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 10 1/4 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 45), 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 Ober­lænder 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 Yakobson, 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.


Social Sciences General References: Political Science, by Lubomyr R. Wynan. University of Colorado Social Sciences Library, 1962, 60p. (Available on request or exchange to university and public libraries.)


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