

review of the Canadian library scene over the last twenty years. It is, in fact, the best book on contemporary Canadian librarianship—which praise is, however, somewhat lessened by virtue of the fact that it is almost the only book on the subject, too.

Space does not permit much commentary on individual papers, but three or four of special interest deserve note. Marion Gilroy's "Regional Libraries in Retrospect" gives the inside story on a library development which Canada pioneered and which has claimed international attention. Jean-Charles Bonenfant, in "Progrès des bibliothèques au Canada français," offers an unusually candid appraisal of public libraries in French Canada. Laurent Denis' "La formation des bibliothécaires de langue française du Québec" describes the evolution of a distinctive library school which manages to be both broadly North American and peculiarly "quebécois" in outlook. And, perhaps best of all, Robert Blackburn's aforementioned "cautionary tale" offers a delightful example (with a happy ending, for once) of the eternal battle between university librarian and professor.

It should be added that the appearance of this volume—printed by Charles Morris of Victoria—is first-rate. It is a pleasure to look at and handle. At \$7.50, this book is a very good value.—*Samuel Rothstein, University of British Columbia.*

The Mirror of Brass; the Compensation and Working Conditions of College and University Administrators. By Mark H. Ingraham with the collaboration of Francis P. King. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1968. 336 pp. \$7.00 (68-98321).

Those who found Professor Ingraham's earlier work (*The Outer Fringe*, Univ. of Wisc. Pr., 1965) of value will surely want to investigate his latest volume, a study for the Commission on College Administration of the Association of American Colleges. This work, as the subtitle indicates, is concerned with the compensation and working conditions of college and university administrators, and Ingraham once again has rendered a valuable and interesting com-

pilation of comparative data. Over six thousand responses were received to questionnaires sent to 877 institutions, both public and private, and a splendid synthesis of the data is presented in twenty-two chapters.

Ingraham's book is divided into two parts, the first of which deals with the various compensations and fringe benefits which were investigated. Among the topics included are salaries, vacations and leaves, life insurance, travel provisions, and retirement programs. In addition to a report and an analysis of the data obtained, space is allotted within the individual chapters for opinions voiced by various administrators with regard to the benefits discussed.

The second part of the book is composed of chapters devoted to particular administrative positions, and includes that of the president, the academic vice-president, dean of the liberal arts college, dean of the graduate school, director of libraries, the chief business officer, the dean of students, director of admissions, registrar, and the director of development. Again, a brief summarization of data is given, and within each chapter one finds a section entitled "Reflections" which consists of anonymous quotations gleaned from the questionnaires. Of particular interest is the chapter which is devoted to the director of libraries. The information here, as elsewhere, is condensed, but indicates percentages of men and women directors, median age, and percentages holding the PhD and other degrees. Further comments are directed to the topics of staff, authority, communication and status, and relations to government. The *Reflections* are with regard to various characteristics and responsibilities of a director's position, and the comments which are voiced are those which are frequently heard.

Perhaps the portion of Mr. Ingraham's study which will be perused most by librarians is the appendix which consists of a photocopy of the questionnaire used, and a set of sixty-three tables which summarize the questionnaire results. To be found here are data by which one can compare benefits and compensations for the different administrative positions which were included in the investigation.

Reviewers of Ingraham's *Outer Fringe* commented favorably on his ability to maintain rigor and scholarship while occasionally engaging in humor. The same characteristic is to be found in the *Mirror of Brass*, which was chosen as a title, as explained in the preface, because the use of quotations suggested a mirror.—Lester J. Pourciau, Jr., *Indiana University*.

The Latin American Cooperative Acquisitions Program . . . an Imaginative Venture. By M. J. Savary. New York: Hafner Publishing Co., Inc., 1968. 144 p. \$6.50 (68-19791).

As the subtitle indicates, this is the history of an imaginative venture into the entire field of book publishing in Latin America, and the myriad difficulties in obtaining some of these books. It is really a history of the growth of interest in what is being published in Latin America and the growing efforts to acquire these publications. It is not only the history of a book-dealer's commercial gamble to try to obtain these publications and supply them at a profit to libraries (principally university libraries in the United States), but more importantly it is the history of a marriage. It is a marriage between many libraries trying under difficult circumstances to acquire materials for their Latin American collections and the Stechert-Hafner firm which offered a possible solution to this phase of the library problem.

In Mrs. Savary's book, which was written as a master's thesis for the Graduate Library School of Long Island University, she has very interestingly depicted the difficulties of acquiring books from south of our border. She discusses briefly the publishing field and indicates the variety of problems encountered in each country. In order to review these problems and to discuss possible solutions, several of the leading librarians concerned with Latin America met in 1956 and began the first of the annual seminars known as SALALM (Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials) under the aegis of UNESCO and the Pan American Union. This book deals primarily with the work of these seminars in convincing the Stechert-Haf-

ner Company of the need for an increasing effort in supplying books from Latin America and the difficulties faced by Stechert-Hafner in answering this request. The book also describes the efforts made by the Library of Congress, the Association of Research Libraries, the Organization of American States, and UNESCO to procure current publications produced in Latin America.

Mrs. Savary points out the problems in publishing and marketing books in Latin America. In general books are privately published in limited editions of 500-1,000 copies only, and the author pays all the costs and handles his own distribution. He frequently gives away all copies to his friends so that copies do not get into the book trade. By the time anyone hears about the book, copies are no longer available. The book dealers are often not concerned with, or adept at, merchandising and building a market, so that even books acquired by dealers are seldom publicized. The end result is that neither the book dealer nor the author realize any incentive to publish more copies so as to make books more readily available. As Mrs. Savary indicates, the task of finding out what has been published, and then trying to obtain copies, at times is almost an impossibility.

The author follows the adventures of many of the people who travelled to the various countries in Latin America to establish contacts with local book agents and also to purchase copies of the most recent books published in each country. She captures the adventures of Nettie Lee Benson (University of Texas Library), Dominic Coppola (Stechert-Hafner, Inc.), Wallace Bork (S.I.U. Latin American Institute), and of Guillermo Baraya Borda (Stechert-Hafner) as each travels through Latin America setting up dealer arrangements and purchasing the more important titles. As Mrs. Savary states in the preface, it is difficult not to be enthusiastic about this imaginative scheme which is a real breakthrough in Latin American acquisitions.

The author has included several tables in the appendix. One table gives a comparison of prices under LACAP with prices by an Argentine agent, Fernando Garcia