

Science and Technology, by John F. Harvey.

The growing national role of information science and technology is well demonstrated by the developments reviewed in these two chapters. Much of the emphasis in Chapter 13 is placed on "information networks," and the chapter concludes "the progress attained . . . in the development of an efficient national information system is impressive." The concluding chapter reviews the activities of professional societies and summarizes the educational programs being created in universities throughout the country.—*Robert M. Hayes—UCLA.*

The American Printer, 1787-1825. By Rollo G. Silver. Charlottesville: Published for the Bibliographical Society of the University of Virginia by the University Press of Virginia, 1967. xii, 189p. \$7.50 (67-22310).

Here is an important book. Recent years have seen a healthy increase in the quantity and quality of specific studies within the historical American printing industry—accounts of particular printers, or of printing in particular communities or in particular circumstances. The number of comprehensive comparative studies, however, which examine printers and printing horizontally, "across the board" as it were, has remained quite small. Studies of the latter kind, of course, are more difficult to make and require men of greater breadth of learning to prepare them.

Nevertheless the book here being reviewed is such a study, and its author is such a man, and therein lies its importance. It is one of the few attempts thus far made to generalize a comprehensive printing history out of documented scholarly studies and sources, instead of from the reminiscences and memoirs of old printers which, although interesting, are often inaccurate of fact and sometimes misleading of spirit.

Although this book unquestionably succeeds in establishing its claim to a place of significance, it is not truly a definitive history of printing in America during its designated period. The narrative moves smoothly through a well integrated whole, but the book remains rather a series of

meaningful and fascinating, carefully researched, documented, interconnected essays in the history of American printing. The book opens appropriately, for example, with the best account thus far written of the conditions of apprenticeship in the printing trade. There are also essays—again the best done to date—on such subjects as: early labor organizations for journeymen printers; the handling of government printing contracts on the federal, state, and territorial levels; the business minutiae of operating a printing office; and there is an excellent account of early American typography and illustration. There are also essays which have been attempted before, such as the technical details of press construction and operation, and the movement of the press across the western frontier. In the judgment of this reviewer, they have never been better told.

In addition to its six chapters, the book also includes as an appendix a selection of examples of the sizes of some forty editions (250 to 5,000 copies) issued by Mathew Carey between 1792 and 1813. There is a full index and thorough documentation. Twenty-four fine plates illustrate and embellish the text, and—as readers are coming increasingly to expect of volumes published for the Bibliographical Society of the University of Virginia—the book is handsomely designed. It is highly recommended to all libraries and readers having an interest in this subject.—*D.K.*

The Research Triangle of North Carolina. By Louis R. Wilson. Chapel Hill, N.C.: The Colonial Press, 1967. 48p. (67-31234).

The Research Triangle has been the subject of a number of articles and news releases but Dr. Wilson here provides the most up-to-date and complete account of its development. This study should be of particular interest to librarians because of the vital role that university libraries have played in making the Research Triangle one of the most successful of the industrial research parks. Dr. Wilson makes it clear that the Research Triangle is more than a research park. The park itself consists of five thousand acres near three great univer-