

liberate attempt to exclude materials that have appeared in recently published collections." For a teacher or student of technical services to use a reader of this nature effectively, it must contain all outstanding pertinent materials no matter where else they have appeared nor how recently. This approach, then, makes the volume less useful as a text but important as a supplementary resource.

Mr. Applebaum has done an admirable job in presenting the historical perspective to the basic problems which are facing us in technical services today. The discussions on cooperative cataloging and Dewey's classification system, at the first Conference of the American Library Association in 1876 and the presentation and discussion of cataloging at the London Conference of Librarians in 1877, are classics. The remainder of the volume covers the areas of acquisitions; bibliographic control; cooperative and centralized processing endeavors; and future prospects.

Who would be better than Mr. Applebaum to select outstanding articles in the area of acquisitions, from policies to blanket-order plans, from administration to future trends? Articles by Metcalf, Downs, Veener, and the excellent symposium chaired by Perry Morrison are good examples.

The section on bibliographic control is less cohesive. Certainly all articles included are important ones but perhaps not all should be included here. For instance the Introduction to the Anglo-American Cataloging Rules must have been read at least once, if not a dozen times, by all students of cataloging—probably all have their own copies—and the articles on serials by Clara Brown, delightful as it is, doesn't really seem to fit into the sequence. Otherwise it contains a good representation of articles on bibliographic control of monographs and serials. One previously unpublished article on "Book Catalogs" by Scott Allison, is a very good state-of-the-art paper. Classic pieces such as the one by W. W. Bishop, as well as current deliberations such as the ones on the National Serials Data Program, are valuable items for discussion.

Cooperative and centralized processing is an area with which Mr. Applebaum has been very intimately involved for several

years and has used his expertise in bringing together a chronology of developments on this subject.

The final section deals almost exclusively with MARC and its national and international implications—those being the solving of some important problems in technical services.

Particular criticism could be leveled at the volume for the exclusion of any discussion on nonprint materials, their acquisition, storage, and accessibility.—*Robert D. Stewart, Graduate School of Librarianship, University of Denver, Colorado.*

✓Pope, S. Elspeth. *The Time-Lag in Cataloging*. Metuchen, N.J.: Scarecrow Press, 1973. 209 p.

This book is the result of the author's doctoral dissertation at the University of Pittsburgh. It is primarily concerned with the attempts made by the Library of Congress and American publishers over a long period of time to bring books and catalog copy together quickly. These efforts culminated finally in the Cataloging-in-Source program (1958-59) and its reincarnation in the Cataloging-in-Publication program (1971).

The aims of the study were (1) to discover whether the various programs at the Library of Congress were sufficient to decrease the time-lag in cataloging, and (2) whether it is possible for the Library of Congress to accept bibliographical data as provided by publisher's catalogs.

To answer the first question, a statistical sample of 5 percent of American trade publications in 1969 was taken from the *National Union Catalog*. The selected entries were checked against the time of their appearance in Copyright Office records, Library of Congress cards, MARC tape input, and *Publisher's Weekly*. Programs were designed and data fed to a computer. The results were compared to an earlier study done by Roger Greer in 1961, and it was found that, in spite of the various attempts which had been made by the Library of Congress to expedite the cataloging of books, the time needed to get cataloging information had in fact increased. The full details of the Greer study, an unpublished doctoral dissertation, are not given, so it is difficult to assess the validity of the com-

parison. However, taking only Pope's work into consideration, the median time for catalog copy to appear in 1969 was ninety-one days. Whether or not the time-lag has increased since 1961, this would still make it difficult for a library to decide whether to wait for LC copy or do original cataloging. In fact, Pope concludes at this point that the Library of Congress is incapable of closing the time gap.

In regard to the second question, a comparison was made between entries as they appeared in prepublication sales catalogs and subsequent Library of Congress entries. The agreement between the two on most items was remarkably high, and the one item which showed the most discrepancy, the collation statement, is not even presently included in the CIP record. It is in this area that Pope has the most to contribute. Elsewhere in the book it is pointed out that delays in producing catalog copy result from a book being "cataloged" many times—by the publisher, by the Copyright Office, by the Library of Congress, and by individual libraries. Pope feels that, in as much as the Library of Congress is willing to accept intact cataloging provided by foreign countries, it should also be willing to accept cataloging by publishers. This would be more likely to happen if a mutually acceptable manual of bibliographic description were to be adopted.

As of this review, the CIP project has yet to be fully evaluated, although there are indications that it is becoming more viable. This is shown by the fact that slightly more than 50 percent of the American book publishing output is represented. If publishers find it worth their while to cooperate, and if libraries across the country are willing to accept CIP copy, then this book will simply be a record of past failures. Nevertheless, Pope's extensive research forms a basis for any future studies in this area.—*Dianne J. Ellsworth, University of Connecticut, Storrs, Connecticut.*

✶ ***The University—The Library. Papers presented by Samuel Rothstein, Richard Blackwell, Archibald MacLeish at York University, Toronto, on the Occasion of the Dedication of the Scott Library, 30 October, 1971.*** Oxford: Shakespeare Head Press, 1972. 62 p.

This slender, impeccably printed volume contains, in addition to the essays by the three authors mentioned in the title, a preface and introduction by Thomas F. O'Connell, and brief biographical sketches of the three authors who were recipients of honorary degrees at the colloquy.

Dedication of a new library building is a highly important affair in an institution of learning, and perhaps even more so at York University, because of its comparative youthfulness and rapidity of growth—both in student enrollment and in library resources.

The three chief participants in the dedication represented different but allied professions. They addressed themselves to the topic: "The University—The Library." Samuel Rothstein, library educator, sketched briefly some of the academic and curricular changes of the last century in higher education, which have led to the rise of a trained, service-directed class of professionals in modern libraries. Richard Blackwell spoke of the close dependence existing between librarian and bookseller, drawing with charm and discernment upon his experiences with the firm of B. H. Blackwell.

Archibald MacLeish, poet, was concerned with the importance of a book collection as more than a mere institutional statistic. One paragraph quoted from his remarks may suffice to indicate his affirmations in the essay, "The Premise of Meaning":

For the existence of a library, the fact of its existence, is, in itself and of itself, an assertion—a proposition nailed like Luther's to the door of time. By standing where it does at the centre of the university—which is to say at the centre of our intellectual lives—with its books in a certain order on its shelves and its cards in a certain structure in their cases, the true library asserts that there is indeed a "mystery of things." Or, more precisely, it asserts that the reason why the "things" compose a mystery is that they seem to mean: that they fall, when gathered together, into a kind of relationship, a kind of wholeness, as though all these different and dissimilar reports, these bits and pieces of experience, manuscripts in bottles, messages from long before, from deep within from miles beyond, belonged together and might, if understood together,