inconsistencies in answers should be associated with some suspicion. The caution that the author expresses in the interpretation of data, of course, is incumbent upon the surveyor, if the report is to be acceptable to the unit surveyed.

The author uses both British and American sources in his presentation, which should give it a wider audience. In an Appendix, he suggests several practical examples of studies that could be made, with some direction as to factors involved, as well as methods of collecting data. A useful index makes it possible to locate specific topics included in this work, which should be helpful to surveyors and surveyed alike.

—Maurice F. Tauber, Columbia University.


Most of these Fifty Essays, the qualifying statement of the title notwithstanding, deal with the printed book of the fifteenth century. To the uninitiated or nonspecialist such supposedly narrow scope could be a deterrent; we therefore hasten to say that the variety of problems treated is great, ranging from purely typographical investigations to questions of authorship, identity and life of printers, analysis of the production of presses, or printing and reading in Italy. Those who are familiar with Mr. Scholderer’s work can take it for granted that every one, even the smallest, of his articles reflects solid scholarship, originality, and good style.

The title hides the fact that the volume contains fifty-four of the 221 entries in Dennis E. Rhodes’ “Bibliography” of V.S. (pp.15-29); Mr. Scholderer’s poem “Death of Virgil” (p.9); his essay on the “Private Diary of Robert Proctor” (pp.31-37); a brief but warm foreword by Sir Frank Francis, as well as an introduction (pp.13-14), the aforementioned bibliography, and two indexes (pp.295-302) by the editor. Twenty-eight of the Essays appeared originally in The Library, sixteen in the Gutenberg Jahrbuch. The rest had been published in nine different places. For reasons unexplained no contribution from the British Museum Quarterly was included.

It is impractical to enter into a discussion of so many articles. The following remarks are random observations and reactions. Three contributions analyze the book production of Italian centers of printing, Venice to the end of 1481 (p.74-89); Ferrara (pp.91-95); and Milan (pp.96-105). The activity of printers and publishers inevitably reflects intellectual climate and economic conditions. These articles originally published in 1925-1927 shed interesting light on the spread of Humanism, the business acumen of printers, and the effect of competition and overproduction.

“The Invention of Printing” (pp.156-168), published in celebration of the five hundredth anniversary (1941), is one of the best available summaries on this subject. The author’s own note takes cognizance of Carl Wehmer’s later findings on the so-called “astronomical calendar for 1448,” which is more fully discussed on pp.229-31. The following article (pp.169-78), entitled “Early Printed Books,” reviews the basic work of major incunabulists from Henry Bradshaw to World War II, dealing with such outstanding members of the guild as Robert Proctor, Konrad Burger, Gordon Duff, Konrad Haebler, Dietrich Reichling, and Anatole Claudin. Have these men and their similarly eminent colleagues (among them Victor Scholderer) exhausted the problems of early printing to such an extent that little has been left to following generations or, and this is presumably more correct, have present training and the pressure of other duties created conditions which are much less favorable to research in depth than in earlier periods?

In his article on the Missale speciale Constantiense (pp.253-57), Mr. Scholderer presents a measured survey of the various theories pertaining to this famous book, thought by some to ante-date the printing of the 42-line Bible. His study was written in 1955, and the controversy continued thereafter. Here, as in a few other cases, the editor added his own note, referring to the latest investigation (Allan Stevenson’s) which purports to prove beyond doubt that the Missale was printed as late as 1473.

It is this reviewer’s feeling that the reprinting in one volume of articles by foremost specialists is highly desirable and a great timesaver to scholars. Perhaps this volume might be followed by other similar
May I be permitted to end with a slightly facetious note: it is amusing that this very well produced volume, so full of information on early typography, contains a modern printer’s typographical accident; on page 240 the “J” of Jordanus left its proper place and halfheartedly substituted for an Arabic “1” in the footnote.—Rudolf Hirsch, University of Pennsylvania.


Jacob Israel Zeitlin’s infectious love of books, his detailed knowledge of them, and his keen nose for them have inspired and helped hundreds of librarians, collectors, and others. Now seventeen of these have joined together to manifest their affection for and gratitude to the dean of west-coast booksellers.

There is more Fest than Schrift in the volume, which is not unbefitting the effervescent personality of the honoree. Two of the essays, however, make serious contributions to scholarship. The first is a selective bibliography of the steam locomotive by Everett L. DeGolyer, Jr., who adds illuminating comment to his descriptions of twenty-three books printed from 1556 to 1966 and relating to Great Britain, the United States, France, Germany, Switzerland, Holland, and Russia. J. M. Edelstein (also the editor) supplies an expert bibliography of the twenty-nine editions published between 1929 and 1936 by the Primavera Press, of which Jake Zeitlin was a cofounder.

The other contributions are chiefly remissent and, deservedly, panegyric. The breadth of Jake’s influence is indicated by tributes from such eminences as Elmer Belt and Bern Dibner among the collectors, Lawrence Clark Powell and Robert Vosper among the librarians, and Winifred A. Myers and Warren R. Howell among the professional colleagues.

Jake’s lifetime interest in graphics is reflected in two agreeable drawings by Paul Julian and Rudi Baumfeld and a superb portrait photograph by Robert Bobrow showing Jake at his philosophical and unruffled best.

There are the few inevitable slips. To describe Jake as Princeps omnium librarum—which can be rendered as “first of all plummers”—emphasizes his love of pounds rather than his love of books. (That Jake has always loved books is nowhere better shown than in the large-paper edition of Norman Douglas’s Capri (1930), where his name appears among such other subscribers as Arnold Bennett, D. H. Lawrence, Booth Tarkington, and H. G. Wells.)

The volume has been lovingly produced by Saul and Lillian Marks at the Plantain Press (typography); Grant Dahlstrom at the Castle Press (printing); and the Earle Gray Company (binding). Save for the uncomfortable crowding of some lines, it is an attractive piece of bookmaking.

Only eight hundred copies have been printed. If everyone who admires Jake Zeitlin wants a copy, there will be a second edition.—Herman W. Liebert, Yale University.

Mark Hopkins’ Log and Other Essays.


An enduring faith in the library profession, a dedication to cooperation among its many and varied members, strong convictions on what is needed to improve the education of these members, and an optimistic view of the future pervade these forty-four articles and speeches by Dr. Shores, selected by John David Marshall from some two hundred published between 1928 and 1964, most of them during the ten years of 1950-1960. That these convictions have grown stronger is evident from a 1962 speech to a group of special librarians. “To this librarian with over four decades of dedication to his profession, librarianship is a profession of destiny. I recognize in library science the subject of subjects that may yet help mankind to an understanding of the universe, not as segmented findings, but as a truthful whole. Then will our profession finally contribute to the welfare of the world.”

Dr. Shores’ professions of faith are arranged under seven subjects, the first prop-