

ter Asheim on "Current Problems and Prospects in American Library Education," and Herman Fussler on "Some Aspects of Technology and Change in Relation to University Libraries." These papers deserve a wider reading audience than this volume is likely to attract.

If the platitudes and rhetoric of amity, usually generated by a conference of this sort, can be ignored in some of the papers, publication of the *Proceedings* was justified. There would not seem to exist a more useful single volume containing a summary of current thinking on research libraries in both nations. The papers are recommended reading for all whose interests gravitate toward research libraries, information access, and (most especially) the international aspects of librarianship.—*Cecil K. Byrd, Indiana University Libraries, Bloomington.*

Franklin, Colin. *The Private Presses*. Chester Springs, Penn.: Dufour, 1969. 240p. \$17.50.

This brief but appealing work treats the activity of fine printing in England from the late nineteenth century to the Second World War, as created by private presses which were owned or controlled by individuals who put their own stamp on the products. Although Mr. Franklin refers frequently to the works of these presses as representing a movement and does show interesting influences and interrelations among them, his book is essentially composed of separate sketches, each devoted to a selected printer and press. His approach in presenting these rather discrete essays is not unlike that which he attributes to bibliophiles, of whom he says: "Collectors look at their things with love, preserve them worthily and show them to those who can appreciate."

Recognizing that "accounts of books can be tedious to read," Mr. Franklin concentrates upon lively sketches of the printers and the general tenor of their production. He does make good and generally succinct analytical comments on specific books and he provides some interesting allusions to the tastes of the times, as in his amusing account of the arts and crafts movement of guild socialism, although he does not attempt a fully unified narrative nor a developed critique of printing style. But Mr. Franklin has a nice eye for typography and

a well-cultivated taste in approaching it so that he is able to draw from the books themselves a sense of their printers and the purposes of their presses. This allows him to make some sharp comparisons:

Morris had merry pleasure from most of the Kelmscott books—the medieval world he loved, the old poems and stories. There is aesthetic gaiety in some of the Vale Press books, French charm in Eragny, and Hornby's press could be domestic, entertaining, homely as well as serious. Nothing less than a fixed moral vision governed the taste of the Doves Press; with Cobden-Sanderson at the heart of it . . .

Upon occasion Mr. Franklin finds a need to take issue with the idea of judging these works by what he once calls "the awe of the sale room," yet he himself seems quite affected both by book prices and by the names of collectors, and the work concludes with a so-called Bibliography by David Lincoln whose only real contribution is the furnishing of auction prices. Indeed, Mr. Franklin himself addresses his last chapter to the collector's concerns rather than ending on a summation of typographic history or an analysis of the art of bookmaking. Yet, despite some disparity in purpose and tone, here is a useful, lively, and perceptive study.—*James D. Hart, University of California, Berkeley.*

Schlebecker, John T. *Bibliography of Books and Pamphlets on the History of Agriculture in the United States . . . 1607-1967*. Santa Barbara, Calif.: American Bibliographical Center-Clio Press, 1969. Paper \$5.50. Cloth \$15.00.

This is an updated version of the classic *A Bibliography of the History of Agriculture in the United States*, by Everett E. Edwards, published in 1930 as U.S. Department of Agriculture Miscellaneous publication no. 84. The biennial Eunice Rockwell Oberley Award was presented to Mr. Schlebecker in June 1971 for his work.

It is a listing of 2,042 histories, government reports, biographies, and literary works which portray farming and rural life in all parts of the United States from the earliest settlement through 1967. Except for its subject, the new work differs considerably from the Edwards bibliography. For