

on programing, and this book can serve as a model and guide for library uses, even for libraries which will never have to worry about punched cards or tapes.—Jay E. Daily, *New York City*.

West German Scholarly Libraries

West German Library Developments Since 1945. With special emphasis on the rebuilding of research libraries. By Gisela von Busse. Washington: Library of Congress, Slavic and Central European Division, Reference Department, 1962. 82p. 50c. (From the Superintendent of Documents.)

A major disability of library literature, when considered from the international point of view, is the general lack of comprehensive, up-to-date material on the principal aspects of librarianship in one country written in the language of another. Important exceptions to this generalization exist, of course. The volume edited by Carl Wehmer, *Zur Praxis der Wissenschaftlichen Bibliotheken in den USA* (Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz, 1956), made available to the German librarian an excellent account of scholarly librarianship in the United States. More recently, G. v. Busse, W. Grunwald, O. Mach, and W. Seuberlich have prepared a comparable, monograph-length account for Russia, "Berichte über eine Studienreise zu Bibliotheken in Moskau und Leningrad," (*Zeitschrift für Bibliothekswesen und Bibliographie*, IX, 1962, 97-176).

Among numerous other contributions that might be cited are *Libraries in Japan* (Tokyo: Japan Library Association, 1958); Horceky's *Libraries and Bibliographic Centers in the Soviet Union* (Indiana University Press, 1959); Lancour's *Libraries in British West Africa* (University of Illinois, *Occasional Papers*, No. 53, 1958); E. J. A. Evan's *The Development of Public Library Services in the Gold Coast* (London: Library Association, 1956); Preben Kirkegaard's *The Public Libraries in Denmark* (Copenhagen, 1950; Danish Information Handbooks); G. Ottervik's *Libraries and Archives in Sweden* (Stockholm: Swedish Institute, 1954); and *The Development of Public Libraries in*

Latin America: The Sao Paulo Conference (Paris, UNESCO, 1952). There is, as this listing suggests, considerably more material available to the reader of English and German than of other languages. UNESCO has provided, in its *Bulletin for Libraries*, a useful service by publishing in its several language editions, good though brief accounts of international librarianship, particularly in the new and developing countries. Some other journals, notable *CRL*, *The Library Journal*, *The Library Quarterly*, and *Libri*, have also contributed significantly, but again in the often-too-brief compass of the periodical article.

It is likewise true that the "disability" referred to above is a greater one for the librarians of some lands than others. The educated person, and hence the librarian, of the Scandinavian countries and Holland generally reads English, French, and German, and the German librarian English and French, well enough so that publications in those languages are little trouble to him. The German, also, has available much information in the unique *Handbuch der Bibliothekswissenschaft*. English, the language of the largest amount of library literature, is no problem for librarians in such parts of the world as Ghana, India, Pakistan, and Taiwan. Similarly, French is still read by the educated Tunisian or Algerian, and Dutch by the Indonesian. But where is the Latin American librarian to find, in Spanish or Portuguese, a detailed account of library education in the USSR? Where can the Italian or Russian read in his native language an extensive description of the development and status of the county library or special librarianship in the United States? Where will the Frenchman locate comprehensive information in French about the university library in South America or the public library in Norway? The answers to these and many other questions of like import is "Nowhere." Until publication of the study under consideration here, the same answer would necessarily have been given to the search for a full account in English of the scholarly library in West Germany.

West German Library Developments Since 1945, written by the chief of the Library Department of the German Research Association (*Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft*) is

an excellent study. The material is presented, after a brief historical introduction, in three chapters: "Methods of Rebuilding"—on the individual, regional, national, and international levels; "Rehabilitation in Certain Specific Fields"—acquisitions, cataloging, service, budget and personnel, and buildings; and "Organizational Problems." A useful Appendix, consisting of seven tables, provides data on holdings, book budgets, loan and interlibrary loan statistics, and buildings. A good bibliography of eighty-eight titles is also appended. However, as all but two of these are in German, the works cited will probably be of little help to those for whom the study, originally written in that language, was translated into English. It is certainly true that there is very little on the subject in any language other than German, but it is therefore the more to be regretted that such a paper as Breitenbach's "Letter from Germany," (*CRL*, XV, 1954, 412-16) was not included.

Virtually the whole gamut of scholarly librarianship is covered in Dr. von Busse's splendid treatise, including library journals and associations, conventions, cooperative acquisitions, exchanges, union catalogs, reader space, interlibrary loan, and library education. Particularly good is the description of the status of the scholarly library at the end of World War II—four million volumes, and twelve of twenty-nine libraries totally destroyed—and the truly remarkable progress toward almost complete rebuilding that has been accomplished in less than two decades. Indeed, from one point of view, the work offers more than it promises: a good deal of pre-1945 historical information is given. Yet, if one can fault the study in any serious way it would be to suggest that, as a hostess, Dr. von Busse pours too little into the glass. What there is, is vintage, but more would be very welcome. More, for example, on the nature of the professional education of the two principal classes of employees in the scholarly library; more on the autonomous institute and seminar libraries which are wholly independent from the main university libraries; and more on reference work and service (barely mentioned on page 49), lack of discussion of which will strike the Anglo-American reader as strange. Perhaps, however, the lack of the "more" is not to be

laid at the door of the author in light of the statement in the Preface (page v), "The English translation . . . was reviewed and abridged . . ." In view of the importance of the subject and the complete lack of anything comparable in English, it may be considered unfortunate if this abridgement resulted in the elimination of substantive matter.

