions of users. This is the approach which guides the planning of the present Statistics Committee and the U.S. Office of Education.—*Robert R. Hertel, Illinois State Normal University.*

## Biography of a Library

*The Library of Bucknell University.* By J. Orin Oliphant. Lewisburg, Pa.: Bucknell University Press, 1962. 154p. \$3.00.

Lacking a satisfactory general history of American collegiate libraries, students and scholars must rely chiefly on individual accounts. Fortunately, however, this approach can serve better than the casual reader may appreciate, particularly when, as in the present book, the author brings to his task a substantial knowledge of developments in the larger social scene. A professional historian specializing in American social and intellectual history, the author of several previous publications dealing with the history of Bucknell, and sometime chairman of the Bucknell faculty library committee, one may hope for, and here receive from Professor Oliphant, an account which relates the library to contemporary Bucknell and to other institutions and forces in American life. Indeed, persons knowing the history of other academic libraries are bound to encounter in the Bucknell library story much that is familiar: ambitious beginnings (1848-59) followed by decline and neglect (1859-79); the rise, fall, and eventual merging of student society libraries with the college collection; the notable and salutary effort on collegiate library services of student demands nourished (circa 1880's and '90's) by reading student papers of other schools; increasing the hours the library was open from one or a few a week to something like present practice; opening of a reading room; regular employment as librarian of someone other than a full-time professor-custodian (1894); the employment of an experienced female assistant librarian to help create a card catalog (1896); separate study facilities for women students resulting from the unchivalrous objections of their male counterparts (1896/97); a Carnegie building (1905) to accommodate growing collections and services; regular annual appropriations for books growing out of acceptance of appropriations for binding (1906-16), etc.

In the last chapter, which deals with the years since World War I, the story becomes, not surprisingly, more of a local chronicle, albeit within limits useful, detailed, and, as elsewhere, based on thorough research. A success story thread runs through this latter portion, climaxed by the benefactions of Mrs. Bertrand, the donor of a new building (1951) and a \$5,000,000 library endowment.

This book is a welcome addition to the modest shelf of scholarly histories of American academic libraries.—*John C. Abbott, Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville.*

## Labor Service

*Library Service to Labor.* Compiled by Dorothy Kuhn Oko and Bernard F. Downey. New York: Scarecrow Press, 1963. 313p. \$6.50.

I was pleased to see the publication of this anthology on library service to labor, for much of what has been written appeared originally in publications of limited distribution and has long since gone out of print. Furthermore, many of the librarians and labor educators who pioneered this unique program and recorded their experiences have retired from the scene and a new generation is carrying on the work.

The articles in the collection are taken largely from the *Newsletter and Guide* of the Joint Committee on Library Service to Labor Groups, established by ALA in 1945, with representatives from libraries and organized labor. They are written by thirty-four librarians and labor educators, including such veterans as Dorothy Bendix, who for a number of years directed the service to labor at Newark Public library; Ida Goshkin of the Akron Public library; Ruth Shapiro, formerly with the Milwaukee Public library; and—from the labor movement—John Cosgrove and Otto Pragan of the AFL-CIO Department of Education, J. W. O'Connell of the International Association of Machinists, and Sally Parker of the American Federation of Teachers. University programs in workers' education and labor relations are represented by Anthony Luchek of Wisconsin, Shirley F. Harper of Chicago, and others. I miss Mark Starr of the Ladies' Garment Workers in the anthology, but perhaps what he has written is more readily available elsewhere.

The selection was made and appropriate commentary provided throughout by Mrs. Dorothy Kuhn Oko, long-time head of labor service at the New York Public library and for many years the guiding force on the joint committee, and by Bernard F. Downey, librarian of the Institute of Management and Labor Relations at Rutgers.

The anthology opens with several articles explaining why labor has been singled out for special library attention and presenting the historical background of cooperation between librarians and trade unionists. There follows a number of articles on the practical aspects of establishing and operating public library programs directed to organized labor, building labor book collections, and serving educational programs conducted by trade unions. Finally, there are reprints of case studies of public libraries that have had exemplary programs for labor: Akron, Boston, Milwaukee, New York, and Newark. A related area, not covered by the collection, is the interpretation of the labor movement and labor problems to students, a concern of many high school librarians. But perhaps this is another book.

There is a good balance between the practical "how to do it" and the inspirational "why it's worth doing." Perhaps more than any other area of librarianship, service to labor calls for personal involvement in and sympathy with the group to be served. It is not the kind of library assignment that one can accept casually, and, for many, it has become a lifelong career of dedication. Much of this spirit is reflected in the pages of this anthology, which should serve as a handbook and guide to the present generation of librarians serving labor groups.—*Ralph E. McCoy, Southern Illinois University.*

## Lilliput

*The Small College Library.* By Sister Helen Sheehan. Westminster, Md.: The Newman Press, 1963. 216p. \$3.50.

The happy conjunction of a thorough and level-headed approach to a great need, and adequate and proper backing by the ACRL has resulted in this small volume the intent of which is to 'translate theory into action.' The theory concerns several aspects of management of the small academic library, and