At only one point does this comprehensive and most valuable study appear to be in error. On the topic, "Union Catalogs Within the University," (pages 44-45) and earlier (page 41), it is correctly noted that the holdings of the seminar and institute libraries are generally not included in the main university library catalog, but that exceptions exist. The statement then follows (page 45): "Thus, in the Marburg University library, all the holdings of the institutes are included in the alphabetical catalog. In the Tübingen University library only institute books not already in the . . . university library are included in the alphabetical catalog. Finally, in the library of the Free University of Berlin and the Münster University library, a special consolidated catalog of the institute libraries has been established." The library at Berlin does have a union catalog; at Münster the holdings of only fifteen of the most important of some seventy-five institute libraries are represented in a "union catalog." But this reviewer was categorically informed by the directors at Marburg and Tübingen, in November 1960 and April 1961 respectively, that their libraries did not have union catalogs and that, in fact, the necessary cooperation from the directors of the institute libraries, though sought, had been impossible to secure.

The serious user of the study may also wish to note the following additional small points, most of them, in all likelihood, the result of the many hands through which the study passed. The number of universities in West Germany today, earlier (page 1) correctly given as eighteen, is incorrectly noted as nineteen on page 37. (West Germany is now establishing additional universities at Bochum, Bremen, and Regensburg.) The statement (page 57) that admission to professional education for the "certified librarian . . . requires . . . graduation from high school" is highly misleading. The require-

ment, in fact, is the *Abitur*, that is, completion of the program of the *gymnasium*, generally held to be the equivalent of the end of the American college sophomore year. In the listing on page 66 it should be noted for Hamburg that the institution is, as it has been since 1919, the State and University Library. Unlike all other German universities, that at Saarbrücken (pages 33, 67, 69, 70, 76, 77, 79) is not named for the city of its location; the official name is University of the Saarland. Finally, "Prussian Cultural Foundation" is hardly an acceptable translation for *Preussischer Kulturbesitz* (page 62), the Prussian cultural heritage (libraries, art, museums, etc.), for the welfare of which a foundation has, to be sure, been established.

To John Baynes (1758-1787) is attributed the statement that "The man who publishes a book without an index ought to be damned ten miles beyond hell, where the Devil himself cannot get for stinging nettles." It would surely be a grievous discourtesy both to the author and to the Library of Congress to refer to the lack of index in this study in any such terms. Nevertheless, even in such a relatively short work as this—longer because of the 7 by 10¼ inch format than its eighty-two pages suggest—an index is badly needed. It is needed despite the fairly detailed table of contents. Other readers, like the reviewer, will spend many minutes trying to re-locate statements such as those on library schools (pages 11 and 57), the *numerus currens* shelving practice (page 43), and the *Paternoster* (page 60), to say nothing of the names of institutions and organizations mentioned in the text.

West German Library Developments . . . is an important and valuable contribution to our professional literature. It should be of great use to anyone interested in university libraries, German libraries, international library relationships, or, indeed issues involving most major library functions. For the study, we are indebted not only to Dr. von Busse and her probably unsurpassed knowledge of the subject, but also to the Oberlaender Trust of Philadelphia which made the study possible, to Fritz T. Epstein and Barbara Krader who translated it, to Arnold H. Price who reviewed and abridged the translation, and to Robert H. Land who served as editor. All of these associates in the work are members of the Library of Congress staff; to them, to that institution, and to Sergius Jakobson, chief of its Slavic and Central European division, a large vote of thanks is due.

Is it too much to hope that the publication of this work, which fills a major gap in the English-language literature of librarianship, may serve as an example and stimulus for other similar studies? This writer devoutly hopes not. It would unquestionably be a great boon if the Library of Congress, perhaps the national libraries of other countries, other foundations, and other authors as informed as Dr. von Busse, would cooperate to produce in time a whole series of treatises which would make available to the readers of many countries broad and comprehensive accounts of the major aspects of librarianship in other lands.—*J. Periam Danton, University of California, Berkeley.* ■■

Books Briefly Noted

A Benedictine Bibliography; An Author-Subject Union List, 2d ed., compiled by Oliver L. Kapsner for the Library Science Section of the American Benedictine Academy. Collegeville, Minn.: St. John's Abbey Pr., 1962. 2v. \$19.50.

A Bibliography of Encyclopedias and Dictionaries Dealing with Military, Naval and

Maritime Affairs, 2d ed., compiled by Hardin Craig. Houston, Tex.: Fondren Library, 1962. 70p.

Biblioteksgloser, Dansk—Engelsk—Fransk—Tysk. Danmarks Biblioteksskole. København: Dansk Bibliografisk Kontor, 1962. 29p